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WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 30, 2015

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Festival drawing to a close

Holiday event, which has attracted almost 20K visitors, ends Thursday

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

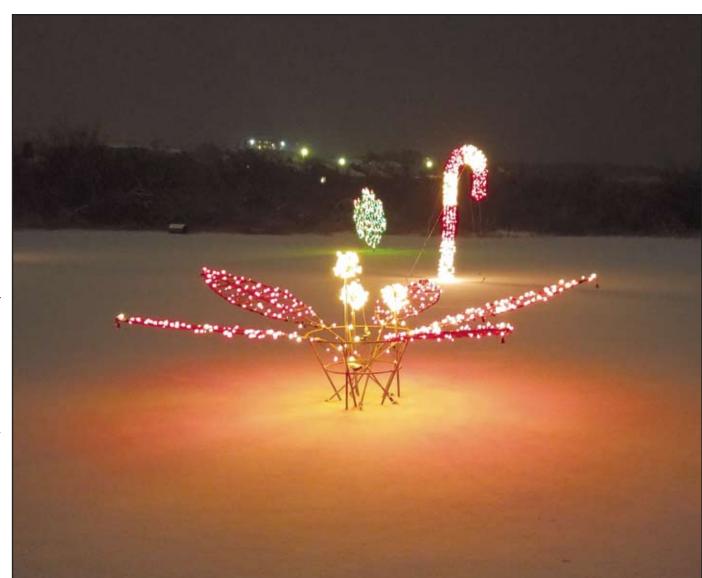
Area residents have just two more nights to enjoy the annual Comanche Trail Festival of The annual holiday event, which has attracted

thousands of visitors from around the world to Big Spring the past several years, ends its 2015 run Thursday night.

More than 19,000 people, including visitors from 42 states and seven countries, have toured this year's festival, according Pat Simmons, the long-time guiding force behind the event.

Sunday's snow storm, which forced officials to close the festival for two days, put a hold,

See **LIGHTS**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan The Comanche Trail Festival of Lights ends its 2015 run Thursday night. The event, which runs from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. tonight and Thursday at Comanche Trail Park, is free to the public.

City, county officials announce New Year's holiday closures



BY LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Before we say goodbye to 2015, several county, city, and government offices, along with the Big Spring Herald and other businesses, will be closed on Friday, New Years

The New Year's Day edition of the Big Spring Herald will be delivered to homes and newstands late Thursday or early Friday so that carriers can enjoy the holiday.

Herald offices will be closed Friday and will reopen Monday morning.

The city of Big Spring will close all offices at 3 p.m. Thursday and Friday. Offices will reopen for regular hours Monday.

Emergency services will continue normal operations throughout the holidays. The

See **CLOSE**, Page 3A

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To reach us:

Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Bill Cosby charged with sexual assault

By MARYCLAIRE DALE

Associated Press

NORRISTOWN, Pa. — Bill Cosby was charged Wednesday with sexually assaulting a woman at his home 12 years ago — the first criminal charges brought against the comedian out of the torrent of allegations that destroyed his good-guy image as America's Dad.

The case sets the stage for perhaps the biggest Hollywood celebrity trial of the mobile-all-the-time era and could send the 78-year-old Cosby to prison in the twilight of his life and barrier-breaking ca-

In bringing the case, Montgomery County District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman overruled her predecessor, who declined to charge Cosby in 2005 when Temple University employee Andrea Constand first told police that the comic drugged her and violated her by putting his hands down her pants at his mansion in suburban Philadelphia.

Cosby was charged with aggravated indecent assault and was to be arraigned in the af-

ternoon. The TV star acknowledged

See COSBY, Page 3A

Winter weather finally hits northeastern U.S.

"It's kind of weird

that there wasn't

about time."

snow until now. It's

Aaron Lovely

Portland, Maine

By PATRICK WHITTLE

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine storm brought snow, sleet and freezing rain to the Northeast, but reassured wary residents that winter had actually be-

Parts of northern New England got 4 to 6 inches of snow on Tuesday, with Carrabassett Valley in western Maine

coming in at a high of 10 inch-

Clouds possibly some light snow or freezing rain are expected on Wednesday, said Eric Schwibs, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Gray, Maine. But he proclaimed: "The big storm is over."

The weather made for a sloppy mess in parts of metro Boston, where memories linger of last winter's record-breaking snowfall. But as Fernando Gonterman waited for a train from Harvard Square to his job at Massachusetts General Hospital, he was unfazed.

"Weather is weather. Just deal with it, right?" he said. under oath a decade ago that In snow-loving Vermont, Chassidy Byrd, the assistant

manager at a gas station and

convenience store in Plainfield, said the storm returned the state to a sense of normal.

Without any snow, "it didn't feel like Vermont," she said.

Meteorologists say the storm that chilled the Northeast is linked to the same system that produced deadly tornadoes in the Midwest beginning Saturday, then brought heavy snow, ice, rain, flooding and

blustery winds as it moved toward the Great Lakes. That system storm killed dozens, including many who drowned in floodwaters and others caught up in tornadoes.

Schwibs, of the National Weath-Service, said the Northeast storm was

"nothing near what we could have had," and those who drove slowly were able to maneuver any kind of vehicle through the snow and slush.

"For an early start, it wasn't that bad," he said.

Forecasters predicted an inch or less in parts of southern New England before the storm turned to rain and sleet, while northern regions would see more. Central New

See WINTER, Page 3A



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Monday - Friday 9:30 am-5:30 pm www.thekaratpatch.com Thank you for your continued support!

The Phinney Family

The Karat Patch



Page 1B Wednesday, December 30, 2015

Steers split games Day 1 of Sandhills Tournament

By TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor

MONAHANS — The Big Spring Steers varsity boys basketball team split two games on the first day of the Sandhills Tournament in Monahans yesterday.

The Steers came out strong against Pecos High School, taking a 12-3 advantage into the second quarter. While the offense was a little sluggish without team scoring leader Israel O'guin, who was traveling back from family vacation, they played tremendous

"They weren't pump faking so it became easier as the game went on," senior Kolton Knudson said.

Knudson tallied four of Big Spring's 24 steals, as well as 14 points and six assists.

"Still missed quite a few shots but we don't rely on one person," Knudson said.

The Pecos Eagles' offense got going in the second quarter, scoring 10 points in just over three minutes. The Steers did lock down defensively for the final three minutes of the quarter, going on a 7-3 run into the half.

"It's typical after a layoff Christmas tournament game," head coach Nicholas Tyerman said. "Way to many turnovers, we had 14 in the first half. It's not like the pressure we were getting was anything we haven't seen or was too tough. We weren't able to practice yesterday due to the weather so they've been off for about 10 days."

Pecos got the deficit within nine points in the fourth quarter, but the game was never close. The Steers won 60-48 to improve to 4-11 on the Two hours later the Steers

took on Midland Christian, who was playing their first

game of the day.

Midland went on a 12-2 run in the final 1:21 of the first quarter. Midland continued to apply on-ball pressure throughout the game stifling the Steers offense. Big Spring competed all game, but Midland's superb ball movement helped them to a 73-38

victory over Big Spring.

"It wasn't the result we wanted, but I was proud that we kept working on executing and getting better as the game went on. Hopefully we build on what we did today and come back sharper tomorrow." Tyerman said.

The Steers should be at full strength when they take on Presido High School today.

Contact sports editor Taylor Ellis at sports@bigspringherald.com or 432.263.7331, ext 237

Horford leads Hawks to 121-115 win over the Rockets games, one of the worst fouling Dwight Howard

HOUSTON (AP) -With their star 3-point sharpshooter stuck in an 0-for-18 slump, the other four Atlanta Hawks starters carried the load on Tuesday night.

In the 121-115 road win over the Houston Rockets, Atlanta overcame both a 19-point deficit and the detrimental shooting woes of Kyle Korver.

Al Horford had 30 points and 14 rebounds, Kent Bazemore had 26 points and Paul Millsap and Jeff Teague both added 22 as the Hawks won for the seventh time in eight games. Korver had just two points, making both free throw attempts.

Korver's slump continued for Atlanta. After going 0-for-8 from the 3-point line on Monday night in Indiana, he missed all 10 against Houston. Korver is 2 for 26 in his last four shooting stretches of his career. After leading the league in 3-point percentage last season at 49.2 percent, Korver is having his worst shooting season in nearly six years, shooting under 39 percent.

Despite Korver's off shooting, he found other ways to contribute.

"Kyle was instrumental in letting us know to stay strong, keep playing and not get discouraged, and I honestly think that's what put us over the top," Horford said. "He's going to do other things to help us. I'll give him 10 more 3s, and I'll live with every one of them because he's our best option."

Korver was unavailable for comment after the game.

Atlanta took a lead late in the fourth quarter and employed the hacka strategy, intentionally

and Clint Capela repeatedly. The strategy was largely successful until Howard made a free throw to take the lead with just over two minutes remaining.

Atlanta then scored the final nine points of the game to steal the road victory.

Howard led Houston with 30 points and 16 rebounds, while James Harden had 26 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists.

"We're all frustrated," Rockets coach J.B. Bickerstaff said. "We're not getting the results we would like. There wasn't a lack of effort. It wasn't a lack of trying. Guys did the right things. We just didn't make the plays when we needed to make the plays."

Playing in their third back-to-back in less than three weeks, the weary Hawks allowed

a season-high 41 firstquarter points. Houston led 71-56 at halftime, but Atlanta's defense buckled down in the third quarter, cutting the lead to seven to enter the fourth.

Houston scored a season-high 71 points in the first half, thanks in large part to a 73 percent clip from beyond the arc.

"We couldn't guard them, we couldn't keep them in front of us, they were very, very good, and they got everything they wanted," Hawks coach Mike Budenholzer said. "In the second half, I think we played better defensively, kept them in front of us better and had a lot of guys step up on the offensive end."

TIP-INS

Hawks: C Tiago Splitter missed his second straight game with a

See ROCKETS, Page 4B

Lady Steers rusty after long break scoring

By TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK Lady Steers looked a lot like a team that had not played in 14 days.

Big Spring lost to Lubbock Monterey 48-30 on Tuesday afternoon.

"We had a lot of turnovers," head coach Stacy Smalley said. "We also had coordination issues like catching entry passes, but we have been on break."

The Lady Steers did shoot the ball well and were patient breaking the Plainsmen press. Fullcourt presses have given Big Spring issues so far this season, so it is a promising sign to see them successfully beat one.

Guard Myckala Edwards led the team in

jured reserve.

Watson. NEW YORK GIANTS —

Placed LB Devon Kennard on

injured reserve.

Signed DB Dewey McDon-

ald from the practice squad.

Signed DB Chris Hackett and

G Cole Manhart to the prac-

tice squad. PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

- Fired Chip Kelly coach and

of player personnel. SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Released WR Vincent

Ed Marynowitz vice president

Brown.

the practice squad.

ris from the practice squad. Waived TE Je'Ron Hamm.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Signed CB Kyle Sebetic to

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Signed CB Jeremy Har-

Arena Football League

ORLANDO PREDATORS

- Agreed to terms with DL

HOCKEY

Willie McGinnis.

National Hockey League
ARIZONA COYOTES —
Recalled Fs Craig Cunning

OAKLÁND RAIDERS

ENGLAND PATRI-

- Re-signed LB Dekoda

points.

"We executed our 2-3 zone pretty well, but need to work on blocking out and not allowing second looks," Smalley

The Lady Steers were a late add to the tournament after Weatherford tournament was canceled. The team won't play until Thursday at Garden City at 11:30 a.m.

SCORING LEADERS Myckala Edwards- 9 Diamonique Mayes- 4 Alexis Starr-3 KaSondra Williams- 3 Kamri Kemper- 3

Contact sports editor Taylor Ellis at sports@ bigspringherald.com or 432.263.7331, ext 237

2016 Lady Hawk Buddies Basketball Program
On January 16, 2016 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Howard College Lady Hawks head coach Earl Diddle,

associate head coach Tara Lisle, and the Lady Hawks will be running a basketball clinic for boys and girls in kindergarten through 8th grade. Registration runs from 8:30 a.m.- 9:00 a.m. followed immediately by the clinic until 11:30 a.m. After the clinic there will be a pizza party until 12:00 p.m. The \$20.00 entry fee includes a Hawk basketball, free admission for all family members to Hawk home games, entry to the clinic with lectures on goals and basketball fundamentals, a pizza party with the Lady Hawks, and admission to Buddies night. Buddies night will be Thursday, February 11th against Frank Phillips College. During halftime, the Buddies will be recognized in front of the crowd and following the game, the Lady Hawks will sign autographs and take pictures court side.

For more info, call Tara Lisle at 264-5155 or Earl Diddle at 264-5043.

Scoreboard

NBA Saturday's Games Washington 111, Brooklyn

Toronto 111, Milwaukee 90 New Orleans 110, Houston 108

Miami 108, Orlando 101 Charlotte 98, Memphis 92 Boston 99, Detroit 93 Atlanta 117, New York 98 Indiana 102, Minnesota 88 San Antonio 101, Denver

86 Dallas 118, Chicago 111 L.A. Clippers 109, Utah

104 Philadelphia 111, Phoenix 104

Portland 105, Cleveland 76 Sunday's Games Memphis 112, L.A. Lakers 96

Oklahoma City 122, Denver 11Ź Boston 100, New York 91 Portland 98, Sacramento

Monday's Games Indiana 93, Atlanta 87 Orlando 104, New Orleans

Clippers Washington 91 Charlotte 108, L.A. Lakers

Brooklyn 111, Miami 105 Chicago 104, Toronto 97 San Antonio 101, Minnesota

Dallas 103, Milwaukee 93 Utah 95, Philadelphia 91 Cleveland 101, Phoenix 97 Golden State Sacramento 103 Tuesday's Games

New York 108, Detroit 96 Memphis 99, Miami 90, OT Atlanta 121, Houston 115 Oklahoma City Milwaukee 123 Cleveland 93, Denver 87

Wednesday's Games Brooklyn at Orlando, 7 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Charlotte,

7 p.m. Washington at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. L.A. Lakers at Boston, 7:30

p.m. Indiana at Chicago, 8 p.m. Utah at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Phoenix at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.

Golden State at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Philadelphia at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Denver at Portland, 10 Thursday's Games

Milwaukee at Indiana, 6 p.m. Minnesota at Detroit, 6

p.m. Golden State at Houston, 7 p.m.

Clippers at New Orleans, 8 p.m. Phoenix at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.

Portland at Utah, 9 p.m. NHL Monday's Games Saturday's Games

St. Louis 3, Dallas 2, SO Buffalo 6, Boston 3 Tampa Bay 5, Columbus 2 Washington 3, Montreal 1 Carolina 3, New Jersey 1 Detroit 3, Nashville 2 Pittsburgh 3, Minnesota 1

Vancouver 2, Edmonton 1, OT Sunday's Games Ottawa 3, Boston 1

Los Angeles 4, Arizona 3,

Florida 3, Columbus 2 Toronto 3, N.Y. Islanders 1 Dallas 3, St. Louis 0 Carolina 2, Chicago 1 Winnipeg 1, Pittsburgh 0

Arizona 2, Colorado 1, OT Anaheim 4, Philadelphia 2 Calgary 5, Edmonton 3 Monday's Games

Montreal 4, Tampa Bay 3, SO Washington 2, Buffalo 0

Nashville 5, N.Y. Rangers Minnesota 3, Detroit 1 Los Angeles 5, Vancouver

Colorado 6, San Jose 3 Tuesday's Games Boston 7, Ottawa 3 N.Y. Islanders 6, Toronto 3 New Jersey 3, Carolina 2 Columbus 6, Dallas 3 Florida 3, Montreal 1

St. Louis 4, Nashville 3, OT Winnipeg 4, Detroit 1 Anaheim 1, Calgary 0 Los Angeles 5, Edmonton

Chicago 7, Arizona 5 Wednesday's Games
Toronto at Pittsburgh, 7

p.m. Buffalo at Washington, 7 p.m. New Jersey at Ottawa, 7:30

p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Tampa Bay, 8 p.m. Philadelphia at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games N.Y. Islanders at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Detroit, 6 p.m.

Washington at Carolina, 6 p.m. Minnesota at St. Louis, 8 p.m. Chicago at Colorado, 8

p.m. Nashville at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Los Angeles at Calgary, 9

p.m.

Anaheim at Edmonton, 9 p.m. Winnipeg at Arizona, 9

p.m. **TRANSACTIONS BASKETBALL** National Basketball Association

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Waived G Russ Smith. Signed C Ryan Hollins. Can-Am League

NEW JERSEY JACKALS - Signed OF D'Vontrey Richardson.

FOOTBALL National Football League ATLANTA FALCONS — Placed NT Paul Soliai on injured reserve. Signed TE D.J. Tialavea from the practice

squad. BUFFALO BILLS — Placed WR Marcus Easley, Charles Clay and CB Ron Brooks on injured reserve. Claimed WR Leonard Hankerson off waivers from New England.

CAROLINA PANTHERS -Waived DE Wes Horton. CINCINNATI BENGALS Signed QB Mike Kafka to the practice squad.

CLEVELAND BROWNS -Signed DB Sean Baker to the practice squad.
DETROIT LIONS leased CB Bill Bentley.

HOUSTON TEXANS Signed S Corey Moore from the practice squad. Placed CB Charles James on injured reserve. INDIANAPOLIS COLTS -Signed QBs Josh Freeman

and Ryan Lindley. Signed LB Amarlo Herrera. Signed G Kitt

O'Brien to the practice squad.

Placed LB Josh McNary on in-

ham and Laurent Dauphin from Springfield (AHL). BOSTON BRUINS Placed C David Krejci on injured reserve. Recalled D Seth Griffith from Providence (AHL). BUFFALO SABRES — Re-

assigned F Colin Jacobs from Rochester (AHL) to Elmira (ECHL). NEW JERSEY DEVILS -

Placed F Patrik Elias on in-

jured reserve, retroactive to

Dec. 21. Activated F Bobby

(ECHL). Signed D Shayne Taker to a professional tryout agreement. **ECHL ECHL** Suspended Manchester<s Danick Paquette eight games for his actions in a Dec. 26 game at

Farnham off injured reserve. WASHINGTON CAPITALS

Recalled F Zach Sill from

Hershey (AHL).

American Hockey League

AHL — Suspended On-

tario D Kurtis MacDermid 12

games for an illegal check to

the head of an opponent in a

Dec. 26 game at San Diego.

Suspended San Diego C Jo-

seph Cramarossa one game

for his actions in a Dec. 27

game at Bakersfield.

from Toledo (ECHL).

called D Eric Knodel from Utah

GRAND RAPIDS GRIFFINS

Recalled C Alden Hirschfeld

SAN DIEGO GULLS — Re-

Adirondack. READING ROYALS Loaned F Robbie Czarnik to Providence (AHL). COLLEGE

MARQUETTE - Annouced a contract extension with Steve Wojciechowski men's basketball coach through the 2021-22 season.

RUTGERS Named Bill Busch defensive backs coach. WASHINGTON STATE -

Signed football coach Mike Leach to a contract extension through the 2020 season and defensive coordinator Alex Grinch and defensive line coach Joe Salave'a to multiyear contracts.

Obituaries

Patricia Richardson



Patricia Richardson, 51, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from noon until 1 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2015, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial

Park.

She was born Nov. 27, 1964, in San Antonio to Juanita Petroskey Miears and Edmond Miears.

She married Wade Richardson Sept. 1, 1985, in Big Spring. She was a homemaker and a Baptist. She lived most of her life in Big Spring.

She is survived by her husband, Wade Richardson of Big Spring; two daughters, Peggy Gill and her husband, William, of Ballinger, and Kimberly Kramp and her husband, Harley, of Big Spring; one son, Benjamin Richardson Jr. of Big Spring; four brothers, Doyle Miears of Midland, Alfred Miears of Midland, Ronald Miears of Midland and James Miears of Big Spring; and six grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Kenneth Miears.

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

Police blotter

Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• FREDERICK LOUVIERE, 58, of 71 Howard St. B, Santa Rosa, Calif. was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• PATSY R. LUJAN, 57, of 1011 N. Bell St. was arrested on warrants for failure to yield right of way on left of obstruction, two counts of failure to appear, and open container in vehicle – driv-

 CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main St. and the 800 block of Comanche Park Rd. • **THEFT** was reported in the

5800 block of N. Service Rd., S. Service Rd. 168 and the 500 block of E. 3rd St.

 MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the intersection of 3rd St. and Runnels St. and the 300 block of S. Gregg St.

BURGLARY **HABITATION** was reported in the 800 block of W. Marcy Dr. and the 1300 block of Tucson.

 DISTURBANCE was reported in the 3000 block of W. Hwy

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 56 inmates at the time of this report.

• FREDERICK LOUVIERE, 58, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• PATSY LUJAN, 57, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for failure to yield the right of way turning left, violate promise to appear, open container in vehicle – driver and failure to appear.

• MITCHELL MARK ORR, 61, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated, 2nd offense.

ROBERT BENJAMIN **BOADLE,** 18, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for criminal mischief, more than \$2,500 but less than \$30,000.

 JENNIFER DEANN CATE, 33, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for theft of property, more than \$1,500 but less than \$20,000.

 TIMOTHY JAMES CRAIG, 20, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for criminal mischief, more than \$2,500 but less than

• **DAVID LYNN DOW,** 32, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.

• CHRISTOPHER FIERRO, **36,** was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property, more than \$100 but less than \$750.

 JESSICA MARTA **HERNANDEZ,** 31, was booked by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid with previous convictions/suspensions and theft of property, less than \$100, shoplifting.

MONTEZ SUZANNA HILARIO, 29, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

 JOSEPH SHELDON HOOD, 53, was booked by the HCSO on charges of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram and possession of a dangerous drug.

• CODY WAYNE JONES, 21, was booked by the HCSO on charges of possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces and resisting arrest, search or trans-

• TONY LARA, 28, was booked by the DPS on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.

 JOSE LOPEZ-FERNANDEZ, 31, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of iden-

• JESSE M. MARQUEZ JR., 32, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of identity theft.

• JEAN JAVIER MATA, 22, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for theft of service, more than \$500 but less than \$1,500.

 BREANNA KAY MOORE, 23, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for assault – family violence, failure to appear and probation violation – possession of a controlled substance.

• JANELL OLAGUE, 35, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for parent contributing to nonattendance, failure to appear, no driver's license, driving while license invalid and failure to appear.

 GRADY KIRKLAND SMITH, 19, was booked by the HCSO on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon and criminal trespass with a deadly weapon.

 CHARLIE JAKE TURNER, 36, was booked by the BSPD on charges of forgery of government/national institute/money and possession of marijuana.

 JESUS LINCON VALDEZ JR., 30, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with previous convictions/suspensions.

 DAMIAN RAY VILLARREAL, 21, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana, less than 2

ounces. **MICHAEL** • JOHN WILKINSON, 30, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance, more than 3 grams but less than 28 grams.

EUGENE DAVID WILLIAMS, 49, was booked by the BSPD on charges of no driver's license, failure to signal left turn and driving while intoxi-

cated; a charge of failure to identify as a fugitive, intentionally giving false/fictitious information. KATHY ANNE WILLIAMS,

54, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for expired registration and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

 JAMES TIMOTHY WILSON, 43, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• STEPHEN YANEZ, 22, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Local 5-Day Forecast Thu Fri Sat Mon 12/31 1/3 1/4 40/28 41/29 55/33 34/26 52/28 Cloudy. High Cloudy. Highs in Mostly cloudy Sunshine. Highs More sun than near 40F. Winds the mid 30s and ENE at 10 to 15 lows in the mid 40s and lows in and lows in the the mid 50s and lows in the mph. 20s. the upper 20s. upper 20s. Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 5:51 PM Sunset: 5:52 PM unset: 5:52 PM Sunset: 5:54 PM

Texas at a Glance



liea Cities			
ity	Hi Lo Cond.	City	Hi Lo Cond.
bilene	47 30 Cloudy	Kingsville	59 51 Cloudy
marillo	37 16 Cloudy	Livingston	55 43 Cloudy
ustin	58 41 Cloudy	Longview	55 36 M Cloudy
eaumont	57 49 Cloudy	Lubbock	38 14 Cloudy
rownsville	62 58 Cloudy	Lufkin	55 39 Cloudy
rownwood	54 34 Foggy	Midland	47 28 Foggy
orpus Christi	57 51 Showers	Raymondville	59 55 Few Showers

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic 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

 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.

• 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.

• A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

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.

Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles.

SUNDAY

Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. **MONDAY**

Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees

it, 615 Settles, 6:06 p.m. to 7 p.m.

 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.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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



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Wild goats (6)	214	Jets or Sharks, for example (4)	428 429	Middling; nothing special (2-2) Now obsolete video format (3)
Membrane covering an embryo (6)	215	One: the year's biggest selling group (9)	430	High-pitched woodwind instrument;
To remove contaminants (6) East Timor town with a sister city of Madison, WI (6)	218 220	Oscar's best picture (7) Country legalized same sex marriage in ntl vote (7)	130	abbr. (2)
A metal in the platinum group (6)	223	Particulars (7)	432	Dynamite (3)
Nashville actress Panettiere got Teen Choice nom. (6)	225	Got on a train (7)	434	and flow (3)
Make amends (5)	226	Tavern (3)	436	To exist (2)
Stogie (5)	227	Banned on cross-country flights 25 yrs ago (7)	437	Calif. city with worst heat wave in a century (2)
Marley would have turned 70 this year (3)	229	A group of 4 musicians (7)	438	Opposite of stop (2)
Cheerios grain (3) This health org. said rubella was gone from the Americas (3)	232 234	Grammy's best new artist Smith (3) Excessively sentimental (5)	439	Thanks, in baby talk (2)
Strongest (9)	236	Siesta (5)	440	Silence! (2)
Dire fate (4)	237	Atlantic fish (3)	441	New hit: Love Like You Do (2)
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Bachelor's new villain: Bailey (3)	244	A navigation system (3)	444 446	Measurement side to side (5) Kings of worked on seventh album (4)
A proposed space time capsule (3)	245	Little lie (3)	448	Vienna's home (7)
Spy agency faced lawsuit (3) Yellowfin tuna (3)	246 258	Embargo (3) Second person pronoun (3)	449	Rug (6)
A deliberate fire (5)	259	Allows (4)	450	A video camera that streams into a
Home to La Paz (7)	260	Stefani split from her husband (4)		computer (6)
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Affleck divorced Jen Garner (3)	263	Peas grow in this (3)	453	35th anniversary of this Beatles' death (6) A reflective surface (6)
Intelligence exhibited by machines; abbr. (2) Company; abbr. (2)	268 269	Anger (4) Skinny (4)	455	Sticky (5)
Poet Eliot died 50 yrs ago (2)	270	Pledge (4)	456	Enemies of the Inca (6)
Seventh note of scale (2)	272	Snare (4)	457	Earl Anthony was one (6)
For example; abbr. (2)	277	Girl (3)	458	A First Nations gathering (6) Italian-style ice cream (6)
A mistress (5,5)	278	Unpleasant person (British term) (3)		Hallan-siyle ice cream (b)
	250		459 460	
Emmy's lead actor Hamm (3)	279 280	Low, steady continuous sounds (4)	460 462	Greek spirit of forgetfulness (5) Italian sandwich (6)
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Be in pain (4)

Metal in rocks (3)

143

144

Actor __ LaBeouf was arrested again (4)

A tulip sprouts from this (4)

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Pester (5)

Halloween month; abbr. (3)

A salty, doughy treat (7)

__ and paper mill (4)

Windmill blade (4) Peter Gabriel's fifth album (2)

This NASA probe reached dwarf planet Ceres (4)

Weapon first used on large scale, 100 yrs ago (6,3)





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Jury Cancelation

 The Howard County Court is canceling the Jury Panel called for Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 9 a.m.

Meetings

 The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues are \$20.

• Howard College will be hosting several "update meetings" throughout Howard County for interested citizens to gather more facts and information about Howard College as they prepare for the tax rate rollback election to be held in January 2016. Those dates are: Tuesday, Jan. 5, 12:30 p.m. Hall Center for the Arts Auditorium, Howard College Campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane, (sign language interpretation provided); and Tuesday, Jan. 5, 6:30 p.m. Hall Center for the Arts Auditorium, How-

Take note

ard College Campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

- The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony a, 808 Scurry Street.
- The Kiwanis Club of Big Spring meets at noon every Thursday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are welcome.
- · Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219

from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. to-

night and Thursday in

Comanche Trail Park.

It is free to the public,

which are used to fi-

nance future events, are

Visitors are asked to

ceived sanitation pick

Wednesday

week. Persons normal-

ly receiving service on

Friday will receive pick

up on Thursday this

The Howard County

donations,

this

who

although

accepted.

Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information. contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

 Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 ½ Main St. All Masons are welcome.

Volunteer opportunities • Home Hospice is in

need of volunteers of

enter the park at the Whipkey Drive entrance off Highway 87.

Contact Staff Writer

Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

Courthouse will be

closed on New Year's

This weekend will be

last of the mid-winter

break for public and col-

lege students. All three

Howard County Public

Day only.

all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours.

For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-

· Mobile meals is in need of volunteer deliverv drivers. If you donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Kim Plew at 263-4016 or 213-

· Victim Services is a

non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to. assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. For more information,

call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

WINTER

Continued from Page 1A

York racked up 1 to 4 inches of snow while northern New York had 3 to 7 inches. There were no major

traffic problems, but some vehicles got stuck in the mounting snow around rush hour. Traffic was mostly light because schools were closed for Christmas vacation and many businesses were closed.

In Andover, Massachusetts, police say a man pulled an unloaded gun on a snow plow driver after nearly crashing into the plow. The man's lawyer said his client was attacked first and pulled out the gun in self-defense.

Portland resident Aaron Lovely said he walked through the worst of the snow for about 20 minutes to get to his job at a downtown record store, which was mostly empty late Tuesday morning. He said the trek through Schools and Howard the snow "wasn't the College will be heading worst," and the winter's lack of weather so far back to class on Tueswas perhaps more unnerving.

> "It was kind of weird that there wasn't snow until now," Lovely said. "It's about time."

LIGHTS

CLOSE

COSBY

Continued from Page 1A

at least temporarily, on Simmons' long-held dream of attracting 25,000 visitors.

"Maybe next year,"

Continued from Page 1A

Emergency Utilities De-

partment will be open to

take calls for issues with

utilities. That number

Continued from Page 1A

he had sexual contact

year ... It was great up until (Sunday's storm). We ran over 1,000 (visitors) every night, and on Christmas Eve and Christmas, we had over 2.000 each night."

she said. "Maybe next

The festival is open

is 264-2392.

The city landfill will be closed on Friday but will reopen Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All persons normally

have their trash picked up on Thursdays re-

her attorney, Dolores

Constand,

week.

pants and start acting responsibly.

worked for the women's basketball team at Temple, where Cosby was a trustee and proud alumnus, said she was assaulted after going to his home in January 2004 for some career ad-

Then-District Attornev Bruce Castor declined to charge Cosby, saying at the time that both the TV star and his accuser could be portrayed in "a less than flattering light." This year, Castor said the allegations in Constand's lawsuit were more serious than the account she gave police, and if that information had been known at the time, "we might have been able to make a case."

Castor tried to make a comeback as district attorney in the November election but lost to Ferman's top deputy.

After the criminal case went nowhere, Constand settled her lawsuit against Cosby in 2006 on confidential terms.

Her allegations and similar ones from other women in the years that followed did not receive wide attention but exploded into view in late 2014, first online, then in the wider media, after comedian Hannibal Buress mocked Cosby as a hypocrite and called him a rapist during a standup routine. That opened the floodgates on even more allegations.

Staff Writer Lyndel

Moody can be contacted

at 263-7331, ext. 234.

Earlier this year, The Associated Press persuaded a judge to unseal documents from the Constand lawsuit, and they showed the long-married Cosby acknowledging a string of affairs and sexual encounters.

Cosby testified that he obtained quaaludes in the 1970s to give to women he wanted to have sex with. He denied giving women drugs without their knowledge.



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

Patricia Richardson, 51, died Thursday, December 24, 2015. The family will receive friends from 12 noon until 1:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 1:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

James McKenzie, 64, died Wednesday, December 23, 2015. Memorial services will be at 10:00 AM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

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with Constand but said it was consensual. The charges were announced just days be-

fore the 12-year statute of limitations for bringing charges was set to run out. Prosecutors reopened the case over the sum-

mer as damaging testimony was unsealed in Constand's related civil lawsuit against Cosby and as dozens of other women came forward with similar accusations that made a mockery of his image as the wise and understanding Dr. Cliff Huxtable from TV's "The Cosby Show."

Many of those alleged assaults date back decades, and the statute of limitations for bringing charges has expired in nearly every case.

Constand, who is now 42 and works as a massage therapist in her native Canada, is ready to face Cosby in court,

Troiani, said this fall. "She's a very strong lady," Troiani said.

"She'll do whatever they request of her." The charges add to the towering list of le-

gal problems facing the actor, including defamation and sex-abuse lawsuits filed in Boston, Los Angeles and Pennsylvania. Cosby in 1965 became the first black actor to

land a leading role in a network drama, "I Spy," and he went on to earn three straight Emmys. Over the next three decades, the Philadelphiaborn comic created TV's animated "Fat Albert' and the top-rated "Cosby Show," the 1980s sitcom celebrated as groundbreaking television for its depiction of a warm and loving family headed by two black professionals — one a lawyer, the other a doctor.

He was a fatherly figure off camera as well, serving as a public moralist and public scold, urging young people to pull up their saggy





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Opinion

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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Never mistake falling for failing don't know anyone who doesn't appreciate opportunities to start over, to have another chance to get it right. Mistakes are

a part of life and we would all be in desperate straits if there weren't new beginnings.

The great Winston Churchill said,

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." That kind of thinking has the potential to revolutionize your future by not letting your past defeat or define

EDDY

PRINCE

As we stare squarely into the face of 2016, perspective may possibly be one of your keys to success for a prosperous and blessed New Year. You see, there are numerous ways to learn. Through the years I have used a myriad of teaching methods, one of the most effective has been to clearly define what something is not in order to gain a more accurate understanding of what it actually is. Keeping that in mind, let's look at this interwoven and intricate matter of resolutions and perspective.

What is failure? Who defines failure for you? Who determines if you are a success or not? The answers to those questions, and many more, will be determined by whose perspective you choose to subscribe to.

Author Neil Gaiman paints an intriguing picture of this subject by writing, "I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something. So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes."

He continues, "Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is:

art, or love, or work or family or life. Whatever it is you're scared of doing, Do it. Make your mistakes, next year and forever."

I column as I see 'em:

We don't often associate failure or mistakes with moving forward, yet anyone with any degree of life experience knows that the potential for growth is greater, although usually unpleasant, in the furnace of affliction than on the mountaintop of

American journalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning syndicated columnist Ellen Goodman says, "We spend January 1st walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives...not looking for flaws, but for potential."

That's where a lot of us stumble. We don't see the potential because we are too focused on the problem. The failure looms larger than the possibility. In football, when a quarterback throws an interception he has to immediately forget it or he will be so preoccupied with the mistake he will not be able to effectively perform at his best in the next series of downs. There are times we need a short term memory.

Shawna Ayoub Ainslie is a mother and self-designed philosopher who says, "The New Year's resolution has long been a source of personal failure. As a child, I would handcraft a list of behavioral changes and specific goals I intended to accomplish the following year. I imagined that midnight on December 31st was as magical as Santa. I would wake on New Year's Day refreshed and improved, capable of success in every imaginable

I was wrong. Every year I was wrong until I began to despise the changing of the calendar. I was not going to write X number or words every single day or chew my food X number of times or exercise for X number of minutes X times per week because you can't plan life. You can only plan for life."

Her words, "...you can't plan life. You can only plan for life" fascinated me. That's insight for success right there. Simple and

straightforward. Learn from the good times and the bad. Sing in the nighttime as well as the day. Dance in the rain and the sunshine. Love when it isn't easy. Care when nobody else does. Stop mourning failure and learn to look ahead. There is a good reason your car's windshield is much bigger than its rear view

BIG SPRING HERALD

Kayode Anthony wrote, "It's hard to accept, but you can't change the past. You can't go back and manipulate things to the way you wanted them to happen. Because life'd be meaningless and boring and just not worth living. But you can change the future and that's a beautiful thing about life. Yes, you will make mistakes. And yes, you will have bad days, but as long as you let the past go, you'll have such a gorgeous and bright future ahead of you. Knowing that things were meant to happen.

Knowing that each day you will learn something so that you keep growing to be a better person. Life is like a rope, twined in all its complexities and yet weaved into one marvelous stream that you have the chance you use something amazing from. So grab hold of it."

A lot of bad things happened in 2015. Our nation, indeed our world, is reeling from wars, pestilence, financial and political instability, not to mention social and moral bankruptcy. You may have bottomed out this past year, hit that proverbial brick wall and you may have very little vision for 2016.

Let me give you some free advice. Look up and let God help you make this coming year your greatest ever. How? His word for you, through the Prophet Jeremiah, is "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

So as you make your resolutions for 2016 keep in mind what singer Hayley Williams said; "Sometimes it takes a good fall to really know where you stand". And never mistake falling for

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

How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
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- By fax at 264-7205
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- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

Daily Prayer

May we remain diligent about reading Your word, Lord, for our life.

Bill Clinton wrote the book for Trump

fter lamenting Donald Trump's "penchant for sexism" last week, Hillary Clinton announced to supporters that her former-president husband — her "not-so-secret weapon" — will be hitting the campaign trail for

her in January. Characteristically, in all capital letters, Trump struck back on Twitter, where he observed Bill Clinton himself has "demonstrated a penchant for sexism." The it-only-hurts-whenyou-laugh part about this tiff is that The Donald and Bubba have so



DEBRA SAUNDERS

much in common. Discussing the GOP front-runner's style with The Des Moines ed that Trump has "no boundaries" and "keeps pushing the envelope." But both men have degraded the public lexicon. Bill Clinton turned "Lewinsky" into a verb. Trump hit another low when he said the former secretary of state "got schlonged" in the 2008 presidential race. Wink, wink. The Donald tweeted that the term just means "beaten badly.'

Both men seem to come out of central casting for "Mad Men." Despite their starring roles, they're both maestros at playing the victim card so ably that Amen their followers are driven to

defend their every misstep. They tell lies and get other people to justify their falsehoods. Clinton made up his own version of the meaning of "sexual relations" which spurred legions of Democrats to argue dutifully that oral sex isn't (sex). Trump made up seeing Muslims celebrating 9/11 in New Jersey. There's no video, no evidence that stands up, yet his groupies insist the tall tale is true. Clinton was absolved, supporters argued, because everyone lies about sex. For Trump, his falsehoods rang true because there were Muslims rejoicing somewhere else in the world.

Penchant for sexism? Where to begin? Trump has been known to brand women who aren't ornamental as "losers." When Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly asked him tough questions — starting with his, er, penchant for calling women fat slobs, pigs and animals — at the first GOP debate, Trump suggested that she had "blood coming out of her wherever." (Minions dutifully went on cable news to argue Trump didn't mean to suggest Kelly had been menstruating.) Trump seems to think that women exist to serve him.

Both men have had to pay to play.

The billionaire paid divorce settlements to his exes. The former president paid tort damages and legal fees to mop up after his penchants. There was an \$850,000 settlement in Paula Jones' sexual harassment suit.

Then there's the affair with

former intern Monica Lewinsky. which led to his impeachment. Clinton gave intentionally false testimony during the investigation, which led to his disbarment. Like Trump Republicans, Clinton Democrats always had excuses for their man's poor treatment of women. The list

includes Hillary Clinton. Trump shares another trait with Bill and Hillary Clinton: All three brazen it out through scandals — and live to thrive another day. When opponents on the left or the right attack Trump, his fans take the approbation as proof that Trump is anti-establishment. He can lie. He can make faces during a presidential debate. They applaud Trump for being his own man.

Bill Clinton dragged this country through months of discord because he would not admit he had cheated on his first lady. Through it all, Clinton rose in the polls. Voters disapproved of Clinton's detractors more than his crude behavior. The wronged wife won a U.S. Senate seat in a state where she had not resided before Lewinsky. The thicker the muck the stronger the Clintons emerge.

So when Trump tweets that Bill Clinton is "fair game," my guess is that both Clintons are thinking, "Bring it on." Or do they recognize the peril in charg ing into battle against someone who plays shamelessness as ably and recklessly as they do?

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Last-place Blue Jackets beat NHL-best Stars 6-3

(AP) — The Columbus Blue Jackets responded to coach John Tortorella's public scolding and turned his tough talk into something posi-

Nick Foligno and Brandon Dubinsky each tied a career high with three assists, and the last-place Blue Jackets beat the NHL-best Dallas Stars 6-3 on Tuesday night.

Boone Jenner, Kevin Connauton, Matt Calvert, Brandon Saad, Scott Hartnell and Rene Bourque scored for Columbus, which had lost three straight and eight of 10. That prompted Tortorella to call out his new team over the past several days.

"Obviously, he wants to make sure we are all understanding what's going on here," said Foligno, who surpassed 300 career points. "But I know first and foremost I'm not happy where we are. I take huge responsibility on that. I know we need to get better. I think it's just focusing on what you bring."

Curtis McElhinney made a season-high 39 saves, triggering praise from Tortorella, and 11 players had at least one point for the Blue Jack-

Colton Sceviour, Tyler Seguin and Patrick Sharp scored for Dallas. The Stars had their five-game point streak snapped (4-0-1).

"It was just a poor effort against a team that was desperate," Dallas captain Jamie Benn said. "We knew their coach was challenging them today and we knew they were going to come out hard. It just started with the first shift."

Kari Lehtonen allowed three goals on 14 shots in the first period and was replaced by Antti Niemi to start the

second. Niemi finished a vacated net after Niwith 18 saves.

The Blue **Jackets** seemed motivated by Tortorella's straight talk — he said the club lacked veteran leadership and was weak mentally. Columbus got a goal from Jenner just 35 seconds in and jumped out to a 3-1 lead in the first period.

"They want to feel good about the game," Tortorella said. "When you have a start and get a couple of goals, you know how the game is going to go. It's going to be one of those games."

Later in the game, with the Blue Jackets holding one-goal leads both times, they turned in two critical penalty kills that sparked a pair of timely goals.

Not long after Dallas pulled within one in the second period, Hartnell took a slashing penalty in the attacking zone. But instead of hurting the Blue Jackets, it gave them a boost. Saad scored his 14th just more than a minute after the kill from in tight at 18:43 to make it 4-2.

"Huge penalty kill. Just blocking the shots ... I thought that was very important," Tortorella said.

Hanging onto a 4-3 lead in the third period against the league's highest-scoring team, the Blue Jackets killed off a holding-the-stick penalty to Saad. Just more than 3 minutes later, Hartnell scored his team-leading 15th into

emi went past the hash marks to clear the puck but instead passed it directly to Hartnell.

"We had a couple that we had to kill off and the guys did a great job," Dubinsky said.

Sharp scored his 14th only 1:12 into the third on a feed from Jason Spezza.

Bourque scored into an empty net with 15 seconds remaining.

Jenner whacked home a loose puck for his 13th in front of Lehtonen after several tries during a scramble.

Sceviour responded for Dallas at 6:03. McElhinney made a fantastic toe save on Antoine Roussel, but with Blue Jacket players scattered on the ice he flipped the rebound at the left side into the slot and Sceviour smacked rolling puck with his backhand into the net.

Connauton made it 2-1 just more than a minute later with a one-timer from the right dot for his first goal in 33 games.

On a hustle play after puck-battle wins by Bourque and William Karlsson, Calvert fired a shot from the left circle that beat Lehtonen high at 18:35.

"I thought our team defense was probably the worst of the year," Stars coach Lindy Ruff said. "We started off not defending, we had pockets of good defending. It was a team loss. Everybody was in on it."

In a flash in the second

period, Seguin pulled Dallas to 3-2 with his 21st. Streaking down the left side, Benn took John Klingberg's long pass in stride across the blue line. He sent a short pass to Seguin, who wristed a hard shot from between the hash marks past McElhinney. But the Columbus

goalie was all smiles af- Stars RW Ales Hemsky terward.

"It's been tough the last little while here," he said. "A nice result at home."

NOTES: Benn (3-6-9) and Sharp (3-6-9) extended their point streaks to six games. ... Foligno returned after missing three games with an upper-body injury. ...

left in the second period with a lower-body injury and did not return. ... The Blue Jackets are 3-6-1 since G Sergei Bobrovsky went down

with a groin injury. ... Dallas had not allowed more than three goals in 11 straight games.

ROCKETS

Continued from Page

mild right calf strain but is expected to return Sunday when the Hawks visit the Knicks. ... Paul Millsap had a seasonhigh five blocked shots. ... Atlanta had 10 steals and forced 19 turnovers.

Rockets: Houston was without PF Terrence Jones, who was sidelined with an illness after being a game-time decision. ... The Rockets have now lost four straight against Atlanta. ... Houston put an emphasis on its post-up game and played two

centers for much of the game but was outscored 50-46 in the paint. FINGER WAG

NBA Hall of Famer Dikembe Mutombo was in attendance and sat courtside to watch two of his former teams. Mutombo, who was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in September, played five seasons with both Atlanta and Houston across his 18vear career.

TAVARES SPIKE

The Hawks bench enjoyed a hearty laugh late in the second quarter when 7-foot-3-inch rookie center Walter Tavares was fighting for a rebound with Dwight Howard and slapped the

missed shot volleyballstyle more than 30 feet into the second row seats. Tavares was taken out of the game for Al Horford and he couldn't help but grin about the embarrassing play with his teammates on the bench.

"He made a few plays, rebounded and made a couple of plays he'll learn from, and he'll be better the next time he plays so it was great to see him get in a game,' Budenholzer said.

UP NEXT

Hawks: At New York on Sunday.

Rockets: Host Golden State on Thursday.







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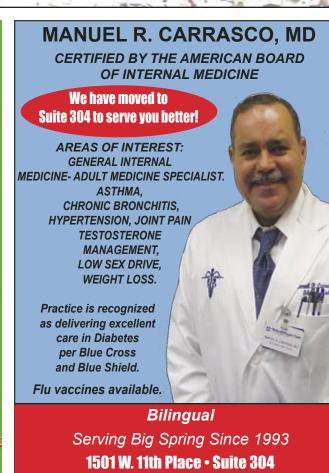
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Ports-to-Plains: North America's energy corridor

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fifth in a series of articles highlighting the Ports-to-Plains project.

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance tagline says "Securing the Benefits Commerce to North America's Energy & Agricultural Heartland." The highway system connects a region that includes significant conventional and renewable resourc-

es. Energy security is provided by North America's energy devel-Ports-to-Plainsprovides connections needed to development those resourcincluding world class oil,



REEVES

gas and wind

From an oil and gas viewpoint it connects Alberta, Canada and Texas, both the production and reserve leaders in the world. The highway system moves the people and equipment needed to develop these resources. The Oil Sands in Alberta, Canada; the Bakken in North Dakota, Montana, Saskatchewan and South Dakota; the Niobrara in Wyoming, Colorado and Nebraska; and the Barnett and Permian in Texas; and the Eagle Ford in Texas and Coahuila, Mexico are connected by the Ports-to-Plains Corridor.

The Corridor provides the connection between Houston, Denver and Calgary. To summarize the oil and gas role of the region:

- Seven of top ten and eight of the top 15 oil producing states, producing more than 1.667 billion barrels annually in 2013
- Alberta ranks third, after Venezuela and Saudi Arabia, in terms of proven recoverable globcrude reserves
- Five of the top eight and seven of the top 15 natural gas producing states that produced more than 57.5 percent or 13,966,836 million cubic feet in 2012
- Oil and natural gas accounts for three million jobs or 35.8 precent of the nation in the region, generating incomes of more than \$208.5 billion or 40.5 percent of the entire nation's oil and gas jobs and income
- Renewable wind resources are also abundant throughout the region.
- Four of the top ten and seven of the top 20 U.S. States

Muskwa-Otter Park. North American shale plays Evie-Klua (as of May 2011) Gammon Mowry Hilliard-Baxter Marcellus Hermosa Pierre. Woodford Fayetteville Current shale plays Bend Stacked plays Shallowest / youngest Intermediate depth / age Barnett

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Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration based on data from various published studies. Canada and Mexico plays from ARI Updated: May 9, 2011

for Installed Wind Capacity (2013) with 21,687 MW. Texas ranks number one. The region accounts for 68.8 million MWH of electrical generation or 48.9 precent of the total wind generation in the

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resulting in the addition of manufacturing facilities for nacelles (turbines), blades towers in Texas, and Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming and North Dakota. Production and manufacturing creates jobs and tax base for many of our communities.

Ports-to-Plains is a grassroots alliance of over 275 communities and businesses, including major alliance partners Heartland Expressway,

TheodoreRoosevelt Expressway and Eastern TradeCorridor Coalition, whose mission is to advocate for a robust international transportation infrastructure to promote economic security andprosperity throughout North America's energy and agricultural heartland including Mexico to Canada. Additional information on the Ports-to-Plains Alliance is available at www. portstoplains.com/.

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Saudi Arabia posts \$98B deficit amid low oil prices

BY ABDULLAH AL-SHIHRI

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi Arabia said Monday that this year's budget deficit amounted to \$98 billion (367 billion riyals) as lower oil prices cut into the government's main source of revenue, prompting the kingdom to scale back spending for the coming year.

For the third consecutive year, the kingdom said it will post a budget shortfall in 2016, projecting a deficit of \$87 billion (327 billion riyals).

The government said it projects expenditures of \$224 billion (840 billion riyals) in 2016, roughly \$5 billion (20 billion riyals) less than what the

government projected in 2015.

The budget is being watched closely by investors to see how the government plans to

consolidate years of heavy spending when oil prices were more than double what they are now. Benchmark U.S. crude was trading Monday at \$37.46 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The kingdom announced projected revenues for the coming fiscal year of \$137 billion (513 billion rivals), around \$26 billion (95 billion riyals) less than the total for 2015. As is typical for the published version of the budget, it did not include a projected oil price.

Next year's budget suggests Saudi Arabia is basing its revenue on a price of \$26 a barrel for export crude.

See, OIL, Page 11A

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Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF ROBERT STEVEN CHRANE

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Robert Steven Chrane, Deceased, were issued on December 22, 2015, in Cause No. P-14501, pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas, to: Robert Charles Chrane.

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. The Estate of

All persons having claims

Robert Steven Chrane c/o Robert Charles Crane 2808 Durant Drive Midland, Texas 79705

DATED the 22nd day of December, 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, Telephone: (432) 264-1800 Facsimile: (432) 264-0785 Shane@BigSpringLaw.com

#8930 December 30, 2015

IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT, HARVEY COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DEPARTMENT

Case No. 15 AD 12

Legals

IN THE MATTER OF THE **APPLICATION**

to adopt

BABY GIRL GONZALEZ, DOB: 12/13/15

A Minor Child.

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 59 OF KANSAS STATUTES **ANNOTATED**

NOTICE OF ADOPTION HEARING TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS **CONCERNED:**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the abovenamed Court praying for an Order and Decree of said Court that the Petitioners be permitted and authorized to adopt BABY GIRL GONZA-LEZ as their own child; that an Order and Decree of Adoption of the said child by the Petitioners be made and entered by said Court; for an order terminating the parental rights of the natural mother and the natural father of said child; that the name of the child upon adoption by these Petitioners be changed; and that they have all other proper relief. You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 27th day of January, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., of said day, in said Court, in the Harvey County Courthouse in the City of Newton, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. If you are unable to obtain counsel to represent you in this matter based on your income, you may qualify for appointed counsel. You must complete an affidavit from the Clerk's office regarding your lack of funds or assets and file the affidavit with the Clerk's office prior to the final hearing on January 27th, 2016, so that a determination can be made by the Court. Should you fail thereof, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said Petition.

Ann T. Rider (12507) 200 E. First, Suite 200 Wichita, Kansas 67202 (316) 265-7600 Attorney for Petitioners

#8931 December 30, January 6 & 13

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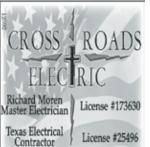
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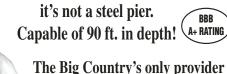
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

People in the same

HOLIDAY room to-

MATHIS gether at mealtime often eat the same thing. Who decides? Later they may watch a television program. Whose choice? All of these small decisions and compromises speak to the balance of power in relationships, which, considering the recent

Venus change, is

it was yesterday.

slightly different than

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Decisions that appear to point to a permanent result actually do not. That's good news. Now you can just choose in a lighthearted, carefree manner. You can always change your mind later.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Resist the temptation to try hard to be liked. You're already liked. Encourage others to share, and then say very little. Confidence, real or pretend, is the se-

Dear Annie: My

5-year-old grand-

daughter was here

for a few days and

bath. The last time

needed her evening

she stayed overnight

with me, her mother

sent bath products

that got in her eyes

and burned. So this

time, I used my own

baby shampoo and

some moisturizing

body wash. Every-

thing went well, but

when my daughter

saw that I had used

those products, she

she sent me a text

message saying I

authority as a par-

ent. Annie, the baby

shampoo didn't hurt

one iota and neither

From my daughter's

reaction, you would

have thought I threw

acid on the child. We

had a huge disagree-

ment via text, and

my blood pressure

thought I was having

a stroke. We haven't

corresponded since.

My daughter is

45 and one of those

Helicopter Momzil-

her daughter like a

hawk, never missing

a chance to correct

someone who says

anything objection-

able to her daughter

or when another child

doesn't play with her

the way she thinks is

right. She believes

las. She watches

spiked so high I

did the body wash.

my granddaughter

had disrespected her

Later that evening,

went ballistic.

cret to today's win.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The choices you make today are based on the education you got long ago. Realizing this will help you appreciate, understand and have compassion for the choices and history of another.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). From the small choices of diet or dress to the major life decisions, put yourself first. Yes, other people's needs matter. But you tend to forget that you're the only one who can live your life. Do it for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When you feel the impulse to share what you're going through, trust it and unload your feelings. The others need to hear this and will be processing what you've said through the night.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Maybe your problems are trivial. It would comfort you to think so, anyway. It's a good excuse to take in a sad drama about someone's extremely difficult life. Whatever you can do to put your worries in perspective will help.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Remember when you didn't think you could do it, but you tried anyway and ended up with a feeling of accomplishment and new skills to boot? Well, that will happen all over again.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Life is so much easier when you act in the optimum moment, i.e., the very moment the impulse rises up in you. It's not true for every day, but today your timing is stellar!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your popularity rush has started (thanks to Venus) and you're already starting to give the world another side of you. They see you as courageous, even though you're just doing what comes naturally.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The vagaries become clear as you ask more questions and track the answers. Even more revealing will be the answers that are not forthcoming. Pay attention to the gaps.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Should you blend or should you pop? Neither will win you the chance to participate. Instead of thinking in terms of blending in or standing out, think in terms of fitting and you'll do just fine. PISCES (Feb.

19-March 20). With all of your grand plans, there's no time or energy to waste in harboring resentment. The easiest way will be to cut your losses, but if you can't take it that far, go in for a short, sweet negotiation. TODAY'S BIRTH-

DAY (Dec. 30). It's a year for trying things a new way. The next six weeks will bring financial opportunity, sweat and a bag of money. In March you'll benefit from getting out of the driver's seat of a relationship to let the other person take the wheel. A flurry of social activity will culminate in a summer project destined for greatness. Pisces and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 17, 2, 19 and 36. **ASTROLOGICAL**

QUESTIONS: "After reading your response to the Virgo in deep with an unfaithful Gemini I couldn't help but wonder if cheating is common with Geminis. Is it possible for them to stay committed to one person? Which signs would you say are more compatible with Virgo?"

Gemini is not more

likely to cheat than any other sign. They are experimental, extremely sociable and infinitely curious. Since these personality traits inform whom they are, dabbling, be it in love affairs, careers, or interests, is innately Gemini (think of the young Angelina Jolie, a Gemini who sampled her way through a smorgasbord of relationships and identities). These sun signs live to learn, and circulate they will. However, around the Saturn return (age 28), Gem will often make the choice to stick with one partner. Virgos are enduring earth

signs and tend to their relationships with the same sacred devotion, reverence and self-elected duty they show in all areas of their lives, and find water (Pisces, Scorpio, Cancer) and earth (Taurus, Capricorn) partners the true blue partners in the zodiac.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: LeBron James was the breakout star of "Trainwreck," one of the year's most successful comedies, and you can bet he'll be included in more such projects. This ambitious Capricorn, with his moon in fiery Aries, has also graced the cover of Vogue and was such a smooth host of "Saturday Night Live" that he was praised by Lorne Michaels for his versatility. Capricorns love a challenge.

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Annie's Mailbox ®

she is the only one who knows how to raise a child. I quess my 50 years of child rearing experience mean nothing. She acts this way even toward her husband, as if he is a total idiot, and he won't stand up for himself. When I have my granddaughter at my house, I don't want my daughter around because she can be so unpleasant, snapping and biting at the least little thing.

My husband and I have helped my daughter's family was born. I have never been disrespectful toward her. This is the first time we haven't been on speaking terms. Will she ever change? --

Momzilla's Mother Dear Mother: Probably not until a tug-of-war over who is the more interests at heart,

from the day the child

her daughter is older and rejects Mom's overprotectiveness. Until then, however, please stop creating sensible parent. She is the child's mother and has her best even though she is overbearing. When she says to respect her, she means that you don't get to undermine her decisions unless you feel they are a danger to the child, which they are not. Yes, the

baby shampoo was

fine, but Mom specifically asked you to use something else and you should have done so.

You owe her an apology. Really. Her nitpicking attitude is exhausting, we know, and it isn't particularly helpful to her daughter, either. But you absolutely must bite your tongue and allow her to make these decisions. You raised your kid, Mom. Now it's her turn. Let

her be. Dear Annie: This is for "Suffocating in Saskatchewan," whose co-worker has a terrible body odor. My son used to have body odor, but I noticed it only after he showered. It turned out to be his aftershave. When I got up the courage to speak to him about it, the problem was solved and he thanked me for letting him know.

It could be that the co-worker's soap, aftershave, cologne or other product doesn't mix well with his body chemistry. That might be an approach to use when speaking to him about it. --Been There

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@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. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by

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3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

7

8

5

1

7

5

2

1

4

4

7

That means no number is repeated in any row, column or

9

3

1

2

9

6

2

5

West

7

3

5

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MAKE **IME FOR** FAMILY READING



Club Play Saves the Day

West dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH **♠**83 **♥**A7 ♦ Q 10 5 2 **♣**QJ863 WEST **EAST** ↑76 ♥J1064 **♦** K J 10 9 4 2 **♥** 9 5 3 ♦ 8 6 3 • 10 5 4 2 **♦** A 7 **SOUTH ↑**AQ5 ♥KQ82 The bidding:

North

Pass

Opening lead jack of spades. A competent declarer can often bring order out of chaos in much the same way a jigsaw-puzzle fan can

East

Pass

Pass

South

Dble

3 NT

join together many hundreds of Consider this deal where correct play permits South to make three notrump, but where if he strays even

slightly from the straight and narrow, he will fail in his missior West leads the jack of spades, taken by declarer with the queen.

Observing that he needs to score four

missing aces for his opening bid. Once South makes that assumption, he can see that leading a low

him of developing nine tricks before West can develop five. In effect West's hand is an open book, and all South has to do is to act correctly upon what he finds written there.

next. If he does this, he eventually goes down two. West takes the ace and plays another spade, and South is kaput whatever he does. Alternatively, if South leads a diamond at trick two, he also fails. West rises with the ace and returns a

spade, and there is no way for South

tricks in the minor suits, South might

be tempted to play the king of clubs

to score more than eight tricks. But if South leads a low club at trick two, as he should, he makes the contract. What can West do? If he puts up the ace, South has nine tricks — four clubs, three hearts and two spades. And if West ducks instead, dummy's jack wins, and declarer then drives out the ace of diamonds to produce nine tricks - a club, three diamonds, three hearts and two

low club at trick two is the right play? The answer is not difficult. He simply assumes that West has both

How does declarer know that a

club at trick two will virtually assure

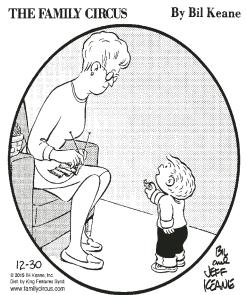
Tomorrow: The serendipity factor.

DENNIS THE MENACE



I LIKE YOUR MOUSTACHE! IT LOOKS LIKE A CATERPILLAR!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'd give you this but I don't know if grandmas are allowed to chew bubble gum."

IT WILL FEEL

LONGER WHEN

WE CLIMB BACK

UP IT.

IT SEEMED

BIGGER WHEN

WE WERE

KIDS.







MAKE A NEW DRINK?

BREAD AND

WATER, BOYS!



√ NO, WAIT! →

I MARRIED

THE PRISON

COOK!

BC

DINNER

READY!

AGNES

SNOWED

EARLY

THIS

YEAR



WE'RE ALMOST THERE

FELLAS. THE INFAMOUS

KILLER HILL!



SEC-

I RAN INTO

TROUBLE

WITH A

SPELL

YES.

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I BLAME CLIMATE

CLIMATE CHANGE

CHANGE ... DO YOU

BELIEVE IN

BEHOLD, THE ELITE

SLEDDER'S LAST

VESTIGE OF SANITY



WEARE

PROBABLY

SPONTANEOUSLY

GETTING

SHORTER

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 30, the 364th day of 2015. There is one day left in the year.

Today's Highlight History:

On Dec. 30, 1940, California's first freeway, the Arroyo Seco Parkway connecting Los Angeles and Pasadena, was officially opened.

On this date:

In 1853, the United States and Mexico signed a treaty under which the U.S. agreed to buy some 45,000 square miles of land from Mexico for \$10 million in a deal known as the Gadsden Purchase.

In 1865, author Rudyard Kipling was born in Bombay, India.

In 1905, the Franz Lehar operetta "The Merry Widow" premiered in Vienna.

In 1922, Vladimir I. Lenin proclaimed the establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which lasted nearly seven decades before dissolving in Dec 1991

In 1936, the United Auto Workers union staged its first "sit-down" strike at the General Motors Fisher Body Plant No. 1 in Flint, Michigan. (The strike lasted until Feb. 11, 1937.)

In 1954, Olympic gold medal runner Malvin G. Whitfield became the first black recipient of the James E. Sullivan Award for amateur athletes. In 1965, Ferdinand Marcos

term as president of the Philippines. In 1979, Broadway composer Richard Rodgers died in New

was inaugurated for his first

York at age 77. In 1989, a Northwest Airlines DC-10, which had been the tar-

get of a telephoned threat, flew

safely from Paris to Detroit

with 22 passengers amid extratight security. In 1994, a gunman walked into a pair of suburban Boston abortion clinics and opened fire, killing two employees. (John C. Salvi III was later convicted of murder; he died in

In 1999, former Beatle George Harrison fought off a knifewielding intruder who'd broken into his mansion west of London and stabbed him in the chest. (Michael Abram was later acquitted of attempted murder by reason of insanity.)

prison, an apparent suicide.)

In 2006, Iraqis awoke to news that Saddam Hussein had been hanged; victims of his three decades of autocratic rule took to the streets to celebrate.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, unhappy with Congress for not permanently extending the USA Patriot Act,

13 Swiss capital

21 Letter before

22 Nonconformist

25 Condor's claw

26 On one's toes

drastically

29 Two-door car

30 Planets, to poets

31 Blame-avoiding

28 Errand list

heading

iota

27 Reduce

story

32 Informal

eateries

as effort

33 Put forth,

signed a bill renewing the antiterrorism law for a few weeks. Tropical Storm Zeta formed in the eastern Atlantic Ocean; it was the 27th storm of a recordbreaking hurricane season.

Five years ago: Former Israel President Moshe Katsav was convicted of raping an employee when he was a Cabinet minister (he is serving a seven-year Top-ranked sentence). Connecticut's record 90-game winning streak in women's basketball ended when No. 9 Stanford outplayed the Huskies in a 71-59 victory at Maples Pavilion.

"The meek shall inherit the earth ,Äî if that's all right with

Thought for Today:

you." Author unknown.

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Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

38 "Same here!"

39 Belief system

44 Theater lanes

46 Norwegian

neighbor

47 Competition

award 48 Bowling alley

button

49 Snow vehicle

50 Angelic topper

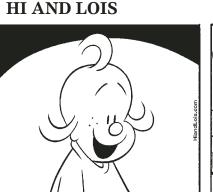
51 Major work

service

stage

53 Walk off the

52 Church





THEN

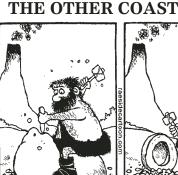
WHAT'S

HAPPENING

HERE?

IT'S NOT

LIKELY

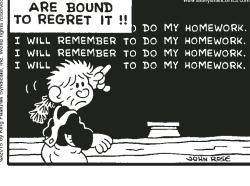






SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





Newsday Crossword GIVING DIRECTIONS by Carolyn Stewart

- **ACROSS**
- 15 Skin-soothing

- 19 Amount bet
- spot
- 23 Sizzling
- poems 25 Have a bite of
- 29 Corn discards
- 31 Good blackjack
- 34 Divvy up
- 36 Linen fiber
- Jekyll/Hyde
- phrase
- 42 Potato or yam
- 43 Utmost degree
- 46 Take a chair
- 47 Major leaguer
- manners!" 58 Jacket flap
- 62 Number inside a shoe

- 1 Foamy lather
- 5 Job to do
- 14 Joint above
- the shin
- plant
- 16 Wipe clean
- 17 Doing nothing
- 18 Windfall
- 24 Before, in
- card
- 35 Apple center
- 40 Estimation
- 41 Little terrors
- 45 Crook's caper
- 49 "Mind your
- 59 Line of rotation
- ambitious
- 63 Pronto, in a memo

- 64 Prescribed

- 20 Can't-go-back

- 37 Emulate
- 44 Suited to __

- 61 Sidestep

- amounts
- **9** Wash thoroughly **66** Infamous

- 3 Sandwich shop
 - 5 Verboten
 - 7 Before you
 - know it
 - 12 Software
 - customer

25

34

58

61

- 17 20

- 60 Far from

- 65 "Don't delete"
- **DOWN**
- 1 Don't attend
- 4 Glimpsed
- 8 Bingo-like
- 9 Storm drains
- 11 Prego rival

- emperor
- 2 Invalidate
- 6 In the air
- casino game
- 10 Box for oranges

26 27

- invitation 36 Chimney channel

18

21

- 35 Accept an
- 54 Organize **55** Let up 56 Russian
 - autocrat of old 57 Printed mistake
 - 19 22
- 37 40 41 42 43 45 44 49 50 51 52 53

29 30

65 64 66

59

62

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- 24
- 60 63

12 11

- 54 | 55 | 56 | 57
- 31 32 33

News in brief

Officials: 'Affluenza' teen, mom tracked to Mexico by phone

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP) — A teen fugitive from Texas known for using an "affluenza" defense and his mother were scheduled to depart for the U.S. after authorities said a phone call for pizza led to their capture in the Mexican resort city of Puerto Vallarta.

Eighteen-year-old Ethan Couch and his mother. Tonya Couch, were being held at immigration offices in Guadalajara to be returned to the United States aboard a commercial flight to Houston on Wednesday, authorities said.

A U.S. Marshals Service agent tipped local authorities off Monday to the location of Couch — who was on juvenile probation after killing four people in a 2013 drunken-driving wreck — and his mother, according to a police report issued by the Jalisco state prosecutors' office. Couch disappeared as authorities investigated whether he had violated the terms of his probation.

During the sentencing phase of Couch's trial, a defense expert argued that his wealthy parents coddled him into a sense of irresponsibility — a condition the expert termed "affluenza." The condition is not recognized as a medical diagnosis by the American Psychiatric Association, and its invocation drew ridicule.

According to the police report, one of the Couches' telephones had been used to order delivery from Domino's Pizza to a condominium complex in Puerto Vallarta's old town, far from the glitzy resorts of the city's newer section.

AP-NORC Poll: Religious rights most vital for US Christians

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans place a higher priority on preserving the religious freedom of Christians than for other faith groups, ranking Muslims as the least deserving of the protections, according to a new survey.

Solid majorities said it was extremely or very important for the U.S. to uphold religious freedom in general. However, the percentages varied dramatically when respondents were asked about specific faith traditions, according to a poll by The Associated Press and the NORC Center for Public Affairs

Eighty-two percent said religious liberty protections were important for Christians, compared with 61 percent who said the same for Muslims. About seven in 10 said preserving Jews' religious freedom was important, while 67 percent said so of Mormons. People who identified with no religion were ranked about even with Muslims in needing support to live out their beliefs.

Charles Haynes, director of the Religious Freedom Center of the Newseum Institute, said the findings reflect deep divisions among Americans about the very definition of religious liberty, which has taken on newly politicized

meanings in a time of debate over gay marriage and the threat from Islamic extremists.

"Religious freedom is now in the eye of the beholder," Haynes said. "People in different traditions, with different

ideological commitments, define religious freedom differently."

19 levees in Illinois, Missouri monitored for flooding

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Federal officials were monitoring 19 vulnerable levees on the rising Mississippi River and its tributaries, warning that hundreds of homes in Illinois and Missouri could be threatened by a rare winter flood that already forced the partial closure of interstate highways and widespread As the swollen rivers and streams pushed to vir-

tually unheard-of heights Tuesday, an unknown number of inmates were transferred out of an Illinois state prison threatened by flooding, Illinois' governor declared disasters in seven counties and Missouri's governor activated the National Guard to help divert traffic from submerged roads. Record flooding was projected in some Missis-

sippi River towns after several days of torrential rain that also caused sewage to flow unfiltered into

The Meramec River near St. Louis was expected to get to more than 3 feet above the previous record

1 dead in New Hampshire crash with Secret Service agents

WAKEFIELD, N.H. (AP) - A car carrying four on-duty Secret Service agents was involved in a head-on collision in New Hampshire that killed the driver of the other car, police said Wednesday.

The accident happened at about 7 p.m. Tuesday in Wakefield, near the Maine state line.

The agents were in a Ford Taurus heading south on Route 16, Wakefield police said early Wednesday. A northbound Mercury Sable with three people inside crossed over a double yellow solid line and hit the Taurus head-on.

The Sable driver, 45-year-old Bruce Danforth, died. A Secret Service spokeswoman said the agents sustained serious, but non-life-threatening injuries. Their names have not been released.

The passengers in Danforth's car, Kristina Buswell, 21, and Natasha Meroski, 35, were taken to separate hospitals. Messages left seeking their conditions were not immediately returned.

Turkish prosecutor: police foil New Year's eve attack

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Turkish police on Wednesday detained two suspected Islamic State militants who were believed to be planning suicide attacks during New Year celebrations in central Ankara, officials said.

The two men were detained in a raid on a cell house in the low-income Mamak neighborhood of Ankara, where police also seized a suicide vest armed with a bomb, an explosive device that was fortified with ball bearings and metal sticks and placed inside a back-pack as well as bomb-making equipment, according to the Ankara Chief Prosecu-

The two Turkish nationals, identified by their initials M.C. and A.Y., were being questioned by anti-terrorism police.

The prosecutor's office said the men had staked out possible locations in Ankara, where they could carry out the attacks. The state-run Anadolu Agency, quoting unnamed police and judiciary officials, said the would-be-attackers were planning to detonate the bombs at two locations near bars and a shopping mall near Turkey's central Kizilay district during the celebrations.

Pilot killed in Alaska crash wasn't authorized to fly plane

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The pilot of a small plane that smashed into a building in downtown Anchorage on Tuesday was not authorized to fly the aircraft used in volunteer search-and-rescue missions, authorities said. Doug Demarest, 42, of Anchorage, died when the

Cessna 172 clipped an office building and slammed into a commercial building, according to the FBI, which is helping investigate the crash. The plane belongs to the Civil Air Patrol, a civil-

ian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force that is made up of volunteers who help with search and rescue, disaster relief and homeland security across the country.

Continued from Page 5A

if production remains at 10.2 million barrels per day, said Fahad Alturki, chief economist and head of research at Saudi-based Jadwa Investment. That's less than half the \$56 per barrel priced into the projected 2015 budget.

Despite projecting it would spend \$229.3 billion (860 billion riyals) in 2015, the kingdom actually spent \$260 billion (975 billion riyals), in large part because of handouts King Salman doled out to the public when he ascended the throne earlier this

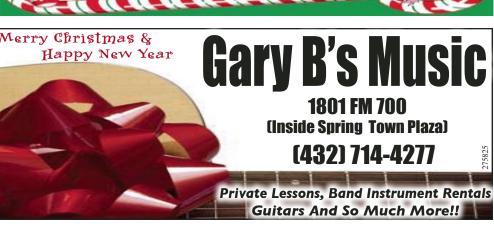
The London-based research consultancy Capital Economics said in a report issued this month that the Saudi budget takes on additional prominence because it is the first under the new monarch, who ascended to the throne in early 2015. The budget is also being heavily scrutinized as it was prepared under the guidance of a newly-formed Council of Economic and Development Affairs, which is headed by the king's 30-year-old son. Deputy Crown Prince and Defense Minister Mohammed bin Salman.













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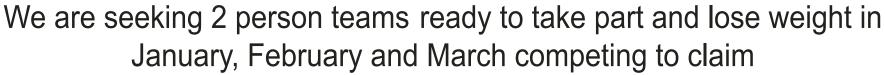
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Team Name (Be Creative)

email:

Team Member I: ______ phone: ______

eam Member 2: _____ phone: ____

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