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January 1, 2016



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# Open carry takes effect

BY AMANDA ELSTON

Managing Editor

A new handgun law which allows a person who is licensed to carry a handgun to openly carry a holstered gun goes into effect today.

House Bill 910, which was passed in Texas this past June, authorizes licensed individuals to openly carry a handgun in a shoulder or belt holster.

It is not permitted "on the premises of an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education, on any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage or other parking area of an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education, or by an individual who is acting as a personal protection officer under Chapter 1702, Occupations Code and is not wearing a uniform", according to the Texas Department of Public Safety website.

According to CNN, this includes certain public places such as churches, hospitals, correctional facilities, and some places where alcohol is served or sold.

Some businesses are also choosing to opt out of having

See **OPEN**, Page 3

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#### To reach us:

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





# As fragile as a butterfly

BSI students learn a lesson about the uncertain nature of life

> Story by Lyndel Moody Photos courtesy BSISD

> > The last, the very last, So richly, brightly, dazzlingly yellow. Perhaps if the sun's tears would sing against a white stone.... Such, such a yellow Is carried lightly 'way up high. It went away I'm sure

because it wished to kiss the world good-bye. For seven weeks I've lived in here, Penned up inside this ghetto. But I have found what I love here. The dandelions call to me And the white chestnut branches in the

Only I never saw another butterfly. That butterfly was the last one. Butterflies don't live in here, in the ghetto.

— Pavel Friedman

#### BY LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

In December, a hall at the Big Spring Intermediate School was covered with brightly-decorated, paper butterflies and

then, as if in an instant, the hall was nearly bare of the paper creatures.

It was part of a dramatic, visuallessonforthesixthgrade

class on the uncertainties of As part of study on World War I and II, BSI Principal Patsy

Sanchez temporarily stepped back into the classroom to lead a lesson on the Holocaust using the book, "I Never Saw A Butterfly." The book is a collection of drawings and poems of Jewish children sent to the Terezin Concentration Camp.

Although 15,000 children passed through Terezin, located near the city of Prague in the Czech Republic, only 132 children

See **FRAGILE**, Page 3



# California shooter's friend indicted on gun charges

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP) — A grand jury has indicted the man who provided the guns used in the San Bernardino massacre on counts that include lying on documents when he bought the assault rifles and helping to plan earlier terror attacks that were never carried out, authorities

From top: Sixth grad-

er Emily Kocak holds

her butterfly repre-

senting Franta Bass;

butterflies decorate

one of the halls of

BSI; A bare garden

remains after the

names of the chil-

dren who died dur-

ing the mass geno-

cide under the Nazi

regime were taken

down.

With the two shooters dead,

Enrique Marquez Jr., 24, has been at the center of the investigation since he called 911 after hearing about the attacks that killed 14 people. He then spent 10 days talking to authorities about his years of connections to shooter Syed

Wednesday's indictment by the federal grand jury avoids the need for a probable cause hearing before a judge to determine whether Marquez should stand trial on the five counts that could send him to prison for 50 years if he's convicted.

The counts include conspiring with shooter Syed Farook to carry out attacks in 2011 and 2012. Prosecutors said in court documents that Marquez and Farook planned to use pipe bombs and guns to kill people at the college they See FRIEND, Page 3



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Tue

1/5

47/36

Partly cloudy

Highs in the

30s.

upper 40s and

lows in the mid

unrise: 7:48 AM

Sunset: 5:55 PM

Mon

1/4

54/32

More sun than

clouds. Highs in

the mid 50s and

lows in the low

Sunrise: 7:47 AM

Sunset: 5:54 PM

47/38

30s.

mate, Steve Loveless.

## Melissa 'Missy' Loveless

Melissa Ann "Missy" Loveless, 43, of Midland, Texas, passed away unexpectedly Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, 2016, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring, Texas, with Pastor Brian Loveless of Calvary Baptist Church in Grand Prairie, Texas officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity

Memorial Park in Big Spring.

The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until the 3 p.m. service time Saturday, Jan. 2, 2016, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

Melissa was born April 26, 1972, and raised in Big Spring, Texas. A proud graduate of Big Spring High School's Class of 1990, she afterward attended Howard College in Big Spring, Texas, followed by Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Okla. After leaving the university, she was a resident of Prague, Okla. for a time. On April 12, 1996, Melissa gave birth to her be-

loved son, Taylor, in Oklahoma City, Okla. Two years after Taylor's birth, Melissa moved briefly to San Benito, Texas, and from there settled in Harlingen, Texas, where she would later work as a wellliked and much-respected administrative apecialist at Kohl's department store.

BIG SPRING HERALD

Friday, January 1, 2016

In September of 2012, she relocated to Midland, Texas, to be near her future husband. On Feb. 14, 2015, in Grand Prairie, Texas, she married her soul-

Missy had a personality bigger than life itself. She counted many as friends and loved ones, and she would do anything to help those in need. She loved to laugh and to make others laugh, and she brought joy and warmth to the people around her. She was an avid animal-lover. She had many interests, including cats, the Miami Dolphins, and showing pride for her Marine son. She loved, and was loved by, her many, many friends from many different places and all walks of life.

Survivors include her husband, Steve Loveless of Midland, Texas; one son, Taylor Webster of Camp Pendleton, Calif.; her step-father, Wayne Bartlett of Big Spring; a step-daughter, Stephanie Anchondo of Big Spring; and her three cats, Ratito, Arctic and

She was preceded in death by her beloved mother, Mary Ellen Camp Bartlett.

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

Paid obituary

Local 5-Day Forecast

1/1

36/27

High 36F. Winds

NE at 10 to 15

Sunset: 5:52 PM

'exas at a Glance

Cloudy skies

Sat

1/2

45/29

Morning clouds

afternoon sun.

Highs in the

mid 40s and

lows in the

upper 20s

Sunset: 5:52 PM

followed by

Sun

1/3

53/27

Sunny. Highs in

the low 50s and

Sunset: 5:53 PM

lows in the

Area Cities			
City	Hi Lo Cond.	City	Hi Lo Cond.
Abilene	45 32 Foggy	Kingsville	56 50 Cloudy
Amarillo	34 22 Foggy	Livingston	55 43 P Cloudy
Austin	54 41 M Sunny	Longview	55 39 Sunny
Beaumont	54 45 Cloudy	Lubbock	37 26 M Cloudy
Brownsville	62 55 Cloudy	Lufkin	54 40 M Sunny
Brownwood	52 35 M Cloudy	Midland	46 32 M Cloudy
Corpus Christi	57 48 Cloudy	Raymondville	58 51 Cloudy
Corsicana	55 39 Sunny	Rosenberg	55 47 Cloudy
Dallas	54 37 P Cloudy	San Antonio	57 45 Cloudy
Del Rio	59 45 Cloudy	San Marcos	56 41 P Cloudy
El Paso	54 35 P Cloudy	Sulphur Springs	54 38 M Cloudy
Fort Stockton	53 34 Cloudy	Sweetwater	42 32 Foggy
Gainesville	50 33 Sunny	Tyler	55 40 P Cloudy
Greenville	52 35 P Cloudy	Weatherford	49 34 Cloudy
Houston	55 47 Cloudy	Wichita Falls	46 32 Cloudy

#### National Cities

Atlanta	58 41 Cloudy	Miami	83 74 M Sunny
Boston	43 31 M Cloudy	Minneapolis	15 11 P Cloudy
Chicago	31 19 Cloudy	New York	49 37 P Cloudy
Dallas	54 37 P Cloudy	Phoenix	65 40 Clear
Denver	28 6 P Cloudy	San Francisco	52 37 Clear
Houston	40 22 M Cloudy	Seattle	43 30 Clear
Los Angeles	66 40 Clear	Saint Louis	36 26 M Cloudy
Moon Pha	COC		

#### goon Phases

First

Dec 18	Dec 2	5	an Z	Jan 10							
UV Index											
Fri 1/1	Sat 1/2	Sun 1/3	Mon 1/4	Tue 1/5							
2	3	3	3	3							
Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate							
The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a											

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#### **Jury Cancelation**

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

#### **MLK Walk**

A march to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan 18 on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. The march will commence at the corner of Gregg St. and Martin Luther King Boulevard. Youth organization and other groups are welcome. Please bring your favorite lightening devices to light your path.

#### Meetings

New

11

- The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard Coun-Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues
- Howard College will be hosting several "up-

out 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, Howard College Campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

date meetings" through-

- The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 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

**EXPERIENCE** 

COUNTS

# Take Note

67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Evervone 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 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 432-213-0150.
- Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you do nate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Kim Plew at 263-4016 or 213-7960.
- Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.
- Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, in-

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

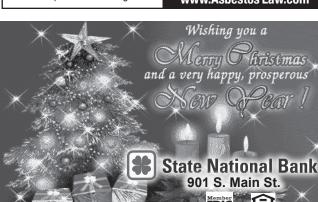
- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.
- Food 2 Kids Big Spring Needs You! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, iust show up at the time and dates listed. Call, 432-935-3998.

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# News in brief

Consent amid wine, pills to be a key question in Cosby case

ELKINS PARK, Pennsylvania (AP) — Entertainer Bill Cosby has long maintained that his extramarital conquests over the years were all consentual.

A jury may ultimately decide if that's true after the 78-year-old actor was arrested Wednesday on felony assault charges in suburban Philadelphia stemming from a 2004 encounter with a former Temple University employee less than half his The case marks the first time Cosby has been

charged with sexual misconduct despite years of lurid allegations, and it sets the stage for perhaps the biggest Hollywood celebrity trial of the mobilenews era. Prosecutors armed with new evidence this year

believe his accuser, Andrea Constand, was too impaired by the pills and wine Cosby gave her to consent to the sexual activity that followed at his home.

#### Flooding shuts down major interstate near St. Louis ST. LOUIS (AP) — Officials closed a major in-

morning amid historic flooding that has already Museum, although they

terstate highway south of St. Louis on Thursday

left at least 20 people dead.

Interstate 55 near the town of Arnold was entirely closed early Thursday due to floodwaters from the Meramec River. The Missouri Department of Transportation authorities had already rerouted traffic Wednesday night to allow for sandbagging

Other connections between St. Louis and adjacent counties already are closed, including I-44 over the Meramec. The closures forced traffic onto other nearby roads, creating gridlock.

#### Belgium: 10th suspect arrested in Paris attacks probe BRUSSELS (AP) — Belgian authorities on Thurs-

day announced the arrest of a 10th person in connection with last month's bloodbath in Paris and said six others have been detained for questioning over a suspected plot to stage new attacks in Brussels during the holidays. Law enforcement officials said there is no known

connection between the two investigations, but they highlight the role of Belgium as a hotbed of Islamic radicalism in Europe.

Authorities said a Belgian national born in 1993 and identified only as Ayoub B. has been charged with terrorist murder and participation in the activities of a terrorist group for his suspected in-

volvement in the Nov. 13 attacks in Paris, claimed by the Islamic State group.

#### Syrian family finds new home, new year's hope in Germany

ZWICKAU, Germany (AP) — After months of flight and fear, the Habashieh family of Syria is starting to build a new home in Europe's heart and faces 2016 with an unfamiliar feeling enriching their lives. It's called hope. Like so many who crossed continents this year

in search of European sanctuary and opportunity, the Habashiehs — mother Khawla Kareem, sisters Reem and Raghad, brothers Mohammed and Yaman — have sacrificed and suffered much along the way. The Associated Press has followed their often demoralizing experiences over the past four months in Germany, a nation toiling hard to shelter 1 million asylum-seekers.

At times, sleeping fitfully and bewildered as to where they were or might end up, the Habashiehs questioned whether they had made a mistake to flee the civil war imperiling their Damascus home. They seemed to have traded one barely livable life for a second, more alien one. But now, sharing a meal of tabouleh in the apartment where they've settled, their summertime leap into the unknown has been vindicated.

# **FRAGILE**

Continued from Page 1

survived, according to the website Jewish Virtual Library. Terezin was not considered a "death camp" and was used by the Nazi government in Germany as propaganda for the forced deportation of Jewish citizens from the general population in lands Germany controlled.

Many artists, painters, writers, musicians as well as families were sent to the camp. However, thousands died from deplorable conditions and 88,000 were deported to the extermination camp Auschwitz located in the neighboring country of Poland. A small fraction of those who went to Terezin survived.

According to the State Holocaust Memorial

were forbidden to do so, the children attended school, wrote and paint-"I try to teach it right

around the holidays to teach the kids to appreciate what they have," Sanchez said. "I tell them at any given time it can be taken away." As part of the lesson,

students were asked to decorate a butterfly and write the name of a child who was sent to the Terezin Concentration Camp between the years of 1942-1944. The students were asked to choose a name from more than 100 and decorate the butterfly in their honor. Three hundred butterflies were placed in the hall "garden." A few weeks later, the butterflies of the children who did not survive the war were taken down.

Sanchez has taught this lesson for a number of years.

"I want them to make a connection," she said. "I don't think they got it until they figured out these were kids. When

they really got it was when they looked at the list and realized 'hey that kid has the same birthday has me.' They kind of made that connection with it."

Sixth grader Joshua Yanez said the assignment made him feel "grateful for what I have and sad for what they didn't have."

"It made me feel sad for the children at that time because they were mistreated simply because of their culture," said Emily Kocak, a sixth grade BSI student. " Kocak chose to make

a butterfly in honor of Franta Bass, who died at age 14 in Auschwitz. During the lesson, San-

chez read Bass' poem "I am a Jew," to the class aloud.

I am a Jew and will be a Jew forever. Even if I should die from

hunger, never will I submit.

I will always fight for my people, on my honor.

I will never be ashamed of them;

I give my word. I am proud of my people, how dignified they are. Even though I am oppressed,

I will always come back to life.

— Franta Bass

"I would tell them this is how this person felt about his culture, so you apply to your culture as well," Sanchez said. "Therefore, you have to make your culture proud. Make them proud of who you are."

Both Yanez and Kocak said they connected to this lesson.

"Hating people for their choice of religion is not right," Yanez

Continued from Page 1

OPEN

"Kids should be going to school and being with their friends," Kocak said. "Kids at that age should not be worried about what negative things are going to happen."

The project is a multisubject lesson combing together lessons on comprehenreading, sion, vocabulary and as well as social studies but Sanchez said she hopes the students walk away with the understanding of the importance of showing respect for

their fellow students.

"I think somewhere along the lines we have forgotten that," said. "I think we have kids who take things for granted. I wanted them to know you can't not take things for granted. You have to show respect no mater who you are and appreciate diversity."

"We are all the same,"

However, training cur-

she said. "I wanted them to know these things can happen. It did happen. It's history. How about we treat each other with kindness and respect. I tell them hate is a very powerful. I try not to use it. Careful with your words. It's about making it real."

Staff Writer Lyndel Moody can be contacted at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mailing citydesk@ bigspringherald.com.

#### **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.

Clarence Myers, 94, of Big Spring died Wednesday, December 23, 2015. Graveside memorial services will be at a later date in Shreveport, Louisi-

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Continued from Page 1

**FRIEND** 

attended and to gun down others stuck in rush-hour traffic on a California freeway. The plots fizzled, and they never acted. Two more counts al-

lege that Marquez said in paperwork that two assault rifles he later gave to Farook were only for himself or his immediate family.

charged for his role in a conspiracy several years ago to target innocent civilians in our own backyard with cold-blooded terror attacks, and with providing weapons to an individual whose endgame was murder," Da- been charged in a crimitant director in charge of the FBI's Los Angeles Field Office, said in a statement.

Two other counts accuse Marquez of immigration fraud for a sham marriage with a Russian woman who was the sister -in-law of Farook's older brother.

Marquez had already

COWBOYS STEAKHOUSE i

vid Bowdich, the assis- nal complaint filed Dec 17 before the charges were taken to the grand jury. He has not entered a plea, but he is expected to do so in an arraignment Jan. 6. He was being held without bail.

A phone message left seeking Wednesday comment from Marquez's attorney was not immediately returned.

#### customers openly carry. Texas based H.E.B. and Whataburger will al-

low concealed weapons, but will not allow open carry.

Individuals who are currently licensed will not be required to attend additional training.

riculum for new applicants will be updated to reflect the new training requirements. This will not change the eligibility criteria to obtain a license to carry. For more information

on the new handgun law, go to the License to Carry (LTC) portion of the DPS website at www.dps.texas.gov/ RSD/CHL/index.htm.



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**F**ROMA

HARROP

# Opinion p

"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."

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

#### **ADDRESSES**

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#### How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com.
- · By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

#### LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. We ask you to follow these guidelines:

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- · We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- · We reserve the right to limit publication to attack and that we dare not jump one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be
- 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.

# **Bond predators want bailout**

uerto Rico is sinking in \$73 billion of debt. Mired in a long-running depression, the U.S. territory

has already cut essential services to bare bones. Puerto Rico can't fully pay its bondholders without setting off total economic collapse. One of two things

can happen, short of doing nothing and setting off a humanitarian crisis. One is to let Puerto Rico

restructure its debt in a federal bankruptcy court. The U.S. Treasury recommends that route. A Chapter 9 bankruptcy would

cost American taxpayers about nothing. Losses would be borne by the speculators who made the risky investments. The Financial Times has called hedge funds wagering on distressed Puerto Rican debt "bond predators."

The other option is to have U.S. taxpayers bail out the island with enormous transfers of aid.

Guess which path the hedge finds want to take? The taxpayer bailout, of course. And guess which side Wash-

ington Republicans are on? The hedge funds'. Funny how fast these "fiscal conservatives" forget their distaste for bailouts when their Wall Street benefactors come knocking for theirs.

comes with various levels of government guarantees, but none of it is safe. That some tax-exempt Puerto

Rican bonds have recently traded for an average yield of

nearly 42 percent illustrates how little that guarantee means.

Has the island's government been guilty of mismanagement? For sure. The investors knew that all along.

Wall Street's time-honored strategy for recovering from a bet gone south is to move the risk onto America's taxpayers. To pull it off here, the funds have to stop a Chapter 9 bankruptcy, whereby the negotiations would move where they belong — between them and the Puerto Rican government. But Congress must first pass

legislation letting Puerto Rico use the bankruptcy option. As the law now stands, American cities can go into bankruptcy court (Detroit was an example), but U.S. states and territories may not.

A bankruptcy proceeding would cost the bondholders, but a flattened Puerto Rico wouldn't be able to pay them, either. So Republicans are riding to the rescue with sneaky ways to get the American taxpayers to bear the losses.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch did a clever two-step. He blocked a vote on the bankruptcy legislation while proposing that U.S. taxpayers spend \$3 billion helping Puerto Rico meet its obligations. The bondholders think that's a dandy idea.

Presidential candidate Marco Rubio initially showed interest in the bankruptcy bill and participated in the drafting. After all. huge numbers of Puerto Ricans fleeing the economic disaster on the island have settled in central Florida. They are now the U.S. senator's constituents and also an influential voting bloc in a presidential swing state.

But then the Monarch Alternative Capital hedge fund apparently got to him. Rubio abandoned support for the bankruptcy bill shortly after Monarch's founder helped throw the first of two fundraisers for him.

The predators are now trying t confuse the public by calling the bankruptcy option — the true alternative to a taxpayer bailout — a "bailout." The Tea Party Patriots fell for the line. (Not so the conservative Americans for Tax Reform, which sees bankruptcy as a preferred alternative

money to the island.) BlueMountain Capital Management wrote, "Chapter 9 proceedings bail out Puerto Rico on the backs of the very bondholders Congress incentivized to invest in Puerto Rican municipal bonds."

to transferring more taxpayer

Some bond predators have no shame.

Adding another chapter to the sob story, some Republicans are now arguing that a bankruptcy could hurt average Americans who invested directly in Puerto Rican bonds or through a mutual fund. Yes, this can happen when average Americans speculate.

That's capitalism, the grownup version.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com. To find out more about Froma Harrop and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Web page at www.creators.com.

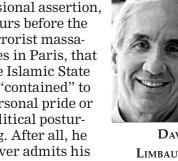
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# **Inspector in chief Barack Clouseau**

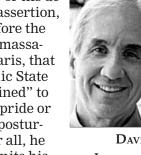
resident Obama's reckless neglect of America's national security is a rapidly growing malignancy on this nation, and there are no signs it will get better.

Some might attribute his arrogantly inaccurate assessment of the Islamic State group as "a

JV team" or his delusional assertion, hours before the terrorist massacres in Paris, that the Islamic State is "contained" to personal pride or political posturing. After all, he never admits his policies aren't working, and he is perpetually parti-



DAVID Limbaugh



More careful observers, however, see something far more troubling: He simply refuses to inhabit the reality that Islamists are at war with us. Obama is not only in a hermetically sealed bubble on the Islamist threat but also entirely oblivious to the degree to which the majority of Americans disagree with him or he outright disrespects their

What is his default reaction to every terrorist attack on American soil? Before he even has time to receive, much less analyze, the bulk of the evidence on such an attack, he immediately rushes to the presidential microphone and makes two equally bizarre points: that gun ownership is the principal cause of the to the conclusion that it was motivated by Islam or perpetrated by Islamists.

In fact, the word on the street is that he relishes these attacks — and every other mass shooting — as opportunities to rail against evil guns, their evil owners and their even more evil big-money enablers, such as the National Rifle Association. He is obviously just as adamant to deflect blame from Islamists as he is to blame American gun owners and the gun lobby. How many times has he lec-

tured Americans on guns after **Amen** such an attack? How many times has he chided us not to presume

Puerto Rico's government debt

it was committed by an Islamist? How many times has he rushed to shame us against jumping to the conclusion that Islamic violence was the culprit and then waxed eloquent about how wonderful Islam is?

"He [President Obama] never reassures Americans he recognizes the threat and is taking the important steps needed to combat it."

His first instinct is to blame, shame and scold Americans, Christians, gun owners and Republicans and then defend Islam while warning us against Islamophobia.

He never reassures Americans he recognizes the threat and is taking the important steps needed to combat it.

Just this past weekend — at a time when Americans are increasingly and rationally nervous about the Islamist threat he made some more disturbing statements that should remove all doubt about this mindset.

He audaciously claimed that his strategy to combat the Islamic State is working and that the only problems are that saturated media coverage after the Paris attacks is fueling terror fears in the United States and that he hasn't done enough to communicate his strategy to the people. "We haven't, you know, on a

regular basis, I think, described all the work that we've been doing for more than a year now to defeat" the Islamic State. Where have we heard this type

of disconnect before? Remember his reaction to his 2010 congressional defeats, largely over the public's angst about Obamacare? He never conceded problems with Obamacare, only that he hadn't done enough to get the message out about its gloriousness, despite his 50 speeches hammering us over the head Translation: The American

people are too stupid and selfcentered to understand his benevolence and wisdom, so he must spend more time spoonfeeding them instead of concentrating on his wonderful policies. His bad — but not really. Actually, it's our bad because we're not decent or enlightened enough to have his attitude toward Islamism, and if we weren't so bigoted, we'd realize

it isn't a major threat. Obama also said: "If you've been watching television for the last month, all you've been seeing, all you've been hearing about is these guys with masks or black flags who are potentially coming to get you. And so I understand why people are concerned about it.'

So the problem is that we are creating boogeymen out of guys with masks and flags — as if they're harmless cartoon characters. Are you serious? And "potentially" coming to get us? How about Fort Hood? Boston? San Bernardino? Terrorist dry runs on airlines, at home and abroad? Endless stories of Islamic horror around the world — persecuting and massacring Christians and Jews and militantly refusing to assimilate in Europe and instead Islamofying the receiving nations, including Britain?

Surely by now, a strong majority of Americans fully recognize just how dangerous Obama's approach is to their (and America's) safety and security. How could anyone deny it?

Just let him keep talking. Maybe, before it's all said and done, he'll give us 50 "Twilight Zone"-ish speeches on Islamophobia as he did on Obamacare, doing more to elect the next Republican president than any Republican candidate could do for himself.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book is "The Emmaus Code: Finding Jesus in the Old Testa-Follow him on Twitter @

davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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# Did you ever wonder: the Manna

ext the Israelites complained about food. The food they had brought with them from Egypt began to run out after two months. They did not recognize that it was a miracle for the food to last so long!

They said that Moses had brought them to the

Wilderness to kill them by starvation. And they began to think wistfully about the food they had to eat in Egypt. They did not consider that if they were still in Egypt, they would still be working as slave

In Exodus 16:4, God told Moses that He would provide food for the Israelites. Every morning the ground would be covered with dew. When the dew evaporated, they would find a tiny white or blond seed somewhat similar to coriander. They were to gather enough to feed their

household until the next morning. Every morning there would be a fresh supply. This was something new that the Israelites had

never dreamed of. They asked each other, "What is it?" In Hebrew this is "Manna?" And so they called This food from Heaven, Manna. God gave them instructions to gather only

enough to feed their household until the next morning. Every morning there would be a fresh

Some people did not trust Him to provide more the next day. They were greedy and gathered extra. During the night the extra they had saved developed weevils if it were still grain and maggots if it were cooked.

On Friday they were told to gather enough to last for two days. Some people had settled into the idea that Manna would be on the ground every morning, and they did not gather extra as they were

Saturday is God's Sabbath on which He had said. "You shall worship Me and do no work." Therefore on Saturday, no Manna was on the ground to Do you see a pattern here? God wanted the

Israelites to honor Him and acknowledge Him as 'their God.' They had spent so many years and generations in Egypt that they had forgotten how God -- Hashem -- had spoken to Abraham. How He had protected and provided for Abraham, Isaac The Israelites had been surrounded by the Egyp-

tians and exposed to their worship of many gods. Some of this had rubbed off on the Israelites. They no longer had Faith in God Almighty.

The sages tell us that Manna could be boiled and made into porridge. The boiled Manna could be baked somewhat like You would bake a meatloaf? It could be ground into flour and made into baked bread or fried bread. It had several uses with several flavors. I am confident that since my God made it, it contained all the necessary nutrients for good health!

They should have believed and done as He said without questioning. The Patriarchs did! But they wanted Him to do things that made sense to their human thinking.

The ultimate purpose of the thirty years in the Wilderness was to teach the Israelites to show their love for God Almighty by trusting Him. He was willing to wait a long time and He repeatedly performed miracles to satisfy their demands.

And He still is patient with us. We should decide to love Him unconditionally before our time is at an end.

Eunice Filler, author of "Rachael: 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**

**EUNICE** 

**FILLER** 

The First Presbyterian Church – Big Spring

Kay Kennemur is in charge of Take Ten for this Sunday. Ushers for January are Paschal Odom, David Wilson, Lane Reynolds, and Susan Holstedt. Jim Little is Lector for this Sunday, and Rip Patterson will serve as Lector the rest of January.

The lectionary is Jeremiah 3:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18. Rev. Craig Holstedt will deliver the sermon. The Chancel choir will offer "Every Star Shall Sing a Carol" by Sydney Carter as the offertory anthem. There will be a called Session Meeting at 9:30 a.m. before Sunday School, and the Congregational Meeting that was scheduled to be last Sunday will be held after worship this Sunday.

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

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

The children's choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, Jan. 13.

The next meeting of Presbyterian Women will be Tuesday, Jan. 26.

The Session Planning Retreat will be in the church library at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 9. All Session members are urged to be in attendance. You may also see what's happening

at the church by visiting our website: www.fpcbs.org. On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by Rev. Craig Holstedt. Like us on Facebook.

#### First Baptist Church Big Spring 2 Corinthians 5:17 declares, "...if

anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" If you desire a new beginning, come worship with us Sunday at 10:50 a.m., as we raise our voices in

See CHURCH NEWS page 6

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**Annual Banquet:** Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Contact 432-463-7641



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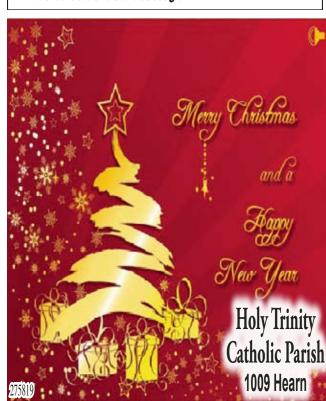
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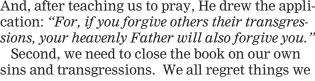
267-8288

# Reflections: Opening a new book for a new year

or many years I have spent New Year's Eve reflecting on the year past and New Year's Day anticipating the year to come. I have learned the

importance of closing the book on the past and opening a new one for the future.

First, we need to close the book on the insults and injuries we may have suffered. Failure to close the book on these can cripple us in our efforts to embrace the future. We can only overcome past insults and injuries by practicing forgiveness. Jesus taught us to pray, *"Father,* forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."





BILL

did and things we left undone, words spoken and words we failed to speak. The guilt and regret of the past can become a heavy burden that weighs us down and prevents us from achieving our best. God wants to take this weight from our shoulders.

In Psalms the Bible says, "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His loving kindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him." (Ps 103:11-13). And in Hebrews, "Let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus." (Hebrews 1:1-2).

We also need to open a new book on a future with endless possibilities. Americans have always been optimistic. Alexis de Tocqueville was the first to document American optimism nourished by widespread Christian faith in the 1830s. That faith and optimism carried us through two World Wars, the

assassinations of JFK, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Bobby Kennedy, Kent State, Watergate, Vietnam and the Cold War. But today, our optimism and our faith are being tested.

It is always God's desire that we look to the future with optimism and hope. We can look forward to the future based on God's promises. "For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." Both Paul and Peter agreed that Jesus is the source of this confidence. "Just as it is written, 'Behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, and he who believes in Him will not be disappointed." (Ro. 9:33; 1 Pe. 2:6; Ps 118:22; Isa. 28:16).

May this be a year of forgiveness, optimism and faith! May it be your best year ever!

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. For more info visit www. tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@ tinsleycenter.com.

#### CHURCH NEWS

Continued from page 5

worship and praise. If you are unable to attend, you may watch the service through the live stream on our website at: fbcbigspring.org.

At 9:30 a.m., Sunday school groups meet throughout the building and are a great way to build friendships and study the Bible. Greeters are available to help you find your class and direct you to coffee.

Our Triple LLL (Living Longer & Loving It) group invites you to join them Tuesday at noon for a time of great fellowship and tasty food. Come in the east kitchen doors and find your place in the church dining

Wednesday at 6 p.m., our youth group will continue their study series through the book of Romans. All area teens are invited to be part of this fun group; for more information contact Youth Pastor Jonathan Raffini at 270-8332.

Wednesday evening begins with a meal served in the Family Life Center from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. followed by activities for all age groups. Call 267-8223 or go to fbcbigspring.org for

FBC is located at 705 W. FM 700. There is always a place for you at First Baptist Church.

#### **First Church** of the Nazarene

Join us on Sunday morning to hear our guest Dave Menefee, who is sure to bring a wonderful message from the Lord.

Check out all of our small groups by visiting our website at nazfamily. org. We have a lot of exciting groups for you to choose from throughout the week.

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 at 10 am Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.

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

Our mission is to win the lost and disciple people through the vision of loving God, loving others and loving

You can also listen each Sunday to KBST 95.7 at 10 a.m. for a live broadcast of our service.

Contact the church office at 432-267-7015 if you have any questions, or visit us in the glass class following Sunday Service to sit and visit.

**Forsan Baptist Church** 

Brown will be our special guest Our studies on Sunday evenings

This Sunday morning Lester

continues this week with the next segment of our "Heaven: Now and Then" series. This study will focus on what Heaven may be like as we enter it now, and what it will be like when Jesus returns. This Sunday evening our topic of discussion will be, "The New Jerusalem."

Regular youth and children's activities will resume on Wednesday afternoons after the Christmas break. Youth and children's meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. and ageappropriate classes will begin at 6 p.m. We will be offering CHAOS for youth, GA's for girls, RA's for boys, and Heroes in Training for kids age

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

#### Spring Creek Fellowship

Spring Creek the new SCF Church

See CHURCH NEWS page 8





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(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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Galatians 2:20

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

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my

name. When they call on me, I will answer;

I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. I will satisfy them with a long life and give them my salvation.

Psalm 91: 14-16

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#### **CHURCH NEWS** Continued from page 6

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We are excited to announce that we will be starting a Traditional Worship Service in January 2016 in addition to our current Contemporary Service.

Weekly Happenings: Sunday-

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - Sunday school/connection groups

10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - "Holy

Grounds Café" is open with snacks and fellowship.

10:45 a.m. - Noon – Worship Service Tuesday-

Noon – 2 p.m. - Prayer team

Noon - Narcotics anonymous 6 p.m. - Pain management group

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. - Narcotics anonymous

Saturday-

7:30 a.m. - Weekly men's prayer breakfast and fellowship

10 a.m. - "Sowing Seeds of Hope" crafting fellowship Sunday

4 p.m. - "Grief Share"

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 Spring Town Plaza at 1801 E. FM 700. Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at www. springcreekfellowhip .org.

#### First Christian Church This week at First Christian Church

our guest minister Joel Miller will be preaching on 2 John 1:10-15. Our Choir has selected some classic hymns such as We Gather Together and Precious Lord to delight us. Serving at our service will be Mary

Beth Johnson as Worship Leader, Paul Smith and Shirley Lee as Elders and Wanda Brock and Loretta

Farquhar as Deacons. As always we welcome any visitors looking for a new church home.

Maybe you have something to

contribute to our church that we are missing. Fellowship begins at 9:15 a.m., Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and Worship at 10:50 a.m.

We look forward to a brand new year of new beginnings. Happy New Year

If you have any questions regarding our services, Isaiah 58 or if you need someone to pray with you please don't hesitate to call 432-517-4821 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3

p.m. We are located at 911 Goliad St.

Cornerstone Covenant Church Cornerstone Covenant Church invites you to join us Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for our New Year's service.

Starting Friday we ask that each day for the first 21 days you take a portion of your day for a time of fast-Monday at 6 p.m. the Soul Sisters

woman's small group will be getting together the first and third Monday of each month starting in the New Year, at 1709 Yale Ave (Kathryn Lane's home). All ages are welcome.

Please join us every Sunday at 10:30 a.m for worship.

CCC is located at 706 East 12th St. For office hours or other question about the ministry contact our administrative office at 432-264-0015. You can also find us at Facebook. com/cccbigspring or visit us at www. cccbispring.org if you would like more information.

# Online animals of the year: Cute faces and a rat's resolve LOS ANGELES (AP) - or just plain cute - kittens Tussauds museum in San popular cat on Instagram Maru's popularity took off.

Animals can melt the human heart, tickle the funny bone or bring us to tears. And thankstoInstagram,YouTube and other online options, you can enjoy their antics simply by following, liking or pinning them. Dr. Bonnie Beaver, execu-

tive director of the American College Veterinary of Behaviorists and a professor at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine, says two things make animal photos and videos so popular.

- Many animals have physical traits that subconsciously cause humans to nurture, like large, round heads and large eyes. Think E.T.

- Many images show animals doing something unexpectedly clever, human-like

trying to run up a slide, for example, she said.

"Some do both," Beaver said, "like Garfield and Mickey Mouse."

The Associated Press got hooked on six animals in 2015, from dogs and cats to a panda and a rat, whose popularity is likely to continue into the new year. Here's a look.

#### **GRUMPY CAT**

Nobody's busier than Grumpy Cat. She had 8.3 million Facebook followers as of Christmas Eve. Her YouTube videos have drawn viewers by the tens of millions.

On Dec. 8, the feline with the comical frown became the first cat immortalized in wax

at the M a d a m e Francisco.

The 3-year-old, 4-pounder with feline dwarfism is making her second movie as well as a cartoon series, and is featured in a series of Random House Little Golden Books (the first being "The Little Grumpy Cat that Wouldn't"). She's also continuing as spokescat for Friskies cat food. Her stuffed animal line will grow in 2016, and there are calendars, socks, tanks, T-shirts, sweatshirts, gift tags, key chains and other owner souvenirs, said Tabitha "Tabby" Bundesen.

#### NALA CAT

Nala is a 5-year-old shelter cat, a Siamese and tabby mix who stands out as the most with 2.6 million followers. She also has 1.8 million Facebook followers.

Varisiri Methachittiphan found her in 2010 as an orphaned kitten in an animal shelter in Castaic, California and knew she was the one. Methachittiphan started posting photos of the feline with striped fur and big blue eyes and Nala's popularity exploded. She looks particularly fetching in hats.

#### **MARUTARO**

This bundle of fun and fur, a 7-year-old Shiba Inu, has been top dog on Instagram for several years. He lives in Tokyo with owner Shinjiro Ono, who says he was more surprised than anyone that

"His round face, I think, that's the charm point," said Ono, who compared the dog's look to Japanese cartoon characters like Doraemon or Pikachu. "The round face makes people smile."

Shiba Inus, with their pointy ears and noses, are a popular breed in Japan. But Maru's popularity is worldwide, with 2.2 million followers on Instagram.

#### **TOAST**

Toast is a King Charles spaniel and puppy-mill rescue with a floppy pink tongue that hangs out of her mouth. She's also a celebrity, appearing in fashion shows and shoots, photographed wearing sunglasses.

# 'Dogs eat crazy things': Vets remove toys from puppy's tummy

LEVITTOWN, Pa. (AP) – A Philadelphia puppy is getting back to his bouncy self after two plastic squeaky toys were removed from his stomach.

Doctors at Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Center in Levittown say the only sign that 6-monthold Jasper was having problems was he couldn't keep food down. He otherwise seemed energetically normal.

They say X-rays showed the two balls were taking up most of the space in the Cane Corso's stom-

Dr. Scott Joudrey, who surgically removed the red-and-green balls on Saturday, says "dogs eat crazy things." In the last year, the suburban Philadelphia prac-

tice treated a bulldog named Elvis that ate three pacifiers and a mixed-breed dog that scarfed down a pair of calf-high boots.

Jasper's owner, Michael Ehrlich, of Philadelphia, says he thinks the dog swallowed the toys weeks





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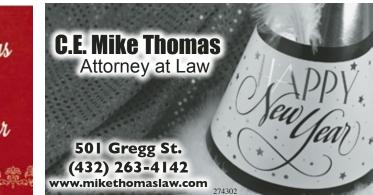
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Do you have an interesting sports item or

Page 9 Friday, January 1, 2016



Alexis Starr 14 years old *5"1"* Guard Freshman

Freshman guard Alex Starr has quickly found a role on Big Spring's

varsity squad. "She is our quickest perimeter defender,"

head coach Stacy Smalley said. Starr's favorite player

is Kevin Durant, while her favorite teams are Baylor and Texas Tech University.

She has been playing basketball for just three years, but you wouldn't be able to tell from how natural she looks on the court.

Her favorite quote is by Steph Curry of the Golden State Warriors who said, "I've never been afraid

of big moments. I get butterflies. I get nervous and anxious, but I think those are all good signs that I'm ready for the moment."

Alexis is making an impact on the highest level despite her short stature because she loves to play basketball.

"My favorite part about playing for this team is working together and trying to beat the other team," Starr said.

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

# Coahoma rusty at Mary Tatum **Invitational**

By TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor

BIG LAKE — The Coahoma varsity boys basketball team has gone 0-2 so far in the **MaryTatumInvitational** as they gear up for district play in January.

The Bulldogs first round game was a heartbreaking 38-37 loss against Grape Creek. The Bulldogs played well for the first three quarters, but let an 11 point lead slip through their grasp in the fourth quarter.

"We are still trying to get through some injuries," head coach Kim Nichols said. "We are trying to get our legs back under us after nearly 10 days off."

Jon Bermea led the Bulldogs in scoring with 15 points, and rebounding with boards. Bermea hauled in five offensive boards.

**TEAM STATS** Field Goal Percentage-

Free Throw Percentage-36

SCORING LEADERS Jon Bermea-15 Mason Moore- 10 Adam Clark-3 Britton Heath-2 Austin Sosa-2 Jonas Tunrbough- 2 Tyler Martin- 2

REBOUNDING **LEADERS** 

Jon Bermea-12 Jonas Tunrbough-7 Britton Heath-5 Mason Moore-4 Tyler Martin-4 Austin Sosa-3

The Bulldogs next was against game County Reagan on Wednesday, which they lost 50-29. The Bulldogs (6-7) ended tournament play against Ozona on Thursday. Check out Sunday's paper for a recap.

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

# Cowboys' Bryant to miss finale over lingering foot issues

RVING, Texas (AP) Dez Bryant's injuryplagued season is ending early, and the Dallas receiver faces the likelihood of more surgery on the right foot he broke in the opener.

Coach Jason Garrett

said Wednesday that Bryant was still having issues with the foot and his left ankle, and that the Cowboys "anticipate him having something done to both the foot and the ankle here in the next week or so."

Bryant will miss the finale against Washington on Sunday with the Cowboys (4-11) eliminated from the playoffs and the Redskins (8-7) already in as NFC East champions.

2014 All-Pro missed five games after getting hurt in the sec-

ond half of the opener against the New York Giants. He played in eight straight games while also dealing with soreness in his left knee before sitting last week against Buffalo after Dallas' playoff hopes had ended.

But Garrett wouldn't say the decision with Bryant had anything to do with the Cowboys' final two games being meaningless in the standings for both teams.

"We try to make the determinations on the health of our players independent of where we are, who we're playing, what our record is and what the opposing team's record is," Garrett said. "Dez did everything he could to come back and play as quickly as he could. We tried to do the right things as an organization by him like we would with any player."

Bryant had surgery almost immediately

after getting hurt, and after Bryant missed the the Cowboys were told there was a chance he would need another one, the same way Atlanta's Julio Jones did after breaking the same bone in 2013.

About a month later, Bryant underwent another procedure to try to speed the healing pro-

"He came back pretty quick, probably sooner than he should have," receiver Cole Beasley said. "But that's the type of guy he is. He wants to be back and he wants to help the team win and do whatever is necessary. You admire the guy just for that."

Bryant, who wasn't in the locker room when it was open to reporters Wednesday, finished with career lows across the board — catches (31), yards (401), touch- Week 8 against Seattle ry Church and defen-

entire offseason in a contract dispute. After signing a five-year, \$70 million deal, he missed a significant portion of training camp with a hamstring issue.

"Missing the offseason and having a number of different injuries, he didn't get the best opportunity to prepare and play like he normally does," Garrett said. "And I think that hurt him and ultimately hurt our football team."

Quarterback Tony Romo broke his left collarbone a week after Bryant went down. After missing seven games, Romo broke the same collarbone in his second game back. Romo and Bryant played just one full game together — a win at Miami.

Bryant's return in along with safety Bar-

year after winning it. in a season that started with Super Bowl aspira-

Still, Garrett said he doesn't think the Cowboys rushed their star receiver back.

"I think everybody tries to push to come back, come back to practice and come back to play," Garrett said. "It goes back to mental toughness and physical toughness and competitive spirit and Dez has those things in spades. It's an inexact science. You trust the people that are the most expert, you trust the player and you trust your eyes as you watch him function. You put those things together and make your best decision."

Bryant will be placed injured reserve

#### Forsan edges Klondike in nailbiter 52-50 the game. Klondike went By TAYLOR ELLIS Sports Editor **FORSAN** Forsan varsity boys basketball team won a

thriller Tuesday against Klondike High School 52-50. "We started off slow, but then we started to improve each quarter,"

Forsan head coach Gary Huckabee said. Forsan was held to just five points in the first quarter, but increased their point

total each quarter. The Buffs trailed by three after the first quarter, but were the better team in the second quarter and tied the game at 16 going into the locker room.

Fans could tell this game would go down to the wire as the two teams played evenly throughout the third quarter.

Luckily for the Buffs, they came out victorious in the end, taking a lot of knowledge and experience from the win that they had to fight for from start to finish.

Klondike attacked the basket all night, and forced the Buffs into some foul trouble late in

to the free throw line 31 times thanks to their aggressive nature on offense.

The Buffs on the other hand went to the line just 17 times and shot 47 percent from the charity

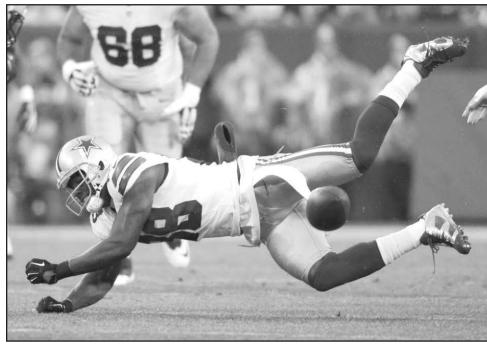
Ian Park led the Steers in scoring with 14 points. Garrett Evans poured in nine points.

The Buffs will travel to Irion County High School in Mertzon, Texas, this Saturday at 8 p.m. The Lady Buffs varsity and junior varsity squads will also play Irion County right before the boys play. The junior varsity squad tips off at 5 p.m. and the varsity squad tips off at 6:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS Ian Park- 14 Garrett Evans-9 Kobe Richardson- 7 Bryce Hergert-6 Josh Evans-5 Ben Mikeska- 5 Akkey McVae-4 Jacob Valdez-2

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

Contact sports editor



Dalls Cowboys' Dez Bryant can't catch a pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015, in Green bay, Wis.

downs (three) and games (nine). Last season, he led the NFL with 16 touchdowns.

came after the Cowboys had lost their first four games without Romo. Dallas was trying to stay The broken foot came in the NFC East race a

sive end David Irving. Church broke his right arm and Irving fractured his left wrist against the Bills last weekend.

# 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

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.

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By Steve Becker

You next cash three rounds of

trumps (South turns up with three of

them) and continue with the A-K and

another heart, ruffing in dummy.

Now you play the club five, taken by

South with the king. You hope South will return a diamond away from the

king, which would hand you the

slam, but he smartly exits with a

After discarding a diamond from

your hand and ruffing the heart with

dummy's last trump, you return the queen of diamonds, covered by the

king and ace. Miraculously, you are

now on the verge of making the con-

tract if North holds the jack of diamonds. You hope he started with a

**♦** 5 ♥ Q1082 **♦** J843 **♣** 10987

heart instead.

hand such as:

## Test Your Play

Amusing incidents occasionally occur in major tournaments. For example, there was the time some years ago when a young Polish pair, representing their country for the first time in the annual world championship, reached a dreadful grandslam contract. After the opening lead was made and dummy appeared, declarer could see that his partner had overbid his values by at least two tricks. Declarer looked at the dummy, then looked at his partner and said: "That dummy is an insult to Poland!"

If you were West on the following layout, you might have similar feelings if you reached Six Spades due to partner's overoptimism after you opened two notrump. However, they don't allow you to back up and change the contract, so the question is how would you proceed after North leads the ten of clubs (assume the missing trumps are divided 3-1 or 2-2)?

West **♦** K Q 10 9 **♥** A K 3 **♠** A J 8 7 6 **♥**76 ♦ A 10 2 ♣A32

♦ Q 5 **♣**J654 The only genuine chance for the

slam is to find South with the doubleton K-O of clubs, as well as the king of diamonds. Accordingly, you play a low club from dummy, and South, luckily for you, produces the

If that's what he was dealt, he will be a dead duck when you next play the queen of spades in this position: North West East

**♣**J6

**1**0 South

Whatever North discards on the spade queen, you make the contract. Of course, you must also be sure to congratulate your partner on his brilliance in contracting for such a dreadful slam!

Tomorrow: Choosing the right line of play. ©2015 King Features Syndicate Inc

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

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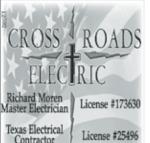
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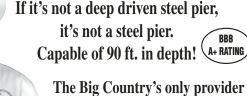
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# **CLASSIFIEDS**

Mercury **Enters** Aquarius

> Mercury is the first to make

 $\overline{_{H_{OLIDAY}}}$ a move <sub>Mathis</sub> in 2016, dashing

into Aquarius with his winged feet and serpentine staff, the caduceus, in hand. Legend has it that Mercury used a stick to stop two snakes from fighting and the two snakes are now entwined eternally in perfect balance. The friendly, altruistic Aquarius energy Mercury radiates will bring some peace. ARIES (March

21-April 19). Usually, whether or not you get what you want you take it in stride. Today you're more invested in seeing things go your way, as you should be. This one is important and worth fighting for.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You want to improve the world; we all do. Maybe that's why you're turned off by political rants that either preach to the choir or alienate the opposition. A break

Dear Readers:

We wish every one of

you excellent health

and extreme happi-

ness. We hope this

year is better than

the last and not as

your best to make

this year special.

Be kinder. Be more

patient. Be more tol-

erant. Help someone

in need. The world

could use these

things more than

ever. Vow to look

after your health, ex-

ercise, eat less junk,

give up smoking and

know how much that

small kindness might

mean to someone

eat more fruits and

vegetables. Smile

more. You never

good as the next. Do

Welcome to 2016!

from intense sharing is what's needed.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). It's nice to feel self-contained, and you very well may be able to fulfill any need that comes up today all on your own. However, accepting a bit of help

may also be the most

gracious thing to do. **CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Relationships will thrive as you give enough to let others know you're interested and admiring and then pull back enough to allow them to reach for you.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You care. You give. You get. You care even more. This is the cycle that sums up the day. Tonight will bring an important meeting of the minds. Capricorn and Aquarius are two minds that should be included.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your current vision is enough to drive you to the next waypoint, but a broader vision is probably needed to sustain your motivation through the miles and miles that follow. Brainstorm, discuss

Tomorrow's Horoscope and research.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be there to catch the soul who is floundering to catch balance. Your discreet assistance will be much appreciated, though perhaps privately, so as not to draw attention to the fall.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're not exactly in uncharted territory, but, without guides around, you might as well be. Call out to tell people where you want to go. Trying to get there without a map will be a waste of time.

**SAGITTARIUS** 

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will accomplish your top priority as long as you state what it is and keep paying attention to it throughout the day. Loved ones seem to need you, but if you're busy they'll do brilliantly on their

#### **CAPRICORN**

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Go ahead and step into that fresh scene. You'll get attention because you're the new person, and you'll become fast friends with someone who can show you around.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your help is so subtle that some don't even realize they are being assisted. You'll gently nudge people into the right groove and all goes smoothly from there.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Preferring to keep things light, you may not set out to tell your friend what's really going on with you, but you're likely to reveal it, anyway, because the time you spend together has a way of opening your heart.

**TODAY'S BIRTH-**DAY (Jan. 1). You're in charge, and you get to say what fits into your life and what doesn't: no apologies. A love connection will grow stronger through February. Wonders unfold in the area of family and relationships in April. Business changes for you, and this summer you'll have to learn in order to keep up. Sagittarius and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 50, 21, 45, 39 and 42.

WEEKEND LOVE

FORECAST: ARIES: Love is wanting to hear the other per-

> once to make sure you're remembering it right. TAURUS: Unconditional acceptance is a kind of spiritual refuge. You deserve and need this. GEMINI: Don't think too far into the future. The magic is happening right now. CANCER: Know-italls bore you. You're more interested in those who are trying to figure it out. LEO: Sometimes the common ground is discovered in words, but it will be more profoundly discovered in silence. VIRGO: You feel excited around someone now and can't wait to get to the place where you can finally calm down and relax together. LIBRA: Plan a friendly event and a romantic connection will come of it. SCOR-PIO: You're strong in many ways, and there's someone who loves your weakness, too. SAGITTARIUS: Those who haven't

son's story more than

CORN: There's a fine line between helping and enabling. Outside advice will illuminate the scene in a way you might not have thought of it before. AQUARIUS: The one who knew you years back would like to know more about the person vou've become. PISCES: Whether it's a cake, a story or a love affair, the middle is the hardest part to get right.

**COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** This weekend brings a warm cosmic glow to Libra and Capricorn couples. What these two have in common is their drive to do the classy, responsible, mature thing. How they get there is another story. Capricorn likes to make a commitment and then work hard to produce the results. Libra likes to make an arrangement that clicks into an effortless symbiotic relationship.

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# sudoku

	ANSWERS												
1	1	3	6	8	4	5	7	2	9				
	4	2	9	7	6	1	8	5	3				
	8	5	7	3	9	2	1	6	4				
	5	9	8	6	1	3	4	7	2				
	3	4	1	2	7	8	5	9	6				
	7	6	2	9	5	4	3	1	8				
	6	8	3	1	2	7	9	4	5				
	2	7	4	5	3	9	6	8	1				
	9	1	5	4	8	6	2	3	7				
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Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email vour 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 other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists. visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www. creators.com.

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## Annie's Mailbox ®

who is having a bad day. Turn over that elusive new leaf. Put more effort into your relationships, and tell the people you love how much they mean to you. You don't know what tomorrow will bring. Let's start

Last year, we promised to reprint two pieces that readers enjoyed and thought appropriate for the new year. Here they are: "Just for Today"

this year off right.

(author unknown) Just for today I will live through the next 12 hours and not tackle my whole life's problems at once.

Just for today I will improve my mind. I

will learn something useful. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration. Just for today I will

be agreeable. I will look my best, speak in a well-modulated voice, be courteous and considerate. Just for today I

will not find fault with friend, relative or colleague. I will not try to change or improve anyone but myself.

Just for today I will have a program. I might not follow it exactly, but I will have it. I will save myself from two enemies -hurry and indecision. Just for today I will

exercise my char-

acter in three ways.

I will do a good turn and keep it a secret. If anyone finds out, it won't count.

Just for today I will do two things I don't want to do, just for exercise. Just for today I will be unafraid. Especially will I be unafraid to enjoy what is beautiful and believe that as I give to the world, the world will give to me.

**Dear Readers:** 

Here's one more with such practical advice that we think should be on everyone's refrigerator:

"Golden Rules for Living" by Miriam Hamilton Keare 1. If you open it,

close it.

If you turn it on,

turn it off.

3. If you unlock it, lock it up. 4. If you break it,

heard from you in a

while will miss you.

Can you feel their

thoughts? CAPRI-

admit it. 5. If you can't fix it, call in someone who

can. 6. If you borrow it, return it.

7. If you value it, take care of it.

8. If you make a mess, clean it up. 9. If you move it,

put it back. 10. If it belongs to someone else, get

permission to use it. 11. If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.

12. If it's none of your business, don't ask questions.

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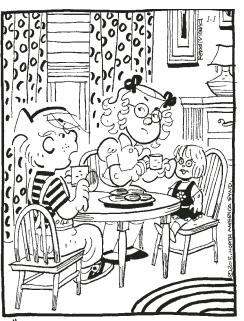
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5		News ABC	Hotel Notic.	Big Bang Cleveland	News CBS	Tele Noticiero		Zola Lev. Chevalme	Euromaxx PBS News-	CHiPs	American American	Movie: The Hangover	Mummy: Dragon Emp.	Iowa.	High School Football			Criminal Minds	Gold Rush
6	:PM :30	Jeopardy! Wheel	Muchacha	Mod Fam Big Bang		Caso Cer- rado		M:25 All About		M*A*S*H M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy				SportsCenter	NBA Basket-		Criminal Minds	Gold Rush
7	:PM :30	Last Man Dr. Ken	Antes Muerta que	MasterChef (DVS)	NCIS (DVS)			Upd Sondra		Griffith Griffith	radio Music	Broke Girl Broke Girl	Movie: Wrath of	Allstate	Sporte Contar	ball: Dallas Mavericks at Miami Heat.	Law & Order	Unforget- table	Gold Rush - The Dirt
8	:PM :30	Shark Tank	Pasión y Poder			Bajo el Mismo Cielo	NBC	Best of Light of the	44	Hap.Days Laverne	Niant 2	Broke Girl Broke Girl	the Titans (DVS)	Sugar Bowl: Oklahoma State vs.	SportsCenter		Law & Order: SVU	What Would	Gold Rush
9	:PM :30	(:01) 20/20	Creo/los Hombres	TMZ Broke Girl		Señora Acero (SS)		Southwest		Heroes Heroes	Seinfeld	Movie: Killers, Tom	(:15) Movie: Clash of	Mississippi.	SportsCenter		Law & Order: SVU	What Would	Alaskan Bush
10	:PM :30	News Jimmy Kim-	Impacto Noticiero	Mod Fam Two Men	News Late Show-	Tele Titulares		Upd BAS		C. Burnett Perry Mason	Cougai	Selleck (DVS)	the Titans (DVS)		SportsCenter		Law & Order: SVU	What Would	(:02) Gold Rush
11	:PM :30	mel Live Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met Cleveland	James			Messiah Sala	World T. Smiley	McMillan	-	Cougar Cougar	Movie:	SportsCenter	SportCtr 30 for 30		Law & Order: SVU	getťable	(:04) Alaskan Bush People:
12	:AM	Extra Paid	Corona de lágrimas	Friends Paid		Señora		Mani Sondra	(Off Air)		Commun	Movie: Life as We Know	Spider-Man, Kirsten	,			Law & Order: SVU	What Would	Off the Grid
1	./\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	Paid Paid		Law Order: Cl		Pagado Pagado		Best of Light of the	I .	Gallery Gallery	Kina	It, Josh Lu- cas (DVS)	Dunst		Rose Bowl: Stanford vs.	World Poker Tour	Law & Order: SVU	What Would	Gold Rush
D	DENNIS THE MENACE THE FAMILY CIRCUS HAGAR																		



IF YOU KEEP FUSSING OVER THAT DOLL, YOU'RE GOING TO SPOIL HER!"





THIS PIGEON FLEW

100 MILES TO DELIVER A RECIPE FROM MY FRIEND.



WOW! WHAT'S

ITA RECIPE

FOR?

THAT'S WHERE

IT GETS IRONIC ...

BUT SHE NEVER NAGS VOU'RE A L





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**AGNES** 



















# **SNUFFY SMITH**



#### BEETLE BAILEY





# This Date In History

Today is Friday, Jan. 1, the

first day of leap year 2016. There are 365 days left in the year. Today's Highlight

History: On Jan. 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation,

states shall be "forever free." On this date: In 1660, Englishman Samuel Pepys (peeps) began keeping

declaring that slaves in rebel

his famous diary. In 1913, the U.S. Parcel Post

system went into operation. In 1935, The Associated Press inaugurated Wirephoto, the first successful service for transmitting photographs by

wire to member newspapers. In 1945, France was admitted to the United Nations.

In 1953, country singer Hank Williams Sr., 29, was discovered dead in the back seat of his car during a stop in Oak Hill, West Virginia, while he was heing driven to a concert date in Canton, Ohio.

In 1959, Fidel Castro and his revolutionaries overthrew Cuban leader Fulgencio Batista, who fled to the Dominican Republic.

In 1975, a jury in Washington found Nixon administration officials John N. Mitchell, H.R. Haldeman, John D. Ehrlichman and Robert C. Mardian guilty of charges related to the Watergate cover-up (Mardian's conviction for conspiracy was later overturned on appeal).

In 1979, the United States and China held celebrations in Washington and Beijing to mark the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. In 1984, the breakup of AT&T

took place as the telecommuni-

cations giant was divested of

its 22 Bell System companies under terms of an antitrust agreement. In 1994, the North American Free Trade Agreement went

In 1995, the World Trade Organization (WTO) came into being, replacing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Sweden, Finland and Austria joined the European Union.

into effect.

In 2014, the nation's first legal recreational pot shops opened in Colorado at 8 a.m. Mountain

time. Ten years ago: President W. Bush strongly George defended his domestic spying program, calling it legal as well as vital to thwarting terrorist attacks. The Medicare prescrip-

tion drug plan went into effect.

American teenager Hassan, who'd traveled alone to Iraq to experience the lives of its people, returned home to Florida after three weeks in the Middle East. New England's Doug Flutie converted the NFL's first successful drop kick in 64 years during a 28-26 loss to Miami.

Five years ago: A suicide bomber killed 21 people outside a church in Alexandria, Egypt, in one of the country's worst attacks targeting Coptic Christians. Third-ranked TCU finished a perfect season by beating No. 4 Wisconsin 21-19 in the Rose Bowl. Oprah Winfrey launched her OWN cable network.

something that goes in one Year and out the other." Author unknown

Thought for Today:

"A New Year's resolution is

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Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

46 Stalin's domain

47 Pasta salad

seasoning

48 Library patron

49 Pilot's number

**50** Rudimentary

seed

51 Ongoing

ones

55 Invitation

60 Edelweiss

setting

61 Elon Musk,

at Tesla 62 Usual

donation

52 Smoothed, as

a sand trap

53 Unsuspecting

**54** Novelist teaching

at Princeton

subheading

### **Newsday Crossword**

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Pellet propeller 6 Smelting
- by-product
- 10 Job order notation
- 14 Don't do the
- rite thing 15 Home of
- Galileo Airport
- 16 Nothing at all
- **17** 1/1 or 7/4
- 20 Investment acronym
- 21 Elizabethan, for instance 22 Likeness
- 23 Office machine 28 Insurance
- groups
- 29 Unsuccessful attempt
- 30 Picasso's birthplace **33** Month, for short
- 34 Bed threads
- 37 Caviling 42 Go Set a
- Watchman novelist
- 43 Comics crv
- 44 How bar snacks are made
- 45 Render unusable
- 47 Editorial
- shortening 49 Qualified
- negative
- 56 Bill of Wrongs
- author 57 Poe perpetrator
- 58 "That's so relaxing!'
- 59 Music much heard in
- December 64 Pre-college yrs. 65 Rude look
- 66 Put forward 67 Bamboo,
- 68 Fruits of legumes 69 Pursuit group
- for instance

- **DOWN** 
  - 1 West African
- nation 2 Raucous sound 3 Stated indirectly
- 4 Cronkite's WWII
  - employer 5 Revival
  - movement prefix
    - 6 Sends forth
    - flashes 7 Soap scent
    - 8 Light gray 9 Federal auditing
    - agcy.
    - 10 Strong dislike
  - **11** 1978 Peace Prize sharer
  - 12 Words of
  - wisdom 13 Account settler
  - 18 First-century

  - piece
  - despot 19 Mr. Potato Head

Turin

potatoes. perhaps 25 Prefix like pan-

24 Prepare

- 26 Persian Gulf nation
- 27 Artistic Chinese
- dynasty 30 NBC fixture
- since '75 31 Comedic missile
- 32 Eroded 33 Spread made
- by Smucker's 34 Legislator, in
- headlines
- 35 Extend outward 36 Sloppy place
- 38 Beehive, e.g. 39 Coffee from
- Mauna Loa 40 Province near
- 41 Savor the
- sunshine 45 Bad, as butter

**VOWEL SHORTENING** by Bruce Venzke

- methodology: Abbr.
  - 63 Paranormal sighting
  - 10 12

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64	-	+-	+		65	+		+	-	66	-	+	+	+-

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# Manny Pacquiao to return April 9 against Bradley

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Manny Pacquiao will return to the ring April 9 for the first time since losing to Floyd Mayweather Jr., and it will be against a familiar foe.

Promoter Bob Arum said Wednesday that Pacquiao will fight Timothy Bradley at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas for a third time in his first bout since losing a decision

to Mayweather in the richest fight ever. Pacquiao reinjured a shoulder in that fight and was ineffective against Mayweather in dropping the unanimous decision.

Technically, the fight with Bradley will be the rubber match of their three-fight series. However, most in boxing believe Pacquiao won the first fight in 2012 easily — the judges gave it to Bradley and was largely dominant in the rematch, which he won by decision.

Top Rank spokesman Lee Samuels said the pay-perview fight has not officially been signed, but that both fighters had agreed to terms and would be signing soon. Pacquiao was given a \$2 million advance on his guaranteed \$20 million purse, Samu-

The fight will not be marketed as Pacquiao's last fight. though he had talked previously about just one more fight before running for Senate in his native Philippines. Pacquiao is currently a congressman in the Philippines.

Bradley (33-1-1, 13 knockouts) is coming off an impressive win over Brandon Rios last month in Las Vegas.

Bradley signed up with noted trainer Teddy Atlas before that bout, which was seen as one of his best performances.

Pacquiao (57-6-2, 38 knockouts) had surgery to repair a torn rotator cuff in his right shoulder after the Mayweather fight. It wasn't disclosed before the fight, but Pacquiao hurt the shoulder in training and then reinjured it during the fight.

# LA Dodgers sign lefty Scott Kazmir to 3-year deal

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Left- and backed out of a trade for hander Scott Kazmir agreed to a three-year, \$48 million contract on Wednesday with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The three-time All-Star was among the top names left on the free-agent market after revitalizing his career over the past three seasons with Cleveland, Oakland and Houston. He ranked fourth in the AL with a 3.10 ERA last year while going 7-11 for the Athletics and the Astros.

Kazmir hailed the deal in a post on his Twitter account: "What a great day to officially be a Dodger!"

He also wished a happy 80th birthday to Dodgers Hall of Famer Sandy Koufax, whom he called "my lefty idol."

Kazmir's deal includes an opt-out clause after the first year, but his arrival is a highlight in an unusual offseason for the Dodgers, whose fans are still sore about losing superstar right-hander Zack Greinke in free agency to

Los Angeles also declined to close a deal with righthander Hisashi Iwakuma, who re-signed with Seattle,

Cincinnati closer Aroldis Chapman after learning the Cuban had been investigated over an accusation of domestic violence.

Kazmir is headed to the NL for the first time in his sixteam, 11-year major league career, but the Dodgers' front office is quite familiar with the resilient 31-year-old start-

He began his career in Tampa Bay shortly before Andrew Friedman, now the Dodgers' president of baseball operations, became the general manager. Kazmir then revived his career in Oakland in 2014 while Dodgers general manager Farhan Zaidi was the A's assistant GM.

Zaidi has watched Kazmir's evolution from a young pitcher relying heavily on his fastball and breaking ball into a veteran with one of the majors' best change-ups. The Dodgers GM credits Kazmir's athleticism for his return to prominence.

"The guy I saw in Oakland was a great teammate, a guy who I think really appreciated the chance to put the bigleague uniform on every day," Zaidi said Wednesday. "I really felt like based on my interaction with him in Oakland, he would really be an additive guy to our club-

Acquired by his hometown Astros for the playoff stretch last July, Kazmir went 0-3 in his final seven starts before getting no decision in his only postseason appearance.

Kazmir is back in Southern California after crashing out of the majors in 2011 following three mostly awful years with the Los Angeles Angels. After recovering from injuries and playing independent ball, he returned to the Indians in 2013 and took off with Oakland in 2014, going 15-9.

"I think that's a testament to his will and resolve to get back to performing at a high level," Zaidi said. "I go back to when we signed him to that two-year deal in Oakland. He was coming off that season in Cleveland, and people viewed it as a risk ... and he made us look very smart for making that deal in retrospect. I actually view it as a positive when a guy has been through those down times and comes out on the other side. I think it just adds to guys' character and resolve."

> "The guy I saw in Oakland was a great teammate, a guy who I think really appreciated the chance to put the big-league uniform on every day," Zaidi said Wednesday.

After deciding not to make a major offseason splash with their ample cash, the threetime defending NL West champions have assembled a potential opening day rotation featuring five left-handers: Clayton Kershaw, Kazmir, Brett Anderson, Hyun-Jin Ryu and Alex Wood.

That might sound tantalizing to the NL West's top sluggers, most of whom are righthanded hitters, including Goldschmidt,

Pollock, Matt Kemp, Buster Posey and Hunter Pence. Dodgers right-hander

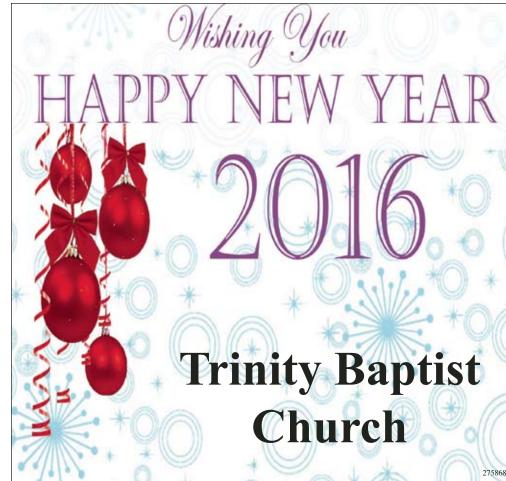
Brandon McCarthy also is

expected to return during the 2016 season after elbow ligament replacement surgery. He greeted yet another lefty's arrival on Twitter with his typical dry wit: "This is blatant handism and I'm filing a hostile workplace grievance." Zaidi confirmed the Dodgers backed out of a deal for the

hard-throwing Chapman after learning about his apparent scuffle with a girlfriend. The Yankees subsequently acquired Chapman for four minor-leaguers, but have received heavy criticism for the move.

"We did come to an agreement in principle on a deal, and as the details that emerged came to light, we just weren't comfortable making the move," Zaidi said. "Every situation like this is different. Every organization has to make their own decision on it. We made a decision based on the information that was at hand, and we stand by it and we move on.











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# Eagles CEO says coach following Kelly needs people skills

PHILADELPHIA (AP) Wanted: A smart football coach with emotional intelligence to lead the Philadelphia Eagles.

A day after firing Chip Kelly with one game remaining in a disappointing season, CEO Jeffrey Lurie made it clear he wants a coach who can relate to his players and everyone else in the building.

"You've got to open your heart to players and everybody you want to achieve peak performance," Lurie said Wednesday. "I would call it a style of leadership that values information and all of the resources that are provided and at the same time values emotional intelligence. I think in today's world, a combination of all those factors creates the best chance to succeed."

Kelly released a statement Wednesday night.

"I'm grateful to Jeffrey Lurie for allowing me to coach his Philadelphia Eagles for the past three seasons," Kelly said. "I deeply regret that we did not bring this great city and its fans the championship they deserve. I was blessed to work with a gifted and hardworking coaching staff every day, and they will succeed wherever they go. Finally, my players mean the world to me. I will miss them very much and I will be rooting for them to achieve Super Bowl expectatheir dreams. Life is all about responding to challenges and seizing opportunities."

Kellv didn't have relationships close with many of his players, and former Eagles running back LeSean McCoy and cornerback Brandon Boykin were critical of his personality after he traded them. He also alienated other members of the organization and front office.

Lurie said he wants "someone who interacts and communicates very clearly with everyone he works with."

"We're looking for the best leader," Lurie said. "It comes down to the leadership ability with today's athlete and today's world. It's different than it was a long time ago."

Eagles right tackle Lane Johnson, who was Kelly's first draft pick, said his former coach was considered "unapproachable" by many players.

"I think Chip had good intentions," Johnson said. "I just think that he didn't have a good way to go about it, and sometimes it came off a little bit standoffish toward y'all."

Kelly was fired after missing the playoffs for the second straight season and failing in his first year in charge of personnel. The Eagles entered the season with tions, but are 6-9.

Players prepared for the season finale at the New York Giants on Sunday with offensive coordinator Pat Shurmur serving as interim coach, largely going about business as usu-

Quarterback Bradford, who could be a free agent after the season, said he still wants to return next year despite all the uncertainty.

It's tough to lose him," Bradford said.

Howie Roseman, who operations and oversee the personnel departof player personnel.

Lurie doesn't plan to

cord, the Eagles could have won the NFC East by finishing 8-8. But they were eliminated with a loss at home to Washington on Saturday.

"Chip was great to me.

was general manager before Kelly insisted on making all the decisions, will remain in his role as the executive vice president of football ment headed by Tom Donahoe. The former Bills and Steelers GM is the new senior director

hire a GM. Roseman, Donahoe and the new head coach will manage the roster with a "collaborative" effort, he said.

Despite a losing re-

Lurie said he fired Kelly based on an assessment of the last



Philadelphia Eagles head coach Chip Kelly listens to a question during a news conference at the NFL football team's practice facility, Monday, Dec. 28, 2015, in Philadelphia.

three years, not a string of recent losses.

"It was more the lack of progress and the traiectory where we were going," he said.

Lurie acknowledged giving Kelly full control of personnel decisions last January was a mistake. Lurie said for the first time that Kelly demanded full control so he gave it to him so he would be "accountable for his decisions." Until this point, Kelly had said it was Lurie's decision — not his — to oversee all player moves.

Kelly quickly tore apart a winning team and made several bold moves that backfired.

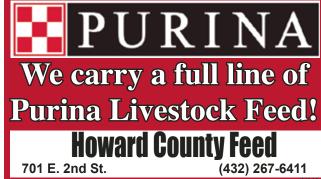
Since March 2014, Kel-

Pro Bowl wide receiver DeSean Jackson, traded McCoy, didn't re-sign 2014 Pro Bowl wideout Jeremy Maclin, cut twotime Pro Bowl guard Evan Mathis and traded quarterback Nick Foles and a 2016 second-round draft pick for Bradford.

He also gave big money in free agency to running back DeMarco Murray and corner-

back Byron Maxwell. Murray has been a bust and Maxwell has underperformed. Kelly even signed Tim Tebow, but released him after he won the competition for the No. 3 quarterback

Philadelphia missed postseason 2014 following a 9-3 start and were 7-12 in Kelly's last 19 games.







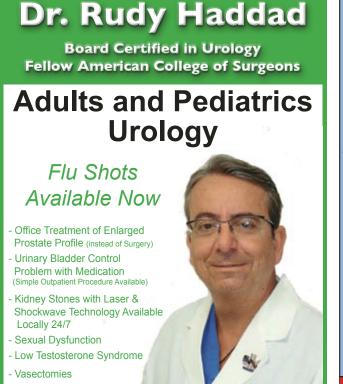
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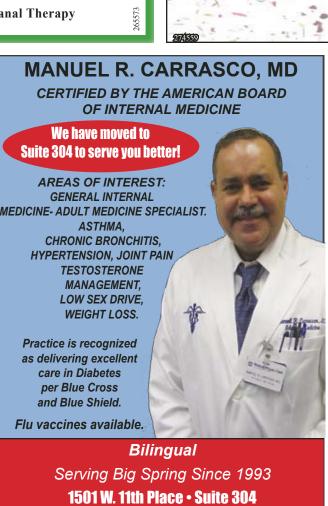


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