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HERALD



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VOLUME 111, NUMBER 394

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016

Police seek assault suspect

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Local police are asking for the public's help in solving a Sunday morning hit and run that occurred in west Big Spring early Sunday morning.

Big Spring Police Department officers were summoned to the 1000 block of S. Lancaster at about 3 a.m. Sunday in response to a call about a vehicle striking a pedestrian.

A BSPD news release stated that Shelbie Hudgins, 21, was struck by a black Dodge diesel pickup.

"It is believed that this incident was an intentional act and not an accident," the news release stated.

The driver of the pickup is described as being about 6 feet tall with red hair and scruffy beard and, at the time of the incident, was wearing blue jeans and an orange T shirt.

"The suspect is also believed to have an injured leg and was wearing some sort of medical wrap around one of his legs and walked with a limp," the news release stated.

The suspect and Hudgins allegedly met each other at Crossroads Bar earlier that evening.

Hudgins was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center and later flown to Lubbock for further treatment, the release noted.

Police are asking anyone with information on how to locate the suspect in this case to call CrimeStoppers at (432) 263-tips (8477).

Chase ends in rollover



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Police and emergency medical personnel attend to the driver of a vehicle that overturned near the Sonic Drive-In on FM 700 Monday. The rollover, which occurred late in the morning, occurred after the driver engaged law enforcement officers in a high-speed chase along the loop. Units from several agencies, including the Big Spring Police Department, Howard County Sheriff's Office and Department of Public Safety, were on the scene in the crash's aftermath. The driver reportedly suffered non-life-threatening injuries in the rollover.

A fun fight

Forsan 1st-graders have a blast reading and recycling

The first graders at Forsan Elementary were treated to their annual Paper Snowball Fight with snowballs made from recycled paper.

"This is one of the favorite parties of the year," said Patti Adams, a teacher at Forsan Elementary. "Fifth graders wadded up the paper snowballs and then recollected the paper for the school's recycle

See **FIGHT**, Page 3



Courtesy photo

A Forsan Elementary teacher gets a headful of paper from a student during the first grade classes' annual Paper Snowball Fight.

Officials: UW drives ends just short of goal

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Official figures show the final total for the 2015 United Way of Howard County and Big Spring is \$322,381, just a little shy of its \$330,000 goal but closer than the agency has come in the last few years.

"Our mission is to bring together a united appeal for support of local health and human service agencies in our community," said Raul Bena-

Funds will be distributed to United Way member agencies during the campaign's annual meeting Feb. 11.

vides, campaign chairman. "These partner agencies offer more services in more ways than any of us could possibly do alone. We are so thankful and proud of this community that has given so generously

to help make a lasting difference in peoples' lives."

The allocation committee met last week to determine the allocation of funds for 15 area, non-profit agencies the United Way supports. Funds

will be distributed on Feb. 11 during the annual meeting.

This year, the campaign was helped greatly when Alon Refinery upped its yearly employee donation by \$27,000 and presented a \$88,000 check recently to United Way officials.

"It has been an honor to serve as president of the United Way in 2015," said Chad Averette. "Even in these

See **UW**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Julie "Wetha" Ovalle



Julia G. "Wetha" Ovalle, 94, of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 18, 2016 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016 at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Jan. 28, 1921 in Charlotte, Texas to Paula (Lopez) Guevara and Rutilio Guevara. She married Estanislado Ovalle Jr. on Jan. 24, 1942 in Pearsall, Texas. They came to Big Spring in 1950 from Pearsall. He preceded her in death on Nov. 10, 1964.

Her passion was flower gardening as she had a

"green thumb." She also crocheted and sewed. She was a homemaker and a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

She is survived by four children, Joe Ovalle and wife Celia of Big Spring, Jane Del Bosque and husband Joe of Big Spring, Carlos Ovalle and wife Margarita of Midland and Irene Buchanan of Big Spring; two brothers, Rutilio Guevarra of Midland and Juan Guevara and wife Elisa of Big Spring; three sisters, Magdalena Cuellar and husband Eloy of Oregon, Antonia Arista of Fort Worth and Olga Trevino of Big Spring; 17 grandchildren and numerous great grand and great great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one son Oscar Ovalle; one brother Santos Guevara; three sisters, Victoria Duran, Paula Trevino and Refugia "Cuca" Ramirez.

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

Police / Sheriff

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **MARCUS LYNN SMITH**, 35, of 1603 Lincoln was arrested on warrants for bail jumping/failure to appear, bail jumping/failure to appear – fine only and two counts of driving while license invalid.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd. and the 1600 block of S. Gregg St.

- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 1600 block of E. FM 700.

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 63 inmates at the time of this report.

- **ANDRES ALVEAR**, 36, was booked by the DPS on a warrant for theft of property, more than \$50 but less than \$500.

- **JONATHAN ANDRE ARRENDONDO**, 33, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of assault that causes bodily injury.

- **FERNANDO KYONG ARRIAGA JR.**, 39, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for motion to revoke probation – manufacture/distribute a controlled substance, more than 4 grams but less than 200 grams.

- **BENJAMIN ROBERT BOADLE**, 18, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for speeding, run stop sign and two counts of violate promise to appear.

- **SARAH LEA CARDONA**, 36, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for motion to revoke community service.

- **DANTA MACKENZIE CHAVERA**, 18, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for failure to appear and theft of property, less than \$100.

- **GUADALUPE GUTIERREZ JR.**, 36, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for no driver's

license and no liability insurance.

- **ALONZO LUERA**, 74, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **RICHARD LEONARD MOYA**, 41, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- **JOSEPH AARON NOBLE**, 29, was booked by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated and accident involving injury.

- **BRANDON EUGENE OWENS**, 24, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for bondsman off bond – driving while intoxicated and bail jumping and failure to appear.

- **JUAN DAVID RODRIGUEZ**, 41, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated - 3rd or more offense.

- **TINA RUTH SAUCEDO**, 46, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for theft, less than \$50 and failure to appear.

- **JENNY MARIE SEGERS**, 34, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property, more than \$100 but less than \$750.

- **ANDREA MARY SILVA**, 21, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for defective or no stop lamps, violate promise to appear, expired registration and failure to appear.

- **ANGELA DAWN SMITH**, 38, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for forgery – financial instrument and theft of property, more than \$20 but less than \$500 by check.

- **GRADY KIRKLAND SMITH**, 19, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for unlawfully carrying a weapon.

- **MARCUS LYNN SMITH**, 35, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for bail jumping and fail to appear, capias driving while license invalid, violate promise to appear and driving while license invalid.

- **MELLODIE ROSE WILLIAMS**, 26, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for motion to revoke probation – theft of property, more than \$50 but less than \$500.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

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

THURSDAY

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees it, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

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

TUESDAY

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

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

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

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

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

Chili Cook-Off

The Fraternal Order of the Eagles is hosting its 14th Annual Chili Cook-off on Saturday, Jan. 30. Cook teams of 1-3 people need to register at the Eagles Lodge at 8 a.m. with supplies to cook a minimum of 5 pounds of Chili.

Chili must be cooked on site. Judging will take place at 11:30 a.m. All-you-can-eat-chili will be available to the public for \$10 from 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Eagles Lodge is located at 703 W. 3rd St. Proceeds will go to benefit the Big Spring Crossroads Young Marines and the West Texas Centers.

Those interested in judging should contact David Pope at 432-816-8462.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 1/20	Thu 1/21	Fri 1/22	Sat 1/23	Sun 1/24
63/38 Cloudy skies early, followed by partial clearing. High 63F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph.	57/28 Mostly sunny and windy. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	57/31 Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 30s.	65/38 Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	72/38 Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise: 7:46 AM Sunset: 6:08 PM	Sunrise: 7:46 AM Sunset: 6:08 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 6:09 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 6:10 PM	Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 6:11 PM

Texas at a Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	66	30	P Cloudy	Kingsville	71	54	M Sunny
Amarillo	49	29	P Cloudy	Livingston	68	52	Sunny
Austin	69	47	M Cloudy	Longview	63	45	Sunny
Beaumont	66	52	Sunny	Lubbock	59	30	Cloudy
Brownsville	72	59	P Cloudy	Lufkin	66	50	P Cloudy
Brownwood	67	31	M Cloudy	Midland	70	35	Cloudy
Corpus Christi	69	56	Sunny	Raymondville	73	58	M Sunny
Corsicana	65	38	Cloudy	Rosenberg	67	55	P Cloudy
Dallas	64	33	M Cloudy	San Antonio	72	51	M Cloudy
Del Rio	71	48	M Cloudy	San Marcos	70	49	P Cloudy
El Paso	66	39	Sunny	Sulphur Springs	61	37	P Cloudy
Fort Stockton	72	37	Cloudy	Sweetwater	64	31	P Cloudy
Gainesville	61	28	P Cloudy	Tyler	63	43	M Sunny
Greenville	61	34	M Cloudy	Weatherford	65	30	M Cloudy
Houston	68	55	Sunny	Wichita Falls	63	29	Cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	37	25	P Cloudy	Miami	65	54	M Cloudy
Boston	24	18	M Clidy/Wind	Minneapolis	10	7	M Cloudy
Chicago	17	13	P Cloudy	New York	29	25	M Sunny
Dallas	64	33	M Cloudy	Phoenix	70	48	Sunny
Denver	44	27	Snow Showers	San Francisco	59	49	Rain
Houston	27	19	Cloudy	Seattle	48	41	M Cloudy
Los Angeles	64	54	M Cloudy	Saint Louis	23	17	Cloudy

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Jan 16	Jan 24	Feb 1	Feb 8

UV Index

Wed 1/20	Thu 1/21	Fri 1/22	Sat 1/23	Sun 1/24
3	4	4	4	3
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

Lottery

All or Nothing Day
01-03-05-06-08-12-14-16-17-18-20-23

(one, three, five, six, eight, twelve, fourteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, twenty, twenty-three)

All or Nothing Evening
01-03-04-05-08-11-13-14-17-19-22-24

(one, three, four, five, eight, eleven, thirteen, fourteen, seventeen, nineteen, twenty-two, twenty-four)

All or Nothing Morning
02-07-08-10-11-13-14-15-20-21-22-24

(two, seven, eight, ten, eleven, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-four)

All or Nothing Night
04-05-06-09-10-11-17-18-19-20-23-24

(four, five, six, nine, ten, eleven, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-three, twenty-four)

Cash 5

12-13-18-27-33
(twelve, thirteen, eighteen, twenty-seven, thirty-three)

Daily 4 Day
7-3-5-0, Sum It Up: 15
(seven, three, five, zero; Sum It Up: fifteen)

Daily 4 Evening
2-1-3-6
(two, one, three, six)

Daily 4 Morning
1-9-0-3
(one, nine, zero, three)

Daily 4 Night
1-0-9-7, Sum It Up: 17
(one, zero, nine, seven; Sum It Up: seventeen)

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$30 million

Pick 3 Day
0-1-2, Sum It Up: 3
(zero, one, two; Sum It Up: three)

Pick 3 Evening
5-3-3
(five, three, three)

Pick 3 Morning
1-4-1
(one, four, one)

Pick 3 Night
9-4-4, Sum It Up: 17
(nine, four, four; Sum It Up: seventeen)

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$9.00 monthly; \$97.20 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.



HERALD photo/Amanda Elston

United Way Committee members stand before the 2015 campaign total goal sign located on the corner of the Howard County Courthouse. This year, the campaign drew in \$322,381 in donated funds which will be given to support 15 area, non-profit agencies.

UW

Continued from Page 3

rough economic times, it is great to see our community pull through when it really counts.”

The 15 agencies supported by the local United Way are: The American Red Cross, Permian Basin chapter; Big Spring Family YMCA; Buffalo Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America; CASA of West Texas, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center;

Emergency Services Chaplain Corps; Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest; Isaiah 58; Mobile Meals; Northside Community Center; Rape Crisis Services of Big Spring; Spring of Siloam, Christian Women’s Job Corps; The Salvation Army; The Sal-

vation Army Boys and Girls Club; and the Westside Community Day Care Center.

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

Take note

Meetings

- The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues are \$20.
- 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 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. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.
- Staked Plains Mason-

ic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 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 donate 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 30-hour training, an interview process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or 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, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

Sacking dates are as follows (please note the group starts at 5:30 p.m.) Feb. 1 and 2.

Our sacking location has moved to the Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 NW 7th. To get there take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney which is the block just past the Salvation Army Store. Delaney turns into 7th Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left. Currently we are distributing food at Goliad, Marcy and Moss Elementary Schools. Contact your child’s school for information.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak

for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you’re interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It’s a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9-11 a.m. and get two for one, plus a rehab meeting.

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FIGHT

Continued from Page 1

project. Two thumbs up for reading and recycling.”

The Read and Recycle program promotes reading so that the children can enjoy the party, and recycling by using old paper that will be collected to be recycled after the party.

“The expressions on their faces exemplify the exhilaration that is experienced during a real snowball fight,” said Diana Newton, Forsan Elementary Federal Programs Director. “It looks like they got a kick out of throwing snowballs at the teachers as well.”

– Julie Bass

Hearing delayed in Texas for Ethan Couch

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A hearing has been delayed to consider whether a Texas teenager known for using an “affluenza” defense violated his probation in a fatal drunken-driving wreck.

Attorneys for Ethan Couch, who is being held in Mexico, convinced a judge to recess the Tuesday hearing shortly after it started in Fort Worth. They say Couch’s mother, Tonya, should’ve been notified.

No new court date was immediately set.

Tonya Couch is accused of helping her 18-year-old son flee.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Cynthia Ann Smith, 59, died December 31, 2015. Funeral service was at 11:00 AM this morning at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Donald Mack Richardson, 81, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM today at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Julia G. “Wetha” Ovale, 94, died Monday. Vigil service will be at 7:00 PM tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be held at 10:00 AM Wednesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Chamber Annual Banquet - February 16th

Dorothy Garrett Coliseum - 7pm

Guest Speaker - Chet Garner “The Daytripper”
Brought to you by Big Spring Convention & Visitors Bureau

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News in brief

Assad's battlefield gains cast cloud on upcoming Syria talks

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian peace talks due next week are looking increasingly moot as a string of recent battlefield victories by government troops have bolstered President Bashar Assad's hand and plunged the rebels into disarray.

The government's advances add to the obstacles that have scuttled chances of halting — at least anytime soon — the five-year civil war that has killed a quarter of a million people, displaced half the country and enabled the radical Islamic State group to seize a third of Syria's territory.

A proxy war on the ground between regional rivals Iran and Saudi Arabia, disorganization among the rebels after a top commander and several other local leaders were killed, rigid and disparate U.S. and Russian positions regarding Assad's future, and a spat over which groups will be invited to the negotiating table have all added to the conflagration.

"I don't think we should expect any major results," said Fawaz Gerges, professor of Middle Eastern politics at the London School of Economics. "Assad really believes that time is on his side, that he is winning, that the opposition is in tatters."

The Jan. 25 talks in Geneva are meant to start a political process to end the conflict that started in 2011 as a largely peaceful uprising against Assad's rule but escalated into an all-out war after a harsh state crackdown. The plan calls for cease-fires in parallel to the talks, a new constitution and elections in a year and a half.

China's economic growth wanes to 25-year low in 2015

BEIJING (AP) — China's economy cooled further in the latest quarter, dragging 2015's full-year growth to a quarter-century low and deepening a slowdown that has fueled anxiety over its impact on the global economy.

The world's second-largest economy grew 6.9 percent in 2015, the government said Tuesday, down from 7.3 percent in the previous year. For the October-December quarter, growth inched down to 6.8 percent, the weakest quarterly expansion in six years.

China's growth has fallen steadily over the past five years as the ruling Communist Party tries to steer away from a worn-out model based on investment and trade toward self-sustaining growth driven by domestic consumption and services.

But the unexpectedly sharp decline over the past two years prompted fears of a politically dangerous spike in job losses. The slowdown has rippled around the world, crimping demand for South Korean electronics and Australian iron ore as well as Middle East oil and Brazilian soy.

The Chinese slowdown and a plunge in Shanghai stock prices have prompted concern about a further loss of support from an economy once seen as an engine of global growth. That has depressed international financial markets even as the United States and Europe show signs of improvement.

Cruz joined fight for gun rights as political fortunes rose

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz huddled with a borrowed shotgun in a Louisiana duck blind last week, his face smeared with black greasepaint.

He was there to shoot a campaign video with Phil Robertson, the gray-bearded patriarch of reality TV's "Duck Dynasty" clan. The junior U.S. senator from Texas, donning camouflaged overalls, is shown squeezing off a couple of rounds toward the gray sky. It was not immediately clear whether any ducks were harmed during the making of the ad.

Looking into the camera, Robertson says his selection criteria for endorsing a candidate include "would they kill a duck, put 'em in a pot and make 'em a good duck gumbo."

"You're one of us, my man," he then tells Cruz.

Cruz has made the defense of Second Amendment rights a cornerstone of his presidential campaign, touting his past legal work fighting against gun control laws. In his three years in the U.S. Senate, Cruz's voting record has earned an A+ rating from the National Rifle Association. Fiery criticism of President Barack Obama's efforts to tighten background checks for gun purchases is a staple of Cruz stump speeches: The candidate quipped that back in Texas the term "gun control" means that you "hit what you're aiming at."

From Paris suburb to bloody attack, portrait of IS jihadist

DRANCY, France (AP) — Even under extended police questioning, Samy Amimour never hid his disdain for France, his desire to leave, or his belief that the apocalypse was near. But he told investigators he would not kill: "I am against the murder of innocents, no matter where they are."

Three years later, Amimour returned from Syria, gunned down dozens of innocents at a rock show, and died inside the Bataclan with a suicide belt strapped to his body.

Court documents, transcripts of hours of investigator interviews, and phone and bank records seen by *The Associated Press* trace the path of Amimour and two of his closest friends from the Paris suburb of Drancy to Syria's war zone.

Amimour and Charaffe El Mouadan, the trio's charismatic leader who would take the nom de guerre Souleymane, would end up dead. The third, Samir Bouabout, is believed to be in Syria still.

Drancy is a short ride from Paris on one of the unreliable suburban trains that feed into the city. Ethnically mixed, solidly middle class, the town has a mix of single-family homes and unlovely but serviceable apartment complexes. Amimour grew up on the third floor of a small building; the tidy houses of his two friends are a short walk away.

UN report: Nearly 19,000 civilians killed in under 2 years

BAGHDAD (AP) — A U.N. report released Tuesday says at least 18,802 civilians in Iraq were killed and another 36,245 wounded between Jan. 1, 2014 and Oct. 31, 2015.

The reports calls the civilian death toll "staggering" and details killings by the Islamic State group including by shooting, beheading, bulldozing, burning alive and throwing people off of buildings.

The report also stated that the Islamic State group is believed to currently be holding approximately 3,500 people, predominantly women and children from the country's Yezidi minority, captive as slaves.

IS swept across northern and western Iraq in the summer of 2014 plunging the country into its worst political and security crisis since the withdrawal of U.S. troops in 2011.

Frey, prolific Eagles singer-songwriter-bandleader, dies

NEW YORK (AP) — As the Eagles co-founder, singer and songwriter Glenn Frey mastered the mix of rock 'n' roll and country music, and the band's hits — including "Hotel California" and "Take It Easy," both co-written by Frey — helped define the 1970s.

Frey died Monday of complications from rheumatoid arthritis, acute ulcerative colitis and pneumonia in New York at age 67. He was born in Detroit and formed the band with Don Henley in 1971 in Los Angeles.

Frey and Henley came from humble beginnings after playing backup to another legend, Linda Ronstadt, and later forming the Eagles when signing with David Geffen's Asylum Records. Their sound would go on to successfully blend rock and country — something that others tried but that was mastered by the Eagles. Who else has won Grammy

Awards — stretched across 1975 and 2008 — in the rock, pop and country categories?

The band released some of the most popular songs of the 1970s: "Take It Easy," written by Frey and Jackson Browne, is irresistible with Frey singing lead.

And "Hotel California" was just one of the Eagles' tunes to peak atop the Billboard Hot 100 chart: "Heartache Tonight," "New Kid In Town," "One of These Nights" and "Best of My Love" also went to No. 1.

Deep in Colombian jungle, peace looms at rebel hideout

IN THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTHWEST COLOMBIA (AP) — The rebel leader known as Juan Pablo carries with him a new telescopic assault rifle and a heavy heart.

As a commander of the 36th Front of the FARC, or Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, one of the most active units in a half-century of bloodshed, the paunch-bellied warrior has spent 25 years plotting ambushes and assembling land mines but has never been to the movies, driven a car or eaten in a restaurant.

Now peace is within reach as talks between the guerrillas and the government near conclusion in Cuba, and for the first time the 41-year-old is thinking about a future outside this jungle hideout. His dream: to return to the poor village he left as a teenager and run for mayor. But transition to civilian life will come without his girlfriend and comrade-in-arms who was killed six months ago in an army raid, underscoring the toll still being exacted by Latin America's last major guerrilla conflict even as it winds down.

"This war is going to end without victors or vanquished but lots of suffering on both sides," said Juan Pablo, the soft-smiling son of a street vendor. "It's false to say we arrived defeated to the negotiating table. They dealt us some heavy blows, of course, but 51 years of war against an enemy backed by the most powerful army in the world (the U.S. army) has not made us cower, because the injustices that led us to take up arms are still occurring."

That mixture of pride and trepidation about the future is common among the FARC's roughly 7,000 fighters, many of whom, like Juan Pablo, come from poor rural upbringings and struggle to imagine life outside the highly regimented ranks of the guerrillas.

Dubai tower blaze shows risks in common building material

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Within minutes, the revelry of New Year's Eve in Dubai turned to horror as those gathered for fireworks downtown watched flames race up the side of one of the glistening city's most prominent luxury hotels.

But the fire at the 63-story The Address Downtown Dubai wasn't the first, second or even third blaze to spread swiftly along the exterior of skyscrapers that have risen from the desert at a torrid pace in and around Dubai over the past two decades.

It was at least the eighth such fire in the Emirates alone, and similar blazes have struck major cities across the world, killing dozens of people, according to an *Associated Press* survey.

The reason, building and safety experts say, is the material used for the buildings' sidings, called aluminum composite panel cladding.

While types of cladding can be made with fire-resistant material, experts say those that have caught fire in Dubai and elsewhere weren't designed to meet stricter safety standards and often were put onto buildings without any breaks to slow or halt a possible blaze.

While new regulations are now in place for construction in Dubai and other cities, experts acknowledge they have no idea how many skyscrapers have the potentially combustible paneling and are at risk of similar fast-moving fires.

Calls for Oscars' boycott grows

NEW YORK (AP) — Amid calls for a boycott of the Academy Awards over its all-white acting nominees and Spike Lee and Jada Pinkett Smith both announcing they would sit out this year's ceremony, the academy's president said it was time for major changes — and soon.

Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences President Cheryl Boone Isaacs issued a statement promising more diversity, and quickly, after both Lee and Pinkett spoke out Monday.

In a lengthy Instagram post, Lee said he "cannot

support" the "lily white" Oscars. Noting that he was writing on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Lee — who in November was given an honorary Oscar at the Governors Awards — said he was

fed up: "Forty white actors in two years and no flava at all," he wrote. In a video message on Facebook, Pinkett Smith also said she wouldn't attend or watch the Oscars in February.



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Howard, OC split Monday twinbill



Howard College's Srdjan Budimir, left, receives a pass from teammate Shawn Jones during the first half of the Hawks' game with Odessa in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Monday night.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Lady Hawks rally for win, while Hawks lose in OT

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

It was a tale of two comebacks — one that thrilled Howard College fans, and one that broke their hearts.

Howard's women rallied from a late nine-point deficit Monday to down Odessa College, 55-51, but in the nightcap, Howard's men could not hold a second-half lead and fell, 95-90, in overtime to OC.

The Lady Hawks improved to 15-6 overall and 5-1 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference play, while the Hawks fell to 11-9 and 1-5 with their loss.

Women's game

The Lady Hawks proved their conference record is no fluke, and they did so in dramatic fashion Monday night.

After a back-and-forth first half, Odessa and Howard took turns dominating the game in the final 20 minutes.

The third quarter was Odessa's turn. Fueled by Lauren Newman, who scored a big chunk of her 12 points during the quarter, OC closed out the third with a 9-0 run to take a 42-33 lead heading into the final quarter.

From there on, however,

the Lady Hawks suddenly became unstoppable. Part of the reason, undoubtedly, was the fact that Newman was resting on the bench, but the biggest part was that Howard seemingly forgot how to miss its shots.

Odessa briefly pushed its lead to double digits when Shelby Richards hit a three-pointer with 9 minutes left to give OC a 45-35 lead, but from there, the Lady Hawks took over.

In the space of less than three minutes, Dominique Carpenter, DeJah Joshua and Tamara York scored on successive trips down the court, then Camille Hoover added a three-pointer and a short jumper to give Howard the lead.

OC briefly retied the game on a basket and free throw from Sadie Russell, but Howard's Anna Djedjemel answered with a short jumper and Howard never trailed again, although the Lady Hawks didn't put the game out of reach until York hit a pair of clutch free throws with three seconds remaining.

York had 13 points and Ash-

See **HAWKS**, Page 13

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Girl's basketball

Snyder at Big Spring, 6:30 p.m.
Colorado City at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.
Iraan at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.
Stanton at Sonora, 6:30 p.m.
Water Valley at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.

Boy's basketball

Snyder at Big Spring, 8 p.m.
Colorado City at Coahoma, 8 p.m.
Iraan at Forsan, 8 p.m.
Stanton at Sonora, 8 p.m.
Water Valley at Garden City, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Men's basketball

Howard College at NMMI, 7 p.m.

To submit a calendar item, please call 432-263-7331, ext. 235, or e-mail reporter@bigspringherald.com

Stars lining up for Rams' LA return

By GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Eric Dickerson can't wait to take his two youngest children to their first Los Angeles Rams game this fall alongside the same fans who cheered him to the greatest single-season rushing performance in NFL history.

And if the current Rams need advice on the tricky transition from Missouri to Southern California, the Hall of Fame running back has plenty.

"You're not in St. Louis anymore," Dickerson said with a laugh. "For all you young guys: It's different. This is Hollywood."

Dickerson and former quarterback Jim Everett know all about the challenges and temptations presented in the nation's entertainment capital and second-largest media market.

"This is a different animal, being in Los Angeles," Dickerson said. "It just feels different, and I know what it's like to put that uniform on. Being in LA, there's nothing like it. It's the glitz. It's the glamour. It's the beautiful girls. It's the weather. But you've got to take your job serious, first of all. You're a football player first, and all that other stuff comes secondary."

Everett settled in Southern California after his NFL career, and the Rams' starting quarterback from 1986-93 greeted Rams executives at their official return last week in Inglewood. He has

and the Dodgers lacking a true superstar beyond quiet Clayton Kershaw, Rams running back Todd Gurley, receiver Tavon Austin and defensive linemen Aaron Donald and Robert Quinn are about to become some of the most popular guys in a town that loves a celebrity.

Although the Rams played home games down the road in Anaheim when Dickerson and Everett starred, they dealt with the opportunities and temptations presented in the nation's entertainment capital and second-largest media market.

"This is a different animal, being in Los Angeles," Dickerson said. "It just feels different, and I know what it's like to put that uniform on. Being in LA, there's nothing like it. It's the glitz. It's the glamour. It's the beautiful girls. It's the weather. But you've got to take your job serious, first of all. You're a football player first, and all that other stuff comes secondary."

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never stopped signing autographs with an "LA Rams" postscript.

"When I was playing, we had the Lakers with Magic Johnson, we had the Dodgers, and LA loves champions," Everett said. "There's high standards, and the Rams are taking a big bite of the pie by moving here. They understand that level of expectation is going to go way up for all of us."

Dickerson spent the Rams' return week in Orlando playing in the inaugural Diamond Resorts Invitational celebrity golf tournament, a \$500,000 event supporting Florida Hospital for Children. Dickerson finished just behind former Raiders running back Marcus Allen and well behind winner Mardy Fish, the former tennis pro.

But Dickerson's thoughts were never far from the Rams. Although he made frequent appearances in St. Louis to support the franchise, he firmly believes the Rams never should have left — and he can only shake his head at what might have been.

"Imagine the Rams playing in LA when they were the 'Greatest Show on Turf,'" Dickerson said, referring to the Super Bowl-winning St.

Louis team.

"They would have had to go from practice to the studios to do movies. Everybody loves athletes. Actors want to be athletes, and athletes want to be actors. I hope it becomes like that again."

The Rams have some work to do first: They haven't made the playoffs since the 2004 season, and they haven't had a winning record since 2003.

Although they've shaken off the worst five-year stretch in NFL history with just 15 wins from 2007-11, they've had nine straight losing seasons heading back to Los Angeles.

Although Warren Beatty played a Rams quarterback in the famed 1978 comedy "Heaven Can Wait," the Rams' popularity in Hollywood during their first 49 years in town was limited by their relatively modest success, reaching the Super Bowl just once.

"You've got to win," said Dickerson, whose Rams made the playoffs in each of his four full seasons. "Coming back is one thing, but you've got to put a winner on the field."

Dickerson sees elements
See **RAMS**, Page 13

Redick's 40 points help Clippers beat Rockets

By JOE RESNICK

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — J.J. Redick was getting tired of losing to the Houston Rockets, so he finally took matters into his own sharp-shooting hands — with plenty of help from Chris Paul, of course.

Redick scored a career-high 40 points and the Clippers made a franchise-record 22 3-pointers in a 140-132 overtime win against the Houston Rockets on Monday night.

Clippers from the playoffs last year, winning in seven games after trailing three games to one in the second round. They also won the first two meetings this season.

"I think I take most losses personally, not just to the Rockets," Redick said. "But going back to last year, we had lost five in a row. C.P. and I talked earlier today just about how frustrating it's been. They're a team that thinks they're better than us, and rightfully so given the results over the past season and a half. So it was important tonight for us to hit them first

and be more aggressive from the start."

Redick connected on his first five attempts behind the arc and finished 9 for 12 on 3-pointers, tying Caron Butler's club record for 3s and coming within three makes of the NBA single-game record shared by Kobe Bryant and Donyell Marshall.

"It was one of those games where neither team could get a stop, and there were several players that were the beneficiaries of that — myself included," Redick said.

Redick set a franchise single-season record for 3-point-

ers in 2014-15 with 200. He has 103 at the midway point of this season.

Paul had 28 points and 12 assists for the Clippers, whose season-best 10-game winning streak ended Saturday night with a 110-103 home loss to Sacramento. Paul, Redick and Jamal Crawford each made 3-pointers while the Clippers opened overtime on a 9-2 run.

Dwight Howard had 36 points and tied a career high with 26 rebounds en route to his 10th straight double-double, the league's longest active streak, and his longest since a 14-game run three sea-

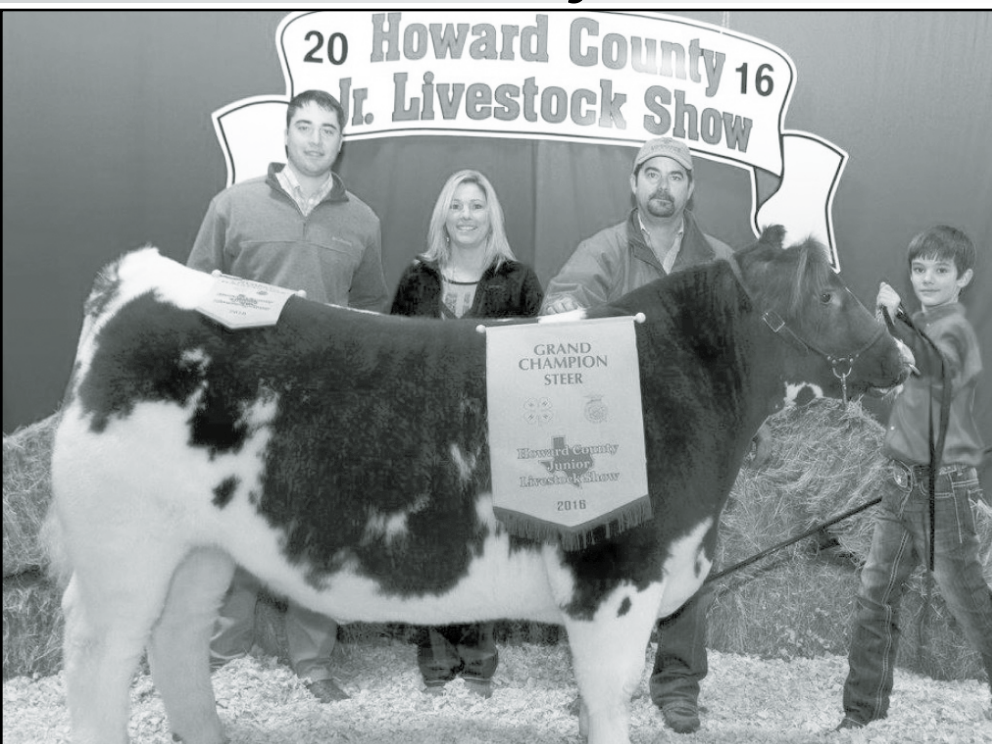
sons ago. He secured it before halftime with 13 points and 15 boards.

Houston native DeAndre Jordan was back in the lineup for Los Angeles and had 16 points and 15 rebounds in 41 minutes for his ninth straight double-double. He missed two games with pneumonia that ended his consecutive game streak at 360.

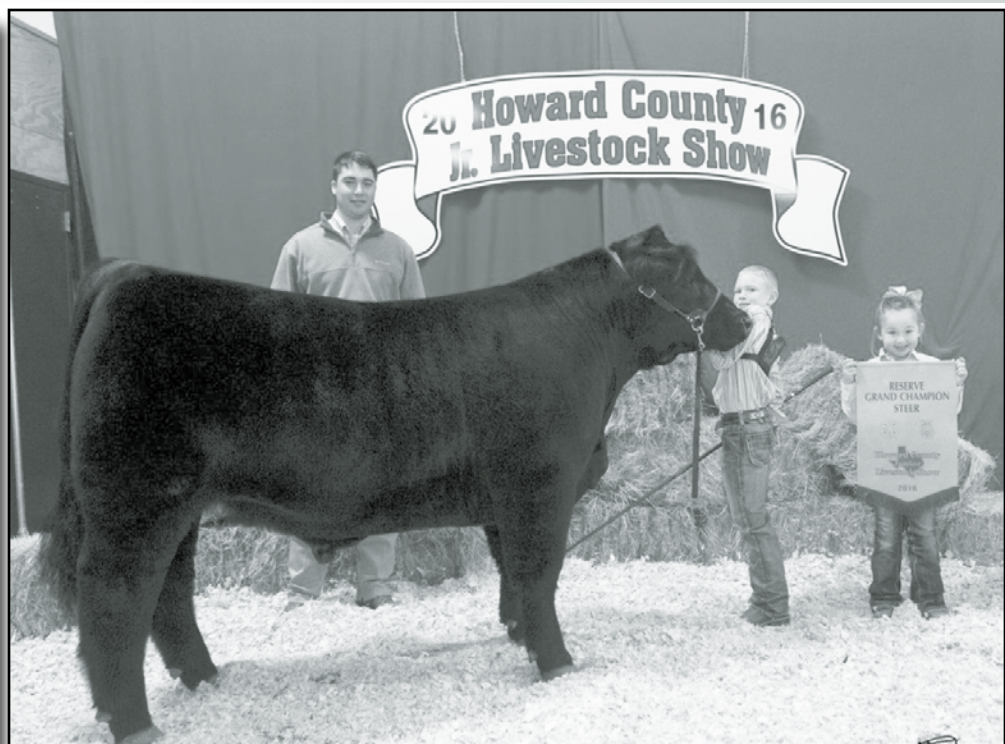
Howard, a career 57.1 percent free-throw shooter coming in, delighted the sellout crowd by throwing up an air ball from the line in the sec-

See **ROCKETS**, Page 13

Howard County Jr. Livestock Show final results



GRAND CHAMPION STEER — Seth Brooks



RESERVE CHAMPION STEER — Barrett Howe



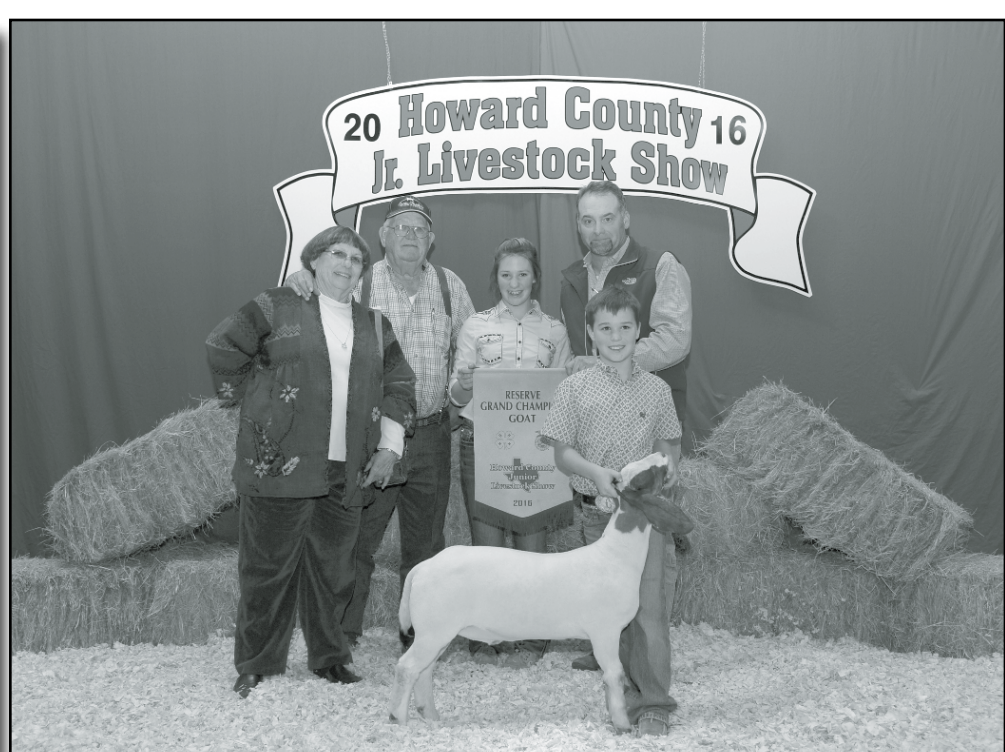
GRAND CHAMPION HEIFER — Barrett Howe



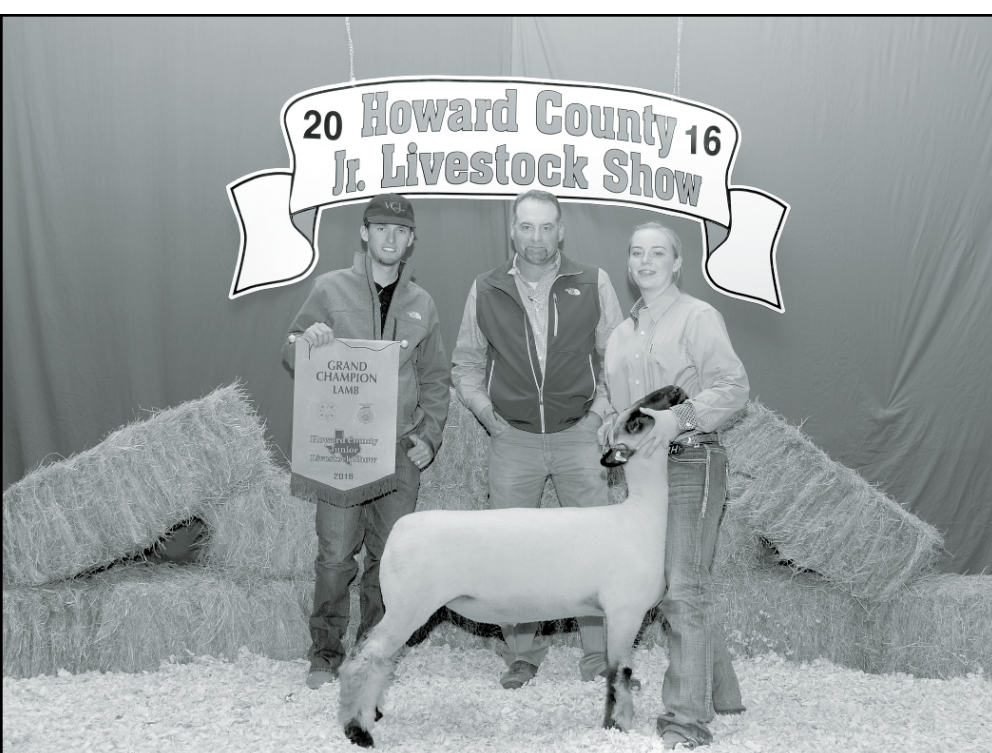
RESERVE CHAMPION HEIFER — Tatum Miller



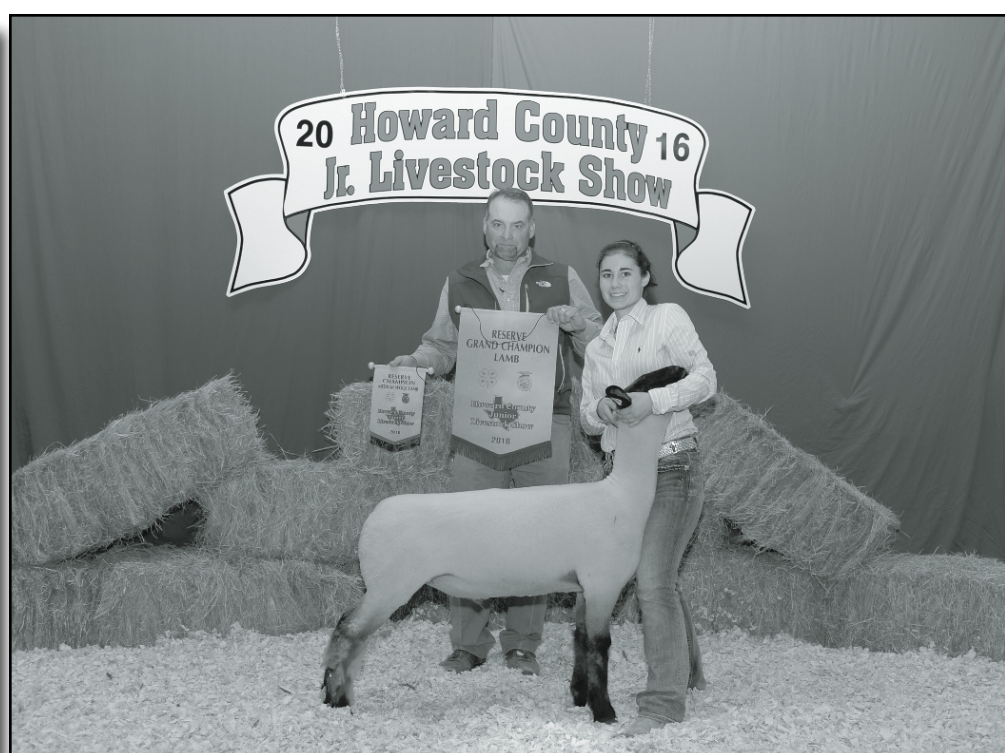
GRAND CHAMPION GOAT — Bryce Hamlin



RESERVE CHAMPION GOAT — Case Custer



GRAND CHAMPION LAMB — Reagan Hamlin



RESERVE CHAMPION LAMB — Brynn Workman

**The Big Spring Herald Congratulates all the
Howard County Junior Livestock Show competitors
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Howard County Jr. Livestock Show final results



GRAND CHAMPION BARROW — Julia Cox



RESERVE CHAMPION BARROW — Kaylee French



GRAND CHAMPION RABBIT — Aubrey Parum



RESERVE CHAMPION RABBIT — Vance Ott

Howard County Jr. Livestock Show awards

Buckles

Grand Champion Steer, Seth Brooks, Coahoma FFA
 Reserve Champion Steer, Barrett Howe, Howard County 4H
 Sr. Showmanship Steer, Tatum Miller, Howard County 4H
 Jr. Showmanship Steer, Seth Books, Coahoma FFA
 Grand Champion Heifer, Barrett Howe, Howard County 4H
 Reserve Champion Heifer, Tatum Miller, Howard County 4A
 Grand Champion Hog, Julia Cox, Coahoma FFA
 Reserve Champion Hog, Kaylee French, Sands FFA
 Sr. Showmanship Hogs, Julia Cox, Coahoma FFA
 Jr. Showmanship Hog, Isabella Cox, Coahoma FFA
 Grand Champion Lamb, Reagan Hamlin, Howard County 4H
 Reserve Champion Lamb Brynn Workman, Coahoma FFA
 Sr. Showmanship Lamb, Reagan Hamlin, Howard County 4H
 Jr. Showmanship Lamb, Bryce Hamlin, Howard County 4H
 Grand Champion Goat, Bryce Hamlin, Howard County 4H
 Reserve Champion Goat, Case Custer, Coahoma FFA
 Sr. Showmanship Goat, Reagan Hamlin, Howard County 4H
 Jr. Showmanship Goat, Bryce Hamlin, Howard County 4H

Grand Champion Rabbit, Aubrey Parum, Coahoma FFA
 Reserve Champion Rabbit, Vance Ott, Howard County 4H
 Sr. Showmanship Rabbit, Faith Parum, Coahoma FFA
 Jr. Showmanship Rabbit, Hannah Surles, Howard County 4H

Op Hand/Ag Sales

Top Sr. Ag Sales, Samantha Raney, Howard County 4H
 To Jr. Ag Sales, Brance Workman, Coahoma FFA
 Top Hand Award 4-H, Kobyn Ramey, Howard County 4H
 Top Hand Award Coahoma, Ashley Luce, Coahoma FFA
 Top Hand Award Sands, Del Rae Miller, Sands FFA

Scholarship award

Faith Parum, Hezzie & Melba Read Memorial Scholarship
 Bryce Gartman, David "Shorty" Bar Memorial Scholarship
 Ashley Luce, Howard College Lamb & Goat Camp Scholarship
 Julia Castilaw, Big Spring Herald Scholarship
 Kelsey Allen, Big Spring Herald Scholarship
 Kiefer Pulis, Big Spring Herald Scholarship
 Angelica Rogers, Big Spring Herald Scholarship

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First lady, school meal directors may be headed for truce

By MARY CLARE JALONICK
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bipartisan Senate agreement would revise healthier meal standards put into place over the last few years to give schools more flexibility in what they serve the nation's schoolchildren, easing requirements on whole grains and delaying an upcoming deadline to cut sodium levels on the lunch line.

While legislation released by the Senate Agriculture Committee on Monday would placate some schools that have complained the rules are burdensome, it is greatly scaled back from an unsuccessful 2014 House Republican effort to allow some schools to opt out of the rules entirely. The panel is scheduled to vote on the measure on Wednesday.

After more than two years of public quarreling, the bill signals a possible truce for a group of school nutrition directors and first lady Michelle Obama, an outspoken proponent of healthier eating during her husband's seven years in office.

The School Nutrition Association, which represents school nutrition directors and companies that sell food to schools, said it is supportive of the agreement negotiated by Senate

Agriculture Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., and the committee's top Democrat, Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan.

"In the absence of increased funding, this agreement eases operational challenges and provides school meal programs critical flexibility to help them plan healthy school meals that appeal to students," the association's president, Jean Ronnei, said.

The White House has yet to weigh in, but committee aides said the administration was involved in negotiations and is expected to be supportive. The aides declined to be identified because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the legislation.

Nutrition advocates who have fiercely defended the rules were also positive.

"Given all of the aggressive lobbying against school nutrition over the past few years, it's remarkable that the Senate bill is as strong a way forward as it is," said Margo Wootan of the Center for Science and the Public Interest.

The five-year Senate legislation would direct the Agriculture Department to revise the whole grain and sodium standards within 90 days of the bill's enactment, meaning the new standards could be in place by next school year if Congress acts

quickly. Under the agreement between those negotiating the bill, the new rules would scale back the whole grain standards to require that 80 percent of grains on the lunch line must be whole grain rich, or more than half whole grain. Currently, all grains are required to be whole grain rich, though some schools are now allowed to get waivers from that requirement.

Schools have said the whole grain rules were too tough in some cases, as whole grain pasta is harder to cook and some kids don't like it as much. Southern schools have had problems finding tasty whole grain biscuits and grits; schools in the Southwest say their students reject whole grain tortillas.

The agreement would also delay stricter standards on sodium that are scheduled for the 2017 school year. They would now be delayed two years, and a study would measure the benefits of those reductions.

The legislation would also require the government to figure out how to reduce waste of fruits and vegetables, which children are now required to take on the lunch line. Some just throw them away.

The bill requires the Agriculture Department and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to come up

with solutions like sharing tables where children can leave food they don't want. Some local health authorities have discouraged that approach.

The legislation would also put more resources into summer feeding programs and attempt to expand the ways in which those foods are served.

The rules phased in since 2012 set fat, calorie, sugar and sodium limits on foods in the lunch line and beyond. Schools have long been required to follow government nutrition rules if they accept federal reimbursements for free and reduced-price meals for low-income students, but the new standards are stricter.

The compromise seemed impossible just a year and a half ago, when the association aggressively lobbied against the administration's standards and backed the GOP effort to allow schools to opt out of them. The first lady held a rare event at the White House, calling out the School Nutrition Association by name. She said she would fight "until the bitter end" to keep the rules intact.

Supporters of the Senate bill are hoping that an agreement among the formerly feuding parties could influence the House, which has not yet introduced a bill.

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope



Capricorn Countdown

HOLIDAY MATHIS

These last moments of this year's solar

journey through Capricorn are perfect for taking stock of recent efforts. What was the goal? Were you successful? If not, what did you learn from each failed attempt? And, most importantly, what's next? If you're stumped, no worries: The sun will slip into Aquarius tomorrow, illuminating new approaches to try.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Without a sufficient appetite for life, there is no action. So when you are feeling dissatisfied, that is actually a good thing. Your hunger will motivate you better than any outside source could.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll never really understand the difference you make in someone's life by just being you. By following your curiosity and doing what comes naturally, a

favorable impact is assured.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Unless you interrupt an unhealthy pattern, it's going to keep repeating. There's no one else who sees the situation any more clearly than you. Do what your gut is urging you to do.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). True, some of the privileged have a candy shop's array of options to choose from. Let them deliberate. All you need is within the very limited range of options right before you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You told it well, but they weren't listening. Therefore, don't be too quick to compromise. Instead, try again to communicate your side. You'll strike a better deal when they really understand the cost you'll incur.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's not your fault that you need more mental stimulation than you are currently getting. However, now that you realize it, the responsibility to go where exciting stuff

is happening is all yours.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Graciously accept the help you're given without feeling guilty or feeling compelled to return the favor too fast. Even if you don't feel worthy of this help yet, take it. You will be very soon.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You need a plan. Team up with someone who can help you customize a great one. The same versatility that once had you confused about what to do next will soon become your greatest asset.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a fine line between honoring your feelings and indulging them. Mostly this has to do with dwelling in the feelings that inspire and motivate you and moving through the ones that bog you down.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Is this what you dreamt? Some of it is! Now if you could only block out the intrusive realities that don't fit the dream.

You can! You'll get better and better at ignoring them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The ones who disrespect you may not mean to do so, but either way there's no good reason to hang out with them when there are plenty of other options. Go where the love is.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Alone, it's hopeless -- or at least arduous. Together, it's probable. The fire from the ones you love will fuel your water-sign nature, culminating in the kind of steam that is sometimes used to power massive engines.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 19). Instead of fighting against time, you'll make it your best friend, and the hours will seem to stretch and bend at your will. The next six weeks introduce you to beauty you'll want in your life for years to come. Doing what feeds your soul is the theme in March. Spiritual transformations will be reflected in your life. Capricorn and Cancer adore

you. Your lucky numbers are: 38, 26, 22, 14 and 18.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: More on yesterday's letter: "She would not set a date for our wedding, and now she says she's not sure if she wants to go through with it. She says the main issue is my lack of charm. What should I do, Holiday? I am a Taurus."

Wedding or no wedding, as a Venus-ruled sign, you will find great success in life by cultivating charm. Charm is a quality that relies on observation, selflessness and confidence. You cannot be charming without being observant, because charm is all about the other person. Try to notice something that makes you curious about the other person. Get fascinated by the other person's comments and stories and really listen to every detail. Give compliments, sincere ones that could only come from someone who is really paying attention. You can't do this if you are thinking of yourself.

Charm relies on a sincere desire to make another person feel good without any expectation of a return. On every level you want nothing from the situation but for the other person to laugh and feel tended to. Have the confidence to lose all self-consciousness and move with the whims of the moment.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: The queen of country music grew up with 11 brothers and sisters in a one-room cabin and used the inspiration to write heartfelt, chart-busting hits. Many babies born today would be Aquarius, but in the year of Dolly Parton's birth the Sun was in Capricorn and the moon was in Leo, the sign of entertainment. Mercury and Venus in Capricorn show a star who remains down to earth.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com and click "Write the Author" on her page. COPYRIGHT 2016 CREATORS.COM

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My half-brother and his wife are old enough to be my parents. He is quite well-to-do and so are his children. I am only six years older than his oldest child and have always felt more like one of his kids than his sister, especially after my parents died.

However, I am never invited to spend holidays with them. I was widowed 25 years ago, and one of my children has since passed away. My brother and sister-in-law have gifted me \$300 each year on my birthday, and although it would give me great pleasure to reciprocate, they rarely allow me to do so. Last month, they discouraged me from giving them gifts for Christmas, which I understand. They are trying to pare down their belongings.

Last year, I saved up and gave them a \$100 gift card. I thought I'd hit on the perfect present. But this year, my sister-in-law said bluntly, "Don't be coming in here with presents like last year. Save your gift cards for your daughter. The money we give you is for you -- not to be returned to us."

After that call, I spiraled into a depression that lasted for

days, and the holiday was ruined. All this one-sided gift-giving makes me feel like a charity case. I always accept the money and send an immediate thank-you note, and I will continue to do so. But other than my daughter, they are the only family I have. Their kids and I do not communicate. Is there any way to fix this? -- Bah Humbug

Dear Humbug: You are interpreting your brother's attitude in the worst possible light. So, let's put it in a more positive one: Your brother and his wife know that you are struggling and they are not. They feel terrible when you spend your money on them. They are trying to be kind and thoughtful. They don't realize that you find this demeaning.

The age difference makes a relationship difficult and awkward, but you both seem to want to stay in contact, so here's our advice for gift-giving: Do not give cash or gift cards. Instead, bake cookies or create a homemade holiday ornament. Write them a letter expressing how important they are to you, how much you hope to remain close, and that being able to reciprocate for their

kindness brings you joy. That will mean more to them than any present.

Dear Annie: You've printed a few letters in response to the one from "W," who said her neighbor is overly sensitive to noise. This neighbor may have a mental health issue.

My ex-husband, who suffers from a fairly severe mental illness, often complained of excessive noise from our neighbor's adjoining townhouse, even though the sound would be perfectly fine to anyone else. He would call the police about it whenever he wasn't taking his anti-psychotic medication. It caused all sorts of

problems. "W." might consider speaking to the neighbor's son about her mental health. -- T.

Dear T.: There are all kinds of reasons for noise sensitivity, and certainly mental health can play a role. Thank you for mentioning this possibility.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@creators.com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. You can also find Annie on Facebook at Facebook.com/AskAnnies. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Seven to Six

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 7 6
♥ J 9 7
♦ 5
♣ A J 10 8 5 4

WEST
♠ A 9 4
♥ 10 6 4 2
♦ K 9 4 3
♣ Q 6

EAST
♠ Q 8 5 3 2
♥ 5 3
♦ 10 6
♣ K 7 3 2

SOUTH
♠ K 10
♥ A K Q 8
♦ A Q J 8 7 2
♣ 9

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 1NT Pass
3♥ Pass 4♣ Pass
4♦ Pass 4♥

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

It is, of course, desirable to have at least eight trumps in the combined hands to play in a suit contract, but there are times when one must settle for less.

Consider this deal from a team-of-four match where, at the first table, South reached four hearts on a 4-3 fit. This contract was quite reasonable, even though declarer's trump margin over the defenders was

only seven to six.

South won the queen-of-clubs lead with the ace and played a diamond to the queen. West took the king and led another club, dummy's eight forcing East's king, which declarer ruffed.

South ruffed a diamond in dummy and cashed the A-K-Q of trumps, leaving West with the only remaining trump, the ten. But despite his apparently commanding position, West found himself with no recourse when declarer proceeded to run his diamonds. West ruffed the fifth diamond, but then had to lead a spade to declarer's king and so hand South his 10th trick.

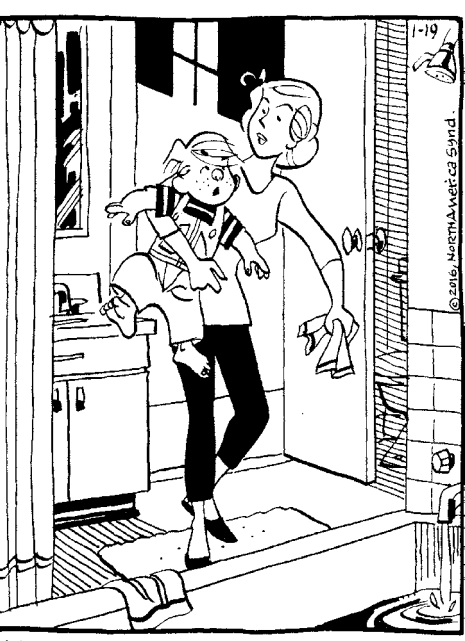
At the second table, South wound up in three notrump and went down one when he ran into superb defense. West led the four of spades, the unbid suit, covered by dummy's six. East then made the fine play of the five, taken by declarer with the ten.

The nonappearance of the deuce or three on the first trick made it clear to West that East's five was a come-on signal. So when South crossed to dummy with a heart and tried a diamond finesse, West took the king and played the ace and another spade to put an end to declarer's hopes.

Tomorrow: The art of circumvention.
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	News ABC	Hotel	Big Bang CBS	News	Tele	News	Justice Called	Focus Business	Mama's American	American	Seinfeld	Castle	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	Inside the Stars In.	Law & Order: SVU	Married-Sight	Moonshiners
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Muchacha italiana	Mod Fam Big Bang	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	McGee HaYesod	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Castle	College Basketball: Illinois at Indiana.	College Basketball	Spurs In.	Mod Fam	Married-Sight	Moonshiners
7:PM	Captain America	Antes Muerta que Grand	New Girl	NCIS (DVS)	Celia (SS)	Game Night	Upd	Finding Your Roots	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Movie: Red 2, Mary-Louise Parker (DVS)	College Basketball: LSU at Texas A&M.	2016 Australian Open Tennis: Second Round.	High School Football	Mod Fam	Married-Sight	Moonshiners: Outlaw
8:PM	Marvel's Agent Carter	Pasión y poder	Brooklyn Grinder	NCIS: New Orleans	Bajo el Mismo Cielo	Chicago Med	Light of the Southwest	Amer. Experience	Hap.Days	Legends	DC Films	Movie: Red 2, Mary-Louise Parker (DVS)	College Basketball: LSU at Texas A&M.	2016 Australian Open Tennis: Second Round.	Stars In.	Mod Fam	Married-Sight	Moonshiners
9:PM	News	Impacto	Mod Fam	News	Tele	News	With Schol-ars	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	Cougar	Conan	Movie: Red 2, Mary-Louise Parker (DVS)	SportsCenter	Stars Live	Mod Fam	(:01) Fit to Fat to Fit	(:01) Killing Fields	
10:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Two Men	Late Show-Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Ministerios	World	Raising	Commun	Conan	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	NHL Hockey: Dallas Stars at Los Angeles Kings.	Mod Fam	Law & Order: SVU	Married-Sight	(:02) Killing Fields
11:PM	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met Cleveland	James Corden	Gran Her-mano (SS)	Seth Meyers	Vida	T. Smiley	Commun	Commun	Conan	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	Stars Live	Mod Fam	Law & Order: SVU	Married-Sight	(:03) Killing Fields
12:AM	Extra	Corona de lágrimas	Friends	Insider	Bajo el Mismo Cielo	News	Chevalme	(Off Air)	King	Cougar	Conan	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	UFC	Mod Fam	Law & Order: SVU	Married-Sight	(:04) Moonshiners
1:AM	Pair	Alma	Law Order: CI	ET	Pagado	(:08) Today	Light of the Southwest	Gallery	King	Cougar	Conan	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	NHL Hockey: Stars at	Mod Fam	Law Order: CI	Married-Sight	(:04) Moonshiners

DENNIS THE MENACE



"ANOTHER BATH? DOES DAD KNOW HOW YOU'RE HIKIN' UP THE WATER BILL?"

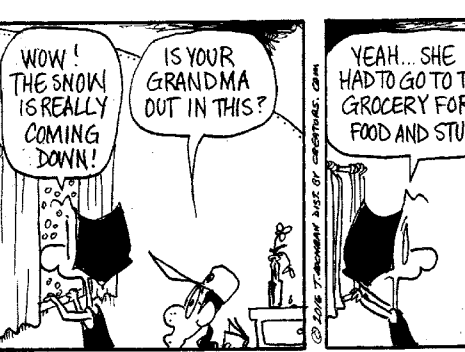
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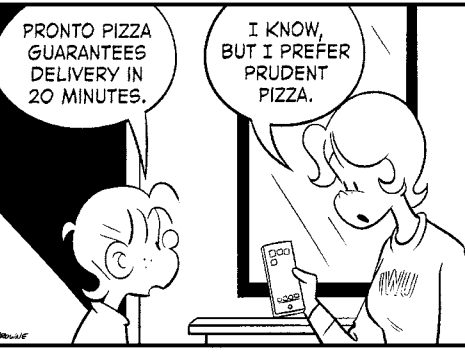
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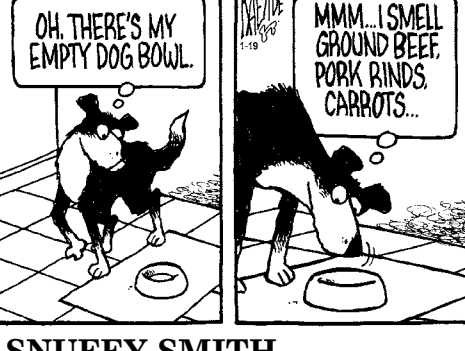
AGNES



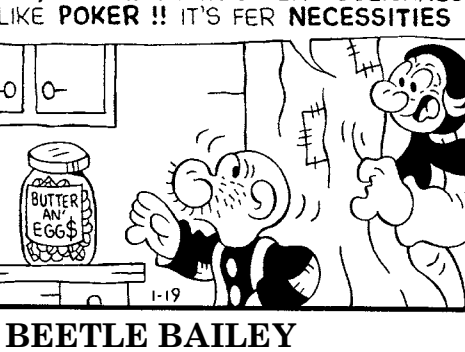
HI AND LOIS



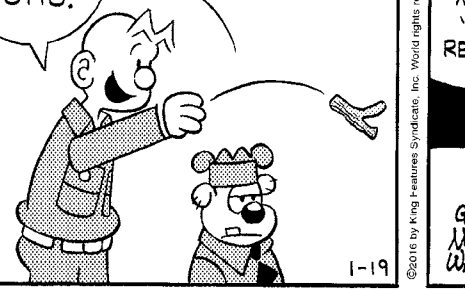
THE OTHER COAST



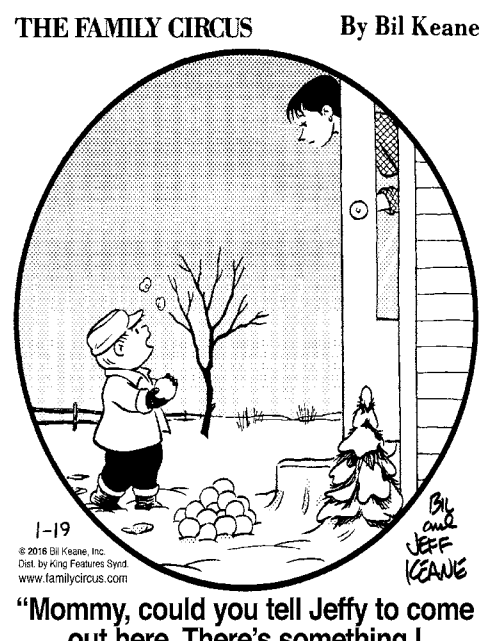
SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy, could you tell Jeffy to come out here. There's something I want to give him."

By Bil Keane



BLONDIE



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 19, the 19th day of 2016. There are 347 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 19, 1966, Indira Gandhi was chosen to be prime minister of India by the National Congress party. (Gandhi, a powerful as well as polarizing figure, served as India's prime minister from 1966 to 1977, and again beginning in 1980 until she was assassinated in 1984.)

On this date:

In 1807, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

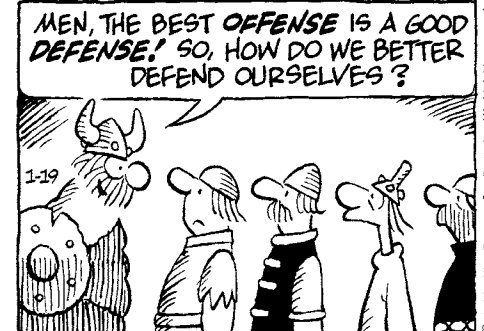
In 1853, Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Il Trovatore" premiered in Rome.

In 1861, Georgia became the fifth state to secede from the Union.

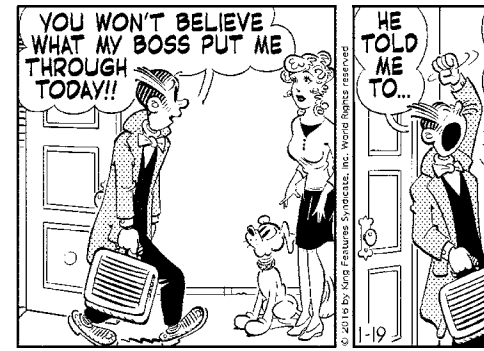
In 1915, Germany carried out its first air raid on Britain during World War I as a pair of Zeppelins dropped bombs onto Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn in England.

In 1937, millionaire Howard Hughes set a transcontinental air record by flying his monoplane from Los Angeles to Newark, New Jersey, in 7

HAGAR



BLONDIE



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

hours, 28 minutes and 25 seconds.

In 1942, during World War II, Japan invaded Burma (Myanmar).

In 1955, a presidential news conference was filmed for television and newsreels for the first time, with the permission of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

In 1960, the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between Japan and the United States of America was signed by both countries in Washington, D.C.

In 1970, President Richard M. Nixon nominated G. Harrold Carswell to the Supreme Court; however, the nomination was defeated because of controversy over Carswell's past racial views.

In 1977, in one of his last acts of office, President Gerald R. Ford pardoned Iva Toguri D'Aquino, an American convicted of treason for making wartime broadcasts for Japan.

In 1981, the United States and Iran signed an accord paving the way for the release of 52 Americans held hostage for more than 14 months.

In 1992, German government and Jewish officials dedicated a Holocaust memorial at the villa on the outskirts of Berlin where the notorious Wannsee Conference had taken place.

Five years ago: Chinese President Hu Jintao, visiting

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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

the White House, declared "a lot still needs to be done" to improve his country's record on human rights; the exchange with President Barack Obama over human rights was balanced by U.S. delight over newly announced Chinese business deals expected to generate about \$45 billion in new export sales for the U.S.

One year ago: The NFL confirmed to The Associated Press a report by WTHR-TV Indianapolis that it was investigating whether the New England Patriots deflated footballs that were used in their AFC championship game victory over the Colts.

Thought for Today:

"Love without passion is dreary; passion without love is horrific."

Abraham Cowley
English poet
(1618-1667)

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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pet protection org.
 - 6 Kid around with "On what date?"
 - 10 Total confusion
 - 15 ___-date (current)
 - 16 Golfer's target
 - 17 Corridors
 - 18 Back seat's location
 - 19 Banish
 - 20 Signed off on
 - 21 Unfriendly looks
 - 23 Sources of pearls
 - 26 "A mouse!"
 - 27 Banded together
 - 29 Volunteer to provide
 - 34 Actor Beatty
 - 37 Wet dirt
 - 39 Hard to find
 - 40 Run ___ (go wild)
 - 41 Take potshots (at)
 - 43 Dog in *Garfield*
 - 44 Weighty book
 - 45 Electrified fish
 - 46 Graduation cap attachment
 - 48 Cafeteria carriers
 - 50 Material in concrete
 - 52 Inquire
 - 54 Sent away for
 - 58 White hooting birds
 - 63 All finished
 - 64 Volcano's shape
 - 65 Fractions of a yard
 - 66 Piano practice piece
 - 67 Initial poker stake
 - 68 Back part of a plane
- DOWN**
- 1 Sound of a sneeze
 - 2 Trembling
 - 3 Lightens in color
 - 4 Extreme way to quit a habit
 - 5 Donkey
 - 6 Legal scholar
 - 7 Oil cartel
 - 8 Didn't go to sleep
 - 9 Cowboy's ride
 - 10 Cowboy's "Stop!"
 - 11 Noon to 1 p.m.
 - 12 Alternatively
 - 13 Butterfly catchers
 - 22 Boxing match ender, for short
 - 24 U-turn from WSW
 - 25 Dishwasher cycle
 - 28 Author Zola
 - 30 Feature of some spiky hairdos
 - 31 Short-lived crazes
 - 32 Cleveland's lake
 - 33 Fishing-line holder
 - 34 Light-bulb measure
 - 35 Love, in Spanish to Italians
 - 38 Discourage
 - 42 Scarf or tie
 - 47 In addition
 - 49 "Needless to ___ . . ."
 - 51 Nearly all
 - 53 First sound in "George"
 - 55 Itinerary
 - 56 Didn't continue
 - 57 Noble actions
 - 58 Read electronically
 - 59 Something prohibited
 - 60 Unfooled by
 - 61 Sunday to Saturday
 - 62 *Star Wars* princess
 - 66 Earth-friendly prefix

WINTRY WORDS by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

Answer to previous puzzle

PAC	SPOTS	AGED
MESH	PUREE	RULE
ARIA	AMBLE	RISE
GUARDRAIL	CITED	
GUEST	LAVA	
LEGEND	TAPERED	
AMUSE	STATE	PAR
MOE	SPACE	IRA
PTS	PLANT	CACTI
SESSION	WALKON	
AUNT	LLAMA	
SIGNS	GUIDE	BOOK
PDAS	PENNE	ANNE
ALIE	EAGER	MYMY
RENT	WRENS	AXE

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ROCKETS

Continued from Page 5

second quarter, but he finished with an uncharacteristic 14 for 18. James Harden, the league's No. 2 scorer, had 20 points and Marcus Thornton had 23 points and five 3-pointers.

After Redick converted two free throws with 16.4 seconds left in regulation for a 118-114 lead, Marcus Thornton made a 3-pointer at the other end with 14.4 seconds remaining to make it a one-point game.

Redick made two more free throws, but Thornton came back with a 3-pointer with 7.4 seconds left to tie it. Paul missed a 3 at the buzzer.

"We knew we were going to find our rhythm. It was just about making it happen," Harden said. "I think if we would have found it a little bit earlier, we would have been in a better situation. I'm just proud of our guys

and the way they fought back. Marcus made some big shots."

Los Angeles coach Doc Rivers sat all of his starters at the beginning of the fourth quarter with a 94-80 lead, and the Rockets sliced the margin to 102-96 with 7:13 to play. Thornton capped the rally with a 3-pointer, forcing Redick and Jordan to join Paul back on the floor.

"Our execution on the last couple of plays that let them have 3s was poor," Rivers said. "But what I liked was that everyone was furious going into overtime. We got our composure back and played well."

TIP-INS

Rockets: Houston led the league in 3-point defense last year at 32.2 percent and was limiting opponents to 34.9 percent this season. The Clippers were 15 of 60 from behind the arc in two previous meetings with the Rockets this season.

Mavs down Celtics in OT

DALLAS (AP) — Thirty-seven-year-old Dirk Nowitzki said he was tired late in the Dallas Mavericks' 118-113 overtime win over the Boston Celtics on Monday night after the pesky, young Celtics turned a 17-point fourth-quarter deficit into a six-point lead.

Nowitzki scored 14 in the fourth quarter, including a late four-point play, and was part of Dallas' barrage of 3-pointers at the start of overtime. Deron Williams added two 3-pointers early in overtime and had 10 of his 20 points in the extra period while the Mavericks bounced back from their worst loss of the season, 112-83 at San Antonio on Sunday night.

"He has been fantastic for us down the stretch," Nowitzki said of Williams. "He was extremely great tonight."

"Boston's a team that just

doesn't go away," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said.

Isaiah Thomas and Marcus Smart led Boston with 20 points each and Avery Bradley added 19.

Jae Crowder, traded from Dallas to Boston last season, sent the game to overtime by hitting three free throws with 6.7 seconds left after being fouled by Raymond Felton.

"We were playing uphill but had our chances anyways, but weren't able to take advantage of it," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said.

The Mavericks have beaten the Celtics seven straight times, 11 of 12 and six straight at American Airlines Center.

The Mavericks led 17-2 after 8 minutes, during which time the Celtics hit only 1 of 15 shots. Boston then sank 12 of 15 field goal attempts to pull within 40-31 with 7:16 to play in the half. The Mavericks'

8-0 run put them ahead 52-39 at halftime.

"We were just flat," said Crowder, who was 0 for 7 with one rebound during the first half. "They got into us early and dictated the game."

The Mavericks led by 16 early in the third quarter only to have the Celtics outshoot them 55 percent to 29 percent during the period and take a 72-70 lead going into the final quarter.

A RECIPROCAL VICTORY

The Mavericks were forced to rally after owning a 17-point lead in the first quarter. When the teams met in Boston in mid-November, they came back from an 18-point deficit in the first quarter to win 106-102. That is Dallas' largest comeback win this season.

TOUTED FOR TORONTO

Thomas' 20 points gives him an average of 28 over his last six games.

RAMS

Continued from Page 5

of a winner in the current Rams, including one of the NFL's best

defenses. He already knows all about Gurley, who electrified the NFL with 1,106 yards rushing in just 13 games as a rookie.

Dickerson's 2,105

yards in 1984 still stands as the NFL record, and he expects Gurley to take the mantle.

"I saw him play about a quarter, and I said, 'Man, this guy can

play,'" Dickerson said. "I like the way he cuts. I like the way his first step is."

Dickerson plans to be around the Rams whenever possible this year.

He lives in upscale Calabasas, California, and is excited about passing down his Rams devotion to the next generation — particularly his 10-year-old daughter

and 4-year-old son.

"My son looks at my uniform on the wall and says, 'Daddy, I want to do that,'" Dickerson said with a laugh. "I say, 'We'll see about that.'"

HAWKS

Continued from Page 5

lyn Hoover 11 to lead Howard, while Richards and Newman led Odessa (14-5, 3-2) with 13 and 12 points, respectively.

"I thought our adjustments defensively... and the group we had coming in to the game did a great job getting into a rhythm and sparking us," HC Coach Earl Diddle said. "And we had some key free throws by Tamara... We did some great things in that final quarter."

Diddle said the comeback said good things about his team, which returns to action Monday at home against New Mexico Junior College.

"I think they have a strong will and spirit, they're good teammates and they're fun to coach," he said. "They love their teammates and they love Howard College, so this was a big win for us."

Men's game

It was a game Howard desperately needed to win, and they came within seconds of doing

so. The Hawks, who come into the game having lost four of their five conference games, twice built double-digit leads against WJCAC-leading Odessa, but the Wranglers eventually would not be denied.

As they have for much of the season, the Hawks lived and died by the jump shot — the Hawks out-shot Odessa, 42-18, from behind the three-point line, but were unable to effectively stop the Wranglers inside.

The Hawks claimed their biggest lead of the night when Jakub Niz-

iol's three-pointer put them up by 17 with 11:25 remaining, and they still held an eight-point lead with 35 seconds remaining, but a series of Howard fouls both stopped the clock and allowed Odessa to chip away at the deficit.

The most crucial error occurred with three seconds left when Odessa's Nick Crawford was fouled while heaving a desperation three-pointer. He then calmly hit all three free throws to send the game into overtime.

Howard still wasn't done, however, and held

a 90-89 lead with 1:33 left in overtime, but Odessa clamped down defensively and a pair of short jumpers from Crawford and free throws by Donovan Fields finally iced the game for Odessa, which improved its

conference record to a perfect 6-0.

The Hawks return to action Thursday when they travel to Roswell, N.M. to take on New Mexico Military Institute. Game time is 7 p.m.

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Life, love & chaos:

Finding time to have quality time with your family

Life is not always fair. Parents lose children to death,

divorce, drugs, and many other things.

The key is to make sure that the time you have with your children counts.

Don't say repeatedly, "in a minute" or "not now". While life can get busy and passes you by, so can the time you have with those you love.

One of the easiest ways our family has learned to spend time together is supper time.

Everyone has to put their phones away, everyone participates in the meal whether it is setting the table,

cooking or helping to clean up.

During that time, we try to give each person a chance to talk about their day, talk about problems or simply entertain each other.

When my daughters were young, we didn't have sufficient seating around the table so we would sit the girls at the table and eat in the living room.

As the girls got bigger, we realized that time was passing us by and we were not getting enough time together. Our solution was to start having supper together.

While this is not a solution for everyone due to work schedules, school, and other activities, there is still a chance for everyone to spend some time with those they love.

A friend of mine has two children still liv-



ing at home and she and her husband both work hectic schedules. The kids are in bowling, tennis, band, and several other activities. One of their solutions is to make sure that at least one parent is always at the activities of the kids. Sometimes

they take turns, sometimes they go by who will be off work and sometimes (on very rare occasions) they can all go together.

Because they make a conscious effort to be there for their children, they have come up with a solution so that everyone feels loved and cared for.

Sometimes their kids like to get interesting on them and both have an activity at the exact same time. Luckily, two

kids left at home, two adults.

I have another friend who is a single parent. She has four kids and each of them is always going off in different directions and only spaced out about two years apart between each of them. It makes it very hard on her to work, have her kids in social activities and be there for them.

Her solution, is to go to the park or plan a family night each week. While she doesn't get as much time with them as she would like, she does make sure that the time they have together is quality time.

Being a parent, whether single or as a team, is not easy.

But, it is one of the most rewarding jobs I have had in my life. My kids make me laugh, they make me cry, the show me love and they

show me their independence.

When they look into my eyes and confide in me, I know that I have their trust and that is a treasure I am not willing to throw away.

While I do have to tell them, "not now" or "give me a minute", they know that I cannot give them my full attention right at that moment, but that I will get back to them as soon as I can to listen to them.

They also know that if it is truly important and they tell me they need me, they come first and I will drop whatever it is to be there for them.

Find the time so that time hasn't passed you by before you realize you don't know your family members anymore.

Contact Julie Bass at 263-7331, ext. 232.

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