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# BIG SPRING HERALD



50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY  
 TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016

VOLUME 111, NUMBER 82

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## Officials rule on house fire

By AMANDA ELSTON  
 Managing Editor

The cause of a house fire that occurred last Wednesday afternoon was determined by the Big Spring Fire Department to be accidental. According to Big Spring Fire Chief Craig Ferguson, 911 operators received a call around 4 p.m. of a structure fire in the 2400 block of Cheyenne. "Flames and heavy smoke were visible upon arrival," according to a BSFD press release. "All residents were out of the house upon the Fire Department's ar-

A Big Spring firefighter sprays water on a structure fire on Cheyenne Street earlier last week. Officials blamed accidental causes for the fire.

See FIRE, Page 3

## Texas AG to review gun ban complaints

By LYNDEL MOODY  
 Staff Writer

The office of Attorney General Ken Paxton is set to determine if any of the 34 pending complaints regarding facilities in Texas that ban concealed handguns have merit. State law says that local and municipal governments cannot ban concealed handgun holders from carrying weapons in their facilities, unless those facilities fall into one

of several weapon-free zones that include courtrooms, polling places, and correctional facilities. Earlier this month, Howard County commissioners wrestled with the issue during their monthly meeting. "Historically, counties have interpreted that to be courthouses, so all across the state of Texas...courthouse have banned weapons," said 118th Judicial Court Judge Timothy Yeats, who stood before Commissioners to request

they designate the building housing the 118th Courtroom, District Clerk's office, the District Attorney's office, and the judges' offices as essential to the operations of the court as well as the Adult and Juvenile Probation offices which are located in another county-owned building. "In December, the (Texas) Attorney General issued two opinions — one for Hays County and one for Tom Green County — that interpreted that provision...

The AG has determined that to mean you can not carry weapons in courtrooms or any offices which have been determined to be essential to the operation of the court," Yeats continued. Yeats stressed the AG's opinion is important because that office has been given the authorized to enforce the new open carry law by issuing fines to governmental entities who wrongfully ban carry weapons openly. A bill that went into effect

last September allows people to send a written complaint to a state agency or political subdivision if they believe it is improperly posting the signs where guns are allowed. If three days go by without a response, the complainant can file a complaint with the attorney general's office, which will investigate the allegation and forward it to the appropriate division if further action needs to be taken. See GUNS, 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.

54414797209



Jodey Arrington, Dist. 19 U.S. congressional candidate for district 19, met with residents of Big Spring and surrounding areas to discuss his campaign. Arrington is running for the seat that is being vacated by Randy Neugebauer.

HERALD Photo/Julie Bass

## Snyder police probe killings

By AMANDA ELSTON  
 Managing Editor

SNYDER — The Snyder Police Department are investigating a double homicide after a call about a suspicious vehicle Sunday morning was linked to two men found dead. The investigation began at 8:55 a.m. when a call about a car with the engine running was reported on Avenue Z about a block away from the crime scene. "Police said that the car was linked to two men found dead under a trailer home in the 2100 block of Avenue Z," a report from KTXS said. "Police said the men were stabbed and at least one was shot." At 9:13 a.m., Nicole Dabney, 28, of Snyder, and Juan Barron, 24, of Phoenix, went into the Scurry County Law

See SNYDER, Page 3

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## Obituaries

### Ethelyn Allen McCann



Ethelyn Allen McCann, of Midland, Texas, and formerly of Big Spring, Texas, a charter member of America's greatest generation, passed away peacefully in the early morning hours of Jan. 24, 2016, at Manor Park in Midland, Texas.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2016 in the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring, Texas, with Mike Couch, of First Baptist Church of Big Spring, officiating. The family will receive friends and visitors at the funeral home in Big Spring on Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2016 between the hours of 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Ethelyn was born April 30, 1918, on the family farm in Navarro County, Texas, near Corsicana, to John Patrick Allen and Olivia Bressie Allen. She moved at a young age with her family to Hamlin, Texas, where her father farmed five miles south of town. She subsequently graduated Hamlin High School in 1935 as salutatorian and then left home to attend Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas.

Following college, Ethelyn joined her family in Kermit after her father had taken a position in the oil and gas industry with Ralph Lowe. In Kermit, Ethelyn met the only man she ever loved, T.H. McCann, a young man of true grit, uncommon valor and unquestionable integrity, and the two were married in Houston on July 11, 1942. Shortly thereafter, T. H. joined the U.S. Army and left for Fort Lewis, Wash., while Ethelyn relocated to Long Beach, Calif., to join the war effort by working in the shipyards.

After the war Ethelyn and T. H. made their home in Breckenridge, Texas, where T. H. was the area jobber for Sinclair Oil & Gas products. Then in 1951, the McCanns settled in Big Spring, Texas, where T.H. formed his company distributing petroleum products throughout the Permian Basin to various drilling contractors and agricultural producers as well as other commercial enterprises.

After T.H. passed away suddenly in November 1973, Ethelyn stayed busy with her various investments in oil and gas, real estate and the stock market as well as traveling the world, playing bridge with her many, many friends and staying active in First Baptist Church of Big Spring of which she

was a pillar. She cherished every chance she got to spend time with all her grandchildren.

Ethelyn will forever be remembered by all who knew her for her quiet resolve, her kind and gentle spirit, her steadfast Christian character as well as her razor-sharp wit and wonderful sense of humor.

She was a member of First Baptist Church of Big Spring for more than 60 years having taught Sunday School for almost 50 years and faithfully serving her church in a variety of capacities. As a cook, she was unsurpassed for it was common knowledge that friends and family would run through a brick wall, if necessary, to score a sampling of her chocolate pies, apricot fried pies, and chicken fried steaks.

She is survived by her son Tom McCann and his wife Ann of Austin, Texas, and their three daughters Tara Moore and her husband Tom of Flower Mound, Texas; Ashley Lepine and her husband Mike of Lakeway, Texas; and Raygan Watson and her husband Mike of San Antonio, Texas.

Ethelyn is also survived by her daughter Betty Newman and her husband Terry of Whitney, Texas, and their children Connally Newman and his wife Robin of China Springs, Texas; Laura Rose and her husband Eric of Midland, Texas; and Lisa Firlle and her husband Brian of Boulder, Colorado.

Ethelyn is also survived by six great-grandchildren Wiley James Newman, Dash and Cross Lepine, Jake and Libby Moore and Winnie and Charlie Watson. Also surviving are sister-in-law Lynn Haumont of San Diego, Calif., as well as several nieces and nephews.

Ethelyn was preceded in death by her husband, T.H., by her parents, a brother, Bud Allen in 1942, a brother Bill Allen of Vista, Calif., in 2015, and a sister, Bernice Rubin Cardwell of Midland in 1996.

The family wishes to thank the wonderful staff of Manor Park Younger Center and Home Hospice of Midland for the loving care extended to Ethelyn during her illness. Also thanks to Dr. Raj Patel and Dr. Chau Le for the caring treatment extended to Ethelyn in her final years. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Big Spring, Texas, Manor Park, Inc. in Midland or Home Hospice of Midland.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

*Paid obituary*

### Gwendolyn Smith



Gwendolyn (Gwen) Smith, 73, of Big Spring, passed away Friday, Jan. 22, 2016, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2016, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Coahoma Cemetery with Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born Jan. 22, 1943 in Washington, D.C. to Evelyn Estelle (Freeman) Crump and Robert M. Crump. She came to Texas in the 1980s, attending Howard College and obtaining her registered nurse degree. She was an avid bowler and was a big sports fan of all kinds. She also enjoyed her flower garden. She was dedicated to her nursing profession.

### Donna Michelle Kay



Donna Michelle Kay, 69, of El Paso, formerly of Austin and Big Spring, died on Jan. 21, 2016. She was born to Don and Jean Brewer Yates in Big Spring on Jan. 3, 1947.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents; also by the love of her life, Sovoy Kay, on Dec. 21, 2010.

She is survived by her three daughters, Laura Smith and Tammy McJunkin, both of Big Spring; and Sandra Smith of Fort Hood; five grandchildren, Jacob Henson of Big Spring, Riannon Melton of Odessa, Phillip McJunkin and Forrest McJunkin, both of Big Spring, and Zachery McJunkin of Illinois; and three great-grandchildren, Elijah Melton, Ashlyn Melton and Halle Melton, all of Odessa; and many friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her life partner, Nadine Lambright, on Sept. 16, 2004.

The family suggests memorials to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1000, Dept 142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908, or American Cancer Society, PO Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

*Paid obituary*

Survivors include two children, Gina Lochausen (Matt) and Jerry Thomas of El Paso; two step-children, Paula Kay and John Paul Kay, of San Antonio; four grandchildren; a brother, Phil Elliott (Cookie) of Big Spring; a sister, Deanna Rogers of Denton; and many nieces and nephews.

Viewing will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 29, 2015 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel, 301 E. 24th St., Big Spring, Texas. Graveside service will follow at 11:45 a.m. at Trinity Memorial Park, 6900 S. US Highway 87.

Thursday, Jan. 28, 2016, at 11 a.m. at Lamesa Memorial Park with Minister Mark Hackett officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Branon Funeral Home in Lamesa.

### James "Bee-Kid" Conaway

James "Bee-Kid" Conaway, 51, of Ackerly, formerly of Big Spring, passed away Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016, at Martin County Hospital. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside service will be at 3 p.m. at Dickens Cemetery, Dickens, Texas.

James was born June 24, 1964, at Hale Center, Texas to JoAnn Geer (Conaway) and Donald Joe Conaway. He has been a lifetime Texan, except for 10 years in Missouri. His business was JC Heavy Equipment Repair. He married Kimberly White June 4, 2001, in Howard County. James was an avid gun collector as well as metal detecting. He found many items from the Civil War, including a belt buckle. His latest hobby was flying drones, with which he had a lot of fun. James was a Christian.

He is survived by his wife, Kimberly Conaway of the home; three daughters, Chrystal Conaway of Marble Falls, and Lorna Conaway and Emily Conaway, both of Ackerly; two sons, Dustin Saucedo and wife, Courtney, of Diamond, Mo. and Jonathan Saucedo and wife, Julie, of Midland; his grandchildren, Taylor Clark and Sage Clark of Marble Falls and Jamison Clark of Diamond, Mo., and Eala Saucedo, Levi Saucedo and Gabriel Saucedo, all of Midland; two brothers, Donald Joe Conaway Jr. and wife, Kim, of Yantis and Jackie Eugene Conaway of Spur; two nephews, Justin and Joseph Conaway of Yantis; father-in-law, Ben White of Crossett, Ark.; mother-in-law, Gloria Alexander of Scottsboro, Ala.; brother-in-laws, Randy White and wife, Bertha, of Big Spring and Michael White and wife, Rhonda, of Scottsboro, Ala.; his sister-in-law, Peggy Barringer and husband, Jimmy, of Mansfield, La.; and his uncle, Jimmy Graves, of Big Spring.

James was preceded in death by his parents. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

*Paid obituary*

### Chris Limon

Chris Limon, 56, of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 21, 2016. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

**CORRECTION:** In a story titled "Election season is coming", printed on Jan. 25, we incorrectly reported that persons interested in running for mayor or district 5 council member can file their candidacy papers during normal office hours in the city secretary's office between March 7 and April 7. The correct dates are Jan 20 through Feb 19.

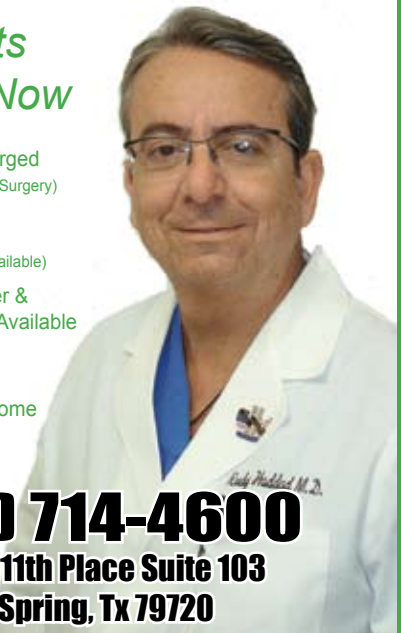
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# Coahoma graduate held in infant's death

ABILENE — A 2013 Coahoma High School graduate involved in an Abilene infant murder investigation is not speaking to the media per his attorney due to “disabilities from mental retardation” and “may be influenced to say things that are not accurate.”

Damian Cate, 22, is accused of contributing to a the death of a newborn baby who died in an Abilene home last Monday. Cate's attorney, Jacob Blizzard of Abilene's Parker & Blizzard law firm, released a statement to the media regarding his client on Friday.

“On behalf of Mr. Cate, I am re-

questing that all news media outlets refrain from attempting to interview Mr. Cate at the Taylor County Jail,” said Blizzard in his statement. “Mr. Cate's situation requires that he not speak publicly about his case as such information may be misconstrued by the public or the state in the prosecution of Mr. Cate. In addition, Mr. Cate is a young man with disabilities from mental retardation with memory and mental processing difficulties and may be influenced to say things that are not accurate.”

Cate and Amber Craker, 18, were both arrested and charged with murder and felony evi-

dence tampering after Craker arrived last Monday morning to Abilene's Hendrick Hospital with severe bleeding. After medical staff determined she had delivered a baby but had arrived without one, they contacted the police.

When detectives arrived at the women's home, they allegedly discovered “tissue remains inside” a drainage pipe and “later located the body of the infant hidden inside the residence,” reads a police statement.

Cate is currently being held in the Taylor County Jail on a \$300,000 bond.

## Take Note

sa Deeter, Howard County Extension Agent for Family Consumer Science, at 432-364-2236.

### Cook-off

• **Chili Cook Off.** The Fraternal Order of the Eagles is hosting its 14<sup>th</sup> 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. If interested in judging, please contact David Pope at 432-816-8462. 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. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Proceeds will go to benefit the Big Spring Crossroads Young Marines and the West Texas Centers for MHMR.

### Youth Activities

• The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

• Big Spring Little League will be holding signups for the upcoming season each Saturday on Jan. 16, Jan. 23, Jan. 30, and Feb. 6 at the Springtown Plaza right next to the movie theater from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Also Monday - Friday, Feb. 1 to Feb. 5 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$90 per child.

### Let's Dance!

• The Big Spring Senior Center dance is open to all ages. No alcohol or smoking.

### Come dancing

The Mitchell County Senior Dance will be held Thursday, Jan. 28, 2016 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Colorado City Civic Center, 157 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Colorado City. Live music by Travis and Kevin. Snacks to share are welcome. No drinking and smoking allowed.

### 4-H Clothing and Textile kick off.

The Howard County Clothing and Textile kick off will be held at 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, at the G.C. Broughton Ag Complex located on the Howard College campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane. The program is for students in grade three through high school interested in the fashion industry. For more information, contact Melis-

## GUNS

Continued from Page 1

Although Yeats told Commissioners he agreed with the legislature's content that that a person who is licensed to carry a weapon has already been vetted, circumstances of family court situations need also be considered.

“You really get good people in court who are going through the worst day in their life. You see it all across the state, all across the nation. Bad things can happen,” Yeats said.

After approving the requested designation, Commissioners then spent some time discussing how to compile within the county's courthouse, other buildings and offices.

Both county and municipal courts are located on the third floor of courthouse which are subject to the ban on guns while the county indigent care office, also located on the the same floor, is not.

Municipal Court Judge Tim Green pointed out during the meeting when court is in session, the hallways of the courthouse become essential because many witness and subjects are required stay in the hall-

ways before being called into the court.

To add some more confusion to the matter, Howard County Election Administrator also mention that a law is already on the books prohibits carrying weapons into a polling area. During election time, her office is the polling place for early voting which falls under the law but at all other times it would not.

Commissioner opted to wait on making any more decisions on the matter and instructed County Attorney Josh Hamby to review the issue and bring some clarification back the commissioners court.

Commissioners are not the only entity struggling with how to comply with new gun laws. A new law out of the last Texas legislative session allows licensed concealed gun owners the ability to bring handguns into higher education campus buildings.

“It allows for the CEO of a community college after consulting with the students, facility and staff to create reasonable rules or regulations regarding the carrying of concealed weapons on the campus of the college,” Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks informed the

college board of trustees during their June 2015 meeting. “The rules can not generally prohibit or have the effect of generally prohibiting the carrying concealed weapons on campus. We are suppose to take into consideration the nature of the student population, safety concerns and the uniqueness of the campus.”

Howard College has three campuses - Big Spring, San Angelo and Lamesa - along with overseeing the South-West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf and six sites at correctional institutes.

Although implementation of the bill at the correctional institute sites seems mute, the majority of SWCID students are hard of hearing or deaf. SWCID is the only self-contained community college in the United States for the deaf. Also, the Big Spring campus has a daycare facility on the site.

The law will not go into effect for community colleges until August 2017. Four-year universities must be in compliance with the law by August 2016.

According to the Texas Department of Safety website the new open carry gun law:

• Authorizes individuals to obtain a license to

openly carry a handgun in the same places that allow the license carrying of concealed handgun with some exceptions.

• Unconcealed handguns, loaded or unloaded, must be carried in a shoulder or belt holster.

• Individuals who hold a valid CHL may continue to carry with a valid existing license.

• A separate license will not be required to open carry. No additional fee will be required.

• Individuals currently licensed will not be required to attend additional training. Training curriculum for new applicants will be updated to reflect the new training requirement related to the use of restraint holster and methods to ensure the secure carry of openly carried handguns. The new curriculum began on Jan. 1.

• The eligibility criteria to obtain a license to carry do not change. In order to be licensed to carry a concealed handgun in Texas, the person must be 21 years of age or older, under go a background check, take a written test and a range test.

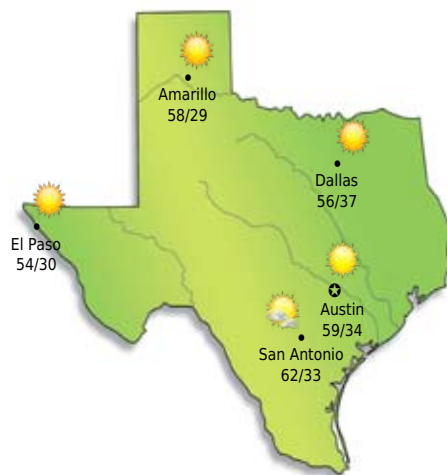
*The Associated Press contributed to this report.*

pering with evidence. Police Chieg Luecke said that more charges are possible.

The identities of the two men that were killed have not been released. Autopsies are scheduled to be performed this morning in Lubbock.

Local 5-Day Forecast				
Wed 1/27	Thu 1/28	Fri 1/29	Sat 1/30	Sun 1/31
<b>53/29</b> Mainly sunny. High 53F. Winds W at 5 to 10 mph.	<b>63/33</b> Sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 30s.	<b>68/39</b> Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	<b>75/46</b> Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 40s.	<b>77/42</b> Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 6:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 6:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 6:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:41 AM Sunset: 6:17 PM	Sunrise: 7:41 AM Sunset: 6:18 PM

### Texas at a Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	47	28	P Cloudy	Kingsville	63	44	Showers
Amarillo	47	26	Cloudy	Livingston	54	39	Cloudy
Austin	57	38	Cloudy	Longview	55	33	P Cloudy
Beaumont	53	41	Showers	Lubbock	45	26	Cloudy
Brownsville	71	46	M Cloudy	Lufkin	57	36	Cloudy
Brownwood	51	30	P Cloudy	Midland	41	30	P Cloudy
Corpus Christi	61	44	Showers/Wind	Raymondville	71	46	M Cloudy
Corsicana	55	34	M Cloudy	Rosenberg	54	42	Cloudy
Dallas	53	34	P Cloudy	San Antonio	57	41	Cloudy
Del Rio	57	40	Cloudy	San Marcos	55	37	Cloudy/Wind
El Paso	53	27	M Sunny	Sulphur Springs	52	33	Sunny
Fort Stockton	41	29	Cloudy	Sweetwater	45	30	Cloudy
Gainesville	51	29	P Cloudy	Tyler	56	33	M Sunny

## Police & Sheriff Reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **TONIA LAVONNE KIRKLAND**, 46, of 2616 Langely Drive was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

• **OSMAR CLEMENT ODUARDO BORDERS**, 61, of 12635 W. Farice Drive, Odessa, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous conviction.

• **ISRAEL SAIZ**, 18, of 606 Linda Lane was arrested on a warrant for public intoxication.

• **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1100 block of Barnes Avenue.

• **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 1700 block of Settles.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1400 block of Mt. Vernon.

• **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 3000 block of North Highway 87 and in the 600 block of S. Gregg St.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 500 block of east 3<sup>rd</sup> St and in the 600 block of Main St.

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 69 inmates at the time of this report.

• **OSMAR BORDERS**, 61, of 12635 W. Farice, Odessa was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with previous conviction/suspension.

• **FELICIA MICHELLE BURCIAGA**, 19, of 6146 Candeltree, San Antonio, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for MRTP/possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces.

• **LARRY DALE KING**, 32, of 1909 Morrison was booked by the HCSO on warrants for bailman off bond/possession of a controlled substance; bailman off bond/unauthorized use of a motor vehicle; and bailman off bond, theft of property, more than or equal to \$50 but less than \$500.

• **TONIA LAVONNE KIRKLAND**, 46, of 810 Cherry was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for parent contributing to non-attendance.

• **ISRAEL SAIZ**, 18, 606 Linda Lane was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

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### MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Gwendolyn (Gwen) Smith, 73, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM tonight, January 26, 2016 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 2:00 PM Wednesday at Coahoma Cemetery.

James “Bee-Kid” Conaway, 51, died Saturday. The family will receive friends from 7:00 PM until 8:00 PM tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10:30 AM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside service will be at 3:00 PM at Dickens Cemetery in Dickens, Texas.

Chris Limon, 56, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Donna Kay, 69, died Thursday. The family will receive friends from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 11:45 AM at Trinity Memorial Park.

## SNYDER

Continued from Page 1

Enforcement Center and told police that two men had been killed.

“The female made a comment and reported that two men tried to

break into their house and they killed them and told us ... where the bodies were located,” said Snyder Police Chief Terry Luecke.

According to KTXS-TV, police said that Dabney told them it happened around 4 a.m. Sunday morning

but police could not say why Dabney and Barron moved the bodies or why they waited five hours to report it to the police.

Bonds for both Dabney and Barron were set at \$10,000 each and both have posted bond. Both were charged with tam-

pering with evidence. Police Chieg Luecke said that more charges are possible.

The identities of the two men that were killed have not been released. Autopsies are scheduled to be performed this morning in Lubbock.

## FIRE

Continued from Page 1

arrival.”

According to the press release, by the time the BSFD arrived, the fire had grown and caused

additional damage to the neighboring home and the trailer parked in the driveway.

“Suppression activities were started and the fire was substantially knocked down and controlled within an hour

and the attack was directed to finding and extinguishing remaining pockets of fire and embers,” said a press release.

Firefighters had the blaze under control within 15 minutes and

# Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

## DAILY PRAYER

Dear Lord, please help us through our day  
and bring us safely through to this evening.  
Amen

# Education insanity

Some credit Albert Einstein, others credit Benjamin Franklin, with the observation that “the definition of insanity is doing the same thing year after year and expecting different results.” Whomever we credit, he was absolutely right. A perfect example of that insanity is education in general and particularly black education.



WALTER E. WILLIAMS

Education Next has recently published a series commemorating the 50th anniversary of James S. Coleman's groundbreaking 1965 report, “Equality of Educational Opportunity,” popularly referred to as the “Coleman Report.” In 1965, the average black 12th grader placed at the 13th percentile of the score distribution for whites in math and reading. That means 87 percent of white 12th graders scored higher than the average black 12th graders. Fifty years later there has been a slight narrowing of the math gap leaving the average black 12th-grade student at the 19th percentile of the white distribution; 81 percent of white 12th-grade students score higher. The black-white reading gap has narrowed such that the average black 12th-grader scores at the 22nd percentile of the white distribution, meaning 78 percent of white 12th-graders score higher.

Eric A. Hanushek is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University and research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. His Education Next contribution

is “What Matters for Student Achievement: Updating Coleman on the Influence of Families and Schools.” Hanushek concludes, “After nearly a half century of supposed progress in race relations within the United States, the modest improvements in achievement gaps since 1965 can only be called a national embarrassment. Put differently, if we continue to close gaps at the same rate in the future, it will be roughly two and a half centuries before the black-white math gap closes and over one and a half centuries until the reading gap closes.” I would like to know what American, particularly a black American, can be pleased with that kind of progress and the future it holds for black people.

Many see smaller class sizes and more money as part of the general solution to our nation's educational problems. It turns out that since 1955 the average number of students per teacher has fallen from 27 to 16. During the same period real per-pupil expenditures have increased more than fourfold. Today, expenditures per pupil in the United States exceed those of nearly every other country in the world. The Program for International Student Assessment, or PISA, ranks 15-year-old student academic performance in 34 OECD countries. In 2012, the U.S. students performed below average in mathematics and ranked 27th. In reading, U.S. students ranked 17th; and in science, they ranked 20th. Such a performance gap suggests that smaller class sizes and bigger budgets, in and of themselves, are not a cure to our nation's educational malaise, particu-

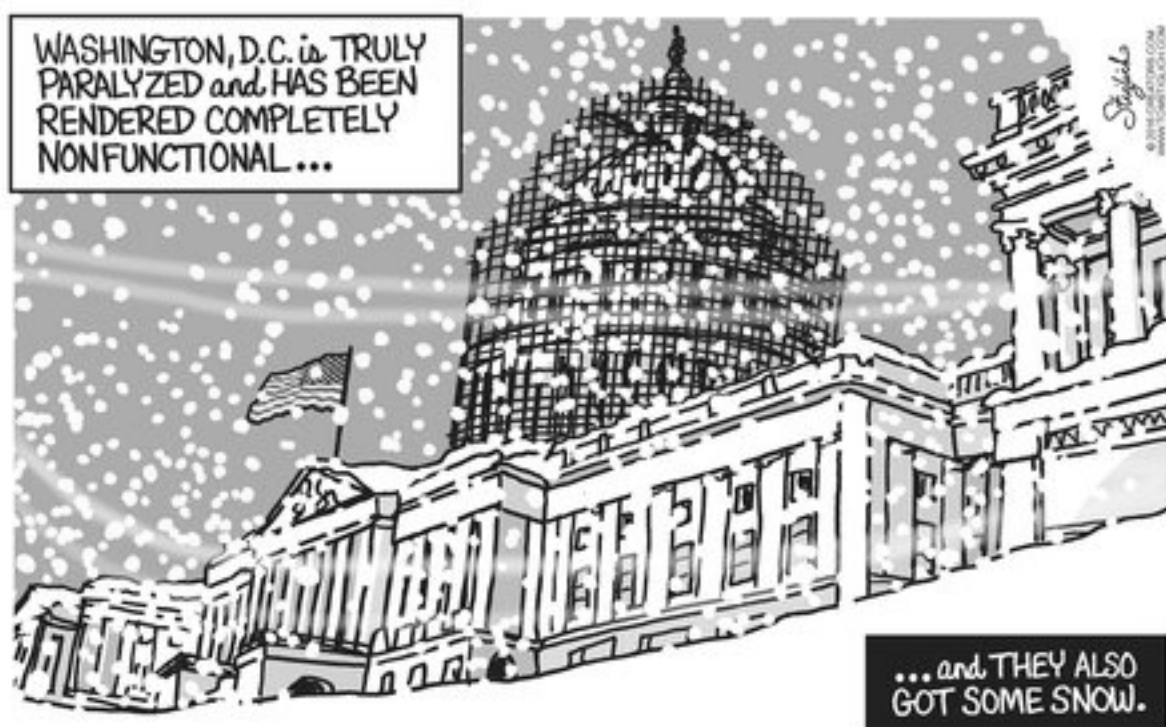
larly that of black students.

The most crucial input for a child's education cannot be provided by schools, politicians and government. As such, continued calls for more school resources will produce disappointing results as they have in the past. There are certain minimum requirements that must be met for any child to do well in school. Someone must make the youngster do his homework, ensure that he gets eight to nine hours of sleep, feed him breakfast and make sure that he behaves in school and respects the teachers. If these minimum requirements are not met, and by the way they can be met even if a family is poor, all else is for naught.

What the education establishment can do is to prevent youngsters who are alien and hostile to the educational process from making education impossible for those who are equipped to learn. That is accomplished by removing students who pose disciplinary problems, but the Barack Obama administration is even restricting a school's power to do that. You might ask, “Williams, what are we going to do with those expelled students?” I do not know, but I do know one thing: Black people cannot afford to allow them to sabotage the education chances of everyone else.

*Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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## Resist government control?

I got two tickets last week. Same truck. Same time. The first ticket was for parking on the sidewalk. There is a small noncurbed portion of sidewalk (not a wheelchair access) right in front of the newspaper where I work. I regard it as a parking space. The city does not. This is a philosophical dispute.



MARC DION

The second ticket was for having an expired inspection sticker on my truck. I hadn't noticed. This is not a dispute, nor does it involve any philosophy. At best, I can say that a bloated, out-of-control government has decided to impose arbitrary standards on my vehicle. If I fail to meet their arbitrary standards, they confiscate some of my hard-earned money.

The total for both tickets was \$70. I considered my options. I could have decided to vote for Donald Trump but, while I am white and middle-aged and I was angry, I'm not crazy and I do not admire the Third Reich. Besides, that solution did not promise im-

mediate assistance.

I considered taking action of a far more drastic sort.

I figured I could go get a gun, and defend this little piece of my rights. I don't own a gun, and I don't have any kind of license or permit, but I haven't been a newspaper reporter for 30 years without knowing how to buy an illegal gun. I live in an economically depressed urban area. Out in the suburbs, you may think the government is coming to take your guns.

Here in cracked-sidewalk America, we know nobody's running out of guns anytime soon.

Once I had the gun. I could walk six blocks to the army surplus store, grab a set of fatigues and pick up an American flag. Total cost? Maybe \$30. I had that on me, and it's better to spend your money on a flag and some scraps of a uniform than it is to give it to the confiscatory government.

After I had the gun, the uniform scraps and the flag, all I had to do was “occupy” the piece of sidewalk/parking space on which my truck was sitting. I could say I was doing it to preserve all our freedoms, to make clear the will of the founders. I have some Native-American

blood in me on my Pop's side so, if worse came to worse; I could always insist I was reclaiming my ancestral land.

I was pretty thrilled there for a minute. Two hundred bucks for a third hand pistol, \$30 for the scraps of uniform and the flag, and I'd be a patriot, ready to die for this sacred piece of sidewalk/parking space.

I didn't do it, of course. I took the ticket off the windshield and, that night, I wrote a check for \$70, and I put it in the envelope provided.

You know why?

Because I am one of the people who pay. We pay the taxes and the tickets. Your slogans may sound fierce and your bumper sticker may be threatening, but the ones who pay run the country.

*To find out more about Marc Munroe Dion and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). Dion's latest book, “Marc Dion: Vol. I” is a collection of his best columns from 2014 and is available for Nook and Kindle.*

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Life, love & chaos:

# Learning to grow together as a couple

**M**y husband and I were both under the age of 20 when our first daughter was born and just entering our 20s when we had our first daughter.



JULIE BASS

Luckily my parents were nearby and they had years of experience with marriage and children. One of the nicest things they did for us was take our daughters on Friday nights.

When the girls were very young and still in diapers, they would take them from 5 p.m. until around 10 p.m. As they got a little older, my parents began to keep them Fridays overnight.

While my parents kept the kids, Anthony and I were able to talk openly, go on dates, meet up with friends, sit at home enjoying a quiet movie and just have some time together without worrying or chasing little ones.

My husband and I thought it was amazing that my parents would

offer free babysitting on those Friday nights so that we could just be us.

After a few years passed, Anthony joined the Army and we moved three states away. I called my parents often to tell them how we were all doing, what accomplishments the girls had mastered lately, and to let them know how much we missed them.

During these calls, I realized what a gift my parents had given us for those years that they watched the girls every Friday night like clockwork. They gave us a

chance to be worry free for a few hours a week where we could talk, connect, plan our future, and dream together.

Anthony and I didn't date for very long (way less than my dad's 2 year recommendation) and we were married less than a year when we became parents.

My parents knew that Anthony and I would change drastically throughout the first few years of marriage and they wanted to make sure that we had an opportunity to spend time together every week to reconnect and

continue to build our bond together.

Many miles away and the girls just starting school, it took some getting used to not having our Friday evenings together.

Yes, we were married. Yes we had kids. However, married with children does not guarantee a happy home or relationship. Children and babies can complicate matters. A relationship needs a good solid base to support it so that when mortgages, jobs, children, friends, bills, and emotions start to overwhelm you, that

person is standing across the room with their arms open to help comfort you and remind you that marriage is a team sport. You are there to build each other up, support one another and show unconditional love.

That's what my parents gave to us, a chance to learn how to bond and connect to one another. True, we didn't have them there to take the girls anymore, but we learned to value the few minutes a day when the kids were occupied and we could talk together.

After almost 17 years

of marriage and two teenagers, we still "sneak off" to go to dinner or a movie once in a while. It is nice to get out for a little bit and just be together.

I love my daughters and there isn't a thing I wouldn't do for them. But one day, they will move out, leave us behind, and start their own adventure.

Thanks to my parents, we know that we need to continue to connect with each other and strengthen our bond. That way, when the day comes that it is just two of us in the house, we will still be happy to spend time together. (Plus both of my daughters are taller than I am so the house is kind of evenly matched between kids and parents. Anthony and I constantly need to strategize on how to remain in charge.)

In the chaos and fast paced life that we lead, remember to connect and rekindle the bond between each other.

*Julie Bass is a staff writer for the Big Spring Herald. She can be reached at 263-7331 ext 232 or by emailing life@bigspringherald.com.*



## Coahoma Junior High School students bring home numerous awards in academic UIL

Coahoma — On Dec. 2, 2015, Coahoma Junior High School sent approximately 80 students to Sonora, Texas to compete in the Junior High District Academic University Interscholastic League (UIL) Meet.

Other districts in the meet included Reagan County, Colorado City, Stanton, and Sonora.

Participants from sixth, seventh and eighth grade competed in 17 academic categories: art, music memory, maps, graphs & charts, math, listening skills, impromptu speaking, social studies, spelling, editorial writing, science, oral reading, ready writing, number sense, modern oratory, calculator apps, dictionary skills and chess.

Highlights from the meet include eighth-grader, Keegan Dobbs taking first place for the third consecutive year and Coahoma ISD placing second

overall in the 2015 Junior High Academic UIL District Meet.

Many of the students competed in one or more events and attended numerous practice sessions for each leading up to the meet. Their hard work and dedication paid off as 17 students from Coahoma Junior High placed first in their grade level event, 13 students placed second, and 14 students placed third.

Coahoma Junior High faculty and staff members accompanied the participants as team coaches, fans and cheerleaders.

"At the end of the day, our students learned the value of hard work as we, as a school, practiced, competed and achieved individual and campus goals," said Justin Lindsey, the Campus UIL Coordinator. "In many ways, this was one of the best UIL years we have had."

## Coahoma Junior High School students receive honors at the UIL one act play competition

Coahoma Junior High School presented The Ash Girl, written by Timberlake Wertenbaker and published by Dramatic Publishing, at the District 5-3A UIL One Act Play competition on Dec. 3, 2015, in Stanton, Texas.

Glenn R. Standly adjudicated the event. Mr. Standly is a retired educator. He has directed over 100 shows on the high school, college and community theatre stages. Mr. Standly enjoys working with the students and seeing what talent evolves from their hard work.

The Ash Girl is an exciting, encouraging tale that is an enjoyable parallel to the well-known Cinderella story. It's fast-paced and adventurous while examining profound insight about love, human nature and the importance of self-belief and perseverance — all in the context of a

well-told children's story.

"We held auditions the first week of September and I was pleasantly surprised at the overall turn-out. Around 40 students came to audition for The Ash Girl," said Tabatha Wright, director. "We ended up have a full cast of 15 actors/actresses, 5 crew, and 4 alternates. The majority of the students had no previous theatre experience, therefore, we had a lot of work ahead of us."

"The students exceeded my expectations and totally committed to the production," she continued. "I watched all the students grow in confidence, acting ability, and camaraderie. Contest day was by far my favorite part of the process because I watched the students shine up there on the stage. They did an amazing job and they knew that they had done their best performance to date. CJH OAP cast

members all brought home an acting award and our stage manager brought home a technical award."

"The final outcome of the contest was disappointing but in my mind it's about the overall process. These kids are winners and it was shown through their dedication and hard work from start to finish. We do theatre to learn more about ourselves and others around us and the cast and crew now have a memory that will last a lifetime."

All-Star Technical Crew: Bari Green.

All-Star Cast: Seth Brooks, Julia Cox, Katy Manning, Aubrey Green, and Emily Bunning,

Honorable Mention All-Star Cast: Jadyn Barnes, Alex Bailey, Brianna Coskey, Isaiah Martin, Colin Daniels, Maddie Daniels, MaKynlee Overton, Maliyah Martinez, Kolt Redden, and Hunter White.

## Tough night at the Dorothy



Monday was a tough night for Howard College basketball. Both the women and men's team lost to New Mexico State Junior College. At top, members of the Women's team and Howard College cheerleaders stand during the pre-game program. At right, members of the Hawks men's team support the Hawk women's team during the Monday night game.

HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody

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Photo courtesy of Getty Images

# PERSONAL LOANS 101

## Choosing the right tools to meet your financial goals

### Is an Installment Loan Right for You?

When deciding whether to obtain a loan, consider the benefits and responsibilities. According to the American Financial Services Association Education Foundation, an installment loan:

- **Obligates future income.** You'll be required to set aside a certain amount of future income for loan payments.
- **Requires discipline.** Borrowing wisely means not borrowing more than you can handle. Don't let the thrill of buying obligate you to more than you can afford.
- **Makes it possible to meet unexpected expenses.** The ability to borrow and make affordable payments can be helpful if an emergency arises that requires extra money.
- **Allows you to obtain products and services now and pay for them later.** A loan can provide an opportunity to purchase bigger-ticket items and use them right away.

#### FAMILY FEATURES

If you happen to find yourself in a tight spot, borrowing money can help set you back on the right path. However, doing so without a full understanding of the facts can hinder your finances in the future.

"When faced with a financial emergency, most people don't think through how borrowing money might affect them down the line," said Susie Irvine, president and CEO, American Financial Services Association Education Foundation. "With so many options available, it's relatively easy to get a loan, but the impact on your credit and what it actually costs you over time can vary a great deal."

The two most common types of small-dollar borrowing are traditional installment loans and payday loans. Knowing the ins and outs of each type of loan and how they work can help you make the best decision for your financial situation.

**Traditional installment loans** are one of the oldest forms of finance transactions and provide credit to individuals and families who need access to credit to meet an immediate need, such as vehicle repairs, household appliances or medical expenses. Averaging around \$1,500, traditional installment loans are "plain vanilla" loans with transparent, easy-to-understand repayment terms, due dates and payment amounts – which usually average \$120 per month over a term of about 15 months. With regular, manageable payments of principal and interest, the borrower has a clear roadmap out of debt. Best of all, traditional installment lenders report payment activity to credit bureaus, improving a borrower's credit score when payments are made on time.

**Payday loans** are repaid in a single balloon payment at the end of the loan period. This payment is usually due in less than 30 days and frequently the term is as short as 14 days. Payday lenders do not assess ability to repay, relying instead on a post-dated check or similar access to a borrower's bank account as assurance the loan will be repaid. If a borrower cannot afford to repay a payday loan in full when it comes due, they are left with no option but to refinance the entire balance of the initial loan. Although payday loans may appear to provide a quick and easy solution, this single, lump-sum payment can lead to significant problems for the borrower. Payday lenders have also been sanctioned in many states, and at the federal level, for abusive practices.

To learn more about affordable credit options that are available to help you better manage your money, visit [installmentloanswork.com](http://installmentloanswork.com).

### DIFFERENCES BETWEEN INSTALLMENT LOANS AND OTHER SMALL-DOLLAR LOANS

Installment loans are greatly different from car title, pawn, and payday loans, from how they are structured to how they are treated by credit bureaus. The differences are summarized in a quick reference table below.

	Installment Loan	Payday Loan	Pawn Loan	Car Title Loan
Determines Your Ability to Repay the Loan	YES	NO	NO	NO
Paid in Affordable, Equal Monthly Amounts	YES	NO	NO	NO
Paid Off with One-Time Balloon Payment	NO	YES	YES	YES
Penalty for Early Repayment	NO	SOMETIMES	NO	NO
Reports Payment Behavior to Credit Bureaus	YES	NO	NO	NO
Requires Collateral	SOMETIMES	YES	YES	YES

### Loan Language

When you take out a loan, it's important to understand the complete cost of repaying the amount you've borrowed. It's a good idea to compare offers from multiple creditors and understanding these terms will help you calculate the real cost of borrowing to get the best deal. Here is a list of common loan terms from the American Financial Services Association Education Foundation:

- **Amount Financed:** The total dollar amount of the credit that is provided to you.
- **Annual Percentage Rate or "APR":** A measure of the cost of credit expressed as a yearly rate.
- **Credit Insurance:** Optional insurance that is designed to repay the debt if the borrower dies or becomes disabled.
- **Finance Charge:** The dollar amount you pay to use credit.
- **Fixed Rate Financing:** The interest rate and the payment remains the same over the life of the loan. Equal monthly payments of principal and interest are made until the debt is paid in full.
- **Length of Payment:** The total number of months you have to pay the credit obligation.
- **Late Payment Fee:** A fee that is charged when payment is made after its due date.
- **Monthly Payment Amount:** The dollar amount due each month to repay the credit agreement

### KEYS TO CREDIT SUCCESS

The American Financial Services Association Education Foundation offers this advice to help ensure that your interests are protected when you borrow money:

**Budget your money.** Provide your monthly spending plan when you meet with creditors. It will help them make a responsible decision about the amount of credit you can afford.

**Don't overextend.** Be sure you can pay back the loan. Don't bite off more than you can chew.

**Get personal.** If possible, borrow from someone you actually can see and talk to in person. Get comfortable with the lender, and let the lender get comfortable with you.

**Shop.** Compare costs. Shop for credit like you would shop for anything else.

**Beware of "now or never" offers.** If it's a good deal, it will probably still be there after you've had time to think about it. Don't be pressured into making a quick decision.

**Ask questions.** Don't sign on the line until all your questions have been answered.

**Read the contract.** Don't sign a contract that you don't understand or has any blanks. A signed contract with blanks can be completed as anyone wishes and it will be legally binding.

**Keep your contract in a safe place.** It's important to keep all paperwork relating to your credit obligations. If questions come up later, you'll have your agreement in writing.

**Make your payments on time and in full.** This is one of the best ways to build a good credit history.

**Additional products are not required to get a consumer loan.** Optional products that may be offered for purchase with your loan include motor club membership, term insurance or warranties.



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# Exhibit of Jewish artists' Holocaust works opens in Berlin



The picture 'Death In The Getto' by Otto Ungar is displayed as part of the exhibition 'Art from the Holocaust - 100 Works from the Yad Vashem Collection' at the German Historic Museum in Berlin, Germany, Monday, Jan. 25, 2016.

By KIRSTEN GRIESHABER

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Nelly Toll was 8 years old when she and her mother went into hiding in 1943 in Poland to escape the Nazis' death camps. The Jewish girl spent long hours in her tiny hideaway at a Christian family's home writing stories, keeping a diary and creating wonderful, bright paintings of a lost world.

Today, her art is on display in the center of Berlin at a special exhibition of Art from the Holocaust that opened at the German Historical Museum on Monday.

"I hope that generations to come will look at this and know what atrocities made me do this," Toll told *The Associated Press* at the opening.

Toll's paintings are among 100 artworks created by Jewish artists during the Holocaust on display, the first time the collection from the Yad Vashem memorial in Jerusalem has been shown outside Israel.

The exhibition includes work by Jewish artists in hiding, in concentration and labor camps, and in ghettos. Of the 50 artists featured, 24 were killed by the Nazis. Alongside the mostly unknown names are acclaimed artists such as Felix Nussbaum and Ludwig Meidner.

Toll is the only artist represented in the show who is still alive. One of her paintings, "Girls in the Field," shows two girls, dressed in bright blue, red and yellow-dotted dresses walking across a sunny lawn confined by lush green trees.

"I made 60 paintings while in hiding and all of them express happiness," said Toll, who lost her father and brother in the Holocaust. She emigrated to the United States with her mother after the war.

Like many Jews who created art while being surrounded by death, fear and suffering, painting was a way for Toll to break free and escape from the Holocaust's harsh reality to

imaginary places of beauty and happiness.

"I would have conversations with the characters in my paintings for hours," Toll remembered.

Not all the works show an escape into a happy imagination. Some artworks are shocking in their depictions of life in the ghetto, daily discrimination and fear of being killed by the Nazis.

Halina Olomucki's 1939 pencil work, "After the Shearing of the Beards," shows two orthodox men with bandages around their heads after their beards had been torn or burned off by Germans in the Warsaw ghetto.

Leo Haas' "Transport from Vienna" shows the arrival of a train full of elderly Jews at the Theresienstadt ghetto in 1942. Painted in dark, monochrome India ink, people with faces like hollow skulls can be seen tumbling out of cattle cars, many lying lifeless on the ground as a soldier

keeps pulling more people off the train.

The show's curator, Yad Vashem's Eliad Moreh-Rosenberg, called the creation of art during the Holocaust an "uncompromising act of resistance" by artists in mortal danger.

It was very difficult for the artists to get painting supplies, but despite that and their appalling living conditions they managed to portray life during the Shoah, fighting their dehumanization by the Nazis and leaving behind painted witness accounts, Moreh-Rosenberg said.

Among the most touching works is a postcard painted in 1941 by both Karl Robert Bodek and Kurt Conrad Loew while at the Gurs camp in southwestern France, which was then under the Vichy regime that collaborated with the Nazis.

Titled "One Spring," the watercolor shows a bright yellow butterfly sitting on top of black barbed wire, free to fly wherever it desires, while the two artists were confined to the dark barracks of the camp depicted at the bottom of the painting.

Bodek was killed a year later in Auschwitz-Birkenau, while Loew survived and died in his birth city of Vienna in 1980.

Chancellor Angela Merkel, who was to officially inaugurate the show on Monday night, said on her weekly podcast released over the weekend that such exhibitions are still critical for educating younger Germans about the Holocaust.

"It reminds us that we have an enduring responsibility for what has been done in the past..." she said. "I think it is very, very important that every generation reacquaints itself with Germany's history."

Merkel specifically cited fears raised by German Jewish leaders about a possible rise in anti-Semitism with the arrival of nearly 1.1 million migrants last year.

"We have to deal with it, especially among young people whose family background is from countries where hatred of Israel and the hatred of Jews is widespread," she said.

The exhibition runs through April 3.

## Romania probes hundreds of books written by prisoners

By ALISON MUTLER

Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP) — Romania's crackdown on corruption and fraud in recent years has created a sudden and unexpected literary boom, as prisoners publish hundreds of non-fiction books on subjects as varied as soccer, real estate, God and gemstones.

It's quite a feat for inmates with no access to books or the Internet, often without tables in their cells. Reports that one book, of 212 pages, was written in seven hours, has only increased suspicions that the improbable treatises are often ghost-written or plagiarized.

Under Romanian law, prisoners can have their sentences reduced by 30 days for every "scientific work" they publish, subject to a judge's decision on whether the book merits it. Prisoners pay publishing houses to print their works — though they won't be found in any bookshop.

The law dates from the communist era and was aimed at imprisoned intellectuals who were not suitable for manual labor. Skilled manual workers are able to work to reduce their sentences.

Until recently only a handful of such books were published, but in 2014 that rose to 90 — and in 2015 it spiraled to 340.

Prosecutors are investigating whether rich and well-connected convicts are paying university professors — who are required to approve the subjects of the books — or others to write them for them.

A prosecutors' statement cited the case of the 212-page book written by an unidentified prisoner in under seven hours, as well as a 180-page book written in 12 hours.

Laura Stefan, an analyst at the Expert Forum think tank, which promotes transparency and good governance, says the "scientific works" coming out of Romania's jails have more to do with the wealth and influence of the inmates than their literary talent.

"What we are seeing ... is the result of high-level people ending up in jail. These very powerful people are also

rich and they can afford to have high-quality counsel, lawyers who teach them how to use the legislation," she told *The Associated Press*.

"The quality of the work is poor, and some are bluntly copied."

Allegations of plagiarism against ministers and high-ranking figures are commonplace in Romania, yet rarely investigated. A university panel in 2012 found that former Prime Minister Victor Ponta plagiarized his 2003 doctoral thesis.

Justice Minister Raluca Pruna has called for the law to be abolished in an emergency ordinance.

"I noticed a very large growth (in publications) in a very short space of time," Pruna told the AP. "It was clear the procedure had not been applied in a strict manner."

She favors new legislation that would put writing a book on a par with activities such as painting and theater, which would together be taken into consideration when ruling on early release.

The books are generally highly specialized or full of photos and short on text and would pass unnoticed were it not for the high-profile authors, including former Prime Minister Adrian Nastase, a football club owner and a TV mogul — or the fact they were apparently penned on a prison bed.

Nastase, who published prolifically before he served two prison sentences for corruption, wrote two books while in jail. He declined to be interviewed for this article.

However, graphic artist Marina Popovici, one of those sentenced alongside Nastase in 2012 for money-laundering and complicity to abuse of the public interest, praised the law and said it gave well-educated prisoners something productive to do.

"As a person who was active, I wanted to do something so as not to waste my time," she said, clutching her book, "Precious Colored Gemstones." She said she was given supervised access to a computer and insisted she wrote the book herself.

## Documentary on record-breaking balloon flight to premiere

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — It has been a year since two pilots from the U.S. and Russia lifted off from Japan with the aim of flying farther and longer in their gas balloon than anyone in history.

They did it, and a documentary about their record-breaking flight across the Pacific Ocean will premiere Feb. 6 in Albuquerque.

The city and the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum produced the film, which was compiled from hours of video gathered before and after the Two Eagles flight.

The filmmakers said one of the challenges was the shortage of footage from launch preparations in Japan and the flight itself.

Pilots Troy Bradley and Leonid Tiukhtyaev

took photos and video while aloft, but much of the material was lost when they touched down just off the coast of Baja, Mexico. Some of the team's memory cards were rendered unreadable after being exposed to the salt water.

Bradley has previewed the film.

"It was really nice because I got a totally different perspective than from where I was at," he said. "There's a lot of filming within the command center, the crew once they arrived in Mexico before we landed, a bunch of stuff I had never seen."

Filmmaker Bert Johnson said for the parts where footage was sparse, the crew used the best resources available: Bradley and Tiukhtyaev.

"After all, they lived it," he said. "This is the

story of their adventure, told by them."

The two pilots traveled more than 6,650 miles (10,700 kilometers) and for a duration of 160 hours and 34 minutes.

The flight ended just after sunrise on Jan. 31, 2015, when the Two Eagles balloon touched down a few miles off the coast, about 300 miles north of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

The men beat a 137-hour duration record set in 1978 by the Double Eagle crew in a cross-Atlantic flight. They also exceeded the distance record of 5,209 miles set by the Double Eagle V team during the first trans-Pacific flight in 1981.

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# Texas health officials wary of rise in unvaccinated students



Lukas Keapproth/Austin American-Statesman via AP

This Feb. 5, 2015 photo shows a school sign at Austin Waldorf School in from Austin, Texas. Nearly half of the 400 students enrolled in the school forgo vaccinations, one of the highest rates in Texas.

By DAVID WARREN

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Tucked into a hillside not far from a popular nature preserve, the private Austin Waldorf School touts its individualized learning and emphasis on moral purpose. But the school with an enrollment of nearly 400 is different in another way: Nearly half its students forgo vaccinations, one of the highest rates in Texas.

Four years ago fully half its students received a “conscientious exemption” from at least one of the federally recommended vaccinations, a rate that’s since dipped slightly to 48 percent, according to figures provided by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

The school is a striking example of a statewide rise in exemptions that concerns public health officials and runs contrary to efforts in California and elsewhere to ensure more stu-

dents are immunized.

Texas is one of 18 states that allow parents to cite religion or personal beliefs in exempting their school-age children from vaccination. In 2007 there were more than 10,000 students exempted and that number soared to nearly 41,000 in the last school year. Texas began allowing exemptions for reasons of conscience in 2003. A year later, some 3,000 students had received one.

“I’m mostly concerned about parents who request personal exemptions based on reasons of conscience but in fact they’re making that choice based on misinformation they’ve gotten from other sources or perhaps someone outside the medical community,” said Dr. Justin Smith, a pediatrician with Cook Children’s Health Care System in Fort Worth.

While students who aren’t fully vaccinated account for less than 1 percent of the 5.2 million students

enrolled in Texas public or charter schools, the rising trend of exemptions has some medical experts worried about outbreaks of disease.

Those fears were highlighted when a child who had traveled abroad went to school early this month in a Dallas suburb and later showed signs of measles. It was the first reported case of the highly contagious virus in Texas in this new year. Measles cases in the U.S. are unusual, although there were 667 reported cases in 2014, mainly due to an outbreak that occurred primarily among unvaccinated Amish communities in Ohio, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Smith believes that social media are playing a role in the rise in exemptions.

“There’s more a trend in discussing these issues in social media or discussing them interpersonally with other parents and it kind of becomes a group mentality,” he said.

Dawn Richardson, a co-founder of the Texas-based Parents Requesting Open Vaccine Education, said more parents are opting to spread out when their children receive a range of vaccinations rather than when a physician or school dictates it must be done. Parents also are concerned with the increase over the years in the number of vaccines and the dosages that are given, she said. There were 13 vaccinations recommended by the CDC last year, up from six in 1995, according to Dr. Amanda Cohn with the CDC.

“Parents are trying to make better decisions and actually tailor the vac-

cine schedule according to their child,” Richardson said.

Critics contend vaccination can result in disabling side effects — most notably in the form of autism, a connection scientific research has debunked — but Smith and other health experts note the overwhelming science points to wide-ranging benefits from immunization.

He said while the vaccination rate in Texas remains high, if the rate were to drop to 90 percent or lower then outbreaks of disease could become alarming.

Kathy McElveen, interim director of the Austin Waldorf School, said any decision on vaccinating students is left to the parents and that the school complies with all state-mandated health standards.

“Just because somebody sought an exemption doesn’t mean that a student isn’t immunized,” she said, explaining that a parent may opt to immunize for measles or chickenpox, but not another disease, such as hepatitis.

The exemption rate in Texas is comparable to other large states. In Florida, which allows for a religious exemption but not one based on personal beliefs, 1.8 percent of kindergarten students last year had an exemption while just over 1 percent of seventh-graders did.

Just over 3 percent of kindergarten students in California were exempted two years ago and that number dropped to 2.54 percent before lawmakers last year adopted a bill that only allows for medical exemptions. That action came after an outbreak of measles at Disneyland sickened more than 100.

California joined Mississippi and West Virginia as the three states allowing only medical exemptions.

Dr. Ryan Van Ramshorst, a pediatrician in San Antonio and member of the Texas Medical Association, said he wishes “we were living in a day and age where laws like that wouldn’t be necessary.” But he said more must be done to ensure children are fully vaccinated.

“We’re going to reach a critical mass in Texas where we’re going to have outbreaks if parents don’t vaccinate their children,” he said.

## Texas in brief

### Teen suspended for helping friend won't return to school

KILLEEN, Texas (AP) — A Texas teenager who was suspended from school after helping a classmate who was having an asthma attack won't return to the school, the teen's mother said Monday.

Mandy Cortes said she will home-school her 15-year-old rather than have him return to Gateway Middle School in Killeen.

Anthony Ruelas was suspended for a day last week when he disobeyed his teacher by picking up his classmate and leaving the classroom to carry her to the nurse's office.

The teacher had emailed the nurse when the girl began suffering the attack and fell to the floor. A disciplinary form explained that the teach-

er was awaiting a response from the nurse when Anthony uttered an expletive about not waiting and picked up the girl, Cortes said.

School officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday. The Killeen school district last week issued a statement that read, in part, that the district “applauds the efforts of students who act in good faith to assist others in times of need.”

Cortes said the girl later told her son that she's OK and that she doesn't remember being carried to the nurse's office.

“I was proud of him for the way he handled the situation,” Cortes said, saying her son has a big heart.

Cortes said she's been frustrated with the school as Anthony has worked to overcome a learning disability and last week's suspension

persuaded her to home-school him. She may try to enroll him in a public school next school year.

### Texas 'weather nerd' came to NYC to see storm firsthand

NEW YORK (AP) — Texans Steve and Kathleen Yarborough weren't quite like the other travelers stuck in New York this weekend: They came to the city because of the big snowstorm.

“I'm a weather nerd,” the husband said in an upbeat tone Monday as the couple waited for a return flight to Houston. “I came out to see the storm.”

Steve Yarborough, a Texas born and bred aviation data specialist, said that in Houston, the closest he gets to snow is on the aviation maps he pores over.

When he saw the weekend

storm building up, he said he and his wife booked a flight to see it firsthand. They got onto the last United Airlines flight to leave Houston for New York.

“People thought we were crazy,” he said. “We played in the snow all day Saturday. Walked down Park Avenue in the middle of the storm. We walked all over the city.”

On Monday, the couple waited at LaGuardia Airport. Their morning flight was canceled but they were able to get booked standby on an afternoon flight.

And it was worth it. “I just like snow, because we don't see it,” he said. “I just think it's incredible.”

### Former NFL star Vince Young arrested for drunken driving

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) —

Police say former NFL quarterback Vince Young has been arrested on charges of drunken driving in Austin, Texas.

Travis County jail records show that the 32-year-old former Texas star was booked shortly after midnight Monday on a misdemeanor charge of driving while intoxicated. His bond was set at \$2,000.

Austin police spokesman Ivan Ramos said Young was stopped late Sunday north of downtown. An arrest affidavit says Young's speech was mumbled and slurred. Young was pulled over after an officer saw his car allegedly drifting and changing speeds on Interstate 35.

Young played six seasons in the NFL, most of it with the Tennessee Titans, after a brilliant career at Texas that included a national title in 2005.

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### Sports Calendar

#### TODAY

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Big Spring at Lamesa, 6:30 p.m.  
Reagan Co. at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.  
Irion Co. at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.  
Bronte at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.  
Sands at Klondike, 6:30 p.m.

Boy's basketball  
Big Spring at Lamesa, 8 p.m.  
Reagan Co. at Coahoma, 8 p.m.  
Irion Co. at Forsan, 8 p.m.  
Bronte at Garden City, 8 p.m.  
Sands at Klondike, 8 p.m.

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

## Old rivals meet in semifinals

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Top-ranked Novak Djokovic will play No. 3 Roger Federer in a blockbuster semifinal match at the Australian Open. It will be the 45th installment in a riveting rivalry that is so equally split that they are tied with 22 wins each.

It's a rematch of last year's final at the U.S. Open and Wimbledon, both of which Djokovic won in thrilling nailbiters.

It will be their 15th matchup at a Grand Slam tournament, more than any other pair of men in tennis' Opener, which dates to 1968. Djokovic and Rafael Nadal have played each other 13 times at majors, Federer and Nadal 11 and John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl 10.

But more than just numbers, it is a tantalizing rematch that holds great importance to both players.

For Federer, who owns a record 17 Grand Slam titles, it offers a chance to prove that his best is not entirely behind him. He is 34, which means that time really is running out.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

The referee tosses up the ball to begin the Howard College-New Mexico Junior College women's basketball game Monday night at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. New Mexico swept Howard Monday, taking the women's game by a score of 54-35, and the men's game by an 88-79 score.

## Broncos heap praise on Carolina

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — Nothing but compliments for Cam Newton after completely bashing Tom Brady.

And no, this nasty Denver Broncos defense hasn't suddenly turned soft. They're simply playing nice with the Super Bowl still two weeks away.

The pleasantries seem tame after all the trash talking Denver did before the New England game. The Broncos called Brady a crybaby for complaining to the officials

over calls. They also accused tight end Rob Gronkowski of constantly pushing off to get open.

On Sunday, they backed up their words by constantly harassing Brady in a 20-18 win over the Patriots to earn a spot in Super Bowl 50 against Carolina (17-1).

Now, the Broncos (14-4) are pulling out the respect card, especially when it comes to Newton.

"He's probably the most dangerous quarterback in the NFL right now," Pro Bowl cornerback Aqib

Talib said.

Outside linebacker DeMarcus Ware heaped plenty of praise on Newton, too.

"You can't rush timid because if you do that, he's one of those pocket quarterbacks that can get the ball deep down the field," said Ware, whose team will wear their white road uniforms on Feb. 7 in their record-tying eighth Super Bowl appearance. "You have to be able

See **PRAISE**, Page 15

## Curry unstoppable as Warriors dismantle Spurs

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Stephen Curry and the dominant Warriors aren't just beating teams anymore, they're throwing staggering knockout punches against the NBA's best — make that second-best.

In a span of eight days, Golden State has 30-point wins over Cleveland, Chicago and San Antonio.

Curry scored 37 points and hit six 3-pointers in three scintillating quarters Monday night, and the reigning champions showed they still

rule the West by routing the Spurs 120-90.

"No moment's too big, obviously," Curry said. "We know this is just another regular-season game, but there was some hype around it. Every time we have an opportunity to prove who we are and take another step in the journey, we're ready for it. It wasn't always that way. This core has been together for a while and understands how to mentally prepare for nights like this."

The NBA MVP had 15 points in the opening quarter, 18 in

the third and shot 12 for 20 in Golden State's 39th straight home win at raucous Oracle Arena, where a star-studded sellout crowd saw a lopsided showdown in what was billed as a potential Western Conference finals preview.

The Warriors (41-4) snapped a 13-game winning streak by the Spurs (38-7), off to the best start in franchise history but without Tim Duncan this time. The teams had the highest combined winning percentage in NBA history for opponents meeting at least 40

games into the season.

Curry galloped down the court and pounded his chest after his second straight 3-pointer and 10th consecutive point put Golden State up 76-56 with 7:55 to go in the third. It was his 1,400th career 3 and he became the 26th player in NBA history to reach that mark.

Chants of "M-V-P!" came from every corner of the arena as Curry did it all for his highest-scoring total in 17 games against San Antonio — knocking down 3s from

the baseline and hitting from 30 feet well beyond the arc. Coming off his second triple-double of the season when he banked in a half-court shot Friday against Indiana, the dynamic point guard had three steals early in the game to set the defensive tone. And the Warriors didn't relent after building a 62-47 halftime lead.

All-Star forward Kawhi Leonard scored 16 points for the sloppy Spurs, with Har-

See **SPURS**, Page 15

## Harden, Ariza lead Rockets past Pelicans

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Trevor Ariza bothered the New Orleans Pelicans with his defense. He beat them with his offense.

Ariza had a season-high 31 points and James Harden scored 35, leading the hot-shooting Houston Rockets past the short-handed New Orleans Pelicans 112-111 on Monday night.

The Pelicans played the second half without All-Star forward Anthony Davis, who had only nine points on 4-of-9 shooting with Ariza as his primary defender before leaving late in the second quarter after getting elbowed in the head by teammate Tyreke Evans.

"I'm sure he (Davis) will go through the (concussion) protocol," New Orleans coach Alvin Gentry said. "We'll find out later on exactly what the situation is."

Houston, which did not have center Dwight Howard for the third straight game due to a left ankle sprain, hit a season-high 19 3-pointers. Ariza connected on his first six 3s, finished with

eight and went 11 for 16 overall one night after scoring what was then a season-best 29 on 11-of-15 shooting against Dallas.

"I'm just making shots," he said. "I don't think I am really doing anything different. What's been working for us is the game has more of a flow to it. The ball's been moving a lot better than it has previously."

The Rockets have lacked a consistent scorer to complement Harden, but Ariza is emerging as an all-around threat.

"He's a monster," Harden said. "He doesn't get enough credit."

Jrue Holiday scored a season-high 32 points for the Pelicans, adding nine assists and six rebounds. He had a chance to win the game after New Orleans got the ball with 4.7 seconds left. Out of timeouts, the Pelicans had to go the length of the court, and Holiday's contested 35-foot shot at the buzzer did not come close.

See **ROCKETS**, Page 15

## MLB looks at adjusting strike zone

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball's strike zone could be getting a slight lift.

Major League Baseball is studying whether to raise the bottom of the strike zone from the hollow beneath the kneecap back to the top of the kneecap.

"I'm not in a position to predict whether it's going to happen or not," Rob Manfred said during an interview with The Associated Press on Monday on his first anniversary as baseball commissioner. "I think that the interest in the topic is really driven by the fact that if you look over time there has been a movement down of the strike zone, largely as a result of the way we evaluate the strike zone with umpires."

Strike zone data was included in a presentation given to owners last week at their meeting in Coral Gables, Florida. An agreement with the players' association would be necessary to make a change for this year, and baseball officials said the matter is likely to

be discussed during collective bargaining, which would delay any change until 2017.

The strike zone extended to the top of the kneecap through the 1995 season, then was dropped to its current level.

"The umpires have done a great job calling the strike zone as we want it called," Manfred said. "The question is whether we ought to make an adjustment."

Consideration of an alteration comes following a decade-and-a-half decline in offense. There was an uptick during the second half last season.

"The bottom to the top of the knees is only a matter of a couple inches, so it wouldn't be a big adjustment for anybody," San Francisco Giants shortstop Brandon Crawford said in an email. "But, it may help hitters mentally knowing that the zone is a little smaller (even if only by a couple inches). It could help us check off pitches that look like they might be

at the bottom of the zone but are sinking even lower."

Without bottom-of-the-zone strikes, pitchers would have to adjust.

"Obviously, raising the strike zone provides more opportunity for hitters to create lift, leading to more doubles and homers, and runs — which probably generates more eyeballs watching the sport," Los Angeles Angels closer Huston Street said in an email.

On other topics: **FIRST REGULAR SEASON GAMES IN LONDON IN 2017**

"We are very interested in playing there, and we're working hard on that one," Manfred said. "I don't think it will be an opener because of the weather issues. It would be later in the season."

Baseball has been looking at the new Olympic Stadium as a possible venue. He wouldn't discuss the possibility of shifting a high-profile matchup to England,

See **MLB**, Page 15

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Garden City, Texas

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Once the affidavit is on file, taxes are deferred — but not cancelled — as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. Taxes accumulate with 8 percent interest per year. The law extends the tax deferral to the surviving spouse of the person who deferred taxes on the homestead if the surviving spouse was at least 55 years old when the deceased spouse died.

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4	7	3	8	5	9	6	2	1
8	3	4	9	2	5	1	7	6
1	2	7	6	4	3	5	8	9
9	6	5	1	7	8	3	4	2
6	1	9	5	8	2	7	3	4
7	4	8	3	9	1	2	6	5
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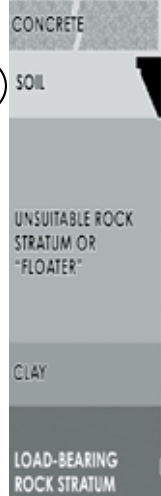
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Tomorrow's Horoscope



Solitary Virgo Moon

There's a solitary feel to this Virgo moon, but make no mistake, none of us are lone

HOLIDAY MATHIS

travelers on this journey. True, sometimes you do happen to be the only one on a particular road at a particular time of day. Don't let this unnerve you. Stay the path -- it will take you where you need to be, and the others will be there waiting.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Does it feel like you're living to get a message, phone call, email or word at all from a certain person? Well, that's no way to live. Take back your power by not caring.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You are no longer a passive observer in your group. Your opinion matters too much. Your observations are invaluable. Your involvement is immeasurable. From this point on, you are involved, big-time.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). The light conversation and casual questions you ask might satisfy more than just your curiosity; your interest is likely the attention another person has been quietly craving.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). There are many ways to be powerful. Stay aware of the more insidious ones. Limit your exposure to anyone who would try to use your fear or weakness against you as a psycho-

logical weapon. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll find satisfaction in hearsay or be captivated in unexpected ways by a story -- fun, but don't trust it or act on what might turn out to be false. Small-town intrigue will likely amount to nothing more than trivial gossip.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The theme carries over (and will for the next few days). Hopefully, you can find a way to delight in the slight insufficiency you are experiencing, because others certainly will. You'll go straight to their hearts!

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll delight in contemplation. You can turn an idea over in your mind so many different ways that you are certain to find a way of looking at it that no one has ever thought of before. Share your talent. Your point of view is needed.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You do not often give your unqualified approval, but there is something you'll experience today that unfolds in such a spot-on, perfect way that you cannot find a single thing to judge negatively about it.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your imagination is strong now. Steer it well. You can fantasize your way out of a harsh, emotional desert and into an oasis lush with love, beauty and excitement. Or you can dwell on your fear and be miserable.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). To commiserate with someone doesn't always automatically gladden them,

but today it works just fine. Your manner of connecting with others could even inspire a miraculous healing. You have the touch today, so use it!

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's something you'll do strictly for money. It doesn't conflict with your values, necessarily; it's just that you really wouldn't bother if money weren't involved. You have bills, after all. Get in there and get it done.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). People do strange things when they feel cornered. Sometimes they issue a preemptive strike. Avoid all that by giving everyone a graceful out, keeping things easy breezy and letting go of certain expectations.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Jan. 26). Sometimes it feels like the gap between who you want to be and who you are is very wide. Not this year. You're closing in on it daily, which makes this a very exciting time. You'll learn a new skill in February. You need a mentor, and the right one comes in April. June and September are the most passionate. Scorpio and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 50, 33, 28 and 14.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I'm a Leo. I used to be pretty shy. I can still be extremely socially awkward. However, I now make a habit of trying to talk to people I don't know just about every day. I figure the better I get at small talk or conversation in general, the more comfortable I'll feel in my skin. It has

been suggested by a certain Virgo I know that my habit of talking to strangers can be seen as cloying and needy. What do you think?"

I commend you for efforts to connect with people and overcome the feelings of "otherness" I sense from you. When you follow the impulse to be spontaneous and social, sometimes the risk won't pay off. There are a lot of duds out there, for sure, and so many mistakes to be made! But as long as you're not taking it personally, these experiences will teach you, and you'll be better for it. And then when your risk-taking leads to meeting that one special person -- and really hitting it off -- well, you'll be glad you worked your way through all of the duds. As for "cloying" and "needy," it all depends on your intent. If you're really just trying to spread a little joy, you'll succeed eventually, even if there's some awkwardness to slog through on the way.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** "The Ghosts of Highway 20" is the latest release for Grammy-winning songstress Lucinda Williams, an Aquarius whose musical poetry and riveting vocals go straight to the heart. Born under a Cancer moon, the landscape of emotions is what Williams knows best. Venus and Mars in Pisces is an ideal arrangement for sensitive artists.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click "Write the Author" on her page. COPYRIGHT 2016 CREATORS.COM

Legals

lien will also cease as a result of filing a tax deferral affidavit. In addition, no taxing unit can start or continue a lawsuit to collect delinquent taxes once an affidavit is filed. There are no penalties on delinquent taxes during the deferral period; however, a tax deferral does not cancel penalties that were already due.

All deferred taxes and interest become due when the homeowner or surviving spouse no longer own and live in the home. If the tax debt remains unpaid at that time, penalties may be imposed and taxing units may take legal action to collect the past due amount.

For further details about property tax deferral, contact Glasscock County Appraisal District at 124 N. Main St., PO Box 155, Garden City, TX 79739, Phone 432/354-2580. Information is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at [comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/](http://comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/).

#8952 January 26, 2016

Notice of Availability of Electronic Communications

Garden City, Texas - Chief appraisers of county appraisal districts and appraisal review boards may communicate electronically through email or other media with property owners or their designated representatives. Written agreements are required for notices and other documents to be delivered electronically in place of mailing.

How does it work? Certain guidelines must be followed for this local option communication:

- Written agreements with the county appraisal district must be entered first, ensuring what electronic means of delivery are

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**HERALD**

Legals

acceptable. If you are interested in receiving communications in electronic format, you should contact your local appraisal district.

- Public notice regarding the availability of agreement forms authorizing electronic communications may be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district on or before Feb. 1 each year, or agreement forms may be delivered on or before Feb. 1 each year to property owners shown on the certified appraisal roll for the preceding tax year.
- The chief appraiser may determine the medium, format, content and method to be used for electronic communications other than notices required by Section 25.19 of the Tax Code which are prescribed by rule.
- A decision by the chief appraiser not to enter into agreements may not be the subject of an appraisal review board protest, a lawsuit or a complaint to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

For more information, contact us at:

Glasscock County Appraisal District  
124 N. Main Street  
PO Box 155  
Garden City, TX 79739  
432-354-2580

#8953 January 26, 2016

Notice of Application for Fluid Injection Well Permit:

Scout Energy Management LLC, 4901 LBJ Freeway, Suite 300, Dallas, TX 75244 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Glorieta-Clearfork Formation, Jones, Percy Lease, Well Number 41W. The proposed injection well is located 7 miles in a Southeast direction from Coahoma in the latan, East Howard Field, in Howard County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2,273 to 2,814 feet. LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Request for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Service Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, TX 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

#8951 January 26, 2016

Annie's Mailbox

**Dear Annie:** I'd like to know if this is considered spousal abuse. A young couple become born-again Christians. The husband decides he wants to go back to school to become a minister. He quits his corporate job and moves his family out of state. His wife supports him and the children for four years as best she can. He graduates and "just can't find the right job." He volunteers two days a week counseling people.

In the meantime, they are barely getting by. They don't have enough money to send the kids to college, and they can't afford their daughter's wedding. The husband has decided not to get a paying job because he's doing "God's work." He sleeps late every day and spends hours on the computer writing religious blog posts. His wife works full time and does the cleaning, shopping and all household chores.

I think this is emotional abuse. What do you think? -- Concerned Relative

**Dear Relative:** We think this is not your business. When couples make decisions about who

brings in the money, it's between the two of them. Even if his wife doesn't like it and is unhappy, that doesn't necessarily mean it is abusive. Only unequal and frustrating.

Every marriage is different. What is intolerable to you may be manageable for her. We agree it would be worrisome if she feels trapped and unable to change her situation, but you do not indicate that this is the case. There are scholarships, grants and loans available for state and community colleges, and a wedding can be punch and cake in the backyard. Please don't project your feelings onto her. She may think her marriage is perfectly fine. If you are a close family member, talk to her. Ask how she's doing. See what the situation is. If you believe counseling is needed, she may be amenable to discussing things with her clergyperson. And if she gives you the impression that her husband is controlling all the money or her access to family members and friends, please urge her to call the National Domestic Violence Hotline (the-hotline.org) at 1-800-799-SAFE.

**Dear Annie:** What do I say to people who tell me to smile? The reason I don't like to smile is because my smile is ugly and I look horrible -- like I'm making a face. How do I get them to stop? -- A Daily Reader

**Dear Reader:** Well, you could grimace and then maybe they'd stop asking, but here's a different suggestion: If you are embarrassed by your smile, see if something can be fixed. Often, it is as simple as seeing a dentist, or practicing in front of a mirror until you can manage something natural.

It's also possible that you think you have a terrible smile when, in fact, no one else is bothered by it.

Folks who are ashamed of or concerned about their smiles are often self-conscious to the point where it interferes with their social life. This puts you at a tremendous disadvantage. There is no shame in making your life better. Please see what can be done.

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](mailto:anniesmailbox@creators.com)

sudoku

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

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Two Shots Are Better Than One

South dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.  
NORTH  
♠ 8 4  
♥ J 7 6  
♦ Q 10 9 3  
♣ A 7 4 2  
WEST  
♠ K J 9 7 3  
♥ K 5 3  
♦ 6 2  
♣ 10 8 3  
EAST  
♠ Q 2  
♥ 10 9 8 4 2  
♦ A 7 4  
♣ J 9 5

SOUTH  
♠ A 10 6 5  
♥ A Q  
♦ K J 8 5  
♣ K Q 6

The bidding:  
1♦ Pass 2♦ Pass  
3 NT

Opening lead — seven of spades.

It is not uncommon for declarer to reach a point in the play where he wishes he had done something different a little earlier.

Take the present case, where West leads a spade against three notrump. Let's assume declarer ducks twice and wins the third spade with the ace. Next he leads a diamond and is pleased that East, rather than West, wins with the ace. How-

ever, East now returns a heart, creating a problem of sorts. The question is whether to try for a ninth trick by taking the heart finesse, or whether to go up with the ace and hope the opposing clubs are divided 3-3. South knows that the chance of winning the heart finesse is about 50 percent, and that the chance of a 3-3 club division is only 36 percent. So declarer opts for the finesse, and when the smoke clears, he is down two. This doesn't really bother him at all, since he made the "percentage play," but sometime later he realizes that he actually didn't give himself the best chance to make the contract.

The critical moment came at trick four, when declarer should have cashed the K-Q-A of clubs before driving out the diamond ace. This would have disclosed the 3-3 club division and allowed South to avert an ugly guess later on. If the clubs did not divide 3-3, South would still have had the heart finesse to fall back on.

By testing the clubs first, declarer would thus have given himself two chances to get home safely instead of only one.

Tomorrow: Silence is golden.

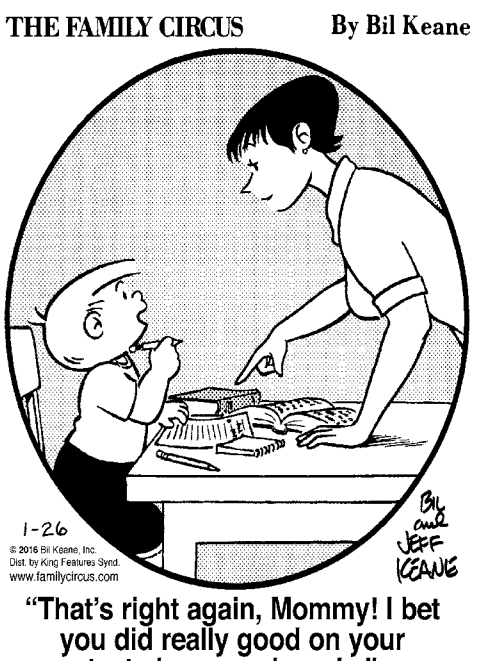
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	News ABC	Hotel Notic.	Big Bang Cleveland	News CBS	Tele Noticiero	News	Justice Called	Focus Business	Mama's American	American American	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Castle (DVS)	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	Big East Stars In.	Law & Order: SVU	Married-Sight	Moonshiners
6:PM	Jeopardy! Wheel	Muchacha italiana	Mod Fam Big Bang	News ET	Caso Cer-rado	News	McGee HaYesod	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Castle (DVS)	College Basketball: Indiana at Wisconsin.	College Basketball	Spurs In. UFC	Mod Fam	Married-Sight	Moonshiners
7:PM	Fresh- Muppets	Antes Muerta que Grand	New Girl	NCIS (DVS)	Celia (SS)	Game Night	Upd M:25	Finding Your Roots	Griffith	The Flash	Big Bang	Castle (DVS)	World Poker Tour	2016 Australian Open Tennis: Men's and Women's Quarterfinals.	C'boys Rangers	Mod Fam	Married-Sight	Moonshiners: Outlaw
8:PM	Agent Carter	Pasión y poder	Brooklyn Grinder	NCIS: New Orleans	Eva la Trailera (SS)	Chicago Med	Light of the Southwest	American Experience (DVS)	Hap.Days Laveame	DC's Legends	Big Bang	Castle (DVS)	College Basketball: Georgia at LSU.	Mavs Pre. NBA Basketball: Mavericks at Lakers	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Married-Sight	Moonshiners
9:PM	What Would	El Hotel de los	TMZ Broke Girl	Limitless	La Querida	Chicago Fire			Heroes Seinfeld	Big Bang	Castle (DVS)			Mavs UFC	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Married-Sight	Moonshiners
10:PM	News Jimmy Kimmel Live	Impacto Noticiero	Mod Fam Two Men	News Late Show-Colbert	Tele Titulares	News Tonight Show	With Schol-ars	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett Perry Mason	Cougar	Conan	Castle (DVS)	SportsCenter					
11:PM	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met Cleveland	James Corden	Eva la Trailera (SS)	News	Ministerios Vida	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	Columbo	Raising Commu	Broke Girl	CSI: NY	SportsCenter					
12:AM	Extra Paid	Alma Hntal	Law Order: CI	ET	Pagado De'siñas	(:08) Today	Light of the Southwest		Gallery Gallary	King Pair	Cougar	CSI: NY	SportsCenter	NFL Live	Bundesliga Soccer	Law Order: CI	(:02) Fit to Fat to Fit	(:04) Moonshiners

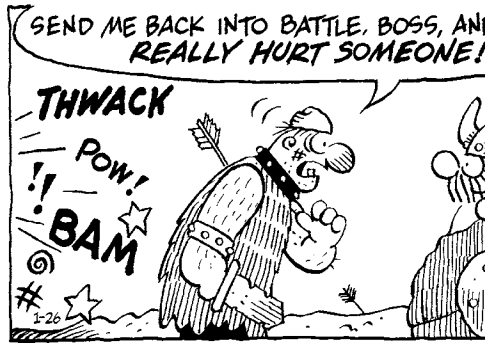
DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



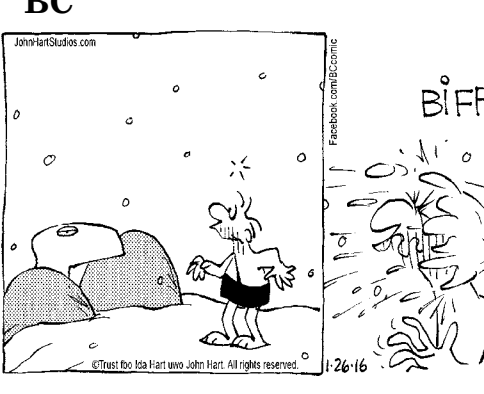
HAGAR



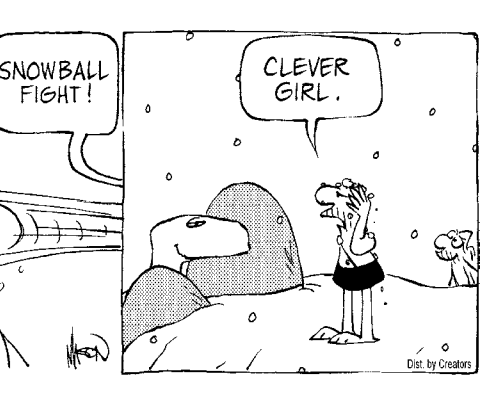
BLONDIE



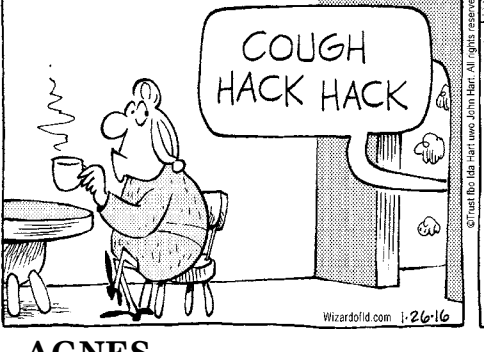
BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



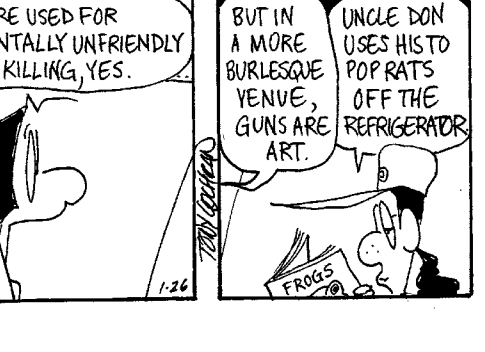
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



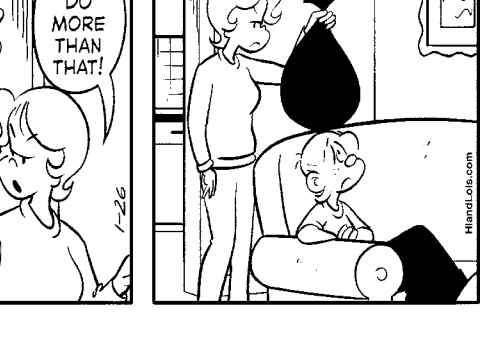
SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

In 1837, Michigan became the 26th state.

In 1870, Virginia rejoined the Union.

In 1925, actor Paul Newman was born in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

In 1939, during the Spanish Civil War, rebel forces led by Gen. Francisco Franco captured Barcelona.

In 1942, the first American Expeditionary Force to go to Europe during World War II arrived in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

In 1950, India officially proclaimed itself a republic as Rajendra Prasad took the oath of office as president.

In 1962, the United States launched Ranger 3 to land scientific instruments on the moon, but the probe ended up missing its target by more than 22,000 miles.

In 1979, former Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller died in New York at age 70.

In 1988, Australians celebrated the 200th anniversary of their country as a grand parade of tall ships re-enacted the voyage of the first European settlers. The Andrew Lloyd Webber musical "Phantom of the Opera" opened at Broadway's Majestic Theater.

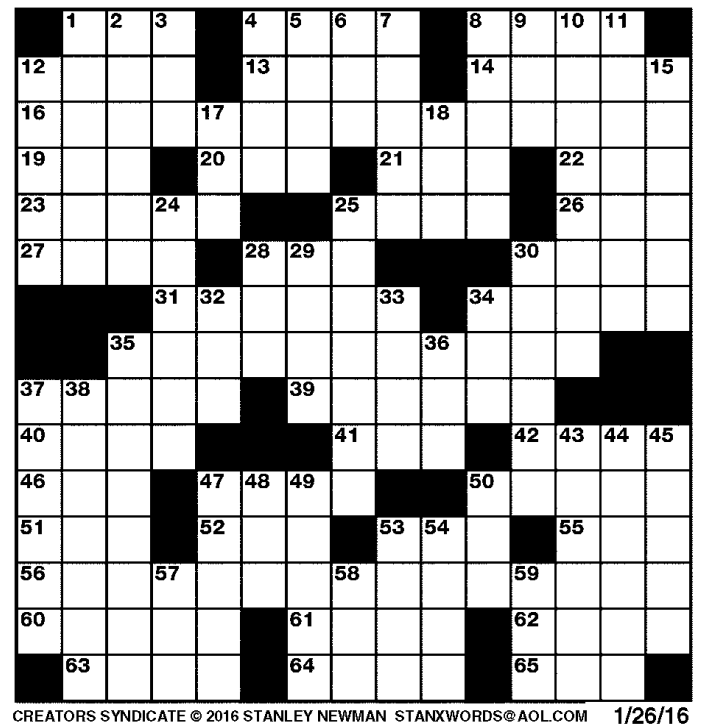
In 1998, President Bill Clinton forcefully denied having an affair with Monica Lewinsky.

Newsday Crossword

UK-9 CORPS by Sally R. Stein

- ACROSS
- 1 Baseball hat
  - 4 Ray of sunshine
  - 8 Hot springs
  - 12 Give as an example
  - 13 In addition
  - 14 Busybody
  - 16 Short-legged breed
  - 19 Writing tablet
  - 20 Bullring cheer
  - 21 Prefix for angle
  - 22 PC alternative
  - 23 Augment
  - 25 Explorer of kids' cartoons
  - 26 Physicians' org.
  - 27 Astronauts' org.
  - 28 Paulo, Brazil
  - 30 Astonish
  - 31 Worldwide relief org.
  - 34 Run off to wed
  - 35 Red-coated breed
  - 37 Accumulated, as debts
  - 39 Tempt
  - 40 Odds and (miscellany)
  - 41 Hemispheric alliance: Abbr.
  - 42 Competed
  - 46 When a plane is due in: Abbr.
  - 47 Auditor's goal
  - 50 Happen again
  - 51 Voter on treaties: Abbr.
  - 52 Lincoln nickname
  - 53 In the past
  - 55 Historical age
  - 56 Long-haired herding breed
  - 60 Scornful expression
  - 61 Proton's locale

- DOWN
- 2 In disagreement
  - 3 Furry friend
  - 4 Night court payment
  - 5 Otherwise
  - 6 Fireplace residue
  - 7 Inspirational slogan
  - 8 Where Damascus is capital
  - 9 Pay-view movie
  - 10 Person making Mickey Mouse move
  - 11 Make foggy
  - 12 Capitol cable channel
  - 15 Hard to understand
  - 17 Unduly
  - 18 Make a mistake
  - 24 Bull of the zodiac
  - 25 Neglects to
  - 28 for Silence (Grafton novel)
  - 29 Sore feeling
  - 30 Long part of a shirt
  - 32 Small bite
  - 33 Greek cheese
  - 34 And so on, for short
  - 35 At risk
  - 36 "My country, of thee"
  - 37 "Pieces" candy brand
  - 38 Insect's feeler
  - 43 Stuck due to freezing
  - 44 Home of Finns and Poles
  - 45 Pulls from behind
  - 47 Twosomes
  - 48 Belly muscles
  - 49 Get-well program, for short
  - 50 Fish eggs
  - 53 Sailor's greeting
  - 54 Emeralds and rubies
  - 57 Allow
  - 58 Trio in the alphabet
  - 59 Money player



**ROCKETS**

Continued from Page 9

Ariza hit a pair of 3-pointers as Houston scored the first 18 points of the third quarter to go ahead 76-60, and the Rockets appeared ready to coast to a win in Davis' absence. But New Orleans closed with a 13-3 run at the end of the quarter, including Norris Cole's running, 30-foot bank shot at the buzzer to pull the Pelicans within 93-92. "They fought back, and we knew they were going to make a run," Harden said. "They are a good team, especially at home."

Neither team led by more than three in the fourth quarter. Houston went ahead for good when Patrick Beverley drained a 3-pointer as the Rockets went up 110-109 with 1:09 left.

Harden's fadeaway made the score 112-109 before Holiday's layup closed the gap to 112-111 with 28.3 seconds left.

Harden lost the ball on Houston's next possession, regained it and shot an air ball for a shot-clock violation.

But Holiday, who tied his season high by playing 36 minutes, was guarded closely after taking an inbounds pass and could not get in range for a makeable shot as the Pelicans lost for the first time in four games.

The excitement about their near comeback was tempered by concern for Davis.

"I'm praying AD's OK," Holiday said. "I didn't see the

replay, but by the crowd (reaction), it was pretty bad."

Harden finished with 11 rebounds and eight assists to go along with his 35 points.

Ryan Anderson added 22 points for the Pelicans, who had their three-game winning streak stopped. Toney Douglas scored 18.

**HOWARD BACK SOON?**

Rockets interim coach J.B. Bickerstaff said Howard might return later in the week. The game against the Pelicans was the first of a three-game road stretch.

"We plan on having him on the trip," Bickerstaff said. "He worked out today and we'll see how he responds tomorrow. He'll get an opportunity to work more tomorrow and then we'll see how it goes from there."

Howard had 10 consecutive double-doubles before his injury.

**FREE THROW WOES**

The Pelicans hit 13 of 28 3-pointers but were barely better than that from the free throw line, making 14 of 25. Their struggles included four misses in their first five attempts during the fourth quarter and a critical one by Holiday late that could have given them a 3-point lead.

Houston sank 17 of 21 free throws.

**TIP-INS**

Rockets: The Rockets have won nine of 12 and are three games above .500 (25-22) for the first time this year. ... Houston has taken four of the last five against New Orleans.

**MLB**

Continued from Page 9

such as Yankees-Red Sox.

"We haven't really settled on teams, and I don't want to speculate about that," he said. "Obviously, we want to make as good a first impression in Europe as we possibly can."

**DESIGNATED HITTER**

Manfred said that when he spoke last week of a possible expansion of the designated hitter to the National League, he should have included an emphasis that change is not likely.

"I think the status quo on the DH has served the industry the well," he said. "I think it serves an important purpose in terms of defining the difference between the American League and the National League, and that league definition is important to us from a competitive perspective."

**INTERNATIONAL DRAFT**

"I have been of the view for a number of years that a single mode of entry into the bargaining unit is probably the most sustainable and effective for the industry over time," Manfred said. "I think we were closer to getting there in certain rounds of bargaining than people may have understood, and probably it was a mistake not to push it across the finish line."

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Rob Manfred  
MLB commissioner

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

MLB is investigating Yankees closer Aroldis Chapman, Colorado shortstop Jose Reyes and Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Yasiel Puig under the new domestic violence policy agreed to with the players' association last summer.

"These cases present a challenge in terms of witnesses, facts, criminal proceedings," Manfred said. "We're going to try to navigate those choppy waters in a way that sends the right message from the institution."

**SHORTENED SEASON**

Whether to shorten the

season from 162 games, its length since the early 1960s, is a topic for collective bargaining.

"The broadcast agreements are a really serious issue, and we're going to sort out what flexibility we have once the issue gets aired at the table," Manfred said.

While he is concerned about the demands on players, "by the same token, there are certain economics built on a 162-game season. Something less than that has massive economic ramifications, not to even mention statistics and undermining the comparability of performance of players over time. It's not something you can undertake lightly."

**FAN NETTING**

MLB recommended last month that teams have protective netting in front of seats between the dugouts and within 70 feet of home plate.

**TOP THREE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Initiatives for youth baseball, such as Play Ball with the U.S. Conference of Mayors; integration of baseball's divisions into a unified structure; international developments, such as an agreement to stream games in China.

**ENJOYMENT HIGHLIGHT**

"The most fun absolutely has to be when you're out there interacting with fans, particularly young fans," Manfred said.

**SPURS**

Continued from Page 9

Travis Barnes and Andre Iguodala guarding him early. The Spurs lacked the presence of Duncan, out because of soreness in his right knee.

"They outplayed us in every single aspect of the game," Spurs guard Manu Ginobili said. "Aggression was one."

Even coach Steve Kerr was in disbelief watching his current team thoroughly dismantle his old one on both

ends — not to mention his mentor and good friend, Gregg Popovich. Kerr coached his second game back following a long leave of absence dating to Oct. 1 because of complications following two back operations.

Popovich understood the hype for one of the most anticipated regular-season matchups in recent memory.

"Why not? It's the two teams with the best record, playing it up would seem to be logical to me," he said. "We feel different going against

a team that's the best team in the league. I get butterflies in my gut and excited about the game, and all that sort of thing. I don't feel like that every night."

Yet the Spurs are still right behind in the standings despite Golden State's NBA-record 24-0 start, so the Warriors wanted nothing more than to send a message that they plan to win another championship.

First, the Warriors are pursuing the Chicago Bulls' NBA record of 44 straight regular-season

home wins from March 30, 1995 to April 4, 1996. They improved to 21-0 this season.

"It was like men and boys out there tonight," Popovich said.

**FRIENDS FACE OFF**

It's not always fun coaching against a friend. Ask Popovich.

Seeing Kerr is always extra special, and they talked both Saturday and Sunday nights ahead of this matchup.

"I've got a lot of close friends," Popovich said. "The closer you are to one of these guys, you win and you actually to

some degree feel a little bit badly for your opponent, which sounds really unmanly in the macho world that we live in. If you lose, it doesn't hurt so much like a normal loss."

Kerr disagrees, saying, "I love Pop, that's my guy, but I don't feel that bad right now."

Ginobili stopped by Golden State's bench after a first-quarter timeout to give ex-teammate Kerr a hug and pat on the back.

Popovich was thrilled to see Kerr — who won two titles with the Spurs — back coaching.

"Steve's a different animal. He exudes a lot of confidence and he instills it," Popovich said. "A lot of people can't do that. There's no formula for it, but having Steve back is very, very, very significant for that club and that group of guys."

**TIP-INS**

Spurs: San Antonio committed a season-high 26 turnovers. ... The Spurs had won 23 of the previous 26 at Oracle and 54 of 62 overall in the series dating to April 4, 1998. ... David West had 12 points and five rebounds while starting in Duncan's place.

Warriors: Curry has 30-plus points in seven of his last nine games. ... Golden State is 25-2 vs. the West and has won 35 in a row at home against Western Conference teams in the regular season. ... Rap mogul Jay-Z sat courtside eight seats away from Warriors owner Joe Lacob, and rapper Drake also was in attendance.

**UP NEXT**

Spurs: Host Houston on Wednesday.

Warriors: Host Dallas on Wednesday.

**PRAISE**

Continued from Page 9

to get pressure on him, but you have to be decisive on how you're rushing. You can't be a wild rusher."

The Broncos certainly went wild against Brady, hitting him 23 times, all the more amazing given how quickly Brady usually gets rid of the ball.

And no one was in his face more often than Von Miller, who had 2 1/2 sacks and an interception on a pass intended for Gronkowski.

"We go out there and

the scoreboard talks for itself," Miller said.

So good was defensive coordinator Wade Phillips' scheme that after the game, coach Gary Kubiak felt he had to give out several game balls.

"We've got to come up with a great game plan against them like we did against New England," Talib said. "We may switch it up here and there a little bit, but for the most part, we're going to get pressure on the quarterback and cover."

The Broncos are facing a different kind of

QB in Newton. He's not like Brady, who will find seam after seam for big play after big play. Instead, Newton will take off if the pressure is too intense. In a 49-15 win over Arizona during the NFC title game, Newton rushed for two TDs and threw for two more.

"Super unique," Talib said. "I've never seen anybody who is that size. He can sit in the pocket and throw it, and then he can run, run wide out. He probably could play any position in the NFL that you wanted to. He's definitely a unique player."

Kubiak saw Newton last season when he was offensive coordinator in Baltimore. Newton completed 14 of 25 passes for 197 yards that day but was under duress for much of the game. Newton was sacked twice as the Ravens won 38-10.

The Broncos first-year head coach wouldn't mind a repeat performance.

"Having to tackle him out in the open field, having to defend the quarterback runs and those types of things will be something different for us," Kubiak said.

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# Kubiak, Daniels heading to Super Bowl

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — When Tom Brady took a knee with 33 seconds left in the first half of the AFC championship and turned to trot toward the tunnel, Broncos tight end Owen Daniels wasn't buying it.

He stood on Denver's sideline pointing at the New England Patriots until they indeed disappeared into their locker room. Only then did he head off the field, passing his coach along the way.

"I got some comments about that on social media that I looked really confused," Daniels said Monday while basking in the afterglow of his two-touchdown performance in Denver's 20-18 dethroning of the defending champs.

Daniels wasn't confounded, just cautious.

You see, while he was in Baltimore last season, the Ravens came up with a scheme to fool the Steelers in the playoffs. If they had enough time, they were going to take a knee and fake like they were trotting off to their nearby tunnel only to run back to the line of scrimmage, snap the ball

while the Steelers were walking off and run for an easy touchdown.

They never got that chance.

But, hey, if anyone else has thought of it, you can bet Bill Belichick has, too.

"New England has always got something up their sleeve," Daniels said. "... So, I was just making sure I was ready to make a tackle."

It's that football acumen that led coach Gary Kubiak to vouch for Daniels last spring when he and general manager John Elway mapped out their free agency plans and offered Daniels a three-year, \$12 million contract.

Daniels has played for Kubiak his entire NFL career. He spent eight seasons with him in Houston and followed him to Baltimore in 2014 when Kubiak was hired as the Ravens' offensive coordinator following his firing as the Texans' head coach.

Together, they resurrected their respective careers before coming to Colorado.

Daniels caught 48 passes for 527 yards and four touchdowns in helping the Ravens

reach the playoffs, where he scored his first postseason touchdown against New England.

In Denver, Daniels caught 46 passes for 517 yards and three TDs in the regular season. He had TD grabs of 21 and 12 yards Sunday.

"As a coach when you bounce to different places and guys' names come up, you've got to be careful," Kubiak said. "But there are certain guys you have no doubt staying up for, saying, 'Put him on your team.' And he's one of those guys."

Daniels brought pedigree to a position where Peyton Manning had lost Julius Thomas and his two dozen TD catches from 2013-14 to free agency.

He immediately received an invitation from Manning to attend his annual passing camp at Duke, where the 39-year-old quarterback picked Daniels' brain about Kubiak's offensive philosophy.

Then, Daniels tutored the rest of the offense.

"He didn't like directly order me to do that, but ... it

kind of happened naturally," Daniels said.

Daniels had a disappointing start in Denver as the Broncos struggled on offense early on. They were getting used to a new O-line and Manning's left foot was bothering him. Plus, they had injuries that reduced their ranks at tight end and limited their options.

Then, Elway brought in Vernon Davis from San Francisco just before the trade deadline and everything changed for Daniels and Virgil Green.

While Davis has had problems with drops and caught just 20 passes for 201 yards, his presence really opened things up for the other tight ends.

"It's been great. Having Vernon here, obviously he's a super dynamic player who has been playing really well for a long time," Daniels said. "Having him around, it's allowed us to do more two-tight end stuff. To have three guys that are really interchangeable out there, he's been a great asset for us."

It's not just Daniels' produc-

tion, but his football instincts that helped the Broncos (14-4) get back to the Super Bowl, where they'll face the Carolina Panthers (17-1).

Like his heads-up on Brady's kneel-down.

"We tried to do that to another team," Daniels said, "so I was kind of alert to that."

After the game, Daniels searched for Kubiak to soak in the moment.

"Coach Kube and I obviously, we've been together 10 years. Those years in Houston were satisfying because we helped take that franchise from where it was and turn it around to make it a winning franchise expecting to win every year," Daniels said. "That meant a lot and then for us to just kind of be in this moment together. I was looking for Kube after the game. I couldn't find him until he was on the stage."

After the trophy presentation, the two embraced.

"We had a little moment," Daniels said. "I know it means a ton to him to be in this situation. It means a lot to me to share that with him."

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