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BIG SPRING HERALD



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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016

UIL realignment: few changes for area schools

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Howard County public school athletic teams won't face much of a change when the latest round of district realignment takes effect next school year.

The University Interscholastic League announced its latest realignment Monday, and the biggest news for area schools is what didn't change. For starters, no area school changed classification; and secondly, there is little or no change in

district make-up. For football season, Big Spring will see the same opponents in District 3-4A Div. 1 — Brownwood, Snyder, Stephenville and Abilene Wylie — that it had last year. Over at Coahoma, the Bulldogs will contest

District 2-3A Div. II along with Colorado City, Idalou, Lubbock Roosevelt and Stanton. The Forsan Buffaloes will be in District 4-2A Div. I with Anson, Hawley, Post and Stamford.



See, **UIL**, Page 3



Big Spring firefighters attack the roof portion of a house fire which occurred in the 2100 block of South Runnels Street Monday morning. One firefighter received minor injuries in the blaze.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Arson ruled in fire

Firefighter receives minor injuries in Monday blaze

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Investigators have concluded a Monday fire on South Runnels Street was intentionally set. One Big Spring firefighter was hospitalized following the fire, which occurred in the 2100 block of Runnels shortly before 9 a.m. Monday. Big Spring Fire Department units were on the scene of the fire shortly after the first call was received at 8:48 a.m. and found heavy smoke visible from the northeast and back porch portions of the house, according to information released by Assistant Fire Marshal Dan Hendrickson. See, **ARSON**, Page 3



High winds ripped through Howard County Monday afternoon, rolling in a dust storm and colder weather. Some residences lost power for a short time because of the winds.

Courtesy photo/John Moody

Creating art out of everyday objects

'3-D' works to be subject of new exhibit at Heritage Museum

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Where most of us would see a chair or a lamp, others would see a canvas. That's the inspiration behind the latest exhibit at Heritage Museum, which debuts next Saturday. The Big Spring Art Association and Caboose Watercolor Society will team up to present the new exhibit at the museum, which features everyday objects turned into 3D paintings by the artists. "Instead of using a canvas, the artists painted things like chairs or other 3D objects," said Museum Curator Tammy Schrecengost. "It's just a little twist on the traditional painting exhibit, an attempt to make things exciting or new. A public wine and cheese



reception, to be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. next Saturday, will formally kick off the exhibit, which runs through March 12. Admission to the exhibit is free, Schrecengost said.

Punxsutawney Phil declares early spring to arrive in 2016

By **Zak Lantz**

Of The Punxsutawney Spirit PUNXSUTAWNEY — The time had come; it was the moment everyone had been waiting for. It was Groundhog Day. The Inner Circle members made their

traditional trek down the hill through the crowd, thousands of people strong, to the stage that holds the resting place — speaking, of course, of literal rest or hibernation

See, **GROUNDHOG**, Page 3

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **MICHAEL JOSEPH MCNEW**, 25, of 123 Banks Rd. was arrested on a charge of theft of property, more than \$100 but less than \$750, shoplifting.
- **JERRY DON DUFFER**, 28, of 2506 Hunter Dr. was arrested on a warrant for criminal trespass – property/building/aircraft/vehicle.
- **ERIC WAYNE CEVALLOS**, 33, of 301 Wood St. Coahoma was arrested on a warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia.

• **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 4400 block of W. Hwy 80.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 3600 block of E. 11th Place, the 500 block of E. 3rd St., the 200 block of W. FM 700, the 1600 block of S. Gregg St. and the Morefield Rd. exit on North Service Rd.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80 and the 6700 block of E. Robinson Rd.

• **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 1400 block of E. 6th St.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 78 inmates at the time of this report.

• **JESUS CASTRO-GONZALEZ**, 25, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for failure to appear – unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and motion to revoke probation – obstruction or retaliation.

• **ERIC WAYNE CEVALLOS**, 33 was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for possession or delivery of drug paraphernalia.

• **JERRY DON DUFFER**, 28, was booked by the

HCSO on a warrant for criminal trespass.

• **CALEB BROWNING LYLE**, 21, was booked by the HCSO on two warrants for motion – forgery of a financial instrument.

• **MICHAEL JOSEPH MCNEW**, 25, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for bondsman off bond – assault family/house member impeding breathing and normal circulation and a charge of theft of property, more than \$100 but less than \$750.

• **DEANNE MARIE THOMPSON**, 42, was booked by the DPS on a warrant for bail jumping and failure to appear.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore St. One person was transported to SMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1400 block of Virginia St. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of Marcy St. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **ODOR REMOVAL** was reported in the 700 block

of Scurry St. Incident was investigated.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 800 block of Gregg St. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **OUTSIDE RUBBISH FIRE** was reported in the 100 block of Jones St. Incident was investigated.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of Hwy 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. No transport.

• **SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVATION** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. Incident was investigated.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

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

THURSDAY

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

until 8 p.m.

MONDAY

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

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

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

TUESDAY

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

This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942

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

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

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






**Story ideas? Comments?
Call 432-263-7331 ext 230**

Obituaries

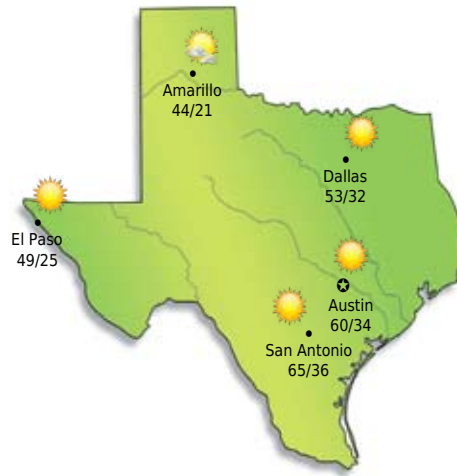
Edith "Polly" McDaniel

Edith "Polly" Parker McDaniel, 93, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, February 2, 2016 in a local nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 2/3	Thu 2/4	Fri 2/5	Sat 2/6	Sun 2/7
 50/25 A mainly sunny sky. High near 50F. Winds N at 5 to 10 mph.	 56/30 Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	 56/31 More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	 53/28 Sunshine. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	 60/30 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 30s.
Sunrise: 7:39 AM Sunset: 6:20 PM	Sunrise: 7:38 AM Sunset: 6:21 PM	Sunrise: 7:37 AM Sunset: 6:22 PM	Sunrise: 7:37 AM Sunset: 6:23 PM	Sunrise: 7:36 AM Sunset: 6:24 PM

Texas at a Glance







Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	62	29	Sunny	Kingsville	77	47	M Cloudy
Amarillo	42	21	Sunny/Wind	Livingston	72	42	P Cloudy
Austin	71	40	Sunny	Longview	68	37	M Cloudy
Beaumont	74	47	Cloudy	Lubbock	52	23	Sunny/Wind
Brownsville	73	53	Cloudy	Lufkin	72	40	M Cloudy
Brownwood	65	30	Sunny	Midland	59	31	Sunny
Corpus Christi	74	50	P Cloudy	Raymondville	78	51	M Cloudy
Corsicana	69	37	M Sunny	Rosenberg	72	46	P Cloudy
Dallas	68	37	Sunny	San Antonio	75	42	P Cloudy
Del Rio	74	40	Sunny	San Marcos	73	40	M Sunny
El Paso	48	27	P Clidy/Wind	Sulphur Springs	66	37	P Cloudy
Fort Stockton	57	29	Sunny/Wind	Sweetwater	61	29	Sunny/Wind
Gainesville	64	31	Sunny	Tyler	68	37	M Cloudy
Greenville	66	35	M Sunny	Weatherford	65	33	Sunny
Houston	75	47	Cloudy	Wichita Falls	60	32	Sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	73	62	Foggy	Miami	79	71	P Cloudy
Boston	46	35	P Cloudy	Minneapolis	31	21	P Cloudy
Chicago	44	38	M Clidy/Wind	New York	49	42	Sunny
Dallas	68	37	Sunny	Phoenix	57	34	P Cloudy
Denver	28	7	Snow Showers	San Francisco	55	45	Cloudy
Houston	65	32	Iso T-Storms	Seattle	50	39	Cloudy
Los Angeles	63	41	Clear	Saint Louis	65	37	Cloudy/Wind

Moon Phases

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

Lottery

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) – These Texas lotteries were drawn Monday:

All or Nothing Day
01-03-04-05-08-10-11-14-21-22-23-24

(one, three, four, five, eight, ten, eleven, fourteen, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four)

All or Nothing Evening
01-05-07-10-12-13-14-16-17-19-21-24

(one, five, seven, ten, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, sixteen, seventeen, nineteen, twenty-one, twenty-four)

All or Nothing Morning
02-03-04-05-08-13-15-16-17-19-20-24

(two, three, four, five, eight, thirteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-four)

All or Nothing Night
01-02-03-04-08-11-13-15-16-18-22-23

(one, two, three, four, eight, eleven, thirteen, fifteen, sixteen, eighteen, twenty-two, twenty-three)

Cash 5
06-15-20-24-28
(six, fifteen, twenty, twenty-four, twenty-eight)

Daily 4 Day
5-0-3-2, Sum It Up: 10
(five, zero, three, two; Sum It Up: ten)

Daily 4 Evening
1-8-3-2
(one, eight, three, two)

Daily 4 Morning
8-0-4-0
(eigh, zero, four, zero)

Daily 4 Night
7-8-1-4, Sum It Up: 20
(seven, eight, one, four; Sum It Up: twenty)

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Take Note

Tea Time

The Big Spring Symphony Guild will sponsor "Tea Around the World" on Feb. 6. at 11 a.m. Potato soup and chicken salad sandwiches will be served. There will be a fashion show, door prizes and a silent auction. Tickets are \$20 per person. Call 214-256-1674 for reservations.

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

Little League time

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, ages 4 - 16 and you must provide a birth certificate.

- The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

- The Kiwanis Club of Big Spring meets at noon every Thursday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are welcome.

- Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meet-

ing begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

- Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

Volunteer opportunities

- Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

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

213-7960.

- Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

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

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the com-

munity who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

- Food 2 Kids Big Spring Needs You! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

Our sacking location are at the former Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 NW 7th. To get there take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney which is the block just past the Salvation Army Store. Delaney turns into 7th Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left.

tary Schools. If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

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

How to help

- An account has been set up at Western Bank (account number 1017623) for Blantyn Gusman and Zachary Duncan, who were seriously injured in an accident.

ARSON

Continued from Page 1

"Suppression activities were started, but there was difficulty in gaining access to the attic area for ventilation," Hendrickson said in a news release. "The firefighter made a direct attack, extinguishing remaining pockets of fire and embers."

Fire crews were released from the scene at 11 a.m., he added.

None of the three occupants of the home were injured, although one firefighters received a minor injury at the scene and was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center for observation and evaluation, the release stated.

Portions of the home, along with the owner's vehicle, received "significant" damage, Hendrickson said.

"The cause of the fire has been ruled arson and remains an open investigation at this time," he noted. "If there is any information by the public, please contact the fire marshal's office at 432-264-2305."

Arson is a second-degree felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison, but, because a firefighter was injured during the incident, the offense can be raised to a first-degree felony, carrying a potential prison sentence of 99 years or life.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 432-263-7331, ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

A Big Spring firefighter walks out of a house fire after finding the owner's pets. The pets were reunited with their owners shortly after.

Currently we are distributing food at Goliad, Marcy and Moss Element-

UIL

Continued from Page 1

Coahoma Athletic Director Fred Dietz had been prepared for CHS to be shifted west when realignment was announced, but quickly readjust scheduling plans Monday.

"I was a little surprised," Dietz said. "I thought we might go west right along with Alpine and Reagan County; that was what we had prepared for ... But it all worked out. Fortunately, we had a backup plan in place and we were able to fill out our schedule."

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

GROUNDHOG

Continued from Page 1

of the celebrity of the day: Punxsutawney Phil. Fun is Phil's middle name, and plenty of fun had been had at the home called Gobbler's Knob, but now, it was time to get down to business. Everyone was eager to know what Phil had to say this year.

If he sees his shadow, the tradition says he'll scurry back into his den and hibernate for a long winter — though, the weather in Phil's neck of the woods has been far from wintry thus far this year. If he doesn't see his shadow, he stays out to join the party. Sure, he still goes back to sleep afterward; it is only February 2nd, after all. There's still cold weather ahead, but no shadow means an early spring, and that's cause for celebration.

The 2016 edition of Groundhog Day — Phil and his followers' 130th annual celebration — took place on a Tuesday, of all days, and anyone who knows a thing or two about the holiday can tell you that Tuesdays and Wednesdays tend to bring out smaller crowds than the weekend events might. But don't tell that to Phil, his Inner Circle members or anyone else

involved in the annual party, because this year, the music was just as loud at Gobbler's Knob, the celebration was just as intense, and the grand finale — Phil's prognostication — lived up to the hype.

After emerging from his humble abode — a sawed-off tree stump, hollowed out in the center — Phil, having already prepared two scrolls, was asked to determine which was the proper one by speaking to Groundhog Club President Bill Deeley. First, Deeley explained the process, noting that the cane he was holding in his hand enabled him to speak and understand Groundhogese, Phil's native language.

With that, and with the members of the crowd shouting out to Phil their prognostication preferences, the Seer of Seers was presented to the crowd — to a roar of cheers, of course. Deeley and the groundhog got up close and personal, and the message was passed between the two.

Then, the following scroll was read:

"Hear ye; hear ye; hear ye. This second day of February, 2016, the 130th annual trek of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club. Punxsutawney Phil, the Seer of Seers, Prognosticators of all Prognosticators, was awakened to

the cheer of his thousands of faithful followers. In Groundhogese, he directed the Groundhog President to the precise prediction scrolls, which, translated, reads, "The Inner Circle goes to great ends, to keep me abreast of the latest trends. Down in my burrow, I never get bored, riding on my hoverboard. And I sure have fun flying my drone, but the weather forecasting is my comfort zone. Is this current warm weather more than a trend? Perchance this winter has come to an end. There is no shadow to be cast. An early spring is my forecast!"

The crowd roared — as most folks are typically hoping for an early

spring — and the Inner Circle members invited those who were willing to stick around for a photo op with Phil down to the stage. Before long, though, the crowd had dissipated, leaving Gobbler's Knob vacated for another year and closing the book on the 130th edition of Groundhog Day.

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Chamber Annual Banquet - February 16th
Dorothy Garrett Coliseum - 7pm

Guest Speaker - Chet Garner "The Daytripper"
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Opinion

The civil war of the right

“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.

ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

• **BARACK OBAMA**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• **TED CRUZ**
U.S. Senator
B40B Dirksen Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4305
Phone: 202-228-0462

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
517 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-2934

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative
19th Cong. District
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: 432-264-0722

STATE GOVERNMENT

• **GREG ABBOTT**
Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, 78711
Phone: 512-463-2000

• **DREW DARBY**
State Representative

Texas 72nd District
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, 78768
Phone: 512-463-0331

• **KEL SELIGER**
State Senator
Texas 31st District
Phone: 432-268-9909

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• **LARRY MCLELLAN**,
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The conservative movement is starting to look a lot like Syria.

Baited, taunted,

mocked by Fox News, Donald Trump told Roger Ailes what he could do with his Iowa debate, and marched off to host a Thursday night rally for veterans at the same time in Des Moines.

Message: I speak for the silent majority, Roger, not you, not Megyn Kelly, not Fox News. Diss me, and I will do fine without Fox.

And so the civil-sectarian war on the right widens and deepens.

And two questions arise: Will the conservative movement and Republican Party unite behind Trump if he is the nominee? And will the movement and party come together if Trump is not the nominee?

A breakdown of the balance of forces in this civil-sectarian war finds most of the media elite of the right recoiling from Trump, while Trump leads by a huge margin in Middle America.

National Review, Commentary, The Weekly Standard, Wall Street Journal, and the conservative and neocon columnists on the op-ed pages at The Washington Post and The New York Times have almost all come out viscerally against Trump.

He, in turn, has trashed several by name. Wounds have been inflicted that will not soon be forgiven or forgotten.

But while columns and magazines appear in print twice weekly, weekly, biweekly and monthly, millions listen to talk radio every hour of every day. And though websites might be updated daily, radio, more than print, is a medium that moves people.

Among the top talkers, Trump gets more than a fair hearing. Some of the talk shows with the largest audiences are sympathetic, others are supportive. And the Drudge Report, the daily newspaper of Middle America,

tracks Trump's every move.

In the media battle, then, the media elite are being swamped by Trump. And Trump is winning the political battle as well. According to almost every poll, state or national, Trump is ahead of all rivals, with his closest challenger trailing by 10 or more points. Among the populist and Tea Party right, Trump has lapped the field, and he is now competitive among Evangelicals.

How will the civil war on the right end?

Because the differences are not simply about personalities and politics, but principles and policies, it may not end with this election.

There is talk of having the anti-Trump conservatives unite behind the one establishment candidate — Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio, John Kasich, Chris Christie — who emerges strongest after New Hampshire, to storm through the later primaries and take down Trump.

Yet such a scenario seems implausible.

That audience of 24 million that tuned in to the first Fox News debate and the 22 million that tuned in to the CNN debate were drawn to Trump, and Ben Carson, Ted Cruz and Rand Paul, because these men seemed to represent real change.

Democrats who support Bernie Sanders and Republicans who support Trump may disagree on where America should go, but both agree on the need for America to radically change direction.

Yet, if this battle for the GOP nomination should yield another establishment Republican, would not all the fire and energy of the campaign of 2015-2016 soon disappear?

Consistency not being their long suit, some among the conservative elites who denounced Trump's walkout from the debate, threaten to walk out of the party should Trump win.

But walkout is an option open to populists as well. And if, after the rise of the Tea Party, the capture of Congress in 2014, the Trump-Cruz-Carson rebellion,

the GOP offers the silent majority yet another establishment candidate, will populists and Tea Party types rally to him?

Perhaps. One recalls that, after the Revolution of 1789, the march on Versailles, the guillotining of Louis XVI, the rise of Robespierre, and the Era of Napoleon, the French got the Bourbon Restoration — Louis XVIII, brother of the beheaded king, sitting on the old throne.

Still, if the populist-conservative struggle of the last five years, to put behind them the days of Bush 41 and Bush 43, produces Bush 45, or his moral equivalent, how many would shoulder arms and march for him?

And, again, the argument over the acceptability of Trump aside, there is a deeper conflict within the GOP and conservative movement that may be irreconcilable. Millions of conservatives and independents believe it was the Republican policies of the recent past that also failed America.

The Bush-Clinton-Obama trade policies produced the \$12 trillion in trade deficits, which measures the net export of U.S. factories and manufacturing jobs, which explain the wage stagnation.

The Republican-neocon foreign policy of intervention and nation building is a primary cause of the present disasters in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Yemen.

The immigration policies championed by Bush Republicans as well Clinton and Obama Democrats produced the immigration crisis that propels the Trump campaign.

In short, it will be difficult for populists to unite with Beltway conservatives in 2016, when the former see the latter as part of the problem, not the solution.

Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of the new book "The Greatest Comeback: How Richard Nixon Rose From Defeat to Create the New Majority." To find out more about Patrick Buchanan and read features by other Creators writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Web page at www.creators.com.

Is there only one true progressive?

In our polarized politics, the Democratic Party is trending leftward — not as sharply or as rapidly as the Republican Party has turned toward the far right, but still the party is moving further left than a generation or even an election or two ago. The stunning rise of Bernie Sanders, who proclaims himself both a democratic socialist and a political revolutionary, provides powerful evidence of desire at the grassroots for substantive and perhaps radical change.

Yet many Democrats understandably wonder, as the primary season begins, how far their party can go without risking a catastrophic loss of the White House and the Congress to Republican extremists like Ted Cruz and Donald Trump. They also wonder whether Hillary Clinton, whose surname is synonymous with triangulating centrism, will inspire their base — and whether her candidacy represents any kind of change, beyond gender.

The response of the Sanders faithful is straightforward enough: Their man is not only more faithful to progressive principles but more likely to win in November, because his "revolution" will bring out millions of new voters. (Evidently the Republican Party, which attacks Clinton relentlessly while sending out messages supportive of Sanders, doesn't agree.)

Such was the argument advanced by The Nation magazine — a venerable publication of

the left, celebrating its 150th anniversary — in its recent cover editorial endorsing Sanders for president. Along with many other Nation articles over the past several months, that lengthy essay leaves the unmistakable impression that Sanders is the only progressive choice for Democratic voters.

Those who doubt Sanders' electability or qualifications may still ask themselves whether a true believer can support Hillary Clinton, however. And they might well find an answer in the pages of The Nation, too.

Just a month ago, the magazine published its 2015 Progressive Honor Roll, an annual feature compiled by John Nichols — a veteran journalist and author who happens to be a highly enthusiastic Sanders supporter.

But he apparently applied no political litmus test to his list of America's "most valuable" progressives, because it included several prominent supporters of Clinton. In fact, of the individuals honored by The Nation, nearly every single one is backing her.

Topping the list is Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., named "most valuable Senator," who in fact was endorsed Clinton back in January 2014. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., the list's "most valuable House member," endorsed her last April. State Senator Pam Jochum, the Dubuque Democrat who presides over the Iowa State Senate — and was chosen from among thousands of local elected officials across the country as the "most valuable state legislator" — announced her support for Clinton last October.

Cecile Richards, the Planned Parenthood president named

as the country's "most valuable activist," led her organization to back Clinton earlier this month (and earned a sour-grapes dismissal by Sanders as "the establishment"). Newark, New Jersey's Ras Baraka, chosen as the "most valuable mayor," hasn't officially endorsed a presidential candidate yet, but his political organization has shown every sign of backing Clinton since last summer. And "most valuable memoir" author Gloria Steinem, the revered feminist leader and thinker, is currently campaigning for Clinton in New Hampshire.

Incidentally, Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell also makes the list as "most valuable Cabinet member." She must observe administration neutrality in the primary but — as a former top Clinton White House official — would very likely endorse the former first lady.

Whatever their reasons for supporting Clinton, these are all serious progressive leaders who don't take a presidential endorsement lightly. Agree with their choice or not, it still carries weight.

As the first wave of voting approaches, campaign rhetoric gets super-hot and sometimes angry. Partisans on both sides will inevitably utter silly, uninformed, and even offensive remarks about the opposing candidate. But at such moments it is worth emphasizing that progressives can differ honestly over which of these two leaders can represent the nation's real interests most effectively. That will be even more important to remember when the nominee finally emerges.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

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

- 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

May we develop a solid relationship with you, Lord.

Amen



PATRICK J. BUCHANAN



JOE CONASON

Groundhog Day 2016: Phive things I love about Punxsy Phil and his big day

EDITOR'S NOTE:
Zak Lantz is a guest columnist and the managing editor from *The Punxsutawney Spirit*.

Having grown up in Punxsutawney — the Weather Capital of the World — Groundhog Day is one of those things that has just always been a part of me. That's the thing about Phil's big day — whether you're a fan or not, it's a part of you if you call Punxsutawney home.



ZAK LANTZ

In all honesty, there have been days where I've seen my hometown heritage as less-than-honorable. In the years after the movie came out, for example, I used to tell people that I was from neighboring towns when I was traveling, because — and this is hard to say — I was ashamed of my hometown and its tradition.

Now, though, as an adult and a grown member of the Punxsutawney community, I have to admit that I am happy and proud to say that Groundhog Day has grown on me to the point where I have to say that I'm a phan. I've come phull circle.

(Editor's Note: This is going to drive most of you absolutely crazy, but the phact of the matter is that one of my phavorite parts of being the editor of the newspaper is playing with words and sounds. The relationship between the letter F and the Ph has always phascinated me. So, throughout the rest of this column, I will use the two interchangeably out of honor and respect for our phantastic phriend Phil!)

With that being said, I want to give you a little bit of a glimpse into what I love so much about the holiday. Now, I also am a realist, and I can't honestly tell you that there are no negatives associated with the big day. I'm selfish, and I don't like to share, for one, and so, sharing the streets of my normally quiet town is still a challenge for me.

Being surrounded by people is a bit exhausting for me, but for one day, I've realized it's a great way to step outside of my introverted comfort zone and enjoy myself in a way I usually wouldn't.

Besides, the things that I don't love about the holiday are easily cancelled out by the positives that surround Punxsutawney Phil, his Inner Circle, the Groundhog Banquet and all of the other events associated with Feb. 2.

And so, out of phairness to Phil, in hopes of pointing the spotlight phully on him, I've phormed a list of phive different things that I absolutely love about the Prognosticator of

Prognosticators and his big day.

1. Groundhog Day is phun — There's just no denying it. Even when I'm not feeling up to the 48-hour period of coverage that comes with Groundhog Day and the 48-hour hibernation I'm going to need afterward, I can't help but smile when I think back on the past five year's worth of Groundhog Days that I've been a part of covering for my hometown newspaper.

Without phail, my phavorite part of Groundhog Day happens hours and hours before the TV cameras flood Gobbler's Knob. The highlight of the big day comes on what we like to refer to as Groundhog Eve — Feb. 1 — when the Inner Circle and Phil's closest friends host the Groundhog Banquet at Punxsutawney Area High School.

Between the witty comedy of the emcees and the phun entertainment — not to mention the guest speakers who come to town just for the event — it's perfectly clear that the main reason for Groundhog Day, whether it's a few dozen people or tens of thousands celebrating it, is to have phun! Groundhog Club President

Bill Deeley makes this clear in his remarks almost every year. The reason that we all gather for this phestive event is to have some phun with it. And to me, that really is the best part.

2. Groundhog Day is phamilial — I've written about this in the past, and it makes perfect sense to me, because I grew up in a small town. I grew up in this small town, and in Punxsutawney, phamily is important. Groundhog Day is one big phamily reunion, as far as I can tell, and it's an occasion for celebration for that very reason alone.

I see pholks walking the streets of Punxsutawney that I haven't seen in far too long — whether they be old high school friends back for a visit or others who just haven't been seen around town because of a few weeks of winter weather chasing them into hibernation.

It's not just immediate phamily that makes it home for this reunion, though. This is one of those reunions where everybody and their cousin is invited,

and so, the phamily gets bigger every year. You can't walk around this town on the magical day without running into someone who has a story of how they phell for Phil that makes you smile. And that's one of my phavorite things about Groundhog Day.

3. Groundhog Day is phashionable — I won't dwell on this one too long, but I can tell you this: If you haven't looked into Phil's phashion line, you're missing out. My phavorite Phil item is the phurry hat that has eyes and a tail on it, but if you're looking for a new way to experience the day, simply looking around at some of the attire that pholks come up with to pay homage to Phil is quite entertaining.

This past year, I did my small part in spreading Phil's phashion outside the borders of town — and of the country — as I sent Groundhog Day shirts to my niece and nephew in Canada. I've already seen them sporting the shirts, and they, of course, look phabulous in them. I don't look nearly as cute in the phashion realm, but Phil's clothing line is still one of my phavorite parts about his day.

4. Groundhog Day is photogenic — Hey! Look at that, I didn't have to do the quirky thing with the F and the Ph on that one! If you're in town on Groundhog Day, I'd highly recommend that you keep a camera on-hand (or, at least, have your phone ready for photography).

Here at The Spirit, we're blessed to have my phavorite photographer, Alan Freed, using his creativity and his eye for photography on our behalf up at Gobbler's Knob and around town on the big day. But I still encourage all of my reporters to keep their cameras at the ready, because you never know what's going to pop up in town that day! And that's one

of my phavorite things about Groundhog Day.

5. Groundhog Day is phantastic — You see, the whole ph-related quirk didn't start with me. It's just something I'm a phan of and have chosen to pass on. Phantastic Phils — a line of artistic representations of Punxsy Phil planted throughout

town — are one of the quirkiest things I've ever heard of. And since we have one at our office, I know that pholks come from far and wide to have their pictures taken with these porcelain versions of our town's greatest representative. But the Phantastic Phils trend is just one of the many things that make me realize that Punxsutawney really is phantastic — 365 days a year (or 366 in a leap year like this year).

The people of Punxsutawney are phantastic, and they pour hours and hours of their time into playing good hosts on Groundhog Day, but their phantastic nature extends far beyond one day each year. I know because I grew up here. I'm far from phantastic, I must confess, but having grown up in this town, I sure don't have a shortage of positive examples to look to. And knowing that those same people will still be the heart and soul of Punxsutawney come Feb. 3 is one of my phavorite things about Groundhog Day.

And so, whether

you're a Punxsutawney native or you're coming to town for one 24-hour period this February, I just want you to know — from a hometown boy who has come phull circle on Phil — there's plenty to love about Groundhog Day, and it

all starts with remembering that it's all about having some phamilial, phashionable, photogenic, phantastic phun!

Zak Lantz is the editor of *The Punxsutawney Spirit*.



AP Photo
Punxsutawney Phil, right, is held by Ben Hughes after emerging from his burrow on Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pa., to see his shadow and forecast six more weeks of winter weather Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2010.



AP Photo
Groundhog Club President Bill Deeley, right, taps the door to awaken Phil during the 129th celebration of Groundhog Day on Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pa. Monday, Feb. 2, 2015.



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Play ball

Hawks face rare rebuilding season as they open 2016 play

By DREW WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

Despite winning the Western Junior College Athletic Conference championship for the fifth time in seven years last season, Howard College Head Baseball Coach Britt Smith says to repeat that would be “monumental.”

“We lost basically our entire starting rotation, and we graduated two through nine in the lineup,” Smith said. “Almost everyone that suits up tomorrow, it will be their first time in a Howard uniform.”

Three of the players no longer on the roster were All-Americans for the Hawks in 2015. Second baseman

See HAWKS, Page 13



Howard College Baseball Coach Britt Smith talks about the upcoming season Monday. The Hawks opened their 2016 season with a doubleheader today against Weatherford College. HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Girls' basketball

Big Spring at Levelland, 6:30 p.m.
Sonora at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.
Forsan at Eldorado, 6:30 p.m.
Garden City at Robert Lee, 6:30 p.m.
Sands at Dawson, 6:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball

Big Spring at Levelland, 8 p.m.
Sonora at Coahoma, 8 p.m.
Forsan at Eldorado, 8 p.m.
Garden City at Robert Lee, 8 p.m.
Sands at Dawson, 8 p.m.

College baseball

Wayland Baptist at Howard College (DH), noon.

WEDNESDAY

College softball

Weatherford College at Howard College (DH), 1 p.m.

JH girls end road season in split

By DREW WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

The 7th and 8th grade Lady Steers hit the road to Snyder for their final road game of the season Monday night.

The 8th grade A team girls lost a close game in overtime 36-33. Leading the team was Trinity Galloway with 13 points and Amber Martinez with ten points. Marissa Aguilar

was the leading rebounder.

The Lady Steer 8th grade B team lost against a tall Trinity team on Saturday 19-9, and again in a close 25-22 game against Midland Christian. Kayleigh Rodriguez was the leading scorer for the Lady Steers in both games.

The 7th grade A team lost by a score of 24-18. They had an opportunity

to take the lead in the fourth quarter, but struggled with free throws by going two for ten at the line. Jocelyn Gonzales led the team with five points.

The 7th grade B team Lady Steers were also on the road as they traveled to Midland Trinity for their annual B team tournament. First up was Midland Trinity, and the girls lost 26-14. The top

scorer was Sarah Wood with six points, followed by Ashlin Calvio with four points. The team struggled in their final two games as well, losing to Rankin 26-18 and Snyder 25-14.

The last game of the season will be at home against Sweetwater on Feb. 8.

Contact Sports Editor Drew Williams at 432-263-7331, ext. 237.

Lady Steers blast C-City in scrimmage

By DREW WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

Down 5-0 after half an inning, the Lady Steers came storming back to take a 15-6 win over Colorado High School. They used the long ball to spark the comeback and solid pitching to hold the lead in their first scrimmage Monday night.

Leading the attack was Mary Gomez and Leah Burton, each with a home run and four RBIs.

Gabby Rubio added a three-run homer, and Mia Oliva, Makenzie Roberts and Yzzi Soliz had two hits each.

Ashley Gonzales lead the defensive effort in center field with two

outstanding catches.

The Lady Steers have another scrimmage against Forsan on Saturday, Feb. 6 at 1:00 p.m.

Contact Sports Editor Drew Williams at 432-263-7331, ext. 237, or by email at sports@bigspringherald.com

It's a circus as Panthers, Broncos meet reporters

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — What happens when you put Peyton Manning, Miss Universe, an orange-and-blue leprechaun and 200 TV cameras into the same room?

Answer: Super Bowl Opening Night.

The NFL took a good idea gone surreal —

what used to be known as “Media Day” — gave it a new name, added a live cover band and moved the whole thing to prime time Monday to kick off Super Bowl week between the Denver Broncos and Carolina Panthers.

This new and amped-up interview-fest came complete with a guy walking around inside an inflatable football

and a newly choreographed players' introduction that involved all 60 players from each team walking out onto a four-story-high catwalk.

“I had no idea that was a bridge we were standing on,” said Manning, getting ready for his fourth Super Bowl.

And yet, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

“Will you kiss my wife?” one questioner

shouted to Panthers QB Cam Newton, who answered his hour's worth of questions with a sports-drink-themed towel wrapped around his head.

“I don't think I can do that,” Newton said. Suffice to say, Manning and Newton — one

a five-time MVP, the other a strong favorite to win his first later this week — couldn't have seen a lot of this coming, no matter how hard they prepared.

Who would play you in a movie? “Maybe a young Robert Redford,” Manning said.

Another reporter — or make that, person with a credential — asked Manning to look into the cam-

era and wish a Happy Chinese New Year to all his friends in that part of the world.

At one point, a reporter from a Spanish-language station cranked up some bass-heavy music and pleaded with Newton to dance.

He passed. “Got to be feeling it,” he explained.

See CIRCUS, Page 13



Longhorns upset Baylor for sixth win in 7 games

WACO, Texas (AP) — Connor Lammert and the Texas Longhorns aren't backing down in the Big 12.

Not against No. 15 Baylor or Rico Gathers, the Bears' big man who was being watched by a scout from the NFL's Buffalo Bills on Monday night.

Texas got its sixth win in seven games, never giving up the lead in a physical and sometimes chippy second half on way to a 67-58 victory.

“There were some things that went our way tonight that easily could have gone the other way. But I think our guys had a lot to do with that,” first-year Longhorns coach Shaka Smart said. “There was a little dust-up, you got two teams that really want to win and they're competitive. Ricardo Gathers is as tough and as mean as they come.”

Lammert had 15 points, including a clutch 3-pointer in the final minute, as the Longhorns (15-7, 6-3) moved within a half-game of No. 1 Oklahoma and No. 14 West Virginia for the conference lead. It was the 6-foot-10 forward's third 3 in the game.

Baylor (17-5, 6-3) had been part of a three-way tie, matching the latest ever in a season

to be first in the Big 12.

“You try to stay level headed and continue to try to lead. ... We could have done some better things defensively as far as being in the right spots and taking away Lammert's 3s,” Baylor forward Taurean Prince said.

Prince had 18 points for the Bears, while Lester Medford added 10.

Gathers, who had 20 points and eight rebounds, fouled out with 1:27 left, and Kerwin Roach hit the second of two free throws. After Prince had a turnover, Lammert's 3 from the right wing with 44 seconds left put the Longhorns up 62-56.

Baylor tied the game three times in the second half but could never get the lead again. The Bears led for less than 2 minutes, all in the game's opening stretch.

Isaiah Taylor had 12 points and nine assists for the Longhorns, who finished with assists on all 21 of their field goals.

Taylor exchanged words with Gathers after a whistle on a play just over 3 1/2 minutes into the second half when Gathers also picked up a personal foul.

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Auctions

Notice of Public Sale of Property to satisfy a Landlords lien, Sale to be held at A&A Self Storage at 1300 E. 4th St., Big Spring, Tx 79720. SILENT BIDS will be taken Sat., Feb. 20th from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Highest bidder will be notified by phone later that day and be required to pay a \$25.00 cleaning deposit along with winning bid, all contents must be removed by Monday, Feb. 22nd or forfeit deposit.

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Pollard Chevrolet parts department is taking applications for counter sales and other duties. Must have experience in auto part sales, computer and phone skills, and be able to multi-task. Benefits include health insurance, 401 k, and paid vacation. Apply at 1501 E 4th St. 432-267-7421.

Reputable body shop in Big Spring, Tx is seeking an Auto body man. Must be dependable, have own tools, and experience. Send resumes or inquiries to Big Spring Herald P.O. Box 1431/Blind Box 324 Big Spring, Tx 79721

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Help Wanted



The CRMWD is accepting applications for following positions:

Central Control Operator – Responsible for monitoring water flows, pressures, and tank levels using SCADA system. Perform administrative support including recording readings, monitoring phones and basic data entry. Basic computer skills including Excel needed. This position involves shift work.

Meter Technician / Electronics Assistant – Responsible for installing, repairing, and calibrating flow, level, and pressure metering equipment. Position also provides assistance in repair of communication equipment supporting the District's SCADA system. Intermediate level position with basic understanding of electronics/electricity needed.

CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.

Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432) 267-6341 or crmwd.org

Two Hearts Home Health/Dos Corazones is hiring personal care attendants to work in the home with the elderly. Must have a phone and car. Must work some weekends. Please call Two Hearts Home Health at 432-685-1705 to apply.

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Seasoned Oak Firewood. \$385/full cord, & \$200/half cord. Delivered & Stacked. Call 512-913-7406.

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Public Notice

A Variety of Homes Exemptions could lower Your property taxes!

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$35,000.

Who qualifies for an exemption?
Anyone who owns a home on Jan. 1 and uses it as a primary residence on that date is entitled to a \$15,000 homestead exemption to lower SCHOOL taxes this year...and it does not matter if your home is a house, condominium or mobile home. Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.

Public Notice

Are other exemptions available?

If you are disabled-or if you are 65 years old or older-you are entitled to an additional \$10,000 school tax exemption on your home. And if you qualify for the 65 or older or disabled exemption, you are also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on the school property taxes on your home. (The county, city or junior college may adopt a tax ceiling to lock in 2016 taxes as the highest amount for 65 and older or disabled homeowners.) The age 65 or older homeowners school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home. The age 65 or older homeowners (or their surviving spouses 55 years of age or older) also may transfer the percentage of school tax paid, based on their former home's school tax ceiling, to a new home. **** PLEASE NOTE:** If you are a disabled veteran who receives form the Veterans Affairs (VA) – (1) 100 percent disability compensation due to service connected disability and (2) a rating of 100 percent disabled or a determination of individual unemployment, you are entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of your resident homestead. A surviving spouse does qualify as of January 1, 2012.

Do I have to apply each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 2015, you will not need to re-apply for 2016 unless required by the chief appraiser. However, if you have not received an exemption on your present home or if you have moved to a new home – you will need to file for an exemption for 2016. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the age 65 or older exemption up to one year after the date you turned 65. And if you became disabled, you need to file for the disabled person's exemption.

When and where should I file?

File applications by April 30 at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact your appraisal district at:

Howard County Appraisal District
315 Main Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
432 263-8301

Your Appraisal District can answer any questions you may have and provide you a free copy of: "Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities"

Or Contact:
Texas Comptroller Susan Combs
Property Tax Assistance Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, Texas 78711-3528
Or call: (800) 252-9121, Ext. 1 On The Web at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/

#8944 January 29 - February 10, 2016

Don't get hit with a penalty! "Render" your taxable Property by April 15th.

A "rendition" is a report to the appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on January 1st of this year.

Who must file a rendition?
You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income - such as the inventory and equipment used by a business. If you render late, do not render or file an incomplete or false rendition, a 10 percent to 50 percent penalty may be imposed.

Public Notice

Are there any advantages to you?

The advantages of filing a rendition are:
• You give your opinion of your property's value. The appraisal district must notify you in writing of any value change and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
• You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
• You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 2015. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 2016.

When is the deadline to file?

The last day for filing 2016 renditions is April 15. You can get an automatic extension to May 15 (or the next business day if a weekend) if you ask for it in writing on or before the April 15 deadline. The chief appraiser may grant an additional 15 days after May 15 for an owner who shows good cause in writing.

Where do you file?

File renditions at your local appraisal district:
Howard County Appraisal District
315 Main Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
432 263-8301

Your Appraisal District can answer any questions you may have and provide you a free copy of: "Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities" Or Contact:
Texas Comptroller Susan Combs
Property Tax Assistance Division
P.O. Box 13528

Public Notice

Austin, Texas 78711-3528
Or call: (800) 252-9121, Ext. 1 On The Web at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/

#8946 January 29 - February 10, 2016

ELDERLY OR DISABLED HOMEOWNERS MAY DEFER PROPERTY TAXES

Texans who are 65 or older or who are disabled may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit at the Howard County Appraisal District Office.

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 continue to add up, along 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.

If a tax deferral affidavit is on file, an older homeowner or one who is disabled cannot lose a homestead because of delinquent property taxes. A homeowner can halt a pending sale to foreclose on the homestead's tax lien. No taxing unit can start or continue a lawsuit to collect delinquent taxes. There are no penalties or delinquent taxes during the deferral period; however, a tax deferral does not cancel penalties that were already due.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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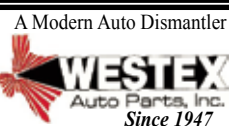
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HERALD

Public Notice

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, 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 Howard County Appraisal District at:

Howard County Appraisal District
315 S. Main Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
432 263-8301
Further information is also available on the Comptroller's website,

www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/ or by calling the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at (800) 252-9121 ex. 2.

#8947 January 29 - February 10, 2016

PRODUCTIVITY APPRAISAL MAY LOWER THE PROPERTY TAXES ON YOUR FARM, OR RANCH!

Texas law allows farmers, ranchers and timber growers to pay property taxes based upon the "productivity value" of their land rather than on market value. This means qualified land is taxed

Public Notice

based on its ability to produce crops, livestock or timber - not on its value on the real estate market. And it can mean substantial property tax savings.

When is the application deadline?

If your land has never had a productivity appraisal or you are a new owner, you must apply to your local appraisal district by April 30 to take advantage of this benefit on your 2016 property taxes. You may get up to 60 extra days if you have a good reason and ask for it by April 30. If you miss this deadline, you may still be able to apply, but you will pay a penalty. Check with your appraisal district office.

Do you need to reapply annually?

If your land already receives agricultural or timber productivity appraisal, you normally don't need to reapply unless the chief appraiser requires you to do so. If a new application is required, the appraisal district will notify you by mail.

For more information, call or come by:

Howard County Appraisal District
315 Main Street
Big Spring, TX 79720
432 263-8301

Public Notice

Your Appraisal District can answer any questions you may have and provide you a free copy of: "Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities"

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#8945 January 29 - February 10, 2016

Real Estate for Rent

1 acre of land for 1 RV/Mobile Home (not in trailer park). Septic/water well. 1 trailer for \$500/month & 2 trailers for \$700/month. Call 432-213-5631

1010 Nolan. New duplex. Two 2 bed/2 bath w/kitchen appliances. No bills paid \$975/month, \$500/dep. Call 432-267-7449 or 432-634-8101

104 Airbase Rd. \$1,125/month, \$600/dep. Lofted duplex. 2 bed, 1 bath, includes water, garbage, gas, dish, wifi, yard maint. 432-270-1335

Real Estate for Rent

107 East 25th St. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer. No smoking/no pets. References required. \$1,000/month, \$1,000/dep. Call 432-213-2319

1905 Main St. 2 bed, 1 bath, CH/A. No indoor pets. \$850/month. One year lease and deposit required. Owner/Broker 432-263-6514

2 very nice 2 bedroom houses for rent. References required. Call Randy 432-466-9358

2409 Scurry St. \$750/month, \$500/dep. 1 bed, 1 bath. 432-270-1335

2602 Cheyenne. Beautiful brand new home. Total electric. 2 bed, 1 bath. \$1,050/month. Call 432-517-2876.

400 Circle. 3 bed, 1 bath. No pets. 432-517-0025 or 432-517-0640

403 Hillside. 3 bed, 2 bath. All appliances, very nice. \$1,500/month, \$1,500/dep. No pets/no smoking. References required. Call 432-213-2319.

407 E 8th St. 2 one bedroom apartments. New carpet & paint. \$650/month, \$650/dep. No pets. Call 432-213-6943

AVAILABLE JANUARY 20. Newly remodeled 2 bedroom home. 708 Pine St. \$1,000/month. Call 432-634-1008

Real Estate for Rent

4111 Dixon St. 3 bed, 2 bath, garage, CH/A, fenced yard. No indoor pets. \$1,100/month. One year lease required plus deposit. Owner/Broker 432-263-6514

605 N. Main. 2 bed, 2 bath, very clean. \$1,000/month, \$1,000/dep. References required. Call 432-213-2319

Affordable Country Living-OASIS RV Park has Spaces & Travel Trailers for Rent, Call 432-517-0062 or 264-9907.

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Travel Trailers For Rent. For More Information Call Ann @ 816-6484 or Ticia @ 213-3504

Real Estate for Rent

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Real Estate for Sale

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Robert Lee (Edith Estate) Lake House- Hunting lodge 1 large room, bathroom, kitchen, large awning for boat & R.V.'s & awning over back porch, city water. Sacrificing \$23,000. 432-267-8169

Tomorrow's Horoscope

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When it comes to your people, you want to be there to celebrate the ups, help with the downs and find ways to make all the in-betweens a bit more memorable. Your love is a full-service arrangement.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're emboldened and yet not quite ready to embark. Perhaps you're still not positive about how to get there. Once you get your hands on a map you'll be ready to launch.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are rarely, if ever, accused of being too rigid. However, you have some strong opinions about how the action should unfold today, and you'd be wise to share. You'll help to raise the bar when you do.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 2). You've no shortage of charisma, and your fan club will grow exponentially. The push you do for your cause this month helps. A special partner

will be with you all the way. April is for sorting logistics and overcoming inconvenience. You'll muscle through, eye on the prize. June shows you victorious and richer, too! Taurus and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 22, 38, 47 and 19.

LEO SECRET-SUPERPOWER BREAKDOWN:

The Obvious: Leo will take a group of people and turn them into an audience focused on Leo and enthralled by whatever the lion has up a sleeve. This is unifying. An audience of people has something in common with one another that they didn't have before the show went on.

The Uncanny: Leos also will remember the random details of their friends' lives -- and not the details their friends would prefer they remember, either. It's as though Leo is always collecting data for the next role or the next manuscript. This is probably exactly the

case.

The Weird: The lion is a predator. If you ever have a strange feeling that your Leo friend wants to take/eat/pounce on something of yours, protect it! Animal instincts are real. Don't forget that humans are animals, too.

The Extremely Useful: Leo will help you put your best food forward publicly-wise.

The Quietly Helpful: If you are bored, Leo will un-bore you. Often this sign has latent talents: musical, emotional, interpersonal and more. Leo will employ them all to make a good friend smile.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Supermodel turned beauty-industry mogul Christie Brinkley has a brand that covers everything from skin

care to hair help and beyond, and she handles it all with her signature all-American smile. Her sun, moon, Mercury and Venus are all in philanthropic Aquarius. Brinkley has been honored for her work with several charities, including Smile Train and groups that help cancer victims.

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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Sagittarius Moon and the Groundhog

The worldly Sagittarius

moon oversees the crowds gathering at Gobbler's Knob in Pennsylvania for the ceremonial appearance of Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators and Weather Prophet Extraordinaire. These skies favor the bold. End your own personal winter. Heed the beckoning sun!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because you want people to feel free to express themselves around you, you sometimes hold back your reactions. That's smart. The restraint you demonstrate today will garner the deep trust of a dear one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've no shortage of imagination. You conjure and create to your heart's content. The next step is to believe what you've dreamed up. If you don't believe it, the dream is just an exercise instead of a trajectory.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You might not get a second chance, so you're better off putting everything you have into the opportunity at hand. And if you do get a second chance, it will be because you showed so much enthusiasm the first time around.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You and another will land in a most riveting dynamic. You will be simultaneously aware of

what you lack while seeing that the other person has exactly what is needed. Don't hesitate! Help each other out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Clean out the medicine cabinets of your mind. Throw out the old prescriptions and remedies that are past the expiration date. Jealousy, misplaced desire, resentment -- all potential poisons to your happiness.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll find a way to share in another person's dream and still inhabit your own. It's not that difficult when you're with people whose goals and talents compliment yours so beautifully.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You shouldn't have to sacrifice one relationship to make another one work well. If you feel yourself being torn between two people, consider that the disharmony is within you. This is about reconciling two aspects of yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're focusing on the good traits of those close to you. This one simple choice will be the reason this day turns out to be special. Of course, your loved ones will do the same for you, but there's something more to look forward to.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). While "chase" is a fun game for the elementary school playground, adults who chase are often ultimately thwarted by the dynamic. Hang back and see if you can't catch your intended through sheer attraction.

CAPRICORN

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



By Steve Becker

The King Can Do No Wrong

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 5 3 2
♥ J 7 4
♦ K 6 2
♣ K 9 8 3
WEST
♠ Q
♥ 10 3 2
♦ Q J 10 9 5
♣ Q 10 6 4
EAST
♠ A 8 7
♥ 9 8 6 5
♦ A 7 4
♣ 7 5 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ Pass 1NT Pass
4♠
Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

Most books on play include a section that tells you how to handle the most frequently occurring card combinations. But because many other less common combinations are not included, it becomes important to learn how to solve such problems all by yourself.

Take this deal where South is in four spades and three rounds of diamonds are led, declarer ruffing the third. He crosses to dummy's only entry, the king of clubs, and leads a trump, on which East plays the seven.

Declarer is now faced with a crucial problem: Should he play the jack or the king? In attempting to solve this problem, South dismisses all those cases where his play makes no difference. Thus, if West has a void, the singleton eight, the singleton ace, the A-Q or the A-Q-8, South cannot succeed whether he plays the jack or the king.

This leaves only those hands where West was dealt the A-8 or the Q-8 (in which case tossing a coin is as good a solution as any), and hands where West started with the singleton queen.

It is when you reach this point that the correct play becomes apparent: The king is the right play, since it wins in two cases — when West started with the Q-8 or the singleton queen — while it loses only when West started with the A-8.

In effect, declarer eliminates from consideration all hands where the missing trumps are divided 2-2 or 4-0 because his cause is either hopeless or amounts to a 50-50 guess. The only case that matters is when the trumps divide 3-1 and West has a singleton honor.

If West's singleton honor is the ace, South cannot succeed whether he plays the jack or the king. But if West's singleton honor is the queen, playing the king catches the queen, and declarer loses only one trick in the suit.

Tomorrow: The Grand Slam Force.
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Annie's Mailbox®

Dear Annie: I have epilepsy with very minor seizures that occur roughly once every three weeks. Because I am currently unemployed, I am forced to live at home with my parents as I search for another job.

Even though I am over 30, my mother wants me to stay at home unless I have a job interview or one of my parents is with me. She insists someone else drive me wherever I go. She is even fearful of me walking to appointments two blocks from the house.

A sad irony is that my mother has a Ph.D. in sociology

and doesn't hear me when I tell her that the social isolation that she insists on imposing makes me depressed. This is still the case even after I pointed out her highlighting that very issue in her own sociology textbooks. I have attempted to get my father to intervene, but he wants Mom to control the show.

I've tried to quietly put up with the idea of "Mom's house -- Mom's rules." But I don't know how much longer I can stand it. Do you have any suggestions for dealing with the enormous stress I'm under because of her need to control my

life? -- A Frustrated South Dakotan

Dear Frustrated: Your mother is being overprotective, but it comes from her fear that you will have a seizure and no one will be around to assist you. Her advanced degree is irrelevant because she is not thinking clinically. This is personal. She especially worries that something will happen when you are driving or walking alone. She knows it curtails your social life and could increase the odds of depression, but she considers those concerns to be less important than your safety.

Your best bet

for finding assistance and support is through the Epilepsy Foundation (epilepsy.com). Aside from chat rooms and other social networking to help alleviate your isolation, the site may provide ways to reassure your mother and get her to lift the chains. We hope you find a job soon.

Dear Annie: For several years, I have been giving identical amounts of money to my family on Thanksgiving so that they could spend it on Black Friday to purchase their own Christmas gifts. I have 19 people to buy for. These same family members were asked to bring their

purchases to me for wrapping so that they could open them on Christmas.

Last year, I asked instead that they wrap their own gifts and bring them to our annual Christmas Eve party. It worked out great! Obviously, there were no returns or exchanges, and for a change, I got a kick out of seeing them open their presents instead of knowing what the gifts were ahead of time. This is easier on everybody. (It also allowed my teenagers to see that money only goes so far because they knew what amount I had given each person.)

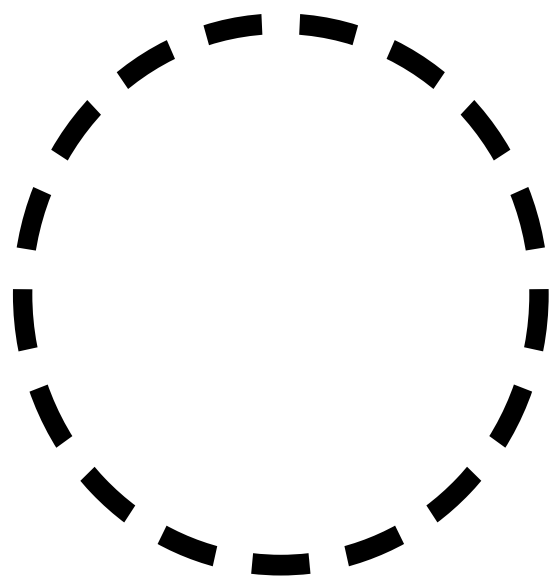
I have learned to

enjoy the holidays again. -- L.

Dear L.: You are both generous and smart enough to find enjoyment where you can.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@creators.com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. You can also find Annie on Facebook at Facebook.com/AskAnnies. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2016 CREATORS.COM

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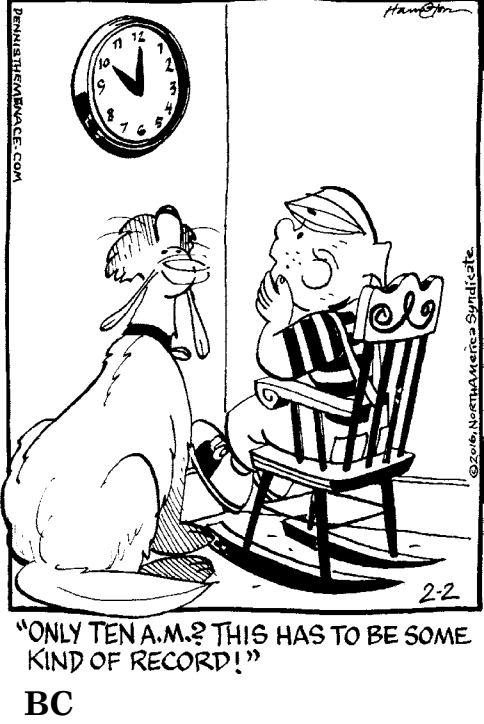
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TUESDAY FEB

	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:AM	Wake Up Good Morning West Texas	Rosa de Guadalupe	Shepherd's Chapel	News CBS 7 Morning News	Suelta la Sopa (SS)	Newsweek 9	Rocks Uri Harel	(Off Air)	Duke Lucy	Paid	Married	Charmed	SportsCenter	Mike & Mike	Paid	CSI: Crime Scene	Paid	Paid
6:AM	Good Morning America	Despierta América (SS)	Feldick Robison	CBS This Morning	Un Nuevo Día (SS)	Newsweek 9 Sunrise	Dollars Martha Wild Kratt	There	Brady There	There	Married	Charmed	SportsCenter	Monster Jam	Paid	CSI: Crime Scene	Parking	Paid
7:AM	Good Morning America		Copeland Wom			Today	Light of the Southwest	Nature Curious	Hillbillies Steve Wilkos Show	Intellig. Cops Rel.	Married	Charmed	SportsCenter	H.S. Spotlight	CSI: Crime Scene	Dog	J. Me	
8:AM			Prince Planet					Tiger Tiger	Perry Mason	King King		Supernatural	SportsCenter	World Poker Tour	Law & Order: SVU	Dog	Almo	
9:AM	The 700 Club		Divorce Divorce	Live With Kelly	De'siones Los Herederos del Monte (SS)	Today	Sondra Dr.	Sesame Clifford	Matlock	Steve Wilkos Show	King King	Supernatural	SportsCenter	First Take	Bundesliga Soccer: Stuttgart vs Hamburg	Law & Order: Criminal Minds	Almo	
10:AM	The View	Como Dice el Dicho	Judge Mathis	The Price Is Right		Today	Creation Dollars	Dinosaur Dollars	Quincy, M.E.	Crazy Cleveland	Cleveland	Supernatural	SportsCenter	First Take	Law & Order: SVU	Criminal Minds	Almo	
11:AM	Paid	Amores	The People's	Young &	¿Qué	Ellen DeGe-	Dr. Young	Super	The Rock-	Cheaters	American	Supernatural	SportsCenter	His & Hers	High School	Law & Order: Criminal	Almo	

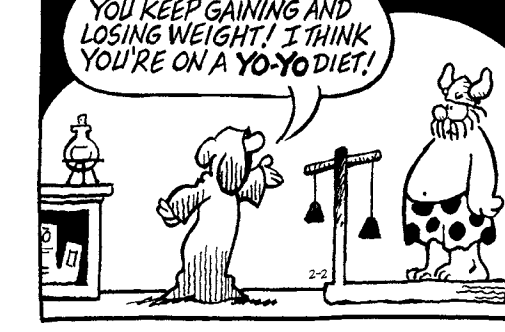
DENNIS THE MENACE



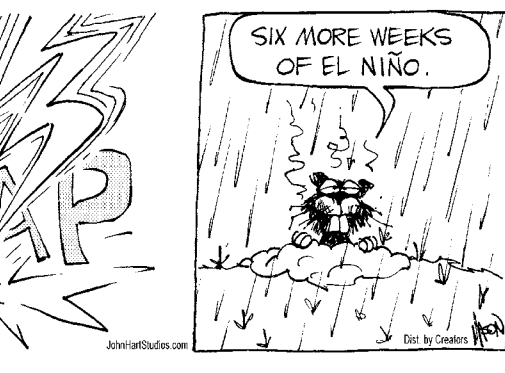
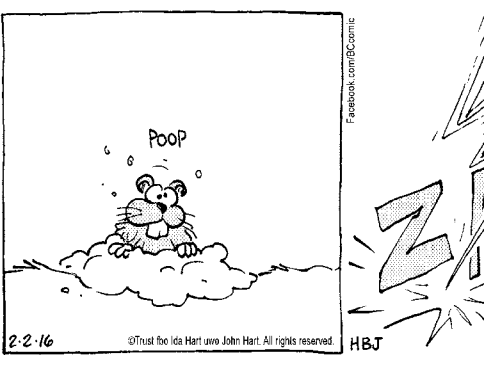
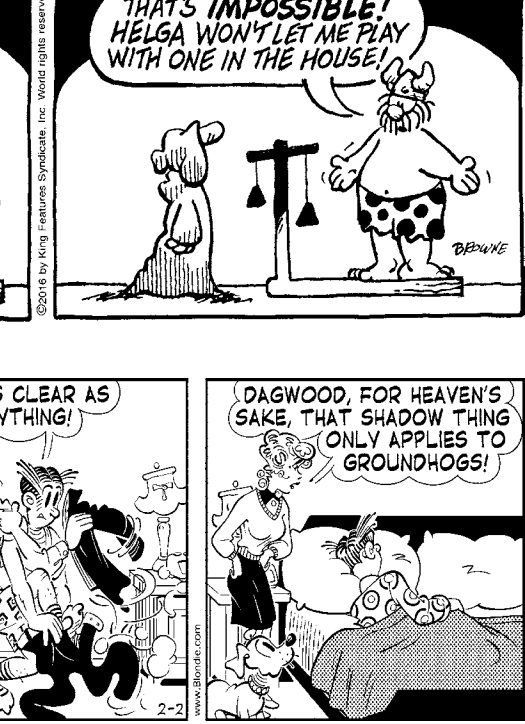
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill Keane



HAGAR



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 2, the 33rd day of 2016. There are 333 days left in the year. This is Groundhog Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 2, 1914, Charles Chaplin made his movie debut as the comedy short "Making a Living" was released by Keystone Film Co.

On this date:

In 1653, New Amsterdam, Ai now New York City, Ai was incorporated.

In 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, ending the Mexican-American War, was signed.

In 1887, Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, held its first Groundhog Day festival.

In 1925, the legendary Alaska Serum Run ended as the last of a series of dog mushers brought a life-saving treatment to Nome, the scene of a diphtheria epidemic, six days after the drug left Nenana.

In 1932, Duke Ellington and His Orchestra recorded "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)" for Brunswick Records.

In 1942, a Los Angeles Times column by W.H. Anderson

urged security measures against Japanese-Americans, arguing that a Japanese-American "almost inevitably ... grows up to be a Japanese, not an American."

In 1943, the remainder of Nazi forces from the Battle of Stalingrad surrendered in a major victory for the Soviets in World War II.

In 1964, Ranger 6, a lunar probe launched by NASA, crashed onto the surface of the moon as planned, but failed to send back any TV images.

In 1971, Idi Amin, having seized power in Uganda, proclaimed himself president.

In 1980, NBC News reported the FBI had conducted a sting operation targeting members of Congress using phony Arab businessmen in what became known as "Abscam," a code-name protested by Arab-Americans.

In 1990, in a dramatic concession to South Africa's black majority, President F.W. de Klerk lifted a ban on the African National Congress and promised to free Nelson Mandela.

In 1992, longtime "Miss America" emcee Bert Parks died in La Jolla (HOY-uh), Calif., at age 77.

In 2007, tornadoes killed 21 people in central Florida. A grim report from the world's leading climate scientists and government officials said that global warming was so severe, it would "continue for centuries" and that humans were to blame.

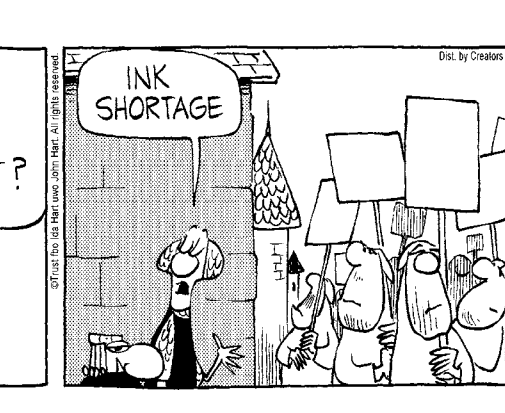
In 2014, Academy Award-winning actor Philip Seymour Hoffman, 46, was found dead in his New York apartment from a combination of heroin, cocaine and other drugs.

Ten years ago: House Republicans elected John Boehner (BAY-nur) of Ohio as their new majority leader to replace the indicted Tom DeLay. Tornadoes tore through New Orleans neighborhoods that had been hit hard by Hurricane Katrina five months earlier.

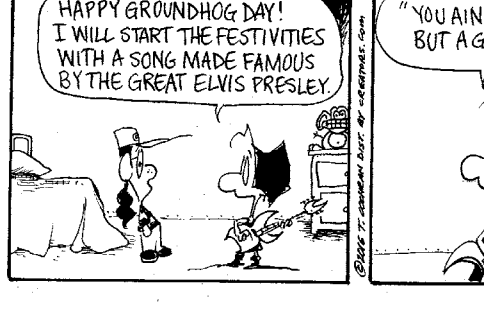
Thought for Today: "Mistakes are the portals of discovery." James Joyce (1882-1941)

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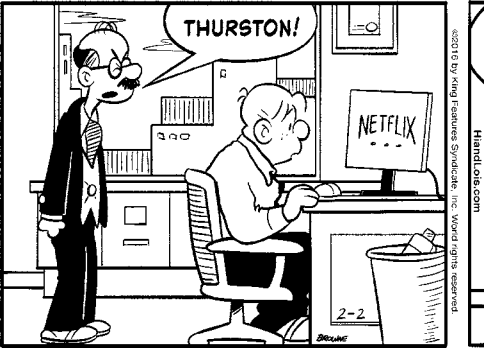
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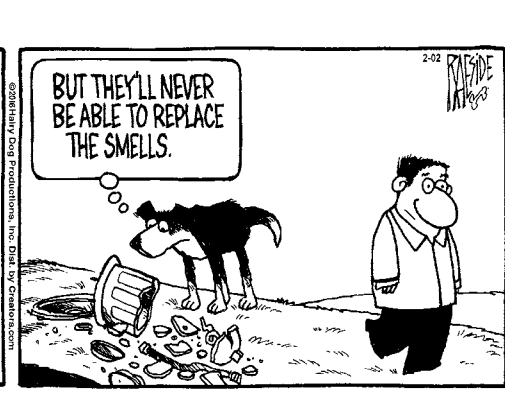
AGNES



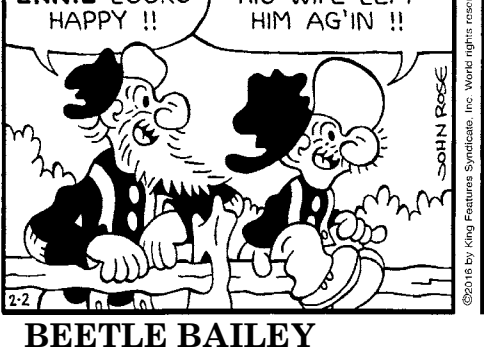
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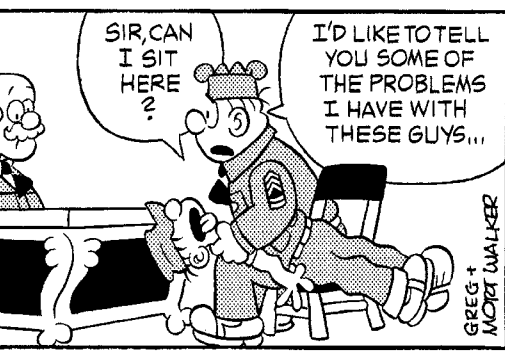
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



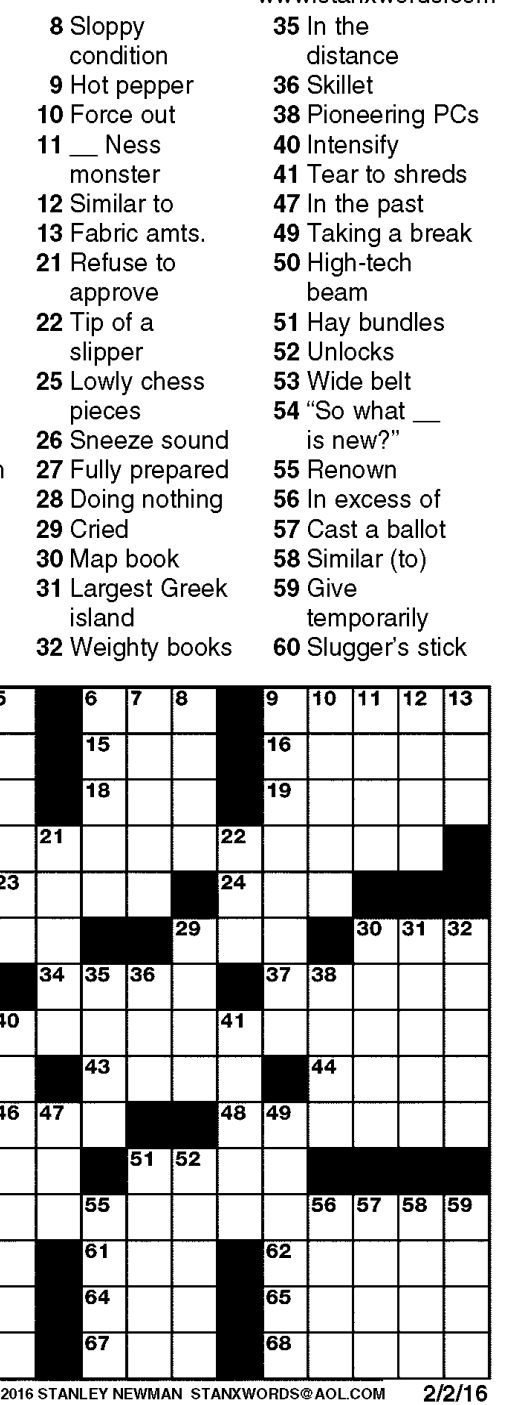
BEEBLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Turned logs into boards
 - 6 Shirt-sleeve filler
 - 9 Fruity bread spread
 - 14 Long for
 - 15 Poor grade
 - 16 Stay away from
 - 17 Lubricated
 - 18 Belly muscles
 - 19 Tastes a lollipop
 - 20 Oversized upper-lip adomment
 - 23 Play's performer group
 - 24 Make a choice
 - 25 Equivalence in value
 - 29 Very small
 - 30 Play a part
 - 33 Breezed through
 - 34 Back of the neck
 - 37 Explosive liquid, for short
 - 39 Overwhelming difficulty
 - 42 Junction points
 - 43 Prefix meaning "opposed to"
 - 44 Spouse
 - 45 ___ sauce (Asian seasoning)
 - 46 Automobile
 - 48 Doesn't stop at
 - 50 Fall behind
 - 51 Boxing match
 - 53 Official endorsement
 - 60 Model airplane wood
- DOWN**
- 1 Garbage barge
 - 2 Opera solo
 - 3 Mural's location
 - 4 At any time
 - 5 Subtract from a total
 - 6 President after Washington
 - 7 Disprove
 - 8 Sloppy condition
 - 9 Hot pepper
 - 10 Force out
 - 11 ___ Ness monster
 - 12 Similar to
 - 13 Fabric amts. letter
 - 21 Refuse to approve
 - 22 Tip of a slipper
 - 25 Lowly chess pieces
 - 26 Sneeze sound
 - 27 Fully prepared
 - 28 Doing nothing
 - 29 Cried
 - 30 Map book
 - 31 Largest Greek island
 - 32 Weighty books
 - 35 In the distance
 - 36 Skillet
 - 38 Pioneering PCs
 - 40 Intensify
 - 41 Tear to shreds
 - 47 In the past
 - 49 Taking a break
 - 50 High-tech beam
 - 51 Hay bundles
 - 52 Unlocks
 - 53 Wide belt
 - 54 "So what ___ is new?"
 - 55 Renown
 - 56 In excess of
 - 57 Cast a ballot
 - 58 Similar (to)
 - 59 Give temporarily
 - 60 Slugger's stick

MOIST MAMMALS by Billie Truitt Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com



Answer to previous puzzle

CALM	RADAR	PADS
OREO	ALICE	ABEL
LAIN	ROVED	ROLE
ABSTAINED	MOVIE	
ANTES	PALEST	
SHANTY	CELEB	
TUBAS	SAUTE	OIL
ESS	LACKS	AKA
WHO	POSSE	CURES
LAUGH	PANDAS	
SKULLS	APART	
NOTIP	ABUNDANCE	
ORES	CHART	MORE
BELT	DETER	EVIL
SAYS	EMERY	DIABS

2/2/16

Aldridge scores 28 as Spurs beat Magic

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — LaMarcus Aldridge set the tone for the San Antonio Spurs, and helped them remain undefeated at home this season. Aldridge scored a season-high 28 points and Patty Mills matched his season high with 22 points as the Spurs overcame a dogged effort from Orlando to beat the Magic 107-92 Monday night.

"It was LaMarcus from the get-go that we all kind of fed off of," Mills said. "How he was playing. Me and Kyle (Anderson) definitely fed off that. Great job from LaMarcus in his leadership tonight. Playing off his confidence (and) them having to adjust to him and opening up for other people."

Aldridge and Mills were

both 9 for 13 from the field as the Spurs improved to 26-0 at home.

San Antonio has cruised to lopsided victories in many of its home games, but struggled against Orlando.

"It would have been a moral victory if we won, and I really thought we were going to," Magic forward Aaron Gordon said, "but the ball didn't bounce our way."

Orlando lost for the 13th time in 15 games despite 20 points and 10 rebounds from Nikola Vucevic. Victor Oladipo added 19 points and Aaron Gordon had 12 points and 16 rebounds.

The Magic had 19 offensive rebounds while finishing with a 51-42 rebounding advantage.

"Just trying to make those effort plays," Vucevic said. "It was very important that we get rebounds. I don't know how well of a shooting night we had, but it wasn't really good all the time and those extra possessions can really help you boost your energy."

San Antonio found its defensive footing late in the third quarter, using a steal by Mills and blocks by Kawhi Leonard to separate from Orlando. The Spurs outscored the Magic 24-8 to overcome a 70-69 deficit with 1 1/2 minutes left in the third quarter.

The season-high scoring by Mills and Aldridge were needed to extend San Antonio's home winning streak to 35 overall.

"It wasn't (one of) our best

games," San Antonio guard Manu Ginobili said. "But one of the virtues of having a deep team is that one night Kawhi can win it for you, another day it's David West; tonight it was Patty Mills and Kyle Anderson, and LaMarcus, too. We always, almost always, find someone to respond."

San Antonio opened the game on a 12-0 run fueled by 3-pointers from Leonard and Danny Green and two turnovers by Orlando.

Aldridge made his first four shots in scoring 14 points in the opening quarter as the Spurs' inside-out game worked to near perfection.

The Spurs matched a season-high with 35 points in the opening quarter, but perhaps it was more fitting that they

gave the points right back on the night they celebrated the notoriously defensive-shy Hall of Famer George Gervin.

Orlando went on an 11-0 run bookended by 3-pointers by Channing Fry and Elfrid Payton.

TIP-INS
Magic: Vucevic has 151 career double doubles, including a team-high 22 this season. ... The Magic did not win their 21st game last season until March 8. ... Orlando has had five or more players score in double figures in the same game on 29 occasions.

Spurs: San Antonio won its 35th straight home game, moving into sole possession of sixth place in league history.

CIRCUS

Continued from Page 6

All of this thoughtfully brought to prime time by the NFL for the first time in the 50-year history of the Super Bowl.

For decades, Media Day was a Tuesday-afternoonish affair — scheduled so as not to interrupt the teams' schedules and to give writers the rest of the week to craft the stories.

But this year, the NFL moved it to Monday night, where minor details like dress code, off-color banter and 8-year-olds asking football

players questions after bedtime barely raise an eyebrow.

NFL spokesman Michael Signora described the scheduling change as one that allows "more fans (to) experience what has grown to become a very unique, popular Super Bowl event."

Conveniently, the NFL-owned NFL Network captured all the action live.

Surprising they didn't do this earlier. It's a nod to the reality that "Media Day" has long been a "journalism-free zone" — one in which fans have willingly, for the last five years, paid money for tickets that

allow them to sit in the stands and watch the madness unfold.

Speaking of which ... Late in the Broncos session, Rocky the Leprechaun — a regular at Broncos games over the years — laid a dollar bill out on the blue carpeting of SAP Center and waited to see if someone would pick it up. Several minutes passed. Nobody did.

"Crazy to see that," he said.

What makes this week so great? "There's a lot of happiness," said the gnome-turned-sociologist. "This world needs all the happiness it can

get."

Only one team will be happy come Sunday night. The Panthers are favored. Manning is a sentimental favorite; at 39, many people expect he'll retire after this one.

That was one of the few actual news angles being worked on during Denver's hour of fun behind the mic.

"I haven't made up my mind and I don't see myself knowing until the season's over," Manning said.

Also, the Broncos were involved in a minor bus crash after practice. There were no injuries. "Just adds to the

intrigue of what we've had all year," Manning said.

Back to the important stuff.

Miss Universe, one of the 5,500 "reporters" with credentials for Super Bowl-week festivities, answered more questions than she asked. Most had to do with Steve Harvey. "Yes, I am the real Miss Universe," she said, referencing Harvey's embarrassing gaffe a few weeks back.

Harvey was a no-show at this one.

No one missed him.

From the costumes, to the beauty queens, to the guys dressed up

like the Swedish Chef from the Muppets, this prime-time special had pretty much everything — except for Donald Trump, who was waiting on caucus results in Iowa.

Manning was asked to recollect a meeting with Trump a few years back. Maybe someday, Newton will meet The Donald, too.

"I tell kids, that oval-shaped pigskin can take you a lot of places," said the Panthers quarterback, who won the national college championship with Auburn a few years back. "It's taken me to the White House."

HAWKS

Continued from Page 6

Brandon Wagner was drafted by the New York Yankees in the sixth round of the MLB draft last summer. Catcher Ryan McCarvel was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals in the 19th round and pitcher Keny Roder committed to Lynn University in Florida.

James Davison, the team's center fielder and former Chicago White Sox draft pick, is Howard's only returning starter. He hit .390 with 69 runs scored and 35 stolen bases as the team's lead-off hitter in 2015 and will play his junior and senior season in Florida after verbally committing to the University of Miami.

But Smith says the team can't rely on Davison to be an elite-level All-Star who can carry them and that his teammates will have to step up for the Hawks to find

success.

"We know where we are talent-wise. We're not as talented as we've been in the last three or four years, but we still have to be able to play the game," Smith said. "It's going to be a matter of playing solid defense and playing more of a team-oriented game."

One of the players Smith hopes to get the most out of is sophomore Rahman Williams, who Smith said "needs to play consistently." Williams is the team's projected starting shortstop, but Smith has no problem refraining himself from calling any of his players sure-fire starters.

"We've changed three or four positions just in the last eight days," Smith said. "We have been shuffling guys around and making sure they know all the responsibilities of their new positions."

The abundance of new and inexperienced faces in the Hawks lineup is the primary concern

for the coaching staff in 2016, and it's the main reason Smith has been experimenting with the lineup recently. Looking at rivals like Midland College and New Mexico Junior College and seeing the experience both teams have on their pitching staff and in the lineup puts the importance of error-free baseball at the top of the list for Smith.

"You can't make mistakes against teams like that and expect to win," Smith said.

"We don't know what we have, so we're going to continue to shuffle the deck," Smith said. "March 11 (the start of conference play) is our

target date to figure out what we're going to be."

He does add that the Hawks have what it takes to be a solid baseball team, even if he doesn't see a championship happening this year.

"The potential for this team to be good is there," Smith said. "Do I see us going to Grand Junction and winning the World Series? No. But there's not many seasons where the start of the year you're thinking about Grand Junction. You're just thinking about game one."

Asked about how he thought his team would do in its first game, he again emphasized

March 11 as the day he expects his team to reach their full potential and highlighted his number one goal this spring.

"We just need to figure

out who were are before we get to conference," Smith said.

Contact Sports Editor Drew Williams at 432-263-7331, ext. 237.

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tant to recharge your batteries. Everyday is full of decisions, errands, rules, responsibilities, and oppor-

While these can be wonderful, it can also stress a person out.

Take a moment to be you. Get away to recharge, reflect, and prepare for the next barrage of demands on your time.

The reason that people love the phrase, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder" is because when you are alone with your

thoughts, you truly find out what is important to you.

During the days that you feel you can't catch your breath, let alone think straight, a person sometimes loses sight of the big picture and suffers from tunnel vision to accomplish a task.

When you are racing about the house trying to find the kids' shoes, the checkbook, asking yourself if you paid the bills on time and where in the world you left your cell phone, ... you lose yourself.

Stop ... take a breath, and find a moment to be alone.

In the silence around you, thoughts will pop into your head.

Those thoughts can either be what is troubling you or things that make you happy. Sometimes these thoughts are a combina-



tion. No matter what the thoughts are, they are all things that your brain needs to have you process so that you can give your full attention to other matters.

Find a way to give

yourself some "time off" from the world and enjoy yourself.

People love to share their opinions and try to persuade others to think like them. It is important to figure out

what you think for yourself.

When I go fishing, sometimes I like to go alone so that I can just sit and think. I love my family and I enjoy fishing with them, but when it is just me, my fishing pole and the fish in the lake, I can let my mind wander and discover more about myself.

Sometimes doing little tasks give us the time we need to think and ponder the universe.

This week, my husband left for North Carolina to visit family out there.

I will miss him, but I also enjoy getting to plan things and not check with someone else's schedule.

It will also mean that I have more time to myself and more time to spend with my

daughters one on one.

I will miss him, and I can't wait for him to get home, but in the meantime, I will happily take advantage of some me time.

What is it that you want from life? What is it that makes the day worth living? Where do you see yourself in five years?

While these are cliché questions, they are also important questions to ask yourself during self discovery and self revelation.

You can't fully love anyone unless you love yourself and you can't love yourself if you don't know who you are.

Staff writer Julie Bass writes a weekly column on her views and thought about marriage, children, love and life.

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