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H BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2016



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Gas bills going up

Council approves new Atmos rates

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Natural gas customers will soon notice an uptick in their bills. During their Tuesday meeting, Big Spring City Council members unanimously approved a negotiated rate increase for Atmos Energy Corp. customers for the coming 12 months. The increase, which will impact both residential and commercial customers, takes effect March 15, City Manager Todd Darden said. Overall, Big Spring customers will see their bills increase by around 2.5 percent in the coming months. Although natural gas prices have decreased during the past year, Atmos had significant infrastructure projects within the past several months which justify the increase, Darden said.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

The Big Spring City Council approved new residential and commercial natural gas rates during their Tuesday evening meeting.

"This is a fair rate (for customers)," he said. "(Through negotiations), they reduced the fees they were going to place on West Texas cities ... We felt it was fair with reference to the amount of infrastructure they replaced, such as pipelines, within their systems." The new rates will remain in effect for a year, he added.

In other business, council approved:

- City plans to apply for grants to promote new or improved infrastructure.
- An amendment to the city budget to allow for the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle to be used at the city airport for mesquite and brush control.
- A new lease between the city and

Municipal Corrections Finance, L.P. for the privately-operated prison adjacent to Interstate 20.

- Final details of the sale of Malone and Hogan Clinic to Texas Healthcare Holdings II, LLC.

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

Pints for Polio

Rotarians host fundraiser to raise money for vaccinations

By **JULIE BASS**
 Staff Writer

Downtown Big Spring will be full of music and beer Saturday night during the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club's Pints for Polio. The event boasts 35 types of beer you can sample, all the while helping to raise funds for polio vaccinations. "In 1983, Rotary International decided that this (polio) was its cause," said Barney Dodd with the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club. "There are only around 100 cases worldwide thanks to vaccinations." This will be the first for Pints for Polio, but if all goes well, the GBSRC hopes to make it an annual fundraiser. "Half of the money raised goes to the National Rotary Club to help pay for vaccina-



HERALD photo/Julie Bass

Barney Dodd and his fellow Rotarians will host the Pints for Polio fundraiser Saturday evening at The Courtyard.

tions. Whatever we send in, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will double their donation," said Dodd. "If we send in \$1,000, they will add \$2,000 to that so that the total amount will be \$3,000. The other half will stay local and help us with our civic programs such as the bikes for the elementary kids with perfect attendance." Pints for Polio will be held

Saturday night from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Participants must be of legal drinking age and have valid I.D. Glazers Distribution out of Odessa will provide the beer and everyone can sample as many of the 35 beers as they would like. Out of the beer one samples, one can choose three full sized beers to enjoy

Pints for Polio will be held See **PINTS**, Page 3

Pops event organizers plan military tribute

By **LYNDEL MOODY**
 Staff Writer

Photographs of area military personnel going about their daily life are currently being sought by the July 3 Pops in the Park committee to be used in a military tribute during the event. "We're asking for candid shots," said Kelly Seals, Pops in the Park committee chairman. "We are wanting to change up our photo tribute portion, so we are asking people to send in those candid shots on the job — like the guys sitting on the tanks — of themselves or their family members here in the states or when they are deployed overseas." Pops in the Park is a city-wide patriotic celebration held traditionally the day for Independence Day. The fes-

tive celebration draws thousands to the city's amphitheater located in Comanche Trail Park to enjoy the large fireworks display accompanied with live music provided by the Big Spring Symphony. Any wishing to provide photographs for the tribute can e-mail digital copies in a jpeg format to pops@bigspringherald.com. Submissions must be sent by June 15. Also, photographs can be dropped off at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, 215 West Third St. to be scanned in during normal business hours. The



Seals

See **POPS**, Page 3

Services set Thursday for long-time Herald employee

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring Herald has lost one of its longest-tenured employees. Pressman Gilbert Narbaiz, who first came to work at the Herald 40 years ago, died suddenly Monday. He was 55. "We are shocked and deeply saddened by this loss," Herald Publisher Rick Nunez said. "Gilbert was a part of the Herald family for many, many years and he will be



Narbaiz

See **NARBAIZ**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Gilbert (Beto) Narbaiz, Jr.

Gilbert (Beto) Narbaiz, Jr., 55, of Big Spring, Texas passed away on Monday, March 7, 2016 at a local hospital. Memorial services will be held at 4 p.m., Thursday, March 10, 2016 at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

He was born July 28, 1960 in Big Spring. A few years after the death of his father, Gilberto Narbaiz, he was raised by Saragosa and the late Lucy Ochoa. He had been a member of the Big Spring community for several years and was a graduate of Big Spring High School and Howard College.

He was a pressman for the Big Spring Herald. Gilbert started working at the Big Spring Herald at the age of 15 as an inserter and at one time was the circulation manager. However, he never really enjoyed sitting behind a desk. He loved working with his hands which is what led him to become a pressman. His job as printer pressman led him to be transferred to Mobile, Ala.; Texarkana, Texas; Amarillo, Texas and eventually back to Big Spring. He had currently been with the Big Spring Herald for over 10 years.

Gilbert was an avid musician and D.J. He was the lead vocalist and bass player for his band known as Sierra. Gilbert's passion was music, listening and playing, and was a talented bass player. His paternal grandfather had been a musician and

Gilbert believed music flowed through his veins as it did his grandfather's. Although his love was playing bass guitar he could play virtually any instrument placed before him. He was extremely proud of his son Nic's talent at playing drums. Some of his best times were playing alongside him. Gilbert enjoyed grilling, especially at the Ochoa and Sanchez home.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou (Wera) Narbaiz of Big Spring; two sons, Nic Narbaiz of Odessa and David Martinez of Big Spring; one daughter, Vanessa Valencia of Big Spring; several grandchildren; his uncle whom he came to know as a father, Saragosa Ochoa, of Big Spring, a cousin, whom he loved and referred to as his sister, Patsy Sanchez and husband, Henry of Big Spring.

He is preceded in death by his father, Gilberto Narbaiz, his grandparents, George and Santos Narbaiz, a daughter, Kasey Lynn Narbaiz, and an aunt (mom) Lucy Narbaiz Ochoa.

The family will be residing at the Ochoa home, 2012 Jocelyn Road

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

Paid obituary

Lynette Brooks

Lynette Blum Brooks (Barnes), 80, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, March 7, 2016, at a Midland hospital. Family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 10, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Big Spring. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, March 11, at First Baptist Church, Big Spring with burial immediately following at Trinity Memorial Park.

Lynette was born on Jan. 14, 1936 in Kilgore, Texas to Pauline Louder Blum and Joe Blum. Lynette attended and graduated with the Big Spring High School Class of 1954 and

enrolled at Howard College that fall.

Lynette is survived by her children: Laura and Joe Covarrubias, Jr. of Allen, Texas, Greg and Lisa Brooks of Big Spring, Cindy Barnes of Austin, Texas and Mike and Liz Brooks of Spicewood, Texas; 9 grandchildren and one great-grandson; brother, Bob Blum and his wife Peggy of Cumming, Ga. and their children.

Lynette was preceded in death by her parents, loving husbands and precious granddaughter, Christie Dianne Proctor.






In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the American Cancer Society or other favorite charity.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences may be made at: www.npwelch.com.

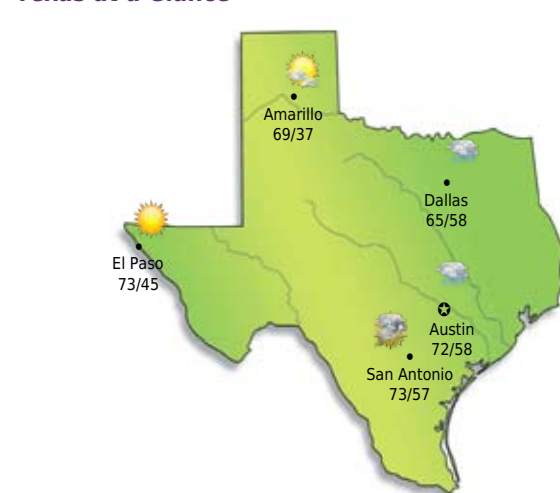
Lillian Greenfield

Lillian Greenfield, 75, of Big Spring died Wednesday, March 9, 2016, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 3/10	Fri 3/11	Sat 3/12	Sun 3/13	Mon 3/14
 65/44	 59/43	 72/49	 78/47	 81/51
Cloudy and windy. High near 65F. Winds NNE at 20 to 30 mph.	Afternoon showers. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 40s.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	Mainly sunny and windy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	Sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:01 AM Sunset: 6:50 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 6:51 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 6:52 PM	Sunrise: 7:58 AM Sunset: 7:53 PM	Sunrise: 7:56 AM Sunset: 7:53 PM

Texas at a Glance







Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	65	51	Rain	Kingsville	77	60	T-Storms
Amarillo	64	36	Cloudy	Livingston	72	65	Sct T-Storms
Austin	72	60	Cloudy	Longview	69	61	T-Storms
Beaumont	75	68	Sct T-Storms	Lubbock	62	42	Cloudy
Brownsville	78	59	Cloudy	Lufkin	71	63	T-Storms
Brownwood	66	52	T-Storms	Midland	61	49	P Cloudy
Corpus Christi	78	62	Cloudy	Raymondville	80	60	M Cloudy
Corsicana	69	60	Sct T-Storms	Rosenberg	75	66	Sct T-Storms
Dallas	67	59	Sct T-Storms	San Antonio	75	60	T-Storms
Del Rio	73	57	T-Storms	San Marcos	72	59	Cloudy
El Paso	69	44	M Cloudy	Sulphur Springs	66	59	Sct T-Storms
Fort Stockton	58	47	T-Storms	Sweetwater	63	51	Cloudy
Gainesville	67	54	Rain	Tyler	70	60	T-Storms
Greenville	66	57	T-Storms	Weatherford	67	55	T-Storms
Houston	75	67	Sct T-Storms	Wichita Falls	70	55	Few Showers

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	77	54	Cloudy	Miami	79	71	M Cloudy
Boston	68	56	P Cloudy	Minneapolis	43	33	Cloudy
Chicago	65	46	Cloudy	New York	72	57	Sunny
Dallas	67	59	Sct T-Storms	Phoenix	82	56	Sunny
Denver	60	32	Sunny	San Francisco	64	56	Cloudy
Houston	75	67	Sct T-Storms	Seattle	54	48	Cloudy
Los Angeles	74	54	Sunny	Saint Louis	66	54	Cloudy

Moon Phases

 First Mar 15	 Full Mar 23	 Last Mar 31	 New Apr 7
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Police / Sheriff

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **ATHEA RYANNE NALL**, 31, of 1212 E. 17th St. was booked on a charge of theft of property, less than \$100 and a warrant from another agency.

• **LORENZO TORRES RAMIREZ**, 31, of 410 W. 8th St. was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.

• **KATHERINE DELORIS SCAGGS**, 44, of 201 N. Scurry St. was arrested on charges of failure to identify – fugitive giving false/fictitious information, possession of drug paraphernalia, theft of property, less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions and a warrant from another agency.

• **ALVIN PHILLIP ALLEN**, 51, of 210 Wintergreen Rd., Desoto, Texas was arrested on charges of fail to identify – fugitive giving false/fictitious information, theft of property, less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions and a warrant from another agency.

• **ANTONIO MARTINEZ III**, 18, of 407 Sunset Blvd. was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces.

• **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Edwards and Lancaster and the 1800 block of Benton.

• **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80, the 20 block of Village Road J., the 1600 block of S. Owens St. and the 600 block of Sgt. Paredez.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 3100 block of Sherrod Rd. and the 1000 block of S. Birdwell Lane.

• **BURGLARY IN PROGRESS** was reported in the 1800 block of E. FM 700.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700.

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 85 inmates at the time of this report.

• **ALVIN PHILLIP ALLEN**, 51, was booked by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify – fugitive giving false/fictitious information, theft of property, less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions and a warrant for parole violation.

• **ATHEA RYANNE NALL**, 31, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft and a warrant for driving while license invalid.

• **LORENZO TORRES RAMIREZ**, 31, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

• **KATHERINE DELORES SCAGGS**, 44, was booked by the BSPD on charges of fail to identify – fugitive intentionally giving false/fictitious information, possession of drug paraphernalia, theft of property, less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions and a warrant for parole violation.

Support Groups

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.



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News in brief

Iran fires 2 missiles marked with 'Israel must be wiped out'

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran reportedly test-fired two ballistic missiles Wednesday with the phrase "Israel must be wiped out" written in Hebrew on them, a show of force by the Islamic Republic as U.S. Vice President Joe Biden visited Israel.

Such phrases have been emblazoned on Iranian missiles before, but this test comes shortly after the implementation of a nuclear deal with world powers, including the U.S., and follows similar drills in recent days.

Hard-liners in Iran's military have fired rockets and missiles despite U.S. objections since the deal, as well as shown underground missile bases on state television.

Kim Jong Un poses beside possible nuclear warhead mock-up

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea caused a new stir Wednesday by publicizing a purported mock-up of a key part of a nuclear warhead, with leader Kim Jong Un saying his country has developed miniaturized atomic bombs that can be placed on missiles.

The North's Rodong Sinmun newspaper carried photos on its front page showing Kim and nuclear scientists standing beside what outside analysts say appears to be a model warhead part — a small, silverish globe with a ballistic missile or a model ballistic missile in the background.

The newspaper said Kim met his nuclear scientists for a briefing on the status of their work and declared he was greatly pleased that warheads had been standardized and miniaturized for use on ballistic missiles.

Information from secretive, authoritarian North Korea is often impossible to confirm and the country's state media have a history of photo manipulations.

Beatles' producer George Martin dies at 90

LONDON (AP) — George Martin, the Beatles' urbane producer who quietly guided the band's swift, historic transformation from rowdy club act to musical and cultural revolutionaries, has died, his management said Wednesday. He was 90.

"We can confirm that Sir George Martin passed away peacefully at home yesterday evening," Adam Sharp, a founder of CA Management, said in an email.

"In a career that spanned seven decades he was an inspiration to many and is recognized globally as one of music's most creative talents," Sharp said.

Beatles drummer Ringo Starr tweeted: "God bless George Martin peace and love to Judy and his family love Ringo and Barbara. George will be missed."

• The Kiwanis Annual Pancake Supper will take place at the Howard College Student Union Building Friday from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 per person and include all you can eat pancakes, sausage patty and bacon. There will be milk, water and coffee to drink. To go orders welcome.

• The Howard County Fair needs people to cross stitch squares for the annual Quilt Fundraiser. Complete kits may be picked up from Cheryl Joy at the Heritage Museum, Tuesday through Saturday. For more information call Suzanne Markwell at 214-256-1674

Meetings

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

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

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

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

• Staked Plains 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

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in

Take note

need of volunteers to fill a variety of needs to assist the hospital's patients. Applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers can assist with a variety of functions, including The Chalet Resale Shop, various fundraisers and patient events. For more information, contact Dee Lindsey, Big Spring State Hospital Director of Community Relations, (432) 268-7535 or danielle.lindsey@dshs.state.tx.us

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

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

Sacking dates are as follows (please note the group starts at 5:30 p.m.) March 28 and 29.

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

Currently we are distributing food at Goliad, Marcy and Moss Elementary Schools. If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

POPS

Continued from Page 1

person must leave a name and contact number with each submission.

Committee members are in the midst of coordinating the event which will fall on a Sunday this year. The annual Pops in the Park event costs

around \$45,000 to host each year and is completely funded through donations. Anyone wishing to donate can contact Debbye ValVerde at the Big Spring Chamber. The Chamber's number is 263-7641.

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

PINTS

Continued from Page 1

that evening..

"We will also have wine and soda there for those who don't like beer but want to come," said Dodd.

Some of the beers included in the count are Not Your Father's Root Beer, Guinness Blonde, Shiner Bock, Sam Adams and several other beers from independent breweries.

"This is a chance for some of the new beers coming out to get some publicity. Someone might not think that a cherry flavored beer

would taste good, so this gives them a chance to try it out without having to drink a full beer or waste it," Dodd said.

Included in the beer-sampling festivities, patrons will have a chance to enjoy some live music and participate in a silent auction.

From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., the crowd will be entertained by music from George Bancroft and from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. the stage will belong to Justin Kaczyk.

"We are going to have some great music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, great beer and a silent auction. A lot of the items for the auction were donated by local businesses but

we also have a football signed by Bill Bates — a three time Superbowl winner, a poster signed by WWE's Rick Flair, some Texas Rangers tickets and some tickets to see Clint Black and Tracy Bird in Abilene," said Dodd.

The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club would like to remind everyone to drink responsibly.

"We will have rides available for those that live in the city limits. We will help people get home safely. Please do not drink and drive. We want everyone to have fun and be safe," said Dodd.

Pints for Polio will take place in downtown

Big Spring at the Courtyard, located at 119 S. Main St. Tickets are \$25 for one person or \$40 for a couple. Each attendant will receive a commemorative glass with their ticket and other commemorative glasses will be available for purchase, four for \$20. Tickets can be purchased at the door or at the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce.

For more information contact Debbye ValVerde at 432-263-7641 or Sandy Stewart at 432-935-1604.

Contact Staff Writer Julie Bass at 432-263-7331 ext 232 or email life@bigspringherald.com

NARBAIZ

Continued from Page 1

manager in the 1980s.

He left the Herald for a time, working in the pressroom for newspapers in Mobile, Ala.,

Texarkana, Texas and Amarillo before returning to the Herald press room more than 10 years ago.

Away from work, he was an avid musician, fronting the band, Sierra, as well as working as a DJ in several night

clubs in the Big Spring area.

Narbaiz is survived by his wife, Mary Lou, three children and several grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rose-

wood Chapel.

A complete obituary can be found on Page 2.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235.

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Lillian Greenfield, 75, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Opinion

Religion versus relationship

“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

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Phone: 202-228-0462

• **JOHN CORNYN**
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517 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4305
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Over four years ago when I first visited with the editor of this fine newspaper, the late Bill McClellan, about writing “I column as I see ‘em”, I told him I wasn’t going to write a religious column. I told him people knew I was a preacher and if they wanted to hear me preach they could come to my church. I wanted to rather write about things that interested me and that would hopefully interest the Herald’s readers as well. After more than 230 columns I have been faithful to that concept, rarely addressing religious issues. Today, I want to break ranks and address something that really troubles me; religion.



EDDY PRINCE

That’s right, religion. I really don’t like religion. Now, let me without hesitation or apology assure you that I have nothing but love for Jesus Christ, His church, and Christians of any size, shape or theological bent. But religion seriously gives me heartburn.

Religion breeds self-righteousness and even hatred. Religion can, and often does, actually hurt the true cause of Christ. The reasons are many, but basically it is because religion is primarily based upon rules, regulations, and ritual. The antithesis to religion is the similar sounding, yet worlds apart in meaning, word “relationship”.

Am I qualified to make these assessments? I think so. I was almost born in church, my mother playing the piano at church on Wednesday evening and giving birth to me mere hours later. In my lifetime I have missed very few scheduled services at whatever church congregation I was affiliated with, either as a pastor’s kid (PK), or as a pastor myself. Actually, we aren’t PKs anymore. We are now EOs (Ecclesiastical Offspring). But, regardless, as someone who all his life could only be excused from attending church by producing a valid death certificate, I can say honestly that religion is not always a good thing. In

fact, it is often a bad thing. Let me show you what I mean about religion’s true nature.

It has been said, “The number one cause of atheism is Christians. Those who proclaim God with their mouths and deny Him with their lifestyles is what an unbelieving world finds simply unbelievable.” (Christianity Today, 2001) Webster defines “religion” as, “a particular system of belief or worship built around God, moral ideals, a philosophy of life, etc.”

A 19th-century Danish theologian identified two kinds of religion – Religion A and Religion B. The first is “faith” in the name of religion only (2 Tim. 3:5 “They will act as if they are religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. You must stay away from people like that.”) That is basically the practice of attending church without genuine faith in the living God.

Religion B, on the other hand, is a life-transforming, destiny-changing experience. It’s a definite commitment to the crucified and risen Savior, which establishes an ongoing personal relationship between a forgiven sinner and a gracious God.

There are a lot of “religions” in the world that has nothing to do with God and there are a lot of people with “religions” that will never take them to Heaven. The Pharisees had a biblical religion but they rejected the very one that their religion was centered around, Jesus Christ.

Religion alone focuses on the things others can see and forgets that God can see everything about them. (Luke 1:39-40 “You Pharisees are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are still filthy—full of greed and wickedness! Fools! Didn’t God make the inside as well as the outside?”)

Religion alone worries about what others may think and wants to be perfect. (Luke 11:42-43 “But how terrible it will be for you Pharisees! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest part of your income, but you completely forget about justice and the love of God. You should tithe, yes, but you should not leave undone the more important things. How terrible it will be for you Pharisees! For how you love the seats of honor in the

synagogues and the respectful greetings from everyone as you walk through the markets!”)

Religion alone finds the loopholes in the regulations in order to avoid obeying them. (Luke 11:46 ““Yes,” said Jesus, “how terrible it will be for you experts in religious law! For you crush people beneath impossible religious demands, and you never lift a finger to help ease the burden.”)

Religion alone honors heroes of the past but rejects God’s work in the present. (Luke 11:47 “How terrible it will be for you! For you build tombs for the very prophets your ancestors killed long ago.”)

Religion alone seeks a “deeper” message in the Bible in order to be in control. (Luke 11:52 “How terrible it will be for you experts in religious law! For you hide the key to knowledge from the people. You don’t enter the Kingdom yourselves, and you prevent others from entering.”)

Religion alone can actually prevent people from becoming genuine Christians. As I have already stated, what we really need is a relationship that is stronger than religion. A personal and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ actually changes lives positively and can ultimately change the world.

Anyone planning to go to heaven must be in a right relationship with God through His Son, Jesus. Being in a right relationship with God means there are no secrets between the two of you, and that produces a clean spirit and lifestyle. Being in a right relationship with God means that you and He are in communication with each other. You know Him through Bible study, prayer, and fellowship with other Christians and He knows you. Everything about you, and yet He loves you still. That kind of agape love deserves more than ritualistic rule-following. It merits a heartfelt relationship that makes life beautiful.

If religion was the answer to the world’s ills, it would have been well a long time ago. Thankfully, God has made a way for us to move past religion into relationship.

You may not agree with anything I’ve said, but I column as I see ‘em.

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 newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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

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

DAILY PRAYER

With You, Lord, we can widen our scope and view of our life.

Amen.

The case against Trump

Yes, Donald Trump is the front-runner in a crowded Republican primary field.

Yes, he can draw votes from Democrats. But those two facts don’t mean Trump can win in the general election. As 2012 GOP nominee Mitt Romney argued during a speech designed to stop the Trump surge in its tracks, “Trump relishes any poll that reflects what he thinks of himself, but polls are also saying that he will lose to Hillary Clinton.”

Trump has defied reports that he has gone too far and that his campaign is doomed before, but the general election is a different ballgame than the GOP primary. Democratic pollster Stan Greenberg produced research that shows a Trump nomination threatens to drive moderate Republicans from the party. What’s more, The Donald’s anti-immigrant, anti-Latino, anti-Muslim and anti-women remarks threaten to pump up turnout among Democratic voters in November.

To save the party from a Trump nomination — and an exodus of GOP voters — Romney outlined the case against Trump: He’s crude. His language and “absurd third-grade theatrics” set a bad example for children. Trump is clueless about foreign policy. His protectionist schemes could lead to a recession. Most of all, Romney railed, Trump is “a phony.”

Republican super PACs have

amassed information about Trump University that suggests that the now-defunct institution — the subject of three lawsuits, including a class action complaint with 5,000 plaintiffs, alleging fraud — did not live up to its marketing. Trump boasted during Thursday night’s Fox News debate that Trump U had a Better Business Bureau rating of A. Trump has claimed that he “handpicked” instructors, but FactCheck.org found a top executive deposition that attested Trump picked none of the instructors. Worse, the most recent known rating — from 2010 — from the bureau was D-minus.

The super PAC American Future Fund, which promotes “conservative, free market ideals,” produced a video that features Sherri, a single mother who sank more than \$35,000 into Trump U. “Trusting him,” she says, was “a huge mistake.” And: “All of it was just a fake. America, do not make the same mistake that I did with Donald Trump. I got hurt badly, and I’d hate to see this country get hurt by Donald Trump.” During the Fox News debate, Sen. Marco Rubio called the school a “fake university.”

The fake facts that Trump promotes are scarier in their fashion. On Thursday night, Trump repeated a fable about the wife or wives of a 9/11 terrorist or terrorists flying out of the United States to a foreign land, where “they watched their husband on television flying into the World Trade Center, flying into the Pentagon and probably trying to fly into the White House.” As PolitiFact noted, the only 9/11 terrorist who had not cut off ties

with his family had a girlfriend in Germany. If Trump cannot get this straight, what else has his brain muddled?

Pundits are taken with the symbolism of the prim Romney going after the blowhard billionaire in blunt language filled with put-downs. The most striking part of Romney’s address, however, was his failure to endorse an alternative candidate. Instead, Romney laid out a course that ends with a contested convention.

Alas, Romney noted, “the rules of political history have pretty much all been shredded during this campaign.” Ergo: “Given the current delegate selection process, that means that I’d vote for Marco Rubio in Florida and for John Kasich in Ohio and for Ted Cruz or whichever one of the other two contenders has the best chance of beating Mr. Trump in a given state.” Translation: Vote for anyone who can keep Trump from walking into the Cleveland convention with the 1,237 delegates needed to win the nomination in the first vote.

California GOP wise man Rob Stutzman supports the Romney battle plan. He sees a Cruz victory as “rather implausible.” Stutzman sees a “progression of firebreaks The next firebreak is: Deny Trump 50 percent.” If Kasich and Rubio don’t win their home states, the establishment will go to plan B — with a 2016-only independent conservative candidate running against Trump and the Democratic nominee to stop a stampede of voters fleeing the Grand Old Party. Think: the Alamo.



DEBORA SAUNDERS

Check this out: What's at the library

With spring and daylight-saving time soon approaching us, it is the perfect time to go to the library to see what books might tickle your fancy.

For all you biography fans, you are in for a treat because we have five new books. "Unbreak My Heart" (B BRA T) is a memoir by Toni Braxton, a six-time Grammy award winner and female recording artist whose hit song "Unbreak My Heart" still stands as the number two all-time bestselling single. While Toni Braxton may appear to be living a charmed life, hers is in fact a tumultuous story. It is a tale of personal triumph after a public unraveling. Despite her early accomplishments, Toni's world crumbles when she was forced to file for bankruptcy twice and was left all alone to pick up the pieces. Toni rebuilt her life but found herself in the midst of more heartache. The mother of an autistic child, Toni had long feared that her son's condition might be karmic retribution for some of the life choices that left her filled with remorse. When she began to have heart ailments and was diagnosed with lupus, Toni knew she had to move beyond the self-recrimination and take charge of her own healing — physically and spiritually. "Unbreak My Heart" is more than the story of Toni's difficult past and glittering success, it is a story of hope, of healing, and, ultimately, of redemption.

Not since John Quincy Adams followed John Adams into the White House 190 years ago have a father and son both served as president of the United States. In "41: A Portrait of my Father" (B BUS G), George W. Bush, the 43rd president, takes us through the life and leadership of his father, George H.W. Bush, the 41st president. He delayed college to pilot torpedo bombers in the Navy during World War II and then returned home to marry his wartime sweetheart, Barbara. His zeal for adventure led him to move his young family to West Texas where he eventually set himself on a new path toward public service. George H.W. Bush had three eventful and remarkable decades in politics from the painful defeats in the Texas Senate races of 1964 and 1970, to his unlikely service as a diplomat and CIA director, to his eight years as Ronald Reagan's vice president, and finally to his election as president in 1988. Bush guided the nation through the peaceful end of the Cold War, oversaw the liberation of Panama and Kuwait, and made tough economic decisions that laid the foundation for future prosperity. More than a biography, "41" provides insights into the lessons

learned by a son from watching a man he admires and adores.

In "Open Heart" by Elie Wiesel, (B WIE E) Weisel tells his story as he faces his own open-heart surgery. Elie Wiesel was 15 years old when he was deported to Auschwitz. He became a journalist and writer in Paris after the war and has written more than fifty books.

"When Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi (B KAL P) is a story about a neurosurgeon that is one day treating the dying and the next day struggling to live. This book chronicles Dr Kalanithi's transformation from a naive medical student, into a neurosurgeon at Stanford, and finally into a patient and new father confronting his own mortality. "When Breath Becomes Air" is an unforgettable, life-affirming reflection on the challenge of facing death and on the relationship between doctor and patient, from a brilliant writer who became both.

Martin Pistorius tells of the miraculous escape of a misdiagnosed boy trapped inside his own body in his book, "Ghost Boy" (B PIS M). Martin

the hopeful story of a discarded life awakening from passivity to action, despair to hope, captivity to freedom.

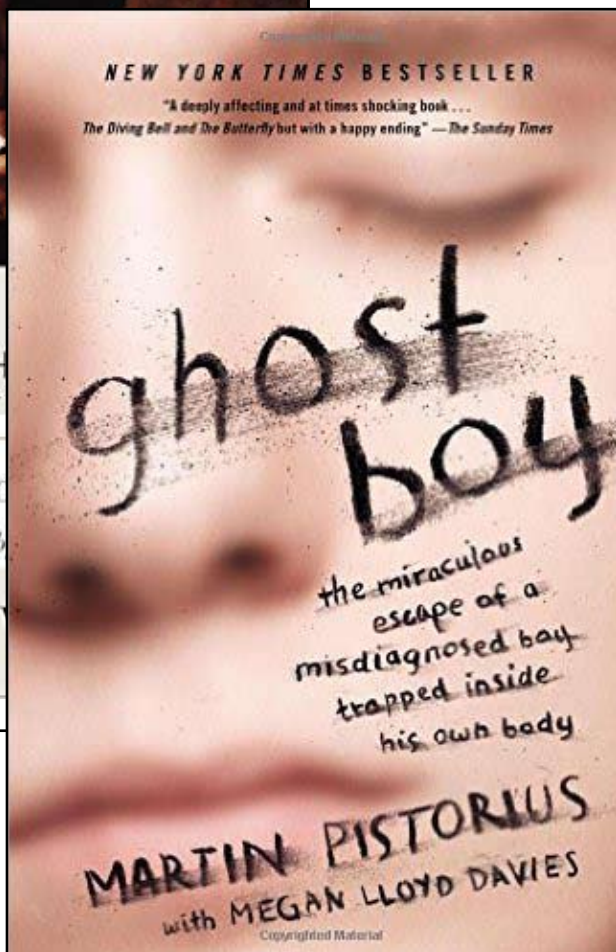
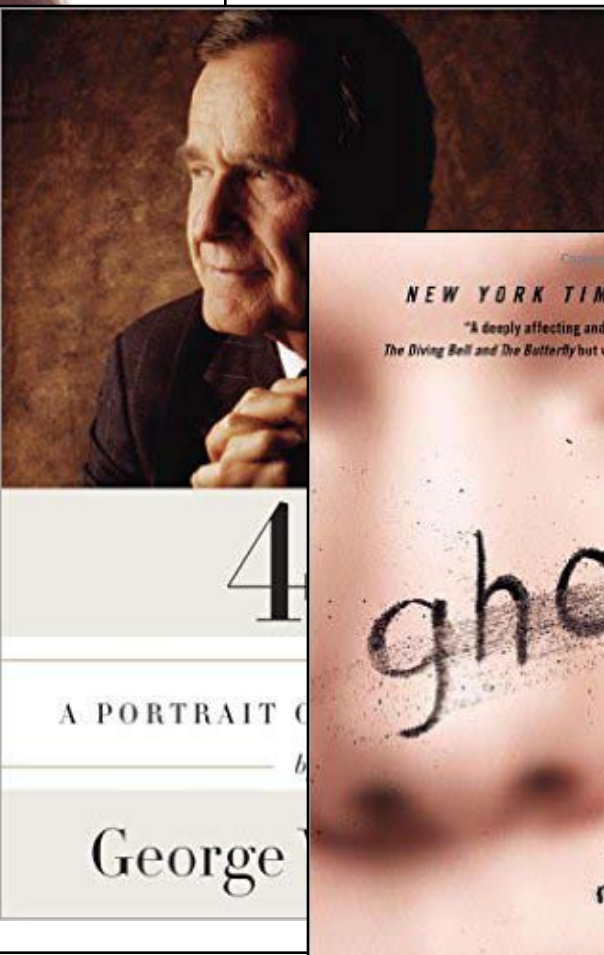
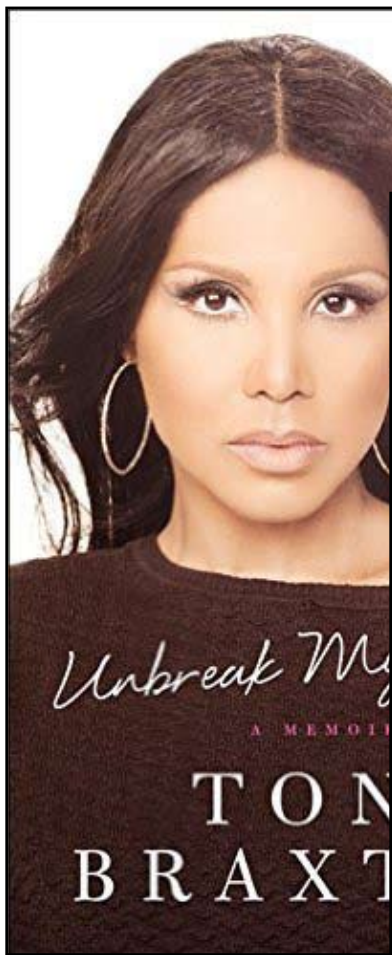
Since I was long-winded on the biographies, I will have to just list the new westerns. Max Brand has another Circle V Western, "The Cure of Silver Canon", (LP W BRA M) which includes: "Senor Coyote", "The Power of Prayer", and "The Cure of Silver Canon". "Last Waltz on Wild Horse" by T T Flynn (LP W FLY T) is a western quartet that includes: "Showdown in Blood", "Spawn of the Gun Pack", "Last of the Fighting O'Days", and "Last Waltz on Wild Horse". "Apache Ransom" by Will Henry (LP W HEN W) finds Ben Allison doing a favor for his sister's dying childhood friend. She asks him to see her son safely home to his father. Ben misses the stage, which was attacked by Apaches, and the boy is taken hostage. The Apaches want enough guns to blaze a murderous trail through Texas in exchange for the boy. He swore an oath to a dying woman so he will have to steal the boy back from his captors-or die in the attempt. "Bullets Don't Die" by J. A. Johnstone (LP W JOH J) is book sixteen of the Loner Series. Les Savage, Jr. has a Western Duo "Shadow Riders" (LP W SAV L) that includes two stories: "Trail of the Lonely Gun" and "Shadow Riders". "Treachery Pass" by Lee E. Wells (LP W WEL L) tells the story of Ken Ballard, a homeless, shiftless wanderer, that is picked up by Brad Moran and trained as a driver. Moran owns one of the largest freight lines in the west, but he wants to own the ONLY freight line. Ballard appreciates the training and is determined not to go back to being a homeless drifter. He has a feeling that Moran is not to be trusted, and he should get away as soon as the job is over but by then it is too late because he has a posse on his trail.

Last on my list of new arrivals are the mysteries. "Scorched Eggs" by Laura Childs (M CHI L) is a Cackleberry Club Mystery. "Night of The White Buffalo" is a Wind River Mystery by Margaret Coel (M COE M). Deborah Crombie has a new novel, "To Dwell in Darkness" (M CRO D). "Hounded" by David Rosenfelt (M ROS D) is book twelve of the Andy Carpenter series. So many books, so little time! Dr Seuss said "You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book." Take

time to find some magic!
We are open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. You may reach us at (432) 264-2260 and our fax number is (432) 264-2263. Our website is <http://howard-county.ploud.net>. The library will be closed on March 25, 2016 for Good Friday.



MONICA MARTINEZ



degenerated into a mute quadriplegic who spent his days at a care center, sitting blankly in front of the television while his family waited for him to die. One day his mind came up for air, and Martin was completely conscious while trapped inside his unresponsive body, secretly aware of everything happening around him and utterly powerless to communicate it. With unflinching candor, Martin describes the chilling details of life as a secretly lucid vegetable. From the perversion of some who believed him to be brain-dead, to the grace of those who sought recognition in his eyes. "Ghost Boy" is

Ports-to-Plains, LEDA host energy, ag summit

Special to the Herald
Baron Lukas, president of Vital Strategies, will speak at the 2016 Ports-to-Plains Energy and Ag Summit co-hosted by the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance, March 30 - 31 at the Arbor Hotel and Conference Center in Lubbock. A retired Marine Corps Colonel and former COO of a privately held company in the oil and gas sector, Lukas has over 35 years of leadership, management, and mentoring experience.

In spite of the recent slump in oil prices, energy continues to play a key role in economy of the Ports-to-Plains region that stretches from Alberta, Canada, through West Texas and on to Mexico's west coast. Traditional resources such as oil and gas, as well as renewable energy such as wind are responsible for many jobs throughout the region. "We have assembled a great lineup of speakers for this conference that will give you great insight into these critical economic drivers," said

Ports-to-Plains President Michael Reeves. Agriculture presentations include former House Ag Committee Chairman Larry Combest's insights on federal issues. Representatives from Monsanto and Continental Dairy Facilities Southwest will give updates on their recently announced projects that will be significant job creators on the South Plains. A strong transportation infrastructure is critical to moving the region's ag and energy products to market, and these issues will be featured as well. Lubbock Mayor and Ports-to-Plains Treasurer Glen Robertson will give an update on efforts to extend Interstate 27. Texas Department of Transportation Interim Director of Freight and International Trade will speak on the Texas Freight Mobility Plan and what it means for Ports-to-Plains. Information and full details about the Energy and Ag Summit are available on the Ports-to-Plains website at portstoplastains.com.

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Sanders, Trump have big nights

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Donald Trump's easy victories in Michigan, Mississippi and Hawaii left his rivals with shrinking opportunities to slow his momentum in the Republican primaries and little indication that intense efforts to undermine his credibility are pushing voters away from the brash billionaire.

Democrat Bernie Sanders surprised front-runner Hillary Clinton in Michigan, a victory that breathed new life into his White House bid and forecast a long Democratic contest. But Clinton, who won Mississippi, padded her delegate lead and is now halfway to the number needed to clinch the nomination.

Clinton glossed over her contest with Sanders as she addressed supporters, choosing instead to focus her attention on Republicans and the general election.

"We are better than what we are being offered by the Republicans," she declared.

Trump entered Tuesday's contests facing questions about his durability and ended the night with a pair of convincing victories. Texas Sen. Ted Cruz added a win in Idaho, bolstering his case that he's the only candidate who can beat Trump with some regularity.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio suffered another brutal drubbing, failing to pick up any delegates in Michigan and Mississippi. He faces a sudden-



AP photo

Supporters cheer during a Bernie Sanders rally in Miami, Fla. Monday.

death contest in Florida next week. Similarly, Ohio Gov. John Kasich desperately needs to win his home state Tuesday to stay in the race.

With the prospect of a Trump nomination growing more likely, rival campaigns and outside groups have significantly stepped up efforts to discredit the real estate mogul. But the flood of attacks on Trump's business record and temperament has failed to slow his rise.

"Every single person who has attacked me has gone down," Trump said at one of his Florida resorts. He was flanked by tables packed with his retail products, including steaks,

bottled water and wine, and defended his business record more thoroughly than he outlined his policy proposals for the country.

The billionaire businessman told NBC's "Today" show Wednesday he thought the attacks were helping him: "There's tremendous positive energy in the party. We're setting records going to the polls. Some people have never voted before and they've voting for Trump."

In a phone-interview with Fox News Channel, Trump called his campaign a global phenomenon and said it was time for the party to unify behind him.

"Instead of fighting it, they should embrace it," he said. "If we embrace what's happening and if everybody came together ... nobody could beat the Republican Party."

Tuesday's contests marked another lost opportunity for rivals desperate to stop his march to the nomination. Next week's winner-take-all contests in Ohio and Florida loom as perhaps the last chance to block him short of a contested convention fight.

Kasich finished third in Michigan, behind Trump and Cruz. It wasn't the boost he was looking for heading into next week's crucial contest in his home state.

Exit polls: Voter resentment fuels Trump, Sanders victories

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders rode a wave of voter discontent with the Washington establishment and deep anxiety over the economy to victory in Michigan's primary election Tuesday, exit polls showed.

Despite their vast differences, both Trump and Sanders were the overwhelming favorites among voters who said the next president should be a political outsider.

They also benefited from a widespread belief that international trade does more harm than good in a state struggling to overcome a Rust Belt legacy of manufacturing jobs outsourced to low-wage countries.

More than half the voters in both parties described trade as a job killer. Of those, six in 10 Democrats supported Sanders. Trump far outpolled the other Republican candidates among voters with the same opinion.

In the Mississippi primary, similar resentments fueled another Trump victory. But among Democrats in Mississippi, the only real question was who liked Hillary Clinton the most.

Exit polls showed her carrying nearly every voter group as she trounced Sanders.

Here are some high-

lights of the exit polls conducted for The Associated Press and television networks by Edison Research:

MICHIGAN DEMOCRATS

Sanders' populist theme struck a chord, as more than eight in 10 Michigan Democrats said the U.S. economic system generally favors the wealthy, and just over half of those voters backed the Vermont senator. Nearly four in 10 said they were very worried about the direction of the economy in the next few years, and six in 10 of those favored Sanders.

Nearly six in 10 Michigan Democrats said Clinton is honest, while about eight in 10 said the same of Sanders. But seven in 10 said Clinton's policies were more realistic, while just over six in 10 described Sanders' policies as such.

MICHIGAN REPUBLICANS

Trump continued to draw support from less educated voters, those who favor deporting people working illegally in the U.S. and those wanting a nominee from outside the political mainstream.

Ted Cruz neared or bested Trump among voters describing themselves as very conservative and those who consider it important to

have a candidate with whom they share religious beliefs and values. But Trump held a slight lead over Cruz among white evangelical Christians.

John Kasich's best showing was among voters with advanced degrees, voters seeking a candidate with experience and those who oppose keeping Muslims who aren't U.S. citizens out of the country.

CLINTON CRUISES IN MISSISSIPPI

Clinton remained hugely popular among black voters. They accounted for about seven in 10 Democratic voters in Mississippi, and nearly nine in 10 of them supported her. Yet she also drew about two-thirds of the vote among whites. About seven in 10 voters under age 45 supported Clinton, whose margin was even more overwhelming among those who are older. She won among women and men, people with less education as well as postgraduates, every income group and moderates.

Rubio pins hopes on Florida

FISH HAWK, Fla. (AP) — Coming off what may be his worst night of the primary season, Marco Rubio's make-or-break moment has arrived.

And the Florida senator, a home-state underdog with a week to prove he belongs in the 2016 presidential race, insists Florida will be his salvation.

"It has to happen here, and it has to happen now," he told a swelling Sarasota crowd Tuesday evening.

Rubio's challenge is to overtake Republican front-runner Donald Trump in Florida and beat back a late push from Ted Cruz, who senses an opportunity to sink Rubio even if he can't win the state himself. Rubio and his GOP opponents know a loss next Tuesday in Florida would force him out of the 2016 contest — and scar his future political ambitions, should he have any.

Rubio's march for survival got steeper Tuesday night after fourth-place finishes in both Michigan and Mississippi.

Suddenly reduced to a single-state strategy,

Rubio's team says he will campaign in Florida and nowhere else for the next week, even as four other states also prepare to host primary elections Tuesday. At the same time, his allies are pelting Trump with an avalanche of negative ads on Florida TV that reinforce the same message Rubio and his army of volunteers offer to anyone who will listen: Trump can't be trusted.

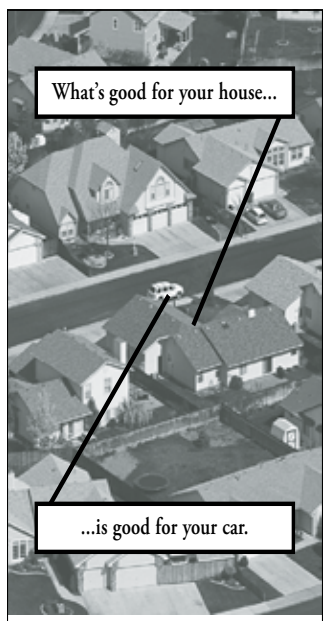
"Who I am and what I stand for is the opposite of Donald Trump," said 20-year-old Florida State University junior Letty Burgin, who has sacrificed this week's spring break to help save Rubio's campaign.

Spokesman Alex Conant says the Rubio campaign has seven fully staffed offices in the state backed by 40 full-time staffers and "countless" volunteers. Trump's ground game in Florida largely remains a mystery, as was the case in other states.

While he is a distant third in most polls, Cruz's campaign opened 10 Florida offices last week and boasts more than 10,000 volunteers

in the state, although just a handful of people were inside Cruz's Tampa office Tuesday.

"The best thing Marco Rubio can do right now is pull out before Tuesday," Rebecca Hagelin, the national co-chair of Women for Cruz, said as Rubio posed for pictures with supporters.



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Lady Steers tie as lightning ends game

By DREW WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring Lady Steers (10-1-1) and the Andrews Lady Mustangs played in a pitching duel and defensive game that resulted in a 0-0 tie Tuesday night.

"It was an all-time classic pitching duel. Both pitchers dominated the game," Big Spring head coach Howell Martin said.

It's nearly impossible for both pitchers to throw shutouts in a game, but with lightning in the area, the game was called in the bottom of the sixth inning with the score still tied 0-0.

Mariah Sarmiento started on the mound for the Lady Steers and was in control from the beginning. Andrews had four hits, mostly coming on infield rollers that resulted in the runner beating the throw to first base. Only one hit went to the outfield.

Big Spring was held hitless until the sixth inning when Logan Terrazes left a fly ball to left field that the Lady Mustangs couldn't come up with. The next batter, Ashley Gonzales, walked, giving the Lady Steers two on with two outs and their first opportunity to score, and that's when the game was called.

"We had not had a base runner up until that time, and the Andrews girl had just completely dominated the game. I don't even know how many strikeouts she had, but it was a lot, and we really had not had any opportunities to do anything. But Mariah Sarmiento was equally dominant on our side," Martin said.

The game won't be made up, so the game will go down as a tie for Big Spring and Andrews. The Lady Steers' next game will be at 4:30 p.m. Friday in Lubbock at Lubbock High School.



Logan Terrazes (14) connects for a hit in the sixth inning. It was the first and only hit of the game for the Lady Steers.

Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

NFL free agency recap, Calvin Johnson retires

By BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer

With Peyton Manning's retirement out of the way, NFL movement was all about changing teams on Tuesday.

And Manning's former franchise, the Broncos, lost a key piece.

Defensive end Malik Jackson, a key performer in Denver's championship season, is heading to Jacksonville. A person familiar with the negotiations said the Jaguars have agreed to terms with Jackson on a six-year deal worth up to \$90 million and including \$42 million guaranteed. Free-agent deals can't be finalized until Wednesday.

Jackson had 129 tackles, 14 sacks and two forced fumbles in his past three seasons. He started all 16 games in 2015, finishing with 45 tackles, seven passes defended and five sacks.

Denver also released three players who helped it win the title: tight end Owen Daniels, guard Louis Vasquez and long snapper Aaron Brewer.

"These decisions are never easy, but we appreciate the contributions Louis, Owen and Aaron made to our team, especially during our Super Bowl run," general manager John Elway said.

Two other former high draft picks also made headlines, with one following Manning out of football.

Lions star receiver Calvin Johnson called it quits after nine superb sea-



Calvin Johnson (81) waves to fans after an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins. (Paul Sancya, The Associated Press)

sons. The second overall pick in 2007 made 731 receptions for 11,619 yards, a league-record 86.1 yards receiving per game, and 83 touchdowns. He reached 10,000 yards (115 games) and 11,000 yards (127 games) quicker than anyone in NFL history. Including the postseason, he has another league mark with six 200-yard receiving games.

Johnson broke one of Hall of Famer

Jerry Rice's records with 1,964 yards receiving in 2012. He ranked among league leaders last season with 88 receptions for 1,214 yards and nine TDs, playing through lingering injuries.

"Let me assure you that this was not an easy or hasty decision," the 30-year-old Johnson said. "I, along with those closest to me, have put a lot of time, deliberation and prayer into this decision and I truly am at

peace with it."

Indianapolis cut Bjoern Werner, its first-rounder in 2013. The outside linebacker Werner had just 6 1/2 sacks in 38 games since being drafted 24th overall.

After starting 15 games in 2014, Werner barely played last season.

Also, defensive end Mario Williams signed a \$16 million, two-year contract with the Miami Dolphins, who now have an abundance of Pro Bowl pass rushers — for the moment, at least.

Williams reached the agreement a week after being released by the Buffalo Bills. The Dolphins sought reinforcement at end because they may lose Olivier Vernon in free agency, and the status of four-time Pro Bowler Cameron Wake is in question, too.

The Vikings released receiver Mike Wallace after one season in Minnesota to clear \$11.5 million from the salary cap. Wallace, 29, had just 39 catches for 473 yards and two touchdowns, all career lows.

The Vikings inherited his contract from the Miami Dolphins after a trade that sent a fifth-round selection to the Dolphins.

Chicago receiver Alshon Jeffery signed his franchise tag tender for \$14.6 million. The Bears and Jeffery

See NFL, Page 13

Browns to cut Manziel soon, possibly today



Cleveland Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel (2) throws during the first half of an NFL football game against the Kansas City Chiefs. (AP Photo/Ed Zurga)

CLEVELAND (AP) — Johnny Manziel's days with the Browns have dwindled to hours.

The team is expected to release the troubled quarterback as early as Wednesday, when the NFL begins its new calendar year and free agency opens.

However, there's a chance the move could be delayed. The Browns may wait to see if there is another team willing to give up a late conditional draft pick for Manziel, who still faces legal difficulties and could be suspended by the league.

For weeks, the Browns have made it clear they've tired of Manziel's antics, which reached a crescendo when he was accused by an ex-girlfriend of hitting and threatening to kill her during a dispute in Texas. Last week, Dallas police turned their case over to a grand jury, which is considering whether to press charges against the 23-year-old.

See MANZIEL, Page 13

Spurs bounce back, beat Wolves

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Ettore Messina had a simple goal when he took over the San Antonio Spurs for two games while coach Gregg Popovich stayed home to tend to a family matter.

"The machine is a well-oiled machine," Messina said. "It goes on. You try to sit at the wheel and steer and try not to mess it up. Keep it straight."

After veering off course in Indiana, Messina steered the Spurs back on to the track in an overwhelming performance against Minnesota.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 29 points and seven rebounds to help the Spurs bounce back from a rare loss with a 116-91 victory over the Timberwolves on Tuesday night.

Kawhi Leonard scored 15 points and the Spurs (54-10) led by as many as 26 points in a game they played without Tim Duncan, Tony Parker, Manu Ginobili and Popovich. David West scored 18 points as the Spurs shot 55.3 percent and only turned the ball over nine times.

"I thought guys came back understanding we have to be better on both ends of the floor," Aldridge said.

Andrew Wiggins had 23 points and eight rebounds for the Timberwolves. Karl-Anthony Towns had 19 points and nine boards, and Zach LaVine scored 15 points.

The Wolves have been playing for some time without Kevin Garnett (leg), Nikola Pekovic (foot) and Nemanja Bjelica (foot), and ran out of gas in their fourth game in five nights.

"They need to remember these losses though," interim coach Sam Mitchell said. "If you're ever going to get better, if you're ever going to win, you



San Antonio Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard (2) drives on Minnesota Timberwolves guard Andrew Wiggins (22).

AP photo

have to remember the times where you got your butt kicked."

The Spurs haven't dealt with much losing this season, and they responded to their 10th defeat of the season with a workman-like dismantling of the Timberwolves. Even with their three mainstays out of the lineup and their peerless coach at home tending to a family issue, they didn't miss a beat.

The Spurs shot a season-low 35 percent overall and 14 percent from 3-point range against Indiana on Monday night. They were much better against Minnesota's young and porous defense. Aldridge got whatever he wanted, peppering the Wolves

See SPURS, Page 13

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Tomorrow's Horoscope



Action Moon

A fresh goal cycle started with yesterday's new HOLIDAY moon, and MATHIS the lunar shift from the poetry of Pisces to the motion of Aries will drive the point home -- or, if not home, it will drive the point to work, into town, to the airport or through the heart. You can be sure of this: Action changes things out in the world and it changes things inside your being.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Things should work right. That's why you don't like to be persuaded to buy extended warranties or fussy maintenance accessories. Maybe things that are too difficult to keep up aren't worth the trouble of having.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Just when it seems like you've an endless capacity for accepting the foibles of your people, you may surprise all by taking

umbrage at something rather small. This will keep them from taking you for granted!
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The ideas that come to you for other people need to be expressed. They probably won't be immediately appreciated but think of it this way: You wouldn't acquire a present, wrap it and then not give it.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Someone you used to see as a competitor will now be a top resource for whatever you need. It turns out you were always on the same side, but your vantage point didn't make it seem that way.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When you're feeling energetic, sluggish, inspired, tired, enthused or used, you'll work on. Because of your "never say die" attitude, you'll go to bed tonight knowing the prize is in your hand.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've held off sharing your idea, fantasy scenario or vivid imagination too long, but the fear is gone now. There's no reason

you should care what they think! If they're as smart as you, they'll totally get it!
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). As exciting and dynamic as a relationship may be, you wonder in private moments whether or not you are really connecting, or just experiencing things together, each in your own private way.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's not what you give or even the way that you give it today -- it's who you are. You can't help the rest. You've come to this place with your choices, and now you simply are the good deed that shines through the weary world!
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Whether or not "manager" is officially in your job title, managing people will be critical to your success today. Communicating effectively is a huge component of this, as is making sure you're all after the same goal.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Happiness is a goal that is only loosely definable and hardly quantifiable. Yet,

if you're not happy, what does it matter what other definable and quantifiable achievements you have?
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). They want more of you. They'll try to get you to show up here and there and stay for longer than you want to. Well, it's not your fault that there's only one of you to go around. It's just the way it is!
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Language is always evolving and so are the other methods and tools we use to understand one another. Because you keep learning about communication and improving your effectiveness, you'll get more of what you need.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 9). Before things get interesting (and they will), it's important to remember to cherish eventless times! Lightness and triviality is a rare and beautiful thing in any lifetime. April features an upgrade of your home, wardrobe or vehicle. June is the most romantic. November will show

you a different part of the world. Cancer and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 3, 20, 25 and 41.
ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "What advice do you have for a Leo who is obsessed with a Gemini? I fantasize about him all the time. I can't get off his Facebook page. I look at every picture and keep track of what he's doing. I'm in love, and it's a possibility that he likes me too, but he has a girlfriend. How can I get him to notice me?"
What you're describing isn't love; it's desire. Do you want me to convince you that your cyber stalking is a little creepy, your obsessive fantasizing a form of sickness or that liking someone with a girlfriend may be a sign that you're not really up to a real-world relationship? Well, I won't, because such a line of logic would be wasted on a person in the throes of a mad crush. Desire is illogical. In the clutches it, judgment flies out the window. Counterintuitively, sometimes the best

way to return to reason is to go deeper into the madness of desire until the wanting plays out. Anyway, you're likely to prefer fantasyland from now through April 5. Shortly thereafter, a change in Venus will have you craving the kind of romantic excitement that can only come from real-world risk, responsibility and interaction.
CELEBRITY PROFILES: Pisces is the sign of dreamy imagination, blithe spirit and deep empathy -- qualities that Pisces actress Juliette Binoche brings to every project, from "The English Patient" to "Godzilla" and beyond. Binoche has natal Mercury and Mars in Pisces, too, adding to the ethereal innocence she radiates at every age. Look for this international movie star in the French comedy "Slack Bay."

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com and click "Write the Author" on her page.
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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease five years ago during an annual physical at the age of 79. I did not have hypertension, diabetes or a family history of kidney disease -- the distinctive risk factors for kidney disease -- although my age should have been a red flag. Looking back on my medical history, it turns out my kidney numbers were abnormal for some time. I was told that the use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs may have caused my kidney damage. It was a surprise to me that such a common drug did more harm

than good. Since then, I've stopped the use of NSAIDs, but I feel many other people might be in the same boat I was in. I hope you can spread the word to help others keep their kidneys healthy. -- Better Now
Dear Better: Thank you for the information. NSAIDs (such as aspirin, Advil, Motrin, Aleve, Celebrex and other commonly used pain relievers) don't generally pose a problem for most people who use them in small doses on occasion. But there can be side effects, especially if you use the drugs for weeks at a time. They can cause bleeding ulcers, fluid

retention, rashes, and kidney and heart problems. If you are taking any anti-inflammatory, over-the-counter drugs, please let your doctor know.
Kidney disease often goes undetected, because symptoms may not appear until the kidneys are close to failure. The good news is that early detection and proper treatment can slow the progression of kidney disease. If you have high blood pressure, diabetes, a family history of kidney failure or are over the age of 60, you should get your kidneys checked.
March is National Kidney Month and

March 10 is World Kidney Day. The National Kidney Foundation urges readers to be proactive with their health. To learn more, visit www.kidney.org.
Dear Annie: Your response to "Sick of Men Complaining" was right on. She said no matter what meal she prepares for her husband, he always finds something to criticize about it. Aside from pointing out that she seems to have a predilection for picking out men she cannot possibly please, you told her to inform him that he can cook his own meals if hers are not to his liking.
If my wife prepared

an elegant meal for me and I complained about it like that, you can be sure she would tell me where to go. She also would inform me that from now on, I would be cooking my own food. And she would have followed through on that.
Her straightforward confidence makes me appreciate the wonderful wife and mother that she is. -- Pretty Darn Happy in New Mexico
Dear New Mexico: We are delighted to hear from someone who appreciates his spouse and the efforts she puts into their meals, and more important, thinks her direct and honest atti-

tude is something to be admired. We trust she returns the same level of respect.

*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](https://www.facebook.com/AskAnnies). To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.
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Pass Pass Pass 1 ♣
Pass 3 ♣ Pass 6 ♣
Opening lead — five of clubs.

Assume you're West and lead a trump against six clubs. Declarer cashes the A-K, East discarding a low diamond, and plays the A-K-x of hearts, putting you back on lead with the queen of hearts.

So there you sit with the K-J-4-3 of spades and K-J-4-3 of diamonds and must decide which suit to return. Note that if you lead a spade, declarer makes the slam; if you lead

a diamond, declarer goes down one. "This is pretty kettle of fish," you say to yourself. "How can I possibly tell which suit to lead?" Well, as in most cases where there appears to be an even-up guess, there is a clue to guide you to the right decision.

Let's see what you know so far. South has shown up with five clubs and three hearts, leaving him with probably three cards in one suit and two cards in the other. If you can somehow contrive to lead South's shorter suit, you will eventually make your king in the other suit.

How about East? He has shown up with one club and three hearts, but what you really need to know is whether he has five spades and four diamonds, or four spades and five diamonds, and therein lies the answer to the problem.

As a general rule, East would be much more inclined to discard from a five-card suit at trick two than from a four-card suit.

Since East discarded a diamond on the second trump lead, it follows that he had five of them, leaving declarer with two. It is therefore safe to lead a diamond at trick six, fully expecting to win a spade trick later on to sink the slam.

Tomorrow: Don't count on friendship.
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Local 2 ABC	Hotel	Big Bang	News	Tele	News	With Schol-ars	Scully: World Show	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	A Game of Shadows	SportsCenter	Basket	Basket	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Dual Survival
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Un Camino hacia el	Mod Fam	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Mani	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA Basket-ball: Mem-pho Grizzlies at Boston Celts.	College Basketball	Champ Spotlight	Law & Order: SVU	Duck Dy-nasty	Dual Survival	
7:PM	Middle Wheel	Sueño de Amor	Rosewood	Survivor	¿Quién es quién?	The Voice	Upd	John Denver: Country Boy	Griffith	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Movie: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug, Richard Armitage (DVS)	College Basketball	Mavs Pre. NBA Basket-ball: Detroit Pistons at Dallas Mavericks.	Law & Order: SVU	Wahlburgers	Dual Survival	
8:PM	Mod Fam blackish	Democratic Debate	(01) Hell's Kitchen	The Victo-ria's	Eva la Trailera (SS)	Light of the Southwest		This Land Is Your Land	Hap.Days	Supernatural	Big Bang	NBA Basket-ball: Clippers at Thunder	College Basketball	Houston	Law & Order: SVU	Jep	Venom Hunters	
9:PM	American Crime		News	CSI: Cyber	La Querida	Carmichi Carmichi		Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Castle (DVS)		SportCtr	Mavs	Mod Fam	Duck D.	Dual Survival	
10:PM	Local 2	Impacto	Broke Girl	News	Tele	News	HaYesod	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	Cougar	Conan			Houston	Mod Fam	Duck D.	Dual Survival	
11:PM	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Noticiero	Mod Fam	Late Show- Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	M:25	World	Raising	Broke Girl	CSI: NY	SportsCenter	NBA	Customs	Mod Fam	(01) Duck Dynasty	Venom Hunters	
12:AM	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met James	Corden	Eva la Trailera (SS)	News	Zola Lev.	King	Cougar	CSI: NY	SportsCenter	Jalen 30 for 30	Bundes-liga Soccer: Hamburg vs Hertha	Law Order: CI	Jep	To Be An-nounced		
1:AM	Paid	P. Luche	Law Order: CI	ET	Paid	Paid												

DENNIS THE MENACE

3-9

"YOU WERE ON THE PHONE FOR AN HOUR, SO YOU LEFT ME NO CHOICE BUT TO ACT MY AGE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

3-9

"It's not as much fun gettin' up the day AFTER a birthday."

HAGAR

LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE... AT LEAST THEY'RE USING RENEWABLE ENERGY!

BC

DAD, WHEN DID YOU KNOW THAT MOM WAS THE ONE FOR YOU?

WE WERE AT A WEDDING AND SHE CAUGHT THE BOUQUET.

AND? AND SHE THREATENED TO SHOVE IT UP MY NOSE IF I EVER LEFT HER.

WIZARD OF ID

I WENT TO FOUR YEARS OF COLLEGE FOR THIS

WHAT WAS YOUR MAJOR?

COMMUNICATIONS

BLONDIE

HONEY, WHAT DOES MY HOROSCOPE SAY TODAY?

IT SAYS TODAY IS A GOOD DAY TO SLOW DOWN AND SMELL THE ROSES

BEAUTIFUL! I CAN LIVE WITH THAT

JULIUS, YOUR HOROSCOPE SAYS TODAY IS A GOOD DAY TO BUCKLE DOWN AND NOT PUT UP WITH ANY SLACKERS

BEAUTIFUL!

AGNES

OH, MY SWEET ANCESTORS OF YORE !!

TROUT! I FOUND WHAT I TRULY BELIEVE TO BE A DEAD WOODLAND FAIRY! COME ON!

OK... I'LL HELP YOU BURY IT IN A MINUTE.

HI AND LOIS

ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR NAP, TRIXIE?

I COULD GET UP FOR GOING DOWN.

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO GETS MY JOKES.

THE OTHER COAST

TRAFFIC IS HEAVY TODAY.

SNUFFY SMITH

FOR SOME REASON I FIND KNITTING T'BE SOOTHIN', ELVINEY !!

IT'S REPETITIVE, TEDIOUS AN' BORIN', LOWEEZY !!

YEP, THAT'S WHY WE CAN'T STOP DOIN' IT !!

BEEBLE BAILEY

WANNA GO OUT WITH ME?

I'M BEETLE'S GIRLFRIEND

AND BEETLE IS YOUR BEST FRIEND

YEAH, I KNOW

SO, DO YOU WANT TO GO OUT?

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

1 Thyme or oregano

5 Land measure

9 "Striped" fish

13 Vicinity

14 Stage manager's collection

16 Muscle soreness

17 Float gently

18 Vatican City language

19 Devastate

20 Strong-willed people

23 Newspapers review them

25 Reel, as cattle

26 Fabled wish granter

27 Own up to

30 NFL distances

31 In the company of

32 Store-window light

33 Negotiator's arsenal

40 French Riviera city

41 Capital of Vietnam

42 Part of UNLV

45 Twitter message

46 Building wing

47 Head of the Huns

49 Central portion

50 Tyrannical bosses

54 Lisa

55 Sap of energy

56 Solemn promise

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, March 9, the 69th day of 2016. There are 297 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

In 1862, during the Civil War, the ironclads USS Monitor and CSS Virginia (formerly USS Merrimack) clashed for five hours to a draw at Hampton Roads, Virginia.

In 1933, Congress, called into special session by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, began its "hundred days" of enacting New Deal legislation.

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. B-29 bombers began launching incendiary bomb attacks against Tokyo, resulting in an estimated 100,000 deaths.

In 1965, the Rev. James Reeb, a white minister from Boston who'd gone to Selma, Alabama, to show support for civil rights marchers, was attacked by a group of white men and struck on the head; he died two days later at age 38.

In 1976, a cable car in the Italian ski resort of Cavalese fell some 700 feet to the ground when a supporting line snapped, killing 43 people.

In 1977, about a dozen armed Hanafi Muslims invaded three

SNACK TIME

by Clive Probert
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

11 Police badge

12 Perceives

15 "ZZZ!" sounds

21 -3 fatty acids

22 See 24 Down

23 Homeland Security org.

24 With 22 Down, poker dealer's query

26 Chat

27 Sharpshooter

28 Make free of frost

29 French painter

34 To the center

35 Salon furniture

36 "Don't touch that!"

37 Rural hotels

38 Verse writer

39 TV evening news time

42 Old West sheriffs, for example

43 In one's house

44 Hours of duty

45 Pampering, for short

48 "No bid"

49 High-IQ group

51 Solo for a diva

52 Astronomer

53 Capital of Ukraine

57 Totally

58 Golf peg

59 Witch's spell

Answer to previous puzzle

ROYAL	TBSP	FIST
AWARE	ALOE	UMPS
FLYFISHING	LOOK	
	OOFS	FLUKE
TRUFFLES	GIFTED	
RETARD	REAL	
ANTSY	REATTEMPT	
MEET	PEAKS	DIRE
PERFORATE	AGAIN	
	ODOR	THEMES
SAWRED	PARADISE	
CROWS	GALA	
ROMA	FORTYFIFTH	
USER	INTO	INDIA
BEND	NESS	BARNS

3/9/16

Newsday Crossword

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NFL

Continued from Page 7

have until July 15 to agree to a multiyear contract.

Calf, hamstring, groin and shoulder injuries limited Jeffery to nine games last season. But he still led the team in receiving with 807 yards. Jeffery played in all 16 games the previous two years, finishing with 1,421 yards in 2013 and 1,133 in 2014.

Buffalo is bringing back guard Richie Incognito, who took less money to remain with the team he says "saved me."

Incognito agreed to a three-year, \$15 million contract with Buffalo on Tuesday.

"I went from a guy no-

body wanted to getting redeemed by Buffalo, and I owe them a lot," Incognito said. "You can't put a price tag on that. They believe in me and I believe in them. I'm real excited about where we are headed."

His future had been uncertain before he signed a one-year contract with Buffalo in January 2015. It came after Incognito spent 15 months out of football for being a central figure in the Miami Dolphins' bullying scandal in 2013.

Incognito emerged as a team leader and key member of an offensive line that helped the Bills lead the league with 2,432 yards rushing. He started all 16 games at left guard.

"I was just talking with my mom and we were shedding tears of joy," he said. "This is

another chapter in my life, and the other chapters have not been so great. But just the resiliency and the dedication and the resolve to get to this point, it definitely plays in the back of my mind."

While Incognito returns to Buffalo, former Bills cornerback Leodis McKelvin agreed to a two-year contract with the Eagles.

Pittsburgh signed cornerback William Gay to a three-year deal. Gay, 31, has played in 144 straight games since the Steelers took him in the fifth round of the 2007 draft. He holds the NFL record for most consecutive pick-sixes in NFL history, returning five straight interceptions for touchdowns between the 2013 and 2015 seasons.

SPURS

Continued from Page 7

with midrange jumpers and throwing down an emphatic dunk on Towns to get the Spurs going in the second quarter.

San Antonio closed the half with a 9-0 run, then just leaned on the young Wolves in the third to break it open.

The Spurs turned the ball over just three times in the first three quarters and now head home for five straight games at AT&T Center, where they are 30-0 this season.

HOT COMMODITY

Messina's name has started to come up in speculation about possible head coaching openings in the NBA, most notably with the Brooklyn Nets, who are owned by Russian billionaire Mikhail Prokhorov. Messina coached Russian power CSKA Moscow, but he called the discussion just that —

"speculation."

When asked if he would be interested in pursuing a head coaching job in the league, Messina demurred.

"Look, I'm a soldier," Messina said. "Whatever will happen in the future, the first person I will talk to is Pop."

MILLER STEPS UP

Andre Miller, who was bought out by the Timberwolves and joined the Spurs at the end of February, started for Parker (toe). After playing more than 15 minutes just one time since Nov. 29, Miller had 13 points and five assists in 25 minutes. It was his first start since Dec. 9, 2013, when he was playing with the Nuggets against Washington.

"I've played against these guys my entire career and never thought I'd be on the team," Miller said. "Things happen for a reason and I'm just going to continue to work hard."

UP NEXT

Spurs: Host Chicago on Thursday. Timberwolves: Visit Oklahoma City on Friday.

MANZIEL

Continued from Page 7

It's unlikely the Browns will get anything in exchange for Manziel, the former Texas A&M star and Heisman Trophy winner who will go down as one of the worst draft picks in Cleveland history.

If the Browns can find a trade partner, they would be able to save over \$2 million owned to Manziel as part of his rookie contract.

Cleveland selected Manziel with the No.

22 overall pick in 2014. The Browns and many of their fans thought he would be able to turn around a franchise that has known mostly failure since its expansion rebirth in 1999. Manziel, though, was little more than a distraction with

his off-field partying and he delivered little in two forgettable seasons.

Manziel made eight starts in two seasons, passing for 1,675 yards with seven touchdowns and seven interceptions.

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Stars lose to Habs in OT

MONTREAL (AP) — Canadiens coach Michel Therrien believes Alex Galchenyuk is on more than just a hot streak.

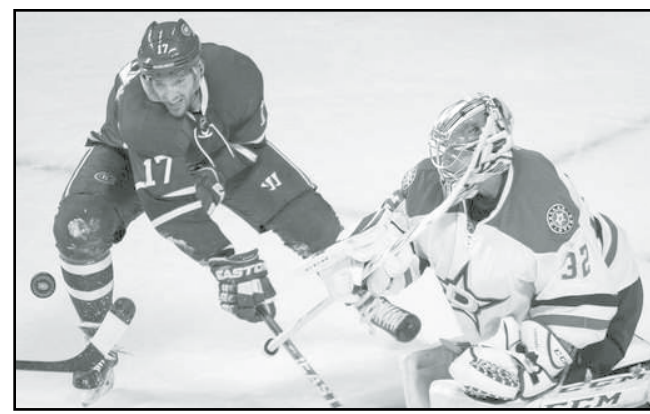
Galchenyuk scored twice, including in overtime, and Montreal edged the Dallas Stars 4-3 on Tuesday night.

The 22-year-old has nine goals in his last seven games, the most in the NHL in that two-week span.

Galchenyuk centered Montreal's first line on Tuesday, with Max Pacioretty and Sven Andrighetto on the wing. His team-leading fifth multigoal game of the season helped Montreal snap a four-game skid.

With the Habs down 2-1 in the second, Galchenyuk got his first of the game at 0:53 for the equalizer. The American beat Kari Lehtonen with a one-timer from the slot after receiving a nifty one-handed pass from Andrighetto, who was down on the ice behind the net.

Galchenyuk one-timed home a pass from Andrei Markov from the faceoff circle at 1:59 of



Graham Hughes/The Canadian Press via AP

overtime, shortly after Dallas defenseman Kris Russell shattered his stick.

"I think I practice that shot at every practice," Galchenyuk said. "Me and Markie practiced

it today. I was waiting for that pass. Puck was bouncing a little bit, he slowed it down and put it right in the good spot. It was an easy shot to take."

Sports Calendar

THURSDAY

- Track — Bulldog Relays at Coahoma
- Baseball — Big Spring vs. Seminole at Moffett Field in Snyder, 9 a.m.
- Baseball — Coahoma vs Crane at Forsan, 9 a.m.
- Baseball — Crane at Forsan, 11 a.m.
- Softball — Howard College at Eastern Arizona, 1 p.m.
- Baseball — Big Spring vs. Brownwood at Moffett Field in Snyder, 4:30 p.m.

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*Based on four years of data from 2012 through 2015.

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