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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016



VOLUME 111, NUMBER 159 COPYRIGHT 2016 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Think purple, people!

Council OKs name change for park

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

What's in a name? The ability to sell or consume alcoholic beverages, apparently. During its Tuesday meeting, the Big Spring City Council approved a series of resolutions changing the name of Heart of the City Park to Heart of the City Plaza. At first glance, this change might seem merely cosmetic, but officials said there's good reasons behind the move.

For starters, as long as Heart of the City was a park and not a plaza, the ability to sell or consume alcohol was more restricted. For example, at events such as Funtastic Fourth, alcohol consumption was readily allowed throughout the downtown area, except at the little park's patch of grass.

"Basically, the police had to cordon off that small area, which was a headache for everyone involved," City Planner Roxanne Johnston said. "This closes a hole so the entire area can be used."

Name changes weren't the only thing the council addressed Tuesday. In addition, it also approved a measure that will give the city's Planning and Zoning Committee more authority.

Going forward, the committee will now be the final authority on granting subdivision changes and variances, although the city council will still decide any appeals to those decisions.

"Looking through our ordinances, we discovered that many of them concerning subdivisions were outdated," Johnston said. "This will streamline those ordinances ... so developers don't have to spend so much time going before boards."

See **CITY**, Page 3



File photo

The Survivors' Lap kicks off the 2015 Relay for Life American Cancer Society event at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. This year's event will be held from 6 p.m. until midnight May 6.

2016 Relay set for May 6

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

It's time to "Paint Your World Purple, Big Spring!"

That's the theme of this year's Relay For Life, and local teams are working hard to support the American Cancer Society.

This year's Relay will be from 6 p.m. to midnight May 6 at Dorothy Garrett Colosseum at Howard College, said event coordinator Manny Negron. Registration and the Survivor's Meal will be held before the event at 5:30 p.m., and the official opening ceremony will take place at 7 p.m.



Negron

"We'd like people to come out to the event, and also to spread awareness about cancer and the American Cancer Society to Howard and Glasscock counties, and the surrounding area," Negron said.

Fundraising is proceeding well, but there is still much ground to make up before the event, Negron said.

"So far we're at \$46,000, and our goal is \$145,000," he said. "We have 20 teams. We're always looking for more teams."

The ACS has designated Sunday as "Purple Prayer Sunday," said Negron, who plans to contact local churches this week.

"We are asking local churches to pray for our survivors, our caregivers, our event the following weekend, and the volunteers that have worked so hard to make it a success," he said.

Next week will be "Paint The Town Purple" week, Negron said. He encourages local businesses and homes to display purple decorations in support of Relay For

See **RELAY**, Page 3

BSISD teachers receive HOPE foundation grants

Special to the Herald

The Help Our Pupils Excel Foundation awarded its first two grants to Big Spring Independent School District teachers Tuesday.

The two-member team of teachers Kelly McBee and Shirley Beal, from Big Spring High School, was awarded a \$5,000 grant to purchase equipment that will enhance the high school's Culinary Arts curriculum, while Cannon Paddie, a sixth grade Social Studies teacher at Big Spring Intermediate School, received a \$5,000 grant to fi-

nance a field trip for all local sixth-graders to the Petroleum Museum and the meteor crater in Odessa. That field trip will take place in the fall.

The purpose of the HOPE Foundation, a non-profit organization, is to oversee the Innovative Teaching Grant Program. Grants are awarded by the foundation to support BSISD's educational plan by supporting activities not supported by tax dollars. The grant program is designed to encourage, facilitate, recognize, and reward innovative and creative instructional approaches.

The foundation is the brainchild of former Big Spring resident and Big Spring ISD trustee, Ken McIntosh. McIn-



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Big Spring Intermediate School teacher Cannon Paddie, second from right, is one of the first recipients of a grant from the Help Our Pupils Excel Foundation. Shown with Paddie are, from left, Big Spring Independent School District Superintendent Chris Wigington, BSISD Public Relations Coordinator George Bancroft, HOPE Foundation President Linda Conway and BSI Principal Patsy Sanchez.

See **HOPE**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Jack Wolf Buchanan Sr.



Jack Wolf Buchanan Sr., 89, of Stephenville, Texas, formerly of Coahoma, died Monday, April 25, 2016 in Stephenville. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 28, 2016 at the Coahoma Church of Christ with Eddy Pitchford and Don Parker officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park in Big Spring. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Big Spring.

Jack was born Jan. 23, 1927 to Sam F. and Ola (Wolf) Buchanan on the family farm in Howard County. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1944 at age of 17 and served for two years. After his service, he attended Texas Tech University, graduating in 1950 with a degree in animal husbandry. While at Tech, he met the love of his life, Mildred Wilson. They married in 1952 at the Caprock Baptist Church. They were members of the Coahoma Church of Christ. Jack farmed and ranched in Howard County for more than 60 years.

He also served as a Howard County Commissioner and Justice of the Peace. Jack was a member of several organizations and clubs including the Big Spring Rodeo Association, Masons, and Lions Club. He won numerous awards and trophies, won trips and honors, including being inducted into the Texas Tech Rodeo Hall of Fame. His favorite accomplishment though, was being a Christian man, a father, a grandfather, and a great grandfather.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred of 63 years; three children Debra and husband Lindsay of Lubbock, Darla and husband Bob of Stephenville, and Jack Jr. and wife Marla of Priddy; six grandchildren, Audrey Yusko and husband Michael of New Orleans, La., Meredith Reed of Lubbock, Jay Doty of Houston, Sterling Doty and wife Mandi of Magnolia, Carson Buchanan of Dallas, and Kayla Bufe of Brady; three great grandchildren, Cooper, Kipton and Cohen Doty; two sisters, Loma Jean Wynn and Sue Tindol, and one brother, Sammie Buchanan all of Coahoma; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Douthitt Clay Buchanan.

Memorials can be sent to Foster's Home for Children, PO Box 978, Stephenville, TX 76401 or to the Jack and Mildred Buchanan Scholarships at the College of Human Sciences and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Texas Tech University, PO Box 42123, Lubbock, Texas 79401-2123.

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

Paid obituary

Petra "Patsy" Rodriguez



Petra "Patsy" Rodriguez, 68, of Big Spring passed away Monday, April 25, 2016 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. A vigil will be held Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 11 a.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Coahoma Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 23, 1947 to Lupe Lopez Ortega and Jesus Ortega in Tahoka, Texas. Patsy married Lencho Rodriguez, Feb. 11, 1966, in Big Spring. She had been a lifetime resident of Howard County and was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church. She was a homemaker and loved time spent with family, working word puzzles and coloring.

Patsy is survived by her husband of 50 years, Lencho Rodriguez of Big Spring; four daughters, Elvira Stillwell of Forsan, Rita Freitag and husband Robert Jr. of Forsan, Gloria Ortiz and husband Raul Jr. of Sand Springs and Josie Rodriguez of Big Spring; four sons, Fred Rodriguez and wife Tonya of Coahoma, Isidro Rodriguez and Mary Lujan of Midland, Gilbert Rodriguez and wife Sara of Lamesa and Tommy Rodriguez of Big Spring; three sisters, Cruz Moron of Coahoma, Lenora Padron of Sand Springs and Connie Rodriguez of Big Spring; two brothers, Fidencio Zavala and wife Janie of Fredricksburg and John Ortega of Big Spring; 36 grandchildren and 34 great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Pete Ortega.

Pallbearers will be John Stilwell, Justin Stilwell, Robert Freitag, Jeremy Freitag, Cody Freitag and Larry Hilario.

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

Paid obituary

Marilee "MJ" Drummond



Marilee "MJ" Drummond, 61, of Forsan passed away Monday, April 25, 2016 at her residence. A funeral service will be Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 2:30 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Oct. 24, 1954 to Mary Brannon Clayton and Radford Clayton in Sweetwater, Texas. She has been a part of the Forsan community since 1998. MJ was a registered nurse for more than 30 years, working at the Big Spring State Hospital and Scenic Mountain Medical Center. She loved to do cross stitch and watching hot air balloons. She loved dogs, but her favorite was her four legged friend, Tripper.

MJ is survived by one son, Tito Drummond and wife Rachelle of Big Spring; one granddaughter, Aubrie Smith of Big Spring; one sister, Pat Clayton of Big Spring; one brother, Rod Clayton and wife Char of South Carolina; several nieces and nephews, including Raye Ann Gomez of Big Spring and Brad Willis of Burleson and one god-daughter, Avery Ware of Snyder.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Dwight Clayton and Steve Clayton.

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

Paid obituary

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.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 4/28	Fri 4/29	Sat 4/30	Sun 5/1	Mon 5/2
87/63	83/52	80/52	76/53	66/50
Generally sunny. High 87F. Winds S at 15 to 25 mph.	Windy with a mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:02 AM Sunset: 8:25 PM	Sunrise: 7:01 AM Sunset: 8:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 8:26 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 8:27 PM	Sunrise: 6:58 AM Sunset: 8:28 PM

Texas at a Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	82	56	Sunny	Kingsville	93	68	Cloudy
Amarillo	73	45	Sunny	Livingston	89	66	P Cloudy
Austin	91	61	Sunny	Longview	88	58	Sunny
Beaumont	84	70	Cloudy	Lubbock	82	52	Sunny
Brownsville	89	73	Cloudy	Lufkin	88	60	Sunny
Brownwood	84	53	Sunny	Midland	87	59	Sunny
Corpus Christi	90	71	P Cloudy	Raymondville	94	73	Cloudy
Corsicana	84	59	Sunny	Rosenberg	88	66	Sunny
Dallas	85	59	P Cloudy	San Antonio	93	63	Sunny
Del Rio	90	61	Sunny	San Marcos	91	60	Sunny
El Paso	81	56	Sunny	Sulphur Springs	85	58	P Cloudy
Fort Stockton	88	57	Sunny	Sweetwater	83	57	Sunny
Gainesville	80	55	P Cloudy	Tyler	86	58	Sunny
Greenville	82	56	P Cloudy	Weatherford	83	56	Sunny
Houston	89	67	M Cloudy	Wichita Falls	81	55	Sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	86	66	Sunny	Miami	83	73	P Cloudy
Boston	59	38	P Cloudy	Minneapolis	57	37	Cloudy/Wind
Chicago	54	46	Cloudy	New York	61	48	Cloudy
Dallas	85	59	P Cloudy	Phoenix	85	61	Sunny
Denver	59	35	Sunny	San Francisco	61	50	Cloudy
Houston	89	67	M Cloudy	Seattle	61	46	Cloudy
Los Angeles	72	53	Sunny	Saint Louis	74	55	Sct T-Storms

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Apr 14	Apr 22	Apr 30	May 6

UV Index

Thu 4/28	Fri 4/29	Sat 4/30	Sun 5/1	Mon 5/2
10	10	10	10	8
Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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Police, Sheriff's reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **AMANDA SUE HUDGINS**, 29, of 1405 E. 14th St. was arrested on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• **HEATHER DANELLE HUDGINS**, 32, of 108 N. Johnson St. was arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of controlled substance, less than 1 gram.

• **DAVID ANTHONY JUAREZ**, 26, of 2502 Cheyenne Drive was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.

• **ABLEDANNY MORELION**, 50, of 1319 Tucson was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, more than 4 grams but less than 200 grams.

• **ERICA KATHY ANN ESCAMILLA**, 28, of 1407 W. Second St. was arrested on warrants for safety seat system-child, age 8 or less than 49 inches tall; failed to control speed; and driving while license invalid.

• **KYLER CANNADY**, 26, of 1509 S. Johnson St was arrested on charge of possession of marijuana, less than or equal to two ounces; unlawfully carrying a weapon and on a warrant from another agency.

• **JUAN MORENO**, 48, of 1505 W. Second St. was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane, the 100 block of Cottonwood St., and the 1400 block of Settles St.

• **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 1200 block of Lancaster.

• **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 800 block of Baylor.

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 82 inmates at the time of this report.

• **KYLER RAY CANNADY**, 26, was booked by the BSPD on a charges of possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces; unlawfully carrying a weapon, and on a warrant for parole violation.

• **ERICA KATHY ANN ESCAMILLA**, 28, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for safety seat system-child, age 8; failed to control speed; and driving while license invalid.

• **AMANDA SUE HUDGINS**, 29, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for driving while license invalid; violate promise to appear, and on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• **HEATHER DANELLE HUDGINS**, 32, was booked by the BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.

• **RAMONDA LYNN JONES**, 35, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for open container in a motor vehicle and failure to appear.

• **DAVID ANTHONY JUAREZ**, 29, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.

• **RAY CARL MCGEE JR.**, 39, was booked by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication and interfere with public duties.

• **ABLEDANNY MORELION**, 50, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, more than or equal to 4 grams but less than 200 grams.

• **JUAN CARLOS MORENO**, 48, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for cruelty to non-live-stock animals.

• **MELISSA GAY YOUNG**, 46, was booked on a charge of public intoxication.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

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

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
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SWCID Village dedication set for Thursday

Special to the Herald

SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID) is hosting a dedication ceremony to celebrate the new SWCID Village residential project on campus.

The dedication will be held Thursday, at 1 p.m. on the SWCID campus adjacent to the career and technical trades building. SWCID Village is a

student housing project completely funded by private donations and has been constructed specifically for deaf and hard of hearing students.

As part of the dedication, special recognition will be given to three donors who made the first phase of construction possible. Donors who will be recognized are: Permian Basin Area Foundation, Jim L., Winnie and Whitney Davis, and Mary Jane Silk-

wood.

"We are very grateful for each one of these donors and their decision to be such a big part of making SWCID Village a reality for our students," said Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, President.

"Their generosity will have a huge impact on our students by helping us provide them with state of the art residential facilities constructed specifically to meet their needs."

The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremony and refreshments will be provided. The dedication will be held at SWCID Village, 2005 Buck Turner Drive, on the SWCID campus.

For more information on SWCID and Deaf Awareness Week, please visit the SWCID web site at www.howardcollege.edu/swcid

Take note

• Mitchell County will be holding a senior citizen dance on Thursday, April 28, 2016 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. The dance will be held at 157 E. 2nd Street in Colorado City. There will be live music and cost is \$5 per person. Bring a cover dish to share.

• Membership to the Big Spring Native American Association is open to the public. People interested in Native American culture are encouraged to find out more about the organization by calling Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125,

• Photographs of area military personnel — currently on the job or veterans — 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. The candid photos will be used during the photographic military salute portion of the Independence Day celebration.

Any wishing to provide photographs for the tribute can e-mail digital copies in a jpeg format to popsinthe park2016@yahoo.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 person must leave a name and contact number with each submission.

• Dora Roberts Community Center is hosting a clinic on May 2, at 100 Whipkey Drive for Big Spring, and Howard County residents to learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious condition with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Screenings are affordable, convenient, and accessible for wheelchairs and those with trouble walking. Packages start at \$149, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 for more information.

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from high school students who are graduating this May and have been accepted at Texas A&M University for the Fall 2016 semester. Students must be Howard county residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. Application deadline is April 15. Application deadline for current A&M stu-

dents is June 1.

More information and the application can be found of the club website: www.westexags.com

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center. Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat. Cost is \$8 per person.

• 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 Direc-

tors 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 Ma-

sons are welcome.

Volunteer opportunities

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in 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 fund-raisers 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. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Petra "Patsy" Rodriguez, 68, died Monday. A funeral service will be held this morning at 11:00 AM at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Coahoma Cemetery.

Gary "Wolf" Flores, 49, died Saturday. A vigil will be held tonight at 7:00 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. A funeral service will be held Thursday at 11:00 AM at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Marilee "MJ" Drummond, 61, died Monday, April 25, 2016. A funeral service will be Thursday at 2:30 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

RELAY

Continued from Page 1

Life during the week preceding the event. "We want to get it out

to the community that this is Relay week, and just raise awareness about the event," he said. For more information about Relay For Life, access the event's website

at www.relayforlife.org/bigspringtx

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 263-7331, ext. 232, or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

HOPE

Continued from Page 1

Josh approached school district officials in August 2014 about the possibility of forming the non-profit organization with the intent of providing teachers with money to finance spe-

cial projects that would complement the curriculum.

Shortly thereafter, a board of community members was formed to oversee the operation of the foundation and Linda Conway was named the HOPE Foundation Board President. Big Spring ISD teachers were asked to submit

possible names for the foundation. "Ms. Conway and her board have worked diligently over the past year to raise funds for the H.O.P.E. Foundation and were pleased to be able to award grant money to two of this year's grant applications," Bancroft said.

Charles Myers
Attorney At Law
Family Law And Criminal Law
Ward & Myers, L.L.P.
432-683-3700 • Midland, TX
charles@wardmyers.com
Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

CITY

Continued from Page 1

In other business Tuesday, council approved:

• Rezoning a section of the 500 block of Benton Street to light commercial designation.

• The purchase of a loader for the city/county landfill, replacing the unit that was destroyed in a recent fire at the facility.

• The purchase of a police patrol car.

• Application of a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance to help reimburse the po-

lice department for the purchase of protective vests.

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

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EXAMPLE

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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

• **LARRY MCLELLAN**,
MAYOR — Office: 267-2711.

• **JIM DEPAUW** — 263-0008.

• **CARMEN HARBOUR**
— Work: 264-2401.

• **RAUL MARQUEZ JR**
— Cell: 816-1015.

• **JUSTIN MYERS** —
Home: 263-3771.

• **STEVE WAGGONER**
— Home: 267-8058.

• **RAUL BENAVIDES** —
Work: 267-2501.

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

• **KATHRYN WISEMAN**,
COUNTY JUDGE — Office:
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DAILY PRAYER

May we communicate with You, Lord,
in the morning and watch for wonderful
things to happen. Amen.

A superior vision

Last month, I celebrated the beginning of my 81st year of life. For nearly half that time, I have

been writing a nationally syndicated column on many topics generating reader responses that go from supportive to quite ugly. So I thought a column making my vision, values and views explicit might settle some of the controversy.

My initial premise, when looking at all human issues, is that each of us owns himself.

I am my private property, and you are your private property. If you agree with that premise, then certain human actions are moral and others immoral. The reason murder is immoral is that it violates private property. Similarly, rape and theft are immoral, for they, too, violate private property. Most Americans will agree that murder and rape violate people's property rights and are hence immoral. But there may not be so much agreement about theft. Let's look at it.

Theft is when a person's property is taken from him — through stealth, force, intimidation, threats or coercion — and given to another to whom it does not belong.

If a person took your property

— even to help another person who is in need — it would be called theft. Suppose three people agreed to that taking. Would it be deemed theft? What if 100,000 or several hundred million people agreed to do so? Would that be deemed theft? Another way to ask these questions is: Does a consensus establish morality?

Self-ownership can offer solutions to many seemingly moral/ethical dilemmas. One is the sale of human organs. There is a severe shortage of organs for transplantation. Most people in need of an organ die or become very ill while they await an organ donation. Many more organs would become available if there were a market for them. Through the National Organ Transplant Act of 1984, Congress has made organ sales illegal. Congress clearly has the power to prevent organ sales, but does it have a right? The answer to that question comes by asking: Who owns your organs? One test of ownership is whether you have the right to sell something. In the case of organs, if it is Congress that owns our organs, then we have no right to sell them. That would be stealing from Congress.

People have the right to take chances with their own lives. People do not have a right to take chances with the lives of others. That is why laws that mandate that cars have brakes are consistent with liberty and

seat belt laws are not. You might say, "Aha, Williams, we've got you there because if you don't wear a seat belt and you have an accident and turn into a vegetable, society is burdened with taking care of you!" That's not a problem of liberty. It's a problem of socialism. Nobody should be forced to take care of me for any reason. If government assumes the job of taking care of us, then Congress can control just about every aspect of our lives. When I was a rebellious teenager, my mother frequently told me, "As long as you're living in my house and I'm paying the bills, you're going to do as I say." That kind of thinking is OK for children, but not for emancipated adults.

I have only touched the surface of ideas of self-ownership. The immorality associated with violation of the principle of self-ownership lies at the root of problems that could lead to our doom as a great nation. In fiscal 2015, total government spending — federal, state and local — was about \$6.41 trillion. That's about 36 percent of our gross domestic product. The federal government spent \$3.69 trillion. At least two-thirds of that spending can be described as government's taking the property of one American and giving it to another. That's our moral tragedy: We've become a nation of people endeavoring to live at the expense of others — in a word, a nation of thieves.



WALTER E. WILLIAMS



Playing a part, but at least it's practice

Donald Trump is living his word. His word often changes. But you can't blame him for that. At the time he is giving his word, he means it.

And that is a politician's definition of honesty.

Times change; circumstances change; life changes. And you can be a little baby (or news columnist) and whine about it, or you can be a politician and buckle down and do what people expect you to do, which is very little.

Paul Manafort, often described as the "ultimate D.C. insider" when he is not being described as a "veteran Washington fixer," has been put in charge of the Trump campaign. The campaign recognized that Washington insiders have grown worried that Trump has forgotten just what role he is playing.

Trump started out as an anti-insider and an anti-fixer, so you can see why insider fixers have grown concerned.

Trump seems to have been carried away by the crowds who scream themselves silly when he attacks Washington and the way politics is conducted in this country.

The people who actually conduct the politics of Washington want to make sure Trump has not forgotten his most important role: to make sure nothing actually changes.

So Manafort went to Florida the other day to assure members of the Republican National Com-

mittee — the ultimate insiders and fixers — that they need not worry.

"That's what's important for you to understand," Manafort told the group about Trump, "that he gets it and that the part he's been playing is evolving."

In other words, when Trump says he hates insiders and fixers, that's just evolution. He doesn't really hate them at all. It just depends on where he happens to be sitting.

"When he's sitting in a room, he's talking business," Manafort told the group, a recording of which was obtained by NBC News. When "he's talking politics in a private room, it's a different persona," Manafort continued. "When he's out on the stage, when he's talking about the kinds of things he's talking about on the stump, he's projecting an image that's for that purpose."

"He gets it," Manafort said. Trump may get it, but I am confused as all get-out. When Trump is in a room, that's business.

When he's talking politics in a private room, that's presumably politics. And when he's on the stage and on the stump, don't worry about it, because he knows he is just talking to yahoos.

Trump's negatives, which are very high, will come down once Trump is no longer negative in his speeches, Manafort said. Hillary Clinton's negatives, on the other hand, will not come down, because, according to one press account, they are "baked in."

"The negatives will come down. The image is going to change. But Clinton is still going to be 'Crooked Hillary,' and that's what you're going to be

seeing a lot more of," Manafort promised the group.

Let us assume at this point that the audience members burst into wheezy cheers for this act of patriotism.

"He's actually living his word, and that's what the base that we are attracting to the Trump campaign is looking for," Manafort said. "They're looking for honesty, and they're looking for consistency, and they're looking for someone who does exactly what they say."

But is that what Trump is really providing? Is it honesty and consistency?

And could any reasonable person expect Trump to do "exactly" what he says?

Let's examine Trump's most concrete (no pun intended) promise: that he would build an impenetrable wall on our border with Mexico.

I am willing to believe that Trump would try to build some kind of wall along some stretch of our border with Mexico, but then he probably would throw up his hands in frustration and blame Congress or the courts or Mexico or Democrats or some other evil forces blocking him.

After all, this huge wall would require the cooperation of Congress and environmentalists and immigration rights groups and all sorts of lawyers and agencies, and it would have to lead eventually to a favorable ruling by the Supreme Court.

How likely is that? And don't forget that Trump promises he would somehow get Mexico to pay for it.

This is going to take more than Manafort has promised. This is going to take more than a "persona." This is going to take a magician.

Check this out: What's at the library

Hope all of you have been taking advantage of the beautiful weather. Perfect weather for ballgames, cook-outs, and reading outside.

For all of you that enjoy biographies, I have two this week. "Free Spirit" by Joshua Safran (B SAF J) is an unforgettable journey through an unconventional childhood. When Joshua Safran was four years old, his mother, determined to protect him from the threats of nuclear war and Ronald Reagan, took to the open road with her son leaving behind the San Francisco counter-cultural scene. Safran tells the harrowing, yet wryly funny story of his childhood chasing this perfect life off the grid and how they sur-



MONICA MARTINEZ

opened during WWII. The narrative is personal, unencumbered and direct. The story is told through the eyes of an old man forcing himself to relive years of intense suffering. It is an account of human cruelty, but also a testimony to the power of love and hope.

I also have two non-fiction books this week. "Fervent" by Priscilla Shirer (248.3 SHI P) addresses the topics that affect you the most: your identity, your family, your regrets, your pressures, your temptations, your fears, your attitudes, and more. "Fervent" is a hands-on, never-give-up action guide to practical, purposeful praying. It coaches you in crafting your own personalized prayer strategies so you can put them into active deployment.

"Second Wind" by Cami Ostman (796.425 OST C) is one woman's midlife quest to run seven marathons on seven continents. Cami Ostman decides to take on a challenge that

waiting inside the church for his sweetheart, Ella. A brewing storm erupts and lightning strikes setting the church aflame. Ella and her parents pull Esau from the fire, but his parents are lost in the blazing inferno. Angry at God, Esau flees his home and all he holds dear and journeys down the path to destruction and darkness. Ella clings to the prayer that Esau will find his way back to a godly path and to her. Although her world is falling to pieces, Ella must lean on God in a way she's never had to before as she follows her heart against everyone's wishes.

"A Heart Broken" (F BAR S) finds Charlotte and Sanderson reunited after the war until the Army comes knocking. Sanderson is charged with murder and sentenced to "hang by the neck until dead" unless he tracks down and kills the notorious outlaw William Quantrill. While Sanderson is on his blood mission, Charlotte miscarries the baby he wasn't even aware existed. In addition to battling her grief over the loss of their unborn baby, Charlotte must also battle a rash of hydrophobia that threatens the countryside-Sanderson included.

"A Heart at Home" (F BAR S) has newly pregnant Charlotte

imagined. Wild animals, natural disasters, and a heavy Indian presence test not only Sanderson and Charlotte's strength and endurance, but their faith in each other as well. Meanwhile, Minerva packs up the little rock cottage to journey west in the company of infant Jay Jay and Cotton just as the peace Sanderson is trying to bridge between the Army and the Snake River Indians begins to fall apart.

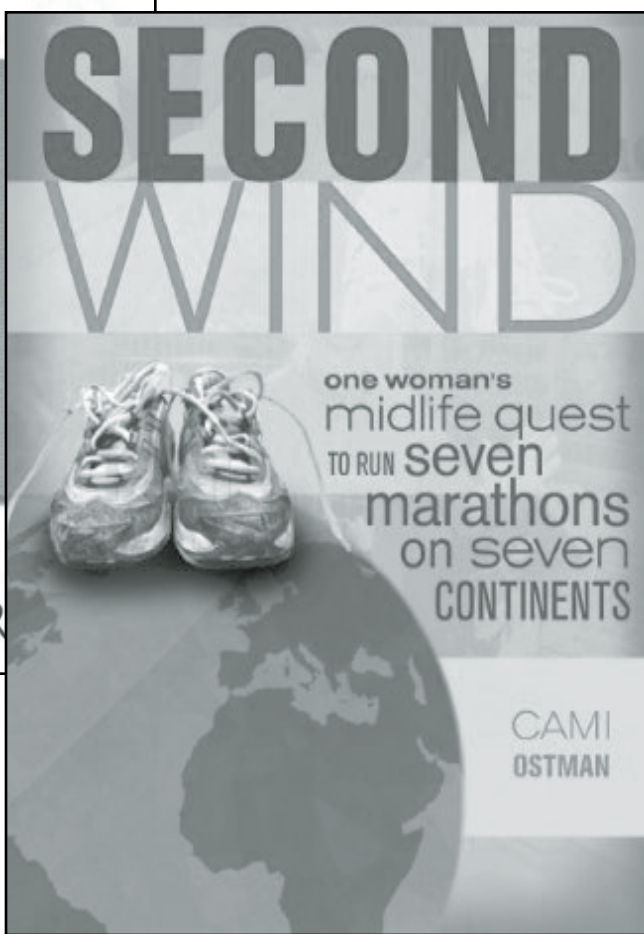
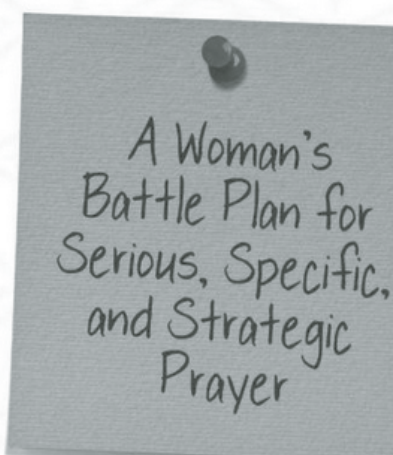
In "A Heart Forever Wild" (F BAR S), Sanderson and Charlotte must make a home for themselves in the Army town of Bidwell, California. When the job as Indian agent begs him to round up the peaceful area Indians for execution, Sanderson again runs afoul of the government. In answer to the broken promises of the Army, Sanderson and Jerry turn to a well-paying job with the railroad. Meanwhile Charlotte stands up for Cotton against the town bullies. In a world where women are expected to be silent, can Charlotte be a parent to Cotton, a wife to Sanderson who seems to have fallen more in love with money than with her, and friend to Minerva, who seems to be drifting farther and farther away?

"Lassoing A Bride" (F BAR S) is five delicious wild west romance tales. Being married is like sugar and lots of spice with a dash of pepper in the mix! These brides fall under the spell of a handsome devil they thought was out of their reach. Unanswered prayers, broken dreams, and unexpected circumstances are sometimes the best way for a groom to get the gal he loves.

Hope one of these books sparked an interest.

Come check out our "new book" display. I leave you with a quote from Josh Jameson: "There comes a time when you have to choose between turning the page and closing the book."

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lived the imperfect one they found instead. Joshua spends his early years living in a series of makeshift homes, including shacks, teepees, buses, and a lean-to on a stump. His colorful youth darkens when his mother marries an abusive and alcoholic guerilla/poet. Joshua yearns for a "normal" life, but when he finally reenters society through school, he finds "America" a difficult and confusing place. Years spent living in the wilderness have not prepared him for the world of teenagers, and he finds himself bullied and beaten by his classmates. Eventually, Joshua finds the strength to fight back against his tormentors, both in school and at home, and helps his mother find peace.

"Outcry-Holocaust Memoirs" by Manny Steinberg (B STE M) is the candid and moving account of a Jewish teenager who survived four Nazi camps. The autobiography was written to fulfill a promise Manny made to himself during the first days of freedom. By publishing his Holocaust memoirs, he ensures that the world never forgets what hap-

stretches her way outside her comfort zone. Ostman remains a die-hard back-of-the-packer all the way through, working as hard on her inner self as she does on her training. Her adventures will inspire readers to take chances, find truth in their lives, and learn to listen to the voice inside them that has been there all along.

In February, we had a book signing in our library for local novelist, Sara Barnard. We have acquired several of her books. "The Calling" (F BAR S) tells the love story of Esau Fitzpatrick and Ella Allen. Esau was

bidding farewell to her despondent family. She drops everything to follow Sanderson to a promised job out west. The journey proves more difficult than any of them could have

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Trump, Clinton move closer to showdown

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bolstering his grip on the Republican primaries, Donald Trump prepared Wednesday for a general election showdown with Hillary Clinton, accusing the Democratic front-runner of “playing the woman card” in her presidential campaign.

Trump swept five states in Tuesday's Northeast primaries, bringing him tantalizingly close to securing the Republican nomination against Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Ohio Gov. John Kasich.

Clinton, meanwhile, is now 90 percent of the way to her party's nomination after four solid victories of her own.

Trump, the Republican businessman, pushed forward with his charge that Clinton is “playing the woman card,” telling CNN's “New Day”

in a telephone interview Wednesday that “she does have the woman card” but said that “a lot of women don't like Hillary, despite the card.”

Clinton said during her Tuesday night rally in Philadelphia that Trump had accused her of playing the “woman card,” telling supporters, “if fighting for

“quite recovered — it's early in the morning — from her shouting that message.”

“I know a lot of people would say, ‘you can't say that about a woman because of course a woman doesn't shout.’ But the way she shouted that message was not ... I guess I'll have to get used to it for the next four or five months.”

The Republican race now turns to Indiana, where next week's primary marks one of Cruz's last chances to slow Trump and push the race toward a contested convention. While Trump does need to

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women's health care and paid family leave and equal pay is playing the ‘woman card,’ then deal me in.”

Trump, in an interview with MSNBC's “Morning Joe,” said Wednesday he hadn't

keep winning in order to stay on his narrow path to the GOP nomination, he declared himself the party's “presumptive nominee” after Tuesday's results rolled in.

“It's over. As far as I'm concerned it's over,” he



declared.

The real estate mogul now has 77 percent of the delegates he needs, totals show.

Trump planned to deliver a foreign policy speech in Washington and then campaign in Indiana.

The address at a downtown hotel is the first in a series of speeches the Republican front-runner is expected to give in the coming weeks, all with the goal of easing Americans' concerns about his readiness for the presidency.

Likewise, Clinton was eager to turn her attention to Trump.

While Clinton advisers say they won't underestimate Trump, as many of his vanquished Republican rivals did, her campaign sees opportunities to not only energize Democrats in an effort to keep him out of the White House but also appeal to Republicans turned off by the brash billionaire.

“If you are a Democrat, an independent or a thoughtful Republican, you know that their approach is not going to build an America where we increase opportunity or decrease inequality,” Clinton said of the GOP candidates.

Trump's victories came in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and

Rhode Island. Clinton ceded only Rhode Island to Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Sanders, in an interview with The Associated Press, conceded he has a “very narrow path and we're going to have to win some big victories.”

In the Republican race, Cruz and Kasich are desperately trying to force a convention fight. The challengers have even taken the rare step of announcing plans to coordinate in upcoming contests to try to minimize Trump's delegate totals.

But that effort did little to stop Trump from a big showing in the Northeast, where he picked up at least 105 of the 118 delegates up for grabs. He now has 950 of the 1,237 delegates he needs to secure the nomination.

Cruz spent Tuesday in Indiana, where Kasich's campaign has withdrawn in an attempt to give the Texas senator a clear path.

“Tonight this campaign moves back to more favorable terrain,” Cruz said during an evening rally in Knightstown, Indiana.

Yet there's no doubt the GOP is deeply divided by Trump's candidacy. In Pennsylvania,

exit polls showed nearly 4 in 10 GOP voters said they would be excited by Trump becoming president, but the prospect of the real estate mogul in the White House scared a quarter of those who cast ballots in the state's Republican primary.

In another potential general election warning sign for Republicans, 6 in 10 GOP voters in Pennsylvania said the Republican campaign has divided the party — a sharp contrast to the 7 in 10 Democratic voters in the state who said the race between Clinton and Sanders has energized their party.

The exit polls were conducted by Edison Research for The Associated Press and television networks.

Democrats award delegates proportionally, which allowed Clinton to maintain her lead over Sanders even as he rattled off a string of wins in recent contests. According to the AP count, Clinton now has 2,141 delegates while Sanders has 1,321.

That count includes delegates won in primaries and caucuses, as well as superdelegates — party insiders who can back the candidate of their choice, regardless of how their state votes.



Judge refuses to throw out results from AZ primary

PHOENIX (AP) — A judge on Tuesday threw out a challenge to the results of Arizona's problematic presidential primary despite evidence that there were glitches in the election.

Maricopa County Superior Court Judge David Gass ruled that a Tucson man challenging the

results hadn't proven fraud and hadn't shown long lines in Maricopa County or registration problems statewide with the election would have changed the results.

“I'm going to find that as a matter of law ... plaintiff just hasn't met their burden,” Gass said.



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Landfill's a home where the wildebeest roam

CREEDMOOR, Texas (AP) — On a cool, rainy day, “Rowdy” the rhinoceros isn’t about to come out of his heated-floor pen. But the kangaroos are hopping, the antelope and oryx are grazing, and as Texas Disposal Systems’ recycling director Paul Gregory steers his Chevy Suburban over damp gravel, a camel trots to keep pace, lips flapping in the wind.

For Creedmoor, Texas, population 221, this incongruous combination of landfill and exotic game ranch, with its stock of globally curated species and rustic ranch-style pavilion to delight nearby Austin’s glitterati, is just the icing on the wedding cake. Which is how Gregory describes tiers of trash and clay that will, by the time they’re capped, essentially be three mountains of garbage 62 feet deep and 60 feet high, the San Antonio Express-News (<http://bit.ly/1NkORpm>) reported.

Whatever controversy there was some 25 years ago when Gregory’s father, Bob, and uncle, Jim, got the permit for this site 15 miles south of Austin is now-distant memory, even as the facility takes in 3,000 tons of trash a day.

The privately owned landfill is now Creed-

moor’s largest taxpayer, largest employer, and purportedly best industrial neighbor. When the holidays roll around, the company gives every nearby family a Christmas tree and a ham. The landfill staff even tends to the once-neglected adjacent cemetery where Jacob T. Wilhite, founder of the Texas Health Department and still Creedmoor’s most famous citizen, is buried.

Soils are key when you’re in the landfill business, and Gregory compared the consistency of the clay under Creedmoor to hand-milled soap, ideal for building a landfill that won’t seep contaminants into the environment.

Over time, it became a full-fledged exotic animal breeding operation that hauls trash for more than 120 home owners associations and municipalities, including Austin, San Antonio, and San Marcos.

The landfill also composts food waste from the Alamo Heights Independent School District as well as about 130 schools in the Austin Independent School District. It recently completed a San Antonio River Authority composting facility, potentially a 50-year contract involving 54 acres of property.

It’s a competitive market, and the fisticuffs have come out in legal battles over contracts and municipal recycling revenue that as of late hasn’t materialized. But the Texas Disposal Systems can tout its vast facility as one of the industry’s top-rated landfills.

Landfills, most of which are now privately run, are a \$52 billion-a-year business. The Creedmoor facility is an example of how they have evolved over the years from smelly, open-air dumps to picturesque green spaces that recycle more of their trash than they bury in the ground.

The TDS landfill recycles about 25 tons, the size of two whales, per hour. It’s part of a national industry that in 2014 turned 135 million metric tons of trash into resellable commodities, like aluminum sheets, with a market value of about \$80 billion. Two decades ago there were about 500 curbside recycling programs. Now there are about 10,000.

While there may not be another landfill in the U.S. that’s host to wildebeest and buffalo like the Creedmoor facility, there’s a growing trend to beautify old and active landfills with gardens, playgrounds, and walking paths.

Mount Trashmore

Park in Virginia Beach, Virginia, is a former landfill that’s been transformed into a 165-acre expanse of lakes, paths, and picnic grounds as well as a skate park. The Tiff Nature Preserve in Buffalo, New York, is a 264-acre former landfill that’s now an oasis of trees, wildflowers, and marshland fauna that can be rented for weddings.

Des Moines, Iowa’s, Metro Waste Authority hosts students for tours of its landfill, which has about 800 acres that are farmed and 500 acres of prairie, woods and wetlands. Here in San Antonio, Republic Services Inc.’s Tesson Road Landfill’s green-colored solar energy cover was a first-of-its kind way of using a landfill cap in 2009, as well as a biogas-to-energy system beneath it, to generate electricity.

“If you really think about the evolution of waste management, we’re kind of coming full circle,” said Anastasia Welch, vice president and project director at Long Beach, California-based SCS Engineers, an environmental consulting and construction firm. “In the olden days, kind of really before a lot of the development took off in the 1900s, there was separa-

tion, there was reusing. And a lot of things that are happening now.”

Many of the changes were spurred by the increase in trash volume due to the explosion of fast food and packaged goods as well as the environmental awareness brought by the 1970s Love Canal toxic waste disaster, which prompted President Jimmy Carter to sign the Superfund environmental cleanup bill into law.

The new laws required landfills to protect the environment more by lining the bottoms to keep toxic waste from seeping into nearby groundwater as well as other measures to ensure our trash didn’t become a public health hazard.

Recycling trash used to be profitable, as developing nations like India and China sought out the cheaper materials and consumers willingly provided free raw materials, allowing businesses like Texas Disposal to take the maintenance of landfills to a high art.

But recycling is all about the global commodities market, and with commodity prices so low right now and the U.S. dollar so high, the export market has suffered. The volume of high-value paper recy-

clables has also fallen by 18 million tons since the turn of the millennium as more people go digital and use less paper, making operations like the Gregories’ anomalies.

Houston-based Waste Management, the North America’s largest solid waste and recycling company, has closed or sold off dozens of its recycling facilities during the past few years. During its fourth quarter 2015 earnings report, the company noted that prices for recycled products tumbled 18.6 percent from the same three-month period the year before.

For shareholders, the good news was that even if recycling was down the company was making money just taking in the trash.

The Austin City Council adopted a “zero waste” plan in 2011. The goal is to reduce the amount of trash sent to landfills to 10 percent or less by 2040. Texas Disposal Systems handles about half of Austin’s recyclables, but the company lost \$2.7 million on the contract over the past two years because the market has been paying less for recyclables than it costs to process them, according to an Austin-American Statesman report.

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Steers stay alive, force play-in game

By DREW WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

The Big Spring Steers (10-17, 4-6) survived to play another game after beating Lamesa 8-2 in a must-win game for their playoff hopes.

After scoring two or fewer runs in three of their last four games, that bats finally came alive to compliment a solid outing from senior starting pitcher Matthew Wood. He didn't give up an earned run in his seven innings, allowing only five hits and striking out six.

"Matt Wood has been throwing well the last three outings that he's had, and we knew that if we could just get the bats going, if he threw like he has been, we were going to have a good night," Big Spring head coach Bobby Smith said. "When we put everything together, we can be good. It's just been so frustrating that we have a great pitching outing and we don't get the bats. Or we hit the ball but we make errors. We finally put another good game together and finished it from the start."

The offense was led by seniors Bryson Burt and Anthony Godwin. Burt was 3-for-4 with a double, an RBI, and two runs scored, and Godwin was 2-for-3 out of the leadoff spot with a double, adding two RBIs and a run scored.

"As a senior, you never want to go out with a bad taste in your mouth, and the bottom line is unless you win a state championship, you're always going to go out on a loss. That's just the reality of life. But it's always good to give it your best shot, and these guys have put a lot into the program and we're just happy that they're getting one more chance to put on the uniform," Smith said.

The game turned with a big rally in the second inning by the Steers, who were up 1-0. With two outs and following a Dylan Cantu single, Dylan Marquez and Godwin walked to load the bases. Cantu would score on a passed ball in the next at-bat, and Riley Hen-



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring seniors Bryson Burt, Matthew Wood, Dylan Marquez, and Anthony Godwin were recognized before Tuesday's game, and each played a big role in the Steers' win.

son followed with a triple to right field that scored Marquez and Godwin and gave the Steers a 4-0 lead. Burt would then double and score Henson, and Brantz Burchet would single and score Burt to give Big Spring a six-run lead after two innings. Smith was happy to see the bats wake up, and credited his team with performing well under pressure in the must-win game.

"Baseball is a game of failure, because 70 percent of the time you're going to fail at the plate, and 30 percent of the time, if you're successful you can make a million dollars, if you're good enough. That is life. Learning

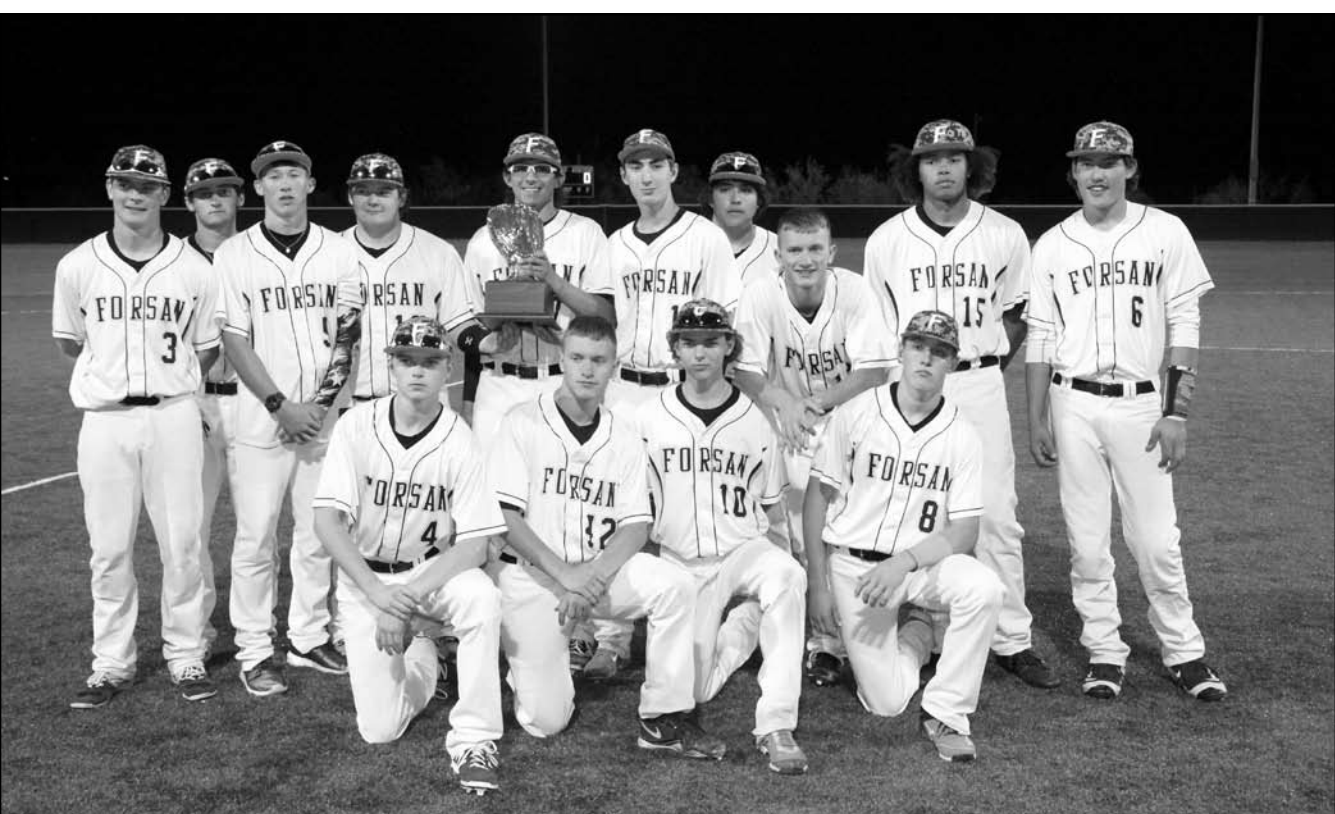
how to respond after a failure or after something goes wrong. I've told these guys and other teams in the past, you're going to have hard times in your life whether it's losing a job or a loved one or whatever it is in life. It's going to throw you a curveball, and how you handle it is going to determine what kind of life you live," he said. "You've just got to attack life and know that sometimes you're going to stumble, and to me, that's baseball."

The win sets up a play-in game between Big Spring and the Levelland Lobos for the fourth and final playoff spot. Levelland (9-14, 4-6) played Estacado (11-18, 5-5) Tuesday in a battle for

third place, with the loser set to fall to 4-6 and tied with the Steers in fourth place. Estacado won 12-9, and now Big Spring is set to travel to Seminole Friday for a win-or-go-home game with the Lobos. Smith said he likes his teams chances if they can play clean baseball.

"The good news is Anthony Godwin's going to be on the mound," he said. "We know that we've got to put the ball in play and score some runs, and if he pitches the way he always pitches, and we make the plays in the field, then we're going to be in the game."

Forsan wins district title



Courtesy photo

The Forsan Buffaloes celebrate their district championship trophy after an undefeated season in district. They went 16-5 overall and finished the season 8-0 in district after a 5-4 win against Borden County Tuesday night.

Dirk not retiring, all but certain to return to Mavs

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki is not retiring and almost certainly will spend a 19th season with the Mavericks.

The 7-foot German even says he might have to "unretire" from his national team if uncertainty with European basketball leads to a pre-Olympic tournament ending up in Nowitzki's home country this summer.

In other words, the Dallas star figures he has something left after leading the Mavericks in scoring again, a season after someone else did it for the first time in 15 years.

"Felt great this year," says Nowitzki, who turns 38 in June and has a player option for the final season of a three-year deal. "Feel like I can still play efficient enough to be there for the team."

Nowitzki said Tuesday it was "pretty much" crazy talk for coach Rick Carlisle to suggest after a first-round elimination in Oklahoma City that Nowitzki might consider playing elsewhere.

And even though the Mavericks haven't won a playoff series since winning the franchise's only title in 2011, Nowitzki believes owner Mark Cuban and president of basketball operations Donnie Nelson can return the team to championship contention while he's still around.

"The only way I would ever leave is if we're rebuilding and start with five rookies," Nowitzki said. "As long as we go for it and compete, then I'll be a Mav."

Nowitzki said it's too early to start talking names that might join him in free agency, but the best place to start is Houston's Dwight Howard. The soon-to-be free agent center and Mavericks forward Chandler played one season together with the Rockets.

And Parsons still plans to be Dallas' chief recruiter even after his pursuit of DeAndre Jordan had a messy ending when the Houston native changed his mind in free agency last summer and stayed with the Los Angeles Clippers after orally committing to the Mavericks.

"I think he's going to leave Houston," Parsons said of Howard. "So why not come here?"

There's one tricky part, though. Like Nowitzki, Parsons has a third-year option on his contract.

See **DIRK**, Page 15

Best and worst of times: Rio countdown hits 100 days

By STEPHEN WADE

AP Sports Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO — Two years ago, the Australian IOC member John Coates worried about the Rio de Janeiro Olympics "the worst" in recent memory.

A lot has happened since then as the countdown clock reaches 100 days on Wednesday.

The venues that Coates worried about are 98 percent ready, and American television network NBC has just passed \$1 billion in advertising sales and will set revenue records.

The Olympic Park in the up-

scale suburb of Barra da Tijuca looks spectacular. Television cameras will love the aerial shots above Copacabana beach, or views from the famous Christ the Redeemer statue as it peers over Sugar Loaf mountain and Guanabara Bay.

But problems still hang over South America's first games, the most unsettled in decades.

Brazil President Dilma Rousseff is being impeached and is likely to be suspended when the games open Aug. 5, partly as fallout from Brazil's worst recession in decades, 10 percent unemployment, and a \$3 billion bribery scandal involving the state-run

oil company Petrobras.

Away from politics, the Zika virus threatens athletes and tourists. Ticket sales are lukewarm, and the bacteria and virus-filled venues for sailing, rowing, canoeing and open-water swimming could put 1,600 athletes competing there at risk.

The deaths of two people last week when a new Olympic legacy cycling path collapsed into the sea have raised doubts about construction standards in the rush to build.

In addition, a labor minister report Monday said 11 workers

See **RIO**, Page 15

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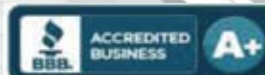
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HERALD

Tomorrow's Horoscope



Industrious Moon

The industrious Capricorn moon urges us

HOLIDAY to take MATHIS advantage of what

promises to be the most productive day of the week. Tomorrow Mercury will join Mars and Pluto in the retrograde dance. The outer planets will be cool and measured in their review process, but we won't have that kind of luck when mischievous Mercury follows suit.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Emotional-energy-saving tip of the day: Take a gentle, nonconfrontational approach to communication. Avoid if you must. Defer if you can. Flattery and sweetness will work wonders, as will a gracious exit strategy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll have a clear sense of what you need to do. Getting yourself to actually do it is another story. Mostly this is a matter of being organized and falling

into a routine that can be easily repeated.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). With Mercury as your guiding planet, you're keenly aware of the opportunities to be seized before tomorrow's retrograde. There's such confidence in your approach that others can't help but follow your lead.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The club you're in now is a very small one. Cherish the other members. Only the ones who are in your league know and appreciate all the work that goes into playing at this particular level.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll meet one who has succeeded at this game already and overcome surprising obstacles to do so. For you to win at this too, you'll need to train hard. Much will depend on the internal fortitude.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll find yourself enjoying the very same thing that others are stressing over. There is opportunity in this dynamic. Perhaps you can relieve their pain for

a fee. You truly want others to have as much ease in life as you do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Moving forward can be scary, and yet right now you feel oddly undaunted by the prospect. Perhaps you sense there's something very familiar to embrace a few steps beyond where you are. Rushing ahead feels like coming home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Do a quick self-esteem check. It would be a shame not to fully accept the abundance this day has to offer you because you simply don't think you deserve it. You do! And how!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The difference between excitement and anxiety is a belief that you're safe in the world. You are, so relax. Once you do that, you can direct your energy in a most productive manner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll follow a direction, stand in a line, see a need and fill it, all in the name of duty. Don't let this take over your whole day!

There really is time to energize your spirit by doing what (SET ITAL) you (END ITAL) want to do, if you make it a priority.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Maybe you don't know exactly how to say what you need to say, but open up and try anyway. You'll be extremely effective in getting your point across; the language of emotions is universal.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Is the relationship progressing or regressing? Don't worry too much about it now. Instead, just be mindful not to get too comfortable where you are, and welcome change in whatever form it shows up.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 27). Your rules for yourself are what keep you on track, and you'll make some stellar ones in the next three weeks. By the end of May you'll already see the evidence that 2016 represents some major life improvements. A big, joyful love will touch everything you do. You'll be changing over

the next three weeks. Cancer and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 22, 14, 11 and 29.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Virgo going through a hard time. The worst part is there is no life circumstance I can pin to my troubles. I am simply getting older and identifying more with the 'crone' than the 'young maiden' that is the symbol of my sign. I can't see myself as beautiful anymore. In spite of the hard work I have done all of my life, I feel I've accomplished very little outside the raising of two beautiful children. They are my proudest accomplishments, and yet when I was young I always thought I would be a success in business or art. Everything looks bland and uninspiring to me now."

Your lack of energy and inspiration may be based in the physical changes a woman's body goes through as her body matures. As the sign of health, poor nutrition and a lack of exercise could affect

you deeply, making you feel lackluster and depressed. Also, hormone imbalance could be a factor. See a doctor. In the meantime, try to be more open-minded in your view of your own life. Even if what you achieve is different from your dream, it still counts.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: "Duck Dynasty" star Si Robertson is a preacher, hunter, duck-call maker, buck commander and the author of "Si-Cology 1: Tales and Wisdom From Duck Dynasty's Favorite Uncle." An earthy Taurus born under an adventurous Sagittarius moon, Robertson has three planets in entertaining Leo, indicating a talent for bringing color (or camouflage, as the case may be) to the lives of others.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: Young people are ready, willing and able to tackle the world's most difficult challenges, and yet are vastly underrepresented as active citizens, decision-makers and problem solvers. From the third-grader in Detroit distributing meals to the homeless, to the high schooler in Jakarta collecting gently used books to develop literacy programs, to the soccer team in Atlanta leading an anti-bullying campaign, all of these remarkable youth have a common goal: to raise awareness and solve the problems facing the world today. Today's social and environmental problems are immense; we need youth around the world to be leaders and problem solvers today, not just the leaders of a distant tomorrow.

Last week, the world witnessed the 28th Global Youth Service

Day. During this three-day event, thousands of community partners in the United States and 125 other countries activate millions of young people to strengthen their communities. Global Youth Service Day recognizes the positive impact that young people have on their communities 365 days a year. When given the opportunity, young people are great assets and resources to their communities, providing unique perspectives and skills. Moreover, youth who are engaged as active community members are more likely to grow up to volunteer, vote and donate to charitable causes.

Please inform your readers about the service grants and volunteer opportunities available to young people and the organizations that support them year-round. They can visit YSA.org/grants for

available opportunities. You can also find us on social media at @YouthService on Twitter and Youth Service America on Facebook. Sincerely -- Steven A. Culbertson, President and CEO, Youth Service America

Dear Steven Culbertson: We hope all of our readers, young and old, teachers and students, will check out your website to see how they can participate in these wonderful opportunities. Thank you for letting us know. **Dear Annie:** I'd like to respond to "Not an Exhibitionist," who said that an 8-year-old boy peeked into her shower at the YMCA.

I have a 9-year-old son with severe autism who loves to swim. Our local pool does not have a family changing room. We have to go through the men's or women's locker room to reach the pool. I don't enjoy bringing my son into

the women's locker room, but I have no other choice. He would not be able to navigate the men's locker room on his own. He might run off or easily be led somewhere by a stranger. He is a beautiful boy, and you wouldn't know he had autism by looking at him.

Please give women who bring their older sons into the locker room the benefit of the doubt. There may be a good reason why they are there. -- Mom with No Other Options

Dear Mom: We agree that some children need to tag along with Mom in order to use the pool. But they can be closely supervised and taught to respect a closed curtain. We also think family changing rooms make a great deal of sense these days, and we hope parents (and others) will lobby all such facilities to include

them.

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/AskAnnie. 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

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Plotting the Course of Play

East dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 6
 ♥ K 8 3
 ♦ Q J 10 5
 ♣ A 7 6 4 3

WEST
 ♠ 10 7 4
 ♥ Q 10 4
 ♦ 8 6 3 2
 ♣ J 10 2

EAST
 ♠ 8 2
 ♥ A 9 6
 ♦ A 7 4
 ♣ K Q 9 8 5

SOUTH
 ♠ A K Q J 9 5 3
 ♥ J 7 5 2
 ♦ K 9
 ♣ —

The bidding:
 East 1♣ South 4♣ West Pass North Pass
 Opening lead — jack of clubs.

Assume you're declarer at four spades, reached as shown, and West leads the jack of clubs. How would you play the hand?
When the deal occurred, declarer won the opening club lead with dummy's ace, discarding a heart, and drew trumps in three rounds, discarding clubs from dummy. He then led the king of diamonds, ducked by East, followed by the nine of diamonds, losing to the ace.
East exited with a club, ruffed by South, who next led a heart to the

eight and East's nine. East returned another club, and after South ruffed, he tried ducking a heart, hoping East had started with the A-9 doubleton. But when East followed low to the second heart, the contract went down one, declarer losing a diamond and three hearts in all.

South's downfall was precipitated by his play of the ace of clubs at trick one, which yielded virtually no gain. In fact, it managed only to create a situation where the defenders could safely exit with clubs whenever they gained the lead.

Observe the difference if declarer retains the ace of clubs in dummy and ruffs the opening lead instead. He then draws trumps and leads the K-9 of diamonds as before.

When East takes the ace (it does not help him to duck), he can no longer enjoy the luxury of a club return, since the ace is still in dummy along with two good diamonds. Regardless of what he does next, the only other trick East can score is the ace of hearts, so declarer makes the contract with an overtrick.

Notice that even if West has the ace of diamonds, and East the A-Q of hearts, the best the defense can do is hold South to 10 tricks. The key for declarer is to appreciate at the outset the importance of keeping the club ace in dummy so that it can be put to good use later on.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Plotting the Course of Play

East dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 6
 ♥ K 8 3
 ♦ Q J 10 5
 ♣ A 7 6 4 3

WEST
 ♠ 10 7 4
 ♥ Q 10 4
 ♦ 8 6 3 2
 ♣ J 10 2

EAST
 ♠ 8 2
 ♥ A 9 6
 ♦ A 7 4
 ♣ K Q 9 8 5

SOUTH
 ♠ A K Q J 9 5 3
 ♥ J 7 5 2
 ♦ K 9
 ♣ —

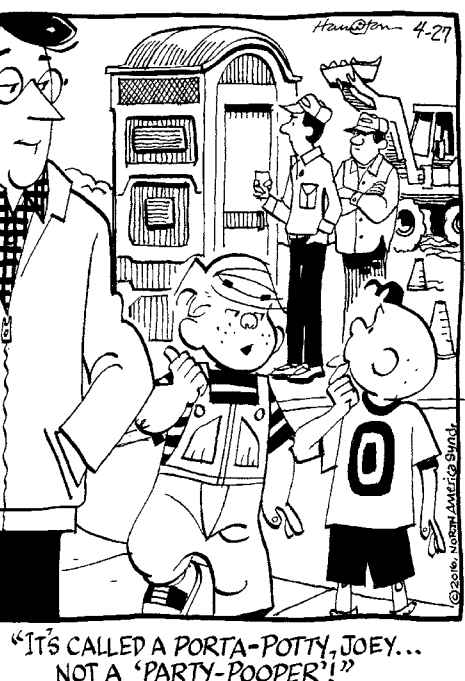
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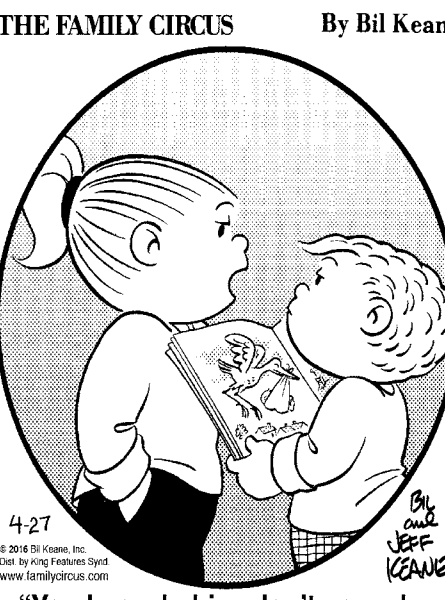
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5:PM	Local 2	Hotel	Big Bang	News	Tele	News	With Schol-	Scully	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	Castle	SportsCenter	Around	Roundup	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Bering Sea Gold
6:PM	ABC	Notic. Cleveland	Mod Fam	News	Caso Cer-	News	Mani	PBS News-	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	NBA	Baseball	SportsCenter	Game 365	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Bering Sea Gold
7:PM	Jeopardy!	Sueño de	Big Bang	News	ET	News	House	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Basketball:	Tonight	Spec.	Big 12	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Bering Sea Gold
8:PM	Wheel	Un Camino	Rosewood	Survivor	Eva la	Heartbeat	Upd	Nature	Arrow	Seinfeld	Big Bang	First Round:	MLB	Rookie	Pregame	NHL Hockey	Conference	Bering Sea Gold
9:PM	Middle Gold	Amor hacia el	ET	Survivor	Eva la	Heartbeat	Upd	Nature	Arrow	Seinfeld	Big Bang	First Round:	MLB	Rookie	Pregame	NHL Hockey	Conference	Bering Sea Gold
10:PM	Mod Fam	Pasión y poder	Empire	Criminal Minds	La Esclava Blanca	Law & Order: SVU	Light of the Southwest	The National Parks: America's Best Idea	Griffith	Hap.Days	Supernatural	Big Bang	First Round:	MLB	Rookie	NHL Hockey	Conference	Bering Sea Gold
11:PM	blackish	El Hotel de los	News	Criminal Minds	El Señor de los	Chicago P.D.			Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang	First Round:	MLB	Rookie	NHL Hockey	Conference	Bering Sea Gold	
12:PM	Nashville	Impacto	Broke Girl	News	Tele	News	HaYesod	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	Cougar	Conan	Basketball:	SportsCenter	NFL Live	Rangers My Words	NCIS: Los Angeles	Law Order: CI	To Be Announced
1:AM	Local 2	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Noticiero	Late Show-	Titulares	Tonight Show	M:25	World	Raising	Cougar	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Baseball	World Poker Tour	NCIS: Los Angeles	Law Order: CI	To Be Announced
	ABC	Contacto	Mod Fam	Colbert	La Esclava Blanca	Chevalme		(Off Air)	Commun	Cougar	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Baseball	World Poker Tour	NCIS: Los Angeles	Law Order: CI	To Be Announced
	Jeopardy!	Deportivo	Two Men	James Corden	La Esclava Blanca	Seth Meyers	McDonald	T. Smiley	Commun	Cougar	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Baseball	World Poker Tour	NCIS: Los Angeles	Law Order: CI	To Be Announced
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DENNIS THE MENACE



"IT'S CALLED A PORTA-POTTY, JOEY... NOT A 'PARTY-POOPER'!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"You know babies don't come by storks, Jeffy. They get delivered by drones."

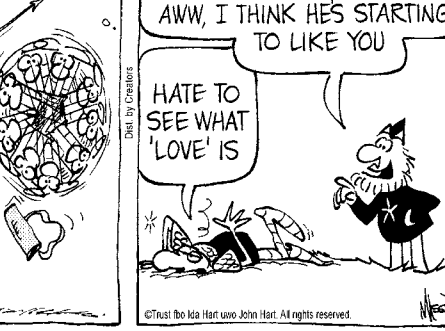
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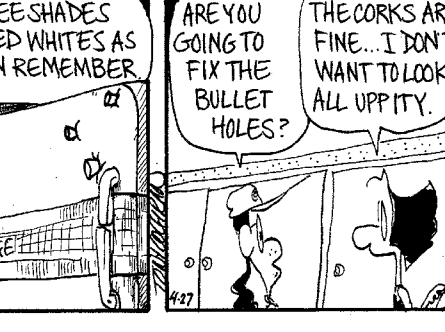
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WIZARD OF ID



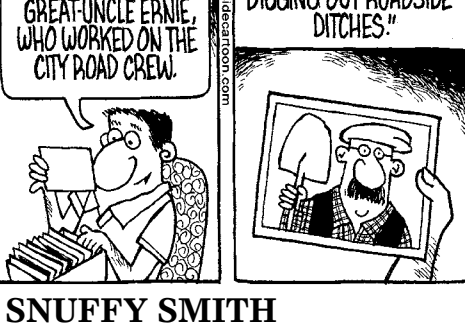
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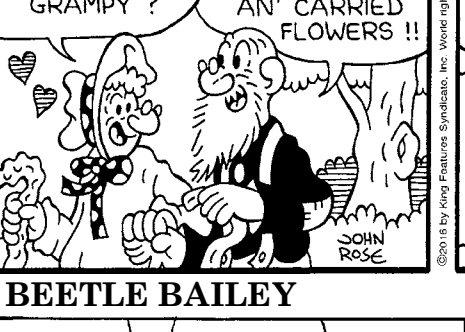
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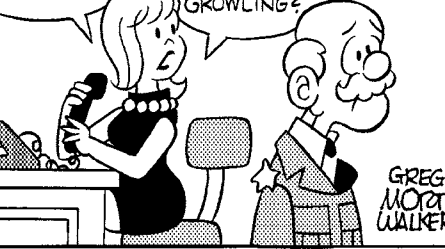
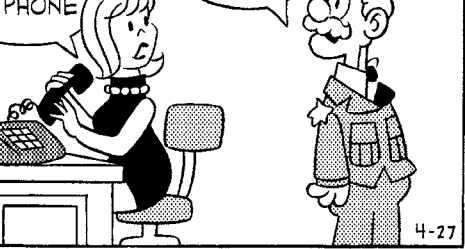
THE OTHER COAST



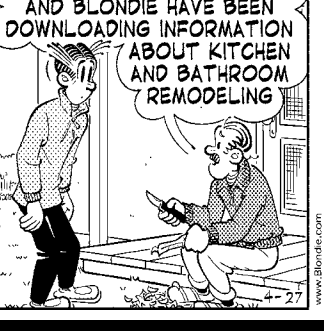
SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, April 27, the 118th day of 2016. There are 248 days left in the year.

In 1925, the song "Yes, Sir! That's My Baby" by Walter Donaldson and Gus Kahn was published by Irving Berlin, Inc. of New York.

Five years ago: Powerful tornadoes raked the South and Midwest; according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, more than 120 twisters resulted in 316 deaths.

In 1938, King Zog I of the Albanians married Countess Geraldine Apponyi de Nagy-Apponyi.

In 1967, Expo '67 was officially opened in Montreal by Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

In 1992, the new Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was proclaimed in Belgrade by the republic of Serbia and its lone ally, Montenegro.

In 1822, the 18th president of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant, was born in Point Pleasant, Ohio.

In 1865, the steamer Sultana, carrying freed Union prisoners of war, exploded on the Mississippi River near Memphis, Tennessee; death toll estimates vary from 1,500 to 2,000.

In 1891, Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev was born in present-day Ukraine.

On this date: In 1521, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan was killed by natives in the Philippines.

In 1973, Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray resigned after it was revealed that he'd destroyed files removed from the safe of Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt.

Answer to previous puzzle: EBAY GAGA AGREE, METE OVAL CREAM, BLANK TILE COAST, ELL USDA COURTS, DELUDE SCORN, NOTE HUUDDLED, CARDS SOON FIDO, OBOE SPURT LEGO, DEAR TIRE POSER, ELM TREE SILO, HOIST CARTEL, PILEON REIN OLE, STIRS REDCARPET, SNOUT TAIL NINO, TONGS ETTTE SCAN

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 Person defeated, 6 Just okay, 10 Adam's eldest, 14 Pie fruit, 15 Wickedness, 16 vera (gel source), 17 Period of highest sales, 19 Chapel benches, 20 Café brewer, 21 Train track, 22 Uproar, 24 Quarterbacks, at times, 26 Astronaut Shepard, 27 Battleship letters, 28 Take no cards, 32 Common bait, 35 Swipe, slangily, 36 Vacation option, 37 Mosque leader, 38 Illegal activity, 39 Silver State city, 40 Mumbai garment, 41 Basis of some cereals, 42 Spiteful, 43 Makes believe, 45 Physique, so to speak, 46 Browns on a beach, 47 Pistol or rifle, 51 White Rabbit's lament, 54 Existed, 55 Seven on a sundial, 56 Drink garnish, 57 Circular pork cut
- DOWN: 2 Relish greatly, 3 Mozart genre, 4 Yosemite roamer, 5 Make amends for, 6 Final Four games, 7 Locket shape, 8 Wicked deed, 9 Former beau, 10 Pollution-control tactic, 11 Sir Guinness, 12 It's east of Nebraska, 13 Loch of fame, 18 Mr. Potato Head parts, 23 Entered a 10K, 25 Meetings of world leaders, 26 Molecular bits, 28 Thin cuts, 29 Odist, for instance, 30 May (Spider-Man relative), 31 Iliad city, 32 Thin strand, 33 Actor Epps, 34 Seldom spotted, 35 Alumni, 38 Makes an analogy, 42 Tight braid, 44 "Dig in!", 45 Well: Sp., 47 Not so many, 48 Nautical "Halt!" piece, 49 Stair's vertical, 50 Thurber's daydreamer, 51 Galaxy Tab alternative, 52 Viral Web video, e.g., 53 Author Uris, 54 Off-white color, 58 Regret, 59 Bill in a till



RIO

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have died on Olympic-related projects since January 2013.

The Associated Press asked a wide range of Brazilians — and non-Brazilians — to predict how the games will unfold. Here are some of the replies.

Briton Michael Payne, former marketing director of the International Olympic Committee: “The Rio Olympics will surprise everyone. No question, the country is facing the ‘perfect storm’ — political and economic meltdown, Zika, construction delays. But in the end, the unique and incredible stage of the city — perhaps one of the most dramatic visual backdrops of any Olympics to date — and the carnival atmosphere of the Brazilians will overcome these problems. There is clear potential to be truly great games. For those working behind the scenes, it will be tough. Very tough.”

Brazilian Sergio Pracca, political scientist at the Getulio Vargas Foundation: “The Rio de Janeiro Olympics will, at best, be a non-event. Brazilians are too occupied with politics. At worst, we’ll see violence and the collapse of the

city’s infrastructure.”

Brazilian Juliana Barbassa, author of “Dancing with the Devil in the City of God”: “The games will be a beautiful, tightly-controlled spectacle set against a backdrop that has stunned visitors for nearly 500 years. Those marveling from afar may not even notice the serious budgetary crisis

facing the city and the state, and the tremendous cost that this global party has had for locals. But that cost — both in money and in missed opportunities and misplaced priorities — is significant, and Rio will not recover for decades to come.”

American Susan Franca, two-time Olympic rowing gold-medalist:

“The Olympics in Rio de Janeiro will go off without a hitch. The IOC always pulls it together, even if it’s at the last minute. I think Brazil will put on a fantastic event and the Brazilians will show their incredible hospitality.”

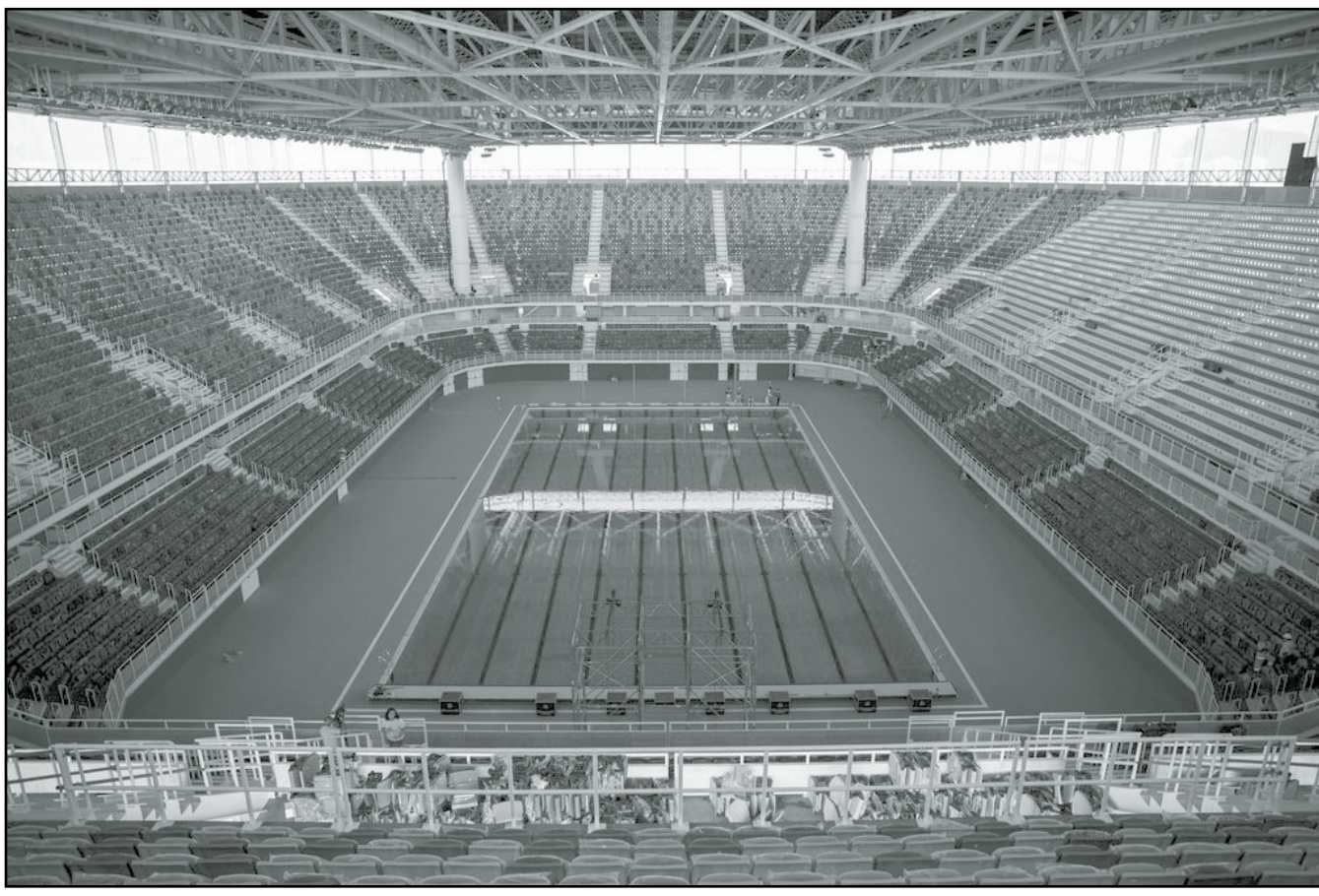
American Jules Boykoff, political scientist at Pacific University; author of “Power

Games: A Political History of the Olympics”: “I imagine Rio organizers and their allies will perpetually profess that the Olympics will be a high point of the summer. It seems to me that it is just as possible that the Olympics will become a focal point of discontent. Rather than a happy-faced antidote to the political mayhem gripping the country,

Rio 2016 could actually stoke dissent as the sharp contradictions of the games — Olympic elites living the high life while hospitals are being shuttered — become more and more obvious.”

Brazilian Marina Izidro, reporter for Sporty: “The Rio Olympics will have an amazing atmosphere for spectators and athletes, especially Brazilians who have been waiting for the moment to compete in their country for the last four years. In terms of organization and infrastructure, there will be issues because of bad planning. My fear is how big these problems might be.”

Spaniard Edu Sotos, correspondent for the Barcelona daily El Periodico de Catalunya: “I believe Brazilian authorities are crossing their fingers and hoping no misfortune strikes during the Olympics. The pace at which (Olympic) projects were built is a recipe for disaster. I think things will work reasonably well, but I don’t want to think what might happen in case of a terrorist attack — a possibility Brazilian intelligence has brought up. I guess right now everyone is asking: Was it really a good idea to choose Brazil for an event of this size?”



This April 4, 2016 file photo shows the inside of the Olympic Aquatics Stadium during a foreign media tour inside Olympic Park in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Problems still hang over South America’s first games. Brazil President Dilma Rousseff is being impeached and is likely to be suspended when the games open Aug. 5, partly fallout from Brazil’s worst recession in decades, 10-percent unemployment, and a \$3 billion Petrobras corruption scandal. Away from politics, the Zika virus threatens athletes and tourists. (AP Photo/Felipe Dana)

DIRK

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He is expected to opt out, but Dallas has to decide what his balky right knee means for his future.

Parsons missed all but one playoff game in his two seasons with the Mavericks, and had right knee surgery twice.

“There are issues and there is a situation there,” Nelson said. “It’s not that it’s unmanageable. It’s just that it affects things. We’ll have those conversations at the right time.”

Things to consider after Dallas was eliminated in five games in the first round for the second straight year:

MASH UNIT: The Mavericks’ offseason assessment is somewhat compromised by the massive injury list they carried in the playoffs.

Parsons was out, point guard Deron Williams was essentially limited to one half because of a sports hernia that will require surgery and Williams’ replacement J.J. Barea lost a lot of explosiveness because of a groin strain sustained late in the regular season. Midseason pickup David Lee, who helped the Mavericks with athleticism in the front court, missed three playoff games with a foot injury.

“We never really got to see the full, full potential of this team,” said guard Wesley Matthews, who just finished his first season after signing as a free agent last summer.

HOMETOWN REPLAY? Despite injuries that limited him late, Williams considered the first season playing for his hometown team a success after taking a buyout in Brooklyn. “He had fun for the first time in a long time,” Nelson said. Williams, who was a high school star in a Dallas suburb, has an option on the final season of his two-year deal, and Nelson wants him back.

OH, TO BE YOUNG AGAIN: Dallas had the second-oldest roster behind San Antonio this season, and those were the only two teams with an average age above 30, according to STATS. But rookies Justin Anderson and Salah Mejri, a 29-year-old from Tunisia, showed promise, particularly late in the season.

WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR: Matthews returned much earlier than expected after rupturing his Achilles tendon in March 2015 while still with Portland. But he had the worst shooting season of his career, finishing at 39 percent overall and 36 percent from 3-point range.

CENTER SEARCH: The Mavericks will need a center in free agency, one reason the pursuit of Howard makes sense. Zaza Pachulia, who came in a trade with Milwaukee after Jordan’s stunning reversal, is a free agent.

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News in brief

French prosecutor: Paris attacks suspect moved to France

PARIS (AP) — The French prosecutor's office said that key Paris attacks suspect Salah Abdeslam was transferred to France Wednesday morning and was to go before investigating judges for eventual charges.

Abdeslam, who was arrested in Belgium last month after four months on the run, was wanted in France for his role in the Nov. 13 Paris attacks that killed 130 victims.

He was the only survivor of the attacks and his testimony would likely prove precious to definitively linking events of the night of carnage when three teams of attackers blew themselves up or sprayed gunfire at Paris night clubs, a noted music hall and the sports stadium outside Paris.

The transfer of the suspected extremist who had been Europe's most wanted fugitive was carried out without advance notice and in secrecy. Abdeslam had been held in a high-security cell at a jail in Beveren near Antwerp.

French lawyer Frank Berton, announcing Wednesday he will lead Abdeslam's defense, described his in a French TV interview as a young man "falling apart" and ready to cooperate. Berton said he was "rather surprised" his client had already arrived.

Details of sex abuse could mean prison time for Hastert

CHICAGO (AP) — When Dennis Hastert pleaded guilty last year to breaking banking laws, sentencing guidelines suggested that the former House speaker would probably serve no more than six months in prison for making illegal withdrawals to conceal a dark secret from his past.

But after prosecutors lifted a veil of secrecy from the case, the judge made comments that suggested he might impose a longer sentence, potentially putting Hastert behind bars for several years, because of allegations that he molested at least four student athletes when he was a high school wrestling coach.

Word that one of the accusers will speak at the sentencing hearing is sure to turn up the pressure on Judge Thomas M. Durkin to reject defense calls for probation and send the 74-year-old Republican to prison.

If that happens, Hastert, who was second in the line of succession to the presidency after the vice president and the nation's longest-serving GOP speaker, would become one of the highest ranking politicians in American history ever to be incarcerated.

Prosecutors have said they would have preferred to charge Hastert with a sex crime. But because the statute of limitations on sexual abuse ran out decades ago, they settled for banking violations. Hastert admitted evading financial regulations when he began withdrawing money to pay another victim \$3.5 million to ensure his silence.

Tornado outbreak, 5 years later:

Piecing lives back together

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — On April 27, 2011, a series of tornadoes killed hundreds of people, injured thousands and reduced countless buildings to rubble across a swath of the U.S.

More than 120 tornadoes were reported that day — one of the deadliest outbreaks in the nation's history. Five years later, some survivors who are still rebuilding say their lives and towns will never be the same.

Casualties were reported in Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia and Alabama — which was the hardest hit, with a death toll of more than 250

in that state alone.

Survivors there say no tornado warning or emergency plan could have prepared them. Alabamians who lived in the tornadoes' path are trying to move on, but they face constant reminders of what their towns used to be. New construction is juxtaposed with grassy, wind-swept expanses. Jagged tree trunks have replaced thick woods. Cracked driveways cut through the grass and lead to bare foundations or empty lots where homes used to be.

Here are some of those survivors' stories.

For Trump, speech a test of foreign policy and style

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump's highly anticipated foreign policy speech Wednesday will test whether the Republican presidential front-runner known for his raucous rallies and eyebrow-raising statements can present a more presidential persona as he works to coalesce a still-weary Republican establishment around his candidacy.

Trump's speech will focus on "several critical foreign policy issues" such as trade, the global economy and national security, according to his campaign. But as much as the content will be scrutinized, so, too, will Trump's ability to deliver his message in a way that comes off as both presidential and authentic to himself.

"This is all part of the normalization effort, or the mainstreaming of Donald Trump," said Lanhee Chen, who served as 2012 GOP nominee Mitt Romney's chief policy adviser and advised Marco Rubio's campaign before the Florida senator dropped out of the race.

Trump has a lot to prove when it comes to calming foreign leaders and policy professionals. They've been stunned by his often brash policy proclamations, like his vow to bar foreign Muslims from entering the country, and an apparent disregard for long-standing alliances. Those concerns were amplified when Trump introduced a foreign policy team last month that left many scratching their heads.

Adding to the challenge, said Chen, is that Trump has already articulated foreign policy viewpoints in numerous interviews.

Author's case over rape records goes to Montana high court

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) — "Into the Wild" author Jon Krakauer goes to the Montana Supreme Court Wednesday to demand the release of records that could explain whether the state's higher education commissioner reversed a decision to expel a University of Montana quarterback accused of rape.

But he hopes to accomplish more than that, Krakauer told The Associated Press Tuesday after arriving for the arguments at Montana State University in Bozeman. He hopes his case will stop universities from using a federal law called the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act to withhold documents that could shed light on how they deal with student sexual assaults.

"Until you have transparency, until we see how universities deal or don't deal with rape, this problem will not be solved," Krakauer said. "If my lawsuit helps get rid of FERPA and forces universities to be honest and open about how often rapes occur, how they are adjudicated, that should make it safer

for women on campuses."

Krakauer requested records in 2014 of any action Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian took in the disciplinary proceedings against former Montana quarterback Jordan Johnson, who was accused of rape. Krakauer had sought the records for his book "Missoula: Rape and the Justice System in a College Town," which was released in April 2015.

New plainclothes morality police prompt criticism in Iran

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Tehran resident Soudan Heidari has stopped letting her headscarf slip casually down over her neck and shoulders while driving in the Iranian capital. These days, the 22-year-old with a taste for bold makeup makes sure to pull it tightly over her dark hair, fearful of running afoul of a newly established undercover division of the morality police.

"Every single man or woman could be a member of the unit," she cautioned. "I don't know. Maybe some plainclothes have already reported me because of heavy makeup."

Tehran police chief Gen. Hossein Sajedinia recently announced his department had deployed 7,000 male and female officers for a new plainclothes division — the largest such undercover assignment in memory. Authorities say the division, which started work last week, will patrol major Tehran streets and intersections, policing transgressions including harassment against women and excessive car honking and engine noise.

Critics fear the unit's main focus, however, will be enforcing the government-mandated Islamic dress code, which requires women be modestly covered from head to toe. They see it as the latest flashpoint in the struggle between relative moderates such as President Hassan Rouhani and establishment hardliners who fear looser social norms will weaken the Islamic Republic's values and principles.

Pakistani Sikhs open temple after 73 years, risking attacks

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — An armed policeman stood guard outside the 300-year-old Sikh temple, known as a gurdwara, in northwest Pakistan. He kept a watchful eye on everyone who passed him on the narrow street, looking for a suspicious gesture, or a bulge beneath the clothes that hints at a hidden gun or a bomb.

Earlier this month, the gurdwara in Peshawar's crowded Old City opened its doors to worshippers for the first time in 73 years. The reopening was celebrated by Pakistan's tiny Sikh minority, but security is a constant concern.

On Friday, a Sikh leader and provincial lawmaker was shot and killed outside his home in a remote area in Khyber Pukhtunkhwa province, some 140 kilometers (86 miles) from Peshawar. The murder of Sardar Suran Singh devastated the Sikh community and heightened their fears of militant attacks.

It also added to human rights activists' despair over rising violence against religious minorities in Pakistan.

"It is tragic, but this is the trend in Pakistan right now. It is increasingly intolerant," said Zohra Yusuf, chairwoman of the independent Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP).



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