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# BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2016



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## Festival of Lights ends Saturday

**By ROGER CLINE**  
 Staff Writer

Stockings have been hung, filled, and emptied. Presents have been wrapped, shaken, and opened. The man in red has come and gone, but the 20th annual Comanche Trail Park Festival of Lights will keep bringing Christmas spirit to West Texas for three more days.

"We're going into our last

three days," said event chairwoman Pat Simmons. "But there's still time to come out and see it."

Simmons said that, including Tuesday night, 19,677 people have driven through the display of Christmas lights in Comanche Trail Park.

"We've had people from 38 different states and 22 countries," Simmons added.

The festival, which began Dec. 15, is open nightly

through Dec. 31 from 6 to 10 p.m. and features lighted displays of candy canes and candles, giant poinsettias, Big Spring landmarks such as the Hotel Settles, and historical and cultural elements such as oil derricks, covered wagons, cowboys, and cattle. Giant illuminated Christmas cards from local businesses, schools, churches, and other organizations, are also part of the mix.

Festival organizers had hoped to attract a record 25,000 visitors to this year's festival to mark the 20th anniversary year, but a construction project to improve Big Spring's namesake historic spring coupled with the flooding of several of the park's walking trails required a slight shortening of the usual festival route this year.

"With the restoration of the

spring and the closing of the trails in the park, our attendance has been down somewhat," Simmons said.

In 2015, more than 21,000 people visited the attraction. Project manager Howard Stewart said that previous years have attracted as many as 23,000 visitors.

The entrance to Festival of Lights is located across U.S. Highway 87 from WalMart.



*Courtesy photo/BSISD*  
 A Howard College cheerleader runs through some cheers with BSI students in a mini cheer/baseball camp held as a reward for BSI students who made their Accelerated Reading goal.

## BSI/HC partnership paying off

**By LYNDEL MOODY**  
 Staff Writer

A partnership with Howard College athletes to help encourage Big Spring Intermediate students to read more often seems to be paying off, according to Keri Rodriguez, BSI reading department chair.

"It's been really successful," said Rodriguez, who is also a sixth grade reading teacher and multi-class room leader. "Just going off what's happened in the past, we have had so many more kids reading. They really want to hang out with the Howard College athletes. They are really impressed by them."

Back at the beginning of the school year, BSI and the Howard College Athletics Department teamed up as part of a reading literacy initiative to encourage fifth and sixth graders to read more at school and home. During the academic year, Howard College athletes will interact with the students, sometimes showing

up to read with them. In October, they hosted a baseball and cheerleading mini camp for students who met their Accelerated Reading points.

More than 200 students participated in the camp, Rodriguez said.

"The athletes pitched to them and fielded the ball with them," Rodriguez said. "The cheerleaders taught a few cheers. The kids had a blast and helped to really motivate the kids who didn't go. When they all came back and talked about what they got to do, the other kids were jealous and wanted to go. It was a real incentive for them."

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a computer-based program to help educators monitor a student's reading progress and practice. Books are assigned different AR reading points based on the level of the material. After reading the book, students are tested for comprehension of the material they just read.

See **BSI**, Page 3A

## Trump holds Q&A, discussing jobs, Russia, Israel

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump applauded the return of 8,000 jobs to the U.S. and hailed his transition discussions with President Barack Obama in a series of comments that amounted to the

most detailed interaction he's had with journalists since before the election.

In one of his cameos Wednesday on the front steps of his Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach, Florida, Trump touted plans by a Japanese

mogul to bring jobs to the United States. They could be the first of the 50,000 jobs that tech billionaire Masayoshi Son promised to create after meeting with the president-elect earlier in December.

In the grand scheme of the economy, the jobs announcement is unlikely to have a major impact. Still, it's another example of how Trump is trying to stoke voters' belief that he is actively fighting for their well-being.

Son is the founder and chief executive of SoftBank, one of Japan's largest technology outfits. He owns the U.S. mobile carrier Sprint, which

See **Q&A**, Page 3A

## New Year's closures

County, city, and federal offices will close offices on Monday to celebrate the new year.

City of Big Spring and Howard County employees will enjoy a three-day weekend. Both city and county offices are closed Monday.

The city landfill is also closed Monday and there will be no sanitation pick up. Emergency services for both the city and county will continue as normal throughout the holiday. The city's emergency utilities department will be on call and can be contacted at 264-2392.

**USPS open New Year's Eve**  
 The Big Spring Post Office will be open regular hours on Saturday, New Year's Eve. Mail delivery will be unaffected.

Because New Year's Day falls on Sunday this year, the post office will be closed on Monday, which is a federal holiday. Only priority mail express will be delivered on the actual holidays as well as the observed holidays. All post offices will be open and regular mail delivery will resume on Tuesday.

See **CLOSINGS**, Page 3A

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## Colorado's patience with MacIntyre leads to bowl vs Cowboys

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Colorado put its patience to the test.

Both decisions have paid off in a big way.

The No. 11 Buffaloes rumble into the Alamo Bowl to face No. 13 Oklahoma State (9-3) riding their best season in more than a decade — first season in a Pac-12 division championship behind MacIntyre, The Associated Press college football coach of the year now in his fourth year in Boulder.

It's the patience to stick with MacIntyre that seems the most remarkable part of it all. Colorado's previous three seasons produced 10 total wins before the Buffaloes (10-3) ripped

through the regular season, briefly flirted with the College Football Playoff and played in the Pac-12 title game. Their improbable season even comes with a nickname: The Rise.

Few programs are so willing to wait. About 75 miles north of where MacIntyre will lead him to the field at the Alamodome on Thursday night, Texas dumped coach Charlie Strong after three losing seasons (he had more wins than MacIntyre did the previous three years).

"We were so bad when we got there," MacIntyre said Wednesday. "People were asking if they could just stay until halftime ... We kept building. Our president, our chancellor our athletic director have been phenomenal. I just hit at the right time, when everybody

understood where we were going and striving to be successful."

Colorado players who went through all that losing — 2-25 in conference play the previous three years — are savoring the wins now.

"I think we're definitely anxious to leave a legacy, we want to leave," Colorado defensive back Ryan Moeller said. "We recognize the previous years that it's unfortunate when you lose and when you can't send seniors out right."

MacIntyre can feel a surge of history behind the season. The program's first bowl game since 2007 means even more to some of the fans who stuck with the program through all the losing.

Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy

has had his program humming along for years. The Cowboys have been among the Big 12's best in recent seasons, and missed the chance for the league title with a season-ending loss to Oklahoma. A victory Thursday night would earn a fifth 10-win season in the last seven years.

Here are some things to watch when the Buffaloes and Cowboys play:

### GUNSLINGERS

Oklahoma State got a big boost for 2017 when quarterback Mason Rudolph and wide receiver James Washington announced together on Tuesday they'll return for their senior seasons instead of entering the NFL draft. Washington was an all-Big

See COLORADO, Page 4B

## Aldridge's 27 help Spurs beat Suns in Leonard's absence

By RAUL DOMINGUEZ

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs relied on experience and the surprisingly spry legs of Manu Ginobili to overcome the energy of the Phoenix Suns.

LaMarcus Aldridge scored 27 points and San Antonio rallied to win without leading scorer Kawhi Leonard, beating Phoenix 119-98 on Wednesday night.

"They really got into us physically and did a great job denying passing lanes and really gave themselves a chance to win," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "I just think our experience kind of took over in the end."

After trailing by as many as 10 points, San Antonio forced seven turnovers while outscoring Phoenix 30-16 in the final quarter to capture its sixth straight win at home. The Suns were held to 34 points in the second half after scoring 64 in a blistering first half.

After being held scoreless in the first half, Ginobili responded with 12 points, including a dunk, and three blocked shots in the second half.

"I try to bring it every game," Ginobili said. "Sometimes it's hard, sometimes things don't go your way. At halftime, we were frustrated with the way we were playing. So, we all brought it in the second half. We played a lot better."

The 39-year-old veteran's energy drew praise, as well as some teasing, from teammates.

"I hope he can walk tomorrow," Aldridge said, laughing afterward.

The Spurs needed the lift while playing without Leonard



AP photo  
San Antonio Spurs center Pau Gasol (16) shoots over Phoenix Suns guard Devin Booker (1) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016, in San Antonio.

for the first time this season. The 6-foot-7 forward, who has a stomach virus, was replaced in the lineup by Kyle Anderson.

See SPURS, Page 4B

## K-State tops Texas A&M 33-28

Ertz accounts for 3 TDs

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Kansas State was unbeatable against teams from Texas in the regular season, and that didn't change on Wednesday night in the Texas Bowl.

Jesse Ertz threw for 195 yards and a touchdown and ran for two more scores in Kansas State's 33-28 victory over Texas A&M. He had 67 yards rushing to give him 1,012 this season.

The victory improved the Wildcats to 5-0 against teams from the Lone Star State this season after they downed Texas Tech, Texas, Baylor and TCU earlier this year.

"I think that's a really cool thing to accomplish," said Ertz, who was named MVP. "It gives the fans some bragging rights."

Ertz had a 79-yard touchdown pass and scoring runs of 1 and 5 yards to help give Kansas State its fourth straight win and first bowl victory since the 2013 Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl.

"They're a good football team and we didn't do anything we hadn't done all year, but we may have done some things a little better," Kansas State coach Bill Snyder said.

The Wildcats (9-4) led 33-21 after Ertz bulled into the end zone on

See A&M, Page 4B

## Sports calendar

### TODAY

#### Boys' basketball

Coahoma at Mary Tatum Tournament, Big Lake, TBA  
Forsan vs. Abilene Christian at Caprock Classic, Lubbock, 12:30 p.m.

#### Girls' basketball

Big Spring vs. Lubbock Coronado at Caprock Classic, Lubbock, 10:30 a.m.  
Forsan at Cougar Classic, Klondike, TBA

### FRIDAY

#### Boys' basketball

Big Spring vs. Levelland at Cooper Christmas Classic, Lubbock, 11 a.m.  
Coahoma at Mary Tatum Tournament, Big Lake, TBA  
Forsan at Caprock Classic, Lubbock, TBA

#### Girls' basketball

Big Spring at Caprock Classic, Lubbock, TBA  
Forsan at Cougar Classic, Klondike, TBA

### SATURDAY

#### Boys' basketball

Forsan at Caprock Classic, Lubbock, TBA

#### Girls' basketball

Big Spring at Caprock Classic, Lubbock, TBA

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

## Houston holds UConn to 12 points in 1st half, wins 62-46

By WILLIAM S. PAXTON

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Rob Gray scored 20 points and Houston held UConn to 12 first-half points in a 62-46 victory on Wednesday.

Danrad Knowles and Damyan Dotson each added 10 points for the Cougars (10-3), who never trailed in the American Athletic Conference opener for both schools. Houston dominated in the paint, outscoring UConn 26-12.

"I thought we were very organized and very prepared," Houston coach Kelvin Sampson said. "We were coming off a loss we didn't feel very good about, so I knew we were going to bounce back and play well."

Christian Vital led UConn (5-7) with 15 points, while Vance Jackson and Rodney Purvis each had 12. For the second time this season, the Huskies were held without a block as 7-foot center Amida Brimah played just 14 minutes due to foul trouble.

The Huskies were just 3-for-21 shooting from the field in the first half to go with nine turnovers and just one assist. UConn shot 33.3 percent overall and had just four turnovers



AP photo  
Houston's Rob Gray reacts while dunking the ball as Connecticut's Kentan Facey, left, looks on, in the first half of an NCAA college basketball game, Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016, in Hartford, Conn.

in the second half, but trailed throughout by double digits.

"We had a bad shooting half and couldn't get out of our own way," UConn coach Kevin Ollie said.

The Cougars reeled off an 11-0 stretch to move ahead 16-5 as the Huskies failed to make a basket for over eight min-

utes. Houston closed out the half with a 15-1 run for a 36-12 lead. The Cougars made 14 of 26 shots and all six scorers shot at least 50 percent. Gray led the way with 10 points.

"I just thought a lack of effort was there and it was just a bad

See HOUSTON, Page 4B

## Obituaries

### Helen "MeMaw" Eggleston



Helen "MeMaw" Eggleston, 83 of Big Spring, Texas, met her Lord and Savior on Dec. 26, 2016.

The family will be accepting guests from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Friday, followed by funeral services at Myers and Smith Funeral Home at 2 p.m.

Helen was born in Dodd City, Texas, on March 26, 1933, to Carl and Lois "Peggy" Young. During her youth, Helen lived in Dodd City, Texas; Bonham, Texas; and San Angelo, Texas; before settling in Big Spring, Texas. Helen married Wendell "Leo" Eggleston in Lovington, N.M., on Dec. 17, 1954. Helen was employed by Auto Supermarket as a bookkeeper, where she met one of her very best friends, Earlene Williams, until her retirement. Helen was a member of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband, Leo Eggleston, in August of 2009. She was also preceded in death by one brother Carl "Sonny" Young; two sisters, Jan Statham and June Tucker; and one son, Jim Eggleston.

Helen is survived by three sons and daughter in laws, William "Skip" and Joni Eggleston of Houston, Mike and Connie Eggleston of Big Spring, and Robert and Kari Eggleston of Midland, who were the love of her life. Also surviving are two sisters, Doris and husband Hervy McPeck of Marble Falls, Texas, and Wanda "Joy" Johnson of Big Spring, Texas. Also surviving are daughters Ann Pea-

cock and husband Larry of North Richland Hills, Texas, and Dianna Stanford and husband Joe of North Richland Hills, Texas. Surviving grandchildren are Lacy Guynes and husband Derek of Mansfield, Texas, Kelsey Dillenburg and husband Blaise of Temple, Texas, Dustin Eggleston of Dallas, Cayley Peterson and husband Taylor of Big Spring, Texas, Kristen Clutz and husband Michael of South Korea, Keila Eggleston of Albuquerque, N.M., Dane Eggleston and wife Kaylee of Abilene, Texas, Sunny Seeberger and husband Matt of Lafayette, La., Mike Smith of Oakland, Calif., Yvonne Diaz and husband Robert of Big Spring, Texas, Greg Eggleston and wife Vickie of Ashdown, Ark., Scott Eggleston and wife Robyn of Little Elm, Texas, Rudy Eggleston of Odessa, Texas, Rhonda Eggleston of Midland, Texas, Randy Eggleston and wife Ginger of Midland, Texas, Alysia Perales and husband Tom of Grapevine, Texas, Cindy Kue and husband Otis of Grapevine, Texas, Amy Socha of North Richland Hills, Texas, Cory Williamson and wife Sandra of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Shelley Fisher and husband Charles of Azle, Texas. Also surviving are many great-grandchildren. Pallbearers will be Dustin Eggleston, Keilan Eggleston, Dane Eggleston, Scott Eggleston, Greg Eggleston, and Randy Eggleston.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggest memorials be made to Hospice of Midland, 911 West Texas Avenue, Midland, Texas, 79701.

Arrangements are under the direction of Myers and Smith Funeral Home in Big Spring, Texas. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

*Paid obituary*

### Ruthie Elsberry

Ruthie Elsberry, 90, died Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016, at her home.

Funeral Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers and Smith Chapel with Royce Clay officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Oct. 18, 1926, to Rosa and Lum Harris in Howard County, Texas. She was a lifetime resident of Howard County and a member of the 14th and Main Church of Christ. She was a Civilian Personnel Clerk at Webb Air Force Base, and later the Veterans Administration Medical Center.

She is survived by four sisters, Virginia Parkhill, Wanda Wolf, Nell Rogers, and Barbara Kilgore and her husband Dr. J. Gale Kilgore, all of Big Spring; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one sister, Dorothy Rodriguez; and one brother, C. J. "Buddy" Harris.

Arrangements are by Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

### Paul H. Smith

Paul H. Smith, 86, died Friday, Dec. 23, 2016, at the VA Medical Center. There are no services planned.

He was born March 11, 1930, to Elizabeth and Edward Smith in Oakland, Calif. He was a veteran of the Korean War, receiving the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He and his wife came to Big Spring in 1998. They were very active in the First Christian Church and Isaiah 58. He received his doctorate degree at the University of Arkansas. He was a retired university professor, having taught economics and accounting.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Smith of Big Spring; and one sister, Leora Fay Taylor of Splendora, Texas.

Arrangements are by Myers and Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

## Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Runnels. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3700 block of Wasson Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of Oriole Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veteran's Boulevard. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3000 block of Calvin. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veteran's Boulevard. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veteran's Boulevard. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Meadow Avenue. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block of South Aylesford. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **MELISSA GUADALUPE GOMEZ**, 33, of 2509 Cindy Lane was arrested on charges of public intoxication, failure to appear, and driving with an invalid license.

- **MARTIN ANTHONY RAMIREZ**, 26, of 1601 Stadium St. was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana (less than 2 oz.); and on an outstanding warrant.

- **ANDREW GRABLE MAR-**

**TINEZ**, 36, of 213 Circle Dr. was arrested on an outstanding warrant.

- **WESLEY ALLEN EDMONDSON**, 29, of 403 S. Fifth St. was arrested on warrants for driving with an invalid license and failure to appear; and on another outstanding warrant.

- **BRAD WAYNE DUGAN JR.**, 33, of 1211 Sycamore St. was arrested on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon, bail jumping/failure to appear, and failure to identify/fugitive giving false

information.

- **HARASSMENT** was reported in the 4300 block of Connally Street.

- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 500 block of Union and the 2500 block of Cindy Lane.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 3600 block of West Highway 80.

- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 200 block of Pine Road.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 3300 block of West Highway 80.

## Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 89 inmates at the time of this report.

- **BRAD WAYNE DUGAN JR.**, 33, was booked by HCSO on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon, bail jumping/failure to

appear, and failure to identify/fugitive giving false information.

- **WESLEY ALLEN EDMONDSON**, 29, was booked by BSPD on warrants for property crime class C, driving with an invalid license, and failure to appear.

- **MELISSA GUADALUPE GOMEZ**, 33, was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication; and on warrants for fail-

ure to appear, and driving with an invalid license.

- **ANDREW GRABLE MARTINEZ**, 36, was booked by BSPD on a warrant for harassment.

- **MARTIN ANTHONY RAMIREZ**, 26, was booked by BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana (less than 2 oz.); and on a warrant for criminal mischief (\$100 to \$750).

## Take Note

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

The next sacking session will be at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 2 and 3 at the old Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 N.W. Seventh St. To get there, take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney, which is the block just past the Salvation Army retail store. Delaney turns into Seventh Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left.

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

- 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.

### Meetings

- The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

- The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more infor-

mation, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

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

- 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 ½ Main St. All Masons are welcome.

- 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,



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## Support Groups

### THURSDAY

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

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

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

### FRIDAY

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

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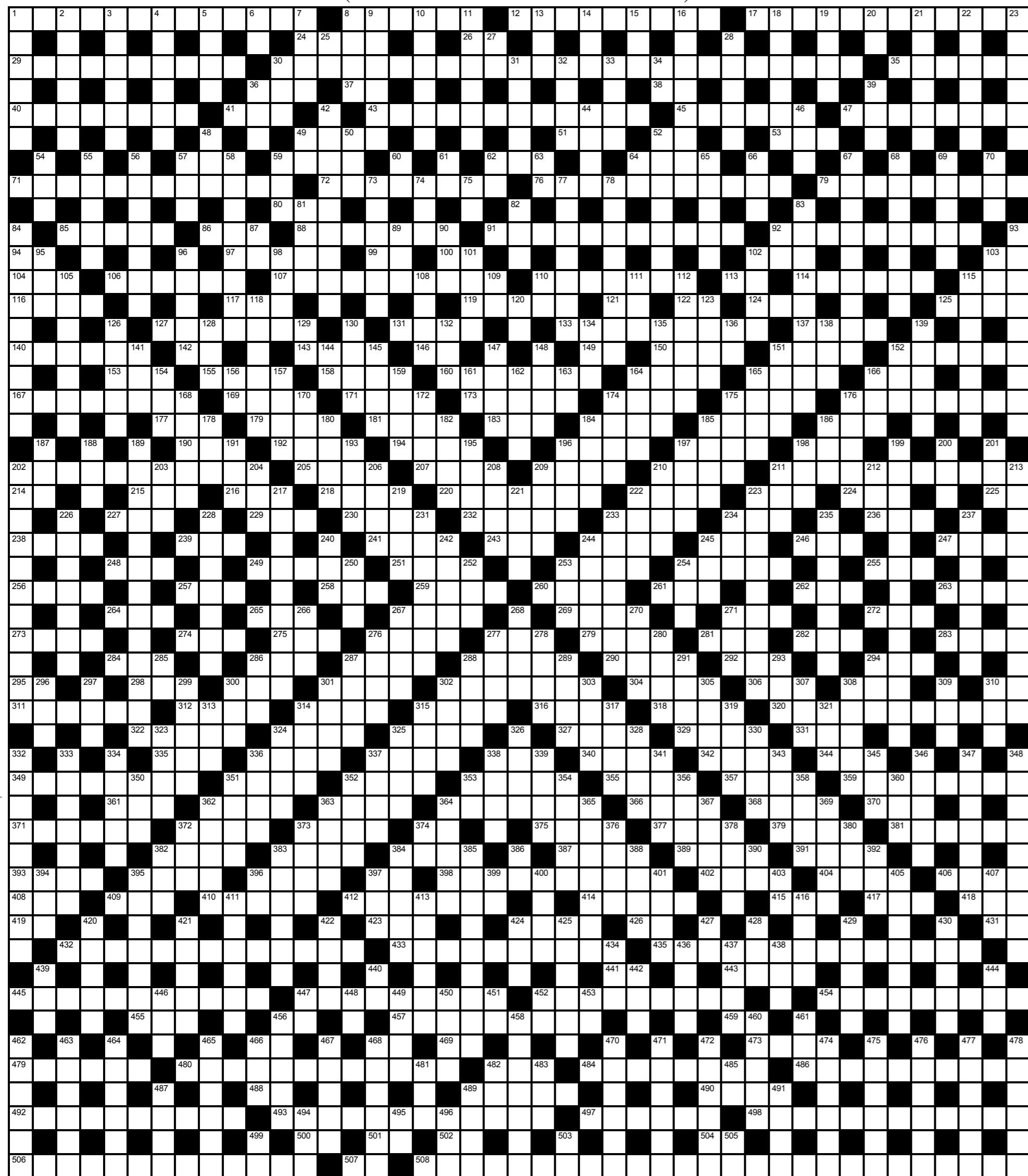
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# ANNUAL MAMMOTH CROSSWORD PUZZLE

In 2016, we said good-bye to entertainment and sport stars such as Prince, David Bowie, Arnold Palmer and Muhammad Ali. We were introduced to Pokemon Go, Brexit and the Panama Papers. We celebrated anniversaries – Batman, for example, turned 50 – and we cheered as a swimmer became the most decorated Olympian in the history of the Games. It was a year full of unusual news: a gorilla was shot in a zoo; a drug lord made a bold escape; and, Brangelina broke up. These are just a few of the events that provided inspiration for clues in the Annual Mammoth Crossword Puzzle. Enjoy!

(Please see answers in tomorrow's edition).



- 1 He became most decorated Olympian (7,6)
- 8 Purple Rain singer who passed (6)
- 12 Game phenomenon; catch Pikachu (7,2)
- 17 Reality singing show ended (8,4)
- 24 Oak or elm (4)
- 26 Form of classical Chinese poetry (2)
- 29 Ziggy Stardust singer died (5,5)
- 30 These tortoise heroes got another film (7,6,5,7)
- 35 Adam West debuted as this superhero 50 yrs ago (6)
- 36 Gun released 30 yrs ago (3)
- 37 Nice guy, abbr. (2)
- 38 Where surgeons work (2)
- 40 Jeff Probst's show had 33rd season (8)
- 41 Schumer became a top comic (3)
- 43 Golfing's 'king' passed away (6,6)
- 45 This original Texas soap ended 25 yrs ago (6)
- 47 He won Nobel Prize for literature (3,5)
- 49 Nasty (4)
- 51 Father (3)
- 53 Equals 3.14 (2)
- 57 Hallucinogenic drug made illegal 50 yrs ago (3)
- 59 An opening (3)
- 62 Zuckenberg pledged \$3B to fight diseases (4)
- 67 The Bachelor who chose Lauren (3)
- 64 Morocco's longest river (4)
- 71 Massive leak of secret documents (6,6)
- 72 Happy Days producer Garry \_\_\_ died (8)
- 76 Testing one's abilities (11)
- 79 Oscar host (5,4)
- 80 Alternate measure to GDP (3)
- 85 Michigan city with water crisis (5)
- 86 Bightheadedness (3)
- 88 Wrapped (7)
- 91 Matt Damon spy who returned (5,6)
- 92 Online 'encyclopedia' turned 15 (9)
- 94 Morning (2)
- 97 Extreme (5)
- 99 Accomplish or execute (2)
- 100 American news agency (2)
- 102 Singer who starred in Shades of Blue (3)
- 103 State nicknamed Old Dominion, abbr. (2)
- 104 Gratitude (3)
- 106 Plural word for the buttock muscles (6)
- 107 Reachable (10)
- 110 Lugged (7)
- 113 A river in northern Italy (2)
- 114 \_\_\_ Weapon was rebooted for TV (6)
- 115 Balloon filler (3)
- 116 Phone someone (4)
- 117 A short snooze (3)
- 119 She was first broadcast nationally 30 yrs ago (5)
- 121 Area of operations, abbr. (2)
- 122 Original voice, abbr. (2)
- 124 Hong Kong's market index (3)
- 125 Rice Krispies sound (4)
- 127 This king of rock and roll died 39 years ago (7)
- 131 Blue fish that got her own movie (4)
- 133 A set of circumstances (9)
- 137 Close by (4)
- 140 Small lizards (6)
- 142 Megabyte, abbr. (2)
- 143 Singer Celine \_\_\_ lost her husband (4)
- 146 One of the biggest accounting firms, abbr. (2)
- 149 Kinetic energy, abbr. (2)
- 150 To knife (4)
- 151 Fail to see (4)
- 152 Dudley Moore played this happy drunk 35 yrs ago (6)
- 153 A young man (3)
- 155 Floating ice mass (4)
- 158 Actor \_\_\_ LaBeouf turned 30 (4)
- 160 Price paid to fly on a plane (7)
- 164 \_\_\_ Gates named world's richest man (4)
- 165 Back talk (4)
- 166 Chicken \_\_\_ king (1,2)
- 167 Gangsters (8)
- 169 Hair styling products (4)
- 171 Jaguar: Panthera \_\_\_ (4)
- 173 Halle \_\_\_ turned 50 (5)
- 174 Boorish (4)
- 175 Sculpture of upper body (4)
- 176 Reality competition show that won Emmy (3,5)
- 177 Slangy affirmative (3)
- 179 Actress Patty \_\_\_ died (4)
- 181 Carve in stone (4)
- 183 Not dry (3)
- 184 Eight furlongs (4)
- 185 World Series champs (4)
- 186 Actress \_\_\_ Leoni turned 50 (3)
- 190 Oui's opposite (3)
- 192 Once Upon a \_\_\_ started season 6 (4)
- 194 Like a bug in a rug (4)
- 196 This helps a fish breathe (4)
- 197 Bad jokes (4)
- 198 Singer Zadora (3)
- 202 Goods in a store (11)
- 205 Hue (4)
- 207 Greek People's Liberation Army (4)
- 209 Roll call reply (4)
- 210 Lancelot and Mix-a-Lot, for two (4)
- 211 75th anniversary of Hawaii attack (5,6)
- 214 Off's opposite (2)
- 215 Hip hop artist \_\_\_ Def (3)

- 216 Painting and sculpting (3)
- 218 Knots (4)
- 220 Buttercup family member (7)
- 222 \_\_\_ House sitcom revived (4)
- 223 Grizzly Adams' \_\_\_ Haggerty died (3)
- 224 Observe (3)
- 225 Exist (2)
- 227 Where you sleep (3)
- 229 Pina colada ingredient (3)
- 230 Broad valley (4)
- 232 'Hello' singer had world tour (5)
- 233 Tumbled (4)
- 234 Skirt's edge (3)
- 236 Buffoon (3)
- 238 Roller coaster feature (4)
- 239 Paycheck deduction (3)
- 241 A man (4)
- 243 Number of birthdays you've had (3)
- 244 Scarf material (4)
- 245 Energy (3)
- 246 Buddhist discipline (3)
- 247 Outbreak of virus; endangered fetus (4)
- 248 Not quite right (3)
- 249 Death notices (5)
- 251 Was philanthropic (4)
- 253 Borscht vegetable (4)
- 254 Country singer \_\_\_ Haggard died (5)
- 255 Slick (3)
- 256 Siberian Yupik (4)
- 257 Referee (3)
- 258 Taxi (3)
- 259 Canvas shelter (4)
- 260 Major ice deposit found on this red planet (4)
- 261 Author \_\_\_ Conroy passed at 70 (3)
- 262 Stir-fry pan (3)
- 263 \_\_\_ Rogen lent voice to Sausage Party (4)
- 264 Timid (3)
- 265 Diner sandwich (3)
- 267 Vocalize to music (4)
- 269 Successful recordings (4)
- 271 Chow down (3)
- 272 Prom rental for guys (3)
- 273 Friend in war (4)
- 274 Mischief-maker (3)
- 275 Electric fish (3)
- 276 An attempt (4)
- 277 Keep in contact, abbr. (3)
- 279 Light-skinned (4)
- 281 Boxing great who died (3)
- 282 Wood sorrel (3)
- 283 Probe reached Jupiter (4)
- 284 Cut off (3)
- 286 Genetic info carrier (3)
- 287 Blake Shelton's new girlfriend (4)
- 288 Martha Stewart's new partner: \_\_\_ Dogg (5)
- 290 Untidy one (4)
- 292 Peripheral nervous system, abbr. (3)
- 294 Pilot's prediction (3)
- 295 Exajoule, abbr. (2)
- 298 Not old (3)
- 300 Dog doc (3)
- 301 Went down a firehouse pole (4)
- 302 Refrigerated (7)
- 304 Follow closely (4)
- 306 Kind of instinct (3)
- 308 UFC sport (3)
- 310 Pronoun related to T (2)
- 311 Turn around (6)
- 312 \_\_\_ Sandler turned 50 (4)
- 314 A country's banner (4)
- 315 Court order (4)
- 316 Actor \_\_\_ Rickman passed away (4)
- 318 Plummet (4)
- 320 Met (11)
- 322 A four-door car (5)
- 324 One who finishes high school (4)
- 325 Thug (4)
- 327 Snare (4)
- 329 Bull's-eye hitter (4)
- 331 \_\_\_ Aviv (3)
- 335 Jewel (3)
- 336 Latch onto (4)
- 337 Aid (4)
- 338 The 'L' of L.A. (3)
- 340 Pottery oven (4)
- 342 Must have (4)
- 344 Paddle (3)
- 349 Wages (8)
- 351 Two-masted ship (4)
- 352 Catch a wave (4)
- 353 Conflagrations (5)
- 355 Neighbor of Vietnam (4)
- 357 Bucket (4)
- 359 Repeat customers (8)
- 361 Australia's multicultural broadcaster (3)
- 362 Amorphous mass (4)
- 363 What cameras used to need (4)
- 364 Winners of Super Bowl 50 (7)
- 366 Harvard rival (4)
- 368 Eager (4)
- 370 Volume, abbr. (3)
- 371 Large doping program exposed here (6)
- 372 Thick-soled shoe (4)
- 373 Formal dance (4)
- 374 The Sunshine State, abbr. (2)
- 375 Bark from the paper mulberry tree (4)
- 377 Retained (4)
- 381 Graduates of a school (6)
- 382 From the beginning, again (4)
- 383 To spin a floating log (4)
- 384 Caspian and Baltic (4)
- 387 Flower holder (4)
- 389 A raised platform for a lecturer (4)
- 391 Scheme (4)
- 393 Listen to (4)
- 395 Stooze (4)
- 396 Streeter (4)
- 397 Clark Kent's love, initials (2)
- 398 Scotch \_\_\_ (4)
- 101 Clever tactic (4)
- 102 Lock of \_\_\_ Lennon's hair sold for \$35,000 (4)
- 103 By way of (3)
- 105 A 'fake' pill or medicine (7)
- 108 Bleat (3)
- 109 Shorter than an LP (2)
- 110 An accounting professional, abbr. (2)
- 111 Promise to pay (3)
- 112 Tobacco remnant in a pipe (6)
- 115 Disney is the biggest employer in this city (7)
- 118 Mad's \_\_\_ E. Neuman turned 60 (6)
- 120 Crucial hospital worker (2)
- 123 Medicine bottle (4)
- 126 Young male horses (5)
- 128 \_\_\_ and flow (3)
- 129 Three feet, abbr. (2)
- 130 Small salmon (4)
- 132 A handwoven Scandinavian rug (3)
- 134 Eisenhower's nickname (3)
- 135 Set something out of the way (5)
- 136 Short for obstetrics (2)
- 138 Hook shape (3)
- 139 Courageous (5)
- 141 Society of Automotive Engineers, abbr. (3)
- 144 I am, you are, he \_\_\_ (2)
- 145 Eight plus one (4)
- 147 \_\_\_ Barrymore split from husband (4)
- 148 \_\_\_ Simpson: his family's show was renewed for season 30 (4)
- 151 A large body of matter (4)
- 152 Brewpub offering (3)
- 154 Arid (3)
- 156 Example, abbr. (2)
- 157 Overabundance (4)
- 159 Appears in a play (4)
- 161 Abbr. for international baccalaureate (2)
- 162 Glenn \_\_\_ of Eagles died (4)
- 163 Required yearly, abbr. (2)
- 164 New TV legal drama (4)
- 165 Temporary teachers (4)
- 166 I see! (3)
- 168 Mails letter (5)
- 170 Short acting segment (4)
- 172 Teen's skin problem (4)
- 174 Agitate (4)
- 175 Bread rolls (4)
- 176 Rips (5)
- 178 Luau dish (3)
- 180 Discharge (4)
- 182 Hawaiian dance (4)
- 184 Muck (4)
- 185 Ringlet (4)
- 186 \_\_\_ Maria liqueur (3)
- 187 Fox's home (3)
- 188 High card (3)
- 189 Won Emmy as best drama (4,2,7)
- 191 Intelligence organization (3)
- 193 Teen survivor in The Walking Dead (4)
- 195 Attendants of Shiva (4)
- 196 Actor-comic \_\_\_ Wilder passed (4)
- 197 Medical tablet (4)
- 198 Ballpoint, e.g. (3)
- 199 Affleck film about a bookkeeper (3,10)
- 200 Bobby \_\_\_ debuted in NHL 50 yrs ago (3)
- 201 A remote entry key (3)
- 202 Journo who died days after retirement (6,5)
- 203 Move head in agreement (3)
- 204 Be mistaken (3)
- 206 A group of athletes (4)
- 208 Spanish for silk (4)
- 209 Burrow (4)
- 210 Mope or pout (4)
- 211 Cooking spray introduced 55 yrs ago (3)
- 212 \_\_\_ DiCaprio produced Before the Flood (3)
- 213 Remade (11)
- 217 A rough flight (9)
- 219 Smelting waste (4)
- 221 Prefix meaning big (4)
- 222 Sensed (4)
- 223 Using up a supply or resource (9)
- 226 Animal shot at Cincinnati Zoo (7)
- 228 Movie about less-than-ideal parents (3,4)
- 231 Actress \_\_\_ Margret turned 75 (3)
- 233 Sheryl Crow's home state, abbr. (2)
- 234 Opposite of him (3)
- 235 She released Lemonade album (7)
- 237 A criminal's safe house (7)
- 240 And so forth (3)
- 242 A planned affair (5)
- 244 Printing flourish (5)
- 245 Cat or dog (3)
- 250 Woodwind instrument (3)
- 252 Chang's Siamese twin (3)
- 253 Scrooge's phrase: \_\_\_ humbug! (3)
- 254 The limit of one's capacity (3)
- 266 Detjering or oolong (3)
- 267 Car fuel (3)
- 268 Stanley Cup winners (8)
- 269 Chinese food additive (3)
- 270 An afterthought to a letter (2)
- 271 Swiss peak (3)
- 276 Drink a large gulp (4)
- 277 Make a sweater (4)
- 278 Coke or Pepsi (4)
- 280 Highway (4)
- 285 Gym class (2)
- 286 Sleep stage (3)
- 287 Happy (4)
- 288 Leg part (4)
- 289 Bombard (4)
- 291 A feathered animal (4)
- 293 Seek damages (3)
- 294 Down Under bird (3)
- 296 Football's \_\_\_ Montana turned 60 (3)
- 297 Similar to a sweet potato (3)
- 299 Walks through water (5)
- 300 Vehicle with sliding doors (3)
- 301 Close a door with force (4)
- 302 Farmer's yield (4)
- 303 Dismal (4)
- 305 Borrowed cash (4)
- 307 Explosive (3)
- 308 Back tooth (5)
- 309 Bush that didn't make the presidential cut (3)
- 310 Males (3)
- 313 Hoover \_\_\_ turned 85 (3)
- 314 Jumping amphibian (4)
- 315 A dog's wild relative (4)
- 317 Hammer's target (4)
- 319 Get ready (4)
- 321 Corporate head honcho (3)
- 323 Breakfast staple (4)
- 324 Smooth-talking (4)
- 325 Microorganism that can lead to disease (4)
- 326 Honking device (4)
- 328 Stage show (4)
- 330 Furniture wood (4)
- 332 Jagger ex who wed Rupert Murdoch (5,4)
- 333 Believed in the reliability of someone (7)
- 334 Call on (5)
- 336 Hot rum drink (4)
- 337 Main body of a ship (4)
- 338 King of the jungle (4)
- 339 Religious offshoot (4)
- 341 Ark builder (4)
- 343 A plan to lose weight (4)
- 345 Gun, as an engine (3)
- 346 Tom Hanks played this pilot (5)
- 347 Popular porridge (7)
- 348 Fastest man three-peated (5,4)
- 350 This basketball league turned 70 (3)
- 351 Hard punch (4)
- 352 Window ledge (4)
- 353 From, abbr. (2)
- 354 A dry Italian white wine (5)
- 355 Musher's transport (4)
- 358 Jump (4)
- 360 State in Western India (3)
- 362 Mix (5)
- 363 Dairy, grain or mixed (4)
- 364 Wild time (5)
- 365 Small brown and gray bird (7)
- 367 Distinctive flair (4)
- 369 Canceled (5)
- 370 Continental Airways designation code (3)
- 372 Partiality (4)
- 373 Symbol for iron (2)
- 376 Marco Polo crossed it (4)
- 378 French fashion house that turned 60 (4)
- 380 Also (3)
- 382 Tiny battery size (3)
- 383 Type of men's underwear (6)
- 384 Informal words (5)
- 385 Represents a particular idea (6,3)
- 386 Common meditation sound (2)
- 388 Come to a final point (4)
- 390 Street, abbr. (2)
- 392 Terms of service, abbr. (3)
- 394 Asner and Helms (3)
- 395 1st mortal woman in Greek mythology (7)
- 396 We purchase a new one of these every 7 yrs, on average (2)
- 397 Captain's journal (3)
- 399 \_\_\_ Franken turned 65 (2)
- 400 Fit together (4)
- 401 An Asian desert (4)
- 402 Environmental Assessment, abbr. (2)
- 405 A crude bomb: \_\_\_ cocktail (7)
- 407 Item in a bucket (3)
- 411 A battle fortification, incl. sharpened trees (6)
- 413 Husband or wife (6)
- 416 He and Angelina split (4)
- 420 Beaujolais and Merlot (5) 421 Smell (5)
- 422 Surfing center in Sumatra (4)
- 424 Danson or Turner (3)
- 425 Dead body (6)
- 427 Alternative to Miss or Mrs. (2)
- 428 Prefix for American navy ships (3)
- 429 A chance occurrence of luck (5)
- 430 Stealthily (5)
- 434 Consume food (3)
- 436 Roman robe (4)
- 437 Car (4)
- 438 \_\_\_ Gibson turned 60 (3)
- 439 \_\_\_ Saget turned 60 (3)
- 440 Opposite of Jr. (2)
- 442 Santa's helper (3)
- 443 Bed-and-breakfast (3)
- 444 Actress \_\_\_ Margret turned 75 (3)
- 447 Sheryl Crow's home state, abbr. (2)
- 448 Continuous integration, abbr. (2)
- 449 A river in Normandy (4)
- 450 Korean term for older males (4)
- 451 Poet Eliot (2)
- 452 Opposite of NW (2)
- 453 Operating system, abbr. (2)
- 456 Dandelions (5)
- 458 Stop a rumor (7)
- 460 Joints in legs (5)
- 461 \_\_\_ de Triomphe (3)
- 462 Portable computer (6)
- 463 Serenity (6)
- 464 UK band that toured in its 51st year (3,3)
- 465 Formal and dignified (6)
- 466 Definite article (3)
- 467 Wristwatch band (5)
- 468 Nab a bad guy (6)
- 470 Eight-armed sea creatures (6)
- 471 Calamitous (6)
- 472 Large black birds (6)
- 474 A pattern of many pieces of tile or stone (6)
- 475 Materialize (6)
- 476 Pens a novel (6)
- 477 Held in high regard (6)
- 478 Consolidates (6)
- 481 Hush someone (3)
- 482 Make a choice (3)
- 483 Golf peg (3)
- 485 Common era, abbr. (2)
- 487 Quick haircut (4)
- 489 Pack away (4)
- 491 A loud ringing of bells (4)
- 494 A wrinkle-faced dog (3)
- 496 A continent below us, abbr. (2)
- 499 Flying saucer (3)
- 503 Hello (2)
- 505 2.2 pounds in metric, abbr. (2)
- 506 Extra hours at work, abbr. (2)

Please find the answers to our 2nd Annual Mammoth Crossword puzzle in tomorrow's edition, Friday, December 30, 2016.

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BSI

Continued from Page 1A

“Reading comprehension has gone up campus wide,” Rodriguez said. “So has their endurance.” Students are reading for longer periods of time, Rodriguez added.

“They are not wimping out when in the past they would be getting tired sooner,” she said. “Because they have been reading a lot more at home and in class, they have adjusted and have the stamina to make it through.”

The partnership with Howard College will continue through the end of the school year.



Courtesy photo/BSISD

Some of the participants in the Howard College mini cheer/baseball camp held in the fall for students who made their Accelerated Reading goals.

Debbie Reynolds and daughter Carrie Fisher linked by death

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Debbie Reynolds embodied the sunshine of postwar America on the screen as she matched steps with Gene Kelly in “Singin’ in the Rain.”

Carrie Fisher brought the sarcasm and cynicism of the Baby Boomers to her movies, books and stage shows, even when she was playing a princess in “Star Wars.”

The mother and daughter, separated by so many differences both personal and generational, are likely drawn closer in the public memory after their deaths on successive days.

Reynolds died on Wednesday at age 84, just as she and the rest of the world were starting to mourn her daughter Fisher, who died on Tuesday at 60, days after falling ill on a flight.

Even after a year of shocking and constant celebrity deaths, the one-two punch of Fisher and Reynolds brought a staggering finale to 2016.

Fans create impromptu Walk of Fame star for Carrie Fisher

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fans seeking to pay tribute to Carrie Fisher have created an impromptu star for the actress on Hollywood’s Walk of Fame.

Fisher fans took over a blank star on Hollywood Boulevard and used paste-on letters to spell out her name and the phrase “May the force be with you always.” Candles and flowers surround the star.

Fisher did not have an official star on the Walk of Fame, but administrators of the Los Angeles tourist attraction are allowing the tribute temporarily to give fans a place to mourn.

Walk of Fame stars are granted by a committee overseen by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce.

Celebrities must apply to be considered and be willing to pay a \$30,000 fee.

There has also been a run on Fisher’s books since the “Star Wars” actress and humorist died on Tuesday.

Reactions to the death of actress Debbie Reynolds Wednesday

Reaction to the death of actress Debbie Reynolds Wednesday at 84, a day after her daughter, Carrie Fisher, died:

— “Debbie Reynolds, a legend and my movie mom. I can’t believe this happened one day after Carrie. My heart goes out to Billie.” — Albert Brooks, on Twitter.

• “Debbie went to be with Carrie. She always worried about her. Carrie left too soon and now they are together again. My heart is literally broken.... An inspiration on every level. A Legend of course, the epitome of clean cut American optimism, dancing with Gene Kelly as an equal, a warrior woman who never stopped working.” — Actress Debra Messing, from a lengthy statement on Instagram. Reynolds played Messing’s mother on the TV show “Will and Grace.”

• “She was beautiful and generous. It seems like only yesterday she was having lunch here at the house and we were discussing the possibility of working together in a new show.” — Carol Channing.

• “I was blessed to work with this remarkable woman for 45 almost 50 years. That makes for a very rare bond and unique relationship. She was generous to a fault, never caring who got the laugh from the audience. I Will always love her.” — Rip Taylor, who worked with Reynolds for decades in her

Las Vegas stage show.

Russian plane crash probe rules out explosion

MOSCOW (AP) — Flight recorders revealed no evidence of an explosion on board a Russian plane that crashed, killing all 92 on board, but investigators haven’t ruled out a deliberate mechanical impact to down the plane, a military official said Thursday.

Russian air force Lt.Gen. Sergei Babinetov, who heads the Defense Ministry commission conducting the crash probe, said that a cockpit conversation recorder contained the captain’s words that indicated a “special situation” that began unfolding on board the plane.

Babinetov wouldn’t elaborate on what may have led to the crash, but noted that it likely had been caused by several factors.

The Tu-154 of the Russian Defense Ministry crashed into the sea early Sunday, moments after taking off in good weather from the city of Sochi. It was carrying members of the Alexandrov Ensemble, widely known as the Red Army Choir, to a New Year’s concert at a Russian military base in Syria.

Babinetov said that the plane crashed 70 seconds after takeoff from an altitude of 250 meters (820 feet) while it was traveling at a speed of 360-370 kilometers per hour (224-230 miles per hour).

What it means if Trump names China a currency manipulator

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump has vowed to name China a currency manipulator on his first day in the White House.

There’s only one problem — it’s not true anymore. China, the world’s second-biggest economy behind the United States, hasn’t been pushing down its currency to benefit Chinese exporters in years.

And even if it were, the law targeting manipulators requires the U.S. spend a year negotiating a solution before it can retaliate.

Trump spent much of the campaign blaming China’s for America’s economic woes. And it’s true that the U.S-China trade relationship is lopsided. China sells a lot more to the United States than it buys. The resulting trade deficit in goods amounted to a staggering \$289 billion through the first 10 months of 2016.

When China’s currency, the yuan, falls against the U.S. dollar, Chinese products become cheaper in the U.S. market and American products become more costly in China.

US senators: Russia should be sanctioned for election hacks

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. senators visiting eastern European allies to discuss security issues called for sanctions against Rus-

CLOSINGS

Continued from Page 1A

U.S. Federal offices including the entire VA Medical Center with the exclusion of the VAMC’s residential areas will be closed on Monday in observance of the holiday

College, public schools be-

tween semesters

Howard College will be open for business on Wednesday. For-san ISD students will get an early jump on the spring semester. Students return to class on Tuesday.

Big Spring and Coahoma students will have an extra week to lounge away before returning to class return a week later on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

sia for interfering in the presidential election by hacking American political sites and email accounts. Their demands came amid ongoing discussions among U.S. officials on an imminent response to alleged Russian meddling that would ensure the U.S. takes action before President-elect Donald Trump takes office.

“We have to sanction Russia for these cyberattacks (and) send a clear message to the incoming administration that there is a lot of bipartisan support in Congress for going after this,” Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., told The Associated Press by phone from Latvia.

Klobuchar joined Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., in their visits to Russian neighbors, the Baltic States, Ukraine, and Georgia as well as Montenegro.

Russian officials have denied the Obama administration’s accusation that the highest-levels of the Russian government were involved in trying to influence the U.S. presidential election. U.S. intelligence agencies concluded that Russia’s goal was to help Trump win — an assessment Trump has dismissed as ridiculous.

The Obama administration has said the U.S. will respond at a time and with a means of its choosing, and that all responses may not be publicly known.

Relations between Obama, Netanyahu camps hit rock bottom

HONOLULU (AP) — It took eight years of backbiting and pretending they got along for relations between President Barack Obama’s administration and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s government to finally hit rock bottom.

Though they’ve clashed bitterly before, mostly notably over Iran, the two governments seemed farther apart than ever after a speech Wednesday by Secretary of State John Kerry and last week’s United Nations resolution.

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Happy Holidays! These Financial Institutions will observe the following holiday hours: Citizens Federal Credit Union CLOSED SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 & MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND State National Bank CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND

# 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 Editorial Board 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

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MAYOR — Office: 267-2711.

• **JIM DEPAUW** — 263-0008.

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— Home: 267-8058.

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Work: 267-2501.

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• **CRAIG BAILEY** —  
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Home: 263-7158.

## This Christmas season was different

Around Thanksgiving time, I noticed parents of this Christmas season being different. I noticed it when people unbidden would wish me happy Thanksgiving. There seemed to be a note of exultance in their greeting. Not everyone would say "happy Thanksgiving," but enough did that it got me to wondering. Was this Thanksgiving different, and if so, would this Christmas be any different?



R. EMMETT TYRRELL

Over the years, extending wishes of a merry Christmas to someone has increasingly seemed vaguely confrontational, especially to a stranger. It is somewhat like holding the door for a woman. One holds the door and wonders, what comes next? A rebuke? A tip? A smile of gratitude?

The same goes for "merry Christmas." On occasion it opens one to hostility, and who has time for hostility? Better it is to wish an acquaintance — or even a non-acquaintance — with the ever popular and somewhat corporate "happy holidays." That way one could be including Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, New Year's and who knows, maybe even Halloween. Maybe there is an Islamic holiday that can be thrown in. I guess you could say that "happy holidays" is non-judgmental, even meaningless. Who could argue with making

a meaningless gesture at Christmastime? Even a sour atheist might applaud.

But as I have said, this year was different, and I noticed parents of it about the time we sat down to devour our Thanksgiving bird. People — even people on the street — seemed eager to wish me a happy Thanksgiving, and then came Christmas. People were exultant! The old greeting was back! "Merry Christmas," said whites to blacks and blacks to everyone. You know that black Americans are particularly Christian. I was wished "merry Christmas" by a black TSA guy, a taxi driver — everyone. Even a Pakistani, I think, wished me a merry Christmas.

I blame it all on President-elect Donald Trump. I stand with Hillary Clinton — wherever she has fled — John Podesta, the whole Democratic National Committee and all the other crybabies. Trump brought back "merry Christmas." But unlike the crybabies, I am thankful that he did. I think he started it during a campaign stop in Burlington, Iowa. "I'm a great Christian," he said to a roaring crowd. He added: "If I become president, they're going to be saying 'merry Christmas' at every store. ... You can leave 'happy holidays' at the door." Well, he is going to be president, and "merry Christmas" is no longer controversial.

Some of us in the hot-air business came to believe that the current administration has come to hate America. I think that on some level that is true. "Leading from behind" and deserting our allies are symptomatic. Presi-

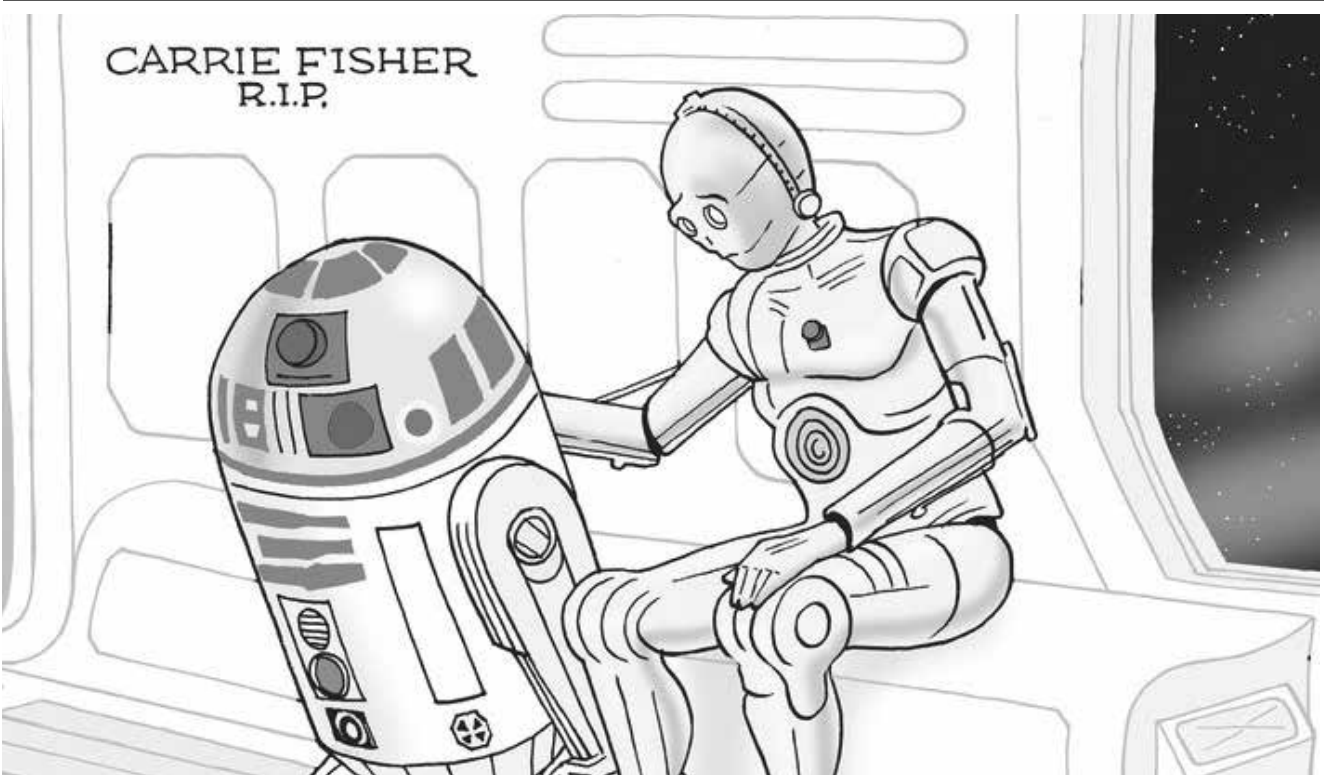
dent Barack Obama did that just last week. Adopting terms such as "happy holidays" and making "merry Christmas" a marginal term is another symptom. Recall, if you will, Michelle Obama saying that not until her husband's first presidential campaign did she feel proud of her country. I cannot think of another person who hopes to reside in the White House saying such a thing.

Now we have a very different kind of family setting up shop at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Already, Trump has changed the tenor of discussion not just on important things like our relations with Israel and our possible relations with Russia but on matters closer to home, such as the way we talk about what is a major holy day for the majority of the American people.

Christmas never should have become a celebration that all Americans could fail to acknowledge. If the anti-Americans were to eliminate Christmas, what would they put in its place? Black Friday? Is that a happy day?

*R. Emmett Tyrrell Jr. is founder and editor in chief of The American Spectator. He is a Senior Fellow at the London Center for Policy Research and the author most recently of "The Death of Liberalism," published by Thomas Nelson, Inc. To find out more about R. Emmett Tyrrell Jr. and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.*



## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at [newsdesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com).
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

## LETTER POLICIES

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

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

## DAILY PRAYER

When we trust in You, Lord, wonderful surprises come our way.

Amen.

## Trump's favorite targets are Republicans

Donald Trump has inspired so much fear among his Republican comrades that he no longer has to issue harsh tweets when they misbehave. They do it themselves.

Newt Gingrich was once himself revered as House speaker but has since become a Trump fawner. When Gingrich recently opined that Trump was no longer interested in "draining the swamp," the sky fell on him.

In a James Bond movie, an oaf like Gingrich would have been quickly eliminated in a baroque manner. But Gingrich fell on his belly and begged forgiveness.

"I goofed," he tweeted. "Draining the swamp is in, @realDonaldTrump is going to do it, and the alligators should be worried."

Evan McMullin, who ran as an independent in the 2016 election, issued a wry tweet on the groveling: "Newt is learning the public prostration required of authoritarian loyalists. The dear leader often changes his mind but he's always correct."

During the campaign, Trump famously slandered Sen. Ted Cruz. He implied Cruz's wife is ugly and accused his father of having helped assassinate John F. Kennedy. Then, in a startling display of total submission, Cruz endorsed Trump for president.

Trump has always taken a sadistic pleasure in humiliating those who disagree with him, and his favorite targets are frightened Republicans. He will be starting his administration with Republican majorities in both houses of Congress and wants obedience.

Trump has a team of enforcers ready to go after Republicans harboring stray thoughts. His hotheads are ready to issue dire threats against independent thinkers, with Breitbart amplifying the smears.

As campaign surrogates, both New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani disgraced themselves trying to cover for Trump's birther lies. Neither emerged with a job in the administration.

By contrast, Trump is quite accommodating to the New York financiers he's naming for key positions. The bankers and hedge funders may be into money, but they tend to be fairly liberal on social issues. Gary Cohn, No. 2 at Goldman Sachs and Trump's pick to head the National Economic Council, is a Democrat.

When JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon declined Trump's offer to head the Treasury Department, an unnamed Trump source let loose that the president-elect "doesn't respect him." Chances are Dimon could not care less, but note that Trump himself didn't make the negative remark. Note also that Dimon has since become a Trump business adviser.

As for his views on policy, Dimon has spoken positively of

a \$15-an-hour minimum wage for New York City. He just announced that Trump will not expel 11 million undocumented immigrants from the country, adding, "President-elect Trump is different from candidate Trump." And guess what. Not a peep of displeasure from Trump — and no abject apologies from Dimon, no apologies at all.

In Trump world, one treats financial titans with the utmost respect. He and they are in relationships likely to result in mutual profit.

Republican lawmakers under brutal surveillance must surely resent Trump's warm ties with a Democrat, incoming Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer. A fellow New Yorker, Schumer knows what Trump is all about, and Trump knows it. Besides, Wall Street is a hometown employer.

Schumer has offered loud support for Trump's proposed \$1 trillion infrastructure program. Conservatives are supposed to be against such big spending, but most Republicans will probably cave once "pressure" is applied.

But Schumer also announced he won't help Trump devise a shrunken version of Obamacare. Yet no threat has been hurled down from Trump Tower, only invitations.

Conservatives with spine will resist Trump's break with doctrine. The other Republicans will adopt a pose of servility. And they're the ones Trump will have fun with.

SPURS

Continued from Page 1B

"Yeah, we missed him for sure," Ginobili said. "I think we should have played much better anyway. The ball should have moved faster, but they are physical, strong, young (team)."

T.J. Warren led Phoenix with 23 points, going 10 for 10 on free throws. Brandon Knight added 14 points and Marquese Chriss and Eric Bledsoe each had 13.

The Spurs had trouble slowing the Suns, who are second in the league at 103.8 possessions per game and averaging 107.3 points.

"We're a fast-break team," Chriss said. "I think that is what our strengths are."

Although Anderson finished 0 for 6 from the field, San Antonio missed Leonard's defense more than his team-high 24.4 points per game.

Aldridge and Pau Gasol combined for 29 points in the opening half, but the Suns countered with 34 points in the paint. The Suns attacked the rim, earning 11 free throws against a Spurs defense that was allowing only 20 per game.

Phoenix limited Aldridge to three field goal attempts in the first 19 minutes. He finished the game 10 for 12 from the field and 7 for 9 on free throws.

"We're not surprised," Watson said. "LaMarcus has always been an All-Star in this league. He was my teammate in Portland. To me, he's the best power forward in the game."

TIP-INS

Suns: Phoenix is 1-5 in back-to-back games entering Thursday's home game against Toronto. ... The Suns' last win in San Antonio was Feb. 27, 2013, snapping the Spurs' 18-game winning streak at the AT&T Center in their first home game following their annual rodeo road trip.

Spurs: Leonard has missed four games in his career due to a stomach ailment. "He just couldn't keep anything down today," Popovich said. "So, he just stayed home." ... Anderson made his seventh start of the season, but his first at small forward. The 6-9 wing started six games at shooting guard in place of Danny Green to open the season.

IMPROVING

The development of rookie point guard Dejounte Murray allowed the Spurs to part ways with Nico Laprovittola.

Laprovittola, a 26-year-old rookie from Argentina, was waived Tuesday.

Murray is averaging just 2.2 points and 0.6 assists in 5.5 minutes with the Spurs, but has flourished in 11 games with the team's Development League affiliate. The rookie from Washington is averaging 15.8 points and 6.9 assists in 34.2 minutes with the Austin Spurs.

"With Dejounte, it's about minutes," Popovich said. "The more minutes he gets, the better (he will be). He'll still play some minutes in the D-League. I don't think it will do him much good just to sit on our bench the whole time. He needs to get repetitions with the pick-and-roll, making decisions on a fast break, all that sort of things."



AP photo

Texas A&M quarterback Trevor Knight (8) is tackled by Kansas State linebacker Charmeachealle Moore (52) during the first half of the Texas Bowl NCAA college football game, Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016, in Houston.

A&M

Continued from Page 1B

a 1-yard run with nine minutes left. Ertz set up the score with a 20-yard run two plays earlier.

"It was a case tonight where either we stopped (Ertz) or gave up the home run," Texas A&M coach Kevin Sumlin said. "Consistency level was an issue. We gave up the three big plays in the first half and couldn't get enough stops."

The Aggies (8-5) cut it to 33-28 on Josh Reynolds' 15-yard TD reception about a minute later.

Texas A&M attempted to convert a fourth-and-8 with about two minutes left, but Trevor Knight's pass was short, to give Kansas State the ball back and allow the Wildcats to run out the clock.

Reynolds had a Texas

Sumlin said. "Last year at this time he decided to come back, and I think it was worth it for him. I think he's improved as a route runner, he's got great hands. I think it was worth it coming back. He's increased his value."

Texas A&M got to 23-21 when Reynolds made a 4-yard touchdown catch with about seven minutes left in the third quarter. A 25-yard field goal by Ian Patterson extended Kansas State's lead to 26-21 with about three minutes remaining in the quarter. A highlight of that drive came on a 36-yard run John Silmon.

The Aggies took a 7-0 lead when Keith Ford scored on a 7-yard run on their first possession.

Kansas State tied it when Ertz connected with Byron Pringle and he dashed down the field for a 79-yard touchdown run later in the first quarter.

The Wildcats took the lead when Ertz stiff-armed Justin Evans on a 5-yard touchdown run early in the second quarter. But Myles Garrett blocked the extra point to make it 13-7.

A 3-yard reception by Ricky Seals-Jones put A&M back on top 14-13 soon after that. But Kansas State regained the lead with a 40-yard field goal before pushing the lead to 23-14 on a 52-yard run by Dominique Heath just before halftime.

COLORADO

Continued from Page 1B

12 selection with 1,209 yards this season. Rudolph passed for 315 yards per game and 25 touchdowns.

"We know we can compete at that level. If we made the jump this year I think we would have both been ready, but we also know just what college means to us," Rudolph said. "And we know the tremendous talent and opportunity we have next year coming back."

DEFENDING THE PASS

To stop Rudolph and Washington, Colorado brings a defense loaded with talent in the secondary.

Senior cornerback Chidobe Awuzie and senior safety Tedric Thompson were all-Pac-12 selections, and so was senior linebacker Jimmie Gilbert.

And calling the plays will be safeties coach Joe Tumpkin,

who gets those duties after coordinator Jim Leavitt left for Oregon.

"This is best back end that we faced all year," Gundy said. "They have range. They're long. They'll attack you. We've got a few receivers who can make some plays."

SETTLED WITH SEFO

Colorado's only two regular-season losses were without starting quarterback Sefo Liu-fau, who will be looking for a big game in his career finale. The senior has started 39 games and holds 98 school records, including 9,568 passing yards despite battling injuries the past two seasons.

GUNDY'S MULLET

The Oklahoma State coach introduced his '80s-style mullet haircut — short on top, long in back — at the Big 12 conference media days over the summer and has kept it since. The style has gone from the silly to sublime as it become a thing all

its own. It even has a Twitter hashtag: #gundymullet.

So, if the Cowboys win, will he cut it or keep it?

"I think I'll make that decision based on my 12-year-old's grades," Gundy said. "If he improves on his math classes, I'll cut it. Otherwise, I may antagonize him another month or two."

REMEMBERING RASHAAN SALAAM

Colorado had barely accepted its bowl bid when the former Buffaloes running back and 1994 Heisman Trophy winner was found dead in a park near the school on Dec. 5.

He was 42.

The Buffaloes will wear black helmet stickers with Salaam's initials and his No. 19 to honor him.

"He always had a great smile. He was very, very humble," MacIntyre said. "I really appreciate what he did for the CU program."

HOUSTON

Continued from 1B

defensive effort," Ollie said.

BIG PICTURE

Houston: Coach Kelvin Sampson is 7-3 all-time against the Huskies with wins over them while at Houston (3-1), Indiana (1-1) and Oklahoma (3-1).

UConn: The Huskies played with only seven scholarship players as starting point guard Jalen Adams (concussion) was out of the lineup. Adams suffered his injury last Friday against Auburn.

STAT OF THE NIGHT

Brimah led the AAC in blocks (3.0 per game) and UConn was tied for second with Temple in blocks (5.8), but they managed none against the Cougars. "Our rule today is we did an edit on just how many shots Brimah blocked," Sampson said. "I think I scared the bejesus out

of them from going in and shooting over him."

INSIDE OUT

The Cougars are the top team in the conference in 3-point shooting (.434), but relied on their inside game to beat the Huskies. Houston, which was just 5 for 20 on 3-pointers, held a 26-12 edge in points in the paint. UConn tied for its fewest points in the paint this season.

UP NEXT

Houston: The Cougars continue their road swing in the

AAC with a stop on Saturday at South Florida before returning home to host two straight.

UConn: The Huskies hit the road for their next two conference games, starting with Tulsa on Saturday.



AP photo

Houston's Danrad Knowles, left, and Galen Robinson Jr. celebrate in the first half of an NCAA college basketball game against Connecticut, Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016, in Hartford, Conn.

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# 18 BSHS band students head to Area UIL

## Special to the Herald

Eighteen Big Spring High School students will compete in UIL Area Band competition come January.

The students qualified for contest based on their performance at All-Region UIL band competition held in December in Midland.

Qualifying for area were: Gabriella Medina, flute; Odalys Vela, flute; Danielle Conner, oboe; Abbey Bryan,

Bb clarinet; Rose Carrizosa, Bb clarinet; Makaila Phillips, bass clarinet; Aiden Newton, bass clarinet; Joseph Doll, alto saxophone; Brandon Hilario, cornet/trumpet; Mateo Rodriugez, French horn; Robert Sotelo, tenor trombone; Marcos Haro, tenor trombone; Casey Shubert, bass trombone; Aaron Blackshear, euphonium; Adrian Wilbert, euphonium; Rocky Ramirez, euphonium; Luke Wood,

tuba; and Jeremy Gonzales, tuba.

Forty-three of the 69 BSHS band students competing in All-Region were chosen for one of three All-Region bands. Results are as follows:

### Honor Band

Danielle Conner, Abbey Bryan, Rose Carrizosa, Mateo Rodriguez, Robert Sotelo, Casey Shubert and Aaron Blackshear,

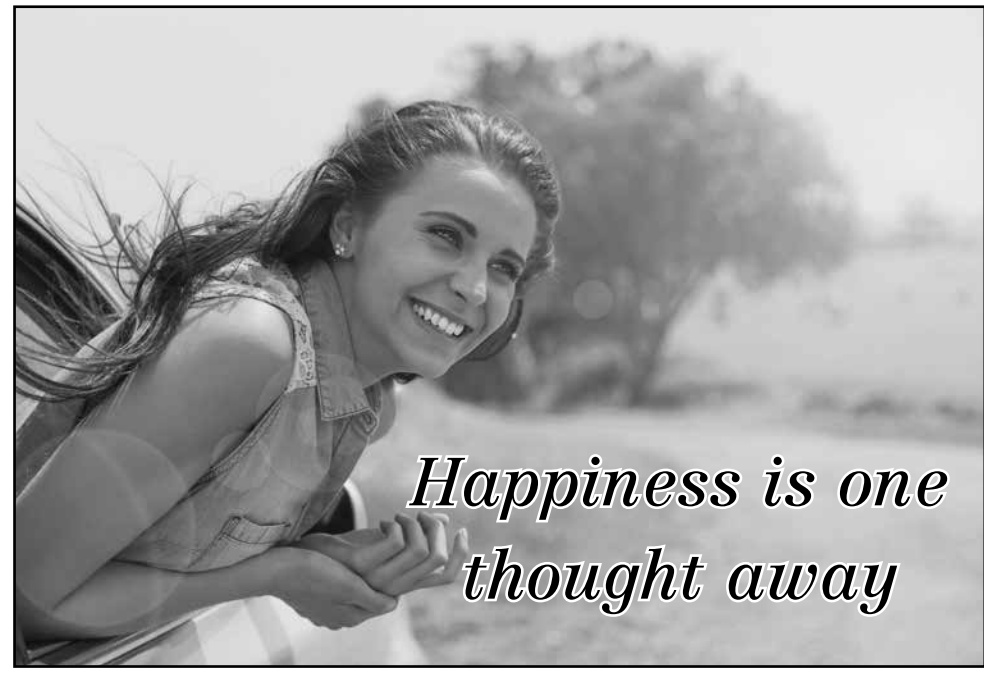
### Honor Concert Band

Yuliza Cervantes, Rowan Colette, Alexis Mojica, Brian Carroll, Jayden Torres, Mariah Chavaria, Aiden Newton, Briana Rangel, Madison Kuykendall, Caleb Boyd, HALEYNA Davidson, Jessica Reyes, Mason Kirby, Zachary Whitehead, Kenra Thibeault, Tomas Tino, Gia Ortega, Destiny Robles, Jer-

emy Gonzales, and Kendrick Kennemur.

### Symphonic Band

Gabriella Medina, Odalys Vela, Caitlin Aaron, Karleigh Moore, Casandra Sossan, Makaila Phillips, Joseph Doll, Michael Reyes, Brandon Hilario, Carlos Correa, Francisco Zermeno, Hannah Valencia, Marcos Haro, Adrian Wilbert, Rocky Ramirez, and Luke Wood,



## Parent's Corner

It is so neat to hear the words, "Happy New Year", but I wonder if we really understand the meaning of what is real happiness? I believe that being happy is really a choice we make, but it doesn't always seem to be that straightforward.

Within each of these are two worlds. One leads to a happy life and the other to a life of frustration, despair, and misery. These two



DARRELL RYAN

worlds are the inner world and the outer world. The inner world is made up of our thoughts and feelings. The outer world is made of all the things that we can see, hear, touch, smell, and taste. The outer world is the manifestation of the inner world. Everything in the outer world is only a symbol representing something in the inner world. Let's think of life as a film; the drama, excitement and stories that unfurl before our eyes on the screen.

The screen however is only where the projection from the projector or video or DVD is displayed. In the same way everything in our life is created from our thoughts, feelings and beliefs. If the wrong film is playing on the screen, we would not start trying to make

changes to the screen. We would change the video or DVD.

Yet in life we continually try to change the outer world. When we feel unhappy we try to buy new things or change things or the people around us. This rarely works for long because our feelings are created, not by things around us, but by our thoughts, our perception of what is happening around us.

Our feelings are from our inner world and the things that we see and hear are from our outer world. The solution to achieving a happy life is so simple that we have difficulty understanding or believing it. We must realize that happiness comes from feelings, not from the things around us.

We want it; we strive for it; we envy others who have it. We can see it just beyond the horizon. Yet, how many people do you know who "have everything" and still yearn for true happiness?

The kind of happiness that comes from within and is not based on status, position, wealth, or possessions.

Happiness is a natural resource that is readily available to all. It is genetically influenced, but it is not genetically fixed.

If we really want to be happier we must learn the kinds of things we can do, on a day by day basis, to prepare for happiness. We know we cannot change the events in our lives, but we can change our re-

sponse to those events, which will change the outcome for us.

We must supply our inner feelings with thoughts that make us happy, and we must not allow outside influences to drag us down. Happy people do what they enjoy and enjoy what they do, and don't do it for the money or glory.

There's no point being stuck in a job you hate, surrounded by unfriendly colleagues just because the money is good. People forget that they are allowed to be happy at work, too. Many spend the best years of their lives trying to make money, sacrificing their health and family in the process. Later, they spend the same money they made working trying to recover their lost health and estranged family.

Don't dwell on the past, on things that went wrong or previous failures. Similarly, don't dream about some idealistic future that doesn't exist, or worry about what hasn't happened yet. Happy people live for the now; they have positive mind sets.

If you can't be happy today, what makes you think tomorrow will be different?

Therefore may we fill lives with things that make us happy where happiness will be a choice. Have a happy 2017.

Darrell Ryan is the Big Spring ISD director of school safety.

## HSWCD poster contest

The Howard Soil & Water Conservation District is sponsoring its annual poster and essay contests.

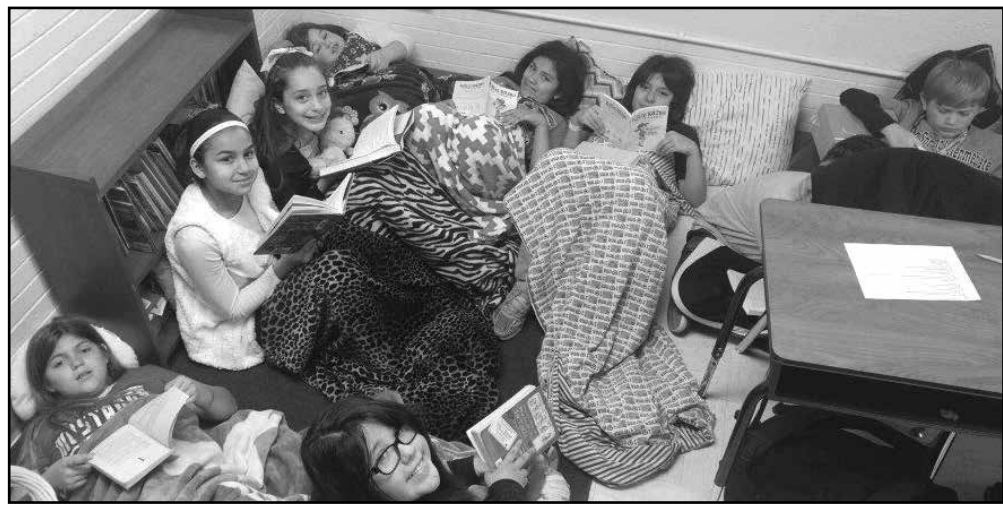
This year's contest theme is "We All Need Trees".

Winners are invited to a banquet in their honor. The top two winners will be sent on to area and state competitions.

Deadline for the contests is Feb. 1, 2017. For further information contact, Judy Tereletsky at 432-267-1871, Ext 3 or by e-mailing Judith.Tereletsky@tx.nacdnet.net.



## Steer Pride Corner



Courtesy photo

Mrs. Flores' fifth grade students participated in Big Spring Intermediate School's D.E.A.R. (drop everything and read) program. Pictured from left are Kaylie Herrod, Destiny Hodnett, Elena Mia Saracho, Kirah Perez, Miranda Gomez, Felicia Adames, Leila Franco, and Kaegan Baker.

BSI council members worked the concession stand at the sixth grade Winter Wonderland Dance. More than 200 sixth graders earned the opportunity to attend the dance through quality attendance, grades, behavior, and checkpoint scores.



Miranda Gomez, Isaiah Diaz, and Kaiden Roberts. Pictured are Analisa De Los Santos, Taylor Partlow,

Howard County Junior College District	
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION	
Year Ended August 31,	
	2016
<b>REVENUES</b>	
Operating revenues	
Tuition and fees (net of discounts of \$4,475,835)	\$ 4,292,218
Federal grants and contracts	2,357,836
State grants and contracts	578,286
Local grants and contracts	109,508
Nongovernmental grants and contracts	1,040,986
Sales and services of educational activities	395,734
Auxiliary enterprises (net of discounts of \$1,114,483)	283,544
Other operating revenues	458,077
Total operating revenues	<u>9,516,189</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Operating expenses	
Instruction	9,432,059
Public service	1,141,805
Academic support	2,371,376
Student services	2,202,443
Institutional support	5,775,815
Operation and maintenance of plant	3,336,764
Scholarships and fellowships	1,953,506
Auxiliary enterprises	2,094,071
Depreciation	2,410,108
Total operating expenses	<u>30,717,947</u>
Operating loss	(21,201,758)
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>	
State appropriations	12,985,476
Property taxes for operations	6,798,219
Property taxes for debt service	1,673,612
Payments in lieu of taxes	152,542
Federal revenue, non operating	3,785,222
Investment income (net of investment expenses)	37,081
Interest on capital related debt	(1,234,696)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(420,295)
Other non-operating revenues	1,102,261
Net non-operating revenues	<u>24,879,422</u>
Income before other revenue	3,677,664
Other revenue	
Capital contributions	375,154
Increase in net position	4,052,818
Net position – beginning of year	<u>39,383,358</u>
Net position – end of year	<u>\$ 43,436,176</u>



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## KIDS' KORNER



## HIDDEN PICTURE



Find these hidden items in the big picture.

## Riddle



Q: What animal lets everyone into a locked zoo?

A: Donkeys (or monkeys)

## Holidays Around the World

As the year comes to an end, almost all of the major religions have a festival of some sort. For the Christians, it is Christmas. For the Jews, it is Hanukkah. Muslims have Ramadan, and the Buddhists celebrate Bodhi Day. Hindus celebrate Diwali in October, and many Asian cultures celebrate the New Year. What are all these holidays, though?



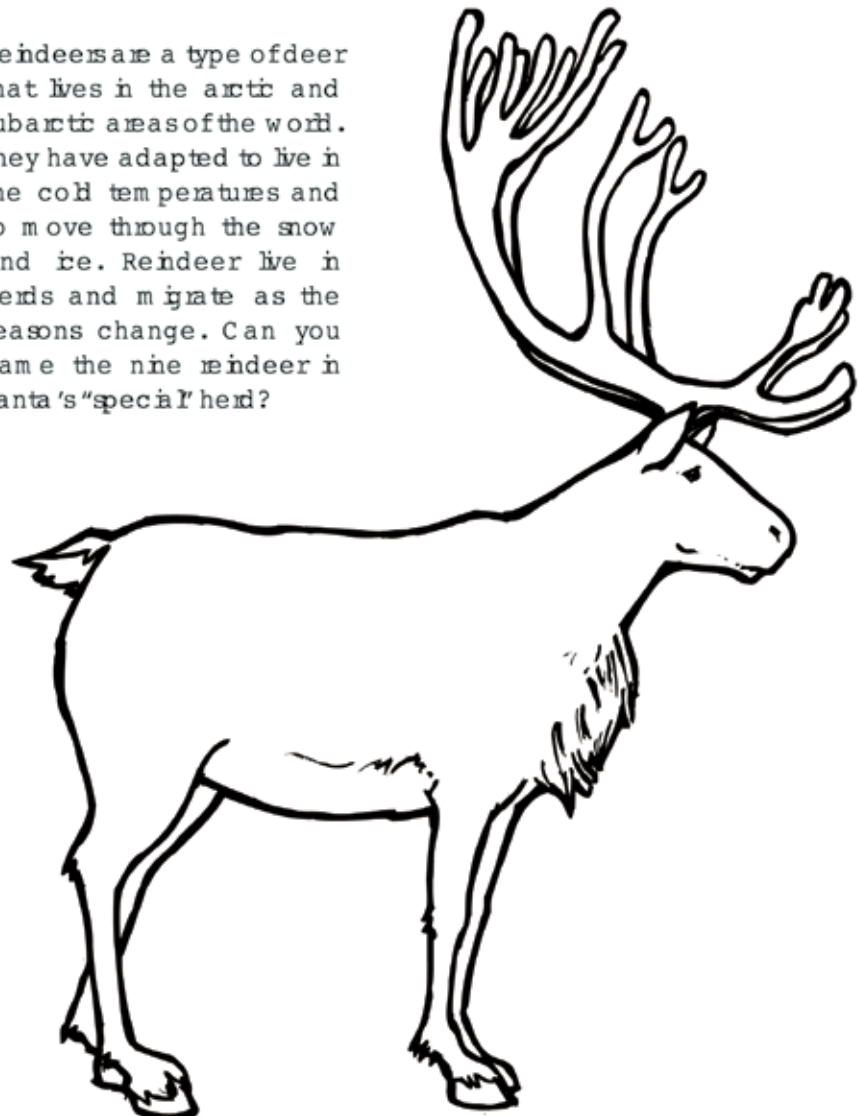
In the Christian faith, Jesus came to save the world from sin. On December 25, Christians celebrate Jesus' birthday. Hanukkah is the Jewish celebration of past victories, both military and religious. The symbol of Hanukkah is the menorah, a candlestick that holds eight candles (plus another to light the others), because when the Jewish people won their freedom, they lit the menorah with one day's worth of oil. That oil lasted for eight days. That is why Hanukkah is an eight-day celebration.

Ramadan is a month of fasting to remember the arrival of the Quran, or the holy book of the Muslims. Muslims do not eat or drink during daylight during the month of Ramadan. This month is spent in prayer and holiness. At the end of the month of reflection, the Muslims have a three-day feast to break their fast. Bodhi Day is how the Buddhists celebrate the spiritual enlightenment achieved by Buddha. In Buddhism, everyone strives to be in tune with the world, so they celebrate the day that their great teacher achieved this.

Diwali is the Hindu Festival of Lights. This festival is celebrated around the New Year on the Indian calendar and remembers the victory of good over evil. Diwali is usually marked by large numbers of firecrackers, new clothing and sweets. Most Asian cultures make their major end-of-year holiday the celebration of the New Year. For them, the New Year is a chance to bring family together and celebrate with good food, firecrackers, parades, and dragon and lion dances. Now you know more about holidays around the world.

## Color The Picture

Reindeers are a type of deer that lives in the arctic and subarctic areas of the world. They have adapted to live in the cold temperatures and to move through the snow and ice. Reindeer live in herds and migrate as the seasons change. Can you name the nine reindeer in Santa's "special" herd?



## Where in the World?

North Pole



Santa Claus lives at the North Pole. The North Pole is the farthest place north that anyone can go. No matter where Santa goes when he leaves his house, he is heading south.

## Learn To Play Dreidel



Dreidel is a popular Hanukkah game. To play, all you need to do is purchase a dreidel and give each player 20 stones, M&Ms or coins. Before you play, you first need to know the letters. The Hebrew letter "SH" is Shin, and if that side lands up, you have to put in two stones. The next letter is Hay and is marked with an "H." This letter stands for half. If the dreidel lands on Hay, you take half of the pieces in the middle. If the number is odd, you take half plus one. The next letter, marked with a "G" is Gimmel, which means that you would take everything from the middle. The final letter is Nun, which means you do nothing. Now you are ready to spin the dreidel!

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

Uranus Direct

For the last five months, Uranus, the planet of surprise and rebellion, has traveled retrograde. Benefits included: greater self-control; suppression of urges; observation of decorum; openness to criticism; and even application of said criticism! Uranus goes direct today to suggest a less-constrained process. What works now will be more along the lines of: Feel it; say it; do it.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** In a way, you're selling something -- an idea, product or your vision of the future. Your ideal "customer" will already be a little interested in what you're presenting before you even get there.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** The forefathers of the structures of society are often taken for granted by those too young or ignorant to understand the personal sacrifices made by those who have come before. Contrastingly, you're aware. Point it out.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Recipe for the day: Reach your hand out and say hello. It's the start of something beautiful. Next, mention what you want. Keep moving until you find the one who can help you.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Don't assume that all are as moral as you. Guard your place in a deal. Get your name on record and everything down on paper. You can be a nice person and still stand up for yourself.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You have a lot to give, but will they really appreciate it if they get it all at once? What about if you built a sense of scarcity around what you're offering? Use human nature to your advantage.

**VIRGO (Aug.**

Tomorrow's Horoscope

**23-Sept. 22).** Your energetic investments will pay off nicely. As for your financial ones, consider putting your energy there first. Money usually represents past energy expenditures, which can be a little too removed to fully feel.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You'll influence others, but more importantly, you'll comply with self-directions. To follow your own instructions is no small deal; in fact it's the magic ticket and the key to getting what you want.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Like a computer programmer, it's on you to fix a bug in your life. Don't procrastinate! Procrastination leads to guilt, which leads to more procrastination. It's exhausting. Now is the moment. Fix it. Go.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You're better today than you were yesterday. If you can continue to say this every day, the improvement you are wishing for will come together early next year.

**CAPRICORN**

**(Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Follow your opportunities, not your passion. Yes, the two will converge at some point -- not yet. Your opportunities will take you somewhere; your passion will leave you alone in a room.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** If you don't exactly love the plan your friends are coming up with, make your own. You want to add to the good times, but you won't be able to unless your heart is in it.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You are used to seeing a certain person as very powerful. You may be surprised by how vulnerable this person really is. Lead with your natural empathy and you'll get to the truth of the matter.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 29).** You'll be busy in the first part of this solar return -- no letting up in the second quarter! Your success formula includes paring down. A skeleton crew will get it done. Your tremendous self-control and persistence will be rewarded by a goal reached in September.

Relationships thrive; take pictures, and write things down. Pisces and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 20, 33, 16 and 19.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "What is the best way to deal with a Sagittarian 3-year-old girl who throws at least one tantrum a day? I'm at my wit's end. I've tried reasoning with her (futile) and putting her in time out, which doesn't work. Neither does a spanking or taking away privileges. I'm a Leo."

You're both fire signs, with passion that has many modes of expression. This intensity of feeling can be channeled into creativity, projects and affection. It can also be channeled into frustration, jealousy and a bad temper. The fuel for this passion is attention. As a Leo you understand very well how another person's eyeballs can signal you to keep performing. It's the same with your energetic little fire sign. The more attention you place on her tantrums, the longer she'll carry on. Try

withdrawing and doing basically nothing to discourage or encourage her. If you can leave the room or at least keep a distance between you and remain nonreactive, you just may find that she works through her feelings rather quickly. Do not engage her until her anger turns to sadness. That's when she'll accept your comfort, which will help her return to her usual sweet self.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** The ever-fresh talents of Ted Danson have graced the world of film and television for four decades. He combines his Capricorn confidence and swagger with the show-business savvy of his moon and Saturn in Leo. He proves his superstar comedic timing playing himself in the television series "Curb Your Enthusiasm" and in the role of George Christopher in the HBO comedy "Bored to Death."

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit [www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis](http://www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis) and click "Contact." COPYRIGHT 2016 CREATORS.COM

Annie's Mailbox

Roommates Clash

**Dear Annie:** I live with four other people in a big old house outside Boston. Two of the roommates are a couple, "Jeremy" and "Rachel." Rachel is a very close friend of mine and has been for about 10 years, ever since we met in college. She and Jeremy live downstairs, while the other three of us live upstairs.

Jeremy and Rachel have been together for three years, and I liked Jeremy fine -- until we moved in together. The past year has been a war. He and I started butting heads pretty much immediately. He kept using my condiments and leaving my TV on. (I keep it in the living room downstairs.) I had to tell him to stop several times before he finally did.

Well, things really came to a head yesterday. I was about a month late paying him my portion of the heating bill, and he texted me to ask for it. I told him I would have it to him when I get paid this week. He said, "What about the money Rachel lent

you last month?"

I lost my cool and told him it wasn't his money or his business. He immediately wrote back, "Whoa, whoa, OK, Friday is fine. Pay me back whenever." But it was too late for him to try to backtrack, and I let him have a piece of my mind. I told him to go to hell or at the very least get out of our house. I may have used even more colorful language than that. I was just so floored by his rudeness.

Now Rachel says she's angry with both of us for handling ourselves the way we did. She says she knows that Jeremy can be annoying, but she's hurt that I would act so hatefully toward her boyfriend. He's trying

to find a place to stay temporarily because I told him I don't want him living here.

I am not apologizing. I am the one who has been wronged here. Right? -- Mad in Massachusetts

Dear Mad: No matter how bad you think Jeremy is, cursing him out just made you worse.

Let's review Morality 101: Two wrongs don't make a right; they just make a mess. And your friend, by the way, is in the middle of that mess. Apologize to Jeremy for the outburst, but let him know that you do have some valid concerns about living with him. Find a way to tolerate each other, at least until the lease is up. There is enough

drama in the world without friends tearing each other apart over condiments and heating bills.

**Dear Annie:** Usually, I agree with and appreciate your advice. I'm sure you have to edit a lot of the letters you receive and we don't get all the information. This time, though, based on the information we got, I don't understand your advice.

When a couple are having a heart-to-heart conversation about a problem in their marriage, why would you encourage them to be anything less than honest with each other? You want "Mumma" to tell "Bill" to stop calling her names. It sounds to us as if he was honestly

answering a yes-or-no question when she asked him whether the reason for his wandering eye is that she is fat. She knew it. He acknowledged it. They got to the root of the problem. Are you advocating that he lie to her?

Overall, good job. I enjoy your column. But sometimes you are too quick to side with your readers.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com). To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker  
It happened in Dead Man's Gulch

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠9 5  
♥8 6  
♦A Q J 10 9 4 2  
♣3 2

**WEST**  
♠Q 7 4  
♥Q J 10 5 3  
♦6 3  
♣7 6 4

**EAST**  
♠J 10 8 6 2  
♥9 4 2  
♦K 8  
♣9 8 5

**SOUTH**  
♠A K 3  
♥A K 7  
♦7 5  
♣A K Q J 10

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2♣ Pass 3♦ Pass  
4NT Pass 4♦ Pass  
6NT

Opening lead — queen of hearts.

**It happened** in Dead Man's Gulch many years ago. Twelve good men and true listened attentively to the evidence. It seems that East — in a fit of rage in the middle of a hand — suddenly pulled out his six-shooter and let his partner have it. East was promptly hauled into court before judge and jury and tried for murder.

**The facts were not disputed.** The defendant (East) told his story, which was confirmed by the two other surviving players as well as two kib-

itzers.

**It was agreed that South** got to six notrump as shown. The fact that six diamonds was laydown was not even discussed. The district attorney obviously thought this was irrelevant.

**The deceased** led the queen of hearts. Declarer won with the king and saw that he could not make the slam without making use of dummy's diamonds. So he led a diamond and finessed the queen.

**The defendant smoothly played** the eight, and dummy's queen won the trick! East had come to the conclusion that he could not defeat the contract unless South could be induced to take another diamond finesse, in which case dummy's diamonds would become useless.

**It is impossible** to state definitively whether East's ingenious play would have succeeded. After the diamond queen held, South cashed five club tricks. The deceased followed to three rounds of clubs, next discarded a heart and then — a diamond!

**South immediately** led a diamond, but even before he could play the ace and catch East's king, three shots rang out.

**If you were in the jury box** and had to cast a ballot, how would you vote? Guilty? Or would you say it was justifiable homicide?

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.  
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sudoku

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

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

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

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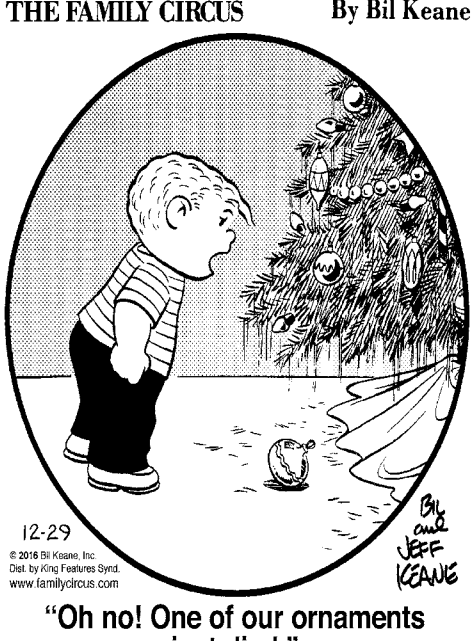
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Local 2	Hotel	The List	News	Tele	News	Yohanan	Mind	Mama's	American	People of	Bones	Football: Belk Bowl -- Arkansas vs. Virginia Tech.	Women's College Basketball	Sooner Cowboys	Town, Jon Hamm	The First 48	Street Out-laws
6:PM	ABC	Notic.	Mod Fam	CBS	Noticiero	News	Messiah	Business	Mama's	American	People of	Bones	College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl -- Oklahoma State vs. Colorado.	College Basketball	Stars Pre. NHL Hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars.	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart	The First 48	Street Out-laws
7:PM	Jeopardy!	Noche de Estrellas	Big Bang	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Rik	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	People of	Bones	College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl -- Oklahoma State vs. Colorado.	College Basketball	Stars Pre. NHL Hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars.	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart	The First 48	Street Out-laws
8:PM	Wheel	Baking Show	Hell's Kitchen (DVS)	Big Bang	ET	News	Rocks	Arts in Exile	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Wrecked	Bones	College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl -- Oklahoma State vs. Colorado.	College Basketball	Stars Pre. NHL Hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars.	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart	The First 48	Street Out-laws
9:PM	House	Latin Grammy 2016	Hell's Kitchen (DVS)	Big Bang	ET	News	Rocks	Arts in Exile	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Wrecked	Bones	College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl -- Oklahoma State vs. Colorado.	College Basketball	Stars Pre. NHL Hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars.	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart	The First 48	Street Out-laws
10:PM	Speech	Mod Fam	News	News	Tele	News	J. McGee	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Wrecked	Bones	College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl -- Oklahoma State vs. Colorado.	College Basketball	Stars Pre. NHL Hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars.	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart	The First 48	Street Out-laws
11:PM	Fresh	Mod Fam	News	News	Tele	News	J. McGee	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Wrecked	Bones	College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl -- Oklahoma State vs. Colorado.	College Basketball	Stars Pre. NHL Hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars.	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart	The First 48	Street Out-laws
12:AM	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	News	Tele	News	J. McGee	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Wrecked	Bones	College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl -- Oklahoma State vs. Colorado.	College Basketball	Stars Pre. NHL Hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars.	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart	The First 48	Street Out-laws
1:AM	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	News	Tele	News	J. McGee	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Wrecked	Bones	College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl -- Oklahoma State vs. Colorado.	College Basketball	Stars Pre. NHL Hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars.	Movie: The Dark Knight, Aaron Eckhart	The First 48	Street Out-laws

**DENNIS THE MENACE**



"I SAID...I'M WASHIN' DAD'S BOWLING BALL!"

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**



"Oh no! One of our ornaments just died."

**HAGAR**



**BLONDIE**



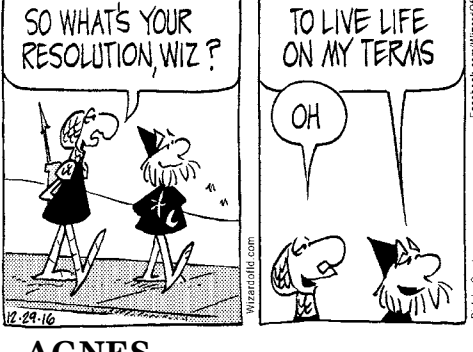
**BC**



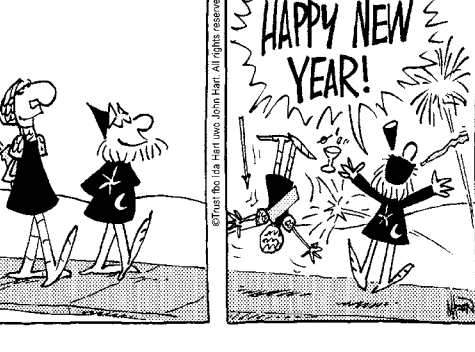
**WIZARD OF ID**



**AGNES**



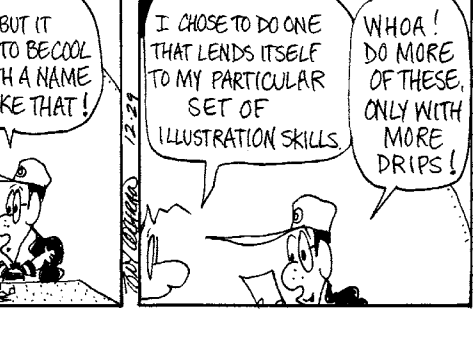
**HI AND LOIS**



**THE OTHER COAST**



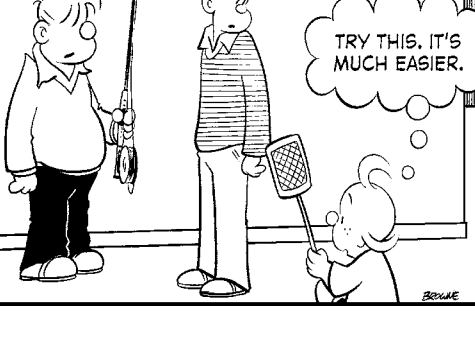
**SNUFFY SMITH**



**BEEBLE BAILEY**



**GREGMOTZ WALKER**



**This Date In History**

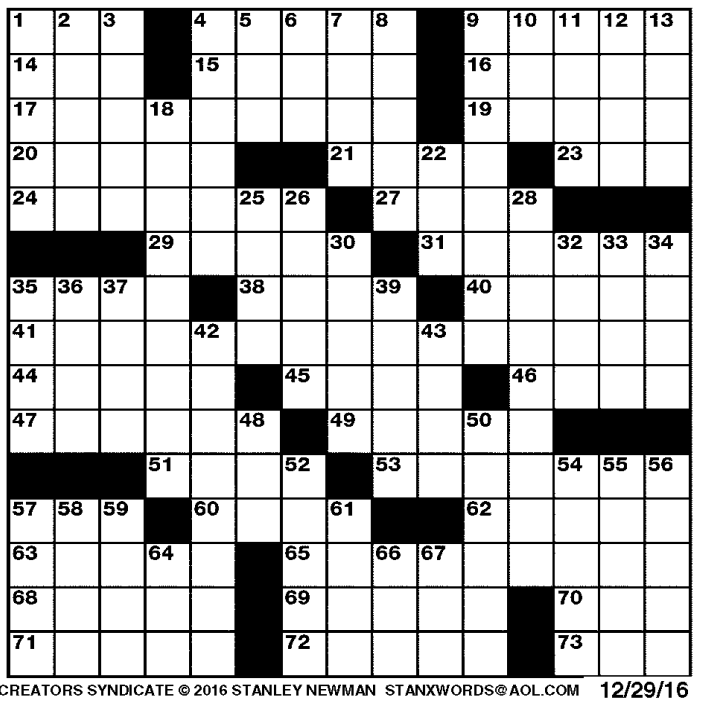
Germany dropped incendiary bombs on London, setting off what came to be known as "The Second Great Fire of London."  
 In 1957, singers Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme were married in Las Vegas.  
 In 1972, Eastern Air Lines Flight 401, a Lockheed L-1011 Tristar, crashed into the Florida Everglades near Miami International Airport, killing 101 of the 176 people aboard.  
 In 1975, a bomb exploded in the main terminal of New York's LaGuardia Airport, killing 11 people (it's never been determined who was responsible).  
 In 1986, former British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan died in Sussex, England, at age 92.  
 In 1996, guerrilla and government leaders in Guatemala signed an accord ending 36 years of civil conflict. North Korea issued an unprecedented apology for sending a spy submarine into South Korean waters.  
 Ten years ago: Word reached the United States of the execution of former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein (because of the time difference, it was the morning of Dec. 30 in Iraq when the hanging took place). In a statement, President George W. Bush called Saddam's execution an important milestone on Iraq's road to democracy. Gerald R. Ford's

**Answer to previous puzzle**

CURDS BATS PORK  
 ONEUP AMMO ALAN  
 GOFORASPIN RICE  
 LIVES SHOVEL  
 SLOTTED ALERT  
 TONIER TATTER  
 EDENS PARIS THE  
 EGGY MAXIM SWAN  
 LEO BARED STILT  
 OPENED TOUSLE  
 DUDES GRUNTER  
 ESTATE SLAP  
 PAUL BICEPSCURL  
 OGRE ANON OUTIE  
 TEND YAWN NEEDS

**Newsday Crossword**

- ACROSS**
- 1 [Uncorrected by me]
  - 4 Tishy
  - 9 Totally wreck
  - 14 Browser's bookmark
  - 15 Honshu port
  - 16 "Anybody home?"
  - 17 Plymouth (1620)
  - 19 What some inboxes hold
  - 20 Nullified
  - 21 Org. offering pocket
  - 23 Security threat
  - 24 Polish dumplings
  - 27 Cowpoke's polite assent
  - 29 Far from polite
  - 31 Duke University locale
  - 35 "\_\_\_ that something?"
  - 38 Barn neighbor, perhaps
  - 40 Peak performance
  - 41 Paris (1927)
  - 44 Erstwhile Atlantic crosser
  - 45 Glittery piece in Pueblo pottery
  - 46 Henry Ford contemporary
  - 47 Audio interference
  - 49 Unvarnished
  - 51 Delineate deeply
  - 53 Family Circle rival
  - 57 Jolt with volts
  - 60 Rush order
  - 62 Hawaiian peak
  - 63 Pile on praise for
  - 65 Mars (1997)
  - 68 Woman in Dilbert
- DOWN**
- 1 Put in a nutshell
  - 2 Turk neighbor
  - 3 Glasgow's river
  - 4 Betrayed to Mom, perhaps
  - 5 "Equal" starter
  - 6 Yawning chasm
  - 7 Chain selling Swedish meatballs
  - 8 Pride and Prejudice guy
  - 9 Unchanging order
  - 10 Sleep-cycle acronym
  - 11 Old-school lament
  - 12 Receipt
  - 13 Worthy of worship
  - 18 Superlative
  - 22 Took the initiative
  - 25 General meaning
  - 26 Nonliteral expression
  - 28 Hershey peanut product
  - 30 Spritlike
  - 32 Heist's collection
  - 33 Ringed by
  - 34 Sorry state
  - 35 19 Across offerers, for short
  - 36 Small scrape
  - 37 Lander of 1492
  - 39 Dorian's creator
  - 42 Does an impression of
  - 43 Point of view, so to speak
  - 48 Medicine measures
  - 50 Tenzing's partner in climbing
  - 52 Gate closers
  - 54 Light weight
  - 55 1300
  - 56 Goldsmith's measure
  - 57 High enthusiasm
  - 58 Shopping cart part
  - 59 Annoying inconvenience
  - 61 Ruminant (over)
  - 64 Type of TV display
  - 66 Vise gripper
  - 67 Be liable





Courtesy photo/ Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Teacher appreciation night was held during the Big Spring High School men's baseball game vs. Seminole Friday, Dec. 16



Courtesy photo/Big Spring ISD

Shonda Folsom, Rotary service chair, and Emily McCann, president of the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club, along with BSI Principal Patsy Sanchez and BSI Vice Principal Nicole Woodard present fifth grader Zuleimy Castillo and sixth grader Daisy Partlow Hererra with a water park pass for having perfect attendance for the first semester.



Courtesy photo/ BSISD

Washington Elementary Perfect Attendance bike winners are Serenity Martinez, pictured at top, right, and Damien Moore, top, left. The bikes were donated by the Greater Big Spring Rotary. Pictured with the scholars are members of the Big Spring Rotary.



## Meal prices to increase at BSISD

### Special to the Herald

The Big Spring Independent School District will be increasing the price of a student lunch from \$2.70 per meal to \$2.80 cents per meal.

The increase is in response to a Texas Department of Agriculture

mandated minimum student lunch price of \$2.78. The minimum price was rounded up to \$2.80 to simplify change making and thereby expedite lunch delivery procedures. The \$2.80 student lunch price will begin on Monday, Jan. 9, 2017.

## AC student receives degree from mother at Memorial

Most college graduates walk the stadium stage, but not Jeffrey Athey.

He wanted to "walk across the stage" at Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital's Bomar Rehabilitation Center, so his mother, Cheryl Athey, could witness his graduation from Angelina College with his associate's degree.

She is a patient at Bomar because of inoperable brain aneurysms, but Jeffrey's graduation was just what was needed to bring good cheer for the holidays.

As with all graduation ceremonies, his commencement began with Pomp and Circumstance playing. He marched through the Bomar activity room toward his mother and she handed him his diploma as Toyia Urbaniak, Bomar program director, announced Jeffrey's name and degree. The audience included Jeffrey's father, Fred Athey, and Memorial Health team members, some of whom have known Cheryl

Athey for years as a kindergarten teacher at SFA Charter School.

She taught Bomar Rehab's intern, Chasity Mooney in the late 1990s. She helped orchestrate the graduation ceremony, but she wasn't the only one in the room who had been touched by the teacher's kind hand. Memorial dietician Vanessa Hooper said that all four of her children were privileged to spend their kindergarten years with her.

"Mrs. Athey built the foundation for my education and was always so comforting and strong at the same time," Mooney said.

Cheryl Athey reportedly keeps up with her former students on Facebook, and always shares positive words and encouragement on their accomplishments and achievements.

Jeffrey seems to have learned one of his mom's most important lessons — achievements are better when shared with loved ones.

# 'Tis the Season

The leaves are falling, signaling the start of fall home improvement season. Prepare for it now. Consult the pros at these businesses to make your home shine this fall.

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