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HERALD

BIG SPRING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2017



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Local heroes honored at Legends & Legacies



Robert Ragan, center, was inducted into the Heritage Museum of Big Spring's Cowboy/Cowgirl Hall of Fame Tuesday evening at the Legends and Legacies 2017 event. Here, Ragan displays a framed photo of himself provided by the museum, along with his wife Charlene.

By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer

More than 200 people crowded into – and around – the pavilion at the Heritage Museum of Big Spring Tuesday evening for good food, to honor some local legends, and to raise the funds needed to keep the museum operating.

The event was the museum's annual "Legends and Legacies" bash.

"We're having a great time out here," said Heritage Museum Director Tammy Schreengost during the gala. "We have over 215 people that have attended. It's a huge success. We've had a successful auction, and



Carroll Choate of Big Spring, right, poses with wife Joyce after being inducted into the Heritage Museum of Big Spring's Cowboy/Cowgirl Hall of Fame Tuesday evening at the Legends and Legacies 2017 event.

HERALD photo/Roger Cline

we're about to make a presentation to the Cowboy and Cowgirl Hall of Fame winners, and right now Jody Nix is playing to honor those who helped build the West."

The central item of business at Legends and Legacies each year is the induction of new honorees into the museum's Cowboy/Cowgirl Hall of Fame. This year was no different, as two living legends and four that have passed on were recognized by the museum.

"It's an extreme

See **LEGENDS**, Page 3

City Council approves purchase of vintage airplanes

By ROBERT BARLOW
 Staff Writer

The city council gave the go-ahead to the airpark for a \$426,000 purchase of three planes on display at the Hangar 25 Air Museum that were on temporary loan from a benefactor.

During the meeting held Tuesday evening, the city council heard from Airpark Director Jim Little who asked the court for approval to purchase three planes that have been on display at the Hangar 25 Air Museum for the last 14 years.



Little

"In our last meeting, our city council directed us to take a look at the airplanes and negotiate a price for the airplanes," said Little. "The planes represent the essence of the Hangar 25 Air Museum. If they are lost then a good part of that history is lost with it."

The three planes are the T33, T28, T11, which were on loan to the museum from a benefactor for the last 14 years. However recently the benefactor alerted the museum that he was planning on selling some of his planes, including the ones on display.

At a previous meeting, Little proposed that the city look into purchasing the planes and the benefactor offered the city first chance to buy them.

"I think it would be a major loss if we do lose them at this point in time," Little said. "We do have approval from both TxDOT Aviation and the FAA to use the revenue that we're getting from the oil drilling that is taking place under the airport."

The council unanimously approved the motion to allow the airpark to spend \$426,000 out of their budget on the group of vintage airplanes. In other news, some council members had differing opinions on the approval of a bid for the roofing repair work that needed to be done on the Potton House following some hail damage. Out of the seven bids sent out, two came back and the lowest bid that was

See **CITY**, Page 3

Top House GOP leader shot at congressional baseball practice

By ERICA WERNER
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A top House Republican, Steve Scalise of Louisiana, was shot by a rifle-wielding gunman Wednesday at a congressional baseball practice just outside of Washington. Sev-

eral other people were also wounded, officials said.

Capitol Police said officers who were part of Scalise's security detail returned fire and wounded the shooter, who was taken into custody. In all, five people were taken to area hospitals, including the suspect, Alexandria police said.

Scalise, 51, the No. 3 House Republican leader first elected to the House in 2008, was in stable condition and

See **SCALISE**, Page 3

Nomination period opens for 2017 county committee elections

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages all farmers, ranchers, and FSA program participants to take part in the Howard County Committee election nomination process which opens June 15.

FSA's county committees are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA and allow grassroots input and local administration of federal farm programs.

Committees are comprised of locally elected agricultural producers responsible for the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties. Committee members are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. If elected, members become part of a local decision making and farm program delivery process.

A county committee is composed of three to 11 elected members from local admin-

istrative areas (LAA). Each member serves a three-year term. One-third of the seats on these committees are open for election each year. County committees may have one or more appointed advisors to further represent the local interests of underserved farmers and ranchers. Underserved producers are beginning, women and other minority farmers and

See **FSA**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Elias R. Chavez Sr.



Elias R. Chavez Sr., 86, of Big Spring died Saturday, June 10, 2017, at his home.

Vigil services were at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers and Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass was at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born April 17, 1931, to Tomasa Rocha Chavez and Rafael Chavez in Martindale, Texas. He had been a resident in the community since 1947. Elias married Grace Cuellar on Dec. 2, 1956, in Harlingen, Texas. He served in the United States Army and was stationed in Germany and Korea. Elias retired after 35 total years of civil service having worked at Webb Air Force Base and the Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Tom Mindling



Tom Mindling, 77, of Big Spring died Sunday, May 14, 2017, at his home.

Memorial service will be at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 18, 2017, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Inurnment with Military Honors will be in St. Mary's Columbarium following the service.

Tom was born May 6, 1940, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Annabelle Fisher Mindling and Luther Eugene Mindling. He came to Big Spring in 1976 from Tin City, Alaska. He was retired from the United States Air Force, where he served for 20 years. He had two tours in Vietnam and was in Fire and Rescue. He was a member of St. Mary's Episcopal

He is survived by his wife, Grace Chavez of Big Spring; four sons, Elias Chavez Jr. and wife, Anna, of Sweetwater, Gilberto Chavez of Castroville, Texas, Esteban Chavez of Canyon, and Tomas Chavez Sr., of New Braunfels; two daughters, Irene Garcia and husband, John Sr., of Waco, and Cindy Chavez Rosa of Big Spring; two sisters, Mary Chavez of Big Spring and Toña Podhirny of Burkburnett; one brother, Chon Chavez of Big Spring; a sister-in-law, Mary Lou Wilson and husband, Mark Welch, of Big Spring; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Natividad "Nate" Chavez, Camilo Chavez Sr., and Juan Chavez; one sister, Gavina Chavez Nuñez; and a daughter-in-law, Cheryl Walker Chavez.

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

Church.

Tom is survived by his wife, Sophia M. Crawford of Big Spring; three sons, Christopher Minding of Henderson, Texas, Nicholas Minding of Bastrop, La., and Michael Mindling of Arlington, Texas; one daughter, Josie Mindling of Hobbs, N.M.; one brother, Jim Mindling and wife Pat of Michigan; two stepsons, George Crawford of Lubbock, and Ernie Crawford of The Colony; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Tom was married to Loretta Young Mindling for 51 years and she preceded him in death in 2008; as well as a brother, Richard Mindling, who died in 2015. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The family suggests donations to a favorite charity in lieu of flowers.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **ANDY LEE CUELLAR**, 33, of 1219 Frazier, was arrested on a warrant for speeding and driving while license invalid.
- **SHAYNE CHRISTOPHER HUDGINS**, 48, of 1313 E 6th Street, was arrested on charges of driving while license invalid.
- **REBEKAH DANA KNAPP**, 19, of 4805 Pleasant Drive, was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **JESSIE JAY HERNANDEZ**, 32, of 1003 NW 2nd Street, was arrested on warrants for three

counts of failure to appear, driving while license invalid, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, and on two warrants from other agencies.

- **ISRAEL FLORES JR**, 37, of 2202 S Runnels Road, was arrested on warrants for assault (family violence, threat, or offense touch) and three counts of failure to appear.

- **BRANDON THOMAS POWELL**, 20, of 5600 Service Rd, was arrested on three warrants from other agencies.

- **ABLE DANNY MORELION**, 52, of 609 N Goliad Street, was arrested on a warrant for theft of a

firearm and on six warrants from other agencies.

- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 100 block of E 24th Street.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 1500 block of East Cherokee Street.

- **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported near 3rd and Owens Street.

- **BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported in the 1300 block of Harding Street and the 1700 block of W 3rd Street.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1100 block of E 12th Street.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of Young Street. One person was transported to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2900 block of W HWY 80.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was

reported near 3rd and Owens Street. Two people were transported to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **PUBLIC SERVICE** was reported near the 700 block of E 11th Place.

Take Note

- The Big Spring Salvation Army is holding a fan drive to collect and distribute electric fans to those in Howard County who need one but can't afford it. Those wishing to donate can take new or gently used box or pedestal fans to the Salvation Army headquarters at 811 W. Fifth St. Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

People who need a fan should call the Salvation Army at 432-267-8239 to register and receive the distribution date.

- 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.

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

Kenneth Z. Yates



Kenneth Z. Yates, 76, of Siloam Springs, Ark., formerly of Stanton, died on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, in Springdale, Ark., at Circle of Life Hospice Home.

Kenneth is preceded in death by his father, Sidney Allen Yates; mother, Doris Winona Yates; and sister, Robbie Jean Graves.

Kenneth is survived by his spouse, LaRue Yates of Siloam Springs, Ark.; three children, son Todd Yates of Siloam Springs, Ark., and daughters Tracy Williams and husband Christopher of Midlothian, Texas, and Tiffany Marshall and husband Steven of Cypress, Texas; a sister, a brother-in-law; six grandchildren; two great-granddaughters; and many other family members.

The family will receive friends for visitation on Friday, June 16, 2017, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Gilbreath Funeral Home, 209 N. Saint Charles, Stanton, Texas.

A Memorial funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on June 17, 2017, at Trinity Memorial Park Cemetery, 6900 US-87, Big Spring, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Circle of Life Hospice Home, 901 Jones Road, Springdale, Ark., 72762, phone 479-750-6632, in the name of Kenneth Z. Yates.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 83 inmates at the time of this report.

- **JUAN RAMON ALVAREZ**, 26, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for bail jumping and failure to appear.

- **ANDY LEE CUELLAR**, 33, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for speeding and driving while license invalid.

- **ISRAEL TREVINO FLORES JR**, 37, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for assault family violence and three counts of failure to appear.

- **JESSE JAY HERNANDEZ**, 32, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for assault (class c), bail jumping and failure to appear, driving while license invalid, unlawful possession of firearm by a felon, and three counts of failure to appear.

- **BRITTNEY JO HILGER**, 23, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for duty on striking an unattended vehicle.

- **SHAYNE HUDGINS**, 48, was booked by the BSPD on a charges of driving while license invalid.

- **REBEKAH KNAPP**, 19, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for harassment.

- **ABEL DANIEL MORELION**, 52, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for theft of a firearm, displaying expired registration, driving while license invalid, displaying fictitious motor vehicle registration, and three counts of failure to appear.

- **BRANDON THOMAS POWELL**, 20, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for use of vision reducing matter on vehicle, failure to maintain financial responsibility, and violating promise to appear.

- **TERRY ALLEN WATKINS**, 30, was booked by the DPS on a warrant for motion to revoke for assault.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

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

THURSDAY

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

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LEGENDS

Continued from Page 1

honor to be selected with these people who have passed and what have you, said inductee Carroll Putnam Choate, founder and owner of Choate Well Service in Big Spring. "I never dreamed I would have the honor of getting this award. I just appreciate all of the honor that was given to us."

Choate had some kind words to say about the Heritage Museum and its mission of preserving and sharing local history.

"It's nothing short of a miracle that they've done what they've done," he said. "It's so great. I remember when it was a lot smaller than what it is now. It's so nice to see what they've done."

Inductee Robert Ragan, a champion rodeo calf roper, also appreciated the honor.

"I feel honored to do it, especially when Carroll and I are the only ones left, the rest of them have passed," he said. "There are just so many nice people that have participated in this, and the museum has been so good and worked so hard to do all this. I'm so proud of them. And I'm really proud of all these people showing up to help them continue the work they do."

Family members of the other four inductees were present at this year's Legends and Legacies. They included:

- Tom J. Good, a rancher known as the "Steer King of West Texas." Helped found the "Cowpasture Rodeo" which grew into the annual Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo. With his family donated the replica Statue of Liberty that graces the lawn at the Municipal

Theater.

- Charlie Creighton, owner of the local Creighton Ranch. Owner of Creighton Tire. Also helped organize the first rodeo in Big Spring. Known for his rodeo roping abilities.

- Edward Kent Morgan, local cattle and sheep rancher. Along with his father, had 15,000 sheep, the largest flock ever raised in Howard County. With his partnership, operated ranches in Howard, Andrews, Dawson, and Hamilton counties totaling 126 sections. Built the Ponderosa Apartments and Ponderosa Motel, as well as the Highland Shopping Center in Big Spring; and Ponderosa Motor Inns in Alpine and Temple, Texas, and Ruidoso, N.M.

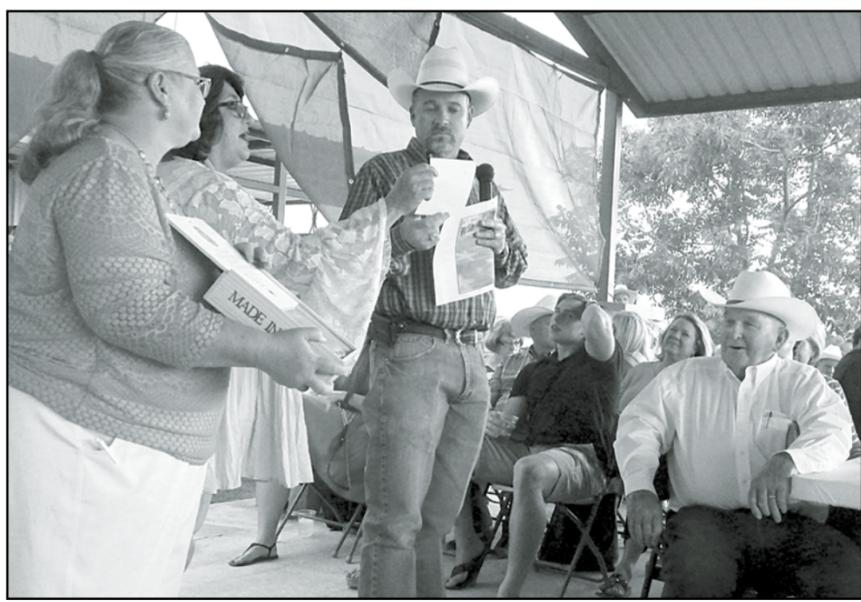
- Dora Nunn Griffin Roberts, pioneer and rancher. Moved to Big Spring in 1888 after marrying Andy Griffin, where the couple lived in a sod house and began ranching. Andy died in 1894 in a horse breaking accident, leaving Roberts to raise two daughters.

She married John Roberts in 1896, and the couple amassed a 29-section spread. John was also killed in an accident involving a horse, and Dora continued to profitably manage the ranch for several years. Oil was discovered on her property in 1927.

The evening started with an auction featuring the fast-talking patter of auctioneer Cash Berry, which raised thousands of dollars for the museum.

"I have no idea," said Schrecengost, when asked to estimate the total take of the auction. "A good amount. Gosh, I would say at least \$6,000."

The two biggest money draws in the auction included a 12-person dinner donated by Mark and Stacy Barr,



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Auctioneer Cash Berry, center, and Heritage Museum of Big Spring Director Tammy Schrecengost, second from left, prepare to auction a pecan pie at the museum's Legends and Legacies 2017 event Tuesday evening. Carroll Choate, right, who was inducted into the museum's Cowboy/Cowgirl Hall of Fame at the event, looks on eagerly.

which sold for \$2,050; and a copy of the out-of-print novel "The Iron Orchard" by Tom Pendleton, is being made into a movie which will film locally. The book, signed by directors, producers, and actors associated with the movie, netted \$2,800.

"[The book] was the grand prize, I guess you could say," said Schrecengost.

During the evening, patrons were treated to music by The Paige Sisters, Annette, Gayla, and Melissa; and by local western swing violinist, Jody Nix.

They also enjoyed a repast of steak,

pork loin, or stuffed chicken with all the fixings, catered by Rocking H Catering, under the direction of Iva Jo Hanslik.

The Heritage Museum of Big Spring is located at 510 S. Scurry St. For more information about their exhibits and programs, call 432-267-8255 or visit the museum website at www.heritagebigspring.com

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at life@bigspringherald.com.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

received was from Kent Elliot Roofing. But the company was met with disapproval from council member Carmen Harbour for District 2, who has previously worked with the company.

"After we had that hailstorm here, Elliot came and did a lot of roofs here and downtown and we had a lot of complaints about him," said Harbour. "He subcontracted a lot and I don't recommend him, they have yet to come to my house to fix the problems."

However some other council members who have dealt with the company have said their experience was much better.

"I used them as well at my office and had the same problem, a leak problem, but they came back within a week and fixed it," said council member Raul Benavides.

Despite the disagreement, all the council voted to approve the bid to Kent Elliot Roofing.

Other items cov-

ered at the meeting included the city approving two grants. One grant was from SM Energy and Rock-Pile Energy Services who came together to give \$18,000 to the fire department for a set of Jaws of Life. The second grant was from the Big Spring Area Foundation for \$37,000 that was given to be used specifically on the Downtown Plaza.

Other topics discussed at the meeting included:

- The council approved a motion to deny the rate change from Oncor until the Steering Committee can meet with the company to negotiate the rates.

- A bid was approved for a tire and wheel mounting machine from Barron Service Parts Group out of Odessa for \$6,678.

- Another bid was approved for the purchase of 144, three cubic yard trash containers from Roll Offs USA for \$68,124.

Contact Staff Writer Robert Barlow at (432) 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

FSA

Continued from Page 1

ranchers and land owners and/or operators who have limited resources. Other minority groups including Native American and

Alaska Natives; persons under the poverty level, and persons that have disabilities are also considered underserved.

All nomination forms for the 2017 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA service center by Aug. 1, 2017.

For more information on FSA county committee elections and appointments, refer to the FSA fact sheet: Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a COC Member, available online at: www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

SCALISE

Continued from Page 1

undergoing surgery at a nearby hospital. His injuries were not believed to be life-threatening. It was not known the condition of the others who were shot.

President Donald Trump said he was "deeply saddened by this tragedy" and was monitoring developments.

The shooting occurred at a popular park and baseball complex in Alexandria, Virginia, where lawmakers and others were gathered for a morning practice about 7 a.m. The team was taking batting practice when a gunshot rang out and chaos erupted, lawmakers on the scene said.

"All of a sudden we heard a very loud shot. The gunman was over by the third base dugout with a clear view of the field," Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., told CNN.

Scalise was fielding balls on second base

when he was shot, Flake said. He said the congressman dragged himself 10 to 15 yards into the outfield to get further away from the gunman.

Initial reports said that as many as 50 shots had been fired, but Flake said, "50 would be an understatement. He had a lot of ammo."

Katie Filous was walking her two dogs near the field when she heard "a lot of shots, probably more than 20." She said the shooting "went on for quite a while."

Filous said she saw the shooter hit a uniformed law enforcement officer, who she said was later evacuated by helicopter. She said the officer had gotten out of a parked car, drawn a handgun and shouted something to the gunman, who then fired.

Once the gunman was down, Flake ran to Scalise and tended to him. He said he grabbed Scalise's phone to call his wife.

"I just didn't want her to wake up and learn the news," Flake said.

Rep. Mo Brooks, an Alabama Republican, said that Scalise had what appeared to be "a hip wound." The Alabama lawmaker said he colleague "crawled into the outfield, leaving a trail of blood."

"We started giving him the liquids, I put pressure on his wound in his hip," Brooks said.

Brooks said two law enforcement officers were believed to be among the others shot.

Texas Rep. Roger Williams says a member of his staff was also shot and was receiving medical attention. Williams did not say what condition the staffer was in.

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Elias R. Chavez, Sr., 86, died Saturday. Funeral Mass was at 10 a.m. this morning at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Tom Mindling, 77, died Sunday, May 14, 2017. Memorial service will be at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 18, 2017, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Inurnment with Military Honors will be in St. Mary's Columbarium following the service.

Ronald Wayne Benton, 68, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

David E. McGruder, 69, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Roger's Retro Reviews: *Young Frankenstein*

Just love Mel Brooks movies. Don't you? There aren't too many movies smarter and/or funnier than "Blazing Saddles," "Spaceballs," and, this week's retro review, 1974's "Young Frankenstein" starring Gene Wilder, Teri Garr, Madeline Khan, Marty Feldman, and Peter Boyle (Raymond's dad, for you kids) as the Monster.



ROGER
CLINE

To begin with, "Young Frankenstein" is done in Old Movie Style... it's black and white, and all the credits are on still cards (instead of scrolling) at the beginning against a long backdrop of the Frankenstein castle and stormy night skies. At the castle, the clock shows midnight (but in Mel Brooks style, it actually rings 13 times). We see the coffin of the infamous Victor von Frankenstein. An unseen person opens it to reveal the desiccated corpse of the baron himself, holding a small wooden box. Hands reach

in to take the box, and the corpse holds on, snatching it back a couple of times before the intruder successfully wrenches it free.

Cut to America, where the baron's grandson Frederick Frankenstein (Wilder) is teaching a medical school course in anatomy of the brain. When a student questions him about his famous grandfather and his reanimation of the dead experiments, we learn that Frederick doesn't like to be linked to the deceased Frankenstein, instead opting to pronounce his last name "FRONK-en-steen." We're treated to a demonstration of voluntary vs. reflex nerve impulses in which an old man is kneed in the crotch a few times. After the class, a lawyer tells Frederick that he has inherited the Frankenstein estate in Transylvania. After saying goodbye to his fiancé Elizabeth (Khan) by rubbing elbows (she's made up for a party and doesn't want him to muss her hair or makeup) Frederick boards a train which seems to travel from New York to Transylvania, and is met at the Transylvania station (yes, there's a "Chattanooga Choo Choo" joke - "Pardon me, boy, is

this the Transylvania Station?" and the whole bit) by Igor (Feldman), the typical hunchbacked Frankenstein sidekick. Upon hearing Frederick's preferred pronunciation of Frankenstein, Igor declares his own name to be pronounced "Eye-gore." Igor leads Frederick to his waiting conveyance - a hay cart, complete with lovely laboratory assistant Inga (Garr), who offers him a roll in the hay (literally, she just loves to roll around in the hay). Back at the castle, we're introduced to the stern housekeeper Frau Blücher (Cloris Leachman) - and learn that, every time her name is uttered, horses whinny in terror (apparently it's a myth that Brooks invented this gag because Blücher is German for "glue." It's not - glue in German is "Klebstoff." "Blücher" is just an ordinary surname, like Smith).

Awakened one night by mysterious violin music, Frederick and Inga go exploring, searching for the source, and discover a secret passageway (in a hilarious scene with a rotating bookcase). The pas-

sage leads to Grandpa Frankenstein's secret library, where Frederick discovers the mad scientist's notes on reanimating the dead. For all that he claims to hate his family legacy, Frederick just has to give this a try. Enlisting Igor's help, he digs up a large body and sends Igor to get the brain of recently deceased genius Hans Delbruck from the brain depository (after 5 p.m., slip brains through slot in door). Startled by his own reflection, Igor drops the brain, and instead grabs a substitute (ominously labeled "Do Not Use This Brain! Abnormal"). Frederick slaps together a creature (Boyle) and harnesses the power of lightning to jolt it back to life. And then the fun really starts.

Also of note, castwise: Look for a heavily wigged and bearded Gene Hackman as a well-intentioned but unintentionally dangerous blind man who attempts to befriend the creature.

What can I say? "Young Frankenstein" is great. Brooks is a true master of mockery. His genre parodies - Western ("Blazing Sad-

dles"), Sci-Fi ("Spaceballs"), Hitchcock ("High Anxiety"), and this one right here, 50s horror ("Young Frankenstein") are all spot-on tone perfect.

Casting is also wonderful. Wilder is exemplary as the mild-mannered, rational Frederick Frankenstein who briefly succumbs to a spate of familial madness; Feldman is perfect as the weird, snarky little pop-eyed hunchback; Khan's Elizabeth is untouchably distant; Garr's Inga is beautiful and flirty and naive. I think Boyle is my favorite, though. Watch for the "Puttin' On the Ritz" scene; you'll see what I'm talking about. Nine and a half stars out of 10.

Young Frankenstein
Director: Mel Brooks
Writer: Screenplay by Mel Brooks and Gene Wilder, based on "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley
Production company: 20th Century Fox
PG; 1 hr. 46 min., Comedy, Dec. 15, 1974

Check this out at the Howard County Library

In "The Circle" by Dave Eggers (F EGG D), Mae Holland is hired to work for the Circle, the world's most powerful internet company.

She feels she has been given the opportunity of a lifetime-even as life beyond the campus grows distant, even as a stranger encounters with a colleague leaves her shaken, even as her role at the Circle becomes increasingly public.

What begins as the captivating story of one woman's ambition and idealism soon becomes a heart-racing novel of suspense, raising questions about memory, history, privacy, democracy, and the limits of human knowledge.

"The Good Girl" by Mary Kubica (F KUB M) finds Mia Dennett leaving a bar with an enigmatic stranger. At first Colin Thatcher seems like a safe one-night stand, but following Colin home will

turn out to be the worst mistake of Mia's life. Colin decides to hide Mia in a secluded cabin instead of delivering her to his employers. Mia's mother, Eve, and detective Gabe Hoffman will stop at nothing to find them. No one could have predicted the emotional entanglements that eventually cause this family's world to shatter.

In "The Forgotten Girls" by Owen Laukkanen (F LAU O), Kirk Stevens and Carla Windermere of the joint FBI-BCA violent crimes task force stumble upon a case almost by accident.

They discover a string of murders on the High Line train route running across the upper rim of America. All of the victims were young women drifters whom no one would notice missing. Through the bleak midwinter and a frontier land of forbidding geography, the two investigators follow a frustratingly light trail of clues and where it ends, even they will be shocked.

Next I'll move on to the biography books. In "Between Heaven & the Real World" by Steven Curtis Chapman with

Ken Abraham (B CHAS), Steven openly shares the experiences that have shaped him, his faith, his family, and his music in a life that

behind some of his best-loved songs, and walk with him as he and his wife navigate the joys and trials of marriage and family.

est questions. Yet out of the brokenness, he continues to trust God to one day fix what is unfixable in the space between heaven and the real world.

Big Spring's author and columnist, Eunice

Up" (B FILE). This is a book of tales of the adventures of three hard working generations. They portray the values of a way of life that has become obsolete.

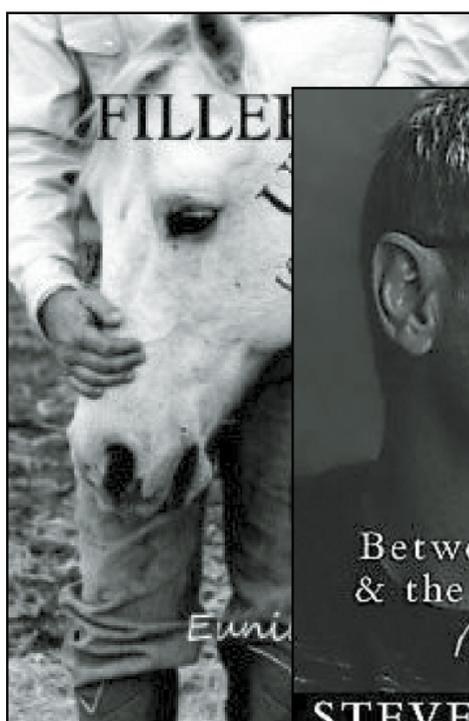
This collection of stories were used to entertain her family when times were harder and rawer. Times when people had to be able to deal with harsh conditions and threatening situations. Times that consisted of long stretches of tedium broken by excitement that burst upon them with severity and danger. Times when ancestors lived their lives with honesty, strength, and dignity. They did their best to live their lives honestly, to help others who needed a break, and to have a little fun along the way.

In "Pilgrimage: My Search for the Real Pope Francis" (B POP F), Mark K Shriver retraces Francis's personal journey, revealing the origins of his open, unpretentious style

See LIBRARY, Page 5



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MARTINEZ



has included incredible highs and faith-shaking lows. Music has always been a refuge and a release for Steven.

With humor and humility, he offers a backstage look at his early days on the road and his wild ride to the top of the charts.

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Filler, has graciously given the library a copy of her new book "Filler

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Key insurer Centene plans to expand health exchange presence

By TOM MURPHY
AP Health Writer

Health insurer Centene announced plans Tuesday to expand into more Affordable Care Act insurance exchanges for next year, at a time when competitors are either pulling back from those markets or proposing steep price hikes to remain.

The insurer said it will start offering coverage on exchanges in Missouri, Kansas and Nevada. It also will expand its presence in Florida, Ohio, Texas and Washington, among other states.

A Centene spokeswoman said that the company wouldn't have details on where it will expand in those states until regulators review its plans.

This growth spurt could fill some big holes that have developed in the exchanges, the only place where people can buy individual coverage with help from an income-based tax credit. Currently, 25 counties in Missouri, 20 in Ohio and another two in Washington have no insurers lined up to sell coverage on the exchange in 2018.

Big national insurers such as Humana and Aetna have shuttered their exchange businesses for next year. President Donald Trump's administration has highlighted the thinning options that remain in many markets as congressional Republicans devise a potential replacement for the Affordable Care Act.

Many insurers have been hit with steep losses by their exchange business since it started in 2014. But they've also been pulling back from this market or raising prices because of the uncertain future of billions of dollars in government funding that helps reduce some coverage expenses for people with modest incomes. President Donald Trump has talked about potentially stopping the payments, and insurers want a guarantee that they will last through next year.

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 4

and explaining how it revitalized Shriver's own faith and renewed his commitment to the Church. To help us understand how Jorge Mario Bergoglio became Pope Francis, Shriver travels to Bergoglio's native Argentina to meet with people who knew him as a child, as a young Jesuit priest, and as a reformist bishop. Shriver visits the confessional where Bergoglio first felt called to a faith-based life and takes us to the humble parish where the future pontiff's pastoral career began: in a church created from a converted vegetable shed in an area just outside the city of Buenos Aires. In these impoverished surroundings, Bergoglio answered Christ's call to feed the hungry, cloth the naked, and shelter the homeless, following the example set by his papal namesake, St. Francis of Assisi. In this deeply reported yet highly personal book, Mark K.

Shriver explores how Francis's commitment has struck a chord in the hearts of millions who long to make faith, love, humility, and mercy part of their lives as they go out into the world to serve and learn from the most marginalized.

I've run out of time so I leave you with a quote from Pope John XXIII: "Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do."

We are open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. You may reach us at (432) 264-2260 and our fax number is (432) 264-2263. Our website is howard-county.ploud.net.

Centene Chairman and CEO Michael Neidorff said earlier this year he didn't think the government will stop those payments.

Centene Corp. covers 1.2 million customers through the exchanges and is one of the biggest insurers in that market. It said earlier this year that it was planning to return in 2018, but it has not detailed what prices it will charge.

Analysts have said Centene does well on the exchanges because it sticks to customers it knows. The insurer specializes in managing the state and federally funded Medicaid program for the poor.

On the exchanges, it markets to low-income customers in areas where it has already formed networks of providers for its Medicaid business.

That means the insurer doesn't have to build from scratch doctor networks for its exchange business. It also means Centene generally serves customers who get big subsidies that can shield them from price hikes.

The company said Tuesday that 90 percent of its customers are eligible for subsidies.

St. Louis-based Centene also benefits from repeat business. Most of its customers this year were renewals from 2016, which makes it easier for an insurer to figure out prices. Aside from Centene, insurers in several other states also have indicated that they are eyeing a return to the exchanges for next year. That includes Blue Cross-Blue Shield plans in Illinois, Kansas, Alabama and Texas. Other big insurers such as Anthem Inc., which sells Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage in California and New York, have not ironed out all their 2018 plans.

Companies still have several weeks in which they can decide to return to a market, back out or reverse a decision if their business takes a bad turn or government funding stops.

Planning ahead for your child's back-to-school physical

Preparing to send children back to school can be hectic. It may seem like summer has just begun, but soon it will be time to buy books, new clothes and school supplies. Another vital part of preparing for a new school year is the back-to-school physical exam. Many school systems are requiring physical exams for enrollment in classes, and even when they don't, having an annual physical exam is an important part of a child's health. Annual exams allow a physician to stay up-to-date on a child's health as he or she develops and gives parents and children a valuable opportunity to ask questions.

Even if your child seems healthy, receiving an annual physical examination monitors your child's growth, blood pressure, heart health, eyesight and more. Many important parts of your child's development happen during adolescence, so it is important to continue to set annual appointments as they grow into their teens. Keeping a close eye on your child's development will help the doctor more easily identify irregularities or causes of concern before they develop into more serious issues.

An annual physical will also ensure that your child stays up to date with their vaccinations, as several vaccines need to be administered at different ages



in multiple rounds. Most schools require proof of vaccinations prior to starting the school year. And, if your child plays sports, the school may require doctor confirmation that your child is in good health.

Additionally, as your child matures exams also provide your child an opportunity to discuss topics with a trusted adult that may be difficult to discuss with parents, such as smoking, drugs, alcohol or sex.

When preparing for a child's appointment, there are a few things parents can do to make the visit as productive as possible. Parents and their child can prepare a list of questions for the doctor ranging from nutritional to sports-related topics. This preparation may also give a child an opportunity to brainstorm questions they want to ask the doctor in private. Also,

parents can make note of any unusual behavior they have noticed in their child. Family doctors have a great deal of experience with children at every level of development and can shed light on whether certain behavior is cause for concern.

Planning for a back to school physical exam every year can be a beneficial visit for you, your child and your family doctor. Be sure to include it as part of your preparation to send your child back to school.

Brandi Webb is a family nurse practitioner



Webb

and is part of the Scenic Mountain Medical Group. She is accepting new patients. Same day and next day appointments are often available. Her office is located at 2301 S. Gregg Street. To schedule an appointment, call 432-268-5350.

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Chief: Texas officer made errors in confrontation with woman

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A Texas police chief says an officer he suspended following a videotaped arrest of a woman and her daughters made multiple errors in responding to a call that a neighbor allegedly assaulted the woman's son.

Fort Worth Chief Joel Fitzgerald said Tuesday during an appeal hearing for officer William Martin that Martin was disrespectful and used excessive force in his December confrontation with Jacqueline Craig.

Martin is appealing his 10-day suspension.

Fitzgerald also said Martin failed to check on Craig's son.

One of Craig's daughters videotaped the interaction between her mother and the officer, and posted it to social media. The widely viewed footage showed the white officer forcing Craig, who is black, to the ground.

An attorney for Martin says the video doesn't fully reflect how the incident unfolded.

New judge named in Texas attorney

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The new judge assigned to oversee the felony securities fraud case against Texas' attorney general is a Houston Democrat who defeated the son of the state's lieutenant governor to win his seat on the bench.

Harris County Judge Robert Johnson was randomly assigned the case against Republican Ken Paxton on Tuesday.

Paxton is accused of defrauding wealthy investors in a tech startup.

State District Judge George Gallagher previously ruled that prosecutors couldn't get a fair trial in Paxton's hometown near Dallas, and moved the case to Houston. Paxton's attorneys then successfully had Gallagher removed, arguing he lacked authority to preside over cases outside his home county.

That shifted the proceedings to Johnson, who was elected in November. He defeated Republican incumbent Ryan Patrick, son of Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick.

Ex-Texas judge pleads guilty in probe linked to senator

PECOS, Texas (AP) — Prosecutors say a former West Texas county judge has pleaded guilty to federal charges as part of a public corruption investigation linked to an indicted state senator.

Former Reeves County Judge Jimmy Galindo pleaded guilty Monday to bribery and another charge.

Prosecutors say Galindo conspired with state Sen. Carlos Uresti to have a company win a contract to provide medical services for inmates at a correctional center in Reeves County.

Authorities say Galindo and Uresti from 2007 to last year split a \$10,000 monthly payment from the company's owner.

The 53-year-old Galindo was the county judge for more than 10 years before leaving office in 2006. He's scheduled to be sentenced in August.

Uresti, a Democrat from San Antonio, last month pleaded not guilty to fraud and bribery-related charges.

Texas improves to 41st nationally in child well-being report

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A much-watched annual report shows Texas making slight improvements but still remaining among the 10 worst states to be a kid.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's 2017 Kids Count assessment released Tuesday ranked Texas 41st, two spots better than last year.

Texas has remained low ranking despite a fast-growing, richly diverse population and an economy that's strong despite the prolonged oil-price slump.

About 680,000 Texas children, or 9 percent of the youth population, lack health insurance.

Though still high, that's actually down from 2010, when 14 percent of Texas children were uninsured.

Another improving figure is that about 1.6 million Texas children live in poverty.

That's around 100,000 less than last year, but still represents about one in every four kids. Twenty-one percent of youngsters nationwide live in poverty.

Gang member on Texas 10 Most Wanted list caught in Georgia

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Officials say a convicted robber and gang member who's been on the Texas 10 Most Wanted list since 2015 has been arrested in southeast Georgia.

The Texas Department of Public Safety says 45-year-old Agapito (ah-guh-PEE'-toh) Salinas was captured last Thursday in Alma, Georgia.

Investigators say Salinas, whose last known address was Brownsville, was wanted for parole violation and had been a fugitive since April 2015.

Officials say Salinas in the 1990s served time for drug and burglary convictions. Records show Salinas in 2003 was convicted in Dallas County of aggravated robbery and was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

A DPS statement Monday said Salinas was paroled in Cameron County in 2014 and violated parole the following year.

Lawyers say deputy, spouse unfairly singled out



Harris County Sheriff's deputy Chauna Thompson and her husband, Terry Thompson, arrive at court, Tuesday, June 13, 2017 in Houston, Texas. The couple were indicted on murder charges in the death of John Hernandez who died in the hospital on May 31 following the May 28 confrontation with the couple outside a Denny's restaurant. A medical examiner ruled that he died of lack of oxygen to the brain caused by strangulation and chest compression.

By JUAN A. LOZANO

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Prosecutors rushed to judge a Houston-area sheriff's deputy and her husband because of their ties to law enforcement when charging the couple with murder in the death of a man they confronted outside a restaurant, their attorneys said Tuesday.

Harris County Deputy Chauna Thompson and her husband, Terry Thompson, are accused of causing the death of 24-year-old John Hernandez.

Hernandez died three days after the May 28 confrontation outside a Denny's restaurant in Sheldon.

The couple made their first court appearance in the case Tuesday, but said little and didn't enter pleas.

Dozens of protesters chased after the couple following their court appearance, hitting and surrounding their car outside the courtroom.

"My client probably would not be indicted but for her job title," attorney Greg Cagle, who represents Chauna Thompson, said following the hearing.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office denied the claims, saying prosecutors are dedicated to an orderly process in the case.

Hernandez's relatives allege authorities didn't act quickly enough to arrest the couple because she worked in law enforcement.

Authorities allege Terry Thompson confronted an intoxicated Hernandez after seeing him urinate in public and placed him in a chokehold.

Chauna Thompson,

who was off duty at the time, arrived later to help her husband subdue and restrain Hernandez.

Hernandez was hospitalized and died on May 31. A medical examiner ruled that he died of lack of oxygen to the brain caused by strangulation and chest compression.

The Thompsons, who are each free on

\$100,000 bonds, will next be in court on July 14.

About 60 protesters were outside the courthouse during the hearing, some holding signs saying, "Justice for John."

When the Thompsons left court and walked to a waiting car, protesters followed, with many chanting "murderers" in Spanish.

Some protesters slammed their fists on the hood or kicked the sides of the vehicle.

Deputies had to move the protesters so the car could drive away.

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Activist prepared to take pipeline protest case to trial

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON**

Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — An American Indian activist and former U.S. congressional candidate accused of inciting a riot during protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline says he has no qualms about taking the case to trial, even though he could face more than five years in prison if convicted.

Chase Iron Eyes maintains his innocence and pleaded not guilty in March to the felony charge and also misdemeanor criminal trespass. He is scheduled for a one-day trial on Feb. 8, 2018, in Mandan, just west of Bismarck.

Iron Eyes' attorney also represented Hollywood actress Shailene Woodley, who signed a plea deal earlier this year that kept her out of jail in another high-profile protest case. Unlike Woodley, Iron Eyes said, he still lives and works in the area where the protests occurred and has "a huge and sincere concern about the administration of justice."

"If it takes that we have to go to trial to achieve those goals, then that's a good thing," he said. "That's what our system of justice is designed to do."

Iron Eyes and 73 others were arrested on Feb. 1 after erecting teepees on land that authorities said is owned by pipeline developer Energy

Transfer Partners. Protesters maintained they were peacefully assembling on land they believe rightfully belongs to American Indians.

Iron Eyes hasn't disputed his involvement, but he says he wasn't the leader of the effort and had no authority to stop it.

Prosecutors did not respond to requests for comment from The Associated Press. But authorities have alleged in statements and court documents that Iron Eyes helped lead a "rogue group" of "aggressive" protesters who set up the short-lived camp, and that he negotiated with law officers on behalf of the camp, "holding himself out as the new camp's leader."

Dave Archambault, chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, which led opposition to the pipeline, condemned the group's action at the time, saying it undermined legitimate protests.

The pipeline protests in southern North Dakota ended in February, after President Donald Trump's administration and the courts allowed construction on the \$3.8 billion project to wrap up. The line went into service this month, transporting North Dakota oil 1,200 miles (1,930 kilometers) across South Dakota and Iowa to a



In this Feb. 6, 2014 file photo, Chase Iron Eyes, an attorney and American Indian activist on the Standing Rock Reservation, is seen in Fort Yates, N.D. Iron Eyes, accused of inciting a riot during protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline, says he has no qualms about taking the case to trial, even though he could face more than five years in prison if convicted. Trial has been scheduled early next year in North Dakota. He pleaded not guilty in March to the felony charge and also misdemeanor criminal trespass.

AP photo

distribution point in Illinois.

Iron Eyes, a member of the Standing Rock tribe, made an unsuccessful bid for North Dakota's lone U.S. House seat last year. He said he considers himself a part of an informal "reconciliation

process" that involves people from the reservation normalizing relations with people in the Bismarck-Mandan region, where protests often disrupted businesses, farmers and motorists. "The pipeline brought out the ugliness

on both sides. There was no shortage of that," he said. "We just need to take it slow and rebound. I wouldn't have run for Congress in North Dakota if I didn't have confidence in North Dakota, and in Standing Rock."

Military ship that sank century ago won't be pulled from sea

By **LINDA WANG**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A U.S. Coast Guard ship that first set out to sea during the Spanish-American War and sank off the coast of Southern California 100 years ago won't be moved anytime soon, officials said Tuesday.

Strong currents and an abundance of sediment would make moving the delicate vessel too difficult, officials said in detailing the discovery of the San Francisco-based USCGC McCulloch.

They also paid tribute to its crews, including two members who died in the line of duty.

Researchers focused on the area of the shipwreck 3 miles (5 kilometers) northwest of Point Conception, California, after noticing a flurry of fish.

Sunken ships offer a great place for fish to hide.

The archaeological remains, including a 15-inch torpedo

tube molded into the bow stem and the top of a propeller blade, are draped with white anemones 300 feet (91 meters) below the surface, officials said. Fish swim lazily past a 6-pound gun mounted in a platform at the starboard bow.

The ship sank on June 13, 1917, after

colliding with a civilian steamship. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Coast Guard discovered the wreck last fall during a routine survey.

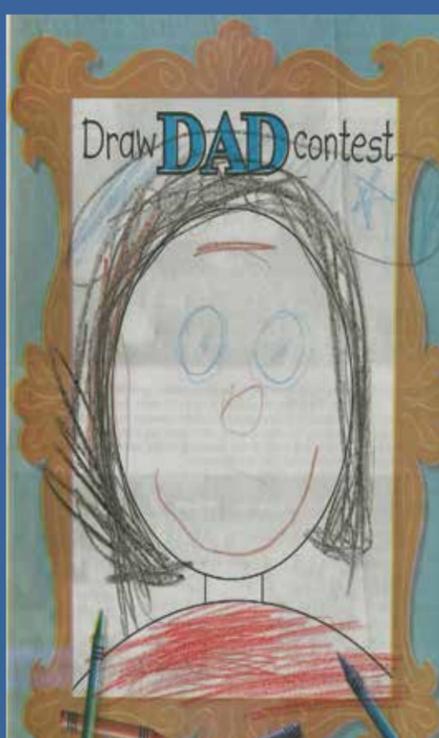
The USCGC McCulloch began its career as part of Commodore George Dewey's Asiatic Squadron in the Battle

of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War.

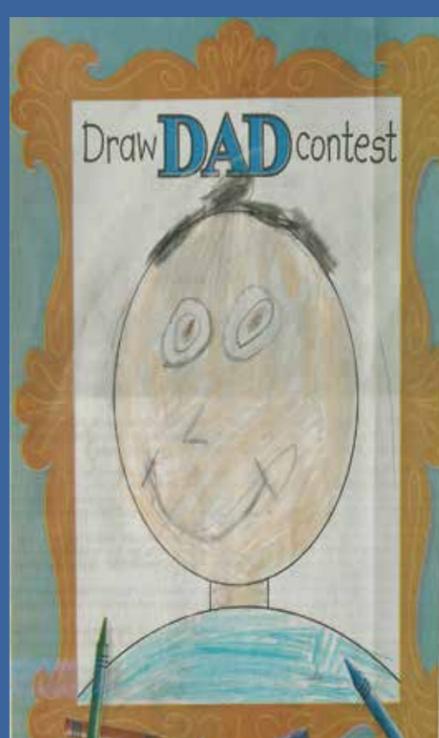
Cutters based in San Francisco in the late 1800s and early 1900s represented American interests throughout the Pacific.

They also played important roles in the development of the Western U.S.

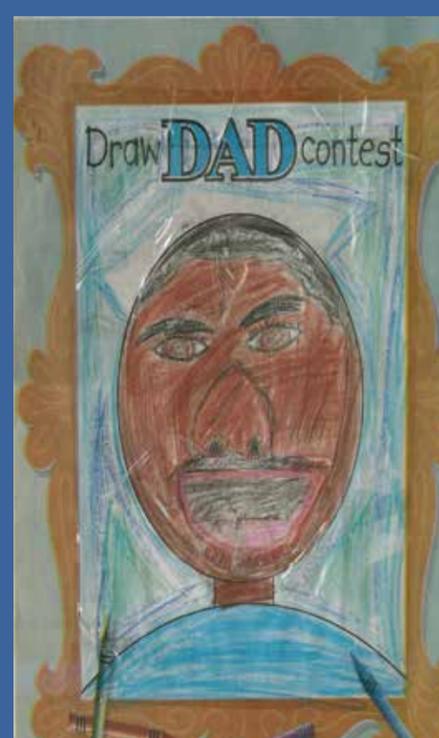
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Amid diplomatic contact, North Korea frees American student

By **MATTHEW LEE and MATTHEW PENNINGTON**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An American college student who has been in a coma, according to his parents, while serving a 15-year prison term in North Korea, was released and evacuated Tuesday as the Trump administration revealed a rare exchange with the reclusive country.

The release of Otto Warmbier came during a visit to North Korea by former NBA star Dennis Rodman, one of few people to have met both North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and President Donald Trump. But State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told reporters Rodman had nothing to do with Warmbier's release. Rodman had told reporters before arriving in Pyongyang that the issue of Americans detained by North Korea is "not my purpose right now."

Instead, the administration credited the release to its diplomatic intervention. It said its special envoy on North Korean policy met with North Korean foreign ministry representatives in Norway last month. The North Koreans agreed to allow consular visits to four Americans held in the North. Such meetings are unusual because the two governments

do not have diplomatic relations.

While North Korea's move to free Warmbier could potentially provide an opening for talks on security issues, the prospects still appear bleak. International negotiations on the dispute over North Korea's nuclear program have been in limbo for years, as the U.S. cranks up economic sanctions and North Korea won't give up weapons it considers a guarantee against invasion.

The detention of Americans, often sentenced to draconian prison sentences for seemingly small offenses in the totalitarian nation, has compounded tensions between Washington and Pyongyang. Three Americans remain in custody.

Warmbier, 22, a University of Virginia undergraduate, was convicted and sentenced in a one-hour trial in North Korea's Supreme Court in March 2016.

He was sentenced to 15 years in prison with hard labor for subversion after he tearfully confessed that he had tried to steal a propaganda banner.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson announced that the State Department had secured Warmbier's release at the direction of the president. He said Warmbier, of Cincinnati, was en route to the U.S.

Trump clings to coal as worldwide demand plummets



AP photo

In this March 16, 2011 file photo, exhaust rises from smokestacks in front of piles of coal at NRG Energy's W.A. Parish Electric Generating Station in Thompsons, Texas. President Donald Trump has made reviving the long-struggling U.S. coal mines the bedrock of his administration's energy policy. But new data show market demand for the dirtiest of fossil fuels is plummeting worldwide.

By **MICHAEL BIESECKER**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Market demand for the dirtiest of fossil fuels is plummeting worldwide, according to industry data published Tuesday, even as President Donald Trump has made reviving the long-struggling U.S. coal mines the bedrock of his administration's energy policy.

The BP Statistical Review of World Energy shows global coal production fell by more than 6 percent last year. That's the largest decline in the history of BP's survey, which the British energy company has issued annually for more than six decades.

It is the second straight year that coal demand has declined. Production at U.S. coal mines fell by 19 percent.

China's coal production fell by nearly 8 percent.

On the whole, coal's share of global energy consumption fell to 28 percent, the lowest since 2004.

The numbers reflect the trend of nations shunning coal in favor of cheaper, cleaner ways of producing electricity — chiefly natural gas, wind and solar.

Trump announced earlier this month he will withdraw the United States from the Paris climate accord. The agreement signed by 195 nations in 2015 aims to decrease global carbon emissions in an effort to head off the worst predicted effects of global warming, including worsening storms, catastrophic droughts and city-drowning sea level rise.

As Trump doubles down on coal, the rest

of the world appears headed in the opposite direction.

Renewable energy made big gains, growing 14 percent in 2016. More than half that growth came for new wind turbines. China, where the government is investing hundreds of billions in green energy programs, overtook the United States as the world's largest producer of renewable energy.

With coal's demise, growth in planet-warming carbon emissions has flattened even as global demand for energy continues to rise. CO2 emissions from energy consumption increased by only 0.1% in 2016.

Since 2014, the average emissions growth has been the lowest over any three-year period since the early 1980s.

Congress passes long-sought VA accountability bill



AP photo

House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wis., joined by Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash., chair of the Republican Conference, meets with reporters at Republican National Committee Headquarters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, June 13, 2017, to discuss health care for veterans.

By **HOPE YEN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress approved long-sought legislation Tuesday to make firing employees easier for the Department of Veterans Affairs, part of an effort urged by President Donald Trump to fix a struggling agency serving millions of veterans. The House cleared the bill, 368-55, replacing an earlier version that Democrats had criticized as overly unfair to workers. The Senate passed the bipartisan legislation by voice vote last week. It will go to Trump later this week for his signature.

The measure comes after a 2014 scandal at the Phoenix VA medical center, where some veterans died while waiting months for appointments. During the presidential campaign, Trump promised to fire VA employees "who let our veterans down," describing the government's second-largest agency and its more than 350,000 employees as "the most corrupt" and "incompetent."

Rep. Phil Roe, R-

Tenn., who chairs the House Veterans Affairs Committee, said the legislation was a necessary first step in overhauling the VA.

Congress will soon take up legislation to give veterans expanded access to doctors outside the VA.

"For far too long, the failures of the bad actors have tarnished the good name of all VA employees," Roe said. "No effort toward real, wholesale reform at the department will ever be successful absent a strong culture of accountability first."

The House vote came as federal investigations into possible collaboration between the Trump campaign and Russia continued to hang over much of Washington, largely stalling the administration's biggest legislative initiatives. Attorney General Jeff Sessions testified Tuesday before a Senate panel on Russia contacts as House members took up the VA bill.

House leaders were quick to tout progress on veterans' issues.

"We've been talking

about this for about three years. And we uncovered all the scandals at the VA. Now we're making law," said House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis. "Now we're getting the veterans the kind of response and the kind of accountability they earned and deserved."

The bill was backed by VA Secretary David Shulkin, who called the employee accountability process "clearly broken." It would lower the burden of proof to fire employees, allowing a dismissal even if most evidence is in a worker's favor.

The American Federation of Government Employees, the largest federal employee union, opposed the bill. But the Senate-passed measure was viewed as more in balance with workers' rights than a version passed by the House in March, mostly along party lines.

The Senate bill calls for a longer appeal process than the House's version — 180 days vs. 45 days. VA executives would be held to a tougher standard than rank-and-file employees.

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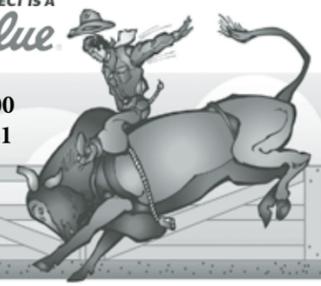
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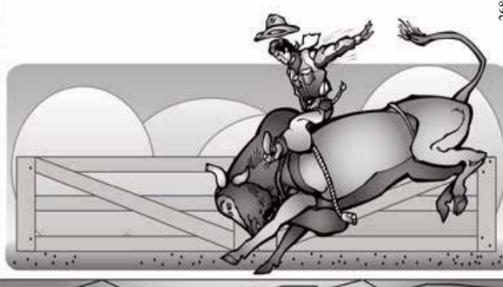
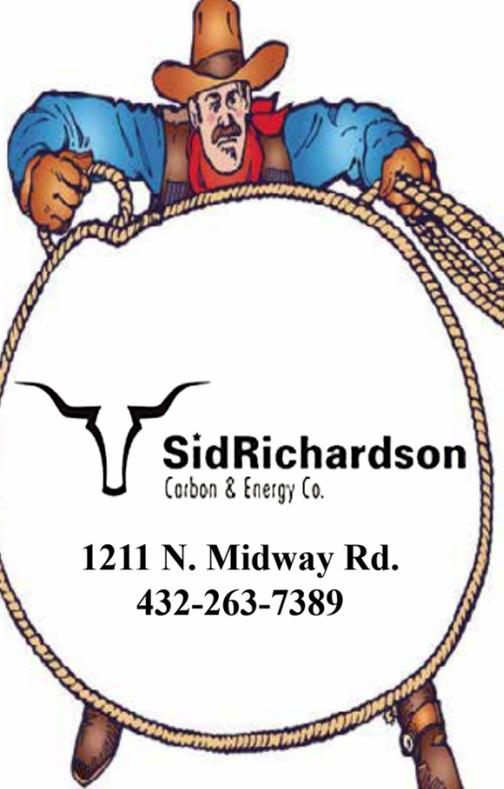
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With Lee leading, question is who follows on Cowboys defense

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Sean Lee anchors Dallas' defense with plenty of questions as it tries to match a dynamic offense that carried the Cowboys to the best record in the NFC last season.

While the All-Pro linebacker is a good starting point, the Cowboys made it clear in the draft that few positions are safe for a unit that twice couldn't stop Green Bay in the final minutes after Dallas pulled even in a divisional playoff loss last season.

"We certainly have some new blood on defense," coach Jason Garrett said. "It's still early with every one of them but we feel like we drafted the guys we thought we drafted. And what I mean by that is you look at the evaluations of prior to the draft of each of these guys and what you're seeing now, they fit together."

At the same time, there are plenty of holdovers capable of winning starting jobs between now and the season opener Sept. 10 against the New York Giants.

Case in point: safety Jeff

Heath. On the first day of minicamp Tuesday, the fifth-year player had two interceptions. He was running with the first team because Barry Church was among six key defenders who left in free agency.

"Every year in the NFL you're going to have new faces," Heath said. "That's how it works with free agency and guys retiring and stuff like that. I guess we've had more new guys than normal in the secondary."

After drafting pass rusher Taco Charlton in the first

round, the Cowboys took a pair of cornerbacks with their next two picks: Chidobe Awuzie and Jourdan Lewis. Seven of Dallas' nine draft picks were defensive players.

"It's been fun to be around them," Lee said. "I also think we've got some older guys and we've got some guys on the defense and are ready to play and are going to surprise some people. We have certain standards defensively that we want to play by."

Lee is coming off his first All-Pro season, and his first offseason in five years with-

out having to manage an injury. In the two years since he missed all of 2014 after tearing a knee ligament in the first offseason practice, the oft-injured Lee has been mostly healthy.

The seven-year veteran settles things at weakside linebacker. One of the biggest questions is right next to him, though.

Jaylon Smith, a second-round pick last year, is hoping to make his long-awaited debut at middle line-backer after a devastating knee

See **COWBOYS**, Page 17

Clemens' son among familiar names on Day 2 of MLB draft

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr.

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Another Rocket is headed to Toronto.

The Blue Jays selected University of Texas first baseman Kacy Clemens — son of Roger — in the eighth round of the Major League Baseball draft on Tuesday.

The younger Clemens hit .305 for the Longhorns this season, along with a team-leading 12 home runs and 49 RBIs. There could be another Clemens taken Wednesday when the draft wraps up with rounds 11-40: Kacy's younger brother Kody, a redshirt-sophomore shortstop who hit .241 with five homers and 23 RBIs for Texas.

Roger Clemens was the No. 19 overall pick by Boston in 1983 and later pitched two seasons for the Blue Jays. His oldest son, Koby, was an eighth-round selection of Houston in 2005 and is currently a coach in the Astros organization.

Clemens wasn't the only familiar name taken during the draft's second day.

University of Florida shortstop Dalton Guthrie, former major league reliever Mark Guthrie, was picked by Philadelphia in the sixth round. The younger Guthrie is hitting .272 with four homers and 22 RBIs for the College World Series-bound Gators.

Clemson outfielder Chase Pinder, brother of Oakland second baseman Chad Pinder, was selected by St. Louis in the second round.

The Cardinals also took LSU shortstop Kramer Robertson, son of Baylor women's basketball coach Kim Mulkey, in the fourth.

Buddy Kennedy, a third baseman from Millville High School in New Jersey who was taken in the fifth round by Arizona, is the grandson of former All-Star Don Money.

One player who has gone undrafted so far and slipped significantly is Oregon State left-hander Luke Heimlich, who asked to be excused from the team last weekend after a story detailing his criminal history was reported by The Oregonian/Oregon Live last Thursday. Heimlich, originally projected as a third- or fourth-round pick, pleaded guilty as a teenager five years ago to molesting a 6-year-old girl.

Heimlich was 11-1 with a 0.76 ERA for top-ranked Oregon State, which will play in the College World Series without him.

The New York Mets drafted two-thirds of Stanford's starting outfield, taking Quinn Brodey in the third round and Matt Winaker in the fifth.

Of the Mets' first 10 picks, nine are college players — the lone exception being second-rounder Mark Vientos, a third baseman from American Heritage High School in Florida.

The Yankees have gone mound heavy in the opening 10 rounds, taking nine pitchers among those picks — including eight from the college ranks.

Washington, which already has shortstop Trea Turner, drafted Missouri State right-hander Trey Turner — no relation — in the 10th round.

Rounds 3-10 were held via conference calls with teams, with University of Minnesota righty Brian Glowicki wrapping up the day as pick No. 315 by the Cubs.

The first two rounds were Monday night at MLB Network studios, leading off with Minnesota taking California high school shortstop Royce Lewis at No. 1.

Odor's 2 homers lift Rangers over Astros 4-2



Texas Rangers' Josh Odor watches his solo home run off Houston Astros relief pitcher Chris Devenski during the seventh inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, June 13, 2017, in Houston.

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Rowned Odor is finally starting to heat up, and it's helping the Texas Rangers do the same.

Odor hit a solo homer in the seventh inning and his tiebreaking two-run shot in the eighth lifted the Rangers to a 4-2 victory over the Houston Astros on Tuesday night, their fifth straight win.

"It's been probably the last three weeks that we've seen the ratio of barrel to ball start to show up better for us," manager Jeff Banister said. "Some better swings, laying off some pitches down and out of the zone a little more consistently. Limiting the chase. He came up huge for us tonight, really the last few nights."

Odor has hit four homers in the last eight games after managing just one in his previous 26. He finished with a season-high three hits and it is the first time this season he's had multiple hits in consecutive games all season after he had two on Monday.

"He's hit fastballs, he's hit the off-speed pitch, he's laid off some pitches down, he's laid off some of the fastball mix," Banister said. "He's just forcing these guys to pitch to him."

Odor tied it at 2-2 when he dropped the first pitch of the seventh inning from Chris Devenski into the front row in right field.

He was at it again in the eighth when, after a single by Jonathan Lucroy with two outs, he connected off Luke Gregerson (2-2) into

the seats in left field to put Texas up 4-2. It was the fifth career multi-home run game for Odor and his second this season.

Nick Martinez allowed five hits and two runs in six innings. Jose Leclerc (1-1) pitched a scoreless seventh for the win and Matt Bush allowed one hit in 1 1/3 innings for his eighth save.

George Springer and Carlos Correa hit solo homers for the first-place Astros, who lost for the sixth time in eight games.

Houston starter Brad Peacock yielded two hits and walked four with a season-high 10 strikeouts in 4 2/3 innings. He was pitching on three days' rest because of an injury to Lance McCullers.

"Peacock was exceptional," manager A.J. Hinch

said. "I thought he got a little unlucky at the end when a couple of calls didn't go his way. All in all, he had really good put-away pitches and did a really good job of getting to the middle part of the game."

The Astros had runners at first and second with one out in the eighth inning, but Keone Kela retired Marwin Gonzalez before Bush struck out Jose Altuve to end the threat.

Lucroy, who turned 31 on Tuesday, finished with two hits for the Rangers, who improved to .500 (32-32) for the first time since May 25.

Springer put Houston up early with his MLB-leading seventh leadoff home run and Correa pushed

See **RANGERS**, Page 17

Report: Workers on World Cup construction sites face abuse

MOSCOW (AP) — Workers building stadiums for next year's World Cup in Russia have faced repeated abuses and routinely gone unpaid for several months, according to a report by Human Rights Watch released on Wednesday.

At a stadium in Yekaterinburg, some workers were required to work in temperatures of minus-25 degrees Celsius (minus-13 Fahrenheit) "without sufficient breaks for them to warm themselves," the report states.

"FIFA is essentially ex-

pecting us to take their word for it that their work has improved workers' lives," Jane Buchanan, the report's author, told The Associated Press. "This is supposed to be the reformed FIFA, moving away from secrecy and a lot of deals behind closed doors."

At least 17 workers have died on World Cup construction sites, according to Building and Wood Workers' International, a trade union.

Known deaths include workers killed in falls and the case of a worker from

North Korea who died of a reported heart attack at the stadium in St. Petersburg, which will host the final of the Confederations Cup on July 2, as well as World Cup matches in 2018.

The Confederations Cup is an eight-team event that begins on June 17 and is seen as a key test of Russia's readiness for the World Cup.

In a letter to four Scandinavian soccer associations last month, FIFA President Gianni Infantino said the governing body had "strong evidence" of

North Koreans working at the St. Petersburg site.

"FIFA is aware of and firmly condemns the often appalling labor conditions under which North Korean workers are employed in various countries around the world," Infantino said in the letter, which was obtained by The Associated Press.

The Human Rights Watch report, based on interviews with 42 workers at six sites, says Russian authorities are not doing enough to crack down

See **ABUSE**, Page 17

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



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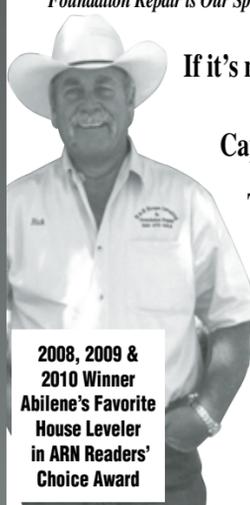


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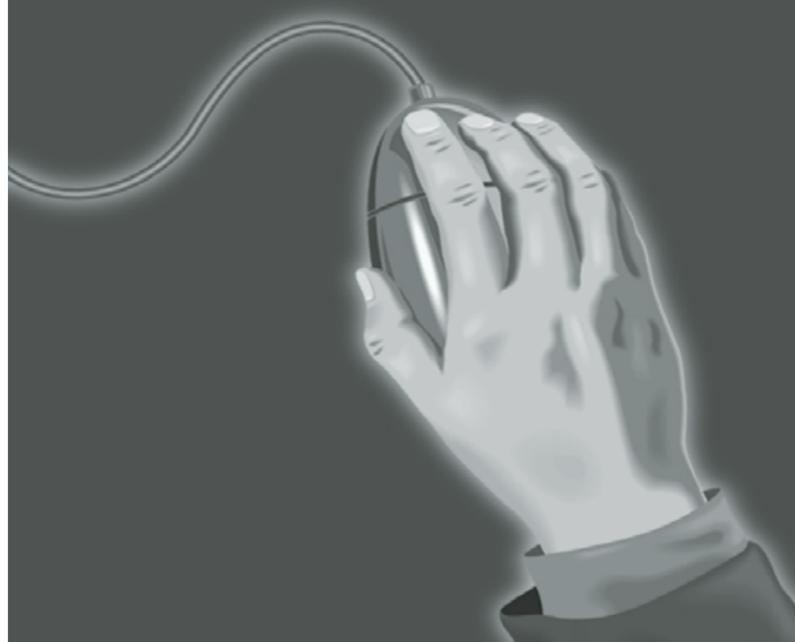
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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Air-Sign Atmospheric Attraction

The great law of the cosmos can be summed up in one word: attraction. It keeps the electrons of the atom flying around the nucleus. It keeps the galaxy swirling. And it keeps us pursuing the things that give our lives meaning. Today the sun and moon, both in air signs, will enliven the atmosphere by pumping in some extra affinity and mutual attraction.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Today's conundrum: If you act out of a desire to make yourself happy you will wind up suffering instead. Act out of a desire to benefit others and your eyes will be opened to the

opportunities in the situation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The adrenaline rush that comes with feeling passionate about someone can be addictive. That feeling is short-lived, though, and you've learned to anticipate the mellow follow-up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You continue to be in high demand. Don't automatically accept other people's timetables as your own. Take control of your schedule and your attention. Consider changing the notification settings on your phone.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'd like to believe you are in control of your opinion of yourself, but unhealthy relationships do have a way of eroding self-esteem, and healthy ones have the opposite effect. How is a relationship helping or hurting you?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Whenever you feel impatient, the fundamental problem is an internal one, namely a belief that the world needs to

Tomorrow's Horoscope

operate differently to accommodate you. You'll love what happens when you stay measured and calm instead.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). No moment is inherently more perfect than another, though certainly there are moments that are more memorable and/or personally satisfying to a particular ego. Just don't expect such things to be universal.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be called to a role or responsibility. Your service to the group comes with some tedium, but the work will go by quickly. Besides, it's better than the alternative: being left out of things.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your heart will soften, and you'll feel more for the whole world, not just for the main object of your affection. The love you give will in turn make you more lovable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You and your group are in it together. Keep up the good communication and you'll be able to rely on each

other to do what no individual could do alone.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll find the behavior of loved ones to be less than optimum. The frustration comes when you think you can control this. You can't, but as you learn to skillfully modify your reactions, things will change.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). From the outsider view a lot of what you'll do today won't make sense, but you know perfectly why it has to happen the way it does. You'll teach someone, too.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The answer to a business problem will be found in another business entirely. The secrets to solving a mystery in your own life will be present in someone else's life.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 14). This busy solar year shows you building, re-building and making moves. You'll be surrounded by enthusiastic and loving supporters. There's opportunity for a savvy investment in July.

September will bring new subjects of study and among them one so fascinating it may begin a passion you'll follow for years. Cancer and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 2, 4, 44 and 18.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "How do you suggest dealing with the difficult square aspect?"

The last and most troublesome of the major astrological aspects, the square occurs when two planets are at a 90-degree angle to each other. Unlike the opposition, which is also considered a "malevolent" aspect, there is no common ground to be found with the square. When planets square off against each other in the fighting ring, you have two options: head for the hills, or put up your dukes and get into the fight. Of course, most fights aren't physical. The hardest ones are internal struggles to align ourselves with our own best interests and healthiest choices. Squares involving Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, and Neptune

generally result in miscommunication, but are not as volatile as those with Mars, Saturn, Uranus or Pluto. The big exception to this is the Mars-Venus square, which is like throwing a scented candle onto the fire. It can make a mess; but sometimes it's just what a relationship needs to clear the air and infuse it with something lovely.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Kevin McHale broke Hollywood stereotypes with his characterization of Artie Abrams, a wheelchair user, on "Glee." McHale himself is not disabled and was considered by his cast mates to be a top dancer of the show. McHale's natal Sun, Moon, Mercury and Venus are all in Gemini, the sign ruled by wing-footed Mercury. Look for McHale in the television miniseries "When We Rise."

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact."
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Annie's Mailbox

Suspicious of Dad's Girlfriend

Dear Annie: Two years after my mentally ill mother passed away, my retired 76-year-old father, "Juan," started dating a 61-year-old woman, "Lucy." At first, Lucy was friendly to my sister and me, and we hoped we could fill a gap, because she was estranged from her own family and had lost her previous husband in a tragic New Year's Eve accident years prior. She has no children of her own. My family, including my three children,

was welcoming. My father is kind and generous to Lucy with trips and gifts, and it's good he has someone who brings that out in him.

But now, as the relationship has progressed, they are shutting us out of their lives. Lucy has caused rifts between us with gossip and talking behind our backs. She persuaded him to buy a house and move away from his network of friends and family. She pushed my father into using my sister's and my trust assets to buy said house, and she doesn't actually

live with my father. He's rented her an apartment of her own for three years now. She says she can't move in yet because she's "still cleaning out" her current place. Yet my dad just revised the deed to give her the house upon his passing.

My sister and I question Lucy's intentions, and we're worried she's using my dad. Our small family is now divided in a way I never thought possible. Any suggestions about how to salvage the relationship with my father without causing his girlfriend to further isolate him from my sister and me? -- Looking to Bridge the Girlfriend Divide

Dear Looking: Sharks can smell blood from a mile away. Your father has probably been hurting and feeling lonely for a long time. He was vulnerable. I'm not prepared to declare Lucy a shark just based on your letter; it's possible that she truly loves your father and you and she just have your differences. If she's a shark, her fin will surface in time. In the meantime, consult a lawyer to explore any legal options you might have should things with Lucy and your dad escalate. Even more importantly, be as much a part of your dad's life as possible so that he is not isolated. Take him to lunch, or go for walks together. The more he feels con-

nected to family the less dependent he will be on his girlfriend.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Worried Times Two," who were concerned about their potentially unsafe ex-daughter-in-law's having custody of their grandchildren. You may be interested in suggesting that in this situation, their son could ask the judge or magistrate to appoint a special advocate. It would be in the best interest of the children. Court-appointed special guardians can do amazingly thorough investigations and make recommendations to the court. I felt very sad about the situation described and have been involved over

the past 24 years as an advocate in similar situations. I would like these children to get the help they need.

-- Court-Appointed Special Advocate/Guardian Ad Litem

Dear CASA/GAL: I appreciate your bringing such a great resource to my attention. Thank you. Those interested in having an advocate appointed can visit <http://www.casaforchildren.org> for more information.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to 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.
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

More about probabilities

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 9 8
♥ J 9 8
♦ A Q 7
♣ A J 9 4

WEST
♠ K J 5 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ 10 6
♣ Q 10 8 5

EAST
♠ A 10 7
♥ 6 5
♦ J 9 5 4
♣ K 6 3 2

SOUTH
♠ 6 4 3
♥ A K Q 10 3
♦ K 8 3 2
♣ 7

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2NT Pass
3♦ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♥

Opening lead — five of clubs.

When you have seven cards in a suit, the six remaining cards will divide 3-3 36 percent of the time; 4-2, 48 percent; 5-1, 15 percent; and 6-0, 1 percent. With five cards missing, they will be divided 3-2 68 percent of the time; 4-1, 28 percent; and 5-0, 4 percent. Memorizing these figures is not a matter of life and death, but any player unfamiliar with them in at least a general way is operating under a handicap.

Let's see how the odds apply to

Tomorrow: The better way.
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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.

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

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
5:30 PM	Local 2 ABC	Hotel Noticiero	The List Big Bang	CBS 7 CBS 7	Tele Noticias	News News	Inspired M. Rantz	Scully Business	Hap. Days Griffith	American American	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	30 for 30		Mod Fam Storage	Alaskan Bush	
6:30 PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang ET	CBS 7 ET	Caso Cerrado	News News	Shepherd's Heart	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Movie: Transformers, Josh Duhamel (DVS)	First Take Special		Cowboy Focused	Mod Fam Storage	Alaskan Bush	
7:30 PM	Gold Speech	La Reina de la Vida E Carrillo	MasterChef The F Word	Undercover Boss	El Capo (SS)	2017 Stanley Cup Final: Predators at Penguins	News Aleph	Nature (DVS)	Griffith Griffith	Arrow	Big Bang Big Bang	World of X Games	World of X Games		MLB Baseball: Rangers at Houston Astros.	Mod Fam Storage	Alaskan Bush	
8:30 PM	Mod Fam House	Vida E Carrillo	The F Word	Criminal Minds	La Querida		Light of Southwest	NOVA (DVS)	Mama's ALF	DC's Legends	Big Bang	Claws (DVS)	MLB Baseball: Yankees at Angels		Mod Fam Storage	Alaskan Bush		
9:30 PM	Funderdome	La Piloto	News TMZ	Code Black	La Querida		Light of Southwest	Operation Maneater	Heroes Seinfeld	Seinfeld Full	Claws (DVS)	MLB Baseball: Yankees at Angels		Mod Fam Storage	Alaskan Bush			
10:30 PM	Local 2 ABC	Impacto Noticiero	Mod Fam Two Men	CBS 7 Late Show- Colbert	Tele Titulares	News Tonight Show	News Dr. C. Stanley	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett Perry Mason	King King	Conan	(:05) American Race	SportsCenter	Postgame Swing	Mod Fam Storage	Alaskan Bush		
11:30 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met Corden	James Corden	La Querida	Seth Meyers	Messiah (Off Air)	Newsline	T. Smiley	Tw. Zone	Conan	(:05) Hawaii Five-0	SportsCenter	World Poker	Mod Fam Storage	Alaskan Bush		
12:30 AM	Extra	La Mujer del Middle	Insider	News Zola Lev.	News		Light of Southwest	Hitchcock	Cheaters	Wrecked	Wrecked	(:05) Hawaii Five-0	SportsCenter	Jalen	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at Houston	Law Order: CI	Storage	Alaskan Bush
1:30 AM	Paid Prg. Paid Prg.	Mi Adorable	Law Order: CI	ET	Programa Proarama	(:08) Today	Light of Southwest	Mannix	Cheaters	Wrecked	Wrecked	(:05) Hawaii Five-0	SportsCenter	Jalen	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at Houston	Law Order: CI	Storage	Alaskan Bush

DENNIS THE MENACE



"DO YOU KNOW WHAT 'APATHETIC' MEANS?" "NO...AND I COULDN'T CARE LESS!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"Done! Now you guys get to enjoy me all day, every day!"

HAGAR



DID YOU CATCH ANYTHING FOR DINNER? NO! I COULDN'T DO IT! IT'S CRUEL

BLONDIE



COME ON! PEOPLE HAVE BEEN EATING FISH FOREVER!

BLONDIE



MAYBE SO, BUT I MADE FRIENDS WITH THE WORMS!

BC



PORTION SIZES ARE GETTING OUT OF HAND.

WIZARD OF ID



GOD HELP US RELAX. MAYBE THEY FORGOT TO TAKE DOWN THE HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS

BLONDIE



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LIKE THE FREEDOM TO WAKE YOU UP FROM A NAP!! HEH! HEH!

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, June 14, the 165th day of 2017. There are 200 days left in the year. This is Flag Day. Today's Highlight in History: On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress approved the design of the original American flag, declaring: "Resolved, that the Flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation." On this date: In 1775, the Continental Army, forerunner of the United States Army, was created. In 1801, former American Revolutionary War general and notorious turncoat Benedict Arnold died in London. In 1922, Warren G. Harding became the first president heard on radio, as Baltimore station WEAR broadcast his speech dedicating the Francis Scott Key memorial at Fort McHenry. In 1934, Max Baer defeated Primo Carnera with an 11th round TKO to win the world heavyweight boxing championship in Long Island City, New York.

In 1940, German troops entered Paris during World War II; the same day, the Nazis began transporting prisoners to the Auschwitz (OWSH-vitz) concentration camp in German-occupied Poland. In 1943, the U.S. Supreme Court, in West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette, ruled 6-3 that children in public schools could not be forced to salute the flag of the United States. In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a measure adding the phrase "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance. In 1967, the space probe Mariner 5 was launched from Cape Kennedy on a flight that took it past Venus. California Gov. Ronald Reagan signed a bill liberalizing his state's abortion law. The movie "To Sir, with Love," starring Sidney Poitier, was released by Columbia Pictures. In 1972, the Environmental Protection Agency ordered a ban on domestic use of the pesticide DDT, to take effect at year's end. In 1982, Argentine forces surrendered to British troops on the disputed Falkland Islands. In 1985, the 17-day hijack ordeal of TWA Flight 847 began as a pair of Lebanese Shiite (SHEE'-eyet) Muslim extremists seized the jetliner shortly after takeoff from Athens, Greece.

In 1992, Mona Van Duyn became the first woman to be named the nation's Poet Laureate by the Library of Congress. Ten years ago: Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas declared an emergency after the Hamas militant group effectively took control of the Gaza Strip. James Ford Seale was convicted of kidnapping Charles Eddie Moore and Henry Hezekiah Dee, two black teenagers who were drowned by the Ku Klux Klan in Mississippi in 1964. (Seale, sentenced to life, died in prison in 2011 at age 76.) Ruth Graham, the wife of evangelist Billy Graham, died in Montreat, North Carolina, at age 87. Former U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim died in Vienna at age 88. The San Antonio Spurs won their fourth NBA title in nine years.

Answer to previous puzzle

MASTI	ICON	LOCK
ALLAT	NONE	IVAN
STARR	DATA	DEMO
COMPETITORS	NEW	
ERA	TUCSON	
POTATO	SPOIL	
USED	ODOR	NORSE
THEOPPOSINGTEAM		
TAMPA	MAMA	HALT
TRIED	CREPES	
FLASKS	AHA	
ILL	ANTAGONISTS	
BABE	TONE	SOARE
EMUS	IRON	OWLET
RAMP	TENT	MATES

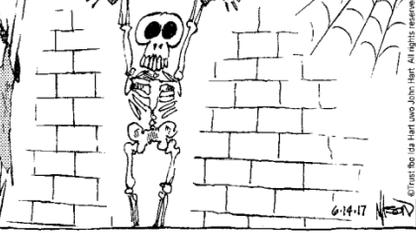
6/14/17

AGNES



THERE YA GO... FRESH COAT OF MIGHTY BEAUTY PAINT. MY FACE FEELS STIFF. IT TOOK A HEAVY LOAD FOR YOUR TRANSFORMATION. MY MOUTH LOOKS LIKE A TINY RASPBERRY DOUGHNUT. WE CALL THAT POUTY. IT MAKES ME WANT TO EAT MY LIPS OFF.

HI AND LOIS



THAT POOR FLY GOT CAUGHT IN THE SPIDER'S WEB. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT AGAINST FLIES?

THE OTHER COAST



OKAAY, SO YOU SWIPED FOOD OFF THE COUNTER ON WEDNESDAY, ROLLED IN MANURE ON THURSDAY... MICROCHIPS ARE GETTING WAY TOO SOPHISTICATED.

SNUFFY SMITH



MORNIN', LI'L TATER !! UP AN' AT 'EM !! FLOOBL SYNQZP DFRZZL MRFP ? HMM !! THAT'S A DARN GOOD QUESTION !! MAW, WHO'S "THEM" AN' WHY DO WE HAFTA GIT AT 'EM ?

BEEBLE BAILEY



I MADE YOU A FRESH POT OF COFFEE, SIR. YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO THAT, MISS BUXLEY. I KNOW, YOU CAN REWARD ME BY GIVING ME THE AFTERNOON OFF!

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Unsettled state
 - 6 Metal in tubas
 - 11 Boxing punch
 - 14 Celestial hunter
 - 15 Trim further
 - 16 "___ we there yet?"
 - 17 Loud building-surface cleaner
 - 19 Espionage org.
 - 20 Walked in
 - 21 Scoundrel
 - 23 Irish New Age singer
 - 25 Rival of Target
 - 26 Oust from office
 - 30 Former money in Spain
 - 33 Capital of Belarus
 - 34 Minor disagreements
 - 35 Diagnostic scan, for short
 - 38 Fall into a chair
 - 39 Hot-tempered
 - 40 Prophetic sign
 - 41 Stitch together
 - 42 Piece of a rose
 - 43 Religious belief
 - 44 Des __, IA
 - 46 In an unskilled way
 - 47 Potential oak
 - 49 Biblical garden
 - 51 Groups within groups
 - 54 Briefcase
 - 59 __ Lanka
 - 60 Loud sound from a storm
 - 62 Subj. for some immigrants
 - 63 Turned on, as an alarm
- DOWN**
- 1 Misplace
 - 2 Persian-speaking nation
 - 3 After-dinner candy
 - 4 Freshadow
 - 5 Out for coffee, say
 - 6 Recent Super Bowl quarterback
 - 7 Where you live: Abbr.
 - 8 Parts of plays
 - 9 Bird-feeder food
 - 10 Bowler's goals informally
 - 11 Loud construction tool
 - 12 Disney's Little Mermaid preservative
 - 13 Fairy tale trio
 - 18 Period after Mardi Gras
 - 22 Forget-me-__
 - 24 Placate
 - 26 Diamond arbiters
 - 27 Cairo's river
 - 28 Loud winter transport
 - 29 Psychic's claim
 - 31 __ Grey tea
 - 32 Home for hogs
 - 34 Locale
 - 36 Be stunned
 - 37 May auto race, informally
 - 39 Boggy area
 - 40 Gold, in Mexico
 - 42 Wood
 - 43 Be in charge of
 - 45 Surgery ctrs.
 - 46 Sampras of tennis
 - 47 Strong point
 - 48 Hex
 - 50 Family nickname
 - 52 NO __ TRAFFIC
 - 53 Amounts of money
 - 55 Sore spot
 - 56 Chowder morsel
 - 57 Do damage to
 - 58 Sporting blade
 - 61 After-tax

REALLY LOUD by Fred Piscop

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15							16
17					18							19
20							21		22			
			23			24			25			
26	27	28	29			30	31	32				
33					34					35	36	37
38					39					40		
41				42						43		
			44	45					46			
47	48						49	50				
51					52	53		54		55	56	57
59					60		61					
62					63					64		
65					66					67		

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RANGERS

Continued from Page 11

the lead to 2-0 with his solo shot to left in the fourth.

The Rangers didn't have a hit until Lucroy singled to start the fifth inning. Odor followed with a single before Jurickson Profar reached on a fielder's choice to load the bases with one out. Shin-Soo Choo drew a walk with two outs to send a run home



AP photo

Texas Rangers' Rougned Odor (12) celebrates his solo home run with Elvis Andrus, off Houston Astros relief pitcher Chris Devenski during the seventh inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, June 13, 2017, in Houston.

and chase Peacock. He was replaced by Will Harris, who retired Elvis Andrus to limit the damage.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Rangers: OF Carlos Gomez (right hamstring strain) is scheduled to play seven innings in a rehabilitation start for Double-A Frisco on Wednesday and if that goes well he could rejoin the Rangers as soon as Friday.

Astros: OF Josh Reddick was out on Tuesday after suffering a mild concussion crashing into the wall in right field trying to make a catch on Monday. Hinch said Reddick was being evaluated on Tuesday and the Astros weren't sure if he'll need to go on the 7-day concussion list.

LEADING OFF

Springer is one home run shy of matching the franchise record for most leadoff home runs in a season which he set last year and Craig Biggio accomplished in 2001.

He's the second player in MLB history to have seven leadoff homers through June 13 of a season and first since Brady Anderson in 1996 for the Orioles.

UP NEXT

Rangers: Andrew Cashner (3-5, 3.17 ERA) will start in the finale of this series on Wednesday night. He allowed six hits and one run in seven innings in a 5-2 win over Washington on Friday.

Astros: Francis Martes (0-0, 9.82) is scheduled to make his first major league start on Wednesday. The 21-year-old, who is Houston's top prospect, yielded four hits and four runs in 3 2/3 innings in his major league debut on Friday against the Angels.



AP photo

Dallas Cowboys' Jaylon Smith (54), Sean Lee (50) and Anthony Hitchens (59) walk off the practice field after NFL football practice at the team's training facility, Tuesday, June 13, 2017, in Frisco, Texas. Lee is surrounded by uncertainty on a Dallas defense needing improvement to match a dynamic offense that carried the Cowboys to the best record in the NFC last year. The All-Pro linebacker is a pretty good starting point.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 11

injury in his final game at Notre Dame. Veteran Anthony Hitchens is the starter at the moment.

Charlton will get a long look at defensive end, where DeMarcus Lawrence and 2016 team sacks leader Benson Mayowa could be starters on opening night.

Awuzie and Lewis could challenge Orlando Scandrick, Anthony Brown and free agent Nolan Carroll, but have work to do.

Scandrick is motivated and a full year removed from a knee injury that sidelined him all of 2015. Brown had a promising rookie year along with sudden stars Dak Prescott and Ezekiel Elliott. Carroll is running with the first time right now.

"I accept the challenge of the new guys coming in," Scandrick said. "Like I told them, I'm not going to give anybody my job. I want to be back to where I was. Until I am back to where I was and I'm doing it Sunday after Sunday after Sunday, I'm going to keep striving."

For Lee, the challenge is a little different since he knows he'll be playing. Coming off consecutive 100-tackle seasons while proving he can stay healthy, Lee can focus on leadership.

The knee injury sidelined him during the 12-4 run to the NFC East title in 2014, which made last year's 13-3 mark all the more enjoyable.

"It was a dream come true to really be part of that team," Lee said. "And now my goal is to play better and help our team take that next step."

ABUSE

Continued from Page 17

on employers who cheat workers out of wages, including many migrants with little legal protection.

"They pay whenever they want, however they want," one worker from Kyrgyzstan, identified only as Alibek, said in the report.

When workers demand full payment, they can be punished or kicked off the job by employers, the report says.

Similar complaints of wage theft were made by workers at Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow, the venue for the 2018 World Cup final, in interviews last year with the AP. Allegations of worker abuses were also common leading up to the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

"The lessons of Sochi haven't been learned," Buchanan said. "A lot of the same abuses persist."

Human Rights Watch called on the Russian government to enact tougher and more frequent investigations of suspect employers and bring prosecutions against violators. The group also accuses FIFA of not doing enough to speak out on workers' issues and of operating a flawed inspection program of its own, with only partial results made public.

FIFA defended its inspection program, saying it had seen a sharp fall in "the number of issues" at Russian construction sites, but didn't specify a timeframe or the total number of incidents.

"FIFA is going beyond what any sports federation has done to date to identify and address issues related to human and labor rights," the global soccer body said in a statement. "While in-compliances with relevant labor standards continue to be found — something to be expected in a project of this scale — the overall message of exploitation on the construction sites portrayed by HRW does not correspond with FIFA's assessment."

Separately, FIFA is also under pressure to safeguard workers' rights in the 2022 World Cup host nation of Qatar, where construction work is largely carried out by migrant workers who often have few legal rights.

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