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Funtastic rocks out weekend

Highland South Parade set for July 4



By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer

It's almost time again for the cutest parade in Howard County: The Annual Highland South Fourth of July Parade.

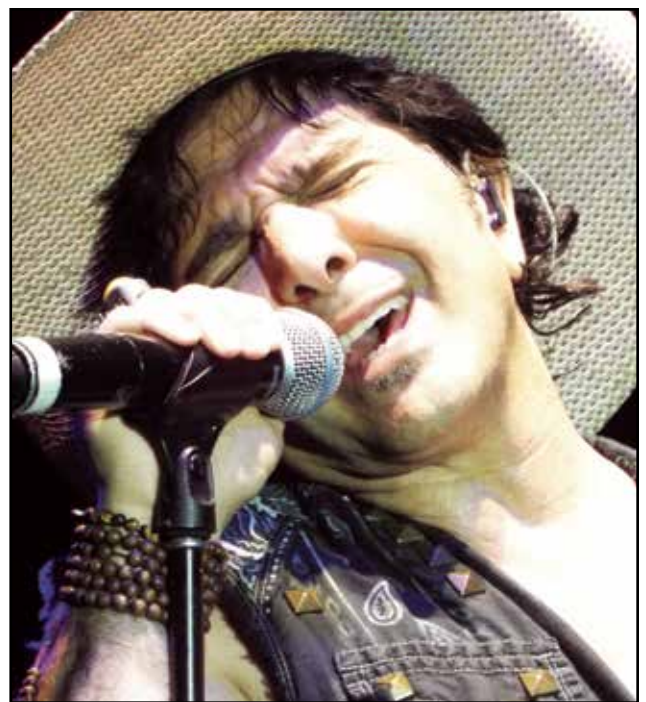
The march, while open to the whole community, really focuses on the younger set. Decorating categories include: strollers, wagons, walkers, pets, tricycles and Big Wheels, kids' battery-operated vehicles (up to age 12), golf carts, bicycles (age 1 to 7), bicycles (age 8 and up), scooters, skateboards, and rollerblades, motorized vehicles (age 12 to 18), four-wheelers (allowed only if an adult over 18 is driving), horses, mailboxes, and houses and lawns.

No, the mailboxes and houses and lawns won't be marching in the parade, but they'll be along the parade route through the community and are often lavishly decorated for the occasion.

Speaking of the parade route, the festivities kick off at 10 a.m. on July 4 from the corner of Highland and Robb. Participants should meet at that location at 9:30 a.m. The parade will wind its way down Highland to the intersection with Goliad, where refreshments, entertainment, and an announcement of the decoration winners will be announced.

For more information or to make a donation of money or cookies, call Shonda Folsom at 432-213-7671.

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



HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody

At top, Great White energizes the crowd as the headliners for Saturday's Funtastic Fourth outdoor concert. Pictured are band members Scott Snyder, Terry Ilous, Mark Kendall, and Michael Lardie. Drummer Audie Desbrow is not pictured. The band played to a packed crowd at the outdoor concert held on Main Street between Third and Fourth Streets. Lead singer Ilous wears a hat given to him by a member of the crowd. He later returned it to the original owner. At bottom right, Ilous, lead singer of Great White belts out a song. At bottom left, Alex Grossi, guitarist for Quiet Riot, plays a solo while Chuck Wright plays bass in the background.

Gas prices continue to fall in Texas

Special to the Herald

Average retail gasoline prices in Texas have fallen 4.3 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$2.06/g yesterday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 gas outlets in Texas. This compares with the national average that has fallen 2.6 cents per gallon in the last week to \$2.25/g, according to gasoline price website GasBuddy.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Texas during the past week, prices yesterday were 5.7 cents per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 12.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 11.5 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 5.7 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

According to GasBuddy historical data, gasoline prices on June 26 in Texas have ranged widely over the last five years:

See **GAS**, Page 3

Rain doesn't dampen spirits at Funtastic Fourth

By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer

Once bitten by foul weather Friday evening, thousands of people weren't twice shy about returning to downtown Big Spring that night for the music of Ronnie Milsap, and Saturday for Buzzkill, Quiet Riot, and Great White.

The event spanning Friday and Saturday was the 2017 Funtastic

Fourth Independence Day celebration, organized by Big Spring's Downtown Revitalization Association, and sponsored by Alon USA and 7-Eleven, among others.

"Oh, it's going wonderful," said Allan Johnson, volunteer and spokesman for the Big Spring DRA, Saturday afternoon. "It's been awesome today. "People have been out all day since early this morning. We had a good time during the gospel music and everybody's just coming out and having a good time."

Johnson said the crowd took shelter during the thunderstorm that plagued Big Spring Friday evening, but didn't let the bad weather dampen any spirits.

"We had a great attendance going last (Friday) night, and then we had Mother Nature...the weather kind of shot us in the foot there for a couple of hours or so," he said. "But we still had Ronnie Milsap and we still had a great crowd for him. So we're still excited. There were still a few thousand people out there. They weathered the storm and stayed out there with us."

In fact, the rain cooled temperatures considerably from the triple-

See **FOURTH**, Page 3



HAPPY Independence DAY

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Eulene Holder



Eulene Holder, 89, of Midland died Thursday, June 22, 2017 following a long battle with Alzheimer's and lung cancer. The family will receive friends on Monday, June 26, 2017 from 5 p.m. To 7 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 11 a.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel with burial to follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton.

She was born on May 5, 1928 to Maggie (Gibson) and Dudley Anderson in Stanton.

Eulene attended Stanton schools, graduating in 1945. She attended Texas State College for Women, now Texas Woman's University, for one year. In the spring of 1946 Fred Holder, whom she had known in high school, came home from the US Navy, and after a brief courtship, they were married Oct. 18 of that year.

Three children were born to them: Linda, born 1951, and twins, Laura and David, in 1957. The Holders lived in Stanton until 1969, when they moved to Midland. After Fred's untimely death in 1973, Eulene worked in various offices for Midland County, eventually settling in the Treasurer's office. She

Thomas Edmond Hammond

Thomas Edmond Hammond, 80, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, died June 20, 2017, at DCH Regional Medical Center, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. today, June 26, 2017, at The Word Community Church with Rob Moore officiating. Visitation was held from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. today, June 26, 2017, at The Word Community Church. Funeral arrangements were under Norwood-Wyatt Chapel Funeral Home in Fayette, Alabama.

Tom was born in Big Spring, Texas in 1936 and graduated from Big Spring High School. After high school, Tom was made a Blue Lodge Texas Mason and was a member for over 50 years. Tom met Lois, at the age of 20 and the couple were married for 59 years until her passing in December of 2016.

Tom was also a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and

retired from Midland County in 1988. In 1992 her first grandchild, Kinsey Delaine, was born, and Eulene cared for her during her first year of life. In 1995 a grandson, Jeffrey Daniel arrived. She adored her grandchildren, spending time with her family and her companion cats and pet turtles. Gardening and sewing were her other two favorite pastimes. She is survived by her son David Holder and fiancée, Jennifer Simmons; grandchildren, Kinsey Holder and fiancée, R.J. Pase, and Jeff Holder, all of Midland; daughters, Laura Holder Roderick and husband, Rick, also of Midland and Linda Holder Ritter and husband, Dave, of Canyon, Texas. Other surviving family members include, nieces, Carlene Spicer and Janice Latham of Abilene; nephews, Richard Burns of Mississippi, Dale Burns and wife, Linda, of Midland, Ann and Daniel Boone of Santa Fe, N.M., and Bob and Nancy Grisham of Irving.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred; her parents, Maggie and Dudley; her sister, Frances Boyce; and her niece, Becky Boyce.

Pallbearers will be Dale Burns, Rick Roderick, David Holder, and Jeff Holder.

Our family wishes to thank the staff at Manor Park for the love and care they provided to our mother over the last five years.

In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to MASA, P.O. Box 6016, Midland, TX; or Martin County Historical Museum.; or Alzheimer's Association.

Paid obituary

an active member of the Marine Corps League in Tuscaloosa. He moved to Tuscaloosa to become the Chief of Canteen Services at the VA Medical Center. Upon leaving the VA, Tom worked in retail for many years and spent the last 19 years at The Locker Room.

He is survived by two daughters, Kelly Stazel of Montgomery, Alabama, and Shelly Cole (Jason) of Northport, Alabama; a son, Matt Hammond (Kristy) of Northport, Alabama; two sisters, Sue Gilliam (Bob) of San Antonio, Texas, and Vicki Robertson (Randy) of Big Spring; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Watson and Mary Louise Hammond, and his wife of 59 years, Lois Hammond.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggest donations be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Take Note

• "Getting Back to School Ready" will be presented - at Scenic Mountain Medical Center - by Dr. Joseph Chavez for the next Lunch n Learn, July 13 at 11:30 a.m.

The presentation is free to attend and will focus on immunizations and getting kids ready to go back to school.

To RSVP, call 432-268-4699.

• Maranatha Baptist Academy has open enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year beginning June 26 - July 13.

Office hours are 8-10:30 a.m. Come in and pre-register for the new year. Using Accelerated Christian Education curriculum. Ages 4 years through high school.

Please contact Dr. Lillian Bohannon at 432-213-1046 for an appointment.

• 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.

• Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

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

• Big Spring Centennial Lion's Club meets twice a month at the Big Spring TA Truck Stop. They meet on the first Tuesday of the month at noon and the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

• The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

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

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact 432-271-2138.

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

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

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary Group is looking to expand. Positions are available for the Auxiliary group and the Teen Volunteer program. Must be 15 years of age to take part in the teen volunteer program. If you would like to volunteer please contact Heath White at 268-4850.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in need of volunteers. Applications can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday - Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Police, Sheriff reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **JAMES CANTU**, 47, of 1211 Lloyd Avenue, was arrested on charges on driving while intoxicated, failure to identify fugitive, and on a warrant from another agency,

• **CRUZ GUTIERREZ JR.**, 24, of 1306 Stanford Avenue, was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

• **FREDDIE LEE WILLIAMS JR.**, 43, of 2102 South Main, was arrested on a warrants for assault by contact, failure to appear, and on three warrants from other agencies.

• **VINH THANH NGO**, 45, of Taft, California, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 1200 block of East 15th Street.

• **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1600 block of East 16th Street.

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 86 inmates at the time of this report.

• **JAMES CANTU**, 47, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for bail jumping and failure to appear, driving while intoxicated, and failure to identify fugitive or intentionally giving false information.

• **TRICIA DIANE CASTILLO**, 41, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for no drivers license, defective head lamp, possession/manufacture/distribution of instruments to commit retail theft, and engaging in organized criminal activity by theft.

• **GINGER BRISSA COATES**, 18, was booked by the BSPD on a bailman off bond warrant for evading arrest or detention.

• **MICHELLE LYNN CUELLAR**, 30, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• **CRUZ GUTIERREZ JR.**, 24, was booked by the BSPD on a motion to revoke warrant for possession of a controlled substance between 1 and 4 grams.

• **DAVID TYERRELL HALBAEDIER**, 38, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for running a stop sign, two counts of assault by physical contact, and on a motion to adjudicate guilt warrant for possession of a con-

trolled substance between 1 and 4 grams.

• **KENNETH EVANS MCGRUDER**, 71, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for driving while intoxicated.

• **ZAVIER GARCIA MOYA**, 42, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• **VINH THANH NGO**, 45, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• **FREDDIE LEE WILLIAMS JR.**, 43, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for forgery of financial instrument, criminal mischief between \$750 and \$2500, assault that causes bodily injury, assault by physical contact, and failure to appear.

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 100 block of Jonesboro. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported on Driver Road. One person was transported to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Support Groups

MONDAY

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

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

TUESDAY

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

This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock

APDA office at 806-785-0942.

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

• A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will start Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship located in the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700.

There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided.

Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

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

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FOURTH

Continued from Page 1

digit heat in effect Friday prior to the storm.

"It was wonderful!" Johnson said about the cooler weather. "And then today's been great all day long."

Along with Milsap, Spur 327 performed Friday night. The rain prevented hometown boy, Mark McKinney, from playing but the Austin-based musician was in the wings ready before the storm hit.

While the music stage drew huge crowds, children flocked to the Kids'

Zone, where various carnival rides including the Pirate's Revenge, a ferris wheel, and a bungee jump ride, dominated the activity. Of course, vendors were selling great carnival food, souvenir shirts, toys, and hand-drawn caricatures, as well as painting faces and temporary tattoos.

"The kids are out there having a blast," Johnson said.

Saturday morning, Johnson himself took to the stage along with other local musicians for an interlude of gospel and praise music.

"We had a great time praising the Lord and we had some good people...a bunch of people...come out for it," he

said. "It was good."

The musical festivities Saturday kicked off with El Paso-based State Limbo, followed by a few famous names.

"Right now we have Buzzkill about to go on the stage," Johnson said at about 6:30 p.m. "And then we have Quiet Riot and Great White. Boy, we should have a great turnout for that. Some great rock and roll."

Johnson said the DRA has been able to attract some well-known acts to the annual festival thanks to its corporate sponsors. Of course, community members turning out as audiences for the shows doesn't hurt either.

"That's all thanks to ALON-USA and 7-Eleven coming in and putting all their backing behind us. That makes it great, and the total community support where we can do something like this," he said. "We just appreciate all the people coming out and supporting it. We hope they continue to do so. And all the local businesses and everybody who did support us, thank you. And those who didn't, hopefully you will, because this is something great and wonderful for Big Spring, Texas."

For more photos of the event, see Page 12.

Trump eager for big meeting with Putin; some advisers wary

By VIVIAN SALAMA

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is eager to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin with full diplomatic bells and whistles when the two are in Germany for a multinational summit next month. But the idea is exposing deep divisions within the administration on the best way to approach Moscow in the midst of an ongoing investigation into Russian meddling in the U.S. elections.

Many administration officials believe the U.S. needs to maintain its distance from Russia at such a sensitive time — and interact only with great caution.

But Trump and some others within his administration have been pressing for a full bilateral meeting. He's calling for media access and all the typical protocol associated with such sessions, even as officials within the State Department and National Security Council urge more restraint, according to a current and a former administration official.

Some advisers have recommended that the president instead do either a quick, informal "pull-aside" on the sidelines of the summit, or that the U.S. and Russian delegations hold "strategic stability talks," which typically don't involve the presidents. The officials spoke anonymously to discuss private policy discussions.

The contrasting views underscore differing views within the administration on overall Russia policy, and Trump's eagerness to develop a working relationship with Russia despite the ongoing investigations.

Asked about the AP report that Trump is eager for a full bilateral meeting, Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters in Moscow on Monday that "the protocol side of it is secondary." The two leaders will be attending the same event in the same place at the same time, Peskov said, so "in any case there will be a chance to meet." Peskov added, however, that no progress in hammering out the details of the meeting has been made yet.

There are potential benefits to a meeting with Putin. A face-to-face meeting can humanize the two sides and often removes some of the intrigue involved in

impersonal, telephone communication. Trump — the ultimate dealmaker — has repeatedly suggested that he can replace the Obama-era damage in the U.S.-Russia relationship with a partnership, particularly on issues like the ongoing Syria conflict.

There are big risks, though. Trump is known to veer off-script, creating the possibility for a high-stakes diplomatic blunder. In a brief Oval Office meeting with top Russian diplomats last month, Trump revealed highly classified information about an Islamic State group threat to airlines that was relayed to him by Israel, according to a senior administration official. The White House defended the disclosures as "wholly appropriate."

In addition, many observers warn that Putin is not to be trusted.

Oleg Kalugin, a former general with Russia's main security agency, known as the KGB, said Putin, a shrewd and experienced politician, has "other priorities" than discussing the accusations that Russia hacked the U.S. election with Trump, such as easing sanctions, raising oil prices, as well as next year's presidential elections in Russia.

"Putin knows how to redirect a conversation in his favor," Kalugin said.

Nina Khrushcheva, a Russian affairs professor at the New School, said Trump is in an "impossible position."

"He can't be too nice to Putin because it's going to be interpreted in a way that suggests he has a special relationship with Russia," she said. "He can't be too mean because Putin has long arms and KGB thinking. So Trump needs to have a good relationship with him but he also needs to fulfill his campaign promises of establishing better relations with Russia."

The White House said no final decision has been made about whether a meeting will take place. It did not respond to questions about the opposing views within the administration.

Bilateral meetings are common during summits like the G20, where many world leaders and their advisers are gathered in one place. The meetings are typically highly choreographed affairs, with everything from the way the two leaders shake hands to the

looks that they exchange and the actual words spoken offering glimpses into the state of affairs.

The last U.S.-Russia bilateral meeting was a 2015 encounter between Putin and President Barack Obama that began with an awkward handshake and ended with progress on the brutal civil war in Syria.

That 2015 meeting, the first in two years, involved a 90-minute sit-down at U.N. headquarters. Putin and U.S. officials later said the two leaders had made progress on issues related to Syria, which had strained their already tense relationship. For the Obama administration, cautious engagement was the name of the game, with the U.S. working tirelessly to find middle ground with Moscow on Syria, Ukraine and other issues.

The disconnect between Trump and his advisers in the State Department and National Security Council over Russia runs deeper than the debate over a G20 bilateral.

A former administration official who spoke anonymously to discuss classified information said that frustration is growing among foreign policy advisers over the failure of the White House to embrace a more cautious and critical approach to Russia. All 17 U.S. intelligence agencies have agreed Russia was behind last year's hack of Democratic email systems and tried to influence the 2016 election to benefit Trump.

Trump has to directly "say to Putin, 'We're not happy about you interfering in our election,'" said Steven Pifer, a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine. "If you don't say that, you are going to get hammered by the press and Congress and you can guarantee Congress will pass sanctions legislation against Russia."

"They also need to keep their expectations very, very modest," added Pifer. "If they aim for a homerun in Hamburg, my guess is they'll strike out."

GAS

Continued from Page 1

\$2.11/g in 2016, \$2.58/g in 2015, \$3.51/g in 2014, \$3.39/g in 2013 and \$3.21/g in 2012.

Areas near Texas and their current gas price climate:

- Midland Odessa- \$2.14/g, down 3.5 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.18/g.
- San Antonio- \$1.99/g, down 5.2 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.04/g.
- Austin- \$2.05/g, down 4.8 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.10/g.

As motorists pack their cars in preparation for the July 4 holiday, gasoline prices continue their widespread drop, falling in all five states over the last week, as retail prices play

catch up to the falling price of crude oil," said Patrick DeHaan, senior petroleum analyst at GasBuddy. "Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Illinois saw prices rise slightly due only to the fact that gas prices had fallen so significantly that stations in those areas were selling under their cost, prompting an adjustment. For the rest of the country, the downward momentum has continued and may do so again this week, so long as there's no sudden reversal in the price of crude oil. It's amazing we're staring at some of the cheapest prices of the year as the holiday comes into view," DeHaan said.

For LIVE fuel price averages, visit <http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com>.

Philando Castile family reaches \$3M settlement in death

By AMY FORLITI

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The mother of Philando Castile, a black motorist killed by a Minnesota police officer last year, has reached a nearly \$3 million settlement in his death, according to an announcement Monday by her attorneys and the Minneapolis suburb that employed the officer.

The settlement to be paid to Valerie Castile, who is the trustee for her family in the case, will avoid a federal wrongful death lawsuit stemming from Philando Castile's death. The 32-year-old elementary school cafeteria worker was killed by St. Anthony officer Jeronimo Yanez during a traffic stop July 6 after Castile told the officer he was armed. Castile had a permit for his gun. The shooting gained widespread attention after Castile's girlfriend, who was in the car with her then-4-year-old daughter, livestreamed its gruesome aftermath on Facebook.

Yanez, who is Latino, was acquitted of manslaughter and other charges earlier this month. The jury's decision prompted days of protests, including one in St. Paul that shut down Interstate 94 for hours and ended with 18 arrests. The \$2.995

million settlement will be paid by the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust, which holds the insurance policy for the city of St. Anthony. It requires approval by a state court, which could take several weeks. The statement from the city and Castile's attorneys says no taxpayer money will be used to fund the settlement.

Robert Bennett, who along with attorney Glenda Hatchett is representing Valerie Castile, said the idea behind the settlement was to move expeditiously rather than have the case drawn out in federal court, a process that would "exacerbate and reopen terrible wounds." The settlement will also allow the family, the city and community to work toward healing, Bennett said.

"No amount of money could ever replace Philando," the joint statement said. "With resolution of the claims the family will continue to deal with their loss through the important work of the Philando Castile Relief Foundation." A Facebook page for the nonprofit foundation says it was established to help victims of gun violence and to provide relief for the grieving

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Texas man charged in boating accident that killed 4-year-old

TEMPLE, Texas (AP) — Authorities in Central Texas have charged a man with criminal negligent homicide after a 4-year-old girl was killed and her father seriously injured when they were run over by a houseboat.

Forty-four-year-old Jason Bernal of Killeen was held over the weekend at the Bell County jail before posting bail and being released.

Katlyn Oliver died Friday evening after suffering severe lacerations from the propeller of the boat at Temple Lake Park.

Temple police say the legs of her 37-year-old father were amputated when he tried to help his daughter. The father, who has not been identified, was listed in serious condition Sunday.

Police in a statement Sunday did not specify whether Bernal was driving the houseboat.

It's not clear if he has a lawyer to speak on his behalf.

Justices rule against death row inmate over lawyer errors

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court has ruled against a Texas death row inmate who said his lawyers failed to challenge a faulty jury instruction at his trial and on appeal.

The justices ruled 5-4 on Monday that Erick Davila could not bring a claim that his appeals lawyer was ineffective for failing to challenge the work of his trial lawyer.

Davila was convicted in 2009 of the shooting deaths of a 5-year-old girl and her grandmother at a children's birthday party in Fort Worth. Prosecutors said Davila was trying to shoot someone else as part of a gang dispute.

Davila claimed the jury should have been instructed it could find him guilty of both murders only if he meant to kill two people. He said he only meant to kill one.

Body of man who went missing along SE Texas coast found

GALVESTON, Texas (AP) — Authorities say the body of a 19-year-old man who went missing while fishing along the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast has been found.

The Brazoria County Sheriff's Office says the body of Jacob Szydowski (sid-LAO'-ski) was spotted floating Saturday evening near the southwest end of Galveston Island by a fisherman.

Szydowski had gone missing Friday morning as he and a friend were fishing along the San Luis Pass Bridge near the island, located about 60 miles southeast of Houston.

Sheriff's Office Lt. Varon Snelgrove says Szydowski and his friend were swept up by a severe undertow at the base of the bridge. Szydowski's friend was able to escape the strong currents.

The U.S. Coast Guard looked for Szydowski but had suspended its search on Saturday morning.

Texas wife sentenced to prison for killing officer husband

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A woman has been sentenced to 12 years in prison for killing her husband — a San Antonio police officer — by running him over with her vehicle.

The San Antonio Express-News reports Diana Marileen Lopez was sentenced following a court hearing on Friday.

The 27-year-old Lopez had pleaded guilty in April to failure to stop and render aid resulting in death.

Prosecutors say she intentionally drove her SUV into Ernesto Vasquez in December 2015. Vasquez died several months later after being hospitalized.

While testifying on Friday, Lopez said she lied to detectives during the investigation into her husband's death.

Vasquez's sister, Judith Vasquez, testified she remembered her sibling as a loving brother, father and son who was always close to his parents.

3-year-old boy dies after he's found in hot car in Texas

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Police in Texas say a three-year-old has died after he climbed into a hot car that was parked in the yard of his Fort Worth home.

Investigators believe the boy, Keandre Goodman, was inside the vehicle for at least 45 minutes on Friday when his parents discovered him.

The temperature in Fort Worth was 98 degrees (37 degrees Celsius) that day.

Police say Keandre was found unresponsive inside the car, which was inoperable.

He was taken to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead. This was the second such death in Texas on Friday. In Houston, police say a 7-month-old boy died after he was left in a car outside a business while his father was inside working.

Armstrong and government spar over upcoming trial evidence



AP photo

In this July 24, 2004, file pool photo, overall leader Lance Armstrong, right, of Austin, Texas, follows compatriot and teammate Floyd Landis, left, in the ascent of the La Croix Fry pass during the 17th stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Bourg-d'Oisans and Le Grand Bornand, French Alps. Armstrong's \$100 million civil fraud trial is months away, yet his fight with the government and former teammate-turned-rival Floyd Landis is heating up. Landis, who tipped investigators to Armstrong's cheating back in 2010, wants to prevent Armstrong from telling jurors about his own doping history and motivation to file a lawsuit that could put more than \$20 million in his pocket.

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Lance Armstrong's \$100 million fraud trial is months away, yet his fight with the government and former teammate-turned-rival Floyd Landis is heating up. Armstrong wants to bar potential testimony and evidence from some of his most dogged critics, including the blistering U.S. Anti-Doping Agency report that led to his downfall and former Tour de France champion Greg LeMond, who now stands as the only American to have officially won the race.

Landis, who tipped investigators to Armstrong's cheating back in 2010, wants to prevent Armstrong from telling jurors about his own doping history and motivation to file a lawsuit that could put more than \$20 million in his pocket.

Trial is scheduled for November in federal court in Washington, and lawyers for both sides recently filed a series of motions asking U.S. District Judge Christopher Cooper to exclude some key evidence.

Landis initially sued Armstrong in 2010, alleging Armstrong violated the cycling team's U.S. Postal Service contract by using performance-enhancing drugs. The government joined in 2013 after Armstrong admitted using steroids and other banned performance-enhancing drugs and techniques to win the Tour de

France seven times and become the world's dominant bicycle racer from 1999-2005. The government wants to recover more than \$30 million the Postal Service paid to sponsor Armstrong's team and will seek triple damages.

Armstrong's cheating was exposed and detailed in a 2012 U.S. Anti-Doping Agency report that included sworn testimony from several of his former teammates. He was stripped of his Tour de France victories, banned from competition and has paid an estimated \$20 million to settle various lawsuits. Armstrong's lawyers now call the USADA report "inadmissible hearsay" for the federal case and say it was written to satisfy the motives of an agency out to get him. They notably object to the report's summation that Armstrong led the most "most sophisticated" doping program in sports history.

Even if the report is blocked, Armstrong has admitted and provided sworn testimony about his performance-enhancing drug use.

Armstrong also wants to block testimony from Betsy Andreu, the wife of former Armstrong teammate Frankie Andreu. She was one of the first to provide sworn testimony about Armstrong's drug use in a 2005 lawsuit, and has been a prominent critic of Armstrong's past efforts to intimidate anyone who raised the specter of his doping. Armstrong's law-

yers call her a publicity seeker who blames Armstrong for her husband not having a better career.

Betsy Andreu said she hasn't done TV interviews about Armstrong since 2013 and turned down a book deal.

"It's been well established that Lance will stop at nothing to discredit my husband and me because of our uncompromising integrity," she told The Associated Press. "Lance tried to shut me up by bullying me to the point of breaking me. He didn't succeed then, he will not succeed now."

LeMond's presence at trial could be explosive as he has clashed fiercely with both Armstrong and Landis in the past. Armstrong's lawyers want him out. "While LeMond is well-versed in the prevalence of doping throughout the sport during the relevant time period (1997-2004) and still owns the record for the fastest time trial in Tour de France history, he has no personal knowledge regarding Armstrong, the USPS sponsorship agreement, or invoices submitted for sponsorship payments," Armstrong's lawyers wrote.

Kathy LeMond told the AP her husband has intimate knowledge of Postal Service contracting in the mid-1990s and the expectation by the government that teams were expected to be clean. LeMond was retired when the same group that organized Armstrong's team first approached him about having a role in a Post-

al Service team, then froze him out, she said.

"They asked him to use his name to try to get a U.S.-based team," Kathy LeMond said. "We have those documents ... We gave it all to the Justice Department."

The government wants the judge to block some of Armstrong's evidence as well, including two reports commissioned by the Postal Service during the team sponsorship. Those reports claim the sponsorship was worth more than \$100 million in global exposure, leading Armstrong to claim he owes the government nothing. The government argues those reports should be disallowed as "hearsay" that lack expert testimony to support them.

The government also wants to prevent him from attacking Landis' character and motivation. Landis' 2006 Tour de France victory was stripped after he was caught using synthetic testosterone. He initially claimed innocence and asked the public to finance his defense. Landis was later prosecuted for fraud and paid back more than \$475,000.

As the whistleblower against Armstrong, Landis stands to pocket up to 25 percent of any damages awarded.

"Armstrong should not be allowed to deflect the jury's attention from his own misdeeds by putting Landis on trial and introducing evidence to cast him in a bad light," the government wrote.



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Rangers power up for big lead, hold off Yankees 7-6

By JAKE SEINER

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Staring down Yankees slugger Gary Sanchez in the ninth inning, Matt Bush looked the part of a poised closer, even if the Texas Rangers right-hander hasn't felt it this week. Not after three saves on Monday and Friday.

Telling himself to breathe deep, Bush struck out Sanchez, stopping New York's charge from a seven-run deficit and giving the Rangers a 7-6 victory Sunday.

"That should be a huge confidence builder for him,"

manager Jeff Banister said.

Bush, a former top-overall draft pick as a shortstop who has salvaged a career following a prison sentence for drunk driving, has felt the weight of his recent struggles. After blowing a save last Monday against Toronto, Bush gave up a tying homer to New York's Brett Gardner on Friday in a 2-1, 10-inning loss.

"It's very tough," Bush said. "You think about all kinds of stuff. You think about, 'Am I going to be able to support my fiancée? Am I going to be able to continue to play this game?'"

Bush got Sanchez swinging Sunday at a curveball in the dirt with Aaron Judge at first base, completing his ninth save. The closer said he was just trying to keep his mind in the right place on the Yankee Stadium mound.

"Look these hitters in the eye, let them know I'm coming right after them," Bush said.

Adrian Beltre, Shin-Soo Choo and Drew Robinson each homered off starter Michael Pineda to build the Rangers' big lead.

Robinson's solo shot was his first major league hit and put Texas up 7-0 in the fourth

inning. The Rangers improved to 11-5 over their past 16 games.

New York rallied behind homers from Sanchez and Ronald Torreyes.

In the seventh inning, New York's Didi Gregorius lofted what would have been a go-ahead three-run homer down the right field line, but the ball was foul by about a foot.

Gregorius then singled off Alex Claudio to drive in a run and make it 7-6, but Sanchez was thrown out at third to end the inning.

"That was a mistake on my part," Sanchez said. "I shouldn't be the last out at

third base. I kept going and thought I had a chance. I didn't."

Pineda (7-4) gave up seven runs in four innings, and the Yankees lost for the 10th time in 12 games since reaching a season-high 15 games over .500.

Nick Martinez (3-3) gave up four runs in five innings, including a three-run homer to Sanchez.

Judge had two hits and two walks.

BEATEN AND BRUISED

Yankees outfielder Aaron Hicks will go on the disabled

See RANGERS, Page 11

Astros hits 3 HRs, beat Seattle 8-2



AP photo

Houston Astros' Evan Gattis belts a two-run home run against the Seattle Mariners in the ninth inning of a baseball game Sunday, June 25, 2017, in Seattle.

SEATTLE (AP) — The Houston Astros went into their game at Safeco Field leading the majors in home runs. They quickly added to that total.

George Springer, Yuli Gurriel and Evan Gattis hit long home runs and the Astros wrapped up another winning road trip, beating the Seattle Mariners 8-2 Sunday.

The Astros went 6-1 on this swing and improved to a major league-best 29-9 on the road. They also own the top record in baseball at 52-25, helped by 124 home runs.

"I felt like our offense was really good," manager A.J. Hinch said. "We're going to be able to at least piece something together on most nights."

Houston rookie Francis Martes started in place of Brad Peacock, who's on the paternity list. Martes gave up two runs in two rough innings, walking four and hitting a batter.

Four relievers combined to shut out the Mariners on three hits for seven innings, with Michael Feliz (3-1) getting the win.

"They came up with huge innings and they came

in and threw very well," Hinch said. "Obviously, it's big to get a series win against these guys on the road, the way they've been playing, but we needed all of our guys to step up."

Ariel Miranda (6-4) allowed four runs on five hits and a walk in 7 1/3 innings.

Springer hit his 22nd homer in the fourth. The solo shot hit the batter's eye in center field and traveled an estimated 456 feet.

Later in the inning, Carlos Correa added an RBI double and Gurriel hit a

two-run homer into the upper deck in left field.

In the ninth, Gattis hit a two-run homer into the upper deck, his fifth of the season.

Robinson Cano staked Seattle a 2-0 lead in the second with a two-out, bases-loaded double. Trying to score from first, Mitch Haniger was ruled out at the plate.

The Mariners challenged the call, which appeared to get overturned when umpire Angel Hernandez gave a safe signal.

See ASTROS, Page 11

Westbrook set to learn if his historic season was an MVP one

By CLIFF BRUNT

AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A year ago, uncertainty surrounded Russell Westbrook.

Kevin Durant stunned the league by leaving Oklahoma City for rival Golden State in free agency. The four-time scoring champion and former MVP had been the central piece in making the Thunder one of the league's elite teams since the franchise's move to Oklahoma City in 2008.

Westbrook had played his entire NBA career alongside Durant, so questions about how Westbrook would respond immediately cropped up.

He defiantly answered them with memorable performances.

Westbrook became the first player since Oscar Robertson in 1961-62 to average a triple-double for a season and won his second scoring title. He broke Robertson's single-season record with 42 triple-doubles and led the Thunder to the playoffs. Now, he will join Houston's James Harden and San Antonio's Kawhi Leonard as finalists for the league's MVP award. The winner will be announced Monday at the inaugural NBA Awards show.

Westbrook gained satisfaction from the team's success, which largely was fueled by his personal dominance.

"With everything happening last summer, people counted us out," he said the day after Oklahoma City's season ended. "They weren't sure how many games we were going to win or how far we were going to go or whatever, but I think the group of guys, we never let that sink in our building. We stuck together, and that's the thing I'm most proud of."

Westbrook wasn't just stat stuffing, either. The Thunder went 33-9 when he had a triple-double and 14-26 when he didn't. He seemingly gained energy as the season progressed and was statistically better after the All-Star break than before. As for those late-game situations, he led the league with 10 points per game in the fourth quarter and was one of the most dynamic closers in the league.

See MVP, Page 11

Jordan Spieth holes bunker shot to win Travelers playoff

By PAT EATON-ROBB

AP Sports Writer

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP) — Jordan Spieth needed an extra hole, a little bit of luck and an amazing final shot to finish off a wire-to-

wire victory in the Travelers Championship.

The two-time major champion holed out from 60 feet for birdie on a greenside bunker on the first hole of a playoff with

Daniel Berger on Sunday at TPC River Highlands.

The 23-year-old Texan joined Tiger Woods as the only PGA Tour players in the era since World War

See SPIETH, Page 11



AP photo



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

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

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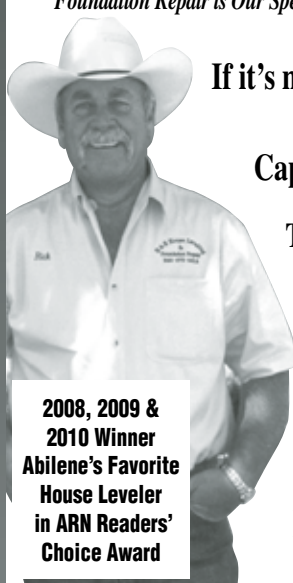
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HOLIDAY
MATHIS

make it so.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're not always looking for a robust learning experience. You just want to know how to make it work. You'll appreciate those who can get to the point and show you how to fix it without too much backstory.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It feels like you started this journey ages ago, but you're not in the final stretch yet. You're not even halfway there! Be consistent with your efforts and march on.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You wanted to know, but you were afraid to ask. Your chance comes today. You can speak candidly and others will not be offended, because your question holds within it the innocence of a child.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A school of thought is like a brick-and-mortar school in that the one you attend will change everything -- the people you know, the activities you become involved in, even where and how you live.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Sept. 22). The teacher will not recruit a class; instead the students will seek a teacher. For this reason, don't wait around for the opportunity to learn. Decide what you want to know, and go find someone who knows it already.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). To remain true to your core won't be a rigid stance but a flexible one. Great strength sways with the wind and weather like the ancient trees do, reaching roots ever downward as they grow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The challenge calls for a vision into the far-off future. If you can't get a good idea of what's to come, you can at least have faith that it's something good. It's important that you don't sell your future for a quick fix today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Don't worry about the money so much. Creativity will take over where the money leaves off. In this and other ways the ends will find their own magical way of meeting.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19). To create is to feel vitality flowing through you, to be animated by the force of life. The nature of the material world is to have an ending, but the nature of creation is to live on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). To ask "What's in it for me?" isn't selfish today; it's practical. And if you don't negotiate it, who will? It would be irresponsible to depend on others to be your No. 1 advocate when you're perfectly suited for the job.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Even though people yearn for excitement, they also crave predictability. There's a balance to be struck here, and you'll succeed in bringing a little of both to a relationship.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 26). The next 10 weeks will build up your confidence. September is your chance at a prize you've wanted since you were a child. New trends begin in November. You'll improve according to whom you have around you. The help you gave long ago will boomer-

ang back in the form of excellent luck at the close of 2017. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 50, 33, 2 and 28.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "In a lineup of men, count on me to choose the wrong one. He might look good, sound good and smell good, but if I choose him, he'll turn out to be a loser. I'm tired of love. The roller coaster is making me feel sick. Will a 35-year-old Scorpio ever find the man of her dreams?"

Indeed, powerful Scorpio, you already have! You've been dreaming about losers and you keep finding them. (Anyway, a lineup is the last place you should look for a guy!) Your negative projection keeps creating the same scenario. My advice is to get out of the love game for a while. A year off is ideal. Interrupt your habit of going into dating situations with your hormones instead of your head. Prove to yourself that romance doesn't make your world go around. You need the time and space to create a solid

relationship with yourself. Your attraction to losers comes from a deeply rooted belief that you're undeserving of love. Prove that belief wrong by taking care of yourself on all levels, including emotionally, intellectually, physically and spiritually. When the year is over you'll attract a man who is capable of following the precedent.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: She has a world-class voice and chart-topping hits, but that's the the least of what courageous Ariana Grande has to offer her fans these days. The entertainer is fighting terrorism with love, vowing to return to the scene of tragedy to raise aid for the victims. "We won't let this divide us. We won't let hate win," said the singer. Her natal Venus in Taurus is tenacity, grit, grace and beauty all rolled up together.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact."
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Mars and Neptune Harmonize

If you boiled your tone down to its essence -- the primal drumbeat and the tribal chant of it -- what's the feeling there? Moods come and go, but most people have a rather consistent set point their outlook hovers around, and it's a good thing to know about yourself. A Mars and Neptune trine will bring some self-awareness and harmony on the subject.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Try to see the neutrality in things this week. Nothing is worse or better than it is, except when you choose to think of it that way. Your thoughts will

Husband's a Hoarder

Dear Annie: My husband loves to read your advice, but when it comes to my giving him advice, it's a different story. We were married in our early 20s and have somehow stayed married for over 35 years. We don't have very good communication skills.

We have a very cute house on a popular street. A lot of people comment on how nicely it's decorated from the outside. Little do they know that my husband is a hoarder.

I have controlled the main rooms in our house, but he has slowly taken over our basement and garage. The stress of all this stuff is starting to make me feel ill. When I bring it up, he just puts me down any way he can think of to stop the conversation about his hoarding. I definitely have accumulated "stuff" -- we've lived in our house for over 30 years -- but I don't have a problem getting rid of things.

He is a motivated person with other things but has

self-medicated every day of our marriage. He has a normal job but is always so stressed out. He has zero motivation to get rid of all the junk because now it's out of control, and he continues to add to the piles. He spends countless hours in the basement, but nothing ever looks any different.

He has a very controlling personality and temper, so if you get rid of anything (for example, a huge garbage bag full of napkins or empty boxes he collects so he can fill them up with "stuff"), he starts slamming doors, yelling and throwing things. He shows more emotion about getting rid of that junk than he does about most anything else.

This is causing me to be depressed, an-

gry and desperate. He would never get help for this, so what do I do? -- Bogged Down

Dear Bogged Down: Living with clutter can be very unhealthy, both mentally and physically. But understanding the psychology of hoarders might help you find some renewed patience with your husband and sanity for yourself. Hoarding is a symptom of obsessive-compulsive disorder, a condition your husband could no more control than any physical disorder. Accept that it's not only beyond your control but also beyond his and you'll feel surprisingly lighter.

Next, reach out to a mental health professional. If your husband refuses to go at first, then go on your own, as this

disorder is impacting your life, too (and poses a safety risk). For more resources, visit the International OCD Foundation's page on hoarding disorder at <https://hoarding.iocdf.org>.

Finally, you mentioned that your husband "self-medicates" every day. Assuming that means drinking, I strongly advise you to attend Al-Anon. Find a group in your area at <http://www.al-anon.org>.

Dear Annie: As is the case in many towns, there is a group of senior citizens who meet most days for coffee and a couple of hours of conversation at the local McDonald's. They are fortunate to have a place to meet. Most do not buy anything except for coffee. There are times when they bring in cookies, cake and other baked goods to share with everyone.

Because McDonald's sells food, some of us don't feel this is appropriate. Most of them see nothing wrong with this. What are your thoughts? -- Another Senior Citizen

Dear Another Senior: I think that it's rude to bring in outside food to a dining establishment. But perhaps these folks are part of a community group and have an agreement worked out with the restaurant. As long as they're not being raucous and you're not the McDonald's general manager, why worry so much about it?

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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Annie's Mailbox

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 5 4
♥ K Q 4 3
♦ A J
♣ 10 6 5 2

WEST
♠ K 8 6 3 2
♥ J 10 7 6
♦ K 10
♣ A 8

EAST
♠ J 10 9 7
♥ A 8 5 2
♦ 8
♣ K Q J 3

SOUTH
♠ Q
♥ 9
♦ Q 9 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ 9 7 4

The bidding:
South West North East
3 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead — three of spades.

This deal occurred during the 1972 Vanderbilt Teams in the highly touted match between the Precision Team and the Dallas Aces. It is presented here not as a model of excellence, but rather to show that even the expert sometimes has feet of clay.

The Precision Team won the match, though they lost heavily on this deal. When they held the North-South cards, the bidding went as shown. Three notrump indicated a weak hand with a long minor suit, and North passed, hoping for the best.

But the best did not materialize, even though West led a spade and South won the trick with the singleton queen. Declarer led a diamond to the ace, hoping to catch the singleton king — his one and only chance. When the king did not fall, South finished down five.

At the second table, with the Aces now holding the North-South cards, the bidding went:
South West North East
4♦ Pass 5♦ All Pass

Again a spade was led, and again declarer played low from dummy in this seemingly hopeless contract. This time, though, the outcome was a little short of miraculous. Upon winning the spade with the queen, the declarer (Bobby Goldman) led a diamond to the jack, discarded a heart on the ace of spades and returned the king of hearts.

East covered with the ace, ruffed by declarer, and a trump to the ace — felling West's king — allowed Goldman to discard a club on the queen of hearts. Goldman then graciously conceded two club tricks to wrap up his contract.

Tomorrow: Nothing succeeds like success.

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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.

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

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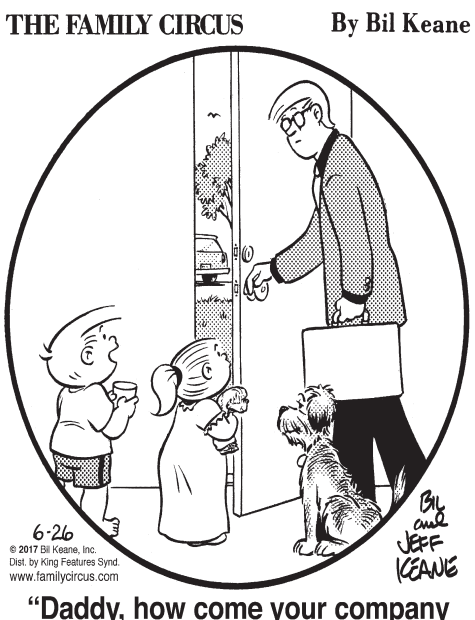
TV schedule table with columns for station, time, and program name.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"IF I KNEW THEN WHAT I KNOW NOW!" "ARE YOU LOOKING AT OUR WEDDING ALBUM AGAIN?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Daddy, how come your company doesn't let you take the summer off like our school does?"

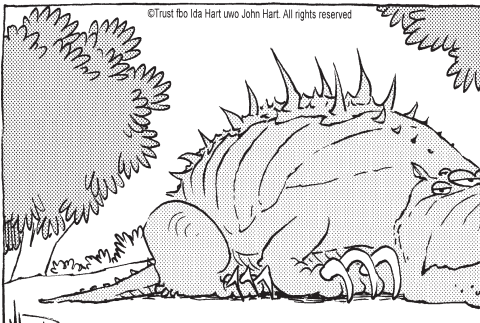
HAGAR



BLONDIE



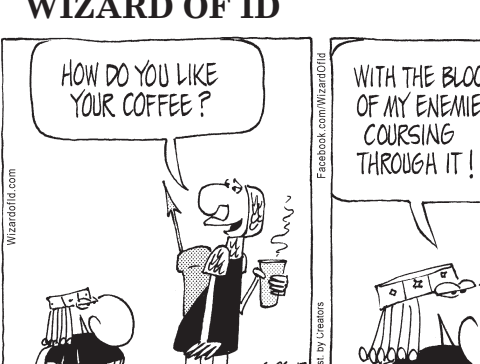
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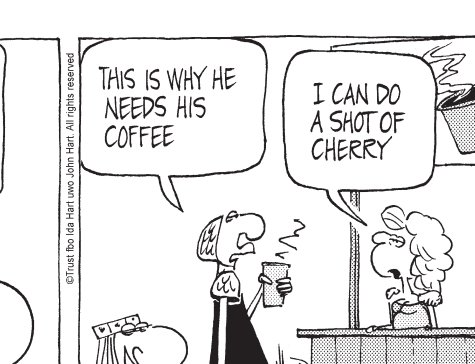
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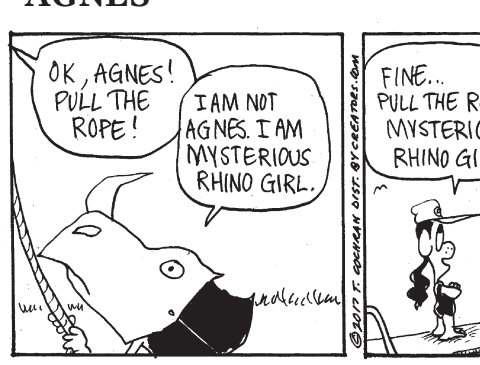
AGNES



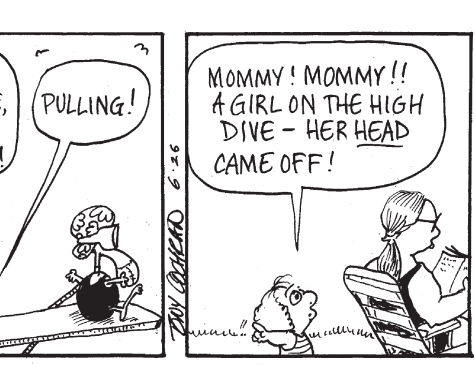
HI AND LOIS



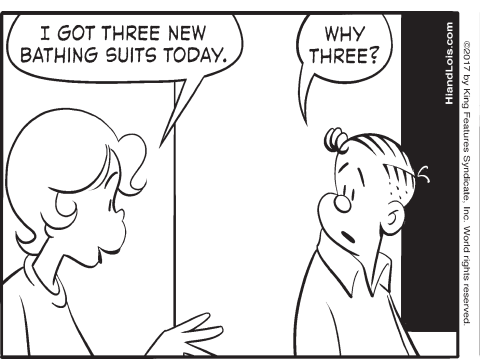
THE OTHER COAST



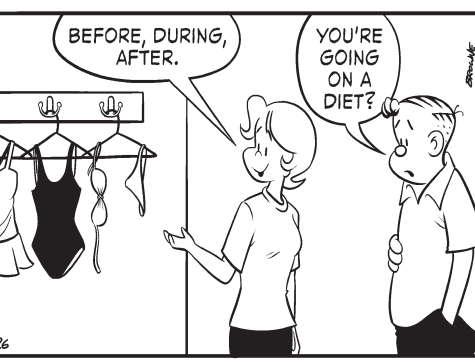
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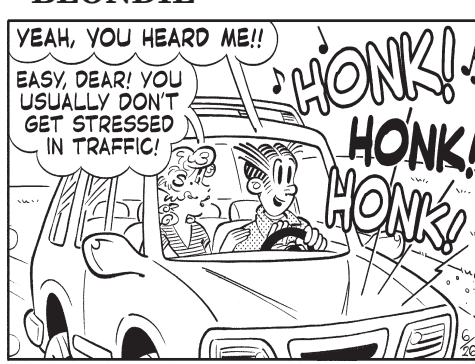
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



BLONDIE



WIZARD OF ID



This Date In History

Today is Monday, June 26, the 177th day of 2017. There are 188 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On June 26, 1917, the first troops of the American Expeditionary Force deployed to France during World War I landed in St. Nazaire. On this date: In 1483, Richard III began his reign as King of England (he was crowned the following month at Westminster Abbey). In 1870, the first section of Atlantic City, New Jersey's Boardwalk was opened to the public. In 1925, Charles Chaplin's classic comedy "The Gold Rush" premiered at Grauman's Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood. In 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt was nominated for a second term of office by delegates to the Democratic national convention in Philadelphia. In 1945, the charter of the United Nations was signed by 50 countries in San Francisco. In 1950, President Harry S. Truman authorized the U.S. Air Force and Navy to enter the Korean War. In 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower joined Britain's

Queen Elizabeth II in ceremonies officially opening the St. Lawrence Seaway. Swedish boxer Ingemar Johansson knocked out Floyd Patterson in the third round of their match at New York's Yankee Stadium to win the heavyweight title. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy visited West Berlin, where he delivered his famous speech expressing solidarity with the city's residents, declaring: "Ich bin ein Berliner" (I am a Berliner). In 1967, French actress Françoise Dorléac (frahn-SWAHZ' DOHR'-lee-ahk), the 25-year-old sister of Catherine Deneuve, was killed in a car crash in Nice (nees). In 1977, 42 people were killed when a fire sent toxic smoke pouring through the Maury County Jail in Columbia, Tennessee. Elvis Presley performed his last concert at Market Square Arena in Indianapolis. In 1987, Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr. announced his retirement, leaving a vacancy that was filled by Anthony M. Kennedy. In 1997, the first Harry Potter novel, "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" by J.K. Rowling (ROHL'-ing), was published in the United Kingdom (it was later released in the United States under the title "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone").

Ten years ago: Conservative commentator Ann Coulter, appearing on MSNBC's "Hardball," got into a verbal fracas with Elizabeth Edwards, who called into the program to ask Coulter to stop making personal attacks on her husband, Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards. Fashion designer Liz Claiborne died in New York at age 78. Five years ago: Sen. Orrin Hatch won the GOP primary in Utah, handily turning back a challenge from tea party-backed Dan Liljenquist. In Oklahoma, five-term Rep. John Sullivan fell to a tea party-supported candidate, Jim Bridenstine, who went on to win election to Congress. Twelve-time All-Star Joe Sakic (SAK'-ihk) was elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like BEBOPPER, PAWING, AMARILLO, IMOKAY, etc.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 Ginger cookies, 6 River sediment, 10 Hole-punching tools, 14 Humble home, 15 In the center of, 16 Perfume bottle, 17 Make amends, 18 Traffic tie-ups, 19 Turn __ (become), 20 Big name in motor homes, 22 Luxury boat, 23 Buy a pig in __, 24 Soaks in the tub, 25 Guys like Wyatt Earp, 28 Thick soup, 29 More frosty, 30 Add decorations to, 32 Female hog, 35 Moral wrong, 36 Squirrel snack, 37 Make a knot in, 38 Tack on, 39 Comment from a canary, 40 Insurance seller, 42 Black-and-white cookies, 44 Grocery workers, 45 "That's life", 47 Pin the blame on, 49 Vatican-related, 50 Prepare for the cold, as a car, 54 Memorable times, 55 British chap, 56 Italian salami city, 57 Nevada city, 58 Rocks found in mines.

FINISH FIRST by Sandy Fein

Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

FINISH FIRST crossword puzzle grid with clues and answers.

MVP

Continued from Page 5

Westbrook topped Robertson's single-season, triple-double record on April 9 in Denver. His 36-foot game-winning dagger put the final touch on a 50-point, 16-rebound, 10-assist performance that eliminated the Nuggets from playoff contention.

Robertson himself showed up to the Thunder's regular-season finale and endorsed Westbrook for the MVP award.

"What he has done has been historic in nature," Robertson told the crowd that night. "He's played with passion and pride and ability. It's just outstanding what he has done and the way he did it."

Durant might be the least surprised player in the league. Westbrook was dominant while Durant was out with a foot injury during the

2014-15 season and claimed his first scoring title, but it wasn't clear if he could do it all — score, dominate the boards, consistently feed his teammates and come through in big moments — for an entire season.

Turns out, he could.

In the second game of the season, he had 51 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists in a victory over Phoenix, the first 50-point triple-double since Kareem Abdul-Jabbar did it in 1975. On March 27, he had 13 points in a 3-minute barrage to rally the Thunder past Dallas. Two days later in Orlando, he scored 57 points and posted the most points ever in a triple-double. He hit a deep 3-pointer to force overtime, and eventually helped the Thunder win. In one of his most memorable games, he scored 47 points in a loss to Durant's Warriors.

Harden and Leonard also had MVP-caliber seasons:



AP photo

In this April 23, 2017 file photo, Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook (0) shoots between Houston Rockets guard Patrick Beverley, rear, and guard James Harden, right, in the fourth quarter of Game 4 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series in Oklahoma City. Westbrook will join Houston's James Harden and San Antonio's Kawhi Leonard as finalists for the league's MVP award. The winner will be announced Monday, June 26, at the inaugural NBA Awards show.

JAMES HARDEN, HOUSTON

As stunning as Westbrook's triple-double binge was this season, Harden's was impressive, too.

He posted 22 triple-doubles and helped the Rockets finish with the league's third-best record. Harden, known primarily as a scorer throughout his career, shifted from shooting guard to point guard and was nearly unstoppable in coach Mike D'Antoni's fast-paced offense.

Harden led the league with 11.2 assists per game and finished second with 29.1 points per contest. In perhaps his best performance, he had 53 points, 16 rebounds and 17 assists against the New York Knicks on New Year's Eve.

Leonard is the two-time reigning Defensive Player of the Year, and he's up for the honor again.

Yet, it was the 6-foot-7 forward's offensive improvement that put him in the mix for the MVP award. He averaged 25.5 points this season

after averaging 21.2 the previous year.

Leonard helped the Spurs finish with the league's second-best record. He seemed to play as the stage got bigger.

He opened the season with a career-high 35 points in a blowout win over the Warriors. Leonard upped that career high with 41 points in a win over Cleveland on Jan. 21, and he dropped 39 points in a victory over Houston on March 6.



AP photo

Texas Rangers' Shin-Soo Choo, right, celebrates his three-run homer with Jonathan Lucroy during the second inning of the baseball game against the New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium Sunday, June 25, 2017 in New York.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 5

list after injuring his ribcage on the right side during a check swing in the first inning. He was removed from the game before the fifth inning.

"They said the process is about three to four weeks," Hicks said. "I'll do my best to get it done before that."

Manager Joe Girardi said the Yankees might activate outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury from the DL on Monday. Ellsbury has been out since May 24 with a concussion but played his second minor league rehab game with Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre on Sunday.

New York was also without second baseman Starlin Castro, who got a shot in his wrist Saturday. Manager Joe Girardi said the wrist has bothered Castro for six weeks, but added that it's "not a serious injury."

"We said, let's get (the shot) because you'll get more than 24 hours (rest) in a sense, going from a day game to a night game," Girardi said.

OLD TIME'S SAKE

Jorge Posada, Tim Lincecum and 31 other former New York players gathered before the game for the 71st Old Timers' Day at Yankee Stadium. It was Posada's first go as an Old Timer after retiring following the 2011 season. The catcher called it "strange" to put on his gear again.

Raines was honored by New York ahead of his Hall of Fame induction next month. Former manager Joe Torre presented the

speedy left fielder with a pair of seats from old Yankee Stadium, where Raines helped New York win championships in 1996 and '98.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Rangers: OF Nomar Mazara was out of the lineup with a bruised right forearm. ... Slugger Joey Gallo sat for the second day in a row with a sore hamstring.

Yankees: OF Matt Holliday was held out of the lineup due to issues stemming from an allergic reaction he had in Oakland on June 17. Manager Joe Girardi said Holliday may go for more tests, although he was hoping to have the slugger back Monday. ... LHP CC Sabathia threw a 35-pitch bullpen, his first since going on the disabled list June 15 with a left hamstring strain. ... 1B Greg Bird ran on the field before the game, his first time running since a setback to his right ankle injury during a minor league rehab stint.

UP NEXT

Rangers: LHP Cole Hamels is set to return from the DL in a start against RHP Carlos Carrasco (8-3, 2.99) and the Cleveland Indians. Hamels (2-0, 3.03) has been out for eight weeks with a strained oblique muscle.

Yankees: LHP Jordan Montgomery (5-4, 3.74) pitches the opener in a four-game road set with the Chicago White Sox. LHP David Holmberg (1-1, 2.84) is set to pitch for Texas.

SPIETH

Continued from Page 5

II with 10 victories before the age of 24. Woods won 15 times before he turned 24.

"That was one for the ages," said Spieth, also the winner at Pebble Beach in February.

Spieth held a one-stroke edge after each of the first three rounds. He closed

with an even-par 70 to match Berger — who birdied three of the final six holes for a 67 — at 12-under 268.

Berger, the Memphis winner two weeks ago before missing the cut last week at the U.S. Open, just missed a 50-foot putt from off the 18th green left that would have forced a second playoff hole.

"Jordan does Jordan things," Berger said. "So there's not really

much you can say. I'm obviously disappointed, but happy to be in the position I was in today."

Berger began the round in third place, three shots back. He tied Spieth for a lead with a 5-foot birdie putt on 15 as Spieth was making bogey on 14 and tied him again with a birdie from 8 feet at 17.

The pair, playing a group apart, both hit their approach

shots on 18 into the same greenside bunker. Both chipped out close to the hole and both saved par to force the playoff.

Berger hit his drive on the first playoff hole left and into the crowd behind a fairway bunker. Spieth seemed to clip a tree left landing in the fairway but about 150 yards short of his normal drive and 230 yards from the hole.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 5

The umpires then called Haniger out, saying the play stood.

Mariners manager Scott Servais said Hernandez told him he made the wrong signal.

"You don't often see that," Servais said. "Sometimes the eyes go bad, the ears don't usually go bad."

TRAINER'S ROOM

Astros: LHP Dallas Keuchel (pinched nerve in neck) will likely return after the All-Star break. He has yet to throw off a mound since being placed on the 10-day DL

retroactive to June 5. ... 1B Marwin Gonzalez (oblique) was out of the lineup for the second consecutive game. ... Reliever Jordan Jankowski was optioned to Triple-A Fresno postgame to make up room for Peacock's return Tuesday.

Mariners: OF Ben Gamel (groin) didn't play after his 15-game hitting streak was snapped Saturday night. 1B Danny Valencia (wrist) also missed his second consecutive game. Valencia and Gamel aren't expected to go on the disabled list. ... There's no timetable for RHP Hisashi Iwakuma (shoulder inflammation), out since early May, to resume his rehab assignment after struggling in his

first two rehab starts.

UP NEXT

Astros: After having Monday off, Houston begins a three-game series at home against the Athletics. RHP Mike Fiers (5-2, 3.81 ERA) starts against LHP Sean Manaea (6-4, 4.05 ERA).

Mariners: Seattle has its first day off since June 5 and begins a two-game series Tuesday against the Phillies. LHP James Paxton (5-2, 3.39 ERA) will look to bounce back from going 0-2 with a 9.69 ERA over 13 innings in his past three starts. The Mariners won both games against the Phillies earlier this season in Philadelphia.

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Funtastic Fourth brings legends for weekend fun



HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody and Roger Cline Country, gospel, heavy metal rock, street vendors, and kids rides were plenty during the Funtastic Fourth event held this weekend. Pictured above, Quiet Riot bass guitar player Chuck Wright and lead singer James Durbin, sing during the band's performance at the Funtastic Fourth concert Saturday night. At bottom, from left, Buzzkill lead singer Alex Calvio belts out some 1980s metal band top hits, middle, a street vendor sketches some children, and bottom, right, a child tries to go eight seconds on a mechanical bull, one of the activities in the Kidzone. The annual two-day event drew thousands of people to downtown Big Spring.



Ronnie Milsap plays before a large crowd Friday night during the Funtastic Fourth outdoor concert held in downtown Big Spring. Fans waited out a severe thunderstorm and heavy rainfall to hear the country legend play live in downtown Big Spring.

Courtesy photo/Elsa Herrera



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