

# BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

TUESDAY  
April 22, 1997

50 cents

## School board candidates get open forum chance tonight

By **CARLTON JOHNSON**  
Staff Writer

Big Spring City Council candidates were on display at the Dora Roberts Community Center Monday night for a candidates forum. Tonight, candidates for the Big Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees will be seeking voter approval during a similar forum at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Tonight's forum is being sponsored by the Concerned Women for America (CWA).

According to CWA member Luan Stallings, the forum will begin at 7 p.m. with questions being provided by audience members.

"We will be passing out 4 by 5 cards for people to write their questions on," Stallings said. "We will be there by 6:15 and people may turn in questions at any time before or during the forum, which will be relayed to the moderator."

At press time, it was not clear as to how many of the six school board candidates would be participating in

the forum.

The order of appearance on the ballot in the three school board races is as follows:

- At-Large — Steve Fraser (incumbent) versus Mike Robinson.
- District 2 — Larry G. Hollar (incumbent) versus Steve Jeter.
- District 4 — Donnie Baker (incumbent) versus Frank A. Long.

Since the forum is related to education, Stallings said a number of children's choir have been invited to sing at the forum.

"We have invited several choirs to sing, but any other children who want to sing are welcomed to join in and sing 'God Bless America,' and 'Jesus Loves the Little Children,'" Stallings said.

"Any Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in uniform are also welcomed to participate in presenting the flag and saying the pledge of allegiance," she added.

Also as part of the forum, area PTA presidents, school board members and any area pastors in attendance will be recognized.

Local voters will again use a central voting location in the May 3 election and will cast ballots in the Big Spring High School cafeteria from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early voting in both the city and school elections began at 8 a.m. April 14 and continues through 5 p.m. April 29.

Early ballots in the city council election may be cast in the finance office at City Hall and ballots in the school board election may be cast in Howard County Clerk Margaret Ray's office.

## Settles, joint law enforcement facility top forum topics

By **KELLIE JONES**  
Features Editor



The eight candidates seeking seats on the Big Spring City Council during the May 3 municipal election line up to field questions during Monday night's candidates forum. They are, from left: Pat DeAnda, Oscar Garcia, Bob Taylor, Tom Guess, Tommy Tune, Greg Biddison, Randy Mason and Ray Rinard.

Issues such as what to do with Hotel Settles and a combined law enforcement facility were two topics addressed by eight candidates vying for positions on the Big Spring City Council during a forum Monday night.

The candidates took part in the public forum in front of a sparse crowd of about 50, some of whom were family, friends or current city council members.

The forum, sponsored by the Big Spring Herald, Big Spring Cable TV and Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, featured candidates running for districts two, four and six.

In district two, Pat DeAnda is the incumbent and faces challengers Oscar Garcia and Bob Taylor. In district four, incumbent Tom Guess faces a challenge from Tommy Tune for his position on the council. In district six, current Councilman John Paul Anderson has decided not to seek re-election and three candidates are vying for the position including Randy Mason, Greg Biddison and Ray Rinard.

Guess was asked by an audience member if he advocated spending additional tax dollars on the Settles Hotel. Guess said, "I tried over a year ago to get this to a vote and was voted down. I want to see it on a ballot so the citizens can tell us what they want done. Do they want it destroyed or rebuilt? If necessary, we get bonds to do it. Mr. Tommy Churchwell has done a great job with the windows. We have to do something."

At this point, the moderator, the Rev. Carroll Kohl, then asked each of the other candidates what their thoughts were on the issue. City Councilwoman Pat DeAnda said, "I think we need a plan that will stick and work. We've spent too much time and money for this sore thumb. Let's do something and get it over with." The audience then applauded.

Garcia said, "The hotel is the town's proverbial money pit. There is no one with a working plan. Do we want to keep this

town in the 30s and 40s or progress into the 20th century?"

Taylor received a round of applause after his remark, "We don't need another committee to look into this. Let's implode it and get it over with."

Tune commented, "It's an icon and landmark. There is some sentimental attachment to it. Putting it before the voters is a good idea. In the meantime, dressing up the facade to make its appearance acceptable is the way to go."

Biddison remarked, "Do we want to stay where we are or do we want to progress? A lot of money will have to be spent to get rid of it and to keep it. No one has an answer. It's up to the citizens."

Mason said, "Put it to a vote. It's a good idea. We need to drop it or improve it. It's going to be a heavy burden. It's not a cheap way, either way it goes."

Rinard commented, "It should be up to the citizens to decide if it should stand. I will not let your tax dollars be put into it. The building is falling down and now is the time to make a decision."

Taylor was asked the question, "What are your views on city/county consolidation and what are the best areas to consolidate?" He responded, "There is a tremendous amount of duplication of services in many areas. I think the biggest waste is in law enforcement. We should have had a combined facility years ago and I'm not sure why we don't. The police department is antiquated and they are too cramped with antiquated equipment. The offices are small and there is no money to build a police department on our own. We need to discuss this with the county."

Garcia followed by saying, "The 911 program is beginning to function as services for the city and county. The EMT should be combined so the county doesn't have to pay for their own equipment. I think a law enforcement center downtown would beautify the area."

DeAnda then said, "I think we missed the boat for consolidation. It's very important. The Please see **FORUM**, page 2

## TxDOT names Garduno director of operations

HERALD Staff Report

ABILENE — Lauren D. Garduno, P.E., has been named director of operations for the Abilene district of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

Under the direction of Abilene district engineer Maribel Chavez, Garduno assists in overseeing all maintenance and construction activities in the 13-county district. In addition to



**GARDUNO**

Stonewall and Taylor. Garduno began his TxDOT

career in 1982 as a summer hire in the department's Borger area office. In 1987, after receiving a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Texas Tech, he went to work in the Abilene design office. In 1989 he transferred to the Abilene area office where he worked as a project engineer until 1991.

In 1991 he received a master of science degree in management from Abilene Christian University. That same year he transferred to College Station

where, under TxDOT's master of science graduate program, he pursued a master of science degree in civil engineering.

In 1994 he returned to Abilene and served briefly as a construction engineer before being named as the district maintenance engineer, a position he held until his current promotion.

He is married to the former Ketta Walker of Winters and the couple has one child, Amber, age 6.

## Police officer tracks down burglary suspects

HERALD Staff Report

A Big Spring police officer literally tracked down two men suspected of burglarizing a home in the 800 block of Lorilla over the weekend.

According to reports, Cpl. Keith Jones responded to a burglary call Sunday morning and the resident at 801 Lorilla reported several items including a television, cellular phone and VCR had been taken from his house sometime between

Saturday night and Sunday morning. Public Information Officer Sgt. Victor Brake said there were footprints and other evidence dropped at the scene that led Jones to the suspects' house at 710 Creighton. Det. David Mohn also assisted in the investigation.

Jose Ontiveros Sr., 38, and Jose Ontiveros Jr., 18, were both charged with burglary of a habitation, a second degree felony. They have since been transferred to the Howard County jail and released on

bonds of \$5,000 each. Some of the property was recovered from the Ontiveros' home.

Meanwhile, officers were dispatched to a burglary call Monday afternoon at 408 Douglas. The owner had given permission for a homeless man to stay in his garage behind the house. The owner then reported sometime between Sunday and Monday afternoon, his house had been broken into. Cpl. Javier Becerra discovered a lantern, portable television, stereo, Nintendo game machine,

three bikes, an air conditioner and battery-operated four wheeler in the garage, apparently being used by the homeless man and other transients.

James McKensie, 45, Willie Bailey, 35, and Darrell Burkeen, 35 were all charged with burglary of a habitation. Brake said they all remain in the city jail under bonds of \$5,000 each.

Also on Monday, officers arrested three women and charged them with aggravated

Please see **OFFICER**, page 2

## Emergency landing's damage not as severe as once feared

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

A Lubbock pilot who was forced to make an emergency landing in Big Spring Saturday minimized damage both to his health and his plane, officials said.

Defective landing gear forced Arlyn Heathington of Lubbock to make an emergency belly landing at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark Saturday, according to Department of Public Safety reports.

Heathington had departed the airpark shortly before 4 p.m. Saturday after picking up his plane from A&A Aircraft Refinishers, which had repainted the craft.

After takeoff, however, Heathington reported that he was

Please see **LANDING**, page 2

## Big Spring's 'Santa Claus,' Toxey Cathey, dead at 76

By **JOHN H. WALKER**  
Managing Editor

Toxey R. Cathey, Big Spring's own Santa Claus, died earlier today in a Lubbock hospital. He was 76. Survivors include a cousin, Jack Cathey, of Big Spring.

Service is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Cathey was born in Coahoma and graduated from Big Spring High School and began his career as Santa Claus in 1981 when he and his wife lived in San Francisco.

According to a Dec. 16, 1994, Herald article, Cathey began making appearances as Santa Claus by chance when his wife talked him in to answering an ad from a film class at California State University in Fresno.

Cathey said he wasn't interested in doing any appearances other than advertisements, but one day a little boy saw him in a store and recognized him as Santa Claus and ran up to him and said, "You're Santa Claus aren't you? I'll tell you what I

want for Christmas."

Cathey had hoped to turn a building he purchased directly north of the Settles Hotel into a bed and breakfast, but was unable to follow through on those plans before his death.

He had also planned to include a fountain and restaurant downstairs, pointing out that the fountain would be especially for the kids.

Had Cathey been able to follow through with his plans, the facility would have been called "The North Pole."

Cathey loved children. He loved to be around them and to make them smile and laugh.

According to the story, he said the most difficult thing for him was to see kids who were hungry or sick.

"They need love a lot more than presents," he said.

Cathey said Christmas was more than a once a year holiday for him.

"For me, every day is Christmas. I really feel blessed because it (Christmas) is such a warm thing. People of all ages get excited about seeing Santa Claus."



Toxey R. Cathey, shown here dressed in his Santa Claus suit in a publicity photo, died this morning in a Lubbock hospital. He was 76.

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### TODAY'S WEATHER

**70** ▲ Highs **52**  
Lows ▼

Today: Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain. High around 70. Low in the 50s.  
Wednesday: Partly cloudy with a chance of afternoon showers and thunderstorms. High around 80. Low in the lower 50s.  
Extended outlook: Thursday, a chance of showers and thunderstorms. High near 80. Low in the 50s. Friday and Saturday, cooler with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the 70s. Lows around 50.

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Call us at:  
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APR 22 1997

OBITUARIES

Toxey R. Cathey

Service for Toxey R. Cathey, 76, Big Spring, is pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

Twila Klaus

Graveside service for Twila Klaus, 59, Big Spring, will be 10 a.m. Thursday, April 24, 1997, at Trinity Memorial Park with Dr. Kenneth Patrick, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating.



Mrs. Klaus died Sunday, April 20, in a Lubbock hospital. She was born on April 23, 1937, in Liberal, Kan.

Survivors include her husband, Floyd Klaus, Big Spring, two sons, Randy Klaus and Ronny Klaus, both of Big Spring, two brothers, Eddie Leaming, Naples, Fla., and Deryl Leaming, Murfreesboro, Tenn., two sisters, Carol King, Wellington, Kan., and Lois Christy, Henderson, two grandsons, four granddaughters, and one great granddaughter.

The family suggests memorials to The First Baptist Church, 705 W. Marcy Drive, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home

Claude Lessing (Chubby) Day

Claude Lessing (Chubby) Day, 52, Big Spring, died on Sunday, April 20, 1997, in a Stanton nursing home. Graveside service will be 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, 1997, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with Pat Savell, of Anderson Street Church of Christ, officiating.

He was born on March 25, 1945, in Texon, Texas. Mr. Day came to Big Spring in 1967 from Texon and had worked as a service station attendant most of his life.

Survivors include his wife and brother-in-law, Jessar and

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

NALLEY-PICKLE & WELCH Funeral Home 406 Gregg St. (915) 267-6557

Funeral Home information for Claude Lessing (Chubby) Day, including service details and contact information for Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Funeral Home information for David Petree, including service details and contact information for Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel.

FORUM

Continued from page 1

buildings are antiquated and should be an embarrassment to the citizens. The working conditions are deplorable. They will probably soon condemn the jails so condemning of the buildings would probably follow.

Mason was asked, "Do you feel the infrastructure we presently have is sufficient? If not, what improvements need to be made?" He responded, "I think it's sufficient. There needs to be more emphasis on getting back on basics. We need a schedule and stay on it. The main issues are the streets, water and sewer systems. We need to get something down and follow it."

Riddison said, "I believe the infrastructure we have now was built to support a population of 80,000 but it is old and deteriorating. We need to use the money available to upgrade and recondition it."

LANDING

Continued from page 1

receiving negative indications from his landing gear instruments. A visual inspection by ground personnel showed that the nose gear had only partially retracted, and Heathington elected to make a gear-up landing.

The landing was a successful one, with Heathington's Cessna 310 coming to rest right on the runway's centerline. Neither he or his passenger, a small girl who was not identified by reports, were injured in the incident.

Damage to the craft was not as extensive as first believed. The propellers are heavily damaged and must be repaired or replaced, and sections of the plane's belly area must be replaced as well, but that is the extent of the major damage, officials said.

Jack Perry of Lone Star Aviation said the aircraft is at his business while insurance adjusters make a final determination on repairs.

OFFICER

Continued from page 1

assault with a deadly weapon. Smith said officers were first called to Twin Towers Apartments Sunday night in connection to a knife fight. Latasha Williams, 26, of 3304 W. Highway 80 No. 23, had reported someone threw a knife at her and she had been hit on the head. Susan Garza, 26, of 408 Bell, reported she had been cut on the face, but not hurt. Both were treated and released from the hospital.

In Williams' Wilbert reported to go into a second fight with some of the same women at Twin Towers. He reported that Wanda Peterson, 21, of 2519 Sutter, had hit her with a knife. Tara Peterson, 21, of 3304 W. Highway 80 No. 23, was found to be in possession of a knife. All three were arrested and charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, a second degree felony.

Wilbert and Wanda Peterson were charged on bonds of \$5,000 each and Tara Peterson was also charged with fourth-degree assault and her bonds were set at a total of \$5,250.

BIG SPRING AROUND THE TOWN

BRIEFS

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF Retired Persons 55 Alive/Mature Driving course is being presented at the Big Spring Mall April 29 and 30. It runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. including one hour for lunch.

THE FRIENDS OF THE Library of Howard County are sponsoring a design a logo contest. The winner receives a \$50 savings bond. The winning entry becomes the property of the Friends of the Library.

PBOA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION IS having meetings and training now. Anyone interested in officiating local area football games at junior high and high school level please call Jim Mattson at 263-5056.

THE HOWARD COUNTY FEED & Supply, along with Purina, is hosting a seminar on Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Days Inn. Speakers are Dr. Joe Neff, DVM, Dr. Bobb Cobb, DVM, and Susan Whittingslow, horse specialist for Purina.

A MOTORCYCLE SWAP MEET sponsored by the Cossacks Motorcycle Club is scheduled for May 3 at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The event begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues through 10 p.m.

THERE IS A COMMUNITY book sale Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the old Howard County Library, 312 Scurry. This event is sponsored by the Big Spring Rotary Club and Friends of the Library of Howard County.

SPRINGBOARD

IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES IN A SPRINGBOARD ITEM OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT GINA GARZA, 263-7331 ext. 238. BETWEEN 8:30 A.M. AND 2 P.M. All Springboard items must be submitted in writing.

Comanche Lake Duplicate, 1 p.m. Dora Roberts Civic Center. Most Excellent Way, a chemical dependency support group, 7 p.m. Living Water Church, 1008 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-1424 after 5 p.m. or 263-3168 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Good Shepherd Fellowship Church, 410 Abrams, 7 p.m. Spanish services. All Areas 8 to 9 p.m. 615 Settles. Narcotics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Alcoholics Anonymous, 4:15 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. open meeting and 8 to 9 p.m. closed meeting at the VA Medical Center on fourth floor.

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Texas Lottery

Norwest added to rodeo sponsor list. Two changes have taken place in the list of sponsors for the 64th annual Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo.

SHERIFF

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following incidents during a 24-hour period ending 8 a.m. Tuesday:

ROBERT ARTHUR MCCALL, 32, of Monahan, was arrested by Department of Public Safety troopers for driving while intoxicated (third degree felony) and driving with a suspended license.

EDWARD LOPEZ, 47, of Route 2 Box 136, was arrested for criminal mischief over \$500 and under \$1,500. He was later released on a \$1,500 bond.

ANDREW HERNANDEZ, 20, of 313 N.E. Ninth, was released from jail after serving time on a second charge of driving while intoxicated.

LATASHA WILBERT, 18, of 3304 W. Highway 80 No. 23, was arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

TARA NICOLE PETERSON, 22, of 3304 W. Highway 80 No. 34, was arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

WANDA MAE PETERSON, 23, of 2519 Hunter, was arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

ROBERT MULLEN JR., 47, of 113 N.E. Ninth, was arrested for theft under \$20, local warrants and public intoxication.

JAMES MCKENSIE, 45, a transient, was arrested for burglary of a habitation.

WILLIE BAILEY, 35, a transient, was arrested for burglary of a habitation.

JIMI LEI MCWHORTER, 20, of Sweetwater, was arrested for possession of marijuana under two ounces and later released on a \$1,500 bond.

VINCENT GUTIERREZ GARCIA JR., 41, of Coahoma, was arrested for assault/family violence and later released on a \$1,500 bond.

CODY GENE CARLILE, 18, of 4304 Connally, was arrested for possession of marijuana under two ounces and later released on a \$1,500 bond.

PICK 3: 2, 0, 2 CASH 5: 21, 27, 28, 36, 37

RECORDS

Monday's high \*\* Monday's low \*\* Average high 81 Average low 52 Record high 101 in 1965 Record low 30 in 1927 Precip. Monday 0.00 Month to date 1.12 Month's normal 0.85 Year to date 5.29 Normal for the year 2.99 \*\*Statistics not available

MARKETS

May cotton 71.05 cents a pound, up 25 points. May crude oil 19.80, down 58 points. Cash hogs steady at 50 cents lower at 67. Cattle 58.00, down 10 points. April live cattle futures 69.15, down 7 points.

Table with market data including Index 6885.00, Volume 123,889,840, and various commodity prices like Soybeans, Corn, and Wheat.

CHURCH AND CLUB NEWS DEADLINES

Church and club news items are due at the Herald office by noon Wednesday for Friday publication. Items should be dropped off to the office, 710 Scurry, mailed to P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721-1431, or faxed to 264-7205.

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Pro

AUSTIN (AP) - House Speaker, on Monday start of debate today - Wednesday.

McD

WASHINGTON - Clinton's business partner, the president both lying in affair. James says one of the time friends, holds the key questions in Whitewater case.

Declaring oath in order couple, McDougal present when Gov. Bill Clibb Rock music Hale to make loan to McDougal in 1986.

Clinton shopping and making after McDougal finished disposed loan, Monday night King Live.

Clinton test year ago that pats in any suit knows nothing about the deal.

Speaking to Friday at his southwest McDougal told the truth things involve and the parties McDougal that, "for you have lied, not save my own

Drug-c

TIJUANA. They call the "appeared" - people linked to have vanished streets and in trucks and va

No one knows took them, or. But the repercussions allow activists, who security force traffickers are grabbing's information a

"It appears a police force i Judith Galarz 'cate in Ciudad 'border with the

While some to indicate police in the vanish speculate that themselves could, perhaps officers to seize

No matter them, though ances have off The case Hodoyan, an of Tijuana, a drug organiz have upset off Hodoyan wa border city in

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# Proposed bill to lower property taxes delayed in House

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas House members are considering more than 200 proposed changes to a plan to lower local school property taxes and raise billions of new state dollars to pay for it.

House Speaker Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, on Monday announced that the start of debate on the bill — expected today — would be delayed until Wednesday.

The speaker at first rejected calls from 53 House Republicans to delay the debate. They said they needed more time to review the bill and get input

from constituents.

"Every day you wait causes problems in the Senate," said Laney, referring to the ticking legislative time clock. The session ends June 2.

But after lawmakers submitted more than 200 proposed amendments — a total count was not available — Laney said it would be unfair to ask House members to vote without giving them enough time to review the proposals.

"I think that a little more time is needed," he said.

Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson, chairman of the committee that wrote

the plan, said the delay and the number of amendments aren't signs that the bill is in trouble.

"I don't look at it like that at all," said Sadler, who spent much of the day meeting with other lawmakers.

Most had questions about how the plan would affect their school districts.

"I'm a little surprised," he said of the number of amendments. "But we don't know how many of those are duplicates. A fraction of those may be substantive."

Rep. John Shields, R-San Antonio, helped circulate a petition signed by 53

moderate and conservative Republicans who want the issue delayed until at least Thursday.

"This is a big bill," said Shields, who wants to wait until next Tuesday to deal with the issue. "I'd like to know what's in it."

The House Select Committee on Revenue and Public Education Funding spent nearly two months drafting the plan. The committee finished its work last Wednesday.

Sadler agreed to the delay, saying he understands House members have questions. But he added that there is

little time to waste.

"We have so many days in the session," Sadler said. "We need to have this issue decided."

The bill would lower local school property taxes by about 50 percent. It would raise the state's share of school funding from about 47 percent to nearly 80 percent.

To pay for it, the bill would expand the state business tax, increase some taxes, add to the list of goods and services subject to the sales tax and commit about \$1.3 billion in additional state funds to education.

## McDougal says Clintons lying on Whitewater

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clintons' convicted former business partner suggests that the president and first lady are both lying in the Whitewater affair. James McDougal also says one of the Clintons' long-time friends, Webster Hubbell, holds the key to unanswered questions in the unfolding Whitewater criminal investigation.

Declaring that he lied under oath in order to protect the first couple, McDougal said he was present when then-Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton urged Little Rock municipal judge David Hale to make a federally backed loan to McDougal's wife, Susan, in 1986.

Clinton showed up at a meeting and made the suggestion after McDougal and Hale had finished discussing the proposed loan, McDougal said Monday night on CNN's "Larry King Live." The \$300,000 loan was never repaid.

Clinton testified under oath a year ago that he didn't participate in any such discussion and knows nothing about the fraudulent loan, which was used partly to bolster the Clintons' failing Whitewater real estate deal.

"I don't know who sent" Clinton to the meeting, said McDougal, adding that he was "flabbergasted" that the governor brought up the proposed loan after the discussion between Hale and McDougal.

At his trial a year ago, McDougal denied that Clinton had ever been to such a meeting.

Speaking to an AP reporter Friday at his trailer 65 miles southwest of Little Rock, McDougal insisted that "I have told the truth about certain things involving the president and the parties to those things."

McDougal said that before that, "for various reasons I have lied, number one being to save my own skin."

## Drug-connected disappearances rising in Mexico

TIJUANA, Mexico (AP) — They call them the "narco-disappeared" — several dozen people linked to the drug trade who have vanished from Mexico's streets and into dark-windowed trucks and vans.

No one knows for sure who took them, or to where, or why.

But the recent string of disappearances alarms human rights activists, who fear that rogue security forces are helping drug traffickers eliminate rivals or are grabbing suspects to extract information about drug barons.

"It appears that some kind of police force is involved," said Judith Galarza, a rights advocate in Ciudad Juarez, on the border with El Paso, Texas. "And that the victims appear to be linked to drug trafficking."

While some signs do appear to indicate police involvement in the vanishings, some people speculate that the traffickers themselves could be responsible, perhaps dressing as police officers to seize their enemies.

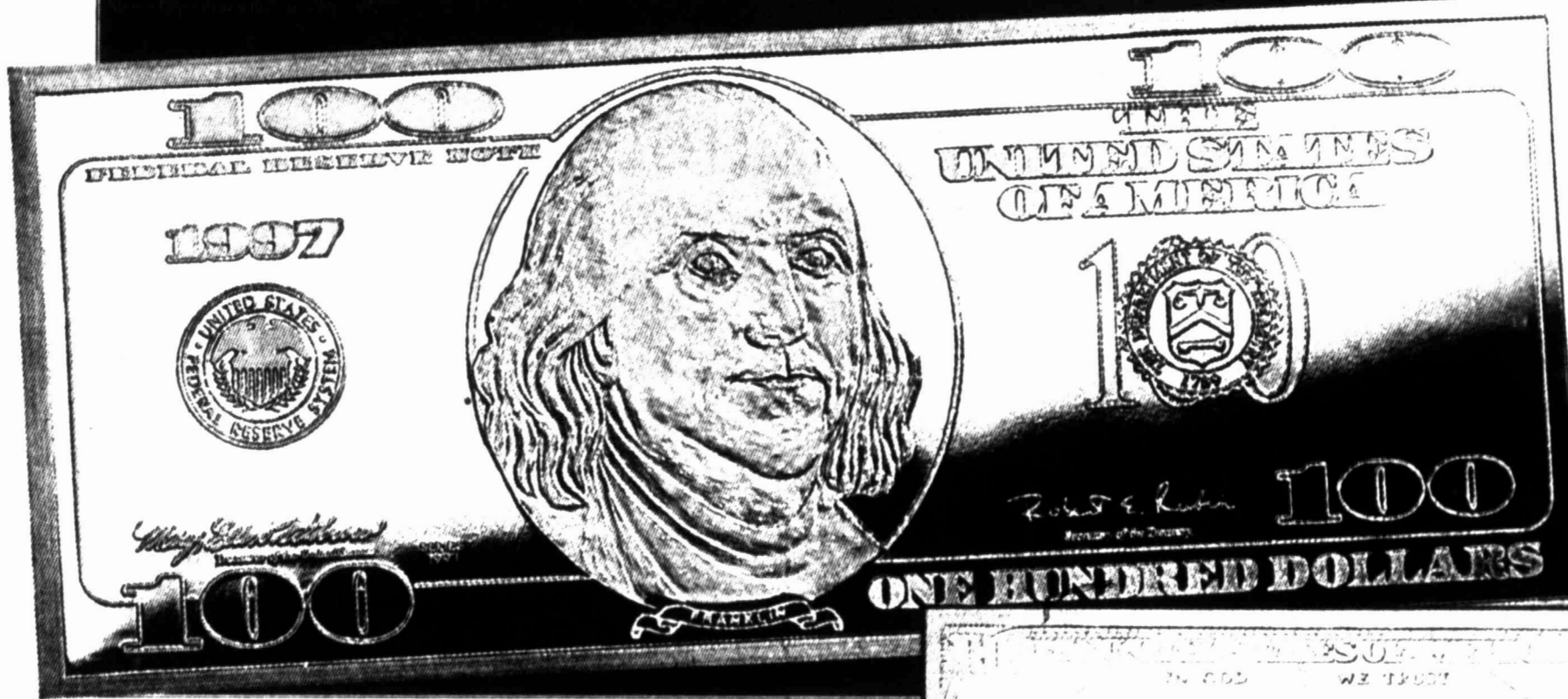
No matter who is behind them, though, the disappearances have officials worried.

The case of Alejandro Hodoyan, an alleged associate of Tijuana's Arellano Felix drug organization, appears to have upset officials the most.

Hodoyan was grabbed in this border city in March.

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- TEN Quarter-Pound Silver Proofs for \$889.

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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it."

-Thomas Jefferson

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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OUR VIEWS

Christmas in April needing volunteers

Christmas is just around the corner - Christmas in April, that is, and the local CIA organization is in need of some help.

"Participation is way off," Christmas in April president Bob Noyes said, noting that approximately 200 volunteers are expected to take part in this weekend's program.

In the past, as many as 500 or more have taken part in the CIA work day, annually scheduled for the final weekend in April.

Asked to identify the cause of decreased participation, Noyes admits having no idea, but merely observes that local churches have not been as involved in the program as they have in the past, and that several businesses that once were sustaining influences are "retreating" from their commitments.

He did note, however, that Big Spring's population is getting older and that might be a factor in decreased participation from church groups.

Ironically, it is Big Spring's older citizens who benefit from Christmas in April projects.

Started in 1987 as part of the Leadership Big Spring class, the group wanted to give back to the community and chose the Christmas in April program. It later grew to include churches, civic clubs and business organizations.

The homes to be repaired this weekend belong to elderly residents with limited incomes - many of them trying to get by on less than \$500 per month. The person must fill out an application and be approved before work is done.

Patching and replacing roofs is among the top priorities for CIA crews, as are fixing electrical and plumbing problems.

While Noyes notes that the local organization is financially sound, a lack of volunteer labor limits the work it can do, both during this weekend's effort and throughout the year.

What Christmas in April needs, as does virtually every other charitable and volunteer organization in town, is the kind of commitment the United Way of Big Spring and Howard County received last fall.

The United Way's success was a pleasant turnaround from previous years in which it failed to meet its goal.

Hopefully, once Big Spring residents realize there's a need for volunteer labor in the community, they'll respond in the same way they opened their wallets and pocketbooks last fall.

It's simply another opportunity for us all to do just a little that collectively makes a difference for those who are incapable of helping themselves.

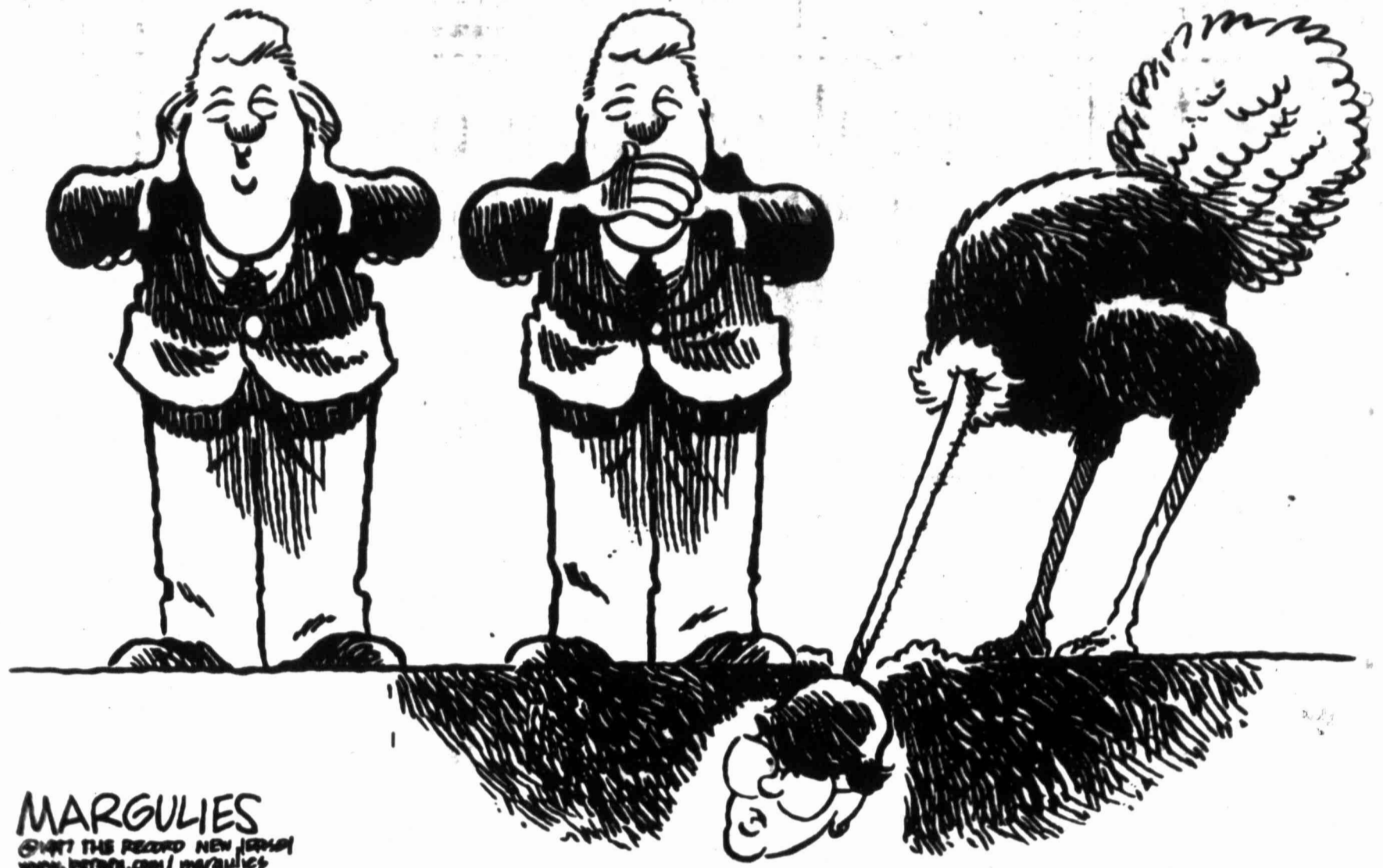
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HEAR NO Evil SPEAK NO Evil RE-NO Evil



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Reflections on comets and time travel

On the bed with its worn white spread is a biography of Margaret Bourke-White. That book and a flower press were her Easter gifts, taking the place of last year's stuffed bunny and jump rope with carrot handles.

My niece Chelsey is growing up, so fast that I get nervous before each of her visits. What if the little girl I love arrives one day and I can no longer please her? What if she discovers her funny aunt is a tad temperamental with a queasy personality? What if we no longer collapse into laughter over the same jokes, or burst into the same nonsensical songs? What if our golden bond breaks?



Rheta Johnson
Syndicated Columnist

So far, so good. With each stage of her development, I find Chelsey more interesting and she continues to find me tolerable.

It's more complicated than remembering her shoe and dress size, which rise fast as the temperature on an early spring day. It's far more complicated than that.

Last year at this time she was watching "Land Before Time," that goofy, animated series of movies about baby-talking dinosaurs.

Tonight she wants to rent "Phenomenon," John Travolta is her idol.

Last year this time she drank too much Cherry Coke. Now she likes only bottled water.

Last year she didn't care what she wore, so long as it had legs, not a skirt. This year her hand-me-down sweatshirt reads "Ralph Lauren."

I watch her through the window as I write, the small, solemn figure on the porch swing, bent in fierce concentration over a sketch book. My new mutt Maxie is at her feet.

Last year she wanted to be a veterinarian or a photographer when she grows up, or maybe a photographer who specializes in animal pictures. This year she wants to be an artist.

Last year her pictures were riotous color combinations made with broad strokes and felt markers. This year she's into quiet pencil sketches.

Last year she wanted to go to Six Flags. This year she wants to see the Martin Luther King tomb.

When she was 3, I wanted to freeze her in time, to keep that upturned nose and dimpled chin exactly as it was, forever. I wanted to hear for eternity that unself-conscious and off-key rendition of "A Whole New World" that she used to sing at the top of her lungs while we traveled down the highway. I wanted to keep that small, sweet face, uncrinkled by fear or worry, so innocent it hurt me to look at it.

How silly I was to think that age 5 wouldn't be as beguiling as 3, that 9 wouldn't have just as many charms as 4.

I still fret. I dread the day she dumps John Travolta for the boy next door. I think about teen-age rebellion, from which intelligent children are rarely exempt. I worry about all the things the PSAs tell you to worry about - drugs and fad diets and dopey, 1997 things.

We looked at the comet last night. I had frightened her a bit by talking about the comet cult, those pathetic souls who wanted so badly to live forever.

Chelsey and I stood in the middle of a dirt road and stared up at a sky punctured by a trillion stars. She put the binoculars to her blue eyes and searched for the comet that - one way or another - has inspired us all.

And I watched her watch, fighting the temptation to think to myself: "Oh, please, let her stay this age forever, so inquisitive and innocent and perfect. Let her stay 9."

c 1997 by Rheta Grimsley Johnson
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Gingrich should stay out of China's affairs

House Speaker Newt Gingrich is a demagogue. Demagogues are not new.

A new breed of men is springing up to govern the nation. Joseph Story wrote in 1835: "They are the hunters after popular laurels, men ambitious, not of the honor so much as of the profits of office - the demagogues whose principles hang loosely upon them, and who follow not so much what is right as what leads to a temporary vulgar applause."

Such men have always been known to be bad for a country. "The shortest way to ruin a country is to give power to demagogues," Demosthenes of Sicily observed about 2,000 years ago.

So what has Newt been up to lately, other than paying his \$300,000 penalty? Well, he went to Taiwan and publicly boasted "If Peking seeks to unify Taiwan with the mainland by force or intimidation, the

United States will use all means necessary to prevent it."

"Oh! Do you wish to go to war with China to preserve the independence of Taiwan?" Has Congress decided to do that? If so, then why did the United States government unilaterally repudiate its mutual defense treaty with Taiwan, we use to call it the Republic of China, during the Carter administration?

As Gingrich very well knows, the U.S. government abandoned Taiwan a long time ago. It is also the official policy of the U.S. government, as

Gingrich well knows, that the United States considers Taiwan a province of China. That makes Taiwan an internal matter for the Chinese government to settle anyway it chooses to settle. We don't recognize Taiwan as an independent national government.

When American politicians say the Chinese must reunify their country in a peaceful manner they're just covering up their cowardly abandonment of Taiwan years ago. They're not about to go to war in defense of Taiwan, and the Chinese know it.

Think for a moment, how ridiculous it is for politicians who abandoned Taiwan's claim to independence in the 1970s, to

pretend that America would be prepared to spend tens of thousands of American lives and tens of billions of dollars in a war with China - just because we don't like the manner in which China handles what we've already agreed is an internal affair of China.

And where in the Constitution does it say that the United States government has the authority to meddle in the internal affairs of other sovereign nations?

The United States had a clear moral choice in the 1970s: Either recognize the Communist government on the mainland or continue to recognize the Republic of China on Taiwan as the legitimate government of the Chinese people.

Big business, led by David Rockefeller, said dump ROC and recognize the Reds - it's a bigger market. So the United States unilaterally dumped the Republic of China on Taiwan.

And that's that. Besides, when the late Gen. Douglas MacArthur said, "Stay out of a ground war in Asia," he knew what he was talking about. We disregarded that advice in Vietnam, and we all know the results.

Gingrich should not be talking foreign junkies in the first place. The business of the

American people is languishing for lack of leadership in the House. He should be in Washington doing the job he's paid to do - administering the House and providing some leadership to his party, which some call the Republican Party and others call the Stupid Party.

The Democrats, inadvertently did the worst possible thing they could do to hurt the Republicans. They let them win a majority in the House and Senate. And now after three years of Republican majorities, people can see how hollow their campaign rhetoric is.

Nothing of any real importance has changed. Trade policy is the same; taxes are the same; big central government is the same; the deficit's still there; the budget is still unbalanced; the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Department of Education, the Legal Services Corp. - those things conservatives said they wanted to get rid of - are still there.

Thank Gingrich. Liberals do.

Charley Reese's e-mail address is: OROreese@aol.com.
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Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TIMNEY





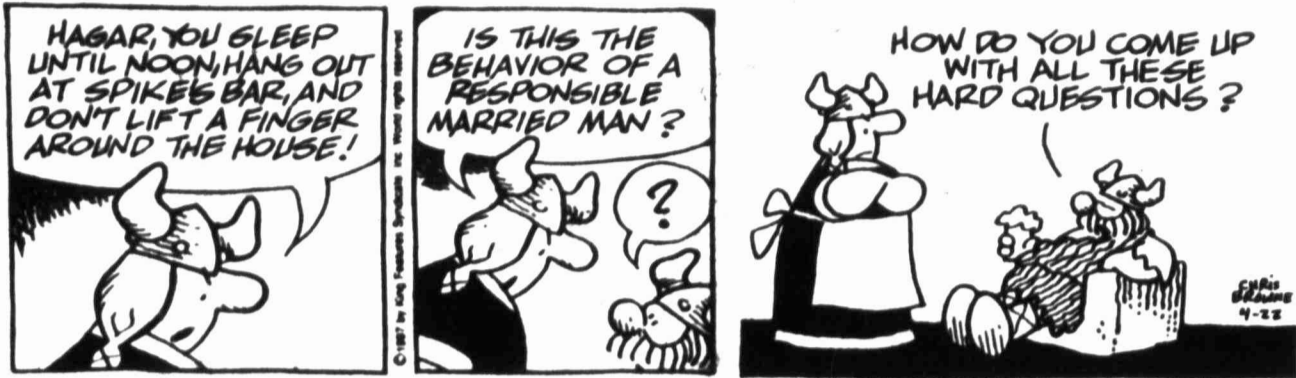


TUESDAY

APR. 22

	KMD (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (18)	HBO (22)	KMLM (24)	A&E (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	FSN (29)	ESPN (30)	AMC (31)	BET (33)	
6	News Wh. Fortune	Simpsons Home Imp.	Science Guy Creates	Wakona (563532)	News (4667) Ent. Tonight	News (4667) Wh. Fortune	News (4261) Saviland	Home Videos Home Videos	Luz Clarita (77174)	Famgully: the Last	Dukes of Hazzard	(15) Movie: Federal Hill	Baking Report	(693446)	Light of the Southwest	Law & Order	Wings (39206)	In the Heat of the Night	FOX Sports News	(411006) Stanley Cup	My Favorite Brunette (CC)	Hi List (842532)	
7	Roseanne Soul Man	Movie: Tornado!	Novas (CC) (13377)	Highway to Heaven	Promised Land	Roseanne Soul Man	Mad Abc. You Something So	(05) Movie: Drop Dead	Te Sigo Amando	Rainforest More Wolves	Yesterday & Today	(CC) (8554682)	Weekend at Bernie's II	The Great White Hype	(277385) BJ Robinson	Biography (84281)	Wild Discovery	Movie: Heaven is a	Boeing: Fight Night at the	Forum	Playoffs: Conf.	Days of Wine	Planet Groove (203629)
8	Home Imp. Spin City	(CC) (22261)	ER: Life on the Edge	Rescue 911	Movie: Sleeping With	Home Imp. Spin City	Frasier Caroline	Fred (8326613)	Tu y Yo (90209)	Earth Day Dis (45) Movie:	Prime Time Country	Movie: Tres- pass (CC)	Dracula: Dead and Loving It	Comedy Half	Praise the Lord (CC)	(874025)	New Detectives	Adventures- 20th Century	(-15) Movie: Heaven is a	NBA Finals Baseball	Teams TBA	Movie: Days of Wine and	Comeview (339483)
9	NYPD Blue (CC) (8445)	Pal Factor: Chronicles	Frontline (CC) (43731)	700 Club (102445)	the Devil (CC) (73193)	NYPD Blue (CC) (46613)	Dateline (CC) (39989)	Major League Baseball	Primer Impacto Noc.	Swiss Family Robinson	Not Fade Away	(3252716) (45) Movie:	Red Shoe Love Street	Movie: Money Train (CC)	(217716)	(156006)	Law & Order	Wild Discovery	(-15) Movie: Heaven is a	FOX Sports News	Sportscenter	Roses (139984)	Talk (994700) Sanford
10	News Chees	Mad Abc. You In the Heat of	News: Lehrer (43731)	Three Stooges	News Late Show	News Nightline	News (48236) Tonight Show	Atlanta Braves at	P. Impacto Noticiero	(CC) (33703209)	Dallas (984342)	Dead Deads (CC)	Red Shoe Love Street	Movie: Money Train (CC)	(217716)	(156006)	Law & Order	Wild Discovery	(-15) Movie: Heaven is a	FOX Sports News	Sportscenter	Roses (139984)	Talk (994700) Sanford
11	Nightline Politically Inc.	the Night Marin	Tour of Taste (71551)	Carson Carson	Marned... Wed	Ent. Tonight (36) Rotonda	Late Night	San Francisco Giants	Al Ritmo de la Noche	The Monkey's Uncle (CC)	Dukes of Hazzard	(-15) Movie: Chameleon	Sex Bytes 2.2	Biography (836025)	New Detectives	Movie:	FOX Sports News	Baseball Golf: World	Movie: The Robe	Movie: Days of Wine and	Movie: The Robe	Rap City (798532)	
12	Roseanne Bible Lesson	Universe H. Patrol	Tour of Taste (232762)	Pad Program Pad Program	Late Late Show	(3496209) Politically Inc.	Cops	Movie: Yellowstone	(705735) Juratos-No	(2894551) (35) Monkey	Prime Time Country	Conundrum (5973822)	(11:50) The Big Fall (CC)	Rhnd Bonnie Update News	Ivanhoe (CC) (100830)	Adventures- 20th Century	Brewster's Millions	Sports Writers on TV	Champion- ship	Movie: Days of Wine and	Movie: The Robe	Movie: Days of Wine and	

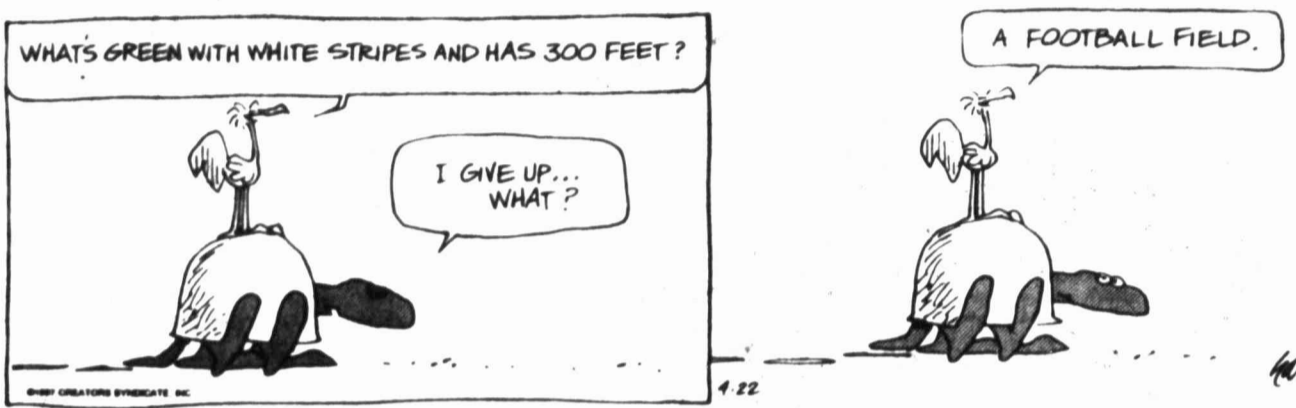
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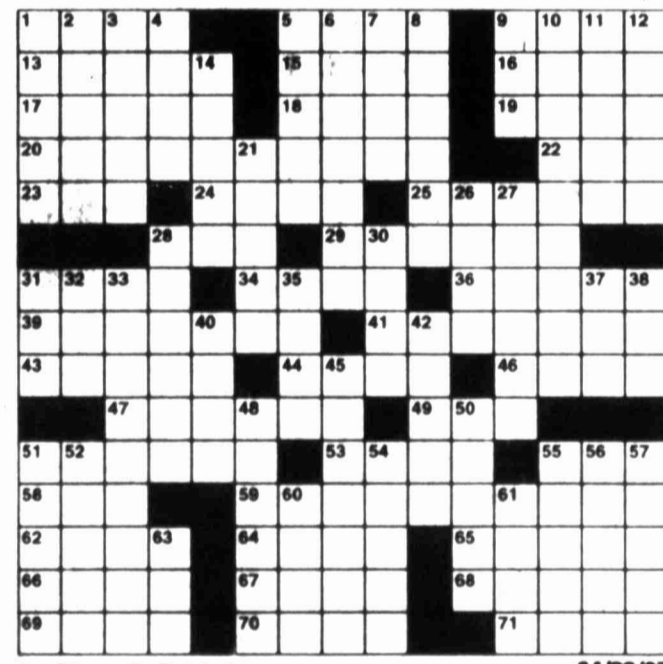
THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, April 22, the 112th day of 1997. There are 253 days left in the year.

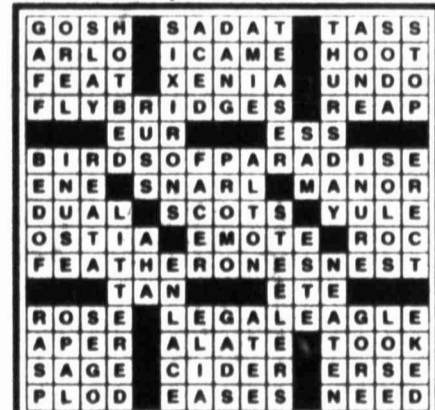
THE Daily Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Magnet end
- 5 Soccer score
- 9 European neighbor
- 13 Bakery come-on
- 15 "Clair de"
- 16 Alan or Cheryl
- 17 Type of protest
- 18 Volcanic mound
- 19 Beggar's petition
- 20 Scorn of the unattainable
- 22 Children's game
- 23 Nav. off
- 24 City in Italia
- 25 Fit for consumption
- 28 Big Apple sch.
- 29 Have an inclination
- 31 Famous Ali
- 34 Abound
- 36 - out (hit the limit)
- 39 Sir Laurence
- 41 With deftness
- 43 Smooth fabric
- 44 Actress Anderson
- 46 Capri, for one
- 47 More uptight
- 49 Circle piece
- 51 Black Sea port
- 53 Odense native
- 55 - Alamos
- 58 Broadcast
- 59 Darling
- 62 Boot tips
- 64 Munich mister
- 65 Roomy
- 66 Author Ferber
- 67 "saw Eiba"
- 68 Buffalo
- 69 Mr. Foxx
- 70 Withered
- 71 Camp item



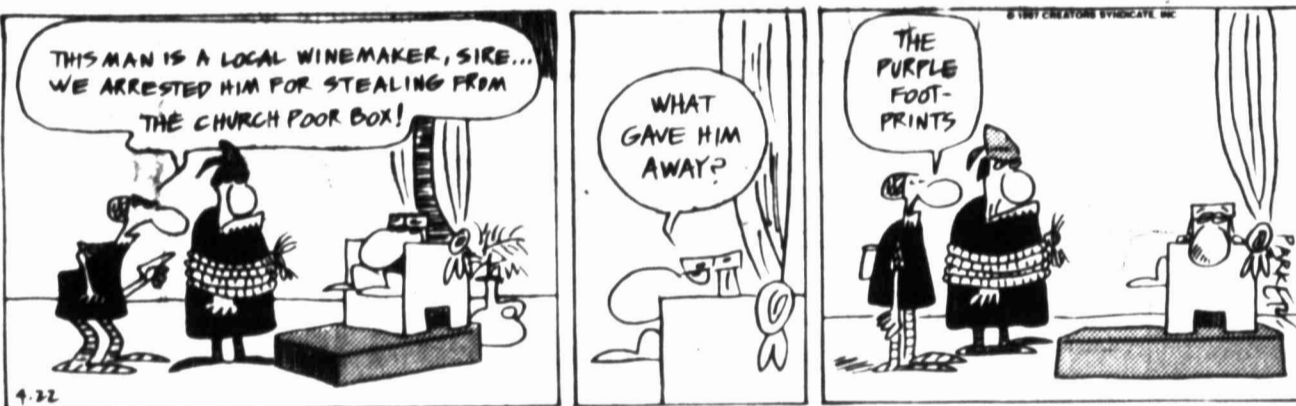
by Diane C. Baldwin

Monday's Puzzle solved:



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WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



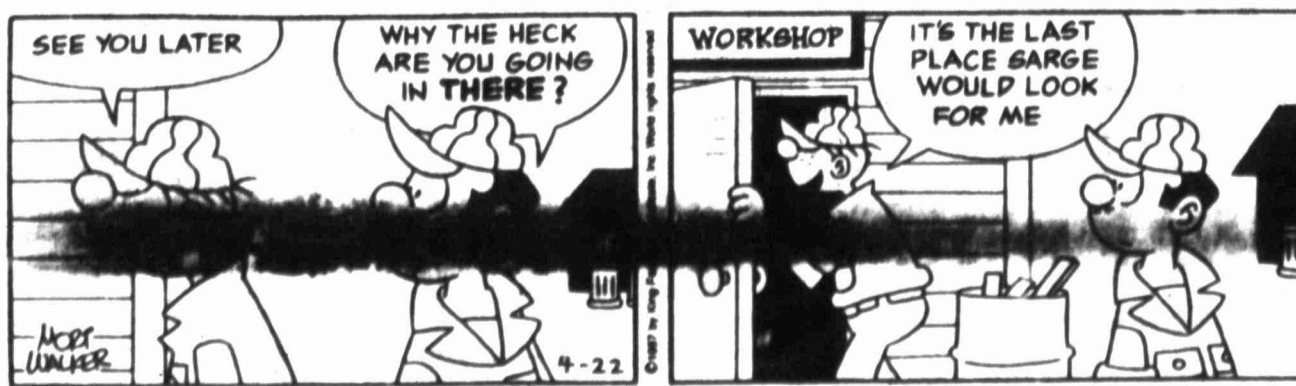
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the throne of England following the death of his father, Henry VII.

In 1864, Congress authorized the use of the phrase "In God We Trust" on U.S. coins.

In 1889, the Oklahoma Land Rush began at noon as thousands of homesteaders staked claims.

In 1898, the first shot of the Spanish-American War rang out as the USS Nashville captured a Spanish merchant ship off Key West, Fla.

In 1930, the United States, Britain and Japan signed the London Naval Treaty, which regulated submarine warfare and limited shipbuilding.

In 1944, during World War II, U.S. forces began invading Japanese-held New Guinea with amphibious landings near Hollandia.

In 1954, the televised Senate Army-McCarthy hearings began.

In 1964, President Johnson opened the New York World's Fair.

In 1970, millions of Americans concerned about the environment observed the first "Earth Day."

In 1993, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum was dedicated in Washington, D.C., to honor the victims of Nazi extermination.

Ten years ago: Joe Hunt, leader of a social and investment group called the "Billionaire Boys Club," was convicted by a jury in Santa Monica, Calif., of murdering Ron Levin, a con man whose body has never been found. Hunt was sentenced to life in prison.

Five years ago: The Supreme Court heard arguments on Pennsylvania's restrictive abortion law. The court upheld most of the law's provisions the following June, but also reaffirmed a woman's basic right to an abortion. In Guadalajara, Mexico, more than 200 people were killed by a series of sewer explosions.

One year ago: After 11 days of focusing on Hezbollah guerrillas, Israeli warplanes turned to a new target in Lebanon, attacking the heavily fortified base of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Homemaker-humorist Erma Bombeck died in San Francisco at age 69.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Eddie Albert is 89. Violinist Sir Yehudi Menuhin is 81. Singer Glen Campbell is 61. Actor Jack Nicholson is 60. Actor-writer Jason Miller is 58. Country singer Cleve Francis is 52. Movie director John Waters is 51. Singer Peter Frampton is 47. Rock singer-musician Paul Carrack (Mike and the Mechanics; Squeeze) is 46. Actor Joseph Bottoms is 43.