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FARMERS

Candidates say they were unaware

City Council hopefuls Marcus Fernandez and Glen Carrigan deny knowingly taking illegal campaign contributions

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

Both city council candidates who allegedly took illegal campaign contributions said Tuesday they did so without knowing they were breaking the law.

Marcus Fernandez, a candidate for District 1 in Saturday's city elections, and James Glen Carrigan, who is running for the District 3 seat, said

they became aware they had possibly taken illegal contributions when Big Spring Mayor Tommy Duncan came under fire last week for accepting campaign contributions from two local corporations, Quad A Inc. and Hydro Dynamics.

According to a campaign finance report filed with the city's secretary, Fernandez accepted a donation of \$1,000 from Quad A Inc., P.O. Box 2216 in Big Spring, and a \$200 dona-

tion from Hydro Dynamics, 4312 S. Highway 87 in Big Spring.

"After reading the article I contacted my campaign treasurer and requested a complete review and audit of all contributions made to my campaign," Fernandez said Tuesday.

"Upon review my treasurer discovered a donation from Quad A Inc. in the amount of \$1,000 and a donation from Hydro Dynamics Inc. for \$200, which was reported during our first financial report as required by state law."

Carrigan said he, too, became aware of the contributions in question shortly after the Texas Rangers announced an investigation into Duncan's campaign finances had been launched.

"We discovered the contributions when the allegations against Mayor Duncan came out. We realized we might have accepted contributions from the same people," Carrigan said.

"We are now in the process of correcting the situation by returning the money."

Carrigan reported he had received \$1,000 from Quad A Inc. and \$400 from Hydro Dynamics.

Both men insist they were unaware it was illegal to receive campaign contributions from a corporation at the time the funds were accepted.

"No, I wasn't aware it was illegal," Carrigan said.

See **UNAWARE**, Page 3A

Early voting totals exceed expectations

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

As early voting in this year's municipal elections closed Tuesday, election officials say more than 700 local residents have already cast their ballot in a contest that will decide the fate of proposed term limits for Big Spring City Council members.

Howard County Elections Administrator Saundra Bloom said the total number of early voting ballots collected is approximately 750, slightly higher than she had expected in the municipal contest.

"I'd have to say it's a little higher than I had expected," Bloom said. "There was a lot of interest in the proposed term limits, and the races for the seats on the city council have generated quite a bit of controversy. We're hoping this will carry over into Election Day, which is Saturday."

The proposed term limits have become a hot topic in the Crossroads area during the past several months, as the charter amendment — which was spawned by a local petition — will either be approved or rejected by voters.

The amendment would prevent council members from running for reelection after serving two consecutive terms, according to City Attorney Linda Sjogren.

"If the proposed charter amendment passes... the net effect is that council members may only run for two consecutive terms in one position then must sit out one election before running again for that



Saundra Bloom

See **ELECTION**, Page 3A

Fun in the sun for local students



Washington Elementary students enjoyed the annual field day at Blankenship Field Wednesday morning. Pictured above, students compete in the softball throw. Other events included races, long jump, triple jump and hurdles.

Aquatic center fees, schedule get nod from council

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council approved first reading of an ordinance amending codes related to the municipal aquatic center — and setting admission and usage fees — Tuesday night on a 6-1 vote, as the facility is expected to open in approximately a month.

The amendments would rename

the code from "Comanche Trail Park Municipal Swimming Pool" to "Big Spring Family Aquatic Center," as well as establish fees for entrance, pavilion rental and other transactions involving the facility.

The proposed fees would include a \$5 entrance fee for swimmers ages 3 and up, a \$3 increase from entrance fees charged during the last year of the municipal swimming pool's operation. The proposed increase didn't sit well with District 2 Councilman Manuel Ramirez Jr.

"For the average family with two or three kids, \$5 each seems a little too much. It could get really expensive," Ramirez told the council.

According to Duncan, the \$5 fee is a best "guess" at what will need to be charged to make sure the facility — financed by city bonds — doesn't become a burden to local taxpayers.

"Five dollars is a very good guess at what it will cost to run the pool," Duncan said.



Tommy Duncan



Manuel Ramirez Jr.

Also during Tuesday's meeting, the council approved final reading of a change to the Code of Ordinances Business and Occupations section to help prevent the sale of stolen goods to secondhand stores.

According to Big Spring Police Chief Lonnie Smith, the amendment would provide a number of processes designed to prevent the sale of stolen goods and promote the recovery of such items.

"These types of ordinances have been in effect for years for pawn shops," Smith recently told the council. "Requiring identification for those trying to sell the items and keeping records of the transactions helps law enforcement to track down stolen goods and not only return them to their rightful owners, but also to help arrest and prosecute those selling them."

Smith said area businesses dealing in secondhand goods should be required to gather the same information as the pawn shops when they buy goods.

"It would also require these secondhand

store to hold the items for seven days before being sold and prohibit the sale or purchase of certain goods that have had their identification numbers tampered with or removed," he said. "The penalty provided would be no less than \$100 and no more than \$200."

Smith said one change was made in the ordinance since it was approved on first reading more than two weeks ago in an effort to decrease the cost in processing and paperwork for low-dollar items.

"We decided to put a \$25 minimum

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3A

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The Coahoma Choir Kids' Spring Concert
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 Thursday in the school cafeteria. There is no admission charge. For more information, call 394-5000 ext. 200.

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Obituaries

Kenneth Barton Howell



Kenneth Barton Howell came into this world Jan. 17, 1935, and left May 9, 2011, after 76 years of changing the world. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 12, 2011, at First Baptist Church with the Rev. Mark Lindsey, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Kenneth was born in Holland, Texas, to Morris Barton and Bernice Calhoun Howell. He married Mary Jo Lane on May 5, 1955.

Kenneth worked in the oil fields as a young man and then worked at Cosden Refinery in the boilers for 13 years. He then became the business manager for I.U.O.E Local 826. He was instrumental in gaining huge strides in worker compensation, benefits and working conditions.

He owned H.O.S.S. Oilfield Hauling Company and finished out his working years selling cars with his sons at Howell Auto Sales. He also enjoyed playing in golf tournaments with his sons and spending time with his grandchildren, telling stories and spoiling them.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Howell; one daughter, Becky Winters and husband Roger; two sons, Gary Howell and Kim Howell, and Terry Howell and wife Kelley; other daughter, Judy Felts; five grandchildren, Sheena Howell, Sydney Winters, Amy Winters, Hope Howell and Sam Howell; a special great-granddaughter, Marin Howell; other grandchildren, Christopher Felts, Michael Partlow and Crystal Smith; numerous other great-grandchildren; one brother, Billy Ray Howell; and one sister, Joyce Riddle.

He was preceded in death by one son, Michael; one daughter, Cyndi Smith; grandchildren, Chad Felts, Jeremy Smith and Joshua Howell; his parents; and brothers, Melvin and Ladell.

Pallbearers will be Jack Lane, Justin Lane, Roger Winters, Robbie Phernetton, Justin Born and John Gibson.

The family suggests memorials be made to First Baptist Church, 705 W. FM 700, Big Spring 79720.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

Jon Hargrove



Jon Hargrove, 62, of Big Spring died Monday, May 9, 2011. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 12, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Sharon Wiese, pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

He was born May 22, 1948, in Elk City, Okla., and married Sherry Phillips on Aug. 6, 2006, in Joy.

Jon graduated from high school in Lakewood, Colo. He attended North Texas State University, now known as the University of North Texas, until he joined the United States Marine Corps in 1969. He served until 1975 and then returned to work for PPG Glass Company in Burkburnett.

He had his insurance, securities and real estate licenses. Jon was the local agent for Keller Williams Realty. He loved to play the guitar and write music. Jon was a member of the United Methodist Church in Joy.

Survivors include his wife, Sherry Phillips-Hargrove of Big Spring; two daughters, Lexi Lynn Hargrove of Bowie and Cari Harrington of Austin; one son, Brandon Harrington of Big Spring; his mother, Leta May Hargrove of Bowie; his triplet brother, Ron Hargrove and wife Barbara of Richardson; two brothers, Larry Hargrove and wife Jackie of Bowie and Tommy Hargrove and wife Lora of Burkburnett; and five grandchildren, Chandler Allison, Justin Allison, Mason Harrington, Caelan Harrington and Brycen Kiker.

He is preceded in death by his father, Leonard Tim Hargrove; and triplet brother, Donnie Hargrove.

The family suggests memorials be made to the charity of your choice.

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

Paid obituary

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Tuesday and 7 a.m. today:

• PEDRO SAUCEDO, 40, of Stanton, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for failure to control speed and failure to appear.

• REBECCA RIVAS, 32, of 1505 Johnson, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for no driver's license – when unlicensed, failure to appear and two warrants from another agency.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 73 inmates at the time of this report.

• JOE CRUZ GUTIERREZ, 23, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

• REBECCA RIVAS, 32, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of theft by check, bondsman off bond for possession of a controlled substance and municipal warrants for no driver's license and violation of a promise to appear.

• PEDRO SAUCEDO, 40, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to control speed and violation of a promise to appear.

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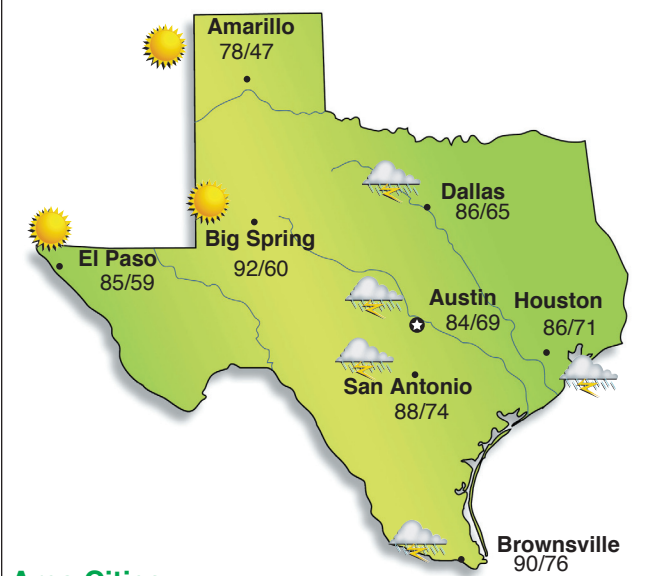


Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 5/12	Fri 5/13	Sat 5/14	Sun 5/15	Mon 5/16
92/60 Sunny skies. Hot. High 92F. Winds WSW at 15 to 25 mph.	86/60 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	84/60 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	84/59 Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	90/61 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.
Sunrise: 6:51 AM Sunset: 8:35 PM	Sunrise: 6:50 AM Sunset: 8:35 PM	Sunrise: 6:49 AM Sunset: 8:36 PM	Sunrise: 6:48 AM Sunset: 8:37 PM	Sunrise: 6:48 AM Sunset: 8:37 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	93	59	sunny	Kingsville	88	74	t-storm
Amarillo	78	47	sunny	Livingston	86	67	t-storm
Austin	84	69	t-storm	Longview	83	65	t-storm
Beaumont	84	70	t-storm	Lubbock	87	50	sunny
Brownsville	90	76	t-storm	Lufkin	84	68	t-storm
Brownwood	93	63	mst sunny	Midland	92	61	sunny
Corpus Christi	84	75	t-storm	Raymondville	92	75	t-storm
Corsicana	84	65	t-storm	Rosenberg	86	71	t-storm
Dallas	86	65	t-storm	San Antonio	88	74	t-storm
Del Rio	91	71	t-storm	San Marcos	85	70	t-storm
El Paso	85	59	sunny	Sulphur Springs	82	63	t-storm
Fort Stockton	91	58	sunny	Sweetwater	94	57	sunny
Gainesville	85	58	mst sunny	Tyler	84	64	t-storm
Greenville	83	61	t-storm	Weatherford	87	60	mst sunny
Houston	86	71	t-storm	Wichita Falls	93	57	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	89	63	pt sunny	Minneapolis	72	51	t-storm
Boston	63	49	pt sunny	New York	72	56	sunny
Chicago	79	60	t-storm	Phoenix	90	67	sunny
Dallas	86	65	t-storm	San Francisco	61	50	pt sunny
Denver	54	39	rain	Seattle	60	43	pt sunny
Houston	86	71	t-storm	St. Louis	87	66	t-storm
Los Angeles	70	59	mst sunny	Washington, DC	75	57	mst sunny
Miami	92	75	mst sunny				

Moon Phases

First May 10	Full May 17	Last May 24	New Jun 1

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Syracuse. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Oil Mill Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2700 block of Marshall. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of E. 21st Street. Service refused.

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Take Note

• All Coahoma High School alumni are invited to an all-school reunion on July 23. This year's program will focus on CHS music, to include honoring anyone associated with former CHS bands, choirs, musical groups, etc. Please help spread the word by sharing this information with any CHS alumni among your family/friends. The Reunion Planning Committee is meeting every other Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Coahoma Dairy Queen. Contact Joyce York Baumann at 432-816-1588 or Patti Lee Meeks at 432-267-6688 for additional information, or with mailing addresses for CHS alumni. Addresses can also be e-mailed to Harold Aberegg at aberegg66@gmail.com.

• West Texas Opportunities will be having its community meeting at 2:30 p.m. Monday in the Howard County Library. Guest speaker will be Tony Marquez of Crossroads Consulting Services. For more information, call Connie Baca, center director, at 267-9536.

• Fridays are live band dance nights at Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler. Senior adults are invited to an evening of fellowship (and good exercise) from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. each Friday. Cost is \$6 per person. For more information or to find out

what band is playing, call the Senior Center at 432-267-1628.

• The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.

• The HCV Section 8 waiting list for the Big Spring Housing Authority is open. The authority is accepting new applications. The office is located at 201 NE Seventh in Big Spring.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound elderly in Big Spring. If you can donate at least one hour a week, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016 and leave a message.

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

• Big Spring Band Boosters meet the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the BSHS Band Hall. All band parents are welcome.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We currently have 55 children in foster care without a volunteer. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering please contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

• Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families,

call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915 or the local ACS office at 432-683-6375.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call (877) 277-1618, the High Plains American Cancer Group Report Center. Anyone wishing to volunteer to drive in this program should call Sherry Hodnett, president of the Big Spring ACS Board, at 264-7599 at her office at Home Hospice.

UNAWARE

Continued from Page 1A

When filing for an elected position, candidates for Big Spring City Council, including the office of mayor, are required to fill out and sign various forms, one of which details appointment of a campaign treasurer. That document includes the statement "I am aware of the restrictions in title 15 of the Election Code on contributions from corporations and labor organizations."

Both men signed the affidavits saying they understood the state law governing campaign contributions. However, both men now say they didn't understand it. Fernandez maintains, however, that legal counsel provided to him since the alleged violations were discovered indicates it's the Texas Election Code, not him, that is in violation of the law. "I contacted my attorney, Rick Eanes, who informed me of a recent Supreme Court decision which provides that the government may not

ban political spending and campaign contributions by corporations to support individual candidates in elections," Fernandez said. Tim Sorrells, deputy general counsel for the Texas Ethics Commission, said the Supreme Court decision has changed the role corporations may play in elections, but it hasn't changed one key issue: Donations made directly to candidates by corporations. "The Supreme Court's decision has changed how corporations can support or oppose can-

didates through advertising," Sorrells said. "However, the prohibition on corporations or unions donating money to individual candidates is unchanged. It is still illegal by Texas law for a candidate to accept campaign contributions from a corporation." Duncan has openly campaigned for Carrigan and Fernandez, who are seeking to defeat longtime incumbents in Saturday's elections. Fernandez is trying to unseat Stephanie Horton while Carrigan is attempting to oust

Joann Staulcup. Also seeking the District 3 seat are Shannon Thomason and write-in candidate Oscar Velasco. Also on the ballot Saturday is a measure which would set term limits for council members — something Horton and Staulcup have opposed but the mayor has championed. While investigating the finance reports of Fernandez and Carrigan, the Herald also looked into the reports of the other candidates in this week-

end's elections but found no irregularities.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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ELECTION

Continued from Page 1A

same position," said Sjogren. "Councilmembers may run for any other position than the one they currently hold if their term is expiring or if they are within the last year of their term, without sitting out a term. Council members cannot be elected to fill a vacancy (unexpired term) in any position on the council within six years of having served in any position on the council."

Some local residents have embraced the idea of term limits in hopes of ousting "career politicians" sitting on the city council. Others, however, have shown sharp opposition to the measure, saying it is a violation of voters' rights to say who can and can not be elected based on arbitrary term limitations. Voters are also being asked to decide the fates of the District 1 and District 3 seats on the city council. District 1 Councilwoman Stephanie Horton is set to defend her seat on the council from challenger Marcus Fernandez in the May 14 municipal elections, while the race for the District 3 seat has drawn three challengers, as incumbent Councilwoman

Joann Staulcup will attempt to beat out challengers Shannon Thomason, Glen Carrigan and write-in candidate Oscar Velasco. Area residents will get their final chance to vote Saturday from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Voters should be sure to bring their voter registration card or picture ID to be able to vote in the contest. For more information on early voting, contact Bloom at 264-2273.

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COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

on the requirement, similar to the same minimum currently used by pawn shops," Smith told the council. "It will require these secondhand stores to keep the necessary records on any item purchased for \$25 or more, including the waiting period." The change was approved on a unanimous vote. The council also met with TxDOT Engineer Roy Dill during the meeting to get an update

on renovations currently planned for Third and Fourth streets. According to Dill, traffic lights will be kept at Gregg, Owens, Goliad and Runnels as a result of the renovations. However, the biggest change will come in the number of lanes for the roadways. "Going from three lanes to two lanes will allow for more parking without effecting the amount of traffic moving through the areas," Dill told the council. "So, both Third and Fourth streets will be two lanes from one side of the city to the other."

RE-ELECT

JO ANN STAULCUP

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sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Publisher

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Staff Writer

Amanda Moreno
Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins
Staff Writer

OUR VIEWS

May is Mental Health Month

For the past 50 years Mental Health America has been placing an emphasis on the importance of mental wellness and promoting mental health.

Mental health issues are often considered a stigma, but the emphasis of Mental Health Month is that these issues should not be ignored and can be treated.

Too often mental health issues aren't treated and can become more severe due to the lack of information and the high cost of health insurance.

According to Mental Health America there are one in four Americans living with a diagnosed and treatable mental health condition.

The information goes on to state that just because a person is diagnosed with a mental illness, there is no reason the person can not live a full and productive life.

When it comes to mental health it's important to know the information that is out there, understand the treatments available and more importantly, understand at what point treatment is needed.

Daily stress can be a major contributing factor to mental illnesses and can often go ignored. It's important to learn a few stress relieving tips, such as taking a few moments to clear your mind each day. It's also important to know the signs of stress, which can affect your immune system, reproductive system or even cause headaches or skin irritations.

During the month of May, West Texas Centers adds a few extra events drawing attention to mental illness. Children served at the Howard County Mental Health Center Thursday and Friday will receive a gift bag, have a chance at taking home gift baskets and enjoy refreshments.

Next Wednesday all adults receiving services at the center will also have a chance to take home a gift basket.

West Texas Centers is the authority of 23 counties, including Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Fisher, Gaines, Howard, Kent, Garza, Glasscock, Loving, Kent, Martin, Mitchell, Nolan, Reeves, Runnels, Scurry, Terrell, Terry, Upton, Ward, Winkler and Yoakum.

West Texas Centers also operates a Mental Health Crisis Hotline which is operational 24/7 and can be reached at 1-800-375-4357.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We are clear on our future, Lord, when we walk with You.

Amen

Osama death = Unbeatable Obama

It's the oldest truism in politics: You can't beat something with nothing. For 2012, the Democrats have something: Barack Obama. The Republicans, so far, have nothing.

This could change. But who is going to change it? And when? It may seem like the Republicans have lots of time until the 2012 campaign, but they do not. Obama is already running for re-election and already raising money. Lots of money.

For the GOP, the sands are rushing through the hourglass.

Item: The Quinnipiac poll finds "Still No Clear Leader in GOP Field." Pollster Peter Brown says: "It is difficult to get a handle on the 2012 Republican race. Many contenders are not well known, and many who are known are not liked, making their candidacies problematic."

The killing of Osama bin Laden by the Obama administration shows what a difference a death can make. Not to world security — that is still dicey. But the Republican field has been fried like an egg.

Item: "The day after a one-day Washington Post poll found Obama getting a nine-point bounce in his approval rating, a new two-day New York Times/CBS survey shows the president's numbers increasing 11 points, from 46 percent last month to 57 percent now," says First Read. "The increase in Mr. Obama's ratings came largely from Republicans and independents."

Item: Bruce Keough, the 2008 director of Mitt Romney's New Hampshire campaign, says he won't rejoin in 2012 because, according to a Mother Jones interview, "he's no longer sure what Romney stands for." Keough says: "I don't think the voters are looking for somebody who's going to be recasting himself. They want somebody who's been true to a certain set of political ideals for a while."

No matter how well Republicans did as a party in the last congressional elections, their presidential field was shallow in

ROGER SIMON

2008 — and it is shallow today.

In 2008, the Republican order of finish based upon delegates to the nominating convention was: John McCain, Mike Huckabee, Mitt Romney, Ron Paul, Fred Thompson and Duncan Hunter. Rudy Giuliani ran in the primaries but ended up with no delegates. The rest of the field of Alan Keyes, Sam Brownback, Tom Tancredo, etc., withdrew before the primaries.

Take a gander at those names, and tell me how many you can actually see in the Oval Office running the country today? Two? One? None?

Here is the Republican field for 2012 based on the highly useful Real Clear Politics average of leading polls. The potential candidates are, in order: Huckabee, Romney, Donald Trump, Sarah Palin, Newt Gingrich, Paul, Michele Bachmann, Tim Pawlenty, Mitch Daniels and Rick Santorum.

Jon Huntsman is said to be preparing to run but is not yet being included in national polls. Others may also enter.

Huckabee is polling at 16.6 percent, Romney at 16.5, Trump at 16.3, and Palin at 10.1. All the rest are in single digits.

Again, take a look at the entire field. How many would make you comfortable if they were sitting in the Oval Office, making decisions about the economy, health care, education, the environment, and war and peace?

If you came up with any names at all, how confident are you that any one of them could defeat Barack Obama in November 2012?

And now you see the problem for the Republicans. It's not the billion dollars Obama is expected to raise, it's not that he has gone through a presidential general election campaign while none of the Republicans have (except Sarah Palin as the vice presidential nominee in 2008), it's not his oratorical skills and mastery of the issues — he has not spent the last 28 months just golfing (although he has spent a lot of the last 28 months just golfing) — it's the image he has created based upon his record of a competent, cool, skilled, experienced, capable leader of this country.

Has he done things that have disappointed Democrats and enraged Republicans? Of course.

Obama values are to make the kill but not to waterboard

At the end of his "60 Minutes" interview, President Obama said of Osama bin Laden's death, "Justice was done. And I think that anyone who would question that the perpetrator of mass murder on American soil didn't deserve what he got needs to have their head examined."

The longer he serves in office, the more Obama sounds like George W. Bush.

New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd also has started to sound like Bush. In her Sunday column, "Killing Evil Doesn't Make Us Evil," Dowd writes that when Navy SEALs shot and killed bin Laden, it seemed like "the only civilized and morally sound response."

To review: Obama and Dowd long have claimed that it was morally reprehensible for U.S. intelligence operatives to waterboard 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheik Mohammed. Candidate Obama said that waterboarding was "never acceptable" because it contradicts our values. Obama even dished his now-Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, for having said in 2006 that she would authorize brutal interrogation measures to prevent a terrorist attack.

Apparently, it is consistent

DEBRA SAUNDERS

with Obama's and Dowd's values to shoot and kill an unarmed bin Laden — as long as you don't waterboard him to learn possible intelligence that might prevent a terrorist attack first.

It's amazing how partisan politics can make the medicine go down.

Don't get me wrong. I support the president's decision to order the mission that resulted in bin Laden's much-deserved death. Besides, going through the logistics necessary to apprehend bin Laden might have jeopardized a Navy SEAL's neck — and that's a price too rich.

In this alternate political universe, the Bushies are reduced to making the now-abandoned liberal arguments.

UC Berkeley law professor John Yoo, who wrote memos authorizing waterboarding and other harsh interrogation techniques when he worked in the Bush Justice Department, penned a piece last week in The Wall Street Journal that criticized Obama for not trying to take bin Laden alive. Yoo wrote that Obama "would rather kill (al-Qaida) leaders — whether by drones or special ops teams — than wade through the difficult questions raised by their detention." Yoo argued that Obama squandered a valuable intelligence opportunity.

Of course, Yoo knows that under Obama's terms, U.S. officials likely would not learn much from a captured bin Laden. The late al-Qaida founder knows

I have written about many of them week after week, especially his perilous policy of continuing the war in Afghanistan and his launching of a confused and confusing war in Libya.

But Obama also rescued the economy, saved the auto industry, expanded health care to millions of children, passed health care reform for everybody, repealed the ban on gay men and women serving openly in the military, and eased the restrictions on stem cell research.

And oh, yeah, he found and killed Osama bin Laden.

Presidential campaigns can be marked by high velocity changes. The media are much too driven by polls (I try to resist this, but often fail), and as a White House operative reminded me recently, the two leaders at the beginning of the last campaign were Hillary Clinton and Rudy Giuliani. (Both made grievous mistakes: Hillary underestimated Obama, and Giuliani underestimated the ability of Americans to dislike New Yorkers.)

The media and public have been mesmerized by Trump in recent weeks. He led the polls by 9 percentage points a month ago. But a presidential campaign is a meat grinder, and Trump has now been minced. Today, he is largely seen as just another buffoon with delusions of adequacy. He is not now and will not ever be a credible challenger to Obama.

Does this mean we don't need an election campaign in 2012 and that Obama has already won?

Nope. He has vulnerabilities. He is going to have to defend a four-year record. And the economy could tank. Even further. The Republicans could beat this guy. All they have to do is find someone to do it.

They have to find a candidate who is smart, gutsy, nimble, creative, credible, determined and capable of raising vast sums of money.

Give me a minute, and I'll try to come up with a name.

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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that intelligence officials can't threaten him or try to strong-arm him; they can only read him his Miranda rights.

Any operatives tempted to assert themselves need only think about the fate of their predecessors: harsh litigation techniques.

In August 2009, Attorney General Eric Holder reopened criminal investigations into CIA interrogations — four years after the Department of Justice, which had investigated instances of possible abuse, chose not to prosecute most cases. (The probe had resulted in a successful prosecution and disciplinary actions against some individuals.)

After the White House announced that bin Laden was dead, National Security Adviser John Brennan saluted Obama for one of the "gutsiest" political moves ever. On "60 Minutes," Obama said he could not praise intelligence officials enough. If the president wants to be truly gutsy, he should tell Holder to take his heavy-handed re-investigation and shove it.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Why not check this out? At the library

More mysteries: Colleen McCullough of “The Thornbirds” fame

has continued her career as an author with Carmine Delmonico, a captain in the Carew, somewhere in Maine. It is 1968, America



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

is in turmoil and Holloman (a suburb of Carew) is being terrorized by a series of rapes. In “Naked Cruelty” (M McC C), the Holloman police department is also in turmoil. A lieutenant is out of his depth, a sergeant is out of control and when you add an ambitious trainee, everything is out of whack. It is a good book, although if you have lots of American police mysteries, you will find some discrepancies in both training and verbiage. McCullough is Australian and there is a faint whiff of her upbringing in the Carmine Delmonico series.

Other titles available for checkout: Joseph Wambaugh’s “Hollywood Hills” (M WAM J); “Pray for Peace” (M CAS L), by Linda Castillo; “A Lesson in Secrets” (M WIN J), by Jacqueline Winspear;

and Marcia Muller’s “Coming Back” (MUL M), a Sharon McCone mystery.

Just back from the binders is “A Field Guide to American Windmills” (621.45 BAK T), by T. Lindsay Baker. Before the development of a “self-governing” windmill, settlement of the upland areas of the American West was impossible. Surface water was not available and if there were streams, they dried up in the hot summers. As soon as the design and manufacture were perfected, windmills became an integral part of settling the West. This is a very interesting book, filled with the history, manufacture and uses of the lowly windmill.

On the opening eve of the Gulf War, an American pilot was shot down over Iraq, presumed dead. However, two years later, wreckage was discovered and set off an investigation that despite the government’s insistence that Lt. Cmdr. Speicher was dead, evidence existed that he was captured and is possibly alive today. “No One Left Behind: The Lt. Cmdr. Micahel Scott Speicher Story” (956.704 SPE M) by Amy Waters Yarsinske is meticulously researched with interviews with top government and military officials, diplomats, pilots

and Iraqi defectors. It is a stunning tale of cover-ups and denials that obscured one fact: Speicher actually survived the crash, leaving the question, where is he?

Have you ever had a Whoopie pie? If you have, now you can actually make your own with recipes from “Whoopie Pies” (641.865 BIL S), by Sarah Billingsley and Amy Treadwell.

I have always liked Michael Caine; he was, to me, the epitome of a scoundrel with a British accent. In “The Elephant to Hollywood” (B CAI M), he gives his insider view of Hollywood from his successes to his miserable failures. Cain has worked with notables like Sir Laurence Olivier and Jack Nicholson to Woody Allen and Jude Law. He recalls films and the off-screen moments that the public never gets to see or hear. I think it will be a fun and interesting book on what one may call the “old Hollywood.”

Another wonderful actor, Humphrey Bogart, has a new biography out. Darwin Porter has written “Humphrey Bogart: The Making of a Legend” (B BOG H). From the flyleaf of Bogart’s biography, “gods bestow their gifts at random, and they decided to give Bogart equal doses of good and bad luck.” As many of

you know, Bogie died at 58 from the combined effects of cigarettes and booze. An iconic actor, you will discover much about the man.

New books on CD that are in: from Edward Conlon comes “Red on Red” (AUCD F CON E); Michael Oher has “I Beat the Odds” (AUCD B OHE R) — this is the young man whose story was told in the movie “The Blind Side”; and from the sub-continent of India, is “Mahatma Gandhi and His Struggle with India” (AUCD B GAN M), by Joseph Lelyveld.

Elmer Kelton wrote, “I was freckle-faced country boy, green as a gourd, a sheep ready to be sheared.” His life story, “Sandhills Boy: The Winding Trail of a Texas Writer,” (B KEL E) is one of contrasts. The sons of Buck Kelton, respected cowboy and ranch foreman, were expected to follow in his footsteps. Elmer strayed from that role. He was off to college, then journalism and onto novel writing. We are glad that he did. This is a charming, warm-hearted memoir of a fine Western writer.

A new Lincoln Lawyer case has come into the library: “The Fifth Witness” (M CON M), by Michael Connelly, has Mickey Haller working a new scene: helping defer home

foreclosures by victims of the mortgage debacle. Lisa Trammell, one of his more needy clients, has been accused of murdering a mortgage broker who was handling her case. Mickey takes a retainer in the case to defend her. Along with Art, Lorna, Cisco and Bull-ocks (a new associate lawyer) it is all speed ahead. There is a surprising twist, one that I didn’t see coming, that will change Haller’s life for good.

The library will close at 3 p.m. Friday, May 27 for the Memorial Day holiday weekend. We

will reopen at 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 31. Our hours for the summer will be 10 to 6, Monday through Friday; we will be closed Saturdays throughout the months of June, July and August.

Lots of new stuff is coming in, far too much for me to write about. Please check the New Book Binder. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The website is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

MINUTES OF COUNTY FINANCES TREASURER’S REPORT

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY FINANCES IN THE HANDS OF
TERESA THOMAS TREASURER OF
HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS.

COMMISSIONERS' COURT HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS IN
REGULAR SESSION APRIL TERM 2011
IN ACCORDANCE with Section 114.026, Local Government
Code, we, the undersigned, constituting the entire Commissioners
Court of said County, certify that on the 9th day of May, 2011 at
the Regular term of Court, we compared and examined the
monthly report of TERESA THOMAS, Treasurer of Howard
County, Texas, for March 31, 2011, and finding the same correct,
entered an order in the Minutes approving said Report, which
states total cash and other assets on hand as \$16,464,607.80.

Mark Barr, County Judge
Emma Brown, Commissioner Pct. 1
Donnie Baker, Commissioner Pct. 2
Jimmie Long, Commissioner Pct. 3
John Cline, Commissioner Pct. 4

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, by Mark Barr,
County Judge, and County Commissioners of said Howard
County, each respectively, on this the 9th day of May, 2011.

Attest: Donna Wright, County Clerk

FILED FOR RECORD THIS 9TH DAY OF May, 2011, and
recorded on the 9th day of May, 2011.

Donna Wright,
County Clerk and
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners
Court in and for Howard County, Texas.

221933

EFFECT OF DOMESTIC ABUSE ON CHILDREN

In homes where domestic violence occurs, children are at high risk of suffering physical abuse themselves. Regardless of whether children are physically abused or not, the emotional effects of witnessing domestic violence are very similar to the psychological trauma associated with being a victim of child abuse. Each year, an estimated minimum of 3.3 million children witness domestic violence.

There are several general reactions that children from violent homes are likely to show. The same emotional reaction can be acted out differently according to the child's age.

- **Feeling responsible for the abuse**
A child might think, "if I had been a good girl/boy daddy wouldn't have hit mommy."
- **Constant Anxiety**
Even when things are calm, one never knows when the next fight will start.
- **Guilt for not stopping the abuse**
Children can experience guilt over the good feelings they have about the abuser.
- **Grief**
Children who are separated from the abuser are in the process of grieving over the loss. Children may also grieve over losing the lifestyle and positive image of the abuser they had before the violence began.
- **Ambivalence**
Not knowing how one feels or having two opposite emotions at the same time is very difficult for children. A child who says, "I don't know how I feel about it," may not be hedging but rather is confused about feelings.
- **Fear of abandonment**
Children removed from one parent as a result of violent acts may have strong fears that the other parent could also leave them or die. Thus, a child may refuse to leave the mother, even for short time periods.
- **Need for excessive adult attention**
This need can be especially troublesome for mothers who are trying to deal with their own pain and decisions.
- **Fear of physical harm to themselves**
A significant percentage of witnessing children are also abused. They may worry that the abuser will find them and abduct or harm them or that the abuser will be angry and retaliate when they return home.
- **Embarrassment**
Especially for older children, sensitivity to the stigma of spouse abuse may result in shame.
- **Worry about the future**
The uncertainty within their daily lives may make children feel that life will continue to be unpredictable.

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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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Hints from Heloise: Candy question

Dear Readers: The recent recipe for an easy CANDY SNACK using pretzels, pecans and caramel candy resulted in a deluge of questions from readers asking what type of candy was used.

Since I don't use brand names in my column or books, here's a stab at describing it. The chocolate-covered caramels are individually wrapped with copper-colored foil, and are sold either in a bag or in a roll.

For those who may have missed this easy recipe, all you do is take one of the caramel-filled chocolate candies and place it onto a square pretzel, then top with a whole pecan. Bake in a 350-degree oven for about 4 minutes. After

removing from the oven, press the pecan down into the candy and then put in the fridge so they harden. — *Heloise*

P.S.: These are almost too yummy!

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:
Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 210-HELOISE
Email: *Heloise(at)Heloise.com*



HELOISE

FRUIT PEELS

Dear Heloise: Never throw away another orange or lemon peel. Before eating or using the fruit, use a vegetable peeler to shave the colored zest onto a piece of plastic wrap. Spread in a single layer, then fold into an airtight package.

Collect these packets in a freezer bag until ready to use. Remove the needed amount, and chop the zest until finely minced. Use in cooked cereal, fresh cranberry

sauce, muffins, pancakes, etc. It adds wonderful flavor! — *Joan B. in Linn Creek, Mo.*

MILK STORAGE

Dear Heloise: My husband insists on leaving our milk (1/2 gallon) in the refrigerator door. I told him it should be way in the back. He doesn't believe me. He is the only one who drinks it. We're at home all day; the refrigerator gets opened a lot. — *Connie Y. in Florida*

Connie, you are the winner! It is not a good idea to store milk in the door of the refrigerator because of constant changes in temperature, and the higher the temperature, the quicker the milk may spoil.

For milk to remain at its best, it should be stored where the temperature is the lowest and there is no fluctuation, which is in the back of the refrigerator. However, this may

make getting to the milk a little difficult. So, the middle of the shelf is OK, but definitely not in the door.

Buy the smallest container of milk to meet your needs. A lot depends on how quickly the milk is used. You want to use it all before it starts to spoil. — *Heloise*

HANDY

ICE-CREAM SCOOP

Dear Heloise: Here is my hint: I use an ice-cream scoop to fill the paper liners inside the tins when making muffins, etc. It is easy to direct the batter into the liners without a mess. The scoops come in assorted sizes. The one I have is equivalent to 2 ounces, and it has a swivel-type insert operated by a thumb lever that scoops the batter into the tin. It works perfectly every time. — *Marian Maag, via email*

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Annie's Mailbox ®

Dear Annie: I live in a small condominium community of 24 units. Two units down, there is an older woman who is a hoarder. She continually has trash piled up by her front door and back porch.

When you look through her glass sliding doors, you can see trash from floor to ceiling. She piles up garbage on her car, and it sits there for several days before she takes it to the dumpster.

She also has two dogs, and we never see her walking them. This has been going on for the past 15 years.

The board of directors of our condo association has tried everything from calling the county municipal department to notifying animal control. The board has fined her for various misde-

meanors, such as not allowing pest control in her unit and leaving all that trash around, but it makes no difference.

The woman does not talk to anyone in the community, and we never see friends or family visit. We are all afraid of what that unit looks like inside. Any suggestions? — *Condo Owner*

Dear Owner: Hoarding is a form of mental illness, and this woman likely needs professional help. Since you can see the trash inside her home, as well as outside, it may constitute evidence that her hoarding has created a health code violation and the Dept. of Health could order her to clean it up. There may also be a fire hazard, in which case the condominium

board should notify the fire department. As a last resort, the condo board could sue her. Ask the board to discuss this problem with their association attorney to see what steps can be taken.

Dear Annie: My wife and I are friends with "Mike" and "Marty," who are in their early 20s, a bit younger than we are. Mike and Marty pick fights over the most ridiculous things, and even if you make a good point, they won't agree. They do things they know will bother or offend us, such as when they make anti-religious comments.

They also seem unappreciative of things we have done for them. I helped Mike work on his car and was never thanked for it.

We have had them over for dinner more than once and have yet to be told "thank you" or to receive an invite to their place.

They sometimes say nice things on Facebook about their other friends, but never about us. I honestly enjoy hanging out with Mike and Marty, but the little fits they have over ridiculous things are getting old.

Lately, we've stopped communicating, just to see what will happen. It would be nice to be appreciated for our efforts. How do we handle this? — *Unappreciated in Massachusetts*

Dear Massachusetts:

You are at a different point in your life than Mike and Marty. What you have in common is no longer so obvious. We are not sure why you wish to maintain a friendship with people who do not seem to appreciate you, but since you do, try to understand their limitations and accept them as they are. And if they say something offensive, by all means, ask them to stop.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Indy 50 Turns 100

When the rubber hits the track this Memorial Day weekend, the Indianapolis 500 will mark a century of racing.

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► News in Brief

After cresting in Memphis, flooded Mississippi River takes aim at poverty-stricken Delta

VICKSBURG, Miss. (AP) — William Jefferson paddles slowly down his street in a small boat, past his house and around his church, both flooded from the bulging Mississippi River that has rolled into the Delta.

“Half my life is still in there,” he said, pointing to the small white house swamped by several feet of water. “I hate to see it when I go back in.”

The river was taking aim at one of the most poverty-stricken parts of the country after cresting Tuesday at Memphis, Tenn., just inches short of the record set in 1937. Some low-lying Memphis neighborhoods were inundated, but the city’s high levees protected much of the rest of Memphis.

Jefferson’s neighborhood in Vicksburg, a historic Mississippi city and the site of a pivotal Civil War battle, has been one of the hardest hit. Jefferson refuses to leave, so he spends his days in the sweltering sun watching the water rise and sleeping in a camper at an intersection that’s likely to flood soon, too.

“If you don’t stay with your stuff, you won’t have it,” he said. “This is what I do every day. Just watch the water.”

AP-Gfk poll: Obama’s approval rating hits highest point in 2 years

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama’s approval rating has hit its highest point in two years — 60 percent — and more than half of Americans now say he deserves to be re-elected, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll taken after U.S. forces killed al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

In worrisome signs for Republicans, the president’s standing improved not just on foreign policy but also on the economy, and independent Americans — a key voting bloc in the November 2012 presidential election — caused the overall uptick in support by sliding back to Obama after fleeing for much of the past two years.

Comfortable majorities of the public now call Obama a strong leader who will keep America safe. Nearly three-fourths — 73 percent — also now say they are confident that Obama can effectively handle terrorist threats. And he improved his standing on Afghanistan, Iraq and the United States’ relationships with other countries.

Despite a sluggish recovery from the Great Recession, 52 percent of Americans now approve of Obama’s stewardship of the economy, giving him his best rating on that issue since the early days of his presidency; 52 percent also now like how he’s handling the nation’s stubbornly high 9 percent unemployment.

The economy remains Americans’ top issue.

Pakistan’s civilian government skips chance to weaken army’s grip following bin Laden raid

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The U.S. raid that killed Osama bin Laden gave Pakistan’s weak civilian government a rare chance to wrest some power

away from an influential military establishment that suddenly faced unusual public criticism over its failure to detect the al-Qaida leader and prevent the foreign incursion.

Instead, the ruling party is defending the army and allowing it to investigate its own intelligence fiasco, undermining the notion that Pakistan’s elected leaders will ever be able to assert their full authority in a country prone to military coups. The civilians’ timidity doesn’t bode well for U.S. and Pakistani hopes that the nuclear-armed nation will evolve into a stable democracy.

“The civilian-military imbalance is the greatest threat to Pakistani democracy. It is also the issue the civilian politicians are least capable of tackling,” said Cyril Almeida, a prominent Pakistani commentator.

It’s not easy for the ruling Pakistan People’s Party to take on the army, even as the military brass reel from the humiliation of the U.S. raid.

The May 2 Navy SEALs operation in Abbottabad left bin Laden and at least four others dead, giving the U.S. a huge victory against al-Qaida. Pakistan’s military said it had no warning of the raid, disappointing many citizens, some of whom said the army and intelligence chiefs should resign.

As bullets fly, Libya’s economy stalls

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Towering above the Libyan capital’s coastline, the sleek silver Marriott Hotel opened three months ago as the latest symbol of the North African nation’s oil-fueled investment boom. Ten days after its Feb. 15 opening, however, it shut its doors as mass unrest engulfed the country and quickly turned violent.

The 36-floor tower, built to host foreign investors in a time when hope of economic growth abounded in Libya, sits empty. Almost overnight, what had come to represent a new Libya, replete with opportunities even under the oppressive rule of Moammar Gadhafi, morphed into a symbol of the country’s uncertain future.

It is going to be a long time before the Libyan economy can start recovering, said Parag Khanna, a senior fellow at the New America Foundation, a Washington-based think tank. He said any hopes to “turn the place into a new, sunny south of France” are now a long way off.

The popular uprising that erupted in February, and the subsequent battles between rebels and forces loyal to Gadhafi, brought to the fore the frustrations of ordinary Libyans demanding a better life. Those fighting Gadhafi said they want freedom, but also economic opportunities long elusive because of rampant patronage and nepotism.

After three months of fighting, Libya is roughly split into a rebel-controlled east and a Gadhafi-run west, with shifting frontlines and pockets of resistance against the regime in western Libya.

Tea Party Express to back Neb. U.S. Senate candidate in group’s first 2012 campaign endorsement

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A prominent national tea party group will wade into a 2012 campaign for the first time

Wednesday by naming its choice for U.S. Senate in Nebraska, but one of three GOP candidates seeking the nod questions whether such endorsements actually undermine the fledgling movement’s rejection of party politics.

The endorsement from the Tea Party Express, which had some high-profile wins and losses in the 2010 congressional races, comes more than a year before Nebraska primary voters go to the polls.

Sal Russo, chief strategist of the organization, said the group previously announced plans to work to oust U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson, citing the Democrat’s role in advancing the White House-backed federal health care overhaul.

Its endorsement of one of Nelson’s challengers at a news conference in Washington will be the group’s first of the 2012 election cycle, but even one of the Republicans up for the backing expressed mixed feelings about it.

The tea party “started from a grassroots movement, and now they’re trying to make it more of a general (political action committee) — a lobbyist

group, basically. I’m not so sure I like that myself, actually,” said Pat Flynn, a Schuyler investment adviser.

U.S., others to clinch search-and-rescue pact

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Arctic could become the next great international battleground for resources, with melting icecaps opening new shipping routes, fishing grounds and, most significantly, some of the world’s richest and as yet unexplored oil and gas deposits.

So far, the United States, Russia and other nations near the North Pole are trying to work together. They’ll take a baby step in that direction this week by agreeing to the first international treaty covering the Arctic Sea, a co-ordinated search-and-rescue pact that will grow in importance as more cargo and cruise ships start navigating the cold waters.

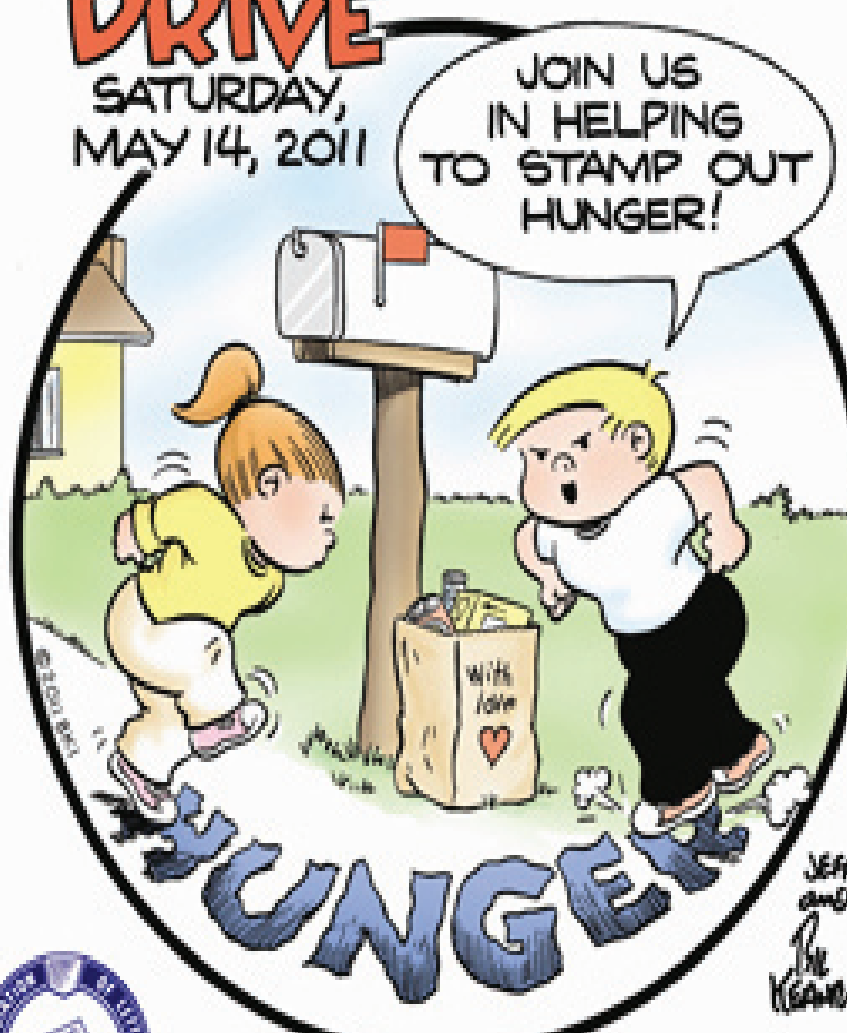
“We want to send a message in a post-Cold War world that the Arctic is a region of cooperation, not conflict,” said Jim Steinberg, the deputy U.S. secretary of state.

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Border Patrol finds 12 in unventilated truck

FALFURRIAS (AP) — U.S. Border Patrol agents in South Texas over the weekend found 12 illegal immigrants sweltering in a cargo truck with no ventilation.

The Border Patrol said in a news release that agents working at the Falfurrias Checkpoint found the people hidden behind a cargo of furniture Saturday.

The Border Patrol says one person began fainting from the heat and was taken to the hospital for evaluation. The Border Patrol says all the illegal immigrants said it was hard to breathe inside the truck.

The driver was turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement-Homeland Security Investigations. The illegal immigrants were processed to be sent back to their countries.

Sheriff says 3 dead in house fire

TEXARKANA (AP) — The Bowie (BOO'-ee) County sheriff says a mother and her two children have died in a house fire in Texarkana.

Sheriff James Prince tells KTXK radio station in Texarkana that the children who died in the early Wednesday morning fire were ages 8 and 11.

The identities are being withheld pending notification of relatives.

home near Georgetown where officials say he shot to death his wife and her parents.

The case is still under investigation, but a Williamson County sheriff's official told the *Austin American-Statesman* that Lopez was upset over his pending divorce.

In Texas schools, a picture's worth 1,000 calories

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Smile, Texas schoolchildren. You're on calorie camera.

That's the idea behind a \$2 million project being unveiled Wednesday in the lunchroom of a San Antonio elementary school. Health officials say high-tech cameras in the cafeteria will begin photographing what foods children pile onto their trays — and later capture what they don't finish eating.

Digital imaging analysis of the snapshots will then calculate how many calories each student scarfed down. Officials say the technology is so advanced it will correctly identify a half-eaten pear on a tray.

Denise Jones of the Social and Health Research Center says the project is the first of its kind in the nation. It's being funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Five San Antonio schools will take part in the program.

Texas border security focus of U.S. House hearing

WASHINGTON (AP) — Drug cartel violence along the Texas-Mexico border is the focus of a U.S. House subcommittee hearing on Capitol Hill.

Three Texas law enforcement officials Wednesday were invited to the homeland security hearing. U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul of Austin, who will chair the hearing, says data on spillover crime and violence is "deceiving and underreported."

Texas Department of Public Safety Director Steve McGraw is scheduled to testify. So is McAllen police Chief Victor Rodriguez and Zapata County Sheriff Sigfredo Gonzales.

Zapata County is where an American tourist raced to shore last year after she said Mexican pirates ambushed she and her husband on Falcon Lake. Her husband's body wasn't found.

Texas teen dies in high-speed chase with trooper

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Officials say a 14-year-old driver died and a 13-year-old passenger was injured after their car slammed into a pole during a high-speed chase with a state trooper in Southeast Texas.

Texas Department of Public Safety spokesman Tom Vinger says the trooper tried to stop the car early Tuesday, but it sped away.

Vinger says the car flipped shortly thereafter and hit a pole in Huntsville, killing Kolin Johnson of Conroe. Passenger Gustavo Casillas, also of Conroe, was taken to Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston where spokeswoman Jennifer Hart listed him in fair condition Tuesday night.

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Howard still alive in Region V Tourney



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Jordan Allen fields a grounder in center field during the Region V Baseball Tournament. Howard was to play New Mexico Junior College in an elimination game at 1 p.m. today as the tourney continues in Lubbock.

Hawks best Midland in 13 innings, turn around and top Weatherford in 15

Herald Staff Report

LUBBOCK — A day after suffering their first loss in the Region V Baseball Tournament, Howard College's Hawks clawed their way back into contention.

In a day- and night-long affair at Dan Law Field here Tuesday, the Hawks first defeated Midland College 14-13 in 13 innings, then rallied in a late evening game to upend Weatherford College 6-1 in 15 innings.

With those victories, Howard has the opportunity at some revenge. At 1 p.m. today the Hawks were to take on New Mexico Junior College — the team that beat them 5-1 on Monday.

Brendan McCurry slapped a base-loaded triple in the 15th inning to help the Hawks defeat Weatherford in the loser's bracket semifinal Tuesday night. Tony Calhoun had given HC its lead earlier in the inning with a single that scored Nathan Burns.

Weatherford got its only run in the fourth inning and Howard tied the game in the top of the fifth. The Hawks managed 12 hits

Hawk Softball send off planned Monday

A Hawk send off will be held at 8:30 a.m. Monday at the women's residence hall on the Big Spring campus for the Region V Champion Hawk softball team.

After sweeping the Region V regional tournament, the Hawks softball team has earned a trip to the NJCAA Division I softball national tournament in St. George, Utah.

All Hawk softball fans are invited to come to the send off and show their Hawk spirit.

Tournament play will begin May 19 and carry through May 21. All of the latest updates and information on the Hawks will be available at www.hchawk.com.

but had trouble pushing anyone across the plate until the 15th inning, when they got five runs.

First baseman Chase Durham and catcher C.J. Manning got two hits each for the Hawks.

Weatherford's one run came on eight hits.

Howard used three pitchers in the marathon contest with Kyle Bartsch picking up the win. He went 4-2/3 innings and gave up just one hit, walked one and struck out seven. Carter Hahn went 7-1/3 innings, allowing six hits, giving up one walk and

striking out seven batters. Derrick Bleeker went the other three innings. He allowed two hits and struck out one batter.

Cass Ingvarsdson took the loss for Weatherford.

Tuesday morning's game was a slugfest through 13 innings with Howard College scoring five runs in the 13th and Midland coming up just short with four runs.

Howard led 2-1 after the first inning and held a 5-3 advantage after the fourth. Midland rallied

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B

Region V Baseball Tournament

at Texas Tech's Dan Law Field
Format: Double elimination

Sunday's Games
First round

Game 1: New Mexico Junior College 5, Temple College 2

Game 2: Howard College 11, Weatherford College 10

Game 3: Grayson County College 8, Midland College 8

Game 4: (McLennan Community College 10, Clarendon College 3

Monday's Games
Loser's bracket

Game 5: Weatherford 11, Temple College 3, Temple College eliminated

Game 6: (Midland College 12, Clarendon College 1

Winner's bracket quarterfinals

Game 7: New Mexico Junior College 5, Howard College 1

Game 8: Grayson County College 1, McLennan Community College 0

Tuesday's Games

Loser's bracket quarterfinals

Game 9: Howard 14, Midland 13, 13 innings.

Game 10: Weatherford 9, McLennan 2.

Winner's bracket semifinal

Game 11: Grayson 3, New Mexico Junior College 2, 11 innings.

Loser's bracket semifinal:

Game 12: Howard 6, Weatherford 1, 15 innings.

Wednesday's Games

Loser's bracket championship

Game 13: New Mexico JC vs. Howard, 1 p.m.

Region V Championship

Game 14: Grayson vs. Game 13 winner, 5 p.m.

Thursday's Game

Region V Championship (if necessary)

Game 15: Game 14 winner vs. Game 14 loser, 1 p.m.

Anderson a mess in Texas as A's lose, 7-2

ARLINGTON (AP) — Brett Anderson had all kinds of trouble in Texas again.

The Oakland Athletics left-hander lasted only 4 2-3 innings Tuesday night in a 7-2 loss to the Rangers. He is 0-3 with an 8.62 ERA in four career road starts against Texas, and 1-4 with a 6.62 ERA in seven starts overall against the Rangers.

This time, Anderson (2-3) allowed four runs and six hits on 97 pitches at hitter-friendly Rangers Ballpark.

"Not making any excuses, I just don't pitch well against the Rangers," he said. "It's weird. It's just one of those teams that has your number, which is unfortunate because they're in our division and you face them more."

Anderson also struggled in a home start against Texas on April 30, giving up seven runs and nine hits in five innings of an 11-2 defeat.

On a muggy night in North Texas, Anderson never was able to get into a rhythm.

"He seemed to have trouble getting a grip on the ball," manager Bob Geren said. "It was hot, he was sweating, kind of holding onto the ball a little tight."

The Rangers loaded the bases in the fourth against Anderson on two singles and a walk, and Mike Napoli walked to force in the game's first run. Craig Gentry's two-out single, his first RBI this season and the fifth of his career, made it 2-0.

Anderson said he had no feel for the ball in the fourth, that it was like trying to "grip a wet cue ball."

In the fifth, Michael Young doubled and Adrian Beltre ripped a high fastball into the left-field seats for his eighth homer and a 4-0 lead.

"I made some adjustments in the dugout to dry out and get a little better grip, but it was a bad pitch to Beltre," Anderson said.

David Murphy greeted reliever David Purcey with a single and scored on Napoli's double for a 5-0 lead.

Colby Lewis (3-4) allowed one run and five hits over 7 1-3 innings. He walked one and failed to register a strikeout for the Rangers, who had lost

See **RANGERS**, Page 2B

Forsan taking on tough Bushland in Game 1 of area playoff Thursday

Herald Staff Report

Forsan High School, fresh off a bi-district title, will take on a tough Bushland squad at 7 p.m. Thursday at Lubbock Cooper.

The best-of-three area playoff will continue

with a second game at noon Friday at the same location, followed by a third game — if necessary — 30 minutes after Game 2.

"They went to the state tournament last year, so they are a solid team all-around," Forsan Coach

Jason Phillips said this morning. "They hit the ball really well. We are going to have to play one of our best games and I think if we do that, we have a good chance to win."

Forsan, 22-6, comes into the contest after an

impressive bi-district showing in which the Buffs defeated Torino 14-4 and 13-1 in run-rule games.

The victor of the bi-district series between Forsan and Bushland advances to the Class 2A regional quarterfinals.

Texas works to protect state fish with restocking

JUNCTION (AP) — Authorities plan to release 175,000 Guadalupe bass into a remote Texas river, trying to beat back decades of genetic mutation caused because the official state fish has been crossbreeding with a bass from Arkansas that was introduced in the 1970s to bolster sport fishing.

Native only to the

Texas Hill Country, the Guadalupe's ranks have declined due to interbreeding with the smallmouth bass, which Texas Parks and Wildlife introduced into the Edwards Plateau region in 1974.

"We created the problem," said Gary Garrett, the agency's inland fisheries biologist. "Back

See **FISH**, Page 2B

Sports calendar

TODAY

Baseball — Howard College vs. New Mexico Junior College, 1 p.m., Dan Law Field, Lubbock.

Baseball — Region 5 Tournament ballgame, 5 p.m. Grayson vs. winner of HC-NMJC 1 p.m. game.

THURSDAY

Baseball — Forsan vs. Bushland, 7 p.m. at Lubbock Cooper. First game in best-of-three playoff.

To submit a calendar item, call 263-7331, ext. 235.

Astros fall to Cincinnati, 7-3

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston's ace has been struggling lately and the offense hasn't helped the cause.

Brett Myers gave up six runs over the first two innings Tuesday night en route to dropping his third straight start, and the Astros extended their slide to four games with a 7-3 loss to the Cincinnati Reds at Minute Maid Park.

After the game, Myers (1-3) offered no excuses for his latest stumble, saying he was late to recognize the Reds, whom he faced for the third time this season, were sitting on his off-speed pitches.

"My stuff was fine; it was pitch selection," Myers said. "I felt that I was throwing too many breaking pitches (early). I was pitching all those guys like they were Babe Ruth or something like that the first two innings, instead of trusting my stuff and going right after them."

It was Myers' second consecutive defeat at the hands of Texas native Homer Bailey and the Reds.

The Astros, who have lost six of seven, are 2-6 against the Reds this season.

All three of the Astros runs came in the eighth and were more the result of a poor outing by Reds reliever Aroldis Champan than an effective offense.

Chapman hit a batter and walked three others, forcing in the Astros' first run, before leaving the mound with no outs. Hunter Pence greeted replacement Nick Masset with a two-run single to put the Astros within four before the Reds reliever retired the next three batters to end the inning.

It was also Myers' second straight home loss after going undefeated through his first 16 starts as an Astro at Minute Maid Park dating to last season.

The first came April 29, a 5-0 loss at the hands of the Milwaukee Brewers that, similar to Tuesday, saw Myers fall behind early. He gave up back-to-back solo homers in the first inning — and the Astros offense struggled.

But unlike the previous time out, Myers could not point to the wind for this one. This time the roof was closed.

Yet that didn't stop Jay Bruce from taking him deep for a two-run home run to right that doubled the Reds' lead to 4-0 with one out in the first inning.

Walking Drew Stubbs and Edgar Renteria to start the inning proved just as costly for Myers.

Joey Votto first put the Reds ahead with a double that scored Stubbs, and Renteria made it 2-0 on a Brandon Phillips

groundout.

Myers allowed two more runs in the second inning, Votto's second and third RBIs of the night on his second double, before settling down.

He shut out the Reds through the next four innings before leaving after the sixth inning on a night in which he set a season high for walks (three) and tied season highs for runs (six) and hits (10) allowed as well as strikeouts (eight).

"For the last four innings I think I started throwing a lot more fastballs and trying to make them hit it, and it worked out for me for the last four innings," said Myers, who pitched at least six innings for the 39th time in 41 appearances. "But the first two innings I'm definitely not happy about how it went down. "It's my fault for being ignorant and not recognizing that from the get-go, and it cost me six runs."

"I learned over the last four innings that I have to trust my stuff a little bit more to start the game. I can't fall into patterns."

Similar to Myers' previous home loss was his offense afforded him little run support.

The Astros gave up 15 hits and had only seven, five of them against Bai-

ley.

The 25-year-old Bailey struck out five and walked none through seven innings in improving to 2-0 in his second start of the season and lowering his ERA to 0.69.

"He's got good stuff. He's always had it," Houston's Brett Wallace said. "He's got a good heater, and he pitches off that and then he's got the split in his slider and a big curve ball. He's able to mix it up and keep us off balance."

The Reds picked up one last run in the seventh, with catcher Ryan Hanigan connecting an RBI single to right off Astros reliever Enerio del Rosario to make it 7-0.

It could have been worse for the Astros, as the Reds left 13 men on base to the Astros' seven.

NOTES: Reds manager Dusty Baker hopes that SS Paul Janish can play on Wednesday, but isn't sure if he'll be able to. Janish hasn't played since spraining his right ankle Friday at Chicago. ... Houston INF Jeff Keppinger, who has been on the disabled list all season with a foot injury, could begin a rehabilitation assignment as early as Thursday.

Rose leads Bulls past Hawks 95-83

CHICAGO (AP) — Derrick Rose attacked the rim like a fish going for the bait, driving at will and doing all he could to lead his team to a crucial victory.

Taj Gibson pitched in, too. So did Luol Deng, and now the Chicago Bulls are one win away from the Eastern Conference finals.

The last time they got there? Two guys named Michael and Scottie were wreaking havoc on the rest of the NBA. All they have to do is take out the Atlanta Hawks in Game 6 of the conference semifinals on Thursday.

"We can't get tired or bored," Rose said. "We know that going down there, they're going to give us their all. I think we have to come out and play our way — defense first and make things tough on them. We're a good team when we have pace to us."

And the pace was perfect for Chicago, particularly down the stretch on Tuesday.

Rose scored 33 points, Gibson scored all of his 11 in the fourth quarter, and the Bulls beat the Atlanta Hawks 95-83 in Game 5 on Tuesday night to take a 3-2 lead.

Luol Deng added 23 points and Chicago let out a big sigh of relief.

Golfers, family gather for Ballesteros funeral

PEDRENA, Spain (AP) — To the mournful wail of a lone bagpipe, some of Europe's greatest golfers joined family, friends and local residents Wednesday at the funeral of Seve Ballesteros, paying an emotional final tribute to the dynamic Spaniard who revived the European game.

Ryder Cup captains Nick Faldo, Colin Montgomerie, Sam Torrance and Jose Maria Olazabal and players including Miguel Angel Jimenez marched together in silence as part of the procession from Ballesteros' family home to the church of San Pedro de Pedrena.

Young boys and girls wore replicas of the navy blue outfit that Ballesteros wore for his first British Open win in 1979. They each held a 3-iron, the only club Ballesteros owned when he learned to play golf.

About 400 people packed the church to provide Ballesteros with one final send-off before his ashes were spread under a magnolia tree.

FISH

Continued from Page 1B

then, it just never crossed their mind that it would be a problem."

The smallmouth bass hails from Arkansas and parts of Texas farther to the northeast than the town of Junction and South Llano State Park, where Wednesday's Guadalupe bass restocking takes place. The Guadalupe bass are being released into the South Llano River and are adolescents known as "fingerlings" that are between 1.5- and 2-inches long.

"The Guadalupe Bass being an iconic, charismatic species, it really raises the issue to a

higher level," said Garrett, who said authorities are also working with landowners in the area to prevent erosion.

The Guadalupe and smallmouth don't look similar when held up side-by-side, Garrett said, and their mating produces a hybrid species that may not be able to survive in Texas' natural habitat over the long haul.

"There's something in the way that the Guadalupe bass moves that really attracts the smallmouth," he said with a chuckle.

Authorities plan to annually release new collections of Guadalupe bass over the next three years in the South Llano, then run genetic

tests to determine the program's success.

Restocking the species has worked before in the Guadalupe River, which snakes through the Hill Country.

Since 1992, authorities have introduced Guadalupe bass into Johnson Creek, a 15-mile tributary of the Guadalupe River. That effort has displaced hybrids there, making Guadalupe bass the dominant species anew.

Hybridization in that area has been reduced from 30 percent when the program began to less than 5 percent in the river's main stem, Garnett said. In some tributaries, it's even been completely eliminated.

"When we started on

the Guadalupe it was really, 'Let's try to keep from losing that fish,'" he said.

In the South Llano River, genetic hybridization is at barely 3 percent, giving authorities the chance of nipping it in the bud more quickly.

Garrett said the Guadalupe bass is still listed as a sport fish, thus authorized for fishing. Allowing it to be fished raises its profile among outdoor enthusiasts, actually serving to better protect it, he said.

"Fishing pressure is really not the issue," he said. "It's habitat."

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

for a big five-run fifth inning. Howard got two more runs in the sixth and two in the eighth. Midland then tied the game at 9-9 with a single run in the ninth.

Right fielder Burns led Howard with five hits, including two triples and a double. The Richland Hills native also scored twice and drove in three runs. Landon Steinhaugen had three hits and also scored twice. Tyler Collins, Calhoun and Brendan McCurry had two hits each. Calhoun crossed the plate four times in the extra-innings contest.

With the game tied in the 13th, center fielder Jordan Allen cracked a sacrifice fly to give the Hawks the lead. Steinhaugen then rapped a two-RBI single and Burns nailed a two-RBI triple.

Josh Walker took the win for Howard on 2-2/3 innings. He gave up seven hits, four runs, walked one and struck out four. Howard used six pitchers in the contest, with Bleeker picking up a save.

Taking the loss for Midland's Chaps was Josh Stone.

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Continued from Page 1B

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

seven of nine and 11 of 15.

The right-hander got 16 outs on balls hit in the air and threw a season-high 115 pitches.

Beltre was given a night off Monday and had gone 4 for 31 over his previous nine games. He batted sixth for the first time this season as manager Ron Washington revamped his lineup after the Rangers hit .231 in their previous nine games. Beltre's first 35 starts this season had been at cleanup.

Young, making the first start of his 12-year career in the No. 4 slot, went 3 for 4 with a two-run triple in the sixth.

The Rangers are without injured sluggers Josh Hamilton and Nelson Cruz, and Washington decided to shake up his batting order. He also moved regular No. 9 hitter Julio Borbon into the leadoff position, and normal leadoff man Ian Kinsler into the No. 3 hole.

Oakland's Cliff Pennington homered in the sixth before a 59-minute rain delay, and Conor Jackson added a sacrifice fly in the ninth.

Lewis remained in the game after the sixth-inning delay, working out of a first-and-third jam when he retired Daric Barton on a lineout and

Ryan Sweeney on a pop-up.

NOTES: Lewis had his first start without a strikeout since May 22, 2007, while with the A's, a string of 37 straight starts. ... Oakland RHP Andrew Bailey, on the 15-day DL all season with a strained right forearm, pitched his first simulated game of the season Tuesday at Rangers Ballpark. Geren said his closer allowed one walk and no hits in 30 pitches to "six or seven hitters. It was decent for his first time out there like that. He threw all his pitches and he was throwing strikes." In Bailey's absence, Brian Fuentes, Grant Balfour and Brad Ziegler have all registered saves for the A's.

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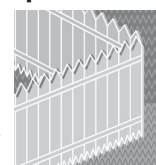
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mars enters Taurus and will transit the realm of the bull until June 20 of this year. Because Taurus is considered a feminine sign, it was once thought that its influence would soften this aggressive planet. However, history has proved that Taurus merely refines the ruffian. This will be a time of progress and achievement, especially financially.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your energy remains high when you don't stick with any one focus for too long. You will excel with short-term assignments and situations that have a definite endpoint.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's an ethereal feeling to the day. The work you have to do may seem more mystical than practical. Succeeding in this will require a certain abdication of logic and convention.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You do a lot in the spirit of common decency that you think others would do, as well. It will be clearly illustrated today that not everyone got the memo. It might help you to think of yourself as a teacher and leader.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Forging the bonds of friendship is often so much fun that you don't see it as work. But sometimes it is work, and you'll do what it takes to respect, defend



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

and maintain this bond.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have many talents, but the best one of all is your ability to make the day better for yourself and everyone around you. You will spread beautiful vibes wherever you go.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Just because a saying is witty doesn't mean it's true. But if the statement is really funny — so funny you can't stop laughing — there must be some degree of truth to it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're not messing around. On the mundane matters, you'll show no mercy. Something may sound good or look good on paper, but if it doesn't work well in real life, you'll drop it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You don't have to be the best in the whole world. You only have to be the best in the competition — and probably today that means being the best in the room. You can do it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your mind is so active now that it's not easy to center your thoughts on the needs of others. However, when you do this and act in accordance, you create excitement, interest and sales.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). For your idea to be accepted by the decision-makers above you, they have to want to like it. Success depends on giving them a reason to want to like it, and then giving them something worth liking.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You get around in new ways. You rely on your phone and computer more, that's true. But you also listen more astutely to your intuition and act on what you hear.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Finishing what you start will be a big deal now. It's a matter of dignity. You gain self-esteem knowing that you completed the cycle. Also, you just want to get on with your life.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 11). You'll be chosen for a special position because of the high level of respect you command from and give to others. Life is smooth as you seek relationships with those who learn easily and work peacefully. August and

November bring a financial bonus. You'll be awarded in March. December brings a happy family event. Gemini and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 32, 20, 16, 15 and 37.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I have a furniture repair business, and usually I work alone. I find working with others to be one disappointment after another. Usually, people don't finish a job when they say they will. I have to constantly keep on top of people, even though I hate to micromanage. It seems like if I don't nudge them along in the process, nothing gets done. I'm angry and drained and would rather just do the work myself. But how can my business ever grow if I can't work with people? I'm a Cancer."

You're right — your business cannot grow and also stay a one-man operation. Cancer tends to lead with emotion, which at times can be the enemy of business. Start a managerial regimen, and refuse to be emotional about it. An experienced manager (try a Capricorn or Taurus with excellent project management skills) could help you develop a system that is designed for your greatest ease. Employ a few tricks, too — for instance, ask for the work to be done three days before it actually needs to be done so you have a wider margin of error. And build in regular checkpoints along the process to be sure work is being done correctly.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Robert Pattinson took a hiatus from the world of vampires to visit America during the Great Depression in "Like Water for Elephants." The earth-sign actor reported that working with animals was one highlight of this project. Born under an intuitive Cancer moon, Pattinson is sensitive and good at reading "vibes," whether from animals or people. Lucky Jupiter in psychic Pisces amplifies this gift.

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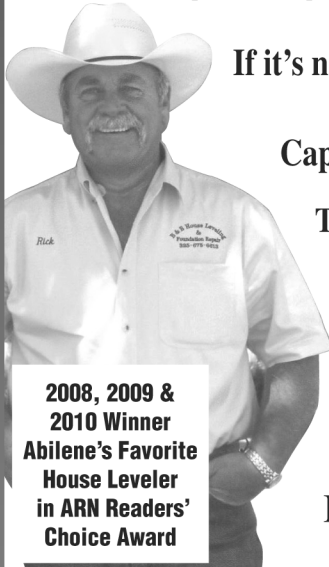
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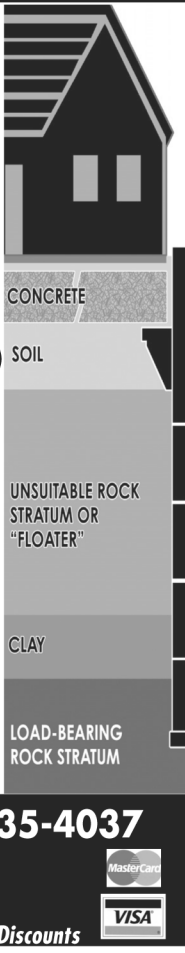
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM :30	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez George	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Swallow House	News Business	70s Show 70s	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Plains Drifter, Marianna Hill	UFC Un- leashed	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Fish Good	Nation Pardon	SportsCenter
6 :PM :30	Jeopardy! Wheel	Cuando Me Teresa (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News Ent	Caso Cer- rado	News Millionaire	King King	McGee Dr. Diana	PBS News- Hour	Seinfeld Seinfeld	MythBusters		UFC Un- leashed	NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA.		Phineas Phineas	Football NFL Live	MLB Base- ball: Teams TBA.
7 :PM :30	Middle Family		American Idol	Survivor-Is- land	Aurora (SS)	Minute to Win It	There There	Upd Bill Cloud	Secrets of the Dead	Top Model	MythBusters	Movie: Rambo: First Blood Part II	UFC Un- leashed	The Ultimate Fighter		Movie: American Gangster, Chiwetel Ejiofor	Movie: Lemonade Mouth, Hay- ley Kiyoko	
8 :PM :30	Cougar		Breaking	Criminal Minds	Herederos- Monte	Minute to Win It	Browns Browns		NOVA (DVS)	Top Model	MythBusters		Repo Repo	NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA.		Phineas Phineas	Year/Quar- terback	
9 :PM :30	Happy Happy	Triunfo del Amor	Simpsons How I Met	C.M.: Sus- pect	La Reina del Sur	Law & Order: SVU	Payne Payne		Saving the Bay	Payne Browns	MythBusters	Movie: The Recruit, Bridget Moynahan	The Ultimate Fighter	Inside the NBA	Wendy Wil- liams	Hannah Hannah	Year/Quar- terback	Baseball Tonight
10 :PM :30	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met	News Letterman	Noticias El Cartel (SS)	News Jay Leno	Conan	Bill Cloud Chumney		South Pk South Pk	MythBusters	Breaking Bad	Ways Die Ways Die	MAN	Movie: Trois: The Escort	Hannah Hannah	Year/Quar- terback	SportsCenter
11 :PM :30	Jimmy Kim- mel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Conan	Cortes Sala	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk South Pk	MythBusters		MAN	CSI: NY		Hannah Hannah	Year/Quar- terback	Baseball Tonight
12 :AM :30	Extra Paid	Destilando Amor	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News		Light		Cops TBA	MythBusters		MAN			Wizards Wizards	NASCAR NBA	SportsCenter
1 :AM :30	Paid Paid	Mujer Cero	King/Hill	Ent (:37) Up to	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest		Gospel Tripp	Time Warp		Amazing Video	Southland		Suite Life Suite Life	N. American Poker	SportsCenter

Dennis the Menace

"When I said I was so hungry I'd eat anything, this isn't what I had in mind."

The Family Circus

"We were in the kitchen helpin' Daddy ruin his diet."

Hagar

I HATE IT WHEN THEY GANG UP LIKE THIS!

Blondie

MR. BUMSTEAD, YOUR SIGNATURE ON THIS WITHDRAWAL SLIP DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOUR USUAL ONE.

I GUESS I WAS JUST IN A HURRY

REALLY? HOW DO I KNOW YOU'RE NOT CHANGING YOUR SIGNATURE FOR SOME SNEAKY REASON?

WHAT SNEAKY REASON WOULD I HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING SNEAKY LIKE THAT?

PERFECT COMEBACK, MR. BUMSTEAD, ONLY A REALLY SNEAKY PERSON WOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT ONE

BC

MATH IS THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE. . .

IF ALIENS INVADE, WE WILL MAKE PEACE WITH OUR COMMON LINGUAL UNDERSTANDING OF ALGEBRA!

$$X = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

EITHER THAT — OR DEFEAT THEM THROUGH BOREDOM!

Wizard of Id

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR DRINKING HABITS?

STRICTLY SOCIAL

THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN A LIVER THE SIZE OF A BASKETBALL?

I BELONG TO 20 DIFFERENT SOCIAL CLUBS

Agnes

LAST NIGHT, I ASKED GOD TO MAKE ME FAMOUS AND BEAUTIFUL WHEN I WOKE UP TODAY.

HE ASKED IF I WOULD SETTLE FOR ALIVE BUT MAYBE A BIT LESS LAUGHABLE.

WHICH HE OBVIOUSLY GRANTED.

REALLY? YOU THINK I'M LESS LAUGHABLE?

OH... I THOUGHT YOU SAID AFFABLE.

Hi and Lois

DA! DIDO!

SHE CAN SAY BOTH OUR NAMES NOW.

SHE SAID MINE FIRST.

THAT'S BECAUSE ITS ONLY ONE SYLLABLE.

NO, SHE LIKES ME BETTER.

THOSE TWO CAN FIGHT ABOUT ANYTHING!

The Other Coast

YOU USED TO SPIT YOUR PILL OUT, BUT NOW I HIDE IT IN A PIECE OF CHEESE.

HE HAS NO IDEA HE IS GETTING HIS PILL.

HEHHEH. YOU'RE DEALING WITH A SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE, KOKO!

NOT THAT SUPERIOR.

Snuffy Smith

YEP, THESE HERE YOUNG-UNS ARE TH' GREAT MINDS OF TOMORRY !! OUR FUTURE LEADERS !!

DANG, MAW--I WISH YA HADN'T TOLD ME WHAT MIZ PRUNELLY SAID-- NOW I CAN'T SLEEP NEITHER !!

Beetle Bailey

IT'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL DAY. AREN'T YOU PLAYING GOLF?

GOLF?! THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE! I'M A GENERAL, NOT A GOLFER!

HE THREW HIS CLUBS IN THE LAKE YESTERDAY

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, May 11, the 131st day of 2011. There are 234 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 11, 1981, legendary reggae artist Bob Marley died in a Miami hospital at age 36.

On this date:

In 1647, Peter Stuyvesant arrived in New Amsterdam to become governor of New Netherland.

In 1811, conjoined twins Chang and Eng Bunker were born in Siam (now Thailand), giving rise to the term "Siamese twins."

In 1858, Minnesota became the 32nd state of the Union.

In 1911, actor-comedian Phil Silvers was born in New York City.

In 1946, the first CARE packages arrived in Europe, at Le Havre, France.

In 1950, President Harry S. Truman formally dedicated the Grand Coulee Dam in Washington state.

In 1960, Israeli agents captured Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

In 1973, charges against Daniel Ellsberg for his role in the "Pentagon Papers" case were dismissed by Judge William M. Byrne, who cited government misconduct.

In 1981, the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical "Cats," based on T.S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats," opened in London.

In 1996, an Atlanta-bound ValuJet DC-9 caught fire shortly after takeoff from Miami and crashed into the Florida Everglades, killing all 110 people on board.

One year ago: British Prime Minister Gordon Brown resigned, ending 13 years of the Labour Party government and paving the way for Conservative David Cameron to become Britain's next leader. Italian designer Giuliana Coen Camerino, credited with making handbags a fashion item, died in Venice at age 90.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Mort Sahl is 84. Rock singer Eric Burdon (The Animals; War) is 70. Actress Shohreh Aghdashloo (SHOH'-reh ahg-

DAHSH'-loo) is 59. Actress Frances Fisher is 59. Actor Boyd Gaines is 58. Country musician Mark Herndon (Alabama) is 56. Country singer-musician Tim Raybon (The Raybon Brothers) is 48. Country musician Keith West (Heartland) is 43. Actor Coby Bell is 36. Cellist Perttu Kivilaakso (PER'-tuh KEE'-wee-lahk-soh) is 33. Actor Jonathan Jackson is 29. Actor Cory Monteith (TV: "Glee") is 29.

Thought for Today: "We carry our nemesis within us: yesterday's self-admiration is the legitimate father of today's feeling of guilt." — Dag Hammarskjöld, U-N Secretary-General (1905-1961).

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Newsday Crossword

IN NEUTRAL by Norma Steinberg
Edited by Stanley Newman
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ACROSS

51 Roll-call vote

52 Play the lead

54 Atlas illustration

56 People to respect

61 Needle feature

62 Sorcery

64 WWW addresses

65 In the neighborhood

66 "See ya!"

67 Loch __ monster

68 Sweepstakes submission

69 Cain's dad

DOWN

1 PD alerts

2 Andean nation

3 British prep school

4 Works with a needle

5 One in the red

6 Actress Gardner

7 Sitar tune

8 Decree

9 Remove from office

10 Maximally

11 Dyeing for a change, perhaps

12 Make angry

13 Very long time

18 Under no circumstances

24 Allow access

26 Whichever

27 Nary a soul

28 Aquatic mammal

29 Types of tires

30 "For __ a jolly good fellow . . ."

32 Plain writing

33 Slackened off

36 Finale

37 History class assignment

40 Look like

41 Pigsty

43 British "inc."

44 Kingdom

46 Tender touch

48 In a timid way

50 Online magazine

52 Steer clear of

53 Ripped up

55 Agreement

57 Computer input

58 Old-style oath

59 Comic Rudner

60 Ripoff

63 Train component

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69

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