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H BIG SPRING HERALD

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MARCH 19, 2013



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Herald file photo

The Rev. Barbara Kirk-Norris, rector of St. Mary's Episcopal, learns her blood pressure is excellent from CVA Marketer Alfonso Diaz of St. Joseph's Health Inc. of Midland during the 2012 Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Health Fair. The 2013 version of the annual event will be held April 13 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

To your health

Fitness fair planned here April 13

Special to the Herald

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is taking steps to good health as it gears up for the 31st annual health fair, set to run from 8 a.m. until noon April 13.

"This event has been a successful event for the chamber in previous years and we are excited to be providing health information to the community once again through the

help of our chamber members," Chamber Executive Director Debbye ValVerde said. "There are so many health services right here in Big Spring and the health fair is one way we can showcase that."

The fair will again take place at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, on the Sonic floor, and will include local health providers, demonstrations and screening opportunities. The West Texas Blood Mobile

will be in the coliseum parking lot for those wanting to donate blood.

"We are very fortunate to have such wonderful entities that provide health/medical services to our Howard County residents," ValVerde said. "Our goal with this health fair, as it is each year, is to gather all that information in one place and make it easily accessible to our com-

See **FAIR**, Page 3

BODY FOUND

FBI, Rangers, DPS continue investigation

JOHN MANGALONZO
 Abilene Reporter News

SNYDER — A team of FBI agents including forensic specialists are assisting Texas Rangers in collecting evidence near Lake J.B. Thomas where a badly decomposed body was found Saturday.

Texas Department of Public Safety Senior Trooper and spokesman Sparky Dean said state, federal and local authorities continued Monday to comb the area near County Road 3236 and FM 1298 to collect pieces of skeletal remains that were be scattered at a site filled with cactus and mesquite.

"It is rough terrain," Dean said. "(The remains) appear to have been there a while and it's not like anything is intact."

The location is being treated as a crime scene. Dean said someone called the Scurry County Sheriff's Office just after noon Saturday after finding the remains. Investigators spent that afternoon, Sunday and Monday collecting evidence and have returned to the scene today. The remains have not been taken to a medical examiner.

Katie Chaumont, a spokeswoman for the FBI, said Rangers requested assistance from the federal agency, which sent its evidence response team, experts in re-



"It is rough terrain. (The remains) appear to have been there a while and it's not like anything is intact."

—Trooper Sparky Dean, DPS spokesman

covering remains in a criminal investigation.

So far a determination on the gender, sex or size of the victim has not been determined due to the extent of the decomposition.

"It would have been easier if it's a plowed field but we're talking cactus country where these folks are," Dean said. "They are well away from the main roadway

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SkyWarn class coming Thursday

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

As the Crossroads area begins to get into the heart of the severe weather season, area residents will get a chance to educate themselves — as well as become storm spotters — as the National Weather Service presents its annual SkyWarn class Thursday.

Set for 7 p.m. in the Big Spring City Council Chambers — located at 307 E. Fourth St., adjacent to City Hall — the class offers residents a plethora of information on storm situations and how to handle them.

"While the class is designed for storm chasers and those participating in the SkyWarn program, it has a lot to offer everyone," Pat Vesper, warning coordination meteorologist for the NWS Midland office, said. "We offer a lot of information on safety during storms and bad weather that the average person can use

to protect themselves and their family.

"Our main focus for these classes is safety. We'll also look at super-cell thunderstorms and the type of weather that can arise out of them. We want our spotters prepared for the kinds of conditions they may see out in the field."

Vesper said last year's storm season was fairly mild, however, the weather can quickly take a turn for the worst in the West Texas area.

"We had a pretty easy year last year," Vesper said. "However, we have to be prepared for severe weather at all times. We live in an area of the state where the weather can become dangerous in the



blink of an eye, and these SkyWarn classes give us a chance to train weather spotters, as well as offer training and advice for your average family. No matter who you are, knowing what to do in these types of severe weather situations is absolutely vital."

Vesper said the SkyWarn program — and, most importantly, the weather spotters who participate each year — are very important parts of the weather service's ability

See **SKYWARN**, Page 3

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Obituaries

James 'Jimmy' Pedigo



James "Jimmy" Pedigo, 82, of Big Spring died Saturday, March 16, 2013, in the local veterans home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 20, 2013, at First Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Bob Heneghan officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at the funeral home.

He was born Oct. 30, 1930, in Monahans, Texas, and married Frances Janelle Riggins on Feb. 12, 1954, in Big Spring, Texas. She preceded him in death July 22, 2009.

Jimmy was raised in Big Spring and attended Big Spring schools and Howard College. He served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He worked as a gang pusher at Cosden Refinery for 38 years, retiring in 1991. Jimmy enjoyed metal and wood crafting, story telling and he loved children.

He was a member of First Church of the Nazarene and was in charge of the church's bus ministry for a number of years.

Survivors include one daughter, Sandra Hunt and husband Jim; one son, Jim Bill Pedigo and wife Kayla, all of Big Spring; four grandchildren, Charity Wheeler and husband Matt of Moore, Okla., Jimmy Loftis and wife Krystal of Midland, Grady Pedigo of Big Spring and Joshua Pedigo of Lubbock; eight great-grandchildren, Stefany and Brookelyn Wheeler and Dyllan, Kiara, James Loftis, Savannah and Daniel Kremer and Christopher Cannady; four brothers, D.V. Pedigo of Midland, Knox Pitzer and Kenneth Pitzer, both of San Marcos and Benny Pitzer of Montgomery; two sisters, Elizabeth Beck of Ranger and June Pedigo of Strawn.

He was also preceded in death by a great-granddaughter, Blue Loftis.

The family suggests memorials be made to First Church of the Nazarene Building Fund, 1400 S. Lancaster, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

Dewey Byers



Dewey Byers, 78, of Big Spring died Friday, March 15, 2013, at his residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with Mona Lue Tonn officiating.

He was born Oct. 2, 1934, in Big Spring, Texas, and attended Big Spring schools, graduating in 1954. He worked for the City of Big Spring for 34 years, retiring as chief inspector.

Survivors include two brothers, Melvin Byers and wife Shirley of Siloam Springs, Ark., and James Byers and wife Laverne of Kingsland; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Cleo Byers; and two sisters, Bonnie Melton and Janetta Whetsel.

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

James Edward Baker

James Edward Baker, 71, of Big Spring died Monday, March 18, 2013, in a Lubbock hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Jo Ann Capps

Jo Ann Capps, 73, of Big Spring died Monday, March 18, 2013, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

James 'Jim' Murphy

James "Jim" Murphy, 77, of Big Spring died Monday, March 18, 2013. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

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NEXT CLINIC VISIT 3-21-13

Police blotter

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

- CAROLYN S. MILLS, 43, of 1006 Bluebonnet, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

- RONALD LEE MONCADA, 48, of 1302 Sycamore, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency and a warrant for cruelty to animals – failure to provide.

- LARRY WILSON STEIGER, 29, of 608 State, was arrested Monday on a warrant for driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.

- FRANCISCO VEGA, 39, of 3807 Connally, was arrested Monday on a warrant for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

- STEPHANIE ROCHELLE WILLIAMS, 24, of 1614 Canary, was arrested Monday on warrants for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less, failure to yield the right-of-way at a stop intersection, failure to appear (two counts) and driving while license invalid.

- ROQUE ESQUIVEL, 34, of 3502 Gail Highway, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1700 block of E. FM 700.

- STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 4200 block of N. Highway 87.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 79 inmates at the time of this report.

- STEPHANIE R. WILLIAMS, 24, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and charges of failure to yield at a stop intersection, failure to appear (two counts) and driving while license invalid.

- FRANCISCO VEGA, 39, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

- LARRY WILSON STEIGER JR., 29, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

- MICHAEL RENE ROBLES, 40, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on an attorney general warrant for failure to appear – motion for enforcement.

- CAROLYN SUE MILLS, 43, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

- RONNIE LEE MONCADA, 48, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of cruelty to non-livestock animals – failure to provide and an Austin parole warrant.

- ROQUE ESQUIVEL, 34, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on an Austin parole warrant.

- CHRISTOPHER LEE MCCARTY, 25, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the Sterling County Sheriff's Office on a Sterling County bench warrant.

- ALEX FERRELL PAREDEZ, 21, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of bail jumping – failure to appear.

- SCOTTY RAY BLAND, 34, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of bail jumping – failure to appear.

Fire/EMS

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

Note: This report includes activity from the past several days.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Colgate. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the area of S. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of E. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Fairchild. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of State. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Tucson. Service refused.

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 4500 block of N. Service Road. One person was airlifted from the scene.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 100 block of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of E. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of 24th Street. One person was airlifted from the scene.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the area of N. FM 669. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of W. 18th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Scurry and 21st Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to

Today's Weather

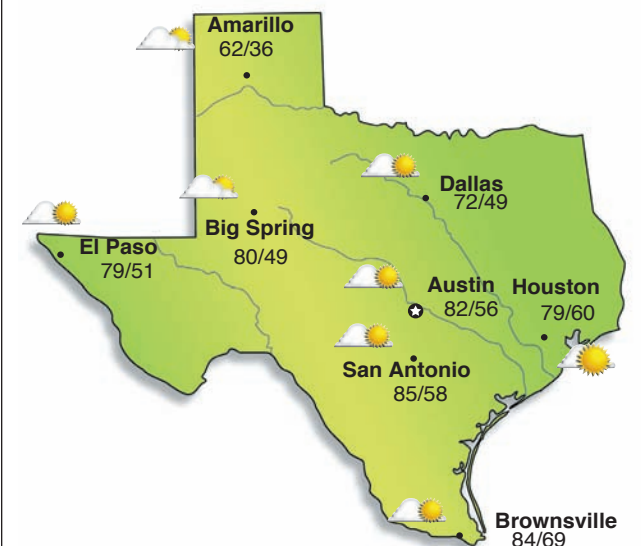
Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 3/20	Thu 3/21	Fri 3/22
80/49	70/53	89/50
Partly cloudy skies in the morning will give way to cloudy skies during the afternoon. Warm. High around 80F.	More sun than clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Windy with times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:51 AM	Sunrise: 7:49 AM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM
Sunset: 7:57 PM	Sunset: 7:58 PM	Sunset: 7:58 PM



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Texas At A Glance



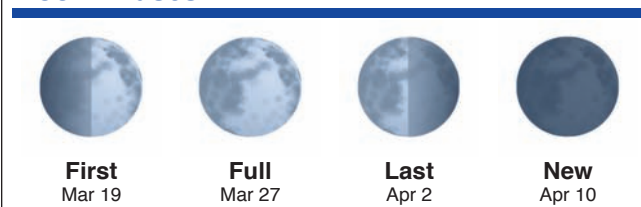
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Amarillo	62	36	cloudy	Kingsville	85	66	pt sunny
Austin	82	56	pt sunny	Livingston	79	52	mst sunny
Beaumont	77	55	mst sunny	Longview	72	49	mst sunny
Brownsville	84	69	pt sunny	Lubbock	67	39	cloudy
Brownwood	80	51	pt sunny	Lufkin	79	52	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	79	66	pt sunny	Midland	82	51	cloudy
Corsicana	71	49	pt sunny	Raymondville	88	67	pt sunny
Dallas	72	49	pt sunny	Rosenberg	79	59	mst sunny
Del Rio	90	64	pt sunny	San Antonio	85	58	pt sunny
El Paso	79	51	pt sunny	San Marcos	83	56	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	84	48	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	70	46	mst sunny
Gainesville	67	43	cloudy	Sweetwater	79	47	cloudy
Greenville	69	44	pt sunny	Tyler	72	51	mst sunny
Houston	79	60	mst sunny	Weatherford	71	45	cloudy
				Wichita Falls	69	43	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	64	41	sunny	Minneapolis	24	4	mst sunny
Boston	39	26	mixed	New York	44	30	rain
Chicago	33	16	sn shower	Phoenix	80	58	pt sunny
Dallas	72	49	pt sunny	San Francisco	64	54	cloudy
Denver	51	28	pt sunny	Seattle	52	45	cloudy
Houston	79	60	mst sunny	St. Louis	49	29	pt sunny
Los Angeles	68	53	pt sunny	Washington, DC	59	34	rain
Miami	85	67	t-storm				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Wed 3/20	Thu 3/21	Fri 3/22
6	8	8
High	Very High	Very High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Goliad. 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 400 block of N. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of N. Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Owens and Radio Tower Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 2300 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Craigmont. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 100 block of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.

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Texas news briefs

Lawmakers consider gun training for Texas schools

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The state would pay for school employees to learn to carry a gun on the job under a proposal set for consideration at the Capitol.

The Senate Education Committee has scheduled testimony on the measure at a hearing Tuesday morning.

The bill by Houston Republican Sen. Dan Patrick would apply to charter schools and public school districts that do not already have armed security guards. It would require the state Department of Public Safety to provide firearms training for two employees per campus.

Several proposals to extend the reach of guns in schools have gained traction in the Legislature, which convened a month after 20 schoolchildren were killed in a mass shooting in Connecticut.

The National Rifle Association has called for an armed guard in every school in America.

State considers who chooses for terminally ill

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Lawmakers are planning to hear testimony on who decides the terminally ill patient's fate when the family and doctors disagree.

The hearing in the Texas Senate on Tuesday will hear from those who want to revise the current rules and others who think the family should always decide.

Under current law, the question of whether to continue treatment goes to a hospital ethics committee if the doctor wants to stop treatment and the family wants it to continue. If the committee agrees with the doctor,

the family has 10 days to find another hospital that will treat the patient.

Right-to-life groups are split on whether the family's desires should be paramount. Doctors say providing treatment can be unethical.

A compromise would extend the deadlines for decisions.

Lawmakers mull tracking chips in school IDs

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas House members are to discuss a proposed ban on school districts from requiring student ID badges embedded with locator chips.

The bill by influential Republican Rep. Lois Kolkhorst of Brenham would allow voluntary use of such IDs, but wouldn't let schools require it.

Kolkhorst has introduced unsuccessful proposals since 2005 to ban the chips in schools. She is detailing her latest bill Tuesday before the House Public Education Committee.

The proposal would require schools to provide alternative IDs to students whose parents object to chips.

In Texas, school funding is based on daily attendance. Some districts say the technology lets them monitor students' whereabouts with GPS precision.

But chips made headlines when a San Antonio high school student sued, saying the technology violated her religion.

Testimony opens in wrongful conviction murder case

SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP) — A West Texas jury will begin hearing evidence in a murder case that drew

national attention when the original defendant served 25 years in prison after a wrongful conviction in his wife's slaying.

Opening statements are set for Tuesday in San Angelo in the trial of Mark Alan Norwood in Christine Morton's 1986 beating death. That's after selection Monday of a Tom Green County jury.

Morton's husband, Michael Morton, was convicted of killing her in their Austin home. New DNA testing later exonerated him and, authorities say, implicated Norwood. Now 58, Morton was freed in 2011 and publicity surrounding the case prompted relocation of Norwood's trial from Austin to San Angelo.

A judge eventually will decide if Morton's prosecutor should be prosecuted for allegedly hiding evidence from Morton's attorneys.

Derailment involves truck with live chickens

NORTH ZULCH, Texas (AP) — Crews worked to clear a Central Texas rail line after a truck hauling live chickens and a freight train collided in a derailment that has left a trucker hurt.

BNSF Railway Co. spokesman Joe Faust said Tuesday that 11 cars and four locomotives derailed near North Zulch, about 120 miles northeast of Austin. Faust says nobody on the Houston-bound train was injured in Monday night's accident and authorities are trying to determine what caused the wreck.

Emergency management officials say the Sanderson Farms trucker was in stable condition when transported to a hospital. Further details on him and the status of the load weren't im-

mediately available from the Mississippi-based company. Live chickens were scattered at the scene.

BNSF is based in Fort Worth.

Dallas mom gets 16 years in death of daughter, 9

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas woman has been sentenced to 16 years in prison for the neglect-related death of her diabetic 9-year-old daughter.

A judge in Dallas on Monday sentenced 31-year-old Georgia Jones. Jones pleaded guilty to felony injury to a child in the May 2008 death of Chastity Butler. The death was ruled natural due to diabetic complications.

The Dallas Morning News reports the girl died on her mother's bed next to a bag of candy and a half-eaten cupcake. The family was celebrating a relative's birthday at the time of the death.

Investigators say Chastity's diabetes was not properly monitored and that caused the girl to be constantly sick. Police say the mother did not show up for a diabetes-care class after her daughter was diagnosed.

3 die in mobile home fire

BROWNWOOD, Texas (AP) — Three people died when flames swept through a mobile home at a Central Texas lakefront development.

The fire happened about 3 a.m. Monday just off Texas Route 279 in the Shamrock Shores subdivision, about a half-mile from Lake Brownwood. Brown County sheriff's Capt. Tony Aaron identified two of the dead as 43-year-old Eddie Jowers and 42-year-old Denman Cain Jr. The identity of a woman found dead is being withheld until it can be verified.

SKYWARN

Continued from Page 1

to accurately report and track the weather when severe conditions hit the area.

"We rely on the spotters greatly. They provide what we call 'ground truth,' which, when combined with the information we

get from our radar and satellites, gives us the ability to provide better information to the public," Vesper said.

"Even if someone doesn't want to become a spotter, I think these classes go a long way to prepare them and their families for a severe weather situation. We're preparing for the storm season now, and we hope everyone else

in the area will do so as well."

According to local emergency response officials, the course will cover the most common severe weather situations for Howard County and the surrounding areas in hopes of preparing residents for the worst case scenario.

"It's really a lot of good information for people to have," said Big

Spring Fire Department Chief Craig Ferguson.

"It gives people a basic knowledge of what severe weather is like in our area. Since we're getting ready to head into the severe weather season, which begins in March and lasts until October, this is really important information to have. Spring time is when we really get a lot of the severe weather —

things like hail and possible tornadoes.

"There's no charge for the classes and the public is definitely welcome to attend. Those who sign up for the class will receive a certificate from the National Weather Service, and if you're in law enforcement or emergency services, you can get credit for it. It's excellent training for anyone to have."

For more information on the SkyWarn program and the National Weather Service, visit them online at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/skywarn/>, or call 432-563-5006.

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

BODY

Continued from Page 1

so they are having to walk to get (to the scene).

This is somebody's brother, sister, mom, dad, son, daughter and somebody cares about this person so we want to make sure we get it correct and if there's foul play, we want to get any kind of evidence that may have been left

behind."

Soon after word of the find got out, speculations began in nearby Mitchell County, specifically in Colorado City, that the remains may be that of Hailey Dunn, a then-13-year-old girl who went missing in 2010.

"Just like any other body that's been found, we have to have hope," said Kristy Lloyd, a representative of Hope for Hailey. "You know, we wanted (the remains) to

be hers so there can be closure and at the same time we hope it's not."

Lloyd said the only information the group has is from news accounts of the Scurry County find. She said she has not been in contact with Hailey's mother, Billie Jean Dunn, who now lives in Austin, for more than a year.

"We hope it is her so her friends can have closure because this has been one of the hardest things on her friends,"

Lloyd continued. "But at the same time, if it's not her then there's still hope that she's alive somewhere."

Billie Jean Dunn's attorney, John Young, said he is in contact with the FBI and Texas Rangers and "when they have information that they can release, and then I'm sure they'll be in touch with me later."

"We have been through this at least twice before," Young said. "And I have advised and en-

couraged Billie not to or at least try not to get into the emotional roller coaster again. This is a tragic and difficult event to keep dragging this mother through."

In April 2012, remains were found on the southwest side of Big Spring. That also caused a stir but proved to be of a male, who has yet to be identified.

Colorado City Mayor Carol Sue Daken on Monday said the city's police chief informed

her the investigation regarding the remains is under Scurry County's jurisdiction. She said the Hailey Dunn case has long been turned over to the FBI.

"I understand law enforcement is doing everything they can to try to determine the identity of the remains in Scurry County," Young said. "At this point, we don't know anything. It's all speculation."

FAIR

Continued from Page 1

munity."

Some of the demonstrations will include the Dance Gallery, YMCA, DSHS Bike safety, car seat safety and healthy cooking ideas. The fire safety trailer will be in the parking lot for kids to go through.

"Being healthy is about so much more than just visiting the doctor," ValVerde said. "It's about learning little tricks and trades that can lead to a healthy lifestyle so that we don't have to go see the doctor too often."

For local organizations wanting to take part, booth space is still available. Booths are \$85 for a 10'x10' space until March 28; any booth reserved after March 28 will be \$100. Sponsorships are also available. A corporate sponsorship is available for \$500, which includes

booth space and inclusion on the T-shirt.

"Each vendor is a vital part of this health fair as far as the information that is provided, but we don't want to forget our sponsors, who are just as important to the success of the event," ValVerde said.

"Each year we are able to continue to provide the health fair as a free experience to the community through the help of our sponsors. At this point, we have 14 corporate sponsors signed on."

Corporate sponsors include Alon USA, Back in Motion Chiropractic Center, Dora Rob-

erts Rehab, Encompass Home Health, Flo-Lite Screen Printing and Embroidery, GEO Group, H-E-B, KBST, KBYG, Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home, St. Joseph's Home Health, Scenic Mountain Medical Center and West Texas VA Health Care Systems.

As always, Master the Mountain will also be taking place April 13 at Scenic Mountain State Park, but this year will be held at 1 p.m.

"Each year Master the Mountain and the Health Fair take place on the same day, but they are normally happening at the same

time and people have to choose which one they want to go to," ValVerde said. "This year, they will be able to take advantage of both."

In addition to Master the Mountain, Healthy Woman will also be hosting its monthly event in the Cactus Room at noon. The presentation will feature Dr. Robert Hayes, orthopedic surgeon.

Admission to the health fair and Healthy Woman presentation is free.

For more information on the health fair or to reserve booth space, call the chamber at 432-263-7641.

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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

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

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- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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

DAILY PRAYER

Let us rejoice in the simplest things, dear Lord.

Amen

GOP must launch reality offensive

How can anyone take President Obama seriously when he tells us our national debt is no big deal? Well, we have to take him seriously, because, unserious thinking or not, he has serious power, including the power to obstruct progress on reducing the debt.

I'm not making this up, of course, which is too bad because it illustrates why it is so hard for Republicans to work with this man. He neither views the fiscal world from the same lens nor shares the goal of significant debt reduction.

In an interview with ABC News' George Stephanopoulos, Obama said, "We don't have an immediate crisis in terms of debt. In fact, for the next 10 years, it's going to be in a sustainable place."

Not only is that delusional on its face based on what we already know but there is no telling what kinds of financial strains his favorite monster, Obamacare, is going to have on the debt or what kinds of extraordinary circumstances might necessitate spending surges over the next decade.

But we needn't speculate about unknowns, because the knowns are horrifying enough. The enormity of our annual interest payments on the debt alone renders Obama's dismissiveness about the debt surreal.

Obama carried his bizarre insouciance about the debt into his photo op meetings with congressional Republicans as part of his cynically conceived "charm offensive." According to Roll Call, Obama indicated to Republicans that "balancing the budget over the next 10 years is not on his priority list."

Let's stop right there. Please tell me, you romantic advocates for bipartisan harmony, how the GOP can work with a man to solve an undeniable debt crisis when his blind apathy makes

Mad magazine's Alfred E. Neuman look engaged?

House Speaker John Boehner framed the problem quite accurately when he summarized the parties' respective positions. "Republicans want to balance the budget. The president doesn't," said Boehner. "Republicans want to solve our long-term debt problem. The president doesn't. We want to unlock our energy resources to put more Americans back to work. The president doesn't."

So what does Obama propose to do about this non-problem that Republicans are coercing him into dealing with? Simple: He'll agree to \$2 in spending cuts for every \$1 in additional tax revenue.

Just swell. Tell me the last time Obama or any other Democrat at the federal level honored his commitment to reduce spending in exchange for tax increases? Republicans have repeatedly fallen for this ploy and given in to immediate tax hikes, only to see Democrats renege on their promises to cut spending.

But it's actually worse than before because we have abundant evidence that Democrats don't speak the same language as Webster's-friendly humans do when it comes to spending cuts.

To them, "cuts" doesn't mean "cuts" any more than "is" meant "is" to Bill Clinton. Obama's budget gurus are masters of budget gimmicks and double counting to achieve cuts on paper (call them "paper cuts") that are no more real than my professional basketball career.

In other words, even if Obama honored an agreement to impose "cuts" in exchange for yet more tax increases, he wouldn't be cutting anything, because his promised cuts are smoke and mirrors. To hear him tell the story, he's already made trillions of dollars' worth of cuts.

But you can bank on the fact that his coveted tax increases would be real and that they would further burden those still contributing to the economy, with no guarantee that they would increase revenues at all. They would, however, likely

harm the economy and thus further expand the dependency state.

The recently released budget that Senate Democrats finally produced, four years late, underscores the Democrats' unseriousness about the debt and spending cuts. The proposed budget would extract nearly \$1 trillion more in new taxes and supposedly include an equal amount in cuts. But true to Democrats' form, the proposed "cuts" include \$240 billion in war spending that wasn't projected and \$242 billion in saved interest expenses on the debt based on fantasy debt savings from the tax increases.

Republicans need to launch a 24/7 public campaign blitz explaining Paul Ryan's new budget, which is based on real and specific numbers and proposes to balance the budget in 10 years and make structural changes to our entitlement programs to put them on a sustainable path.

Democrats and liberal journalists are already out in force, savaging Ryan and the other Republicans — again — for their good faith effort to save the nation from a Grecian-style bankruptcy.

I am convinced that if the Republicans will strike back with as much fervor as Obama constantly hits them and take their winning case to the people, the people will finally learn the truth: that Ryan's plan would not throw seniors or the poor under the bus and is, in fact, their best chance for the future and certainly the best hope currently on the table to restore America's solvency.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "The Great Destroyer," reached No. 2 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Silliness of demographic panic

If you drove to work today, did you worry about too few cars on the road? Do you wish more people were waiting in line at the public tennis courts? Are you eager to see new housing developments replace your favorite truck farm?

If your answer to all three questions is "no," you're like most people. And America's falling fertility rate would seem to have its benefits. But if you're scraping for new ways to undermine Social Security and Medicare, portraying this demographic reality as a major disaster offers new opportunity to stampede the public into turning against these entitlements.

Here's the argument: In 1950, we had almost 17 workers for every retiree. Now the ratio is 2.8 workers for every beneficiary. By 2030, it will be only 2.0 workers for every retiree. Social Security and Medicare are doomed, so let's pull the plug now.

Let's not. Why will follow, but first some background. The fertility rate is the number of children women bear over their lifetime. Rates are falling almost everywhere. They're down in Europe, Asia and Latin America. Mexico is now at the replacement level.

How do you keep programs like Social Security going when the ratio of workers to beneficiaries keeps dropping? Productivity. Productivity measures a worker's output in a unit of

time. If computers help a worker produce four car batteries in the time it took to make two, that worker's productivity has doubled.

Productivity gains traditionally result in higher pay for workers (though workers have seen little of those benefits recently). This is why Social Security remains afloat as the ratio of workers to retirees continues downward. Also helping, Social Security payroll taxes were raised in the early 1980s to provide a cushion of savings for now, when the baby boomers start retiring.

As for the future, Dean Baker at the Center for Economic Policy and Research supplies the math.

If productivity grows at an average rate of 1.5 percent a year, as it has over the last two decades, productivity will be almost 40 percent higher in 2035 than it is today. Thus, workers in 2035 will be spending only about a quarter of their productivity-driven pay increases on retirees and keeping the rest. Not a bad situation.

Baker also reminds us that the ratio of workers to retirees is expected to stabilize around then for the rest of the century, while productivity will continue to grow. So the demographic heavens are not crashing down on Social Security.

Medicare is a somewhat different story. Its rising costs need curbing. But even here, there are many ways to cut waste. We don't have to eviscerate the program with voucher schemes or turn it into welfare through means-testing.

Scaremongering over demographics is a divide-and-conquer strategy: Convince younger workers that they are paying for plush programs sure to collapse by the time they get old, and they'll bring them down. And as a double-scoop, say that these programs make the "demographic winter" worse by having government replace the children who traditionally supported their elders. For example:

"The most insidious effect of the Social Security and Medicare regimes is that they actually shift economic incentives away from having children," Jonathan V. Last, a writer for the conservative Weekly Standard, says in his book, "What to Expect When No One's Expecting: America's Coming Demographic Disaster."

Here's a counter-argument: These programs reassure parents bearing the considerable expense of raising children that they won't be destitute if they can't save enough for their old age.

But love or hate these programs, setting off false alarms is not an honest way to win converts.

Today's demographic changes require adjustment, not running-in-the-streets panic.

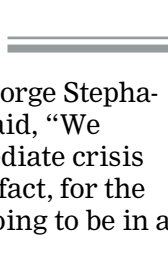
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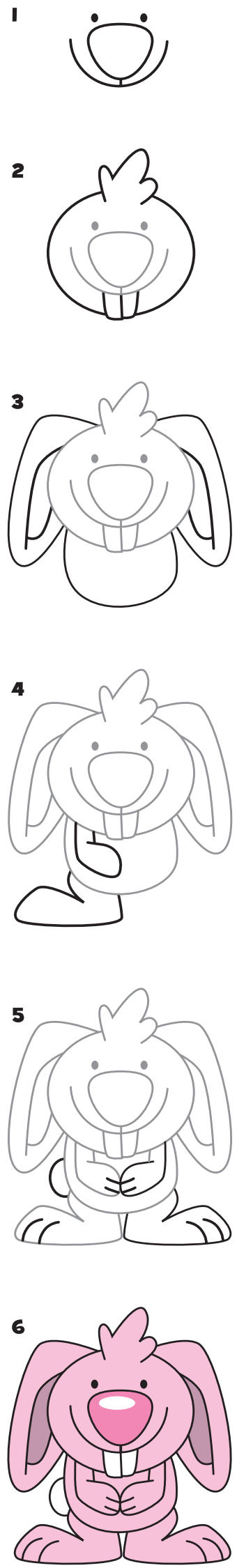
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LET'S DRAW IT!

How to Draw a BUNNY



WARNING! DON'T DO THIS PAGE ALONE!

The Bunny Buddies' Eggstra Fun Page

Find a buddy and do this page together! If this page looks easy, find "somebunny" younger to be your buddy. If this page looks hard, find "somebunny" older to help you.

Kid Scoop Egg Hunt

Buzz and Beeper have hidden eggs all over this page. How many eggs can you find?

Super Challenge: Can you find the two eggs that are exactly alike?

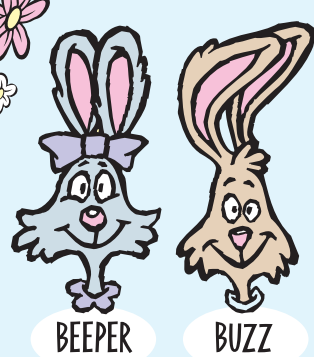
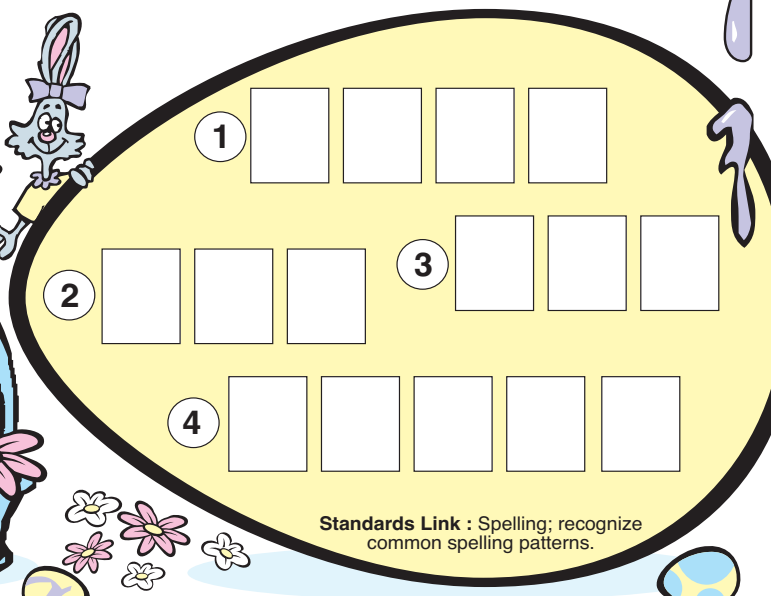
Standards Link: Visual discrimination.



Easter Words

Fill in the boxes in the egg with words made from the letters in "Easter."

Challenge: If a letter appears only once in "Easter," you can use it only once in a new word.



The Easter Basket Mystery

Which Easter basket belongs to Buzz? Which one belongs to Beeper? Read the description of each bunny's basket. Draw a line from each bunny to its basket.

Buzz has a basket with three eggs, two flowers and one candy bunny.

Beeper has a basket with one candy bunny, three flowers and two eggs.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Standards Link: Spelling: recognize common spelling patterns.

Crazy Carrot Patch

Can you find at least 10 silly things in Buzz's carrot patch?

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: finding similarities and differences in common objects

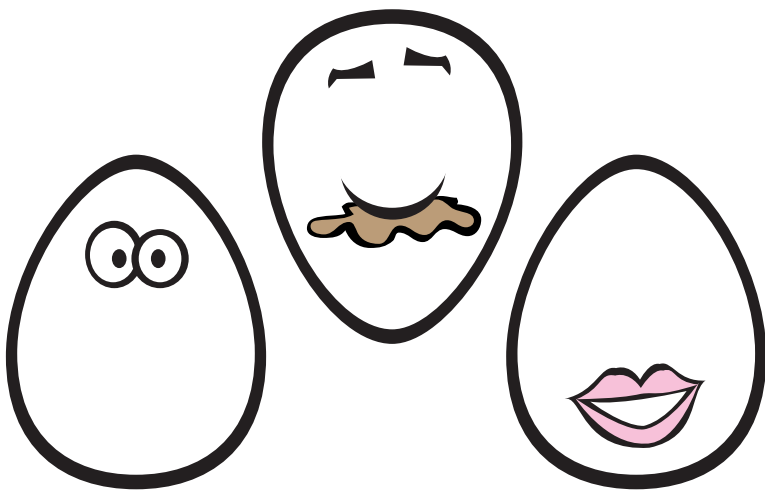


Newspaper Egg Hunt

At Easter time, there are lots of pictures of eggs in the newspaper. Go on an egg hunt through the paper. How many eggs can you find?

Standards Link: Science; classify common objects by a similar characteristic.

FINISH THE FUNNY FACES



Draw the missing parts of these funny egg faces. Add hair and hats and make them egg-ceptionally silly!

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Use a variety of media.

Double Double Word Search



Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

M	A	B	U	D	D	Y	O	Z	Z
C	E	B	K	P	A	T	C	H	S
H	R	A	U	T	Z	Z	U	B	R
T	A	Z	S	N	F	R	M	E	E
O	T	R	X	Y	N	Q	S	E	W
R	Y	N	D	J	K	Y	G	P	O
R	M	N	O	V	U	T	G	E	L
A	A	R	E	T	S	A	E	R	F
C	N	E	D	D	I	H	O	K	Z

CARROT
HARD
BUZZ
CANDY
EASTER
FLOWERS
PATCH
BEEPER
EGGS
BUDDY
EASY
HIDDEN
BUNNY

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoo-doku

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word CANDY in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

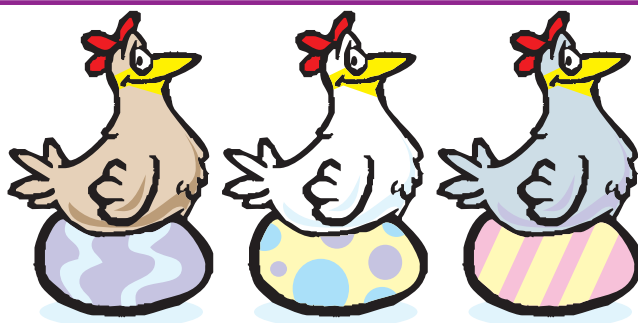
	C			
A				
				N
	D			
				Y

BEYOND Kid Scoop

Scrambled Easter Eggs!

Look through the newspaper for the letters that spell "Easter Eggs." Cut them out. With a buddy, take turns mixing up the letters and spelling a new word. A player gets one point for each letter used.

Standards Link: Spelling; recognize common spelling patterns.



What is the greatest use of chicken feathers in the world?

ANSWER: To cover chickens.

Write On!

Easter Bunny Spotted

The Easter Bunny has been spotted and you're the reporter covering the story. Be sure to tell who, what, when, where, why and how.

Bird Poop: Best and worst of times

Since it was time to begin preparation of our evening meal, my computer was left behind as I walked the length of our home to the kitchen. About half way there, a favorite quote suddenly came to mind. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..."



BEBE
THOMAS

aptly fit the dilemma that had confronted us when two birds were turned in within a three-day period.

From far West Texas, both had endured similar experiences. Defined as ducks, they had varied in appearance, size, abilities, and ultimate outcomes.

In Rankin, Upton County, the first, and smaller of the two, had been found on the ground at a rig site.

Twenty or so of its flock had remained on

a large, defined body of water.

After only a few steps, the bird had collapsed on the ground. Unable to rise, it struggled to move forward. Only by using its wing tips could it inch ahead. Assuming there was something wrong with its legs, one of the employees took it home to his wife.

Not far away, in Crane, Crane County, the other duck landed on another watery area at a rig site. Its struggle to take flight again was noticed by an employee and reported.

Delivered to us two days later, the first bird was a male Ruddy Duck in non-breeding plumage.

Even without the heightened coloration of summer, it was striking in its detail. Wearing grayish-brown for autumn and winter, the bird had a dark crown and white cheeks.

With its nuptial attire to emerge in March or April, its dark gray bill would turn to a bright blue. With the top of its head and back of

its neck turning to a glossy black, the white patches on the sides of its face would be enhanced. Winter browns and grays of its wings and body would be replaced with a striking chestnut plumage.

Resembling a mallard but slightly smaller, the other duck was a Gadwall. During non-breeding seasons, males and females closely resembled each other. Both wore brown edged feathers.

Only during breeding seasons would a male's bill change, from blackish edged with yellow, to overall black. Plumage transformation would find it with a darker, brown crown, and grayish back, chest, sides, and wings.

Throughout the year, both sexes would sport a white square patch on the rear of the wings. To add to its nuptial appearance, nature would also endow the male with a rusty coloration to contrast with the white.

In size, the Ruddy Duck had about half the wingspan and weight of the Gadwall. Similar to the legs of loons, grebes, and coots, those of the small duck were placed at the rear of its body and lessened its chance for walking.

For the mid-sized duck, with legs near the middle of its body, was the opportunity to walk and scour grain fields as well as shorelines.

What both ducks had in common was their landing on water that is used for hydraulic fracturing. The Ruddy had landed on a "pond," while the Gadwall had experienced a "pit."

Some of the considerable amounts of water used in this process are considered brackish. With high levels of salt, they are not potable for human consumption. Pumped from their underground reservoirs,

these waters may have offered other undesirable qualities that made them unfit to drink. After drilling activity, and in some of the water returning to the wellhead along with oil or gas, varying levels of chemicals, minerals, and the metallic element, arsenic, could be present.

For the Ruddy Duck, the "pond" may have contributed to the destruction of its ability to be waterproof. Time in a water-filled bathtub resulted in its feathers becoming saturated. Whatever it had ingested also caused a dark, discolored output not indicative of a healthy bird. After its death, I was told two more birds were found lifeless on the ground. They had been drinking water from a leak in a tank.

The Gadwall was more fortunate. Coated with oil, it was taken to Juli Marshall, vet tech and volunteer, in Odessa. Asked to find out what was in the hydraulic fracturing "pit," she learned there was "black stuff (oil), water, salt, and chemicals." When she asked the employee what type of chemicals, he answered, "It was waste water." Fortunately, Juli was able to clean the duck, and lessen any toxicity. It is now at the wildlife center in Lubbock.

In talking with both state and federal law enforcement, the former said, "We're just seeing the beginning of a nightmare." Upon asking the latter what he thought happened to the other twenty ruddy ducks, he surmised they were "probably dead by now."

From these two incidents, we learned the documentation of migratory birds, encountering open containment ponds and pits for hydraulic fracturing,



Gadwall



Ruddy Duck

Courtesy photo

Colorful in breeding attire, a Gadwall and Ruddy Duck have different approaches to leaving a lake or pond. The Gadwall seems to burst from the water as it makes a hasty exit. In contrast, with its short wings beating rapidly, and its feet patting against the surface, the Ruddy Duck needs a long body of water to take flight. Both of their diets include vegetable matter, or aquatic growth. In addition, they will seek insects and small fish.

is ongoing. During fall migration of 2012, hundreds of ruddy ducks, coots, and other water birds had succumbed to a 20-acre brine pond in the Texas Panhandle.

From "A Tale of Two Cities," Charles Dickens's quote, describing the best and worst, had gone on to say, "it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness."

With the hydraulic fracturing process being used in numerous states throughout our country, the incidents involving migratory birds will increase. The boom has brought a problem that must be confronted.

Reading comments highlighted in the

March-April issue of Audubon, entitled "Why Birds Matter," I came across one from their Science Director, Gary Langham.

"When we save birds from large-scale threats we see that what's good for the birds is also good for us...as we solve their problems we solve ours. This is about everyone's quality of life."

To my way of thinking, the Ruddy Duck and Gadwall would have nodded their approval.

Bebe McCasland is author of "The Scoop from Bird Poop." She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Sudoku Answers on Page 7

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Getting a positive start

I was visiting with a friend recently and got to discussing activities that occur during spring break. He said he wished he had a spring break but he doesn't get that luxury. He made a comment that many of us make when he said, "I have to work!"

Now it is true, when we have a job we have

our obligations, but I heard someone say not long ago that making the comment that we "have" to do something is extremely negative. I must agree that the words, "I have to..." certainly carry a lot of negative implications.

They paint a picture of our expectations and set a destination for our experience. Think about it.

When we "have" to do something it implies that we have no choice and that our heart is not in what we are doing and our experience is, more than likely,

going to be bad.

When we say, "I have to go to work" we could actually be setting ourselves up for a bad day. It doesn't mean we will actually have a bad day but plants the seed and sets the mood. It sends the message that we would rather be somewhere else (which may be true) or we don't like our work or that we feel like we are incapable of choosing work that we enjoy.

Either way, it's a terrible message to send to ourselves, or to others, about something we spend most of our time

doing. Wouldn't it be a better message to say, "I'm off to my work" or "I'm off to another day!"

Imagine someone saying, "I have to start my weekend" or "I have to go on vacation!" That would be interesting, wouldn't it?

I believe that if we would begin telling ourselves "I'm off to another day" and believing that the day will be a good one and bring enjoyment to our lives, we would be happier and actually enjoy our existence to a greater extent. Spending eight hours per day and five days per week is a very large part of our time, so why not make it as enjoyable as possible and avoid setting a negative mood or a self-fulfilled prophecy?

But, like Will Rogers said, "Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there."

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.



DARRELL
RYAN

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Handwriting on the Wall

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 1 8 3
♥ A 7 2
♦ 9 4
♣ A Q 6 3

WEST
♠ 10 9 5 4
♥ Q 10 8 3
♦ 8 6
♣ 9 5 4

EAST
♠ 7 6 2
♥ J 6
♦ A K J 7 5 2
♣ K 7

SOUTH
♠ A Q
♥ K 9 5 4
♦ Q 10 3
♣ J 10 8 2

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

Opening lead — eight of diamonds.
Part of the makeup of the expert defender is the ability to visualize, early in the play, what the layout of the cards is likely to be at a relatively late stage in the play. This often proves to be very useful in planning the defense.

Consider this deal from a national team event. At both tables, South became declarer at three notrump after East had overcalled in diamonds, and both Wests led the diamond eight.

Tomorrow: Keep your eye on the ball.

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News in brief

Pope Francis officially starts papacy with installation Mass that draws thousands

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis has officially begun his ministry as the 266th pope, receiving the ring symbolizing the papacy and a wool stole symbolizing his role as shepherd of his 1.2-billion strong flock.

A cardinal intoned the rite of inauguration at the start of Tuesday's Mass, saying "The Good Shepherd charged Peter to feed his lambs and his sheep; today you succeed him as the bishop of this church."

Later a half-dozen cardinals approached the Argentine-born pope to vow their obedience.

The installation occurred in sun-drenched St. Peter's Square before tens of thousands of people, princes, sheiks, rabbis and presidents.

Obama confronts old challenges, new crises on a remade Middle East landscape

WASHINGTON (AP) — On his second trip to the Middle East as U.S. commander in chief, President Barack Obama this week will confront a political and strategic landscape nearly unrecognizable from the one he encountered on his first trip to the region shortly after assuming office in 2009.

Gone are the authoritarian regimes and leaders in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen, and the once seemingly indestructible Assad regime in Syria is tottering on the brink of collapse. Uncertainty abounds in the wake of the revolutions that have convulsed the Arab world for the past two years and shaken many of the strong but imperfect pillars of stability on the planet's most politically volatile patch of land.

And the few constants are hardly cause for cheer: a moribund Israeli-Palestinian peace process that remains mired in mutual distrust and recrimination, an Iran that seemingly inches closer to nuclear weapons capability despite intensified international sanctions, and the ever-growing threat from extremists.

At the same time, Obama's 2012 re-election has changed his political calculus. Having run his last race as a political candidate, he is no longer beholden to the whims of voters. His sights appear set on building a legacy that, at least in the short term, is focused not on foreign policy but on the domestic issues that now drive the agenda in Washington.

Thus, U.S. officials have set expectations low for the trip. No new plan to bring Israel and the Palestinians back to the negotiating table. No big boost in assistance to the struggling Palestinian Authority. No new strategy for dealing with the chaos in Syria. No new outreach to Muslims like the one that was the centerpiece of his June 2009 visit to Cairo.

Fed is expected this week to stick to low-rate policies despite a strengthening US economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy is strengthening on the fuel of more job growth, rising home prices and solid retail sales. Just don't expect the Federal Reserve to let up in its drive to keep stimulating the economy with record-low interest rates.

Not yet, anyway.

That's the view of economists as Fed policymakers hold a two-day meeting that starts Tuesday. On Wednesday, the Fed will issue a policy statement and update its economic forecasts, and Chairman Ben Bernanke will hold a news conference.

All of which will likely reinforce Bernanke's stated view that the job market, in particular, has a long way to go to full health and still needs the Fed's extraordinary support.

The unemployment rate, at 7.7 percent, remains well above the 5 percent to 6 percent range associated with a healthy economy. The Fed has said it plans to keep short-term rates at record lows at least until unemployment falls to 6.5 percent, as long as the inflation outlook remains mild. And it foresees unemployment staying above 6.5 percent until at least the end of 2015.

Police: Central Fla. student plotted attack on others, then changed mind and committed suicide

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A University of Central Florida student who pulled a dorm fire alarm in the middle of the night had a more sinister plan than sending students scurrying out into the night, authorities said.

Campus police said Monday that 30-year-old James Oliver Seevakumaran was armed with two guns, hundreds of rounds of ammunition, a backpack filled with explosives and a plan to attack other students as they fled the seven-story dorm where he lived.

His plans were thrown off by campus police officers' quick response to the fire alarm and a 911 call from Seevakumaran's roommate who had holed himself in a bathroom after Seevakumaran pointed a gun at him.

Police officers found Seevakumaran dead with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head in his dorm room. No other students were hurt.

"It could have been a very bad day here for everybody. All things considered, I think we were very blessed here at the University of Central Florida," said Richard Beary, University of Central Florida's police chief. "One shooting is bad enough. Multiples would have been unthinkable. So, anybody armed with this type of weapon and ammunition could have hurt a lot of people here, particularly in a crowded area as people were evacuating."

Tea Party favorite Rand Paul backs path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, with conditions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky is endorsing a pathway to citizenship for the nation's 11 million illegal immigrants, a significant move for a favorite of tea party Republicans who are sometimes hostile to such an approach.

In a speech to be delivered Tuesday morning to the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the potential 2016 presidential candidate declares, "If you wish to live and work in America, then we will find a place for you." A copy of the speech was obtained in advance by The Associated Press.

Paul's path to citizenship would come with conditions that could make it long and difficult for illegal immigrants. Chief among these, Congress would have to agree first that progress was being made on border security.

Nonetheless, Paul's endorsement of allowing illegal immigrants an eventual way to become citizens puts him in line with a growing number of Republicans who are embracing action on immigration as a way to broaden the GOP's appeal to Latinos. On Monday, a Republican National Committee report called on the GOP to support comprehensive reform, though without specifying whether it should include a pathway to citizenship.

Paul's move also comes as a bipartisan group of senators is nearing agreement on sweeping legislation to overhaul the nation's immigration laws, an effort that could get a boost from Paul's stance.

Beyond memory loss, report finds 1 in 3 seniors dies with dementia that can impede other care

WASHINGTON (AP) — A staggering 1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia, says a new report that highlights the impact the mind-destroying disease is having on the rapidly aging population.

Dying with Alzheimer's is not the same as dying from it. But even when dementia isn't the direct cause of death, it can be the final blow — speeding someone's decline by interfering with their care for heart disease, cancer or other serious illnesses. That's the assessment of the report released Tuesday by the Alzheimer's Association, which advocates for more research and support for families afflicted by it.

"Exacerbated aging," is how Dr. Maria Carrillo, an association vice president, terms the Alzheimer's effect. "It changes any health care situation for a family."

In fact, only 30 percent of 70-year-olds who don't have Alzheimer's are expected to die before their 80th birthday.

Authorities: No charges in Russian boy's death

ODESSA, Texas (AP) — Prosecutors will not charge a Texas couple in the death of a 3-year-old boy they adopted from Russia, a case that has become the latest flashpoint in the debate over whether American families should be allowed to adopt Russian children.

Ector County District Attorney Bobby Bland said his office would not charge Alan and Laura Shatto in the Jan. 21 death of Max Alan Shatto, who was born Maxim Kuzmin.

"The grand jury determined there was insufficient evidence to charge them with anything," Bland said at a news conference.

Laura Shatto told authorities she found Max unresponsive outside their Gardendale, Texas, home while he was playing with his younger brother, Ector County Sheriff Mark Donaldson has said.

The boy was pronounced dead at a hospital a short time later. Preliminary autopsy results indicated Max had bruises on several parts of his body, though four doctors reviewing the final autopsy results ruled his death to be accidental.

Bland, the top prosecutor in Ector County, about 350 miles west of Dallas, said the bruises on Max's body appeared

to be the result of accidental injuries.

The boy died due to an internal laceration of an artery caused by blunt force trauma, authorities have previously said.

"This child did not kill himself," Bland said Monday. "This child hurt himself."

Early Tuesday, Pavel Astakhov, Russia's children's rights ombudsman, criticized the handling of the case on Twitter.

"The position of the Texas prosecutor contradicts initial information presented by the sheriff, social services, statement of the adoptive father, doctors' conclusions," Astakhov wrote.

Authorities believe Max hurt himself fatally while Laura Shatto was in the bathroom for about 10 minutes, Bland said.

Grand jurors heard evidence in the case Monday and declined to indict either parent. Bland would not say what potential charges, if any, the grand jury discussed.

The Shattos' attorney, Michael J. Brown, did not immediately return a phone message. The Shattos' voicemail greeting on Monday said the family did not have any comment.

Russian authorities and state-run media

have blamed the Shattos for Max's death and used the case as justification for a recently enacted ban on all American adoptions of Russian children. Russia's Investigative Committee has said it has opened its own investigation. It's unclear whether the committee could charge the Shatto family or force their prosecution.

U.S. State Department officials and adoption agency advocates have called for caution.

The Russian government passed the ban in December in retaliation for a new U.S. law targeting alleged Russian human-rights violators. The ban also reflects lingering resentment over the perceived mistreatment of some of the 60,000 children Americans have adopted over the last two decades. At least 20 of those children have died, and reports of abuse have garnered attention in Russia.

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

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT IN A NON PRODUCTIVE FORMATION

Petroplex SWD System, LLC, P.O. Box 1873, Midland, Texas 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a COMMERCIAL DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the San Andres Formation, Glaspie SWD Lease, well number 1. The proposed disposal well is located 9.9 miles northwest of Garden City, Texas in the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, in Glasscock County. Fluid waste will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2800 to 5000 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

#7704 March 19, 2013

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury Favors Silent Speaking

Listening doesn't only happen in the ears. Many elementary school teachers are effectively using silent hand signals in the classroom to encourage support and meta-cognition in students. I bring it up because during the current Mercury and Jupiter square, the best messages of all will come wrapped in silence.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Making a mistake once creates a neural pathway in your brain that is easy to follow the next time and the next. That's why an extra dose of consciousness is needed to avoid making the same mistake twice.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's no mystery what makes people feel better. Health is essential. The choices you make to promote health — yours and others' — will ripple out to impact the entire planet.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your guiding planet, Mercury, is taking a stand against avarice. Repelled by the greed you see, you'll fight. The best way to defeat such evil is with love and generosity for those who need it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Passions may drive you to success, but it's consistent

habits that will keep you there. Think about what you will have to do to make success a fixture in your daily life.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's nothing out there that's too hard for you to get now. You just have to know what to focus on and what to ignore. Breaking down information into chunks will help, and so will a good teacher.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're no puppet, so avoid the ones who try to trigger your reaction by pulling emotional strings. Make it known that you are your own boss. With your talents and cleverness, you can always find new resources.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Regardless of how much formal schooling you may or may not have, there are holes in your education. It will feel wonderful to fill them. You will pick up knowledge wherever you look for it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be working in a group to accomplish a project. Keep in mind that most people will be more sensitive than they let on. Remember who said what, because later it will be important to credit the right people.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your guiding planet, Jupiter, is becoming mighty annoyed with Mercury's retrograde tricks. You'll be inspired to make a sweeping gesture of improvement to restore

cleanliness and order to your world.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The sense of relief you feel is related to the recent change of the moon and the knowledge that you don't have to do everything alone. You have partners you can count on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If your brain feels tired, it's something you can be proud of. Your activities take a lot of mental effort. You work hard every day. Your success comes because you make the effort.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If a solution comes easily, you'll move to a new problem. If not, you'll approach again and again. So don't worry about how long it takes to get to an answer. For as long as you are alive, you will be working on a problem.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 9). You make a heroic effort to embrace the more challenging aspects of your life with love, and this makes all things possible. You'll have a breakthrough in April. June unites you with a cause. May features an important piece of paper. A winning of some kind can be invested in August to lucrative effect. Taurus and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 1, 4, 33 and 29.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "My 9-year-old Libra is having trouble with mean girls at school. The

problem is that it's not the same girls. She's been in completely different classrooms, and eventually the same dynamic always seems to emerge. One counselor suggested that since the common denominator in each scenario is my daughter, maybe she's doing something to encourage the other children to pick on her. My daughter is pretty, smart and well dressed. There's nothing that stands out about her that says "pick on me" except maybe that she's pretty and others are jealous. What should I do? Try homeschooling?"

Your Libra is a lover, not a fighter. She may be unconsciously seeking approval from the other girls — a sign of weakness that bullies can't resist. Before you try homeschooling, seize this chance to help your daughter acquire social tools that will be useful for a lifetime. There are many resources out there now — even social coaches — so read up and apply the techniques. Approach the issue with all the seriousness and follow-through you would apply to any important school project. How to get along is perhaps one of the best things to learn in school.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

Annie's Mailbox



**KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR**

Dear Annie: As a geriatrician, I know how thrilled patients are when they are released from the hospital and how upsetting it is to be readmitted a few weeks, or even just days, later.

One in five older patients is readmitted to the hospital within 30 days of leaving it. Each year, these repeat hospital visits add billions of dollars to national health care costs. Fortunately, there are things people can do.

Patients and their family members should question their doctors, nurses and pharmacists about anything they don't understand. If questions aren't answered, miscommunication or misunderstandings can lead to

complications.

Patients should repeat the instructions back to their doctors and nurses. That demonstrates whether or not they understand what to do. Most important, patients should leave the hospital with a written plan that includes information on how to take care of their condition, when their follow-up visits will be, what medications to take and complications to watch for.

We've put together a patient checklist and care transition plan that anyone can download at www.CareAboutYourCare.org. Thank you for sharing this information and for helping people stay well. — *Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, MD, President and CEO, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

Dear Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey: Thank you so much for sharing this practical and worthwhile information with our readers. Everyone going to the hospital should take this information with them. Please make sure that you, a family member or a friend has all of the information before you are discharged. It could keep you from a return visit.

Dear Annie: My brother just got engaged. He and his girlfriend have two kids. Usually, this is a happy time for families, but eight months ago, my brother's fiancée cheated on him. We weren't sure the younger child was my brother's, but he took a DNA test that proved she is his little girl.

At that time, my brother decided to keep his family together and work things out, which I greatly admire. But we just found out that his fiancée is talking, emailing and texting the guy she cheated with. My brother still wants the wedding to go on and would like the rest of us to mind our own business.

Annie, I really think this is a bad decision for my brother. I worry his girlfriend will continue to cheat and hurt my brother over and over. Do I say something, or keep my mouth shut and plaster on a fake smile? — *Love My Brother*

Dear Love Your Brother: Say nothing more. Your brother knows how you feel, and he has asked you to accept his decision. He understands the consequences. We think he would greatly appreciate your support right now, and we hope you can plaster on that smile

and provide it.

Dear Annie: This is for all those retirees who don't know what to do with themselves.

A year ago, my health forced me into an early retirement. All of my co-workers and most of my friends lived far from my home.

During my first week off, I heard of a yoga class at the local senior center. As a baby boomer, I thought I was too young to go to a "senior" center. But that one class has led to a group of retired educators, like me, who go bicycling twice a week in good weather and meet for lunch in the cold season.

I volunteer at the senior center, take painting classes at a local art center and meet lots of retired folks with similar interests. I have made some good friends, found a great traveling companion and have a lot of fun.

Please point early retirees to senior centers. Remember that you need to go somewhere at least half a dozen times before you begin to feel at home. — *Retired and Busy*

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. © 2013 CREATORS.COM

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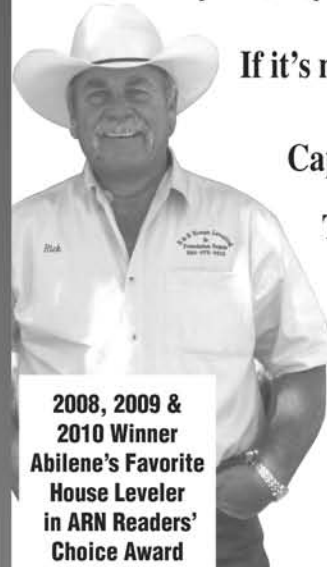
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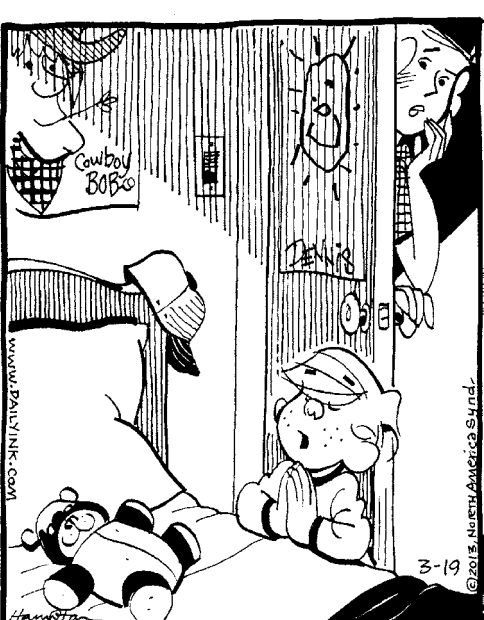
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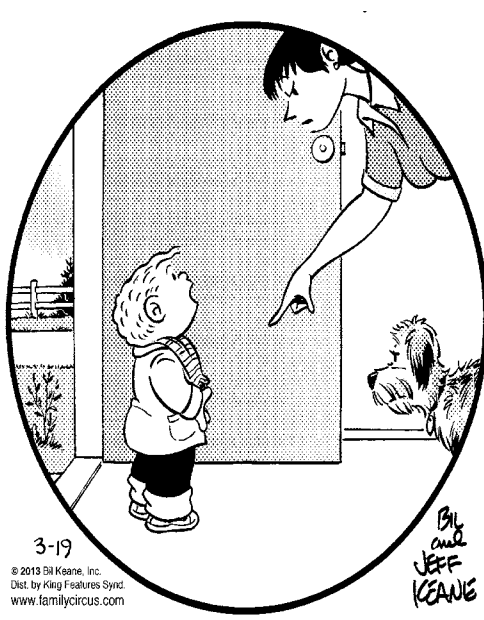
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5:PM :30	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men CBS	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	King Seinfeld	Justice A. Shelby	Charlie Rose	King 70s	Dual Survival		Bereand	Castle	106 & Park: Top 10	Good Jessie	Around Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	Corona de Lágrimas	Big Bang	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	Door-Wis-dom	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Rules	Dual Survival	Movie: The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, Liv Tyler	Tenants	Castle	Movie: Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All By Myself	Shake It Austin	College Basketball	College Basketball
7:PM :30	Splash	Porque el Am.	Hell's Kitchen	NCIS (DVS)	Pasión Prohibida	Betty	Big Bang	Upd	Time Team Special Edition	Justin Timberlake	Dual Survival		Tenants	Castle		Jessie Gravity		College Basketball
8:PM :30	Dancing With Stars	Amores Verdaderos	New Girl Mindy	NCIS: Los Angeles	La Patrona (SS)	Go On Normal	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest		Beauty & Beasts	Dual Survival		Tenants	Castle		Austin Shake It	College Basketball	College Basketball
9:PM :30	(01) Body of Proof	Amor Bravio (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	Vegas	El Rostro de	Smash	Big Bang		Frontline	Cops Seinfeld	Africa		Tenants	Castle	Husbands	ANT Farm		College Basketball
10:PM :30	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Shepherd's Heart	Charlie Rose	Rules 70s	Dual Survival	Movie: The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, Liv Tyler	Tenants	Southland	Husbands	Good	College Basketball	SportsCenter
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero Raymond	Letterman		Victorinos (SS)	Jay Leno		Ministerios Vida	World T. Smiley	King Africa			Tenants	Boston's Finest	Wendy Williams	Wizards		SportsCenter
12:AM :30	Nightline	AI Diablo	Law Order: CI	Ferguson	Decisiones (SS)	Jimmy Fallon	Cougar Conan	Upd	(Off Air)	'Til Death Browns	Dual Survival		Tenants	Cold Case	Movie: We the Party, Moises Arias	Deck	Scorebrd	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	Extra Paid	Zacatillo, un	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Office	Chelvalme		Browns	Dual Survival		Tenants	Ways Die	Leverage	Good	NASCAR	SportsCenter
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DENNIS THE MENACE



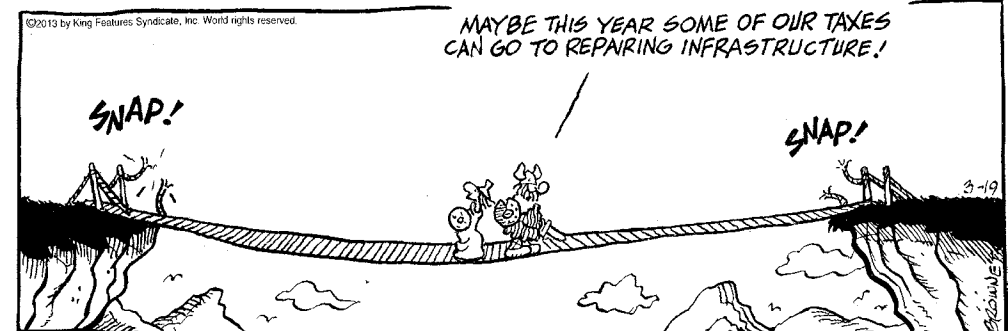
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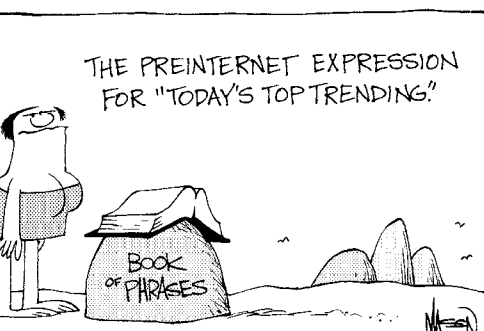
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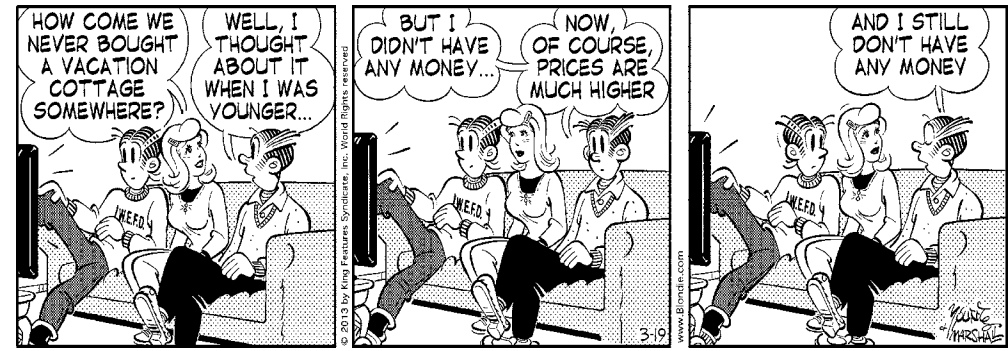
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FLAVOR OF THE MONTH



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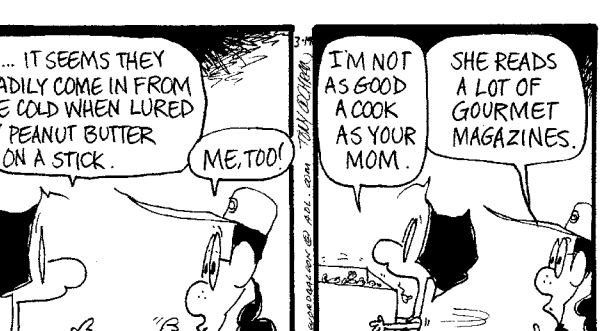


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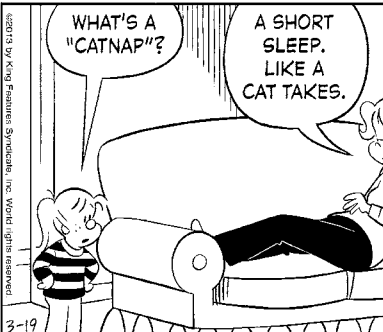


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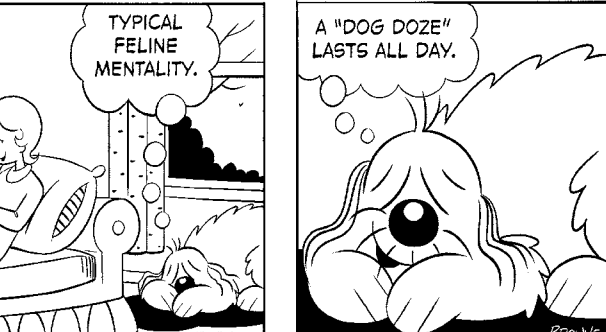


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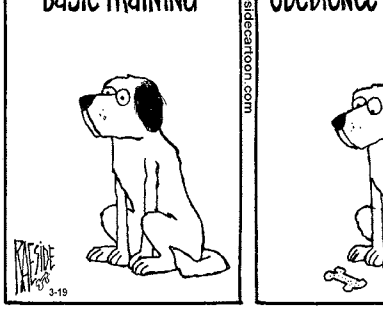


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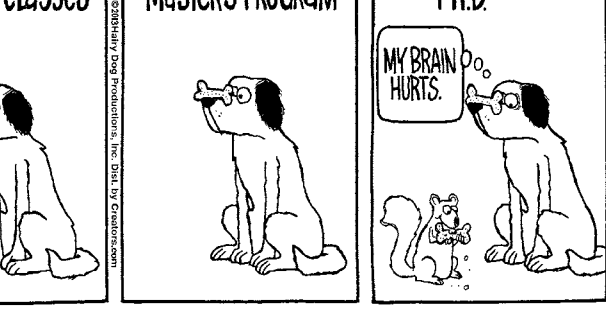


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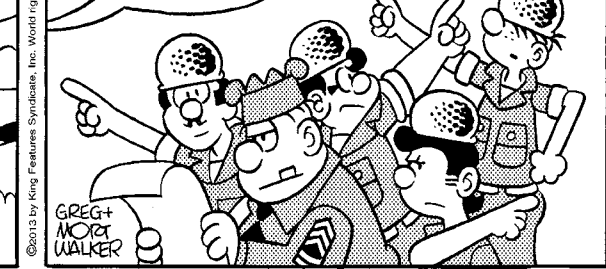


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BEEBLE BAILEY



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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, March 19, the 78th day of 2013. There are 287 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 19, 2003, President George W. Bush ordered the start of war against Iraq. (Because of the time difference, it was early March 20 in Iraq.)

On this date:

In 1687, French explorer Rene-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle — the first European to navigate the length of the Mississippi River — was murdered by mutineers in present-day Texas.

In 1863, the Confederate cruiser Georgianna, on its maiden voyage, was scuttled off Charleston, S.C., to prevent it from falling into Union hands.

In 1918, Congress approved Daylight-Saving Time.

In 1920, the Senate rejected, for a second time, the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY) by a vote of 49 in favor, 35 against, falling short of the two-thirds majority

needed for approval.

In 1931, Nevada Gov. Fred B. Balzar signed a measure legalizing casino gambling.

In 1943, gangster Frank Nitti, leader of Al Capone's Chicago Outfit, shot himself to death in a railroad yard.

In 1945, 724 people were killed when a Japanese dive bomber attacked the carrier USS Franklin off Japan; the ship, however, was saved. Adolf Hitler issued his so-called "Nero Decree," ordering the destruction of German facilities that could fall into Allied hands.

In 1953, the Academy Awards ceremony was televised for the first time; "The Greatest Show on Earth" was named best picture of 1952.

In 1962, Bob Dylan's first album, titled "Bob Dylan," was released by Columbia Records.

In 1965, the wreck of the Confederate cruiser Georgianna was discovered by E. Lee Spence, 102 years to the day after it had been scuttled.

In 1979, the U.S. House of Representatives began televising its day-to-day business.

In 1993, Supreme Court Justice Byron R. White announced plans to retire.

(White's departure paved the way for Ruth Bader Ginsburg to become the court's second female justice.)

Today's Birthdays: Former White House national security adviser Brent Scowcroft is 88. Theologian Hans Kung is 85. Jazz musician Ornette Coleman is 83. Author Philip Roth is 80. Actress Renee Taylor is 80. Actress-singer Phyllis Newman is 80. Actress Ursula Andress is 77. Singer Clarence "Frogman" Henry is 76. Singer Ruth Pointer (The Pointer Sisters) is 67. Actress Glenn Close is 66. Film producer Harvey Weinstein is 61. Actor Bruce Willis is 58. Playwright Neil LaBute is 50. Actor Connor Trinneer is 44.

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Answer to previous puzzle

GRAD	PIANO	SCAM
NOSE	ARDOR	PALE
ASIS	SAUTE	ONES
TEAKETTLE	LUNCH	
SLEET	SISI	
ASSESS	DEFENSE	
SPOT	FLEET	GOD
KID	ALLEARS	JUG
ERA	WOER	BANE
WEBPAGE	GUARDS	
OURS	COOKS	
LATTE	COFFEE	POT
ACTS	MOLAR	HOBO
KILO	ADAGE	IRON
EDEN	RESEE	TEES

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Group of eight
 - 6 Bullets, for short
 - 10 Butter portions
 - 14 Fruit in a Greek salad
 - 15 College official
 - 16 Natural balm
 - 17 Refuge
 - 18 Postal Service delivery
 - 19 Used to be
 - 20 Ballgame broadcaster
 - 23 Barnyard cackler
 - 24 Belly muscles
 - 25 Raspy-voiced
 - 29 Nevada city
 - 31 Physicians' org.
 - 34 ___ upon a time
 - 35 Salty eye drop
 - 37 Alphabetically first Bible name
 - 39 Small rental unit
 - 42 Sculpted upper body
 - 43 Increase in altitude
 - 44 Top of the head
 - 45 Massage facility
 - 46 Magic stick
 - 48 Election defeats
 - 50 Skillet or wok
 - 51 Brother or sister, for short
 - 52 Bank's interest-earning offerings
 - 61 Skinny
 - 62 Green citrus fruit
 - 63 How fries are fried
 - 64 Top-notch
- DOWN**
- 1 ___ and aahs
 - 2 Thunder sound
 - 3 VCR successor
 - 4 At any time
 - 5 Agents' cuts, often
 - 6 Jingle writer
 - 7 Signify
 - 8 Most important
 - 9 To be returned
 - 10 Half of the chess pieces
 - 11 Actor Baldwin
 - 12 Lacerated
 - 13 Crystal ball gazer
 - 21 Take care of
 - 22 WWII sub
 - 25 Party givers
 - 26 In first place
 - 27 Lexus competitor
 - 28 Half of the checkers
 - 29 Quick
 - 30 Chapters of history
 - 31 Regions
 - 32 ___ Carlo, Monaco
 - 33 Poker hand starters
 - 36 Merit
 - 38 Sound boosters
 - 40 Des Moines native
 - 41 Ancient artifact
 - 47 Points of view
 - 49 Orchestra member
 - 50 Evergreen trees
 - 51 Aroma
 - 52 Sheriff badge shape
 - 53 Sailor's greeting
 - 54 Grape plant
 - 55 Competing team
 - 56 Last word of a prayer
 - 57 "Do ___ others . . ."
 - 58 When shadows are shortest
 - 59 Radial, for one
 - 60 Snow vehicle

ESSAY TEST by Sally R. Stein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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Baylor, ND, UConn and Stanford are top NCAA women's seeds

If that NCAA women's tournament bracket looks familiar, it should.

Baylor, Connecticut, Notre Dame and Stanford all earned No. 1 seeds when the field was announced Monday night.

Those four schools are in the top slots for the second straight year — the first time that's ever happened in NCAA tournament history.

The similarity to 2012 doesn't stop there. Three of the No. 2 seeds are repeaters from last year also.

"We probably all knew who the No. 1 seeds were," Baylor coach Kim Mulkey said.

Unlike the men's side, where it was a topsy-turvy season with major upsets seemingly every week, women's basketball hasn't had the same parity. The top six teams in the final Associated Press poll only had two losses outside of each other, the fewest by far since writers began voting for the AP's No. 1 in the 1994-95 season.

"To think that the rest of the field is going to catch up to Baylor or Notre Dame or the top four or five teams in the country this year is probably unrealistic," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said. "But I think all those teams between five and 12 are way better than they've ever been."

The women's basketball madness gets started Saturday — the first step en route to the Final Four, which begins April 7 in New Orleans.

Mulkey hopes to make it there with her Lady Bears. For the NCAA selection show, the Loui-

siana native wore a black shirt featuring a bedazzled fleur-de-lis along with New Orleans in print.

"I can't hide the fact that I want to go New Orleans pretty bad," Mulkey said.

Last season, Baylor was trying to becoming the first team to win 40 games in a season. Now the Lady Bears are just focused on becoming the fourth team to win consecutive national championships, joining Tennessee, UConn and Southern California.

"Nothing's different this year," Griner said. "Our goal is to win the six games and win the national championship."

Standing in the way could be Tennessee. The Lady Vols, who have made every NCAA tournament since it began in 1982, are the No. 2 seed in Baylor's region. This will be the first time that coach Pat Summitt won't be on the sidelines. Summitt stepped down after last season because she had been afflicted with early onset dementia, Alzheimer's type.

"The whole season has been different, and at times, it's hard," said longtime assistant Holly Warlick, who took over this season and guided the Lady Vols to an SEC regular season title.

While Tennessee set the standard in women's basketball, Stanford has been one of the most dominant teams lately.

The Cardinal will try and reach the Final Four for a sixth straight season and end Hall of Fame coach Tara VanDerveer's 21-year drought without a national championship.

Led by junior star Chiney Ogumike, Stanford may already have the most impressive win this season, ending Baylor's 42-game winning streak in November. That's the only loss the defending national champion Lady Bears suffered this season.

The Cardinal, who will open up against Tulsa at home on Sunday, could face No. 2 seed California in the regional final. The Golden Bears shared the Pac-12 title with Stanford this season after ending the Cardinal's 81-game conference winning streak in January.

Notre Dame will be trying to make it back to a third straight national championship game. The Irish, led by senior guard Skylar Diggins, have already had an incredible season losing only to Baylor. Notre Dame won its first Big East tournament championship last Tuesday and also went undefeated in the conference in the regular season.

Unlike the other three No. 1 seeds, who are playing at home, the Irish will open up on the road against Tennessee-Martin. Potentially they could face host Iowa in the second round.

"Lower-seeded team playing on higher-seeded floors is part of our format," NCAA selection committee chair Carolayne Henry said. "We looked at putting Notre Dame in Columbus. But to make our bracket work, we weren't able to put Notre Dame there."

Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said the Irish will just have to live with it.

"It's disappointing," she said.

Darvish scratched with stiff neck, Lowe fills in

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Derek Lowe took advantage of an opportunity that arose when Yu Darvish was scratched from his start with neck stiffness to enhance his chances to make the Texas Rangers.

Lowe pitched three scoreless innings and Ian Kinsler had a two-run homer among his three hits and the Rangers beat the Kansas City Royals 8-2 Monday night.

The Rangers scratched Darvish, the Japanese star who won 16 games as a rookie, with what the club termed a "very minor" neck strain.

"I think today was obviously Darvish not being able to start," Lowe said. "I was scheduled to

pitch two innings. You never like to see anybody get injured, but it actually worked out in my favor to get an extra inning out of it."

Lowe, who signed a minor league contract with the Rangers on March 6, gave up three singles, walked one and struck out three against a Royals' club that entered the game with a spring training-best .335 batting average. He threw 28 strikes in 47 pitches in his second outing.

"It was a lot better, a lot better breaking ball, command of the sinker was a lot better," Lowe said.

Lowe has been a closer and a starter. Last season he went 8-10 with a 5.52 ERA in 21 starts.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 8

of a sold-out crowd before they can advance to the next round.

The HCC Blue Dragons won Region VI outright, but Adams and the Hawks — who received an at-large bid to the tourney after a 60-59 loss to NMJC in the Region V championship — have some experience on their side.

Adams brought home a national title from Hutchinson in 2010, and this is Howard College's eighth overall appearance at the national tourney.

Today marks the first meeting between Howard College and Hutchinson since 1993.

"We're going to have

to play poised and keep our composure," Adams said of today's matchup against the Blue Dragons.

"It's certainly going to be a challenge for us. They haven't been there in, I think, 16 years, so they have been waiting for this game for a long, long time. If we shoot the ball well — which has always been our strong suit — and we can rebound a little better, we have a chance to win."

Tip off is slated for 6:30 p.m. today. The game will be broadcast on KBYG and KBST and results will appear in tomorrow's edition of the Herald.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237.

MAVS

Continued from Page 8

points and Chris Kaman had 14 for Dallas. Led by Collison, the Mavericks had three

reserves in double figures. Vince Carter had 13 and Brandan Wright 12.

The Mavericks were playing their fourth game in five nights, but they appeared to play with more energy than

the Hawks.

"We really had no answer for them," Drew said. "We looked like we were a step slow. ... We didn't guard. We had no defensive presence whatsoever."

The Mavericks' 68 first-half points were also the most allowed by the Hawks this season. Dallas outscored Atlanta 34-25 in the opening period.

"They were by far the more aggressive team tonight," Horford said.

"They really pushed the tempo. I think what killed us was those (15) turnovers. Those were deflating. We're on the break, we're about to score and we throw the ball away. I think that's what really set

the tone in the game."

Collison had 18 points in the half as the Mavericks made 29 of 46 shots (63 percent). The Hawks couldn't keep pace despite shooting 56 percent (19 of 35) from the field.

There was a delay after the third quarter when a Hawks cheerleader, identified by the team only by her first name of Kristen, slipped and hit the back of her head and neck during a dance routine. She did not lose consciousness, according to the Hawks, and was taken from the court on a stretcher. She was released Monday night after being examined at the Atlanta Medical Center.

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- Contest is open to children ages 3-11. Contest will be judged in the following categories: Ages 3-5, ages 6-8; ages, 9-11.
- Contestants may use crayons, markers or colored pencils to color the picture. Adults may assist in completing the Contest Entry Form, but may not assist in coloring.
- Entries are considered property of this newspaper and may be printed by this newspaper.
- Decisions are made final and at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald.

Coloring Contest Entry Form

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____
Parent's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Drop off at the Big Spring Herald office at 710 Scurry St. by Friday, March 22.
Winners will be announced on Easter, March 31st