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BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 13, 2013



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VOLUME 109, NUMBER 49

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"Nice suit!" "You, too!"

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Santa Claus talks with 4-year-old Nia Vanderbilt during the Kiwanis Club of Big Spring's annual Christmas party for West Side Day Care Center children Thursday at Baptist Temple Church.

BSISD seeking supt. filings

By **LYNDEL MOODY**

Staff Writer

Trustees with the Big Spring Independent School District took their first step to find a permanent superintendent Thursday night.

"I move that the board authorize the board president to post notice to all district employees that the position of superintendent is vacant and that the district will accept applications for the position until close of business, Jan. 6, 2014," said board member Chad Wash. "Also, to take any additional actions necessary so that the board be prepared to name any individual as a lone finalist being considered for superintendent of schools at the January board meeting whether it be the 13th or 14th of January."

Board president Irene Rodriguez added the position will be posted at the administration building and the individual campuses following the meeting. Chris Wigington, who has been serving as the interim superintendent since August, confirmed he will apply.

Once trustees name a lone finalist, there will be a 20-day waiting period before the hire becomes official. Anyone interested

See **BSISD**, Page 3

Salvation Army in need of heaters

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

Staying warm is easier said than done for some area residents this winter.

While many of us will simply flip a switch or adjust a thermostat to keep the chill weather at bay, many of our poorer citizens don't have

that luxury.

The Salvation Army annually distributes space heaters and blankets to help the area's less fortunate stay warm, but the agency has a major problem this year.

"We're out of heaters," said Ada Lafler.

Because of that, the Salvation

Army is asking people to consider adding a space heater or a blanket to their Christmas shopping list.

Donations can be made in the form of new or used heaters (as long as they are in good working order) or monetary donations. Each heat-

See **HEATER**, Page 3



Curtain to rise on Nutcracker Ballet Saturday in auditorium

Herald Staff Report

Susan Clark, artistic director of the Midland Festival Ballet, is bringing nearly 100 dancers to perform the Nutcracker Ballet this Saturday in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

The 60-member Big Spring Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Keith Graumann, will provide the well-known holiday music. Traditionally, the Nutcracker draws the largest audience of the symphony season.

"Our performance is actually a week earlier than usual. While it created a few conflicts with some of our regular players, it also freed up some principal players from another area orchestra," said Graumann. "The result is that we will have all the best players joining our orchestra. As always, it will be a real pleasure to work with our fine orchestra."

Graumann said Clark has gone be-

yond simply directing the dancers.

"She is always a pleasure to work with. She worked with the Symphony Guild and Eulaine McIntosh of Howard College to present 'Nutcracker in a Nutshell' at several of our elementary schools," said Graumann. "She also brought a number of her cast for an extra rehearsal last weekend at the Municipal Auditorium in order to get accustomed to the size of our stage. Her choreography is always first rate and her dancers well prepared."

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$13 for seniors and are available at Blum's Jewelers, the Heritage Museum and the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. Tickets, if available, will also be sold at the door the night of the performance. Students ages through 18 will be admitted free. Those under 15 must be accompanied by an adult.

See **BALLET**, Page 3

What: Nutcracker Ballet

Where: Big Spring Municipal Auditorium, Third and Nolan streets

When: 8 p.m. Saturday

Tickets: \$18 for adults; \$13 for seniors

Holiday weekend

Today

- Spring Tabernacle Gift Giveaway, 9 a.m. at the church, 1208 Wright Street.
- Live Drive Through Nativity, First Church of the Nazarene, 1400 Lancaster, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Saturday

- Christmas with Santa, Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
- Parade Watch, Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 4 p.m.-7 p.m.
- Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade, 5:30 p.m., 24th Street and Scurry.
- Christmas on Main Street, following the parade, Pocket Park located next to the Sparen-

See **SCHEDULE**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Donald Koerber

Donald Koerber, 71, of Big Spring, died Thursday in an Odessa hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Mildred Vaughn

Mildred Vaughn, 96, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2013, in a Mansfield, Texas, nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Ken McIntosh, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Mildred was born Oct. 5, 1917, in Stamford, Texas, and married Doyle Vaughn Sept. 15, 1934, in Midland, Texas. He preceded her in death April 12, 2005. She moved to Big Spring as a child. She and Doyle owned and operated Vaughn's Bakery from 1937 until 1973 when they retired. She was a member of First Christian Church, a long-time volunteer at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and a member of Pythian Sisters.

She is survived by one son, Butch Vaughn and wife, Carolyn of Mansfield; one daughter, Beverly Kay of San Antonio; four grandchildren, Paula Kay and John Paul Kay, both of San Antonio, and Lisa Vaughn Englett and husband, David and Kelley Vaughn Doby and husband, Bill, all of Mansfield; and four great-grandchildren, Kevin "Tye" Vaughn, Brandon Englett, Austin Doby and Ethan Doby.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents, H.E. and Frankie Ruth (Parr) Tynes and six sisters.

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

Paid Obituary

Siarhara Rayne Callender

Siarhara Rayne Callender, infant daughter of Jeanette Callender, died Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2013, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Service are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Silas "Rudy" Dolan

Silas "Rudy" Dolan, 76, of Big Spring, Texas, died Dec. 1, 2013, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Private family services will be at a later date.



He was born Nov. 20, 1937, in Nowata, Okla., to Exibea and Rudolph Dolan. He graduated from Forsan High School and attended Howard College. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He was supervisor for the Bay Area Moving Company in San Leandro, Calif. He also drove a truck for C. S. Transportation for 20 years.

He is survived by his wife, Ester Dolan of Big Spring, Texas; two sons, Donnie Dolan and his wife Bobbie of Artesia, N.M., and David Dolan and his wife Gracie of Brownwood Texas; one daughter, Jana Dolan of Brownwood; step-son, Wiley Madewell of Odessa, Texas; step-daughter, Debbie Landry of Houston, Texas; four sisters; one brother; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

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

John P. Hill

John P. Hill, 57, died Monday, Dec. 9, 2013, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Private family services will be at a later date.



He was born June 26, 1956, in Miami, Fla., to Ellen and George Hill. He was a veteran of the U. S. Navy. He married Sherri Jones on Jan. 9, 1999, in Austin, Texas. They moved to Big Spring from Round Rock, Texas, in 2006. He worked in Heating and Air Conditioning. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his wife, Sherri Hill of Big Spring, Texas; one son, Jacob Hill of Georgia; one daughter: Colleen Fierro of Georgia; one brother, Andy Hill of Ohio; two sisters, Geraldine "Gerri" McCarty of Missouri, and Lillian Hatchett of Nevada; and three grandchildren, Eden Hill, Landin Fierro, and London Fierro, all of Georgia.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Support Groups

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Police/Sheriff's Report

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

- LAUREN RENEE ARPIN, 34, of 1401 Robin, was arrested on a warrant for driving while license invalid.
- ADRIAN AGUILAR, 20, of 2505 Carol Dr., was arrested on charges of manufacturing/delivering a controlled substance in a drug free zone; and possession of marijuana, less than or equal to 2 ounces in a drug free zone.
- SUNDAY CASAREZ LUNA, 26, of 800 Creighton was arrested on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- HOLLY RENAE BARRERA, 24, of 308 E. St. Ana, Stanton, Texas, was arrested on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- JEFFERY LEE FRAME, 53, of 2911 West Highway 80, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- JONATHAN ROBERT HERMANN, no age given, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- ADAM EUGENE LARGE, 32, of 105 South Boulevard, Carrollton, Ga., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- AL THOMPSON III, 34, of 117 1/2 W. Davis Road, was arrested on charges of operating an unregistered motor vehicle and defective lamp.
- HIT AND RUN was reported in the 2000 block of West 4th.
- ASSAULT was reported in the area of Wildfire Road and Highway 87 and 500 block of Goliad St..

• DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 500 block of Goliad St.

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1200 block of Austin.

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 62 inmates at the time of this report.

• ADAM EUGENE LARGE, 32, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• JONATHAN ROBERT HERMANN, 28, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• A.L. THOMPSON III, 34, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for operating an unregistered vehicle (two counts), defective or no tail lamps (two counts); failure to display driver's license, ride not secure by safety belt and on charges of operating an unsafe motor vehicle and defective tail lamp.

• ADRIAN AGUILAR, 20 was booked by the BSPD on charges of manufacturing/delivering a controlled substance in a drug free zone and possession of marijuana, less than or equal to 2 ounces in a drug free zone.

• SUNDAY C. LUNA, 26, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• HOLLY RENAE BARRERA, 24, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• JEFREY LEE FRAME, 53, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Sat 12/7	Sun 12/8	Mon 12/9
23/18	53/21	31/19
Cloudy skies early will become partly cloudy later in the day. Some mixed winter precipitation possible.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 20s.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 30s and lows in the upper teens.
Sunrise: 7:34 AM	Sunrise: 7:35 AM	Sunrise: 7:36 AM
Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunset: 5:41 PM

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	22	17	cloudy	Kingsville	41	36	cloudy
Amarillo	17	15	cloudy	Livingston	39	37	rain
Austin	34	31	cloudy	Longview	34	28	rain
Beaumont	42	38	rain	Lubbock	18	11	cloudy
Brownsville	45	41	rain	Lufkin	36	34	rain
Brownwood	28	23	cloudy	Midland	27	20	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	40	37	rain	Raymondville	43	41	rain
Corsicana	32	29	frz rain	Rosenberg	40	39	rain
Dallas	32	25	frz rain	San Antonio	38	33	cloudy
Del Rio	41	32	cloudy	San Marcos	37	32	cloudy
El Paso	57	39	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	32	25	mixed
Fort Stockton	40	29	pt sunny	Sweetwater	22	16	cloudy
Gainesville	28	20	mixed	Tyler	33	28	frz rain
Greenville	32	24	mixed	Weatherford	25	22	cloudy
Houston	41	40	rain	Wichita Falls	23	18	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	54	45	cloudy	Minneapolis	2	-11	mst sunny
Boston	38	27	sn shower	New York	41	30	pt sunny
Chicago	22	15	sunny	Phoenix	54	43	rain

Take Note

• Big Spring Professional Firefighters Honor Guard is giving away a Yeti Tundra 45-quart cooler, valued at \$330. For more information, call Lt. Jay Holt at 432-264-2315 or FF. Albert Cavazos at 806-559-6722. The cooler will be given away at 1 p.m. Dec. 21 at Fire Station 1, located at 1401 Apron Drive.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 14th
Big Spring Herald Lighted Christmas Parade:
Scurry Street

Dec. 13th-14th
Drive Through Nativity:
First Church of the Nazarene
Contact:
(432) 267-7015

Dec. 14th
Big Spring Symphony presents "The Nutcracker":
Municipal/Auditorium.
www.bigspringsymphony.com

Dec. 14th
A Joyful Season Craft Fair:
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News in brief

North Korea executes Kim's once-powerful uncle, and more purges could follow

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — The execution of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's uncle brought a swift and violent end to a man long considered the country's second-most powerful. But while Jang Song Thaek is now gone, the fallout from his bloody purge is not over.

In a stunning reversal of the popular image of Jang as a mentor and father figure guiding young Kim Jong Un as he consolidated power, North Korea's state-run media on Friday announced he had been executed and portrayed him as a morally corrupt traitor who saw the death of Kim's father, Kim Jong Il, in December 2011 as an opportunity to make his own power play.

Experts who study the authoritarian country, which closely guards its internal workings from both outsiders and citizens, were divided on whether the sudden turn of events reflected turmoil within the highest levels of power or signaled that Kim Jong Un was consolidating his power in a decisive show of strength. Either way, the purge is an unsettling development for a world that is already wary of Kim's unpredictability amid North Korea's attempts to develop nuclear weapons.

"If he has to go as high as purging and then executing Jang, it tells you that everything's not normal," said Victor Cha, a former senior White House adviser on Asia.

SCHEDULE

Continued from Page 1

berg Building on Main Street.

- Live Drive Through Nativity, First Church of the Nazarene, 1400 Lancaster, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

- The Nutcracker, Big Spring Symphony and the Midland Ballet, 8 p.m., Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

Sunday

- Festival of Lights, 6 p.m.-10 p.m., Comanche Trail Park (continues nightly through Dec. 31).

- Live Drive Through Nativity, First Church of the Nazarene, 1400 Lancaster, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

BALLET

Continued from Page 1

This is the first performance of the Nutcracker in the municipal auditorium since it was remodeled and became handicapped accessible.

Tickets will be available at the door the night of the performance.

Doors open at 7 p.m. for the 8 p.m. performance this Saturday. A handicapped entrance is on the east side of the building.

H-E-B and Robinson Drilling sponsor the event.

"The Nutcracker is an adult fantasy and is set in a holiday theme. The music is some of Tchaikovsky's finest output. Much of it is more difficult to play than some of his Symphonic work. As an artist, it is tremendously satisfying to put it all together," said Graumann.

The first appearance of the new narrative came out just days ago, when North Korea accused Jang, 67, of corruption, womanizing, gambling and taking drugs. It said he'd been eliminated from all his posts. Friday's allegations heaped on claims that he tried "to overthrow the state by all sorts of intrigues and despicable methods with a wild ambition to grab the supreme power of our party and state."

American missing nearly 7 years in Iran was working for CIA on unapproved intelligence mission

WASHINGTON (AP) — An American who vanished nearly seven years ago in Iran was working for the CIA on an unapproved intelligence-gathering mission that, when it came to light inside the government, produced one of the most serious scandals in the recent history of the CIA — but all in secret, an Associated Press investigation found.

The CIA paid Robert Levinson's family \$2.5 million to head off a revealing lawsuit. Three veteran analysts were forced out of the agency and seven others were disciplined.

The U.S. publicly has described Levinson as a private citizen.

"Robert Levinson went missing during a business trip to Kish Island, Iran," the White House said last month.

That was just a cover story. In an extraordinary breach of the most basic CIA rules, a team of analysts — with no authority to run spy operations — paid Levinson to gather intelligence from some of the world's darkest corners. He vanished while investigating the Iranian regime for the U.S. government.

House Republican conservatives help Democrats move budget to likely final passage next week

WASHINGTON (AP) — After a sweeping vote by conservative Republicans controlling the House and President Barack Obama's Democratic allies, a bipartisan budget pact is in the hands of the Senate, where it will encounter stronger but probably futile resistance from Republicans.

The modest package passed by the House on Thursday would ease the harshest effects of another

round of automatic spending cuts set to hit the Pentagon and domestic agencies next month. Supporters of the measure easily beat back attacks on it from conservative organizations that sometimes raise money by stoking conflict within the Republican Party.

At the same time, Democrats who were upset that the bill would not extend jobless benefits for the long-term unemployed suppressed their doubts to advance the measure to the Democratic-led Senate, where Obama's allies appear set to clear it next week for his signature.

Senate Democrats promise to force a vote on extending unemployment benefits when the chamber reconvenes next year. They hope that political pressure after 1.3 million people lose their benefits on Dec. 28 will force GOP leaders to knuckle under and extend aid averaging under \$300 a week to people who've been out of work longer than six months.

The bipartisan bill breezed through the House on a 332-94 vote, with lopsided majorities of Republicans and Democrats alike voting in favor.

UN inspectors confirm chemical weapons attack in Syria, possibly others

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Chemical weapons were probably used in four locations in Syria this year, in addition to the confirmed attack near Damascus in August that forced the government to abandon its secret chemical stockpile, U.N. inspectors have said.

In a report released Thursday, the experts, led by Swedish professor Ake Sellstrom, examined seven alleged chemical weapons attacks and said it lacked information to corroborate the allegations at two locations.

The inspectors' limited mandate barred them from identifying whether the government or opposition fighters were responsible for any of the attacks.

Thursday's report said evidence indicated chemical weapons were probably used in Khan al Assal outside Aleppo, Jobar in Damascus' eastern suburbs, Saraqueb near Idlib in the northwest, and Ashrafiah Sahnaya in the Damascus countryside. In two cases, it found "signatures of sarin."

The government and opposition accused each other of using chemical weapons at Khan al Assal.

HEATER

Continued from Page 1

er the SA purchases costs approximately

\$45.

Aside from keeping people warm, the heaters also serve a secondary purpose. Lafler said lack of proper heating can lead people to try

risky solutions, such as using charcoal grills indoors or other heat sources without proper ventilation — which carries the dangerous risk of carbon monoxide

poisoning.

Improper heating can also dramatically increase the risk of fire, Lafler pointed out.

For more information on the heater drive, con-

tact Lafler at 267-8239.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

in the position can send applications to the administration office in care of the BSISD school board president Irene Rodriguez, 708 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

In other business, trustees approved:

- A special education

mediation agreement. The board entered into closed session for decision before voting on the issue.

- The fiscal year-end outside audit report. The auditor did not find any issues with the district's financial statements.

- Annual investments and tax roll reports.

- A donation to the high school choir and theater departments.

The \$3,000 donation from a single donor was split with \$2,000 going to the choir and \$1,000 to the theater department. BSISD officials said the monies will be used for general expenses.

- An oil and gas lease with Athlon Holdings LP. Officials noted the action was needed because of a company merger. The oil rights from this lease brings in an average of \$700 to

\$900 a month.

- A one year renewal contract with West Texas Injury Prevention for extracurricular student drug testing services.

- To give Wigington the authority to make monthly changes in the district and campus improvement plans without having to have board approval for each change. Wigington added he will continue to update the board on any

changes.

- Hirings, resignations and retirements.

- Enrollment report. The district currently has 4,161 students enrolled compared to 4,116 last year at this time.

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Frozen (PG) Fri: 1:00 6:45 Sat: 1:00 6:45 Digital Fri: 4:00 9:45 Sat: 4:00 9:45	The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) Digital Fri: 12:15 3:45 7:15 10:45 Sat: 12:15 3:45 7:15 10:45

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John P. Hill, 57, died Monday, December 9, 2013. Private family services will be at a later date.

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Opinion

It isn't about sensitivity

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

ADDRESSES

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How do you run against a woman candidate? It's a question I've been asked since 1984, when I worked for Geraldine Ferraro.

In those days, it wasn't uncommon to see men who were running against women making subtle (and not so subtle) appeals to toughness, using national security and crime issues as a way to raise questions about whether their female opponents had what it takes.

Maybe that's why my favorite ad from 2008 was Hillary Clinton's red phone ad. Twenty years ago, that was precisely the kind of ad you'd run against a woman. In the 21st century, it was a very strong and tough woman who ran the ad. Times have changed — at least on the Democratic side.

Not so, it appears, for Republicans, who are getting special "training" so as to be "sensitive" when running against women or seeking their votes. House Speaker John Boehner, responding to reports that the Republican Party is now giving "sensitivity training" to male candidates, explained this week that Republican men in Congress "aren't as sensitive as they ought to be" when running against women.

"We're trying to get them to be a little more sensitive," Boehner told reporters. "You look around the Congress, there are a lot more females in the Democratic caucus than

there are in the Republican caucus. And some of our members just aren't as sensitive as they ought to be."

This is how not to run against women, and how not to win the votes of women. Do what Boehner is doing. Insult them by suggesting that it isn't policy that matters, but sensitivity.

This is why the Republican Party runs the risk of becoming a party of angry white males at a time when there aren't enough angry white males to win a majority.

The way to run against women is the same way that you run against men: by focusing on qualifications, experience and policy.

Imagine holding sensitivity training sessions to teach candidates how to run against men. It's laughable — or worse, insulting. Why should women be different?

What got Republicans into trouble in the 2012 elections was not insensitivity, but stupidity. The two most notorious examples were Rep. Todd Akin of Missouri, done in by comments about "legitimate rape," and Indiana State Treasurer Richard Mourdock, who said that "even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape, it is something that God intended to happen." Akin lost to a woman; Mourdock, to a man. In both cases, their problems went far beyond sensitivity.

The same is true in addressing women voters. The fact that women are somewhat more likely to support Democrats than Republicans has absolutely nothing to do with sensitivity and everything to do with policy. The gender

gap is grounded in issues: the economy (where women tend to earn less), education (where women tend to care more and are more likely to be the primary or sole parent) and health care (ditto). Sure, there are many women who are pro-gun and anti-choice, but there are even more who support reasonable restrictions on gun sales and who believe that they — not the government — should decide whether and when to have children.

"A little bit more sensitive"? Americans, men and women, are disgusted with Boehner's Congress for reasons having absolutely nothing to do with sensitivity and everything to do with his failure, and that of his members, to act like grownups, to put people's needs ahead of partisan gamesmanship, to address problems rather than just rant and rave. Shutting down the government in protest over Obamacare — after we had an election in which Obamacare was front and center and the Republicans lost — isn't an issue for sensitivity training. You don't win votes by patronizing voters, and you don't run against women candidates by focusing on their gender rather than their positions.

How dumb does Boehner think women are?

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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Mandela's blind spot

He was one of the greatest leaders of our time, a champion for human rights and racial equality. The world is a better place because Nelson Mandela lived among us.

But not the whole world! I can think of at least one small part of the planet where he turned a blind eye to human rights and racial equality, and where his complicity with dictators will forever stain his legacy.

Unfortunately — and disgracefully — when Mandela looked toward my native Cuba, he was blinded by his loyalty to Fidel and Raul Castro.

He never seemed to notice blacks in Cuba are a minority in government and a majority in prison, or that Cuba had freedom fighters and political prisoners — principled martyrs, just like him.

Ever since the South African leader died last week, TV talking heads have been trying to explain Mandela's illogical relationship with the Castro brothers. The professional spinners have even tried to convince us that his blind loyalty was something admirable. Former President Bill Clinton was on CNN last week making excuses for Mandela's unyielding loyalty to those who supported him during his 27-year imprisonment — as if devotion to evil were an honor or asset!

But there is no logical explanation. When Mandela looked at Cuba, he had a blind spot. After all, there were many anti-Castro Cubans who saw him as a fellow freedom fighter and supported his struggle against

apartheid. Certainly, it would have been more logical and consistent with his principles if he had aligned himself with them.

Yet, shortly after his release from prison in 1990, Mandela spoke of the Castro regime with such praise that freedom-loving Cubans felt duped and betrayed.

"There is one thing where that country stands head and shoulders above most of the countries of the world," Mandela said of Cuba when visiting Angola in 1990, "it is its love of human rights and of freedom."

Of course, that statement and many others like it were and still are an insult to the intelligence of most people, especially Cubans.

I remember how my friend Basilio Medina, a black Cuban who had spent a decade in one of Castro's dungeons for political prisoners, felt that Mandela had stabbed him in the back.

"Look at my black face," Medina told me.

"That should tell you how I feel about apartheid. But we have to do something when Mandela comes to New York."

The Big Apple was preparing a ticker-tape parade for Mandela. And Medina, an anti-Castro activist, wanted to find a way to meet him and make him see the real Cuba, the one that has its own form of apartheid.

"He obviously doesn't know that there is discrimination against blacks in Cuba," Medina said, "that those Cubans who were sent to war in Angola were mostly blacks. He doesn't know that there are many Mandelas in Cuban prisons today, including some who have been there longer than he — close to 30 years."

When I interviewed Medina for a 1990 column in the New York Daily News, he was still

hoping Mandela could be turned. And as fellow freedom fighter who had supported Mandela in his fight against apartheid, Medina felt he was the one who could do it.

"When you spend so many years in prison," Medina told me from personal experience, "you come out and you are out of touch with reality. I think that may be Mandela's problem. He needs to be told the reality of what has been happening in Cuba since he went to prison."

Unfortunately, for the 23 years since Mandela has been out of prison, he's remained naive about Cuba and as loyal to its dictators as he was in 1990. He visited Cuba in 1991 and became a lifelong accomplice of the regime's repression. In 1994, he rightfully won South Africa's first democratic election but failed to speak for democratic elections in Cuba. On the subject of Cuba, Mandela always had blatant contradictions and double standards.

Medina never had the chance to meet with Mandela. He died of a heart attack in Manhattan at the age of 58, only a few days before Mandela's June 1990 appearance in the ticker-tape parade. As the South African freedom fighter was arriving in Manhattan, the Cuban freedom fighter was on his way to a Bronx cemetery.

But now that they both have left this world, if there still is a way for Medina to get an audience with Mandela, I know the Cuban freedom fighter will be trying to illuminate Mandela's blind spot.

To find out more about Miguel Perez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- 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

As winter continues, give us the intelligence to come in out of the ice and snow, dear Lord.
Amen

Church News

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

The Children's Choir program begins at 4:20 p.m. Wednesday. Also on Wednesdays, the Lectionary Bible Study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, meets at 5:17 p.m., and Chancel Choir rehearsal is at 6 p.m.

The Session will have its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. in the library on Tuesday.

We appreciated having our seminary intern Suzanne Gulick preach the sermon last Sunday. She has done a supervised study with our congregation, the First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma, and the VA Hospital.

During Advent the children are studying a unit entitled "Isaiah-Fulfilling the Prophecy." They will learn about prophets regarding the promised Messiah. Having made a Jesse Tree holding symbols of Jesus' ancestry, they will gather each week at the Jesse Tree to present their offerings which will go toward a PCUSA mission project. They are making cookies to take to the residents of Park Place on Dec. 18 when they go there to sing Christmas carols.

The Adult Covenant Class is studying "Jesus

Pope Francis names new bishop of San Angelo; accepts Bishop Pfeifer's resignation

Special to the Herald

SAN ANGELO — Thursday at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in San Angelo, Bishop Michael Pfeifer presented the new bishop of the Diocese of San Angelo. He is Msgr. Michael Sis, presently Vicar General of the Diocese of Austin.

His ordination and installation as new bishop for the Diocese of San Angelo is scheduled to take place at 2 p.m., Monday, Jan. 27, in San Angelo.

Bishop-elect Sis was born Jan. 9, 1960, in Mt.

Holly, New Jersey. He was ordained for the Austin diocese on July 19, 1986.

He holds a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from the University of Notre Dame, a bachelor's degree in theology from the Gregorian University, and a licentiate in moral theology from the Academia Alfonsiana, Pontifical Lateran University, Rome.

Assignments after ordination included 1986-1988, associate pastor, Christo Rey Church, Austin; 1989, associate pastor in campus ministry, St. Mary's Student Center, College Station, Texas; 1990-1992, associate pastor, St. Mary's Cathedral, Austin; 1992, associate pastor, St. Mary's Student Center; 1993-2006, pastor, St. Mary's Student Center; 2006-2009, vocation director, Austin Diocese; 2009-2010, pastor, St. Thomas More Church, Austin; and 2010-present, vicar general and moderator of the curia, Austin diocese.

The San Angelo diocese includes 37,433 square miles across 29 counties in Texas. It has a population of 859,701 people, with 77,230, or 9 percent of them, Catholic.

and the Just Reign of God," centered on the overall theme of justice. For the five Sundays in December they will pursue a unit called "God Sends Jesus," based on the Gospel of Luke.

The adult Discovery Class is studying a special DVD study for Advent by Adam Hamilton: "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem." Hamilton is pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kan.

Sue Carter is in charge of refreshments for "Take Ten" for Sunday. Liturgist for the month is Rip Patterson. The ushers last Sunday were Danny Kennemur, Weldon Jones, Paschal Odom, and Tom Koger. Glen Burch and Danny Kennemur lit the second Advent candle.

Lectionary for the Third Sunday of Advent is Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11. The worship service will be a Service of Songs and Scriptures, featuring the Chancel Choir, the Children's Choir, Youth Bell Choir presenting music for Advent.

Our worship service begins at 10:50 a.m. for announcements and parish concerns before our radio broadcast at 11.

If you cannot attend, listen in on KBST 1490 AM, beginning at 11. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for the service, call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: www.bpcbs.org On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Rev. Holstedt.

Forsan Baptist Church

On Dec. 22, we will have a church-wide breakfast beginning at 9:15 a.m. with guest missionary speaker Sammy Ward. Our Christmas program, "Deck the Halls and Trim the Tree," will also be during worship that morning. We will wrap up our Christmas events with a candlelight service at 6 p.m. on the 24th, where we will also observe the Lord's Supper.

On Wednesday evenings we are in the midst of a verse-by-verse trek through the Old Testament. On Sunday evenings we are in a DVD study called, "The Story." It is comprised of a video segment and study guide, and speaks of how the Bible in all its parts tells God's story.

Youth activities on Wednesday evenings include a meal at 5:30 p.m. and classes for all ages beginning at 6. We have Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Mission Friends, CHAOS (Christ Has All Our Answers) Youth, and an adult Bible study.

Our church is located at 201 Main in Forsan. Sunday school begins at 9:50, with worship services at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday services begin at 6 p.m. Rides for all youth activities are available if arranged ahead of time. Call the church at 432-457-2342 or Pastor Darren Weaver at 432-213-2348.

Cornerstone Covenant Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church holds Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. with live praise and worship, followed by the Word.

This week, Pastor Willard's topic is "The First Christmas" sermon title, "The First Christmas Gift" text taken from Matthew 1:18-25. Come discover why some gifts are worth waiting for.

Sunday, Dec. 22 at 10:30, the CCC Fine Arts Department will present a Christmas production entitled "First Christmas, Stories from the Birth of Christ."

We are excited to announce in February 2014 CCC will present "Becoming One" the newest simulcast by Marriage Today with Jimmy and Karen Evans. For more information or call, the church at 264-0015.

CCC offers ministries in the following areas: New Beginnings (Newborn to 18 months); Tiny Tots (19 months-Kindergarten); Kovenant Kids (1st-6th grade); Chosen Generation (7th-12th grade); Covenant U - College Ministry (18-24 years); Men's and Women's Ministries; and Marriage Enrichment.

CCC meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. for Discipleship 101 Bible Study and Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for worship. (Sunday morning services are recorded, so if you'd like a free copy of a CD for those services, see

The best place to celebrate Christmas

"Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays," proclaims a favorite Christmas classic.

The lyrics continue, "Cause' no matter how far away you roam, when you pine for the sunshine of a friendly gaze, for the holidays you can't beat home, sweet home."

Most of us do, perhaps, have some pleasant memories of celebrating Christmas at home, wherever that may be. Christmas, however, needs no address. Its roots aren't attached to a physical location. Christmas is never found at the end of a long journey. The spirit of Christmas doesn't sprout from the snow or thrive in sunshine. Christmas is nurtured in the heart.

The late comedian, Bob Hope, spent many Christmases away from home, entertaining military troops around the world. He seemed to have loved Christmas and delighted in sharing it with those who needed it most. He noted, "If you haven't got charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble."

Another wise man named Roy L. Smith observed, "He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree."

Perhaps both men are right. Christmas doesn't bloom in a hardened heart.

Christmas has no price tag. It cannot be purchased and placed under a tree. Christmas cannot be generated upon demand when the calendar says it is time to celebrate. Christmas has to stay alive throughout the year. It isn't a seasonal celebration to be packed away and brought out again each December.

The Scripture records the events of that first Christmas many years ago. We are told in the gospel of Luke that the birth of the Christ child was announced to a small band of shepherds who were watching their sheep by night. Upon hearing the good news, the shepherds hurried to Bethlehem where they found the baby Jesus lying in a manger just as they had been instructed.

Having told Joseph and Mary about their visit from the angels, and having seen the tiny Savior for themselves, the shepherds departed and went back to their flocks. Mary, however, did not soon forget what she had heard from the shepherds. The Scripture says, "But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart" (Luke 2:19 NASB).

Just as Mary pondered the birth of her son in her heart, shouldn't we also ponder the birth of God's son? Perhaps the best place to celebrate Christmas is in our own hearts.

Bonnie Wheat is a minister's wife and an author. She can be contacted at bruheat@suddenlink.net.



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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You are South, neither side vulnerable, and the bidding has gone:

North	East	South	West
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	?	

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ AJ9 ♥ QJ95 ♦ Q7 ♣ K984
- ♠ K54 ♥ KJ872 ♦ 95 ♣ Q63
- ♠ 10 ♥ K97632 ♦ Q83 ♣ A95
- ♠ J8 ♥ KJ73 ♦ K962 ♣ KQ7

- Three notrump.** Since you have an opening bid facing an opening bid, there is no question about reaching game. Only two game contracts are feasible — three notrump or four hearts — and the best way of reaching for one of them is by jumping to three notrump. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, which partner might pass.
- If partner's heart raise was based on four trumps, he will almost surely remove three notrump to four hearts, but if he raised with only three trumps, which is possible, he will no doubt pass and leave you in a contract you're a heavy favorite to make.
- Pass.** Partner has 13 to 15 points, some of which might be distributional in value. Game is therefore unlikely, and by passing, you will almost surely end up with a plus score instead of the minus that might result from bidding, say, three hearts. It is true that you have a king more than you might have had for your one-heart response, but that is not a good-enough reason for continuing to bid when the prospect for game is remote.
- Four hearts.** The strength of this hand lies as much in its distribution as in its high cards. Granting that you have only nine high-card points, the fact is that you have lots of tricks — and that's the bottom line in bridge.
- Another way of assessing your prospects is to ask yourself: "Am I likely to lose four tricks with this hand after partner opens one diamond and raises hearts?" If the answer is no, as it ought to be, you should go directly to game.
- Three clubs.** You are on the way to game but can't tell whether to play in hearts, diamonds or notrump. Three diamonds (also forcing) might seem a more truthful bid, but it is not as helpful as three clubs in reaching for a notrump game — if that is the right contract. Partner might have something like ♠ AQ9 ♥ A85 ♦ QJ753 ♣ J4 and be unable to bid three notrump over three diamonds.

Tomorrow: Now you see it, now you don't.
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sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

See **CHURCH NEWS**, Page 6

View College & Pro Football Power Ranking & Top 25 Polls

Plus All

Updates of Football News VISIT

www.bigspringherald.com

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 5

rescheduled due to the weather and will be Thursday, Dec. 19 at 10. The Mother's Day Out department will be closed from Dec. 20 through Jan. 3.

In Sunday morning's 10:50 worship service, Pastor Mark Lindsey continues the sermon series "Hope Revealed" with the message titled "Make Room for Jesus" drawn from Luke 2:1-7. Jesus came to occupy us completely, however, many people shut Him out or relegate Him to a corner. You and I are innkeepers. What room will we make for Jesus Christ in our lives? The Justin Clark family will be lighting the third Advent candle during the service.

Sunday school classes are held for all ages prior to the morning service at 9:30; come early for coffee and fellowship.

The youth will be having their Christmas party following the program Sunday night.

It is an ugly sweater-themed party, so put on that atrocious sweater and head to the Boekers' for great fun and food.

Wednesday evening activities begin with a meal served from 5-6, followed by prayer time, worship and activities for all age groups. Go to fbcbigspring.org for more details. Come join us for Parmesan chicken on Dec. 18.

First Baptist Church is located at 705 W. FM 700. There is always a place for you at First Baptist Church.

Spring Creek Fellowship

Since so many things have been can-

celled in the last two weeks due to bad weather, we are going to try this one more time. Next Wednesday at 5:30 pm, we will have the SCF "Red Dress Holy Ghost Ham Bake Dinner Theater and Ornament Exchange!" The church will provide the ham, so bring your favorite side dish or dessert.

After dinner, the children will be performing the Christmas program. If you would like to participate in the ornament exchange, please bring a wrapped ornament. You will take another wrapped ornament and will pray for the giver of that ornament for the next year. Please include a tag or card with your name on it inside your package. Nothing over \$10.

Samantha Whitehead's Gift Wrapping service is open for the holidays as a fundraiser for her mission training. It is located in Spring Town Plaza just around the corner from the movie theater. The shop will be open through Dec. 24. Now through the Dec. 19, it will be open in the evenings except Wednesday from about 6 p.m. to closing of the mall and beginning on the Dec. 20, it will be open all day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

New Connection Groups start in January. If you are interested in teaching a class, contact Lloyd Wells.

"Wired That Way" classes are scheduled for Wednesday evenings at 6. Understanding how we are wired can enrich our lives and our relationships, helping to overcome differences that can seem irreconcilable. Call the office at 714-4584 or email to allaboutstring@gmail.com to enroll.

Holiday ministries we are working on include Operation Christmas Child and Christmas for the Troops. If you would like to help with these ministries, contact the church office



Courtesy photo

Left to right, Fire Chief Craig Ferguson, Chaplain Jacqueline Roland, Chaplain Betty Kelley and Senior Chaplain Joel Miller pose for a photograph. Roland and Kelley were sworn in as new chaplains for the Emergency Services Chaplains Corps this fall, bringing the total number of chaplains to 11. The chaplains are a key link in the services the ESCC provides for Howard County and Big Spring emergency services and the general public.

or check out our website.

"Free Indeed" is collecting sleeping bags, socks, toboggans, scarves and gloves for the homeless. You may bring them the church or contact the church office to drop these off.

Our SCF Prayer Team meets every Tuesday from noon to 2 p.m. at Spring Town Plaza.

You can listen to the sermon from the previous Sunday at 9 a.m. every Sunday on KBYG 106.3 FM and 1400 AM.

Weekly Happenings include:

Sunday
9:15 a.m., Sunday school/Connection Groups
10:15 a.m., "Holy Grounds Café" is open with snacks and fellowship
10:45 a.m., Worship Service
Wednesday
6 p.m., Bible study and activities for all ages
Saturday
7:30 a.m., Weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast

10 a.m., "Sewing Seeds of Hope" Crafting fellowship

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, contact the church office or visit our website.

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell Lane in Big Spring, Texas. Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

"Every Member a Minister"-1 Peter 4:10 NKJV

Blessed Hands Deaf Church

Pastor Jim Walterhouse and wife Debbie invite you to join this growing congregation for worship services at 2 Sunday afternoon. Blessed Hands Deaf Church meets inside First Baptist Church at 705 W. FM 700.

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 7

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Pope must decide what to do with disgraced Legion

VATICAN CITY (AP) — First, one of the Legion of Christ's top officials abruptly quit the troubled religious order in frustration over the slow pace of change. Then priests in the cult-like movement empowered proteges and associates of the order's disgraced founder, the Rev. Marcial Maciel, to vote for their next leader.

The past month has seen some setbacks the Legion's efforts to rehabilitate itself as it moves toward electing a new leadership next month, the culmination of a three-year Vatican experiment aiming to overhaul a damaged order. Yet even as the Legion prepares to present a new face, high-ranking members continue to speak nostalgically and even reverently of Maciel — a sexual predator who molested his seminarians, fathered three children and was, in the words of Vatican-appointed investigators, "devoid of scruples and authentic religious meaning."

It all means that hopes are dwindling that the Vatican's effort to radi-

cally reform the Legion has succeeded, raising the question of what Pope Francis will do with the once-powerful and wealthy order after the mandate of the papal envoy running it expires.

Francis' predecessor, Benedict XVI, took over the Legion in 2010 and appointed a Vatican cardinal to govern it after investigators determined that the congregation itself needed to be "purified" of Maciel's influence. In reality, the Vatican knew well of Maciel's crimes for decades but turned a blind eye, impressed instead by his ability to bring millions of dollars and thousands of seminarians into the church.

Rome's failure to stop him marks the most egregious case of its indifference to victims of priestly sexual abuse, and has tarnished the legacy of Pope John Paul II, soon to be canonized, because he had held up the Legion as a model for the faithful.

To be sure, some progress has been made during the past three years of Vatican receivership: The order rewrote

its constitutions, released statistics about sex abuse cases, and a well-respected priest recently begged forgiveness from Maciel's victims for how he and the Legion ignored and defamed them. But if recent elections in the Legion's consecrated lay branches are any indication, the membership itself has voted for the status quo.

That mindset has driven dozens of disillusioned priests and hundreds of seminarians and consecrated members out of the order: On Saturday, the Legion will ordain 31 new priests, half as many as were ordained just three years ago.

Last month, the Legion's reform-minded governing counselor, the Rev. Doamar De Guedes, announced that he was not only resigning his position but was leaving the congregation altogether, a major blow coming just weeks before the Jan. 8 assembly to approve the new constitutions and elect a new superior.

In his farewell letter, De Guedes said he didn't have the strength

to carry on. But the Legion's spokesman, the Rev. Benjamin Clariond, acknowledged that De Guedes was often the "minority" in pressing for deeper and faster reform and that this was a source of "tension" for him.

"We grant that the reform has gone slowly up to now," Clariond said in an email. "That is because we intend to effect changes that are not just cosmetic, but that address the underlying causes of the problems ... As is understandable, this takes time."

But with the mandate of the papal delegate, Cardinal Velasio De Paolis, ending after the assembly, key questions are being asked now that will pose a major test for Francis: Has the Legion truly shed the cult-like practices that French bishops recently denounced in a letter to victims of spiritual abuse? Will Francis approve the constitutions and essentially give the Legion a clean bill of health? Or will he make some provision for continued Vatican oversight after De Paolis leaves?

Francis has already said the Legion's assembly, or General Chapter, isn't the end of the reform process but merely a "step."

Yet the process itself seems questionable when even the Legion's current leader continues to speak fondly of Maciel.

In a recent interview with a Spanish-language online journal, Vida Nueva, the Rev. Sylvester Heereman said that regardless of the bad things Maciel did, "he continues to be someone to whom I owe a lot, whom I remember with a mixture of gratitude and compassion, even though I understand and respect those who personally suffered and cannot share those feelings."

Recently, a senior member of the Legion's consecrated lay branch, Alejandro Pinelo Leon, visited Maciel's tomb in Cotija, Mexico on a pilgrimage of sorts: "Our founder teaches us many things and before his tomb I got emotional and thanked him for all that I learned about God from him," he wrote on Facebook.

The Rev. Thomas Berg, an American priest who left the Legion in 2009, said such nostalgia shows that a considerable portion of the Legion membership is still unable to shake itself from Maciel's toxic influence.

"The continual resurgence in private and public of the story-line that Maciel is a 'flawed instrument,' but an instrument of God no less, is proof in the pudding that the purification has not gone deep enough," he said.

Other indications include the roster of men who will elect the next superior: They include 19 existing superiors and 42 priests elected by the Legionary membership to represent them. The existing superiors include many of the top Legion priests who were close to Maciel and his successor.

Electors chosen by the rank and file to represent them include Maciel proteges or still other associates. One recently was forced to explain a bizarre email exchange with a woman under his spiritual guidance.

Lessons from Mandela

This week, President Obama and former presidents George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter made their way to South Africa to join thousands who honored the memory of Nelson Mandela. The entire world paused to pay homage to this remarkable individual who led his nation out of apartheid.



BILL TINSLEY

As a young black lawyer in South Africa, Mandela became the leader in the movement to eliminate apartheid, the South African set of laws that discriminated against Blacks and Asians. When his influ-

ence became a threat to those in power, he was imprisoned for 27 years. Mandela emerged from prison unbroken, taking up his earlier mantra to live for freedom or to die for it. He was swept to power as President of South Africa four years after his release.

Mandela's story would be remarkable, simply because he was able to rise from rural obscurity to national and international prominence. It is more remarkable given his election as President of South Africa after spending 27 years in prison as an enemy of the government. But it is most remarkable because when he was bestowed with power as President, he chose forgiveness and reconciliation instead of retaliation.

How did he come to this position? How did he rise

above the natural passions of vengeance, hatred and corruption that control most men, especially those who come to power?

In his autobiography, "Long Walk to Freedom," Mandela states that he early became a member of the Methodist church, like his mother, and started his education in a Methodist school run by missionaries. Later, when he was a young man he "became a member of the Students Christian Association and taught Bible classes on Sundays in neighboring villages." Perhaps in those early beginnings the seeds of his ultimate success were sown. In his autobiography, Mandela wrote, "I saw that virtually all of the achievements of Africans seemed to have come about through the missionary work of the

Church."

But the record of Christian influence in South Africa, as elsewhere, has its issues. In South Africa as in the American pre-Civil War South, the systems of racial subjugation and prejudice found support in the churches. Speaking of Apartheid, Mandela wrote, "The policy was supported by the Dutch Reformed Church, which furnished apartheid with its religious underpinnings ... In the Afrikaner's worldview, apartheid and the church went hand in hand."

Many who profess faith in Christ are prone to adopt the world's systems with its prejudices and presumptions rather than follow the teachings of Christ. It is, in the end, the degree that we implement the teachings of Jesus, regardless of denomi-

nation or affiliation, that makes the greatest difference. Jesus set the example by which we are to forgive as we have been forgiven, to love our enemies and do good for them.

In 1994, Mandela addressed an Easter conference and spoke of "... the Good News borne by our risen Messiah who chose not one race, who chose not one country, who chose not one language, who chose not one tribe, who chose all of humankind!"

Nelson Mandela is a reminder that when one man is willing to put into practice the radical teaching of Jesus, he can change the world. In our families, our jobs, our schools and our communities, we can, every one of us, practice forgiveness, acceptance, respect and faith that transforms the world.

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 6

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

Our motto is "Celebrating and Sharing God's Love and Grace in our lives."

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood Subdivision in Big

Spring. The church phone number is 432-264-7818. Our website is <http://www.aicbigspring.org>. Our e-mail address is aliveinchrist@crcom.net.

Sunday service will begin at 9 a.m. with Bible study and Sunday school to follow at 10:15 a.m.

Bo Vizcaino will present the readings this week.

We began a new Adult Bible Study class Nov. 13. This series is titled "I Am Second" by e3 Partners. Class begins at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited.

Mid-Week classes are in session for the youth. A light meal is served from at 5:30 p.m.

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to

106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 for these wonderful devotions: "Morning Meditation Thoughts."

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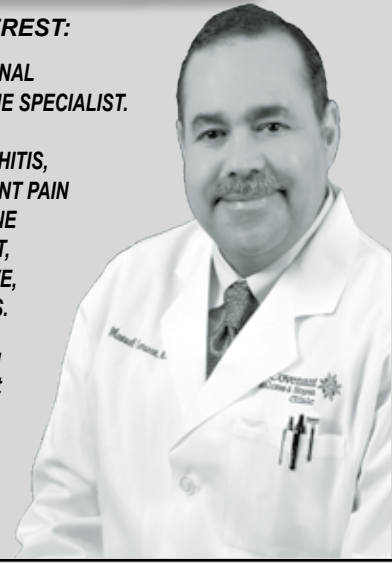
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(Psalm 103:11)*

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Young Bulldogs awarded by district

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**
Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Kyler Franks was named Co-Newcomer of the Year by the District 3-2A D-II voters, topping the list of All-District honors received by the Bulldogs.

Franks, along with seven other Coahoma players, earned the recognition despite posting a 1-9 season record. With five-of-eight All-District selections expected to return, Head Coach Trey Gardner believes a major turnaround could be in store for next year.

“Obviously, we had a rough year,” he said. “We knew coming in that we were pretty young. Franks had a good year as a sophomore. To get Co-Newcomer of the Year, we were really

impressed because we didn’t have a great year. We have a whole lot of guys who will be coming back.”

Junior quarterback Braxton Iden was named to First Team Defense and Second Team Offense for his versatility on the field. Though well-deserved, the accolades didn’t surprise Gardner.

“We knew Braxton would have a good year,” he said. “We’re excited to have him back next year.” Junior Joseph Melendez was also voted in on both sides of the ball on Second Team as an offensive guard and defensive linebacker.

The two seniors selected — Caleb Chapa (Second Team Defense) and Shanen Warneke (TE) — both made contributions to the program Gardner said will be missed.

“You never like to lose a starter,” he said of the duo. “Shanen came in as a tight end, that wasn’t his position last year. He was at that position. Caleb was really a dadgum tough corner. Getting on as a defensive back in our district is tough. Those guys both stepped up for us. You never like to lose senior starters.”

But Franks, Iden and Melendez will be joined by sophomore Second Team Offensive pick Paul Cortez, who proved highly effective from the backfield, junior center Zak Walton and junior Utility Player selection Christian Van Wey.

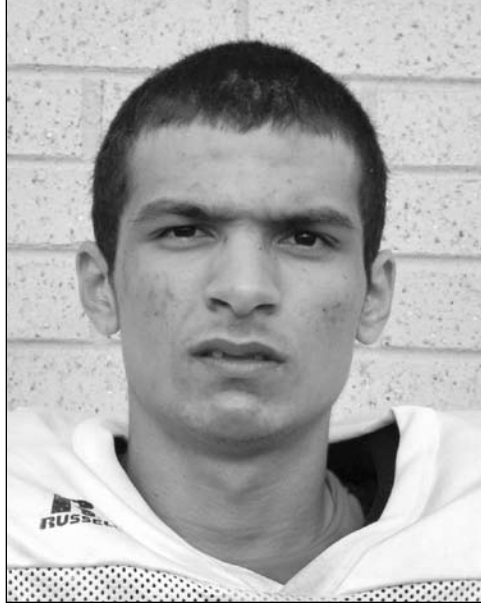
“You know, these guys played hard all year,” Gardner added. “Look at Sonora. They did the best as far as

our district was concerned. Well, that game could have been 28-21 at halftime. We have to cut out the mistakes. Hopefully the guys learned from their mistakes this year. Maybe we got a lot of that out of our system, being so young. It may seem like a stretch, but ideally, we want to be playing for a district championship next year. With the UIL realignment, it could go about three different ways. We feel with this crew we have coming back, we should at least be competitive, no matter where we end up.”

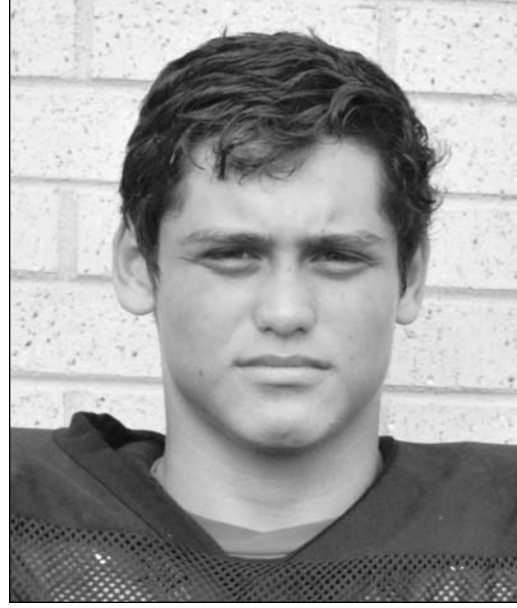
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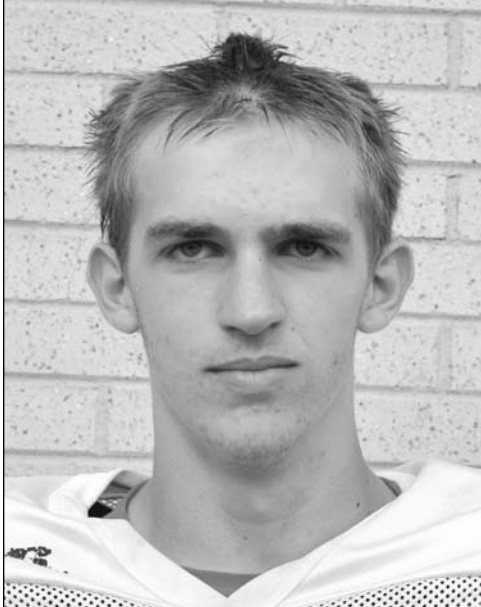
Kyler Franks



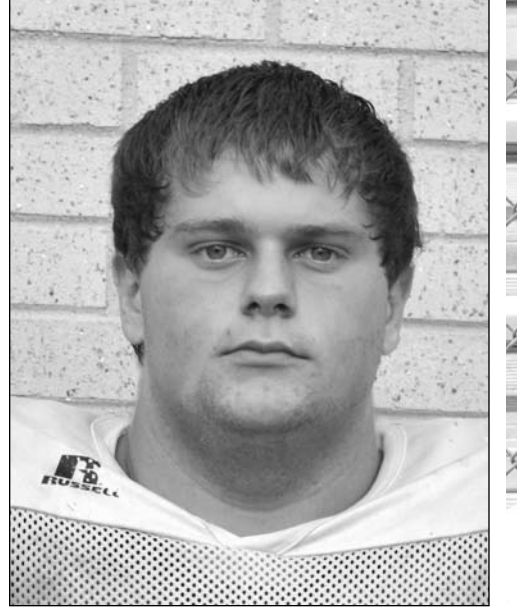
Braxton Iden



Joseph Melendez



Christian Van Wey



Zac Walton



Shanen Warneke

BSHS boys earn 1st win, girls open tourney with rout

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**
Sports Editor

Boys
ANDREWS — The Steers tasted victory for the first time this season Thursday at the Gym Bice Classic Tournament, beating Amarillo Caprock 62-45 after falling behind in the opening minutes of the outing.

“It went well,” said BSHS Head Coach Ian Ritchey. “We struggled early, but we were able to make adjustments.”

Tyler Bryan’s led Big Spring with 19 points, Ty Sealy added 13, Dee Parker put up eight and Tyler Wigginton had seven.

The Steers will continue the tourney with a game against Seminole this evening at 6 p.m.

Ritchey said Seminole will be a valuable test for his squad.

“It’s going to be a good challenge,” he added. “They’re very uptempo. It will be good for us to see them because we play them again before Christmas break.”

CRANE — The Bulldogs (3-4) drew a staunch Midland Classical team in the opening round of the El Ave Shootout and lost 61-41, despite outscoring the Knights in the final frame. Things didn’t get easier for Coahoma in the second round either as the Bulldogs fell 49-46 to Wink in a tight affair.

Kyler Franks led CHS in scoring in Game One with 17. Braxton Iden led the charge with 15 in Game Two, while Franks had 11.

“Kyler has done a good job for us,” Head Coach Kim Nichols said of the sophomore. “We have a group that really hasn’t played together much. We’ve got some quickness. We’re not huge. We have gotten more consistent. We just need to gain some confidence. We need to play four quarters. It seems like we always have one bad quarter. That’s what happened against Midland Classical, we dug a hole early. Then, we did the same with Wink. We did battle back and take the lead late in the game against Wink, but we couldn’t hold on.”

The pair of losses ended the tourney for Coahoma. Up next will be a game against rival Forsan on Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Forsan.

ABERNATHY — The Buffaloes split in the opening day of their tournament Thuursday, first handily defeating Lubbock Roosevelt 58-27, then losing a tight matchup against Bushland 69-67.

Forsan is off to a good start at 4-1 and Head Coach Gary Huckabee seen several players put up double digits early in the season.

Kade Fannin had 16 points and Matthew Mims had 12 to lead the Buffs against Roosevelt. The duo combined for 44 points in the loss to Bushland. Tyler Evans also added 11 in the second game.

Forsan will play again today.

Girls

CRANE — Big Spring (8-1) opened with a 50-31 win over Stanton at the El Ave Shootout Thursday. Stephanie Diaz led the Lady Steers with 11 points. “We won the game in the first quarter in my

opinion,” said BSHS Head Coach Mike Warren. “We got up on them 20-10 and held them off the rest of the way. We played very good defense and held them to 31. They ran an extended zone defense on us and I felt we did a good job of finding openings. They found Stephanie (Diaz), who made three 3-pointers.”

Big Spring will face Midland Classical on Saturday at 2 p.m.

“We’d like to get (Midland Classical) back,” Warren added. “They beat us already.”

ABERNATHY — After dropping a game to 2A Lamesa earlier in the week, No. 25 Forsan (5-2) put on a 66-41 rout of Floydada in the Abernathy Tournament opener Thursday.

“The girls picked it up and played well, especially after Tuesday’s loss,” said FHS Head Coach Lindsey Schmidt. “I’m proud of the way the girls came back. Ali Knight had a great game, she did a great job for the team.”

Knight contributed 16 points to lead the well-rounded offense of the Lady Buffaloes. Mary-Ashley McDaniel and Maria Ortiz each chipped in 11, Raegan Haggard added 10, Brittney Hergert put up nine, Jahnia Willard registered six and Rachel Haggard had three.

Next up for Forsan will be a meeting with New Deal at 3 p.m. today.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

Multiple people stabbed in Denver after Bronco’s game

DENVER (AP) — At least three people were stabbed in a parking lot at Sports Authority Stadium Field at Mile High after the Denver Broncos’ game Thursday night.

Police spokesman Steve Warneke said three spokesmen were stabbed, and a fourth may have been stabbed, but that person left the scene. Police have several people in cus-

tody and are not currently looking for other suspects. None had been formally charged as of just after midnight.

Police say that the incident was called in at 9:55 p.m.

Warneke described the scene as “very chaotic.” He said police did not yet know what led up to the fight or whether the men had attended the game.

Warneke said one person was initially in critical condition, but all are conscious and talking.

Stadium Management Company issued an email stating that it is working with authorities.

The Broncos lost 27-20 to the San Diego Chargers.

The stabbing Thursday is just one of several recent incidents involving

football fans.

Earlier this month in Kansas City, Mo., a man died after an altercation in the Arrowhead Stadium parking lot during Kansas City’s game against Denver.

In September in San Francisco, a teenage fan suffered a concussion and a broken arm and nose at Candlestick Park after police say he was attacked

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 EOE M/F/V/H

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EXPERIENCED WAIT-STAFF needed, must be able to work flexible schedule. Apply in person at Big Spring Country Club, 2401 Driver Road. No phone calls please.

EYE ASSOCIATES accepting applications for Front Desk/ Receptionist. Medical Experience Preferred. Apply at 2311 Scurry. No calls please.

FRAMERS WANTED Big Spring area. Call Mike 940-682-8526 leave message.

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 Human Resources
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KITCHEN HELP & CARHOP. Must be Neat in Appearance. Honest & Dependable. No experience necessary will train. Inquire at **WAGON WHEEL**, 2010 Scurry St. No phone call Please!



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TOP NOTCH Landscaping is Hiring for all positions. Experience preferred. Call (432)741-2330, Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

WAREHOUSE HAND

Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for a warehouse hand. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. Requires high school diploma or equivalent. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:
 Helena Chemical Company
 100 S. St. Peter
 Stanton, TX 79782
 Pre-employment drug screen required.
 EOE M/F/V/H

WAREHOUSE MANAGER

Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for a Warehouse Manager in our Big Spring office. This position requires a high school diploma, two years warehouse experience helpful but not necessary, supervisory and agricultural experience preferred. Responsibilities include warehouse operational procedures, inspecting physical condition of warehouse, equipment, and vehicles, maintenance of inventory and ensure all drivers conform to D.O.T. regulations. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package.

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Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
Howard County will accept sealed bids for the sale of the following property:
Legal: Section 26, Block 33-1N 036 Blk/Tract 33 1N, 5 acres
This property is the County Road Department Barns. The physical address is 1011 N. San Antonio. Sealed bids must be received by 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, December 19, 2013 in the office of the County Auditor, Jackie Olson, 300 S Main, Room 203 and will be opened at that time.
Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M. on December 23, 2013 for their consideration.
For additional information call the County Auditor at 432-264-2210. The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
Jackie Olson, County Auditor
www.co.howard.tx.us
#8081 December 4 & 13, 2013

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Legals

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF GILBERT LEA GUTHRIE as Independent Executor of the Estate of John Allan Guthrie, Deceased. Pending in the County Court of Howard County, Texas Cause No. P-14213.
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ABOVE ESTATE:
WHEREAS, in the County Court of Howard County Texas, **GILBERT LEA GUTHRIE** has qualified as Independent Executor on October 28, 2013.
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary in this Estate were granted and this is to notify all person having claims against said Estate that they are required to present the same within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Any person indebted to the Estate is hereby notified to pay the same to:
Gilbert Lea Guthrie
Independent Executor of the Estate of John Allan Guthrie, Deceased
Address:
c/o Charles H. Jackson III
Attorney at Law
115 E. Travis Street, Suite 1040
San Antonio, Texas 78205
Dated this the 11th day of December, A.D., 2013.
#8099 December 13, 2013

BUY-SELL-TRADE
In the
Big Spring Herald Classifieds
263-7331

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
Invitation to Bid
The Howard County Auditor is accepting sealed bids for the 2014 Seal Coating on county roads throughout Howard County. Specifications may be obtained from Brian Klinski in the Road & Bridge Office, 1011 N. San Antonio, Big Spring, TX, or by calling 432-264-2208.
Bids must be received by 10:00 A.M. on Friday, December 20, 2013 in the office of the County Auditor, Jackie Olson, 300 S. Main, Room 203 and will be opened at that time.
Mark sealed envelopes "Sealed Bids for Seal Coating". Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M. on December 23, 2013 for their consideration. Project will be paid for out of current County funds.
The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
Jackie Olson, County Auditor
www.co.howard.tx.us
#8080 December 5 & 13, 2013

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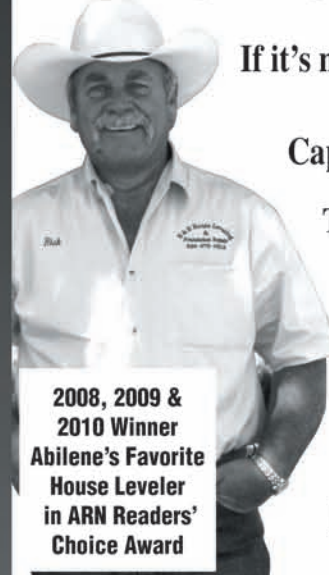
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Legals

**HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to Article V, Section 18 of the Texas Constitution, Senate Bill 1747 enacted in 2013 by the Texas Legislature, Chapters 222 and 256 of the Texas Transportation Code, and other authority, Howard County, Texas ("County"), by and through its Commissioners Court ("Commissioners Court"), has elected to pursue, initiate, and complete a certain project ("Project") to obtain grant funding from the Texas Department of Transportation to alleviate degradation caused to public roads, bridges, and culverts by the exploration, development, or production of oil or gas, including the acquisition of grant funds for the planning, design, construction, reconstruction, and maintenance/repair of the aforesaid transportation infrastructure. One of the requirements for the Project is the County's creation of one or more County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zones ("Zone") pursuant to the aforesaid authority. A public hearing regarding the Project will be conducted by the Commissioners Court of Howard County, Texas on December 23, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in the Howard County Courtroom/Commissioners Court Meeting Room on the Third Floor of the Howard County Courthouse, located at 300 Main Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720. The purpose of this public hearing is to discuss and obtain public comment regarding the creation, requirements, and administration of one or more proposed County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zones to be located in Howard County, Texas, as well as the benefits to the County and to property in any such Zone, with the proposed zoned area to include the following described (1) public roads and the land located 100 feet on each side of the centerlines of said designated roads, and (2) section or survey boundary lines and the land located 100 feet on each side of the centerlines of said designated boundary lines: CR 9 from FM 846 to CR 36 CR 40 from CR 9 to US 87 CR 17 from FM 846 to FM 2230 CR 36 from CR 9 to FM 2230 FM 2230 from CR 36 to CR 15 CR 15 from FM 2230 to CR 32 CR 32 from CR 15 to CR 17 CR 17 from CR 32 to Moore School Rd Moore School Road from CR 17 to US 87 CR 21 from Moore School Road to SH 176 North section line of T&P, Block 33-1-N, Section 28 North section line of Cockrell, Block A, Section 3 through 5 North section line of T&P, Block 34-1-N, Section 23 through 27 West section line of T&P, Block 34-1-N, Sections 27 & 30 West section line of T&P, Block 34-1-S, Sections 5 & 8 CR 3 from CR 1 to County Line CR 10 from County Line to FM 818 Centerpoint Road from US 87 to FM 820 Old Gail Road from SH 350 to Centerpoint Road Old Colorado City Road from Old Gail Road to end of pavement Midway Road from Old Colorado City Road to 11th place 11th place from Midway Road to FM 700 At this public hearing, any interested person may speak for or against the designation of any such Zone, its boundaries, the joint administration of any such Zone, if any, or the use of a tax increment paid into the required tax increment account for any such Zone. Please make plans to attend and participate in this public hearing to be conducted by the Commissioners Court. Mark J. Barr, County Judge Howard County, Texas Date: December 13, 2013 #8095 December 13, 2013

Sagittarius Sun and Unlucky 13

The Sagittarian solar crossing is a lucky omen even on Friday the 13th. The Taurus moon has us satisfying appetites of all varieties without the impediment of misfortune. If there is one area in which we are unlucky, it's in knowing when to stop. Self-control and regulating systems are needed to avoid eating, drinking and spending in excess.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There is nothing inherently wonderful, but because you have wonder inside of you, you'll bring it to the world, and its majestic curtains will open before you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're on the hunt for one specific thing, and this purpose will lead you through the day. When you see what you need, go after it. Hesitation only prolongs the inevitable.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A blunt approach often will bring direct results, but in the long term, it won't improve a reputation to the world, and its majestic curtains will open before you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). People who are acting out of obligation or habit will say the same thing they said last time, but you won't respond in the

same way. This is proof that you're present, in the moment, bringing your full fresh energy to the scene.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You accept yourself whether or not you are fitting in with the people around you. And they will accept you, too. They were getting pretty bored with the status quo anyhow.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The areas in which you prosper now are the very same ones that caused you suffering only a few years ago. Remember this, and be untroubled. The issue that plagues you soon will pass.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There's a difference between observing and passing judgment. You'll stay objective most of the day, but by nightfall you may decide you've seen enough of other people's lives to make you love your own even more.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You don't have to accept the mythology of others as the only storytelling that matters. Create your own mythology. Someone will be helped by your stories.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know that often it's the people who are the hardest to love who need love the most. But why does it always seem to be your job to love the unlovable? Answer: Because you're so good at it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It is said that being kind is better than being right, but what if you're in charge of teaching others? The kind way will seem to take longer, while the right way, bluntly delivered, cuts to the quick.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The emphasis is on family, and you'll be curious as to your family history, so just ask. They want to tell their story, and even if it doesn't seem to be about you directly, it is all a part of who you are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A relationship is progressing to the point where you think you know each other well — maybe too well. Close that open book, and build some mystery back into the equation.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 13). You'll be someone's hero this year in big and small ways. Next month, you'll complete a responsibility and launch into a new adventure. A benefactor will provide you with funding and help with travel. March features a thrilling partnership. Justice prevails in April, so make sure you're on the right side.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: ARIES: You'll keep projecting a confident manner of communication regardless of how you really feel. It works for you. **TAURUS**: Emotional equilibrium can only be achieved by someone who understands that everything changes. **GEMINI**: Don't try to explain or impress. It's not fun. **CANCER**: If you keep it light and playful, the arguing you do with a loved one will bring you closer. **LEO**: Through the written word, you can pour your soul into the soul of another. **VIRGO**: Music says what mere words, and mere silence, could

not. **LIBRA**: Love without ambition isn't exciting enough for you now. You want to be able to see a brighter future in your love. **SCORPIO**: For a better relationship all around, you only need to focus on one small improvement. **SAGITTARIUS**: You don't want what you think you want. Look at your actions. They point to what you really want. **CAPRICORN**: The person you are interested in is looking for entertainment, amusement and laughter. Supply that, and you're in. **AQUARIUS**: Being around a person daily sets up the right conditions for falling in love. **PISCES**: Your loved one sees himself or herself very differently from the way you see him or her.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: When the Sagittarius sun reflects off of the Taurus moon, these two signs notice each other's merits like they didn't before. Sagittarius has a confidence that convinces Taurus (not usually so easily won) that they could very well conquer the world together. Taurus has the discerning taste that will guide the Sagittarius path toward richer and ever more pleasant places.

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.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie:

Both my husband and I are on our second marriages. We have tried very hard to get along with our exes, to no avail. When we invite them to go to parent-teacher conferences with us or attend dance and piano recitals, it seems to only make matters worse. The children saw this, and it hurt them greatly. My husband and I promised each other that when our children were engaged, we would talk to them to ensure they were not making a mistake. I wish my parents had done this, even though I realize I might not have listened.

My husband's son got engaged suddenly at the age of 21 to his first girlfriend. My husband and I thought he was far too immature to get married. His fiancée at the time was extremely loud and boorish and also inexperienced in the dating world. We spoke to our son and explained that he was young and there are many fish in the sea, and that even if he were madly in love, there is no need to rush to get married.

Well, he told his fiancée, and we were not invited to the wedding. Now, neither of them



**KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR**

speaks to us. We tried to get his sister to pass along birthday greetings on our behalf, but she said, "I don't want to get involved."

It's been nearly six years. We miss our son greatly. How do you suggest we proceed? — *Unhappy Parents*

Dear Unhappy: Your heart was in the right place, but disparaging a child's intended is asking for trouble. They rarely listen and often become defensive and angry. The best you can do is swallow your pride. Phone or send a letter or email saying you were wrong to have interfered, that you can see that their marriage was the right choice for them, that you are sorry for engendering ill will and that you hope they will forgive you. Add that you miss them, and ask whether there is anything you can do to improve the relationship. We hope they respond positively.

Dear Annie: I am excited for the upcoming holiday party season, except for one thing: Please ask your readers to have respect for the non-drinking guests at their parties.

I am in my 30s, married and a mom, and I don't like to drink, but I feel pressured every year at these parties. I never preach about it. I simply say "no, thanks" when offered. But, my response is never respected. Instead they say, "Oh, come on, it's a party!" Or, "Just have one if you're worried about driving home." Some become quite aggressive in trying to get me to indulge.

What if I were a recovering alcoholic, deathly allergic or drinking were against my religion? It's none of their business. But people act as if I am crazy for not accepting

a glass of wine. I think they are poor hosts for pressuring me. I can have a great time without drinking. — *Dry in California*

Dear Dry: People mistakenly think they are being friendly by cajoling you past the point of politeness. You can keep saying "no, thank you" until they give up. Or, pour yourself some water in a cocktail glass. A third option is to accept a glass of wine and hold it in your hand until the party is over. You don't have to drink it.

Dear Annie: I could have written the letter from "Hurt in Florida," whose children and grandchildren don't include her in their get-togethers.

My daughter told me they are "just too busy" for me. But they somehow have time for her dad and stepmother, as well as her in-laws and several friends. I haven't seen them in more than a year. We don't talk because I don't call.

I don't understand any of it. I just wanted to let "Florida" know that she's not alone. I'm hurting with her. — *Midwest Grandma*
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. To find out more about *Annie's Mailbox* and read features by other *Creators Syndicate* writers and cartoonists, visit the *Creators Syndicate Web page* at www.creators.com.

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	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Zola Lev.	Charlie Rose	King/Hill	Gold Rush		Uwen	Supernatural	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Good	Around	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Notic.	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Cros		Cleveland	Gold Rush			Supernatural	Dog	Pardon	NFL Kickoff	NBA Countdown
7:PM	Last Man Standing	Por Siempre	Bones	Ent	Marido en Alquiler	Dateline NBC	Grinch	Door-Wisdom	Wash	The Carrie Diaries	Gold Rush - The Dirt		Movie: Training Day, Scott Glenn	Movie: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (DVS)	Movie: Just Wright, Paula Patton	Austin	College Football: NCAA Division I, Quarterfinal: Teams TBA.	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Thunder
8:PM	Shark Tank	Lo Que la Vida	Raising Hope	Hawaii Five-0	La Reina del Sur	Grimm	Movie: Fred Claus, Miranda Richardson (DVS)	Best of Light of the Southwest	Silent Night	Nikita	Gold Rush				Game	Austin	NBA Basketball: Rockets at Warriors	
9:PM	(:01) 20/20	Teletón USA (SS)	Mod Fam	Blue Bloods	Santa Diabla (SS)			Rules		Last Frontier					Husbands	Austin	SportsCenter	
10:PM	News	Impacto	Arsenio Hall	News	Noticias	News	Pete	Upd	Charlie Rose	Commun	Gold Rush		Movie: Law Abiding Citizen, Colm Meaney	(:45) Movie: Daredevil, Michael Clarke Duncan	Husbands	Austin	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	How I Met	Letterman	Titulares	Jay Leno	Office	Alewine		Commun	70s		Movie: Killer Elite, Clive Owen	Movie: Money Train, Jennifer Lopez	Husbands	Austin	SportsCenter	
12:AM	Extra	Ni Contigo, Ni sin Ti	Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	Office	Justice		Til Death Browns	Gold Rush - The Dirt				Husbands	Austin	SportsCenter	
1:AM	Paid	Conducta	Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Pagado	(:06) Today	Movie: Cop Out, Adam Carolla	Best of Light of the Southwest		Browns	Gold Rush				Good	Olbermann	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Dec. 13, the 347th day of 2013. There are 18 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 13, 2000, Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore conceded to Republican George W. Bush, a day after the U.S. Supreme Court shut down further recounts in Florida.

On this date:

In 1642, Dutch navigator Abel Tasman sighted present-day New Zealand.

In 1769, Dartmouth College in New Hampshire received its charter.

In 1862, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside launched futile attacks against entrenched Confederate soldiers during the Civil War Battle of Fredericksburg; the soundly defeated Northern troops withdrew two days later. (It

was during this battle that Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee is said to have remarked: "It is well that war is so terrible, or we should grow too fond of it.")

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson arrived in France, becoming the first chief executive to visit Europe while in office.

In 1928, George Gershwin's "An American in Paris" had its premiere at Carnegie Hall in New York.

In 1937, the Chinese city of Nanjing fell to Japanese forces; what followed was a massacre of war prisoners, soldiers and citizens. (China maintains as many as 300,000 people died; Japan says the toll was far less.)

In 1944, during World War II, the U.S. cruiser Nashville was badly damaged in a Japanese kamikaze attack that claimed more than 130 lives.

In 1962, the United States launched Relay 1, a communications satellite which retransmitted television, telephone and digital signals.

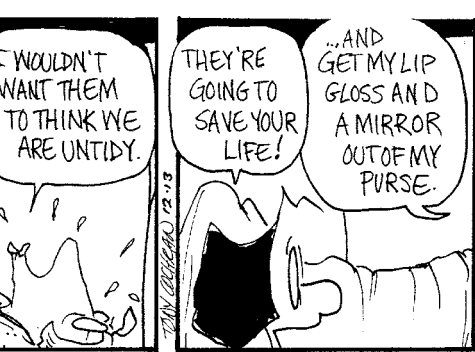
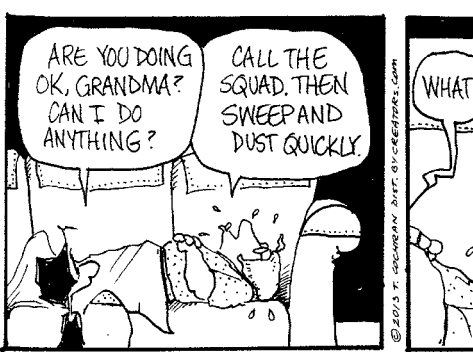
Answer to previous puzzle

G	I	S	T	R	H	E	T	A	S	A	P
A	N	T	I	M	O	X	I	E	C	E	D
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B	O	N	G	O	R	O	L	E	X	E	S
E	A	T	E	R	Y	E	E	G	T	I	A
D	D	S	D	A	M	S	I	R	O	N	S
				Z	O	D	I	A	C	S	O
				W	I	N	D	S	U	P	L
				P	A	R	T	A	T	T	A
				F	L	A	I	R	E	S	P
				C	A	N	C	A	B	S	O
				G	L	A	S	S	E	S	N
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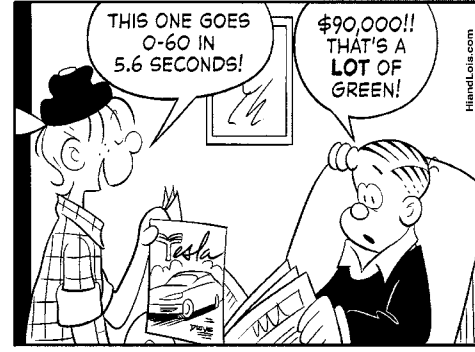
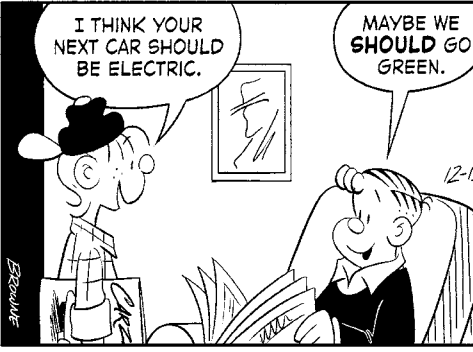
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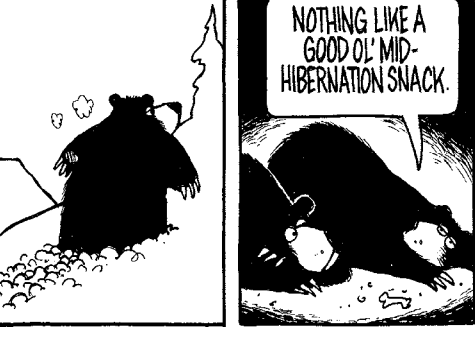
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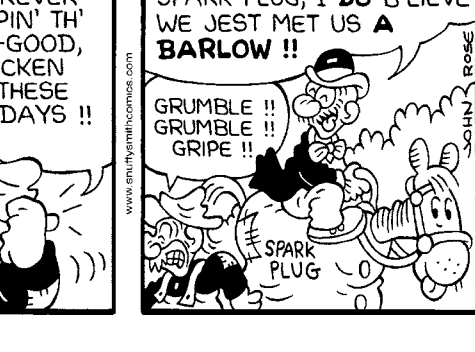
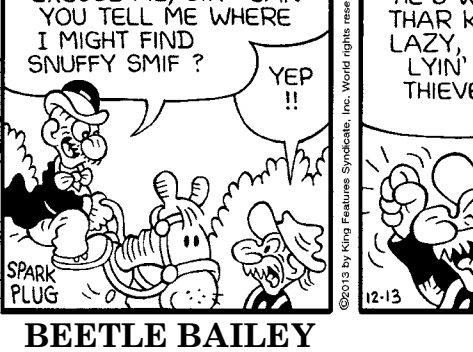
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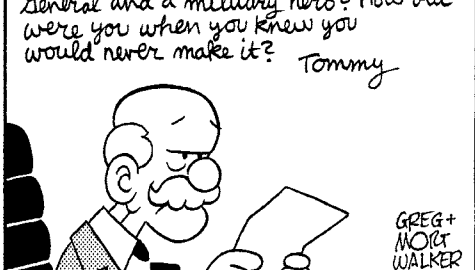
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

HIDDEN HELP by Pam Klawitter Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Product mention
 - 5 Salsa scooper
 - 10 Slightly shy of shut
 - 14 Move like lava
 - 15 Moral guideline
 - 16 Leaf projection
 - 17 Tropical region
 - 19 Moored, maybe
 - 20 New car of '57
 - 21 Some federal employees
 - 23 Nabokov novel
 - 25 Brand of spongy toys
 - 26 Oscar role for Meryl
 - 30 Wine bucket
 - 32 Bizarre
 - 35 Uncompromising position
 - 37 Claire (fashion mag)
 - 39 Potion holder
 - 40 Conversation filler
 - 42 Read digitally
 - 43 Madonna musical
 - 45 Springy
 - 47 Cubs' home
 - 48 Mythomaniac
 - 50 Is fresh with
 - 51 Bank charges
 - 53 Suffix for velvet
 - 54 Flourished
 - 58 Writer's digression
 - 63 Slippery creatures
 - 64 Expect
 - 66 Styled after
 - 67 Pisces follower
 - 68 Domelike do
 - 69 Colleen
- DOWN**
- 1 Read (over)
 - 2 Work quantity
 - 3 Argo weaponry
 - 4 Trait carrier
 - 5 Opposite of paleo-
 - 6 Open courtyards
 - 7 *The Voice* guest mentor
 - 8 Radiator sound
 - 9 Pump number
 - 10 Take up or let out
 - 11 Team up
 - 12 Countenance, as a crime
 - 13 Autumnal hues
 - 18 Verve
 - 22 Kernel of an idea
 - 24 Turn down
 - 26 Hoarded
 - 27 Salade Niçoise tidbit
 - 28 Down-to-earth ones
 - 29 *Dateline NBC* anchor
 - 30 Deep-seated
 - 31 Many *Fortune* readers
 - 33 Oscar winner as Annie
 - 34 Bits of progress
 - 36 Podded plant
 - 38 Auction advisory
 - 41 In the know
 - 44 Some six-packs
 - 46 Hawaiian island
 - 49 Meteorological line
 - 52 Wavy lines
 - 53 Moved cautiously
 - 54 Boxing signal
 - 55 Princess of sci-fi
 - 56 Female zebra
 - 57 Source of the Niagara River
 - 59 Fly in the ointment
 - 60 Up in the air
 - 61 Residence hall
 - 62 Mythical matchmaker
 - 65 Sancho Panza's ride

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Texas Coach Mack Brown remains mum on future

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas coach Mack Brown declined to say Thursday whether the Alamo Bowl will be his final game, amid intense speculation following another disappointing season that began with the Longhorns talking about becoming national championship contenders again.

"My situation has not changed," Brown said. Speaking to reporters for the first time since multiple published reports this week indicated that he might step down, Brown said he has yet to talk with new Texas athletic director Steve Patterson and university President Bill Powers about the job he has held since 1998.

Brown deflected several other questions about his future during a news conference in San Antonio about Texas' bowl game against Oregon on Dec. 30.

"I want to sit down with (Patterson) and Bill in the near future and talk about where we're going and where our program is going," Brown said.

In Austin, Powers reasserted his support for Brown and said they planned to speak in the coming days.

Powers is among Brown's top support-

ers, and received a cautious endorsement later Thursday from his frustrated chancellor to temporarily quiet speculation about his own future.

Powers has been locked in a two-year power struggle over academics on one of the nation's biggest campuses. He called Brown one of the sport's greatest coaches but declined to address the coach's status after regents allowed Powers to continue the job he's held since 2006.

"I'm going to focus on this. We'll discuss football at the appropriate time," Powers said.

Brown acknowledged the Longhorns (8-4) didn't finish how they wanted after starting the season talking about competing for a national championship.

The Longhorns last played for a BCS title in 2009, but fan frustration has mounted after a string of seasons that failed to meet expectations.

Notably attending Brown's news conference was influential Texas booster Red McCombs, who is a close friend of Brown's and one of the university's most generous donors.

McCombs told reporters he hopes Brown comes back next year — but

didn't blink about the caliber of coach Texas could get to replace him.

If the Longhorns job comes open, expect more speculation about Alabama coach Nick Saban replacing him.

The AP reported last month that after last season Texas regents had spoken with Saban's agent about the possibility of replacing Brown and approached Brown about stepping down.

Saban has deflected those reports. But McCombs expressed confidence about Texas' ability to lure him to one of the wealthiest athletic programs in the nation.

"I don't think there is any question about 'getting him,'" McCombs said.

"When Mack came there, budgets were an issue; they are not an issue now. Hell, all the money that's not at the Vatican is up at UT."

Brown is 158-47 at Texas, including a national championship in 2005 and another BCS title game against Alabama four years later.

But since 2009, the Longhorns are 30-20 and 18-17 in the Big 12.

To submit local sports information or photos of sporting events, email sports@bigspringherald.com, or call 263-7331.

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ANSWERS

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

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All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald

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