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Big Spring Herald

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WEDNESDAY

APRIL 8, 2015



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Municipal, school elections:

Voter registration for May 9 balloting nears

BY LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The period to register to vote in the May 9 Howard County municipal and school district elections is almost over.

Thursday is the cutoff for constituents who are new to the county or have moved residences since the

last election in order to participate in the May elections. Registration is being taken at the Howard County Election's office.

However, applications to receive a ballot by mail will continue to be taken at the election's office until 5 p.m. April 30. To request an application, call Brooke Wells at 432-264-2273.

People who qualify to vote by mail are those who will be out of the county during the early voting period and election day; persons who are age 65 years and older; or are sick and disabled or are confined to jail during the early voting period and on Election day.

Early voting for Big Spring and

Coahoma city and school district races begins Monday, April 27 and runs through Tuesday, May 5, at the election office located on the first floor of the Howard County Courthouse during normal business hours. Extended voting hours will be held

See **VOTE**, Page 3



HERALD Photos/Julie Bass

Charles Cloud, a Korean War veteran, left, and Antonio Molina, a World War II veteran, were honored Tuesday. The Lamun-Lusk residents were awarded Quilts of Valor by Niece Jones, in the presence of family and friends.

Udder-ly interesting



HERALD Photo/Julie Bass

The eighth grade health classes of the Big Spring Jr. High were treated to a special presentation Tuesday afternoon. A mobile dairy classroom was set up in the parking lot for the kids to meet Bernadette Birkenfeld and her bovine assistant, Diamond. Birkendfeld is an instructor with The Mobile Dairy Classrooms which is a program sponsored by the Southwest Dairy Museum, Inc. Each classroom includes a fully functional milking parlor with which to show the kids how the milk is extracted from the cow. The Mobile Classroom is a service provided free of charge by Southwest Dairy Farmers.



INDEX

Comics	13
Classified	9-12
Features	6,7
Obituaries	2
Opinion	4
Sports	8,14

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BSSA facing financial difficulty

Asking for public's help to meet expenses

BY LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The Big Spring Symphony Association has found itself in dire financial straights and is requesting donations from the community if it hopes to have a 2015-2016 season, according to the association's president.

"Right now if the worst comes, we will have to cancel the season," said Suzanne Markwell, symphony president. "Once you do that it is hard to get it going again. We see symphonies going belly-up, and we don't want to do that."

According to Markwell, unexpected expenses from the last concert has left the association scrambling to find enough funds to pay for musicians and its director. Adding to its headache, a major contributor to the long-time organization donated about a quarter of its usually contribution this year, she added.

Currently, the organization needs about \$5,000 to zero out the books, she said.

"Concerts are much more expensive to put on than in the past," Markwell said. "We need to house the out-of-town musicians. We used to be able to get hotel rooms for about \$30 to \$40 a night. Now, we are lucky to get one for less than \$100."

Each concert cost from \$30,000 to \$40,000 to produce, Markwell estimated, which adds up quickly considering the symphony holds four performances a season.

With final matters at the top of their worries, association members have started a new campaign, SOS or Save Our Symphony, in hopes to raise the funds to pay off this past seasons debts and start

See **BSSA**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Mary Dodd



Mary Dodd, 91, of Big Spring, passed away Monday, April 6, 2015 at her residence. The family will receive friends Wednesday from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 9, 2015 at Noxville Cemetery in Harper, Texas.

She was born June 6, 1923 to Susie (Coffey) and David “Dee” Whetstone in Harper, Texas. She had been a resident of Big Spring since 1962 coming from Midland. She was a cook for Howard College and Webb Air Force Base. She was also a homecare provider. She loved being out-

Carl A. Knappe



Carl A. Knappe, 61, of Aransas Pass (formerly of Big Spring) passed away in his home on Good Friday, April 3, 2015, surrounded by his loved ones. Carl’s wishes included no services, and the family asks that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the American Cancer Society or MD Anderson Hospital. Condolences may be sent to 4206 County Road 4673, Aransas Pass Texas, 78336.

Carl was born in Big Spring, Texas on March 6, 1954 to Carl Knappe (1925-2015) and Jacqueline Henderson. Carl spent the majority of his life in Big Spring. Some of his favorite childhood memories to recall were spending his summers at his Uncle Edward’s ranch near Pecos, living the “true” cowboy lifestyle. Carl retained his good ‘ol boy mentality throughout his life, and wore boots and a cowboy hat more often than not.

Carl joined the US Navy during the Vietnam era in 1972, becoming an aviation electrician on the Navy’s newest fighter jets. He served proudly on the USS America and the USS Enterprise. Carl was extremely proud of his service and had mentioned on several occasions he would have gone career Navy, had an injury not ended his career.

Carl met Carletta Partee through mutual friends in 1973. They married on March 8, 1975. The happy couple welcomed daughter, Heather, in 1987, completing their family. Carl was an extremely active parent, down to becoming an official member of the Girl Scouts when Heather did. Carl and Carletta

David Michael Moore



WACO — David Michael Moore, 74, of China Spring and formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, April 4, 2015.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. today at Lake Shore Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will follow the service.

Michael was born April 28, 1940, in Waco to William Olin and Marguerite (Hataway) Moore. Mike graduated from Big Spring High School in 1958. Shortly thereafter, he started his career at Texas Electric Service Company (TESCO) and retired in 1999 from TXU after 43 years of ser-

Efren Nieves Sr.



Efren Nieves Sr., 89, of Big Spring, died Sunday, April 5, 2015 at Odessa Regional Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Efren was born Sept. 2, 1925 in Chihuahua, Mexico, to Maria (Brito) and Jesus Nieves Sr. He married Vicenta Pena on April 13, 1983 in El Paso, Texas and they

side and doing yardwork and loved to travel. She was always quick to help anyone in need and was a Baptist.

She is survived by her grandchildren, Terri Behrens and husband, John McKinley, of Overland Park, Kan., Richard Oringderff of Houston and Brook Hanson and husband, Adam, also of Houston; seven great-grandchildren and son-in-law, Orvel “Red” Oringderff of Big Spring.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Gordia Dodd, in 1987, two daughters, Donnie Oringderff in 2005 and Susan “Susie” Dodd, in 2008 and her son, Jon Dodd, in 1998.

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

Paid obituary

enjoyed a wonderful 40-year marriage together, full of laughter and fun.

Carl began working for the Texas Veterans Commission in 1990 as a veterans’ benefits counselor. He took extreme pride in his work helping other disabled veterans. By 1994, he’d won the award for Disabled Veteran of the Year for the State of Texas. When Carl retired in 2012, he also received the Four Chaplains Award. He touched countless lives with his work with veterans and will be missed by the colleagues with whom he worked.

Carl was predeceased by his mother, two cousins, and all of his aunts and uncles. His father Carl predeceased him as well, by a mere five days.

Carl is survived by his loving wife, Carletta, and daughter, Heather, of Aransas Pass. He also leaves behind his life-long best friend and honorary brother, Bobby Clark of Frisco, and his family. Also grieving his loss are sister-in-law, Tonya (Bobby) Davis of Austin, and brothers-in-laws, Stan (Sue) Partee and Alan (Della) Partee, all of Big Spring. His numerous nieces and nephews have said that they will all miss his jokes, laughs and contagious smile. He was also survived by four of his cousins, Perry Daily, Roy Knappe, Craig Knappe and Sandra Gandy. He was also loved and will be greatly missed by the many friends he collected throughout his life.

My daddy loved life and lived it to the fullest. He loved to travel and he loved his pets, especially Sadie “Sugar Pumpkin,” his little Chihuahua who he fondly referred to as his granddaughter, and our dog, Moe, who refused to leave daddy’s side during his last week. Both of his dogs stayed by his and my mother’s side throughout daddy’s illness, until the very end. My mother and I were blessed with a wonderful husband and father, respectively, loved him dearly and will miss him every minute of every day.

Paid obituary

vice.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy Moore of China Spring; son, Scott Moore of China Spring; step-daughter, Shanna Beach and husband, Patrick, of Troy; step-sons, Chad Vincent and fiancée, Jodi Bostick, of China Spring, and Brady Vincent and wife, Wendy of Fort Worth; six grandchildren; sister, Elizabeth Stewart and husband, Ray, of Austin; brothers, Thomas Ray Moore and wife, Kathy, of Arlington, and Jerry Moore and wife, Marny, of Richardson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Thoughts and memories may be shared in the online Guest Book at www.LakeShoreFH.com.

relocated to Big Spring in 1985. He was a self-employed carpenter and painter. He was a Christian.

Efren is survived by his wife, Vicenta Nieves, of Big Spring; two sons, Jaime Nieves and Ashley Gonzalez and Efren Nieves Jr., and wife, Veronica, all of Big Spring and one daughter, Lupe Roque and husband, Javier, of El Paso, Texas; seven grandchildren; sister-in-law; Lupe Nieves and her two sons of El Paso, Texas.

In addition to his parents, Efren was preceded in death by one brother, Jesus Nieves Jr. and two sisters, Consuelo Acevedo and Luz Nieves.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- PAM KAY GRUIS, 40, of 800 E. 13th St. was arrested on a warrant for driving while license invalid.
- MELISSA ANN PUGA, 47, of 1217 Lindbergh St. was arrested on warrants for other agencies.
- REBECCA LYNN GARZA, 36, of 1500 E. 11th Place was arrested on warrants from other agencies.
- STEPHEN KYLE GAY, 31, of 1404 Lexington was arrested on charges of manufacturing/delivering of controlled substance, more than 1 gram but less than 4 grams.
- COURTNEY FELICIA AUSBIE, 30, of 2911 W. Hwy 80 was arrested on a warrant for another agency.
- JOSEPH SHELDON HOOD, 52, of 2200 S. Main St. was arrested on warrants for other agencies.
- STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 1500 block of Tucson St.
- DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1300 block of Park St.
- THEFT was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80, 500 block of S. Birdwell Lane and the 3300 block of E. I H 20.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 2100 block of Wasson Rd.
- WARRANT SERVICE was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.
- IDENTITY THEFT was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.
- ANIMAL PROBLEM was reported in the 2500 block of Fairchild Dr.
- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the 200 block of FM 700.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 75 inmates at the time of this report.

- MELISSA ANN PUGA, 47, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for two counts of parent contributing to non-attendance.
- JOSEPH SHELDON HOOD, 52, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for bondsman off bond of possession of controlled substance, more than 1 gram but less than 4 grams; bondsman off bond of tamper/fabricate physical evidence with intention to impair; and bondsman off bond for possession marijuana, less than 2 ounces.
- CHRISTOPHER LABOIS TYLER, 36, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for bail jumping and failure to appear.
- TITO RAMIREZ PESINA, 29, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.
- JANTE LAVAR CHEEVES, 34, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for motion to revoke probation on manufacturing/delivery of controlled substance, less than 1 gram.
- STEPHEN KYLE GAY, 31, was booked by the BSPD on charges of manufacturing/delivering controlled substance, more than 1 gram but less than 4 grams.
- REBECCA LYNN GARZA, 36, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for capias/parent contributing to non-attendance and interference with child custody – violation of probation.
- COURTNEY FELICIA AUSBIE, 30, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for parole violation.
- DONALD CERVANTES, 42, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for capias/issuance of bad check; possession of controlled substance, less than 28 grams; fail to maintain financial responsibility; driving while license invalid; violate promise to appear; and three counts of failure to appear.

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Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 4/9	Fri 4/10	Sat 4/11	Sun 4/12	Mon 4/13
90/62 Mostly cloudy and becoming windy.	87/56 A few clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	74/61 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 60s.	85/64 A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	84/60 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.
Sunrise: 7:25 AM Sunset: 8:10 PM	Sunrise: 7:24 AM Sunset: 8:11 PM	Sunrise: 7:23 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM	Sunrise: 7:21 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM	Sunrise: 7:20 AM Sunset: 8:13 PM

AmericanProfile

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	87	66	t-storm	Kingsville	87	71	cloudy
Amarillo	87	47	windy	Livingston	85	68	pt sunny
Austin	85	67	cloudy	Longview	84	66	cloudy
Beaumont	82	69	pt sunny	Lubbock	89	50	windy
Brownsville	84	73	windy	Lufkin	88	70	pt sunny
Brownwood	84	64	t-storm	Midland	89	61	cloudy
Corpus Christi	79	71	windy	Raymondville	88	72	pt sunny
Corsicana	82	66	cloudy	Rosenberg	85	69	cloudy
Dallas	82	67	t-storm	San Antonio	84	67	cloudy
Del Rio	86	69	cloudy	San Marcos	85	67	cloudy
El Paso	84	53	windy	Sulphur Springs	82	67	cloudy
Fort Stockton	87	59	windy	Sweetwater	87	65	t-storm
Gainesville	81	65	cloudy	Tyler	84	67	cloudy
Greenville	81	66	cloudy	Weatherford	86	65	t-storm
Houston	86	71	cloudy	Wichita Falls	85	65	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	87	63	pt sunny	Minneapolis	55	39	cloudy
Boston	41	35	cloudy	New York	44	39	rain
Chicago	50	41	rain	Phoenix	74	47	sunny
Dallas	82	67	t-storm	San Francisco	62	47	mst sunny
Denver	69	37	windy	Seattle	64	42	sunny
Houston	86	71	cloudy	St. Louis	83	68	t-storm
Los Angeles	69	51	sunny	Washington, DC	54	47	rain
Miami	84	73	pt sunny				

Moon Phases



BSHS band in concert

Herald Staff Report

The Big Spring High School honor band will perform at noon Thursday for a special Easter-tide concert at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church. The 30-minute program will include performances of “The Pride of the Wolverines” by John Philip Sousa, a composer widely-renowned for his marches; ‘Nimrod’ from the “Enigma

Variations” by the British composer Edward Elgar; and Three Celtic Dances (reel, air and jig) by Brian Balmages. Thursday’s concert will mark the 15th appearance by the BSHS band at St. Mary’s. There is no charge to attend the concert and a light lunch will be available following the performance. St. Mary’s is located at Tenth and Goliad in Big Spring. A second concert is

schedule featuring the Big Spring Junior High School Honor Band on Tuesday, April 28 at St. Mary’s. The high school and is having a stellar year for its band program which earned awards in both marching and concert contests. In the fall, the band participated in UIL State Marching contest, the first appearance since 2001 for Big Spring and the fourth in the history of the pro-

gram. During spring concert season, the high school’s top and second bands earned Division I ratings and the program another Sweepstakes award for its trophy case at UIL concert contest. The top junior high band also earned a Division I rating at contest. The band is under the direction of Rocky Harris and his assistants by Sam Hale, Emily Andrews and Olivia Caldwell.

Take note

• The Young and Breastless, a Relay for Life team, will hold a garage sale Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The sale will be at 504 E. 13th St. All proceeds will go to Relay for Life. If anyone has any items to donate to the garage sale, call Judy Pumroy at 432-638-2499 or bring the items to the garage sale.

• Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Health Fair is scheduled for April 11 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum from 8 a.m. until noon. Admission is free. There will be health screenings, demonstrations, car seat check up, bike rodeo and more. For more information, call the chamber at 432-263-7641.

• For information on Garrett Parrish’s condition, or to post messages of support, visit his Facebook page (#GPSTRONG). Parrish was seriously injured in a recent sledding accident.

• An account has been set up at Wells Fargo Bank for Briana Mendoza to help with medical cost. Briana was recently diagnosed with cancer.

• The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every second Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street

• The All-School CHS Reunion date has been scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2015. This year’s focus will be on recognizing and honoring Coahoma ISD teachers from throughout the years.

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

• Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

• A hungry child cannot learn. Food2Kids - Big Spring was created to provide nutrition for hundreds of children who do not get a substantial meal on the weekends. F2K began last November and this volunteer program now serves more than 300 children weekly. Once the need has been identified,

made to the Big Spring Symphony, P.O. Box 682, Big Spring, Texas 79721 or can be directly deposited to the symphony’s account at Western Bank, 607 S. Scurry St.

For more information, contact Markwell at 214-256-1674.

Contact Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by citydesk@bigspring-herald.com.

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Mary Dodd, 91, died Monday. The family will receive friends tonight from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 9, 2015 at Noxville Cemetery in Harper, Texas.

Efren Nieves, Sr., 89, died Sunday. The family will receive friends Thursday from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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Opinion

“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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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 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

May we remain diligent about reading Your word, Lord, for our life.

Amen

Breaking the blame cycle

There are entirely too many people who fail to take personal responsibility for their actions or their life situation. You know who they are. They are the ones constantly blaming society, their familial environment, the government, or their peers for their troubles and unpleasant station in life. It's easy to think like Yankee great Yogi Berra who said, "I never blame myself when I'm not hitting. I just blame the bat and if it keeps up, I change bats. After all, if I know it isn't my fault that I'm not hitting, how can I get mad at myself?"

The blame game is certainly not anything new. It's been happening with rapacious success since the Garden of Eden when Adam blamed Eve for making him take that fateful bite and the negative result of blame-shifting is inevitable. It will always cause issues which weaken the foundational structure of whatever it is connected to. John Burroughs said, "A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else."

I believe there is, however, a distinct difference in blame-shifting and root-discovery, and it is a difference worth knowing. In other words, if a real cause can be identified, then appropriate change can be implemented and that has to be a good thing.

I may get in trouble with my Bible-believing, church-going readers, but I believe much of today's societal ills can be traced back to the religious crowd's failure to take responsibility for impacting the world we live in for the better. It's easy to blame politics, the media, and peer pressure for the decline of morality and integrity in our world when perhaps a lack of prayer, personal accountability, and positive societal involvement by Christians has contributed to the problem of unrighteousness in the world. Whatever the case, the war against all things sacred is affecting us all and



EDDY PRINCE

the prognosis for improvement is improbable at best. I am of the opinion that too many good God-fearing people have kept silent for too long and the forces of evil have gained far too much ground.

The institution of marriage as defined by the Bible and our history as a nation is a prime example. The disintegration of traditional marriage and the family, once the glue that kept society together, has set in motion a domino effect that, as it ripples outward, is relegating children to lives of poverty and servitude and destroying the foundations of morality. History reveals that to be fertile ground for dysfunctionality of the family unit, and an immoral society in general, to grow and flourish.

Same-sex marriage, while it may be a symptom of a cultural shift away from traditional marriage and all it has historically entailed, is not totally responsible for the collapse of marriage as a long-revered institution in this country. I'm convinced much of that blame rests squarely on the shoulders of heterosexuals for whom marriage, and the family unit that arises from it, has become a temporary arrangement at best, with divorce now seen as an immediate cure-all and cohabitation a happy, less permanent, alternative.

As researcher George Barna observes: "There no longer seems to be much of a stigma attached to divorce; it is now seen as an unavoidable rite of passage. Interviews with young adults suggest that they want their initial marriage to last, but are not particularly optimistic about that possibility. There is also evidence that many young people are moving toward embracing the idea of serial marriage, in which a person gets married two or three times, seeking a different partner for each phase of their adult life."

That said, divorce is not solely to blame for the collapse of the institution of marriage. Marriage generally seems to be falling out of favor everywhere to the degree that, for the first time in American history, unmarried households now make up the majority of all U.S. households. Younger generations are also

more inclined to live together.

Where once the institution of marriage gave legitimacy to sexual relations and children, it no longer serves as much of a gatekeeper. This can largely be attributed to the sexual revolution, which paved the way for sex outside of marriage; the feminist movement, which pushed to legalize abortion, thereby making pregnancy a woman's "problem" to deal with as she sees fit; and the decreased role of religion in American life. Consequently, almost 50 percent of all U.S. children are now born out of wedlock. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, the number of unmarried-couple households with children has risen to almost 2 million -- up from under 200,000 in 1970.

According to U.S. Census Bureau, out of about 12 million single parent families in 2014, more than 80 percent were headed by single mothers. Today 1 in 4 children under the age of 18 — a total of about 17.4 million — are being raised without a father and 45 percent live below the poverty line. For those living with father only, about 21 percent live in poverty. In contrast, among children living with both parents, only 13 percent are counted as poor.

While there is no easy fix, I believe the solution to the family crisis and many other problems is to be found where the problems start; with each man, woman and child taking responsibility for doing what's right and influencing others to join the cause. Author and motivational speaker Ralph Marston says, "Concern yourself more with accepting responsibility than with assigning blame. Let the possibilities inspire you more than the obstacles discourage you." That's a concept that is far over

due in today's entitlement society where for many it's easier to cast blame than to accept personal responsibility and experience positive change.

You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

Contact Eddy Prince by email at pastorprince@msn.com.

Corn, scorn and policy porn

Imagine a government energy program that is such a disaster that the Environmental Working Group and the American Petroleum Institute both oppose it. The anti-poverty group ActionAid USA wants to get rid of it, as does the pro-business Competitive Enterprise Institute. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., wants to end it. So does Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa. They're both sponsors of the Corn Ethanol Mandate Elimination Act of 2015.

Feinstein pans the ethanol mandate as "both unwise and unworkable." Quoth Toomey: "It drives up gas prices, increases food costs, damages car engines and is harmful to the environment." Scott Faber of the Environmental Working Group told me the Environmental Protection Agency "shows corn ethanol is worse for the environment than gasoline." The free market-promoting Manhattan Institute's Robert Bryce believes that the renewable fuel standard costs American families \$10 billion annually in higher fuel prices. But will Congress vote to kill the program? And if so, will President Barack Obama, a longtime ethanol booster, sign the bill?

The renewable fuel standard, or RFS, started off with the best of intentions: to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote American energy independence. It morphed into a victim of its own success. Some 40 percent of the U.S. corn crop now

goes into American gas tanks, which has driven up the cost of feed for livestock, as well as food prices for American families. In 2013, PricewaterhouseCoopers figured the standard pushed up food prices at chain restaurants by \$3.1 billion per year. Because the standard requires refiners to purchase increasing volumes of ethanol, production increased from 3.9 billion gallons in 2005 to 13.9 billion gallons in 2011, according to the Manhattan Institute. At the same time, gasoline consumption is down 12 percent from 2015 projections. The industry is up against the "blend wall." When blends contain more than 10 percent ethanol, some automotive engines break down.

Add up the many groups that oppose the ethanol mandate and you would think the Feinstein-Toomey bill is a slam-dunk.

But there may be one state more powerful than ranchers, consumers, environmentalists and capitalists: Iowa. As the host of the first-in-the-nation presidential caucuses, Iowa has a supersize presence in U.S. politics. Iowa's GOP governor, Terry Branstad, has a pithy warning for self-styled free market GOP hopefuls: "Don't mess with the RFS."

For his part, environmentalist Faber believes that Capitol Hill can kick its ethanol habit this year.

Even the ethanol lobby is looking to Washington to reform standards for renewable fuel. The Houston Chronicle's Jennifer A. Dlouhy has reported on the Advanced Biofuels Association's decision to back an overhaul that would accommodate the production of more advanced

biofuels. "Their industry will go the way of the butter churn unless Congress changes the RFS," Faber crowed.

Though Iowa will tempt hopefuls to support a bad policy, New Hampshire follows Iowa; South Carolina follows New Hampshire; and Nevada follows South Carolina. These states include meat producers that have had to pay higher feed prices and consumers who have seen grocery bills rise.

Bryce's paper titled "The Hidden Corn Ethanol Tax" is more cynical. He has reported on how the mandate has lowered fuel efficiency, damaged small engines, promoted harmful land use and driven up food prices. It's good for corn farmers and ethanol refiners but bad for most everyone else. "Do I think the corn ethanol scam, the mandate, will be repealed?" Bryce mused. "I doubt it."

"I wish it were so, but after a decade of watching this, I can't get any more cynical about it," Bryce continued. "Where are the free market Republicans?" They seem to melt into the Iowa cornfields.

Senators hear from ethanol boosters, but they don't hear so much from the ordinary people who pay the freight for this destructive mandate. They should.

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

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DEBRA SAUNDERS

World Briefs

White SC police officer charged with murder in black man's death after dramatic video emerges

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Dramatic video that shows a white South Carolina police officer shooting a fleeing black man after a traffic stop has led authorities to file a murder charge against the officer amid public outrage over a series of deaths of unarmed black men at the hands of law enforcement agents.

The video, provided to the dead man's family and lawyer by an unidentified person who shot the footage, shows North Charleston Patrolman Michael Thomas Slager firing eight shots at the back of Walter Lamer Scott as Scott runs away. The 50-year-old man falls after the eighth shot, fired after a brief pause.

North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey announced the charge at a news conference Tuesday in which he said Slager had made "a bad decision." Authorities said Scott was shot after the officer had already hit the man with a stun gun after a traffic stop Saturday that began over a faulty brake light.

"When you're wrong, you're wrong," Summey told reporters. "When you make a bad decision, don't care if you're behind the shield or a citizen on the street, you have to live with that decision."

Slager, who has been with the North Charleston police for five years, was denied bond at a first appearance hearing Tuesday. He was not accompanied by a lawyer. If convicted, he could face 30 years to life in prison.

Rand Paul starts presidential campaign with visit to New Hampshire, working to build momentum

NASHUA, N.H. (AP) — Republican Sen. Rand Paul is set to spend his first full day as a presidential candidate meeting with voters in New Hampshire.

Paul is scheduled to speak at a rally in Milford, New Hampshire, on Wednesday afternoon, one day after he announced he was in the race for the Republican presidential nomination in 2016. As he arrived in the state late Tuesday, he made an unannounced stop for about 10 minutes at a Manchester bar that is popular among tea party activists.

During the brief stop, he walked

through Murphy's Taproom, shaking hands with voters but declining to make any formal public remarks. Those were reserved for Wednesday on the town square in Milford and were expected to echo the combative themes he hammered as he entered the race on Tuesday.

Paul, a tea party favorite, on Tuesday challenged both to Washington and his fellow Republicans to "take our country back." In his announcement speech, he needled Republicans and Democrats alike.

"If we nominate a candidate who is simply Democrat Lite, what's the point?" Paul asked.

Wounded as a slave, died free: Revelation about woman's death at Appomattox takes center stage

APPOMATTOX, Va. (AP) — A Civil War cannonball that ripped through Hannah Reynolds' master's cabin made her a footnote of misfortune, the lone civilian death at the Battle of Appomattox Court House. She died a slave at 60, hours before the war to end slavery unofficially came to a close.

A century and a half later, Reynolds' story is being rewritten: Newly discovered records show that she lingered for several days — long enough to have died a free woman.

This new historical narrative has made Reynolds, along with Confederate General Robert E. Lee and Union Gen. Ulysses Grant, one of the central figures in commemorative activities marking Lee's surrender at Appomattox, Virginia, starting Wednesday. Friday night, a eulogy in period language will be delivered over a plain wooden coffin representing Reynolds' remains, a 100-member gospel choir will sing spirituals and 4,600 candles will be lit to represent the slaves in Appomattox County who were emancipated by Lee's surrender to Grant, his Union counterpart.

The Reynolds story has also inspired some soul searching in this rural county in Virginia's tobacco belt where black and white students were taught in separate schools more than a century after Lee's farmhouse surrender and where discussions of race are approached delicately, if not at all.

"It's hard to bring up. It's even harder to get an honest and open discussion of it," said Joseph Servis, an advanced placement U.S. history

teacher at Appomattox High School. His students wrote essays drawing on their own experiences, black and white, with race.

Ambush that killed 15 police in western Mexico could signal cartel's offensive against state

MEXICO CITY (AP) — An ambush that killed 15 state police officers in western Mexico appears to be a drug cartel's revenge attack and could herald a military-style offensive against government authorities.

The assault on a Jalisco state police convoy late Monday on a rural road between the Pacific coast resort of Puerto Vallarta and Guadalajara, the state capital, followed arrests earlier in the day and over the weekend of suspected members of the Jalisco New Generation cartel. It also came a week after a failed attempt to kill state Security Commissioner Alejandro Solorio.

The assassination attempt "was the first response by organized crime to the clash in which state security forces killed the criminal Heriberto Acevedo Cardenas, nicknamed 'El Gringo,'" Solorio said at a news conference Tuesday. He said four suspects in that attack were turned over to federal authorities on Saturday and 11 more on Monday.

Monday night's ambush was a response to those arrests, Solorio said. He gave no details on how it was

carried out, but local media said a vehicle was hijacked, parked across the two-lane road and set on fire to force the convoy to stop.

"The serious thing about this attack was that it was very well planned and orchestrated, with a military-style strategy," said Raul Benitez, a security expert at Mexico's National Autonomous University. "This was planned. A lot of gunmen were involved. They blocked the highway to surround them (police) and attack with military superiority."

US speeding arms deliveries to Saudi-led coalition leading Yemen strikes, senior diplomat says

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The United States is speeding up the delivery of weapons to the Saudi-led coalition launching airstrikes against Shiite rebels in Yemen and is committed to defending Saudi Arabia, a senior American diplomat said.

Speaking Tuesday in the Saudi capital, Riyadh, Deputy Secretary of State Antony Blinken blamed the violence in Yemen on the rebels, known as Houthis, and forces loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, saying that they have wrecked the country's economy and institutions and created instability that al-Qaida seeks to exploit.

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Check this out: What's at the library

"The Whipping Boy" (B KUR A) is a true account of one boy's lifelong search for his boarding-school bully. Equal parts childhood memoir and literary thriller, it chronicles Allen Kurzweil's obsessive search for his 12-year-old nemesis, a bully named Cesar Augustus.



HOLLIS
McCRIGHT

This search spans some 40 years, takes Kurzweil all over the world, from a Swiss boarding school (where he endures horrifying cruelty) to the slums of Manila, from the Park Avenue boardroom of the world's largest law firm to a federal prison camp in Southern California. A scrupulously researched work of nonfiction that renders a childhood menace into an unlikely muse, "Whipping Boy" is much more than a tale of karmic retribution; it is a poignant meditation on loss, memory, and mourning, a surreal odyssey born out of suffering, nourished by rancor, tempered by wit, and resolved, unexpectedly, in a breath-taking act of personal courage.

Near the end of the Civil War, inhumane conditions at Andersonville Prison caused the deaths of 13,000 Union soldiers in only one year. In "The Sentinels of Andersonville" (F GRO T) by Tracy Groot, three young Confederates and an entire town come face-to-face with the prison's atrocities and will learn the cost of compassion, when withheld and when given.

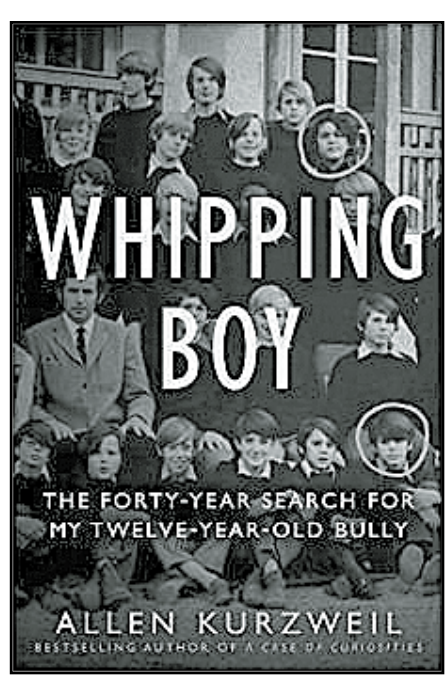
Sentry Dance Pickett has watched, helplessly, for months as conditions in the camp worsen by the day. He knows any mercy will be seen as treason. Southern belle Violet Stiles cannot believe the good folk of Americus would knowingly

condone such barbarism, despite the losses they've suffered. When her goodwill campaign stirs up accusations of Union sympathies and endangers her family, however, she realizes she must tread carefully.

Confederate corporal Emery Jones didn't expect to find camaraderie with the Union prisoner he escorted to Andersonville. But the soldier's wit and integrity strikes a chord in Emery. How could this man be an enemy? Emery vows that their unlikely friendship will survive the war — little knowing what that promise will cost him. As these three young Rebels cross paths, Emery leads Dance and Violet to a daring act that could hang them for treason. Wrestling with God's harsh truth, they must decide, once and for all, "Who is my neighbor?"

From the best-selling author of "Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter" (F SMI S), Seth Grahame-Smith, comes "The Last American Vampire" (F SMI S). I haven't read either one, the Library has both on the shelf. The author returns us to the world of the vampire, picking up where the previous book left off. But don't think it's all about Lincoln, as he apparently doesn't make it past the opening of the book. Instead, this book follows the life and adventures of Henry Sturges, the vampire who helped Lincoln win the War Between the States.

It follows his life after Lincoln passed and in the changing world of not just humans but vampires as well. With the South defeated, the bad vampires (yes, there are good and bad vampires in this world) seem to be dwindling, with the exception of one major enemy. Sturges is called on by the leader of the good vampires, those who



want to live in conjunction with humans, to seek out an evil vampire that has been killing the emissaries sent to Europe.

It's near the turn of the century and Henry does so obligingly, taking the opportunity to visit his homeland for the first time since leaving it all those years ago. As he does so, he also fills the reader in on how he came to be a vampire and what happened to him in the years before Lincoln.

"Uncommon Marriage: Learning About Lasting Love" (248.4 DUN T), by Tony & Lauren Dungy who have, in 30 years of marriage, truly learned what it means to be on the same page as a couple.

Tony Dungy led the Indianapolis Colts to a Super Bowl win in 2007, the first for an African-American head coach; he also was the first coach to lead his team to the playoffs for 10 consecutive years. Lauren, his wife, is a known author of children's books, is involved in many charitable efforts in the Tampa area and they are parents of nine children.

Their book is about staying connected and communicating in marriage and making a marriage last, no matter what. It is a play-book for strengthening and improving your own relationship, be it with a spouse, significant other or any loved one.

"Hearts" (M GUP B), a mystery from a local author, B.J. Gupton, begins in OR Ten: The

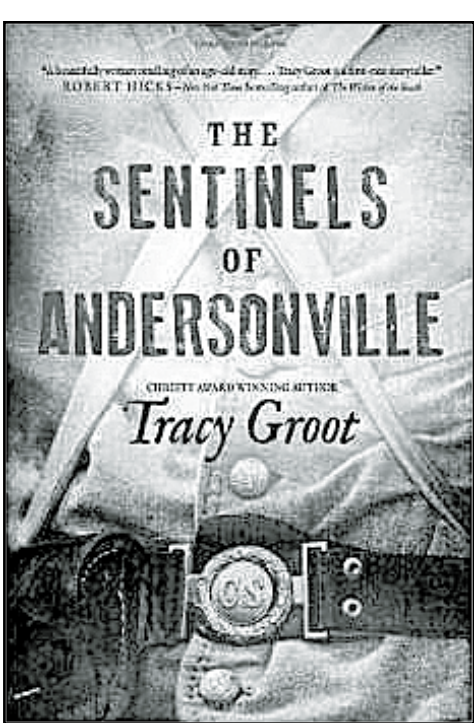
rhythm had stopped. A straight, neon green line threaded across the black screen of the cardiac monitor; a red light flashed insistently, but the alarm remained silent, a red X covered that icon.

The only person in the room without a mask covering his face, the anesthesiologist, Dr. Ramsey Pate, called out the time and turned off the monitor. Mary Beth Owens held a basin over the patient while the surgeon placed a fist-sized mass into an icy bath. As she turned away from the surgical field, Mary Beth's eyes remained locked on the burden she cradled in her hands.

Aubrey Stewart is in the corridor and sees her friend and Dr. Pate performing the surgery and wonders what is going on. As subsequent events occur, Aubrey is

determined to find out why Mary Beth was killed. This is just a teaser; this is a good book from a new local author.

This column reflects my opinion and not that of Howard County Library. You can find us open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; our internet/video room closes at 5:30 p.m. We are open on Saturday, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.; our internet/video room closes at 1:30 p.m. In case of bad weather, call to see if we open late/close early.



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Howard County Librarian Hollis McCright writes a weekly column for the Herald.

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New YouTubeKids app criticized as deceiving

WASHINGTON (AP) — The new YouTube Kids mobile app targets young children with unfair and deceptive advertising and should be investigated, a group of consumer advocates told the Federal Trade Commission in a letter Tuesday.

Google introduced the app in February as a “safer” place for kids to explore videos because it was restricted to “family-focused content.”

But the consumer activists say the app is so stuffed with advertisements and product placements that it’s hard to tell the difference between entertainment and commercials. One example is a 7-minute video of Disney’s “Frozen” characters who appear as dolls inside a toy McDonald’s, eating ice cream and drinking Sprite.

The activists say digital media should be subject to the same rules as television, which limits commercial content on kids’ programming.

“As a consumer, you should have the right to know who is trying to persuade you,” said Angela Campbell with

the Institute for Public Representation at Georgetown Law, who provided legal counsel to the coalition.

In young children especially, “it takes unfair advantage of their trusting nature and lack of experience,” she added.

In a statement early Tuesday, YouTube said: “We worked with numerous partners and child advocacy groups when developing YouTube Kids. While we are always open to feedback on ways to improve the app, we were not contacted directly by the signers of this letter and strongly disagree with their contentions, including the suggestion that no free, ad-supported experience for kids will ever be acceptable. We disagree and think that great content shouldn’t be reserved for only those families who can afford it.”

Since its inception in 2005, YouTube has become the world’s most popular online video site, with more than 1 billion users. For parents, it’s become an easy way to find Elmo song clips or full episodes of “Barney & Friends.”

But when searching for Elmo or Barney, it’s easy to pull up other user-generated content aimed at adults, such as the two puppets cursing or waving guns.

“Now, parents can rest a little easier knowing that videos in the YouTube Kids app are narrowed down to content appropriate for kids,” wrote Shimrit Ben-Yair, the app’s product manager, in a February blog post.

According to the consumer groups’ letter, the videos mingle commercial and entertainment content in ways that wouldn’t be allowed on television. Search for “My Little Pony,” for example, and the first several options are lengthy advertisements for My Little Pony Play-Doh and toy kitchen sets, including one Play-Doh segment stretching 19 minutes.

“The fact that children are viewing the videos on a tablet or smartphone screen instead of on a television screen does not make it any less unfair and deceptive,” the letter states.

Groups that signed the letter were the Center for Digital Democracy, the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Center for Science in the Public Interest, Children Now, Consumer Federation of America, Consumer Watchdog and Consumers Union.



A pair of ducks seem to be enjoying the warm weather at Comanche Trail Park Monday afternoon.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

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Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Gary Watkins connects for a home run during the Steers' baseball game at Sweetwater Tuesday evening. Sweetwater defeated Big Spring, 18-5.

Lady Steers finish 5th in 2-4A golf

Herald Staff Report

LAMESA — The Big Spring High School girls' golf team finished tied for fourth place in the District 2-4A standings after the third and final round of play this week.

Snyder won the district crown in convincing fashion, shooting a three-round total of 941 to best runner-up Sweetwater I by more than 100 strokes. Sweetwater II placed third with a team score of 1163, followed by Levalland and Big Spring.

The Lady Steers shot a three-round total of 1242. Abbey Bryan paced Big Spring with a score of 256, followed by Lora Gomez (301), Gabby Fair (340) and Kylie Palmer (345).

In medalist competition, Snyder claimed the top five spots, paced by Cassidy Rawls' 224. Bryan's score was good enough for seventh place overall; she will advance her to next week's Region I-4A tournament in Lubbock.

2 Coahoma golfers earn region slots

Herald Staff Report

COAHOMA — Two Coahoma High School golfers qualified for regional tournament play after the conclusion of the District 5-3A tournament this week.

Sonora and Stanton dominated the district tournament — Sonora 1 shot a team total of 667 to claim the district crown, followed by Stanton 1 at 694 and Sonora 2 at 771. Coahoma finished fourth at 823.

Logan Franklin and Mason Moore of Coahoma qualified for the regional tournament in individual play; Franklin fired a two-round total of 184, while Moore finished the tournament with a score of 196.

The regional tournament will be held Monday and Tuesday at Shady Oaks Golf Course in Baird.

Fielder paces Rangers to 1st win

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Jeff Banister smelled of beer from a postgame dousing by his Texas team to celebrate the manager's first victory at the big league level, and he held onto the wrinkled lineup card as a souvenir for his 13-year-old son, Jacob.

Healthy at last — "I can feel both my arms" — Prince Fielder was thrilled he contributed to a special night for Banister and the rest of the Rangers in a 3-1 win against the Oakland Athletics on Tuesday.

"For sure. It's his first one," the slugger said. "We gave him a little bit (of beer). We gave him a little bit of love."

Fielder hit a pair of run-

scoring singles as the Rangers bounced back from being shut out on opening day. Colby Lewis (1-0) struck out four and shut down his former club over six sharp innings in his season debut.

The Rangers snapped a scoreless streak of 21 regular-season innings when Fielder punched a single to shallow center that just eluded the outstretched glove of shortstop Marcus Semien in the third.

"A fantastic night for the Texas Rangers," Banister said.

Fielder also had an RBI single in the fifth, and the Rangers got another run on an error by right fielder Craig Gentry.

"That's my job, to be a run producer," Fielder said.

Sam Fuld tripled in the sixth and scored Oakland's lone run on a groundout by Eric Sogard.

Lewis gave up three hits and walked two, then gave way to Keone Kela, who made his big league debut and immediately allowed Billy Butler's single. Ike Davis walked and Rangers pitching coach Mike Maddux paid the rookie a visit. After Brett Lawrie struck out swinging, Stephen Vogt singled to load the bases.

"He keeps a good pace out there," said Lawrie, whose four strikeouts

matched his career high. "They got a couple on us and we couldn't respond."

Texas shortstop Elvis Andrus then turned nice double play by taking it himself to second before firing to first to end the inning.

Neftali Feliz pitched the ninth in his first save, and 88th in 99 career opportunities.

"It was amazing," Andrus said. "Especially after what happened last night, to turn the page."

A night after Sonny Gray took a no-hit bid into the eighth, 6-foot-5 right-hander Jesse Hahn

See **RANGERS**, page 14

Leonard scores 26; Spurs down Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Kawhi Leonard is seizing more responsibility from San Antonio's veteran core, and the Spurs are taking off.

The 23-year-old forward matched a career high with 26 points for the second straight game, and the Spurs rolled past the Oklahoma City Thunder 113-88 on Tuesday night for their eighth straight victory.

Leonard is averaging 19.4 points and shooting 59 percent from the field during the win streak.

"He's been absolutely amazing," Spurs center Tim Duncan said. "He's on a tear right now, and we're riding him. He's not doing it the wrong way. He's taking great shots and continuing to be unselfish, but he's absolutely being aggressive."

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said Leonard, last year's NBA Finals MVP, is becoming more comfortable in a leading role.

"He doesn't have a chip on his shoulder or trying to make a statement, he's just playing," Popovich said. "He's getting better all the time, and getting more confident. We're getting him more and more room, and you're seeing a young player blossom."

The Spurs have won each game during their streak by double digits, and by an average of 20.9 points. The defending NBA champions have allowed 93 points or fewer in all eight contests.

"The last 10, 15 games, we've really turned the corner and we're playing solid defensively," Duncan said.

Oklahoma City didn't resemble the team the Spurs faced in last year's Western Conference finals. Popovich said he felt for the Thunder, who were without two of their best players in reigning MVP Kevin Durant (right foot surgery) and Serge Ibaka (right knee surgery).

NCAA women's tournament:

UConn reigns supreme again

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Geno Auriemma and his UConn Huskies will be the leading contenders to make another championship run next season. It would be an unprecedented 11th title that would eclipse John Wooden's UCLA Bruins and their 10 championships.

If they can pull it off, Breanna Stewart would accomplish her goal of winning four championships at UConn.

"I think it's really surreal and I haven't had a chance to even think about that," Stewart said after the Huskies beat Notre Dame 63-53 on Tuesday night in the title game. "I've won three national championships, but said I wanted to win four, you can't win four without winning three first."

Stewart, the two-time AP Player of the Year, is one of four starters returning and they will be joined by another stellar incoming recruiting class. She earned most outstanding player of the Final Four for the third time, making her the first

woman to achieve that. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was the only men's player to do it when he played for the Wizard of Westwood.

"There just hasn't been a player like Stewie in the women's game in a long, long time," Auriemma said. "She might be two inches taller than Cheryl Miller and Cheryl Miller was one of best players I saw.... Stewie's the kind of player that women's basketball probably hasn't seen."

Stewart had only eight points in Tuesday night's win, but she got a big lift from her teammates. Moriah Jefferson scored 15 points and played stellar defense on Notre Dame's Jewell Loyd.

"She should have been the M.O.P.," said Stewart of her classmate Jefferson.

The Huskies do lose Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis and Kiah Stokes to graduation.

Mosqueda-Lewis also had 15 points and came up with big plays when the Huskies needed her most.

"I'm glad the two buckets that 'K' made down the stretch were

kind of the difference in the game," Auriemma said. "That's the way she's supposed to go out."

Auriemma, 10 for 10 in national championship games, has won his titles over a 20-year span. Wooden won his 10 over 12 years.

"Obviously it's a very significant number because that's the number that's been out there and people want to talk about it. I'll be the first to say I'm not John Wooden and I got a bunch of friends who'd tell you I'm right, I'm not," Auriemma said. "As I said the other day I just think what we've done here in the last 20 years is pretty remarkable in its own right."

"I'll let the people who write the history decide where I fit in."

If Auriemma does win No. 11 next year, Stewart will play a huge role.

Auriemma took Stewart out with about 30 seconds to play and gave her a big hug. The 6-foot-4 star is the latest in a long line of outstanding UConn players that Auriemma has coached, including

Rebecca Lobo, Diana Taurasi, Sue Bird and Maya Moore.

"I just know that in our sport, from 1995 to today, what we've done against our peers is as good, if not better, than anybody else has done in their sport against their peers," Auriemma said. "I don't care whether it's harder in that sport."

Auriemma won his title one night after fellow USA Basketball Olympic coach Mike Krzyzewski won his fifth men's championship at Duke.

"Our Dad was very proud of Geno and Mike and how throughout their years as collegiate head basketball coaches they have diligently led their student-athletes to be successful on the court, in the classroom, in their lives," Wooden's children Nan and Jim Wooden said in a statement.

Coach Muffet McGraw had her team back in the championship game for the fourth time in five seasons. The Irish have come up short each time, including the last two against UConn.

Notre Dame's lone title came in 2001.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT ConocoPhillips Company, 3300 North A Street, Building 6, Midland, Texas 79705 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Yates, Grayburg, and San Andres formations, Settles, W. R. -A- Lease, Well No. 86. The proposed injection well is located 6 mile East from Forsan, in the Howard Glasscock (Consolidated) Field in Howard County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into the subsurface depth interval from 1282 to 2070 feet. LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792). #8676 April 8, 2015

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2	1	5	4	3	6	8	7	9
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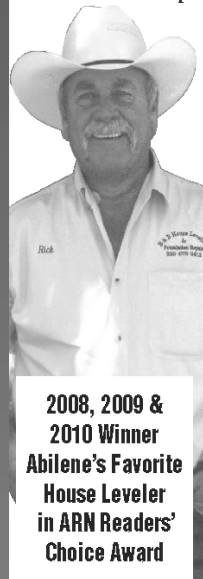
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HERALD

Jupiter Goes Direct

Luck, like success, is subjective. The exact same



circumstance that is considered lucky could also be considered unlucky depending on what criteria are being applied in the assessment. Jupiter's retrograde has encouraged us to look at our internal evaluation system and make adjustments. Now Jupiter turns direct to test our ideas in the real world.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because you're in your own head all day every day, it can be difficult to see yourself objectively. You are the hero of your story. With the right attitude, your challenges will only make you better.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You enjoy educating yourself, but more information isn't want you need now. If you can't apply what you

learn, it's worthless. Seek a practical and effective strategy you can use to make your life better today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When people are silent or reserved, it's only natural to try to fill in the blanks with what you believe they might be thinking and feeling. Be careful not to invent a personality for people that they don't actually have.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). What unfolds will be simple, elegant and satisfying: You'll express your will, and someone else will execute it. It's good to be powerful, although don't forget that it also makes you responsible for what happens.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When it comes to your loved ones, past experience and feelings give you a strong bias. Let that bias be positive today because it will be better to give your loved ones the benefit of the doubt.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). An organization effort will be necessary. It will feel like you're dumping the contents of a

Tomorrow's Horoscope

mystery drawer out onto the floor. As you restructure things, avoid formal logic and embrace impulse.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Don't let the petty hardships wear you down. Today it won't be such a bad thing to be cocooned in your beautiful dreams. You can deal in reality again tomorrow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will follow your gut into situations that are for your best and highest good. These situations may not be comfortable, aesthetically pleasing or financially prudent, but they are, nonetheless, right for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are developing a new awareness of your purpose, and you are also beginning to recognize which actions are aligned with it and which are not. There's a fellow fire sign who can illuminate your path.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People who know you well will tend to see what they have always seen in you. Break out of your group

and meet new people who can better experience the you of today (as opposed to the you of yesterday).

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You know what you want to communicate, but because you can't see yourself in action, you're not sure what you (SET ITAL) are (END ITAL) communicating. The opinions of those you trust will be invaluable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're not a person who lives for your next vacation. In fact, the work you engage in today will bring far more enjoyment and satisfaction than a beach getaway.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 8). Your love life will be a source of sweetness, comfort and excitement this year. Loyalty is one of your best qualities. This month your contribution to a group will be substantial and important, and you should be paid for this! Through May, keep building a case for the move or promotion you want. It will happen in mid-June. Gemini and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are:

13, 2, 22, 39 and 18.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Help! I've been dating a Libra for six weeks, and I feel him pulling away. I really, really, really, really like him, and I think he needs to give this relationship a chance. But now when we're together, it's like I'm panicked inside, trying to say all the right things to make him feel that spark we had in the beginning, and it's just working the opposite way. I don't want to lose this one! What can I do to bring the sizzle back? I'm a Virgo."

Your Virgo work ethic is stellar, and you're always willing to do what's necessary to get what you want. But working at making someone love you is never a good idea. You're better off getting into "play" mode and directing most of that playful energy toward the activities you might find enjoyable, pleasing and delightful. Trying to say, do and be the right thing is off-putting both in love and friendship. It's better to state your true opinion, contribute to decisions by conveying your real preferences and keep tending to your own

interests. Libras are social and charming, and they appreciate what others bring to the table. Don't be too amenable. Be willing to let him go if he's not "getting" you. Your detachment will be attractive.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Like her character Zuri Ross in the hit Disney series "Jessie," adorable Aries Skai Jackson got her start in New York City. Jackson's sun and Mercury in high-energy Aries bode well for the busy life of a child star, and her moon in Pisces, the sign of old souls and artists, suggests the talent to carry a show business career through to adulthood. Her Venus and Mars in Taurus provides the grounding.

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: I have a close acquaintance who is a fitness instructor at the health club where I often work out. Two years ago, I saw her at a local peace parade and got very worked up over something she wrote on the signs she was wearing. I became so crazed over it that I forgot myself and said some awful things about her. I also stopped going to her workout classes for a month and deleted her Facebook pages. Then I found out her husband had had a stroke the day of the parade.

I realized how hideous my behavior had been. I returned to her workout class and intended to apologize profusely to her, but she wasn't there that day. When she finally came back, I told her I'd been praying for her and her husband. Sometimes it seems she has forgiven me and

everything is the same between us, but on other days, I'm not so sure. I apologized to her, in a general way, in a holiday greeting card, not mentioning the parade. I've lost countless hours of sleep crying from guilt, shame and regret. I've finally decided I have to do something. Please print this so she can see it and we can talk about it. -- Distraught

Dear Distraught: Printing this in the paper and hoping she sees it is a copout. You need to put your spine in place and talk to her directly, no matter how hard it is. A semi-apology in a holiday greeting card doesn't count, and telling her you will pray for her is kind, but insufficient. Ask your friend whether she is available for coffee, or find some other time when neither

of you is rushed and you can speak privately. Here's what you say: "I know it's been a while, but I need to tell you how sorry I am for my behavior at the parade and afterward. I don't know what came over me. I value our friendship a great deal, and I am hoping you can forgive me." Whatever happens after that, at least you will know you truly tried to make it right.

Dear Annie: "Grandma" has every right to be concerned about her stepson's nearly 3-year-old child who barely speaks. She should follow her instincts and strongly encourage that the girl be assessed by a speech therapist. The lack of expressive language could also be a sign of autism. While the suggestions to spend more time

interacting with the child are great, professional intervention might be necessary. It is deplorable that the pediatrician has not caught this, as early intervention can change the trajectory of a child's life.

As a special education teacher over the past 10 years, I've seen the terrible repercussions caused by the lack of early intervention and the overworked school systems that regularly miss identifying these needs. -- Concerned Special Ed Teacher

Dear Teacher: Several readers pointed out that the lack of speech could be a sign of autism. Others told us that their kids didn't speak much at that age and turned out just fine. There's no way for us to know what's going on, but we absolutely

concur that the child should be evaluated by a speech therapist to find out. Unfortunately, that is Dad's call, and he seems disinclined to do anything. If "Grandma" can take her, wonderful. If not, talking and reading to this little girl could be a godsend.

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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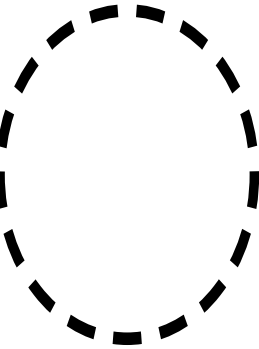
sudoku

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.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Partnership Game

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♦ K 7 4		♠ 10 8 6 5 3	
♥ J 9 5 3		♥ 6	
♦ 3		♦ K 8	
♣ Q J 10 8 4		♣ A 9 7 6 3	
WEST		SOUTH	
♦ Q J 9 2		♠ A	
♥ Q 7 4		♥ A K 10 8 2	
♦ A Q 9 6 5		♦ J 10 7 4 2	
♣ 2		♣ K 5	

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥			

Opening lead — two of clubs.

Bridge is a partnership game, as everyone knows, and nowhere is the element of partnership seen more clearly than during defensive play. In today's deal, the defense must function perfectly to defeat the contract.

West leads the deuce of clubs, won by East with the ace as South drops the king. It is not difficult for East to read his partner's lead as a singleton, since West would have led the five from the 5-2 if he started with that holding. So East returns a club for West to ruff, but is careful to select the three.

The return of the three is a suit-preference signal, directing West to lead back the lower-ranking side suit after he ruffs. If East preferred a spade return, he would lead a high card — the nine, say — to tell partner to lead back the higher-ranking side suit.

Accordingly, West, having full faith and confidence in partner, shifts to a low diamond at trick three. East takes the king and leads another club, and South goes down one, since he cannot avoid losing a second trump trick to West's queen.

Although West's underlead of the diamond ace seems dangerous, he should make the play on the basis of East's low club return. The underlead offers by far the best chance of setting the contract.

What if East happened to have no values in either spades or diamonds? In that case, he'd want West to make whatever return seemed best to him.

To avoid signaling for a spade or a diamond return, East would then lead a medium-sized club at trick two — the six or seven in the actual case.

The lowest-possible club thus strongly suggests a diamond lead, but even more than that, it denies anything of value in spades. Without the benefit of the suit-preference signal, West would probably lead the queen of spades at trick three and thereby hand declarer the contract.

Tomorrow: Try the impossible.

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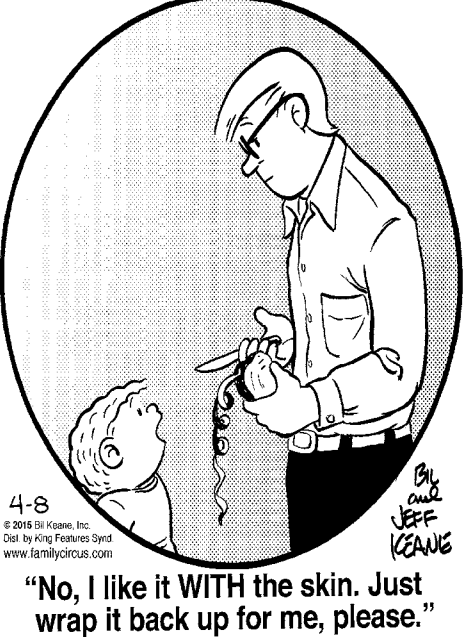
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5 :PM	News ABC	P. Luche	Two Men	News CBS	Tele Noticias	News	Seinfeld	With Scholars	Scully Business	CHiPs	Dual Survival	Ujmon Hounsou	Connie Nielsen	Castle (DVS)	ricane Season, Isaiah Washington	K.C. K.C.	SportsNation	SportsCenter
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Notic. La Sombra del	Two Men Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cerrado	Newswest 9 at 6P	Seinfeld	Mani House	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H M*A*S*H	Dual Survival			Castle (DVS)		I Didn't K.C. Jessie I Didn't	MLB Baseball: Boston Red Sox at Philadelphia Phillies.	NBA Basketball: Raptors at Hornets
7 :PM	Middle Gold	Amores con Trampa	American Idol	Survivor	Avenida Brasil (SS)	The Voice	Fam. Guy Big Bang	Upd Dollars	Nature (DVS)	Griffith Griffith	Dual Survival	Movie: Jurassic Park, Jeff Goldblum	Movie: 300, David Wenham	Castle (DVS)				
8 :PM	Mod Fam blackish	Hasta el Fin		Criminal Minds	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	Law & Order: SVU	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	NOVA (DVS)	Heroes Twi. Zone	Dual Survival			Castle (DVS)	Movie: Lottery Ticket	Girl Jessie Dog		NBA Basketball: Phoenix Suns at Dallas Mavericks.
9 :PM	Nashville	Que te Perdona	Mod Fam	CSI: Cyber	Dueños del Paraíso	Chicago PD	Big Bang		Nazi Mega Weapons	Cheers Cheers	Survivorman: Bigfoot	Movie: Jurassic Park III, Tea Leoni	Movie: Wrath of the Titans, Ralph Fiennes	Castle (DVS)	Being Mary Jane			
10 :PM	News	Impacto	Cleveland	News	Tele	News	Conan	HaYesod M:25	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett Perry Mason	Dual Survival	Movie: The Count of Monte Cristo, Daghmara Dominczuk	Movie: The Man With the	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	So Raven Lizzie	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met How I Met	Letterman	Titulares	Tonight Show	Office	Chevalme McDonald	T. Smiley	McCloud	Dual Survival			CSI: NY	The Real			
12 :AM	Extra	Un Refugio	Friends	Insider	News	Cougar	Zola Lev.											
1 :AM	Paid	Alma	Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Paid													

DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



HAGAR



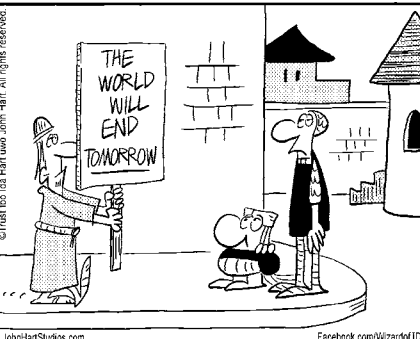
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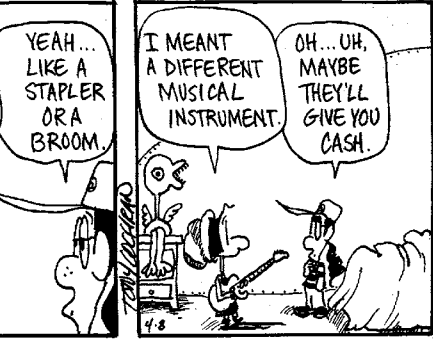
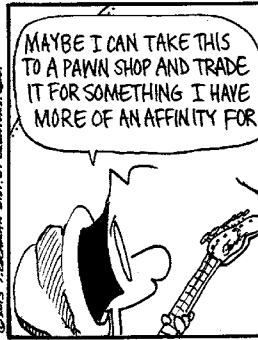
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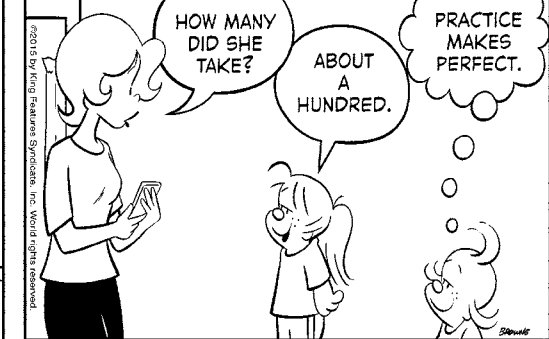
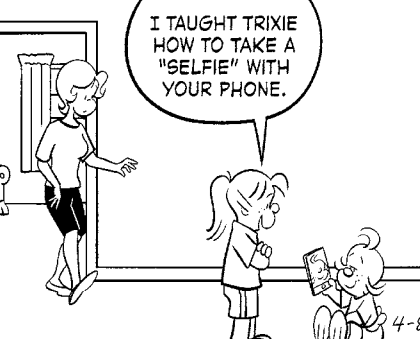
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AGNES



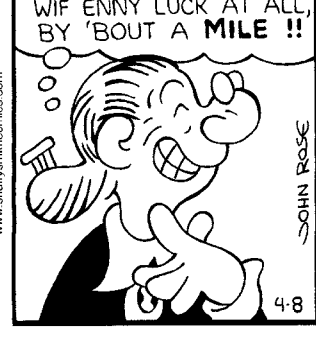
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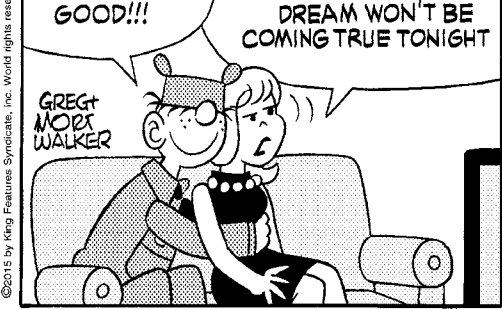
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, April 8, the 98th day of 2015. There are 267 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 8, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Emergency Relief Appropriations Act, which provided money for programs such as the Works Progress Administration.

On this date:

In 1820, the Venus de Milo statue was discovered by a farmer on the Greek island of Milos.

In 1864, the United States Senate passed, 38-6, the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolishing slavery. (The House of Representatives passed it in January 1865; the amendment was ratified and adopted in December 1865.)

In 1904, Longacre Square in Manhattan was renamed Times Square after The New York Times.

In 1913, the 17th Amendment to the Constitution, providing

for popular election of United States senators (as opposed to appointment by state legislatures), was ratified. President Woodrow Wilson became the first chief executive since John Adams to address Congress in person as he asked lawmakers to enact tariff reform.

In 1946, the League of Nations assembled in Geneva for its final session.

In 1952, President Harry S. Truman seized the American steel industry to avert a nationwide strike. (The Supreme Court later ruled that Truman had overstepped his authority, opening the way for a seven-week strike by steelworkers.)

In 1961, a suspected bomb exploded aboard the passenger liner MV Dara in the Persian Gulf, causing it to sink; 238 of the 819 people aboard were killed.

In 1974, Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves hit his 715th career home run in a game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, breaking Babe Ruth's record.

In 1975, "The Godfather Part II" won the Academy Award for best picture; Ellen Burstyn won best actress for "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore" while Art Carney received best actor for

"Harry and Tonto."

In 1981, General of the Army Omar N. Bradley died in New York at age 88.

In 1990, Ryan White, the teenage AIDS patient whose battle for acceptance had gained national attention, died in Indianapolis at age 18. The cult TV series "Twin Peaks" premiered on ABC.

In 1994, Kurt Cobain, singer and guitarist for the grunge band Nirvana, was found dead in Seattle from an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound; he was 27.

Thought for Today: "Computers are useless. They can only give you answers." ,Ai Pablo Picasso, Spanish artist (born 1881, died this date in 1973).

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Answer to previous puzzle

FACT	STEM	BROWS
ACME	TRUE	AUDIO
IRON	EARN	KNOTS
LENDME	YOUR	KNOWS
ART	ART	ART
THEIRS	SPRY	KID
AIRED	HOLE	BOCA
STRAIN	YOUR	BRAIN
TOED	EMTS	OILED
END	MANY	NOTARY
GOT	POE	
FOLLOW	YOUR	NOSE
MERIT	HANG	IPOD
BLADE	ALDA	TANG
ALLEN	TEST	ELSE

Newsday Crossword

TRAVELING LIGHT by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Pet adoption org.
 - 6 Stately display
 - 10 Crow call
 - 13 Incredible bargain
 - 14 Said aloud
 - 15 Game of Thrones channel
 - 16 Northwest ski resort
 - 19 From the Swiss capital
 - 20 Find out about
 - 21 Tennis pro Roddick
 - 22 Artist's inspiration
 - 25 Churchill title
 - 26 Pigpen
 - 27 Pair of people
 - 30 __ Lanka
 - 32 Made up, as a new word
 - 33 More flimsy, as an excuse
 - 35 With 38 Across, city near Reno
 - 38 See 35 Across
 - 39 Full of sediment
 - 40 Most important thing to do
 - 43 Teachers' union: Abbr.
 - 44 Ottawa's anthem
 - 46 Monopolize
 - 49 Syringe amts.
 - 51 Snake sound
 - 52 Taper off
 - 53 Move with swagger
 - 55 Meantime
 - 58 City near Denver
 - 61 Winter hrs. in L.A.
 - 62 Apple's tune carrier

- 63 Awarded
 - 64 Gobbled up
 - 65 Skyfall spy
 - 66 Has its premiere
- DOWN
- 1 Say OK
 - 2 Well-constructed
 - 3 Minimal money
 - 4 Batman's hangout
 - 5 "That's too bad"
 - 6 Officeholder, for short
 - 7 Mine yield
 - 8 Willful
 - 9 Ballet bend
 - 10 Personal magnetism
 - 11 Couldn't stand
 - 12 Canine call
 - 17 Tea gamish

- 18 Prosecutors, for short
- 19 Undergrad degs.
- 23 Take advantage of
- 24 Grassy turf
- 27 City terrorized by Godzilla
- 28 __ for Wasted (Grafton novel)
- 29 Justice Kagan
- 31 Roth plan
- 32 Old PC monitor
- 34 Boston's Mass __
- 35 Nine-digit ID
- 36 Edible anagram of "pictures"
- 37 Priced course by course
- 38 Indicate one's OK
- 40 __ alai

- 41 Clip-__ (some sunglasses)
- 42 Herb in pesto sauce
- 45 Poorly constructed
- 46 Make tougher
- 47 Gumbo ingredients
- 48 Any birthstone
- 50 __-cone (summer treat)
- 52 Make wicker baskets
- 53 Biggest of the Berenstain Bears
- 54 Nursery furnishing
- 56 Cancelled, informally
- 57 Take a fall
- 59 Debate side
- 60 Unconventional

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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Defense admits Hernandez witnessed murder

FALL RIVER, Mass. (AP) — Jurors began deliberating Tuesday in the murder trial of former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez after his lawyer acknowledged for the first time that his client was at the scene of the killing and saw it happen but described him as a kid who simply did not know what to do.

“Did he make all the right decisions? No,” lawyer James Sultan said during his closing arguments. “He was a 23-year-old kid who witnessed something, a shocking killing, committed by somebody he knew. He really didn’t know what to do, so he just put one foot in front of the other.”

Hernandez is charged in the June 17, 2013, death of Odin Lloyd, 27, who was dating the sister of Hernandez’s fiancée. Lloyd was shot six times in an industrial park less than a mile from Hernandez’s home. At the time, the star tight end had a \$40 million contract with the Patriots.

Sultan pinned the killing on Hernandez’s co-defendants, his friends Ernest Wallace and Carlos Ortiz. Both men have pleaded not guilty and will be tried later.

But Assistant District Attorney William McCauley told jurors the evidence showed that Hernandez was the gunman, that he had a plan to kill Lloyd and that he drove Lloyd to his death in a deserted place in an undeveloped part of the industrial park.

“Ask yourself what was the purpose in driving to that spot at that time?” McCauley asked. “He was driving. He’s the one who veered off the course to go down. There was no other purpose to go down there.”

He said Hernandez’s behavior after the crime also showed that he was involved. He cited evidence that Hernandez had rented a car for Wallace and directed his fiancée to give the two men \$500 to flee, as well as surveillance video from inside Hernandez’s home that showed him hanging out with

them a few hours after Lloyd was killed — even trusting Wallace enough to let him hold his 8-month-old daughter.

“He’s laying around the pool, soaking up the sun, drinking up smoothies with his two confederates,” McCauley told jurors.

The trial featured testimony from 135 witnesses — 132 of them called by the prosecution — as well as hundreds of pieces of evidence. Surveillance videos, cellphone records and witnesses accounts indicated that Hernandez was with Lloyd at the time of the killing, after driving to Boston to get him with Ortiz and Wallace. Lloyd’s cell phone pinged several cell towers on the way out of Boston before stopping for good at the industrial park in North Attleborough.

Legal analysts said the defense apparently made the calculation that the circumstantial evidence was so overwhelming that Hernandez was there, it would

have looked foolish not to acknowledge it.

“The defense made the strategic decision that conceding that point was a good tactical decision, and perhaps a way to gain some credibility with the jury,” said Christopher Dearborn, a professor at Suffolk University Law School.

In his closing argument, Sultan asked jurors to forget what they have heard about Hernandez in the media and outside the courtroom. Hernandez also faces murder charges in

Boston, where he is accused of gunning down two men he believed disrespected him at a nightclub in 2012. Evidence about that killing was not allowed into the Lloyd trial.

He pointed out that prosecutors never presented a clear motive for why Hernandez would kill Lloyd, saying they were friends and future brothers-in-law and that there was no evidence he would have wanted Lloyd dead.

Prosecutors have said Hernandez appeared an-

gry at Lloyd while they were at a nightclub two nights before the killing, and he left the club to retrieve a gun from his car. But they never gave an explanation to jurors for why he may have been angry.

Superior Court Judge Susan Garsh told jurors that prosecutors are not required to prove a motive.

Sultan also said investigators unfairly fixated on his client, presuming his guilt and finding what they could to support that theory.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 8

couldn’t make it another win by the rotation in his Oakland debut.

Hahn (0-1), who came to the A’s from San Diego in one of nine trades Oakland made during a busy offseason even by this club’s standards, was tagged for three runs and seven hits in six innings. He struck out three and didn’t walk a batter but plunked two with pitches.

His next start comes Sunday against Seattle ace Felix Hernandez, who shut down the Angels on opening day.

Fielder went 0 for 4 with a strikeout in Monday’s opener after missing most of 2014 following a cervical fusion of two disks in his neck last May, ending his then-major league-best streak of 547 consecutive games played since 2010.

Lewis has his way with the A’s. He is 9-4 with a 3.15 ERA in 23 appearances and 21 starts — his most victories against any opponent.

“The first inning was kind of shaky,” he said. “I had to start making some pitches.”

TRAINER’S ROOM

Rangers: RHP Nick Tepesch, a candidate to make the rotation out of spring training who wound up at Triple-A Round Rock, has been shut down to recover from ulnar nerve irritation in his throwing elbow. GM Jon Daniels said the pitcher felt discomfort throwing a bullpen before camp broke and saw team physician Dr. Keith Meister. Tepesch will rest for three weeks and then begin a three-week throwing program.

Athletics: RHP Jarrod Parker threw 30 pitches in a two-inning simulated game and is set to throw three innings Monday at extended

spring training in another step toward his return from a second Tommy John surgery that kept him out all of 2014. ... RF Josh Reddick (oblique) is scheduled to return Saturday after beginning the season on the DL.

UP NEXT

Rangers: LHP Ross Detwiler makes his Texas debut Wednesday night against the A’s after being acquired from the Nationals in December.

Athletics: LHP Scott Kazmir, a 15-game winner last season, looks to improve to 10-5 in his career against the Rangers after going 3-1 vs. Texas in 2014.



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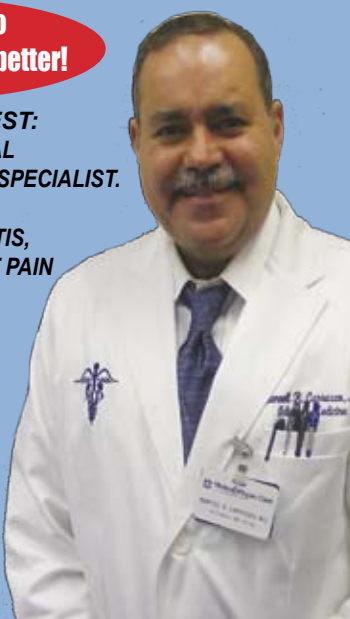
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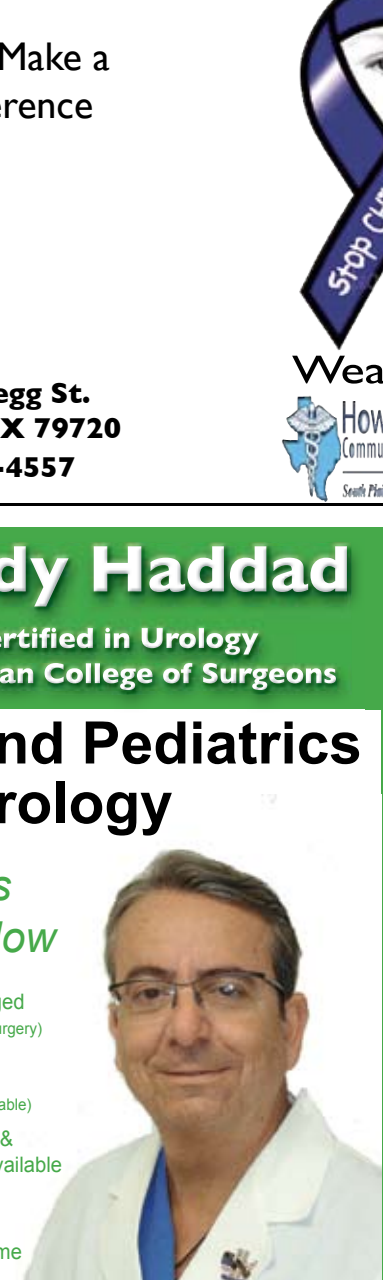
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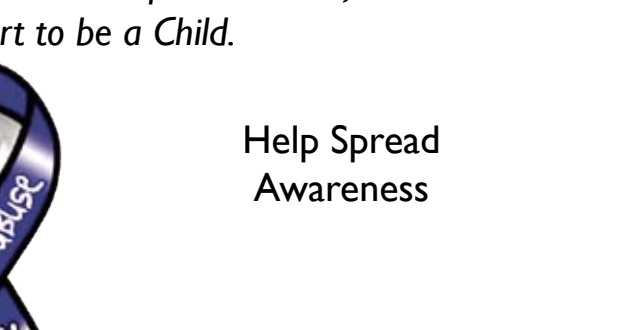
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