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BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY

DECEMBER 23, 2013



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Too much holiday garbage?

City placing extra dumpsters to deal with excess trash

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

One of the unfortunate byproducts of Christmas cheer is Christmas trash. While Christmas trees have brightened many homes in this area, in a few short days, residents will be looking for ways to rid themselves of the things. And the extra trash generated by all those Christmas presents? Another headache to deal with. Fortunately, the city of Big Spring, as it has in years past, is gearing up to help residents deal with all the excess garbage generated during the holidays.

In an effort to assist with the additional trash that is generated during this time of year, the city will set large dumpsters at four locations beginning today and remaining in place through Friday, Jan. 10. Dumpsters will be placed in the following locations:

- Coronado Plaza – west parking area.
- East of Spring Town Plaza.
- College Park Shopping Center.
- 700 block of N. Gregg.

All live Christmas trees, however, will need to be disposed of at the compost facility located at the landfill, 4100 E. FM 700. During this two week period, there will be no charge to dispose of live Christmas trees only at the compost.



HERALD photos/Andreia Medlin
The Howard County chapter of the Xiled motorcycle club distributed donated toys and food while providing a hot meal to 29 local families, including 85 children, at their clubhouse Saturday. In the above photo, Vice President Bo Bohannan and Charlie Rodriguez serve guests who visited the group's clubhouse.

Gasoline prices rise slightly

Special to the Herald

Average retail gasoline prices in Texas have risen 2.0 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.04/gallon Sunday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 gas outlets in Texas. This compares with the national average that has increased 2.2 cents per gallon.

Including the change in gas prices in Texas during the past week, prices Sunday were unchanged compared to the same day one year

ago and are 7.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 2.4 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 0.9 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

"Motorists hitting the road for Christmas travel are cringing as gasoline prices have picked up with the best now behind us," said GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan. "While prices will advance, I don't expect it to last too long — January and February generally also feature relatively

low gasoline prices. "And while motorists aren't looking forward to the higher prices, they may take some solace in our expectation that gasoline prices in 2014 should average lower than they will after 2013 is complete," DeHaan added. "Make no mistake — gas prices will see volatility, and there will be times when motorists will experience 'motion sickness' at the pump, but that shouldn't discount that Americans will be able to spend less on a yearly basis in 2014 than they did this year."



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Health plan sticker shock ahead for some buyers

By **CARLA K. JOHNSON**
 AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO — As a key enrollment deadline hits Monday, many people without health insurance have been sizing up policies on the new government health care marketplace and making what seems like a logical choice: They're picking the cheapest one.

Increasingly, experts in health insurance are becoming concerned that many of these first-time buyers will be in for a shock when they get medical care next year and discover they're on the hook for most of the initial cost.

The prospect of sticker shock after Jan. 1, when those who sign up for policies now can begin getting coverage, is seen as a looming problem for a new national system that has been plagued by trouble since the new marketplaces went online in the states in October.

For those without insurance — about 15 percent of the population — "the lesson is it's important to understand the total cost of ownership of a plan," said Matt Eyles, a vice president of Avalere Health, a market analysis firm. "You just don't want to look only

at the premium."

Counselors who have been helping people choose policies say many are focused only on the upfront cost, not what the insurance companies agree to pay.

"I am so deeply clueless about all of this," acknowledged one new buyer, Adrienne Matzen, 29, an actor in Chicago who's mostly been without insurance since she turned 21. Though she needs regular care for asthma and a thyroid condition, she says she's looking for a low monthly premium because she makes less than \$20,000 a year.

Hospitals are worried that those who rack up uncovered medical bills next year won't be able to pay them, perpetuating one of the problems the new health care system is supposed to solve.

The new federal and state health insurance exchanges offer policies ranked as bronze, silver, gold and platinum. The bronze options have the lowest monthly premiums but high deductibles — the amount the policyholder must pay before the insurer picks up any of the cost of medical care.

On average, a bronze plan's deductible is more than \$4,300, according to an

analysis of marketplace plans in 19 states by Avalere Health. A consumer who upgrades to a silver plan could reduce the deductible to about \$2,500. A top-of-the-line platinum plan has the lowest average deductible: \$167.

Comprehensive data on premiums isn't available, but in one example, a 30-year-old in Chicago would pay an average of \$222 per month for a bronze plan, \$279 for a silver or \$338 for a platinum.

The complexities of insurance are eye-glazing even for those who have it. Only 14 percent of American adults with insurance understand deductibles, according to one recent study.

See **BUYERS**, Page 3

ALL OF THESE STARS AND THEY PICKED ONE TO GUIDE THEM? NO WONDER IT'S CONSIDERED A MIRACLE.

Dec. 23
 2 shopping days to Christmas

Wendy's

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Obituaries

Arcelia G. Arista

Arcelia G. Arista, 88, passed away on Dec. 9, 2013. She was born to Leonardo Calzada and Maria Louisa Garavito, on May 9, 1925. She worked for more than 20 years with RISD and in Big Spring ISD where she was the first Hispanic cafeteria manager



and president of the Food Service Association Chapter. She was a member of the All Saints Catholic Church of Dallas. She succumbed to Alzheimer's disease. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Patrick C. Arista Sr. and brother, Leonardo Calzada. She is survived by two sisters, Tomasa Mendoza of California, and Ester Calzada of Nevada; sons, Jose Louise Arista, of Big Spring, Texas, and Patrick C. Arista (Shirley) of Warriors Mark, Pa.; daughters, Lupe Ruscitto of Carrollton, Texas, and Lydia A. (Scott) Deaso, of Richardson, Texas; 9 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild.

Services were held at the Calvary Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery. A Rosary was held on Dec. 11. A Funeral Mass officiated by Father Leon Duesman was held Thursday Dec. 12, 2013 at the Calvary Hill North Mausoleum Chapel. Interment at Calvary Hill Cemetery followed.

Jerry Foresyth

Jerry Foresyth, 76, of Big Spring died Saturday, Dec. 21, 2013, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Jerry was born Sept. 30, 1937. He was raised in Big Spring, Texas, by the late R. V. (Skeet) and Lois Foresyth. He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1956 and attended Howard County Junior College and North Texas State University. He went to work for the Big Spring Fire Department and then Cosden Oil and Chemical.

Jerry's desire to be an Aggie motivated him to pursue his dream and in May of 1970, he moved his family to College Station, Texas, and enrolled at Texas A&M University. The next several years the family surrounded themselves with college life and all that goes on with living in Aggieland.

In 1977, Jerry graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in agriculture education. He returned to Big Spring with his family and was employed in an administrative position with the city of Big Spring. In 1982, Jerry went to work for Big Spring Savings as a loan officer. Two years later, Jerry got the opportunity to join the oil business when he went to work for Fibertex, Inc. His final career move led him to Ref-Chem Corporation in Odessa, Texas as a safety engineer.

Jerry was married for 54 years to his beloved wife Jan. He was a avid golfer and enjoyed playing golf with friends and family. Jerry called First United Methodist Church and the Epworth Sunday School class home and they have been members for their entire married life.

Jerry was instrumental in creating the Aggie Auction which generates funds for students attending Texas A&M University. One of the highlights of his life was being able to support student success at Texas A&M. He was honored by the A&M club with a named endowed scholarship.

Jerry loved and was very proud of his family. He is survived by his wife Jan; two daughters, Jackie Swinney and husband Dean of Kerrville, Texas, and Jana Wright and her husband Abe of San Antonio, Texas. He had four grandchildren, Lacey Phillips and fiancé Bobby Emerson and daughter Sarah, all of San Angelo, Texas, Tyler Phillips and wife Kristy of Denton, Texas, Brenn Swinney and fiancé Beau Berend of Fort Worth, Texas and M'Lyn Swinney of Fort Worth; one brother, Jimmy Foresyth and wife Deanna of Big Spring; three nephews, Richard Foresyth and wife Linda of Bulverde, Texas, David Foresyth and wife Denise of San Angelo, and Paul Foresyth and wife Amanda of Odessa.

The funeral will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2013 at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary of First United Methodist Church. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends at 9 a.m., prior to the service in the Eaker Parlor at the church.

The family requests that memorials in Jerry's honor be made to the Howard County A&M Club, 2605 Apache, Big Spring, TX 79720, or the First United Methodist Church of Big Spring, 400 Scurry, Big Spring, TX 79720.

Pallbearers will be Don Knight, Lonnie Newton, Jim Clements, Paschal Odom, Delbert Donaldson, Bobby Price, Walter Brumley, Jackie Sherrill, Harold Newton, Tom Blevins and Chris Olsen.

Honorary pallbearers will be John Freeman, Tommy Rutledge, Russ Rutledge, Terry Hansen, Kirby Brown, John Weeks, and Buddy Duncan.

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

Paid Obituary

James D. "J.D." Felts Sr.

James D. "J.D." Felts Sr., 82, of Big Spring died Saturday, Dec. 21, 2013, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Margarette Hudson

Margarette Hudson, 90, of Big Spring died Sunday, Dec. 22, 2013, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police/Sheriff/Fire&EMS reports

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

- MICHAEL ROY ROBERSON, 31, of 1312 Lindberg was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- COMANECKI OLYN LOPER, 32, of 2912 Cherokee, was arrested on charges of manufacturing, delivery a controlled substance, more than 200 grams but less than 400 grams; unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon; and possession of a controlled substance, less than 28 grams.
- LISA LYNN BLATCHFORD, 50, of 2707 Hernandez Road, was arrested on a charge of assault, family violence, causing bodily injury.
- ROBERT RUBEN SANCHEZ, 49, of 1023 Stadium, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- PHILLIP SAMUEL LOZANO JR., 24, of 3304 W. Highway 80 No. 38, was arrested on warrants for no driver's licensed when unlicensed (two counts) and for bail jumping/failure to appear.
- RICHARD LEE OLIVAS, 26, of 2001 N. Salem Road, was arrested on a charge of resisting arrest, search or transport.
- ANTHONY KEITH SNEED, 33, of 610 E. Sixth St., was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- STEVEN ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ, 41, of 408 W. Fifth St., was arrested on a charge of burglary of a habitation.
- ANIMAL PROBLEM was reported in the 400 block of Bilger.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 4100 block of Parkway Drive.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 600 block of Lancaster.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 500 block of Abrams St.
- CRIMINAL MICHIEF was reported in the 8900 block of SSR.
- HIT AND RUN was reported in the 1300 block of Harding Street.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 600 block of Bell St.

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 63 inmates at the time of this report.

- CHARLIE JAKE TURNER, 34, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of burglary of a habitation.
- JOHN RANDALL LEWIS, 54, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- PHILLIP SAMUEL LOZANO, 24, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for no driver's license when unlicensed, failure to appear and no driver's license.
- RICHARD LEE OLIVAS, 26, was booked by the HCSO on charges of resisting arrest, search or transport and evading arrest, detention with a vehicle.
- LISA BLATCHFORD, 50, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of assault causing bodily injury of a family member.
- ANTHONY KEITH SNEED, 33, was booked by the HCSO on a Taylor County warrant for BOB possession of marijuana.
- COMANECKI OLYN LOPER, 32, was booked by the BSPD on charges of manufacturing, delivering a controlled substance, more than 200 grams but less than 400 grams; possession of a firearm by a felon; and possession of a controlled substance, less than 28 grams.
- STEVEN ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ, 41, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of burglary of a habitation.
- ROBERT RUBIN SANCHEZ, 49, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- KANDICE GRACE LONGORIA, 31, was booked by the BSPD on a Crockett County warrant for another agency.
- DANA SHIRLEY WILLIAMS, 49, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for violate promise to appear and open container.
- FERRES WILLIAM SCHLIPF, 26, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for sentenced/indecency with a child.
- DAVID LEE LOVELACE, 57, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for sale to minors — alcohol.
- MICHAEL RAY GRIEGO II, 19, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces.
- ROBIN ARRENDONDO CERVANTES, 41, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for sale to minors — alcohol.
- BILLY RAY JOHNSON, 52, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- RAYMON CHARLES STRAHAN, 33, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for accident involving injury (two counts).
- JOEY DALE GOODWIN, 40, was booked by

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Laredo Paving, Inc., has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Air Quality Standard Permit, Registration No. 115103, which would authorize construction of a Concrete Batch Plant. The applicant provides the following directions: from Garden City travel 4.79 miles north on Highway 158, the site is on the west side of Highway 158 just past County Road 125, Garden City, Glasscock County, Texas 79739. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

the BSPD on charges of resisting arrest, search or transport and escape while arrested, confined—felony.

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

- Friday
- MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King. One person was taken to Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC).
- Saturday
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the area of FM 700 and Birdwell. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 3400 block of CR 3. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - MEDICAL CALL was reported on Albroom. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- Sunday
- TRAUMA CALL was reported in the 3500 block of North Service Road. No transport.
 - TRAUMA CALL was reported in the 1800 block of North Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 3600 block of Connally.
 - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 1400 block of East 14th. One person was transported to SMMC.
 - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 1000 block of Stadium. One person was transported to SMMC.

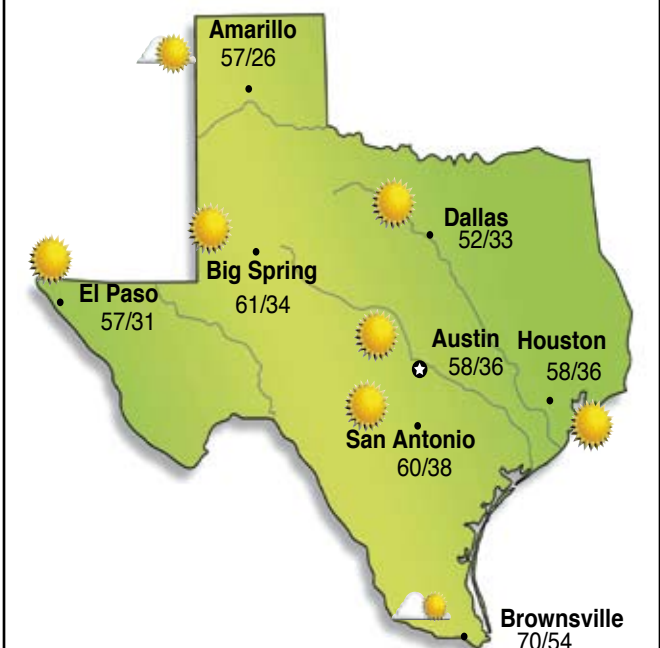
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 12/24	Wed 12/25	Thu 12/26
 61/34 Mainly sunny. High 61F. Winds S at 15 to 25 mph.	 57/29 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	 55/32 Sunny. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.
Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 5:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 5:48 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 5:48 PM



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	61	35	sunny	Kingsville	65	48	mst sunny
Amarillo	57	26	mst sunny	Livingston	56	29	sunny
Austin	58	36	sunny	Longview	51	31	sunny
Beaumont	56	32	sunny	Lubbock	60	30	sunny
Brownsville	70	54	pt sunny	Lufkin	56	29	sunny
Brownwood	60	35	sunny	Midland	61	33	sunny
Corpus Christi	62	49	mst sunny	Raymondville	68	50	pt sunny
Corsicana	51	32	sunny	Rosenberg	58	37	sunny
Dallas	52	33	sunny	San Antonio	60	38	sunny
Del Rio	61	39	sunny	San Marcos	59	36	sunny
El Paso	57	31	sunny	Sulphur Springs	49	34	sunny
Fort Stockton	65	37	sunny	Sweetwater	60	34	sunny
Gainesville	50	31	sunny	Tyler	52	33	sunny
Greenville	48	30	sunny	Weatherford	53	31	sunny
Houston	58	36	sunny	Wichita Falls	55	30	sunny

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Pancho Claus: A Tex-Mex Santa from the South Pole

HOUSTON — He usually has black hair and a black beard, sometimes just a mustache. Like Santa, he wears a hat — though often it's a sombrero. He dons a serape or a poncho and, in one case, a red and black zoot suit. And he makes his grand entrance on lowriders or Harleys or led by a pack of burros instead of eight reindeer.

Meet Pancho Claus, the Tex-Mex Santa.

Amid all the talk about Santa Claus' race, spawned by a Fox News commentator's remarks that both Santa and Jesus were white, there is, in the Lone Star State, a Hispanic version of Santa in cities from the border to the plains — handing out gifts for low-income and at-risk children.

Born from the Chicano civil rights movement, Pancho Claus is a mostly Texas thing, historians say, though there may be one somewhere in California.

Lorenzo Cano, a Mexican-American studies scholar at the University of Houston, says Pancho was apparently conceived north of the border as Mexican-Americans looked to "build a place and a space for themselves" in the 1970s. His rise coincided with a growing interest in Mexican art, Cinco de Mayo, Mexican Independence Day and other cultural events.

Now, Pancho is an adored Christmas fixture in many Texas cities.

"We have kids that we ask, 'Did Santa Claus come to see you?' and they say, 'No he didn't. But Pancho Claus did,'" says Robert Narvaiz, vice commander for Lubbock's American GI Forum and coordinator of that city's Pancho project.

Each city's Pancho has a unique local flavor, but all share roots that set Pancho apart from Santa. Here's a look at just a few. Oh, and Feliz Navidad, amigos.

PANCHO IN THE PLAINS

In the West Texas plains, Pancho Claus is Pancho Clos, so as not to be confused with that other Mr. C.

"Pancho Claus comes from the South Pole, and Santa Claus comes from the North Pole, and every year they get together here in Lubbock," says Narvaiz. "Santa ... was he Anglo? Was he black? Was he Hispanic? I guess everybody is trying to do the same thing: Add a little of their own culture."

This city's Pancho dates to 1971, when the local American GI Forum decided to infuse a little Hispanic culture into Santa. They gave him a sombrero and serape, and held a big party at a park, giving out candy and fruit to 3,000 children.

Today, Pancho visits schools, churches and supermarkets, but the biggest event — now supported by three different car clubs and dozens of bikers — remains the party at Rogers Park. There, on the Sunday before Christmas, Pancho hands out gifts.

"We're just trying to reach those kids that might get left out somewhere along the line," Narvaiz says.

Julian Perez, a 71-year-old retired heating and air conditioning repairman, has been Lubbock's Pancho for 30 years and remembers when three men, all of whom have since died, first came up with the idea.

"I wanted to quit, but I just can't. It just makes me want to do something for the kids," says Perez, who wears a long salt-and-pepper beard, oversized sombrero and colorful poncho when he assumes the role of Pancho.

ZOOT SUIT PANCHO

"Pancho Claus! Pancho Claus!" thousands of children chant excitedly, stomping their feet. Just as the shouting reaches fever pitch, Pancho arrives — this one dressed in his signature red and black zoot suit, fedora perched on head, waving from the back of a lowrider as he throws stuffed animals into the crowd.

This is Houston's Pancho, aka Richard Reyes.

Reyes, 62, transformed into Pancho in the early 1980s, blending his interests in theater with his Hispanic heritage and a desire to work with at-risk, low-income children — a mission he took on after his teenage sister was killed in a drive-by shooting.

Reyes put his own spin on Pancho, adopting the zoot suit and fedora, and started producing a short show that was a takeoff on the poem "'Twas the Night Before Christmas." That eventually grew into a play with a 10-piece band and hip-hop dancers, many of whom Reyes met while working in detention centers and community centers. His nonprofit endeavor now has a \$40,000 budget with three corporate sponsors.

"It's grown amazingly," says Reyes. "Now we give out hundreds of toys, if not thousands, with other agencies and we also have a big Christmas Eve party for about 300 families ... and then on Christmas Day itself we actually go to the barrios with lowrider cars with sirens blaring ... and give out toys there."

This year, due to what Reyes called a technical glitch, one sponsor dropped out, forcing Reyes to cut back on the number of shows. Still, he says: "Not one child will get less of a toy, which means not one family that calls us and finds us this year is going to be told no."

SANTA AND HIS ... DONKEY?

About 200 miles away is another Pancho. This one wears a sombrero and serape. He hangs out at San Antonio's River Walk, and poses in front of the Alamo. And, according to fliers that make the rounds, his gifts are carried in a cart pulled by trusty "burritos" — as in, well, burros. Forget Rudolph's red nose. A head donkey named "Chuy" leads the way for this Claus.

In San Antonio, Pancho visits schools and churches to hand out gifts and turkeys with all the trimmings to 50 low-income families. And Pancho, portrayed by Rudy Martinez, has grown so popular he even has a public information officer.

"The end result," says spokesman Patrick Resendez, "is putting that smile on their face."

Texas news in brief

Dallas: at least 7 hurt in DART bus accident

DALLAS (AP) — At least seven people have been hurt in a traffic accident involving a Dallas Area Rapid Transit bus and four other vehicles during freezing weather.

DART officials say the accident happened Monday morning during rush hour on Interstate 35 when a van cut in front of the bus near a bridge. Officials say the van hit a barrier wall and ended up along the front side of the bus.

DART spokesman Mark Ball says four people on the bus and three from the van were injured.

North Texas has another earthquake

RENO, Texas (AP) — North Texas has had a second minor earthquake within 24 hours in an area where more than a dozen quakes were recorded last month.

The U.S. Geological Survey says a 3.3 magnitude quake happened at 7:11 CST Monday about a mile southwest of Reno

Round Rock ISD websites hacked, shut down

ROUND ROCK, Texas (AP) — An Austin-area school district has shut down its websites that were hacked and the education updates replaced with obscene images and vulgar language.

The Round Rock Independent School District websites were closed Sunday. A message on the main site said "All Round Rock ISD websites are currently unavailable" and apologized for the inconvenience.

BUYERS

Continued from Page 1

The danger of a wrong snap judgment is great for those under financial pressure — especially those with modest incomes who make too much to qualify for the government subsidies available under the new health care system. Subsidies aren't available for individuals making more than \$45,960.

Most of the uninsured make less than that, but many still pick the cheapest plans.

"Price rules," said John Foley, a Legal Aid counselor in Palm Beach, Fla., who has been helping people enroll.

Some applicants see the catch.

"The real big surprise was how much out-of-pocket would be required for our family," said David Winebrenner, 46, a financial adviser in Lebanon, Ky., whose deductible topped \$12,000 for a family of six for a silver plan he was considering. The monthly premium: \$1,400.

While the health law makes many preventive services free — such as vaccines, blood pressure screening and mammograms — most medical care is paid out of pocket until the deductible level is reached.

Some of the new plans offer limited coverage for certain services before a patient has met the annual deductible. These services can include primary care, some prescription drugs and routine care for common chronic conditions such as high blood pressure and diabetes.

It's unclear how many plans provide this feature, and it may not be easy for consumers to tell.

Lynn Quincy of Consumers Union, a public policy group, suggests that consumers narrow their options to five plans, then go to each insurer's website to read the benefits summary. It spells out who pays what for two common situations: having a baby and managing Type 2 diabetes.

To be sure, the new health law did away with the whopping deductibles in plans previously offered to people without employer-provided coverage. Out-of-pocket costs are now capped at \$6,350 for individuals and \$12,700 for a family.

But some people who have been paying their own medical bills, or leaving them unpaid at the hospital, seem surprised that health insurance doesn't cover more of the costs.

"They previously had no insurance coverage at all and so they might not be happy," said Cynthia Rahming, an enrollment counselor in Houston.

Fearing the sticker shock, Loyola University Health System in Chicago is offering payment plans to spread the out-of-pocket costs.

Some who had private insurance policies that were canceled may find that keeping the same deductibles may mean higher premiums.

In California, Diane Agnone complained in an online post on her state's health marketplace.

"How is this affordable? I am a healthy 62-year-old single woman and these new premiums will cost me over \$200 more per month than my existing plan."

The new insurance system requires policies to cover more services than some consumers had chosen to buy in the past.

"It's all a matter of having a budget and it only goes so far," said Agnone, an executive with a nonprofit charity based in Fairfield, which is about halfway between San Francisco and Sacramento.

"There is no winning in

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Forsan falls to MCA 57-42

By BRIAN MCCORMACK
Sports Editor

FORSAN — The Lady Buffaloes were leading Midland Classical (9-2) 26-23 at the intermission during a last-minute game Saturday, but ended up on the receiving end of a 57-42 loss after a strong second half by MCA.

Sitting at 7-5 with a few days off for Christmas break, FHS Head Coach Lindsey Schmidt isn't worried about wins and losses. At least not yet.

"We had a great first half. Everything was going well, everything was clicking. In the second half, (MCA) just played really well. They are a very good team," she said. "Our losses have all come to good team. We hope by playing these kinds of teams, it won't be such a shock to us when we get to district. Of course, we'd like to be 12-0, but all of our losses have helped us along the way."

It continues to be a team effort in Forsan, with scoring spread out across the court.

Schmidt is pleased with where her team is at this point in the season, especially the defensive phase. But she admits there is room for improvement offensively.

"Our free throw and field goal percentage isn't great," she added. "We need to get our offense clicking before district, for sure."

With opponents such as No. 7 Plains and Class A champions runner up Smyer looming ahead, it's probably in the Lady Buffs' best interest to be running through the preseason gauntlet they are.

Forsan will open the Grady Tournament with a bout against 3A Monahans on Friday.

Stats: Raegan Haggard, 10; Mary-Ashley McDaniel, 9; Maria Ortiz, 7; Jahnia Willard, 6; Brittney Hergert, 4; Rachel Haggard, 3.

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

HERALD file photo/Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Forsan's Rachel Haggard goes for a layup as Coahoma's Kaeli Yager defends during a game last week. Hoops action is on hold across the Crossroads region until the end of Christmas break. Most teams will resume play Thursday or Friday.

Late TD by Romo pushes Dallas past Redskins

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — On fourth down, feeling the season was on the line, Tony Romo dropped back, scrambled forward and found the correct color uniform. DeMarco Murray made the catch, hit the momentum taking him into the end zone for the winning score.

For much of the second half, Romo and Dallas Cowboys had flirted with their usual December swoon.

A recently signed fullback lost a fumble. The quarterback threw a bad interception. An eight-point lead became a nine-point deficit. Murray lost 9 yards on a third-and-goal at the 1.

But there was one chance left to pull off a win. Romo-to-Murray converted the fourth-and-goal at the 10 with 1:08 remaining Sunday, giving the Cowboys a 24-23 victory over the Washington Redskins.

"We just had to make a play," Dallas receiver Dez Bryant said. "Tony did a Houdini."

It's a magic moment that matters only if the Cowboys can win one more. The vic-

tory ended a two-game skid — as well as a four-game December losing streak — and sets up a winner-take-all, regular-season finale for the NFC East title next week, when the Cowboys (8-7) host the Philadelphia Eagles.

"Today we felt like we were playing for everything," Romo said. "Next week will be the same thing."

The Cowboys, who beat Philadelphia 17-3 on Oct. 20, set themselves up to quash two years of 8-8, collapse-around-Christmas misery.

"I know in some ways we've gotten hit with just the fact of losing the last couple of years in the final game," Romo said. "I think we're the only team that keeps getting themselves in position to win the NFC East every year — that's a credit. It's also a negative in the fact that we didn't do it the last couple of years."

The Cowboys melted down big-time last week against the Green Bay Packers, blowing a 23-point lead with Romo throwing two

See **DALLAS**, Page 10



AP photo

Tony Romo gives a thumbs up after the Cowboys defeated the Washington Redskins 24-23 Sunday. The win keeps the Cowboys in playoff contention, but they must defeat division rival Philadelphia next to secure a postseason berth.

Tannehill, Dolphins blanked in Buffalo, 19-0

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Left tackle Bryant McKinnie and the Miami Dolphins had trouble handling the Buffalo Bills' blitz during the game.

And McKinnie and company had difficulty coming up with answers afterward, too, following a 19-0 loss on Sunday that put a dent in the Dolphins' playoff chances.

"Um," McKinnie said, beginning to laugh uncomfortably when asked what went wrong, "I don't know. I couldn't tell you."

The patchwork offensive line — the Dolphins' season-long weakness — gave up a season-worst seven sacks and was part of a unit that managed

just 103 yards and six first downs against an AFC East rival that had little to play for after being eliminated from playoff contention a week earlier.

"I don't know," added right tackle Tyson Clabo of a line that's surrendered a franchise season-worst 58 sacks. "Obviously that wasn't our goal to have that stat..."

The Dolphins (8-7) had a three-game winning streak snapped and find themselves in a convoluted mix of four teams — Baltimore (8-7), San Diego (8-7) and Pittsburgh (7-8) — competing for the AFC's final playoff spot. Miami needs help while closing at home against the New York Jets next

weekend.

The Dolphins' loss clinched the AFC East for New England.

Buffalo's blitz got to starter Ryan Tannehill on the third play from scrimmage. And the pass rush didn't stop until he was sacked a final time on his second-to-last snap of the game.

In closing their home schedule, the Bills (6-9) won consecutive games for the first time since Weeks 2-3 of last season.

"That was a pretty good beating," Bills defensive coordinator Mike Pettine said. "They were flying around. They were getting off the ball and they just looked a step faster than Mi-

ami did all day."

Veteran defensive tackle Kyle Williams and rookie cornerback Nickell Robey had two sacks apiece. Mario Williams, Jerry Hughes and Da'Norris Searcy added one each in helping Buffalo to its first shutout in over two years — and first at Ralph Wilson Stadium since a 21-0 win over Miami on Dec. 17, 2006.

The seven sacks upped Buffalo's total to 56 this season, breaking its previous high of 50 during a 14-game season in 1964.

"It's a nice consolation for where we are," Kyle Williams

See **DOLPHINS**, Page 10

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR QUALITY STANDARD PERMIT REGISTRATION
PROPOSED AIR QUALITY REGISTRATION NO. 115103
APPLICATION Laredo Paving, Inc., has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Air Quality Standard Permit, Registration No. 115103, which would authorize construction of a Concrete Batch Plant. The applicant provides the following directions: from Garden City travel 4.79 miles north on Highway 158, the site is on the west side of Highway 158 just past County Road 125, Garden City, Glasscock County, Texas 79739. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application.
http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=31.86235&lng=-101.59016&zoom=13&type=r.
The proposed facility will emit the following air contaminants: particulate matter including (but not limited to) aggregate, cement, road dust, and particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less.
This application was submitted to the TCEQ on November 18, 2013. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ

central office, the TCEQ Midland Regional Office, and the Glasscock County Clerk's Office, 117 East Currie Street, Garden City, Glasscock County, Texas the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Midland regional office of the TCEQ.
The executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.
PUBLIC COMMENT/ PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. **The deadline to submit public comments is 15 days after newspaper notice is published.** After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the TCEQ's jurisdiction to consider in the permit process.
The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the application. A public meeting about the application will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the

application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.
If only comments are received on the application, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application.
The executive director will complete the technical review, issue a preliminary decision on the application, and a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments. If a hearing request is timely filed in Response to this Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Air Permit, the time period for requesting a contested case hearing will be extended to thirty days after the mailing of the executive director's response to comments.
After the final deadline for public comments following the Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If any comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who is on a mailing list for this appli-

cation, unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing.
OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. The application or the executive director may also request that the application be directly referred to a contested case hearing after technical review of the application. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 15 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the application. **If no hearing request is received within this 15-day period, no further opportunity for hearing will be provided.** A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on those issues raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn.
A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. To request a hearing, a person must actually reside in a permanent residence within 440 yards of the proposed plant. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific application mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.
AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. If you communicate with the TCEQ1 electronically, please be aware that your email address, like your physical mailing address, will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.
Further information may also be obtained from Laredo Paving, Inc., P.O. Box 1029, Big Spring, Texas 79721-1029 or by calling Ms. Cindy Fowler, Director of Administration at (432)267-1691.
Notice Issuance Date: December 2, 2013
#8109 December 23, 201

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Perfectionist Moon
The Virgo moon is the Martha Stewart of lunar aspects, striving for perfection and committed to creating a beautiful high-value outcome by doing things the right way. In one of her books, Stewart says, "Get a telescope, a wide-angle lens and a microscope." The Virgo moon likes this idea — whatever is needed for optimum results!
ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's a hard job ahead. Do as much as you can by yourself without asking for help. It will feel good to know what you're capable of, and the sense of accomplishment you get at the end of the day can't be beat.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Be the first person to arrive on the scene if you can, because there will be many advantages for the early birds. Your options will be better, and you'll wind up in a position of leadership, too.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you don't know what your advantage over the competition is yet, now is a good time to figure it out. Yes, you do have one, though you might have some work to do in order to maintain it.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Because your mind is preoccupied with a loved one's pressing needs, you may forget your own. Who is taking care of you? If no one else is asking you how you're feeling, you need to tend more closely to yourself.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Someone, but not everyone, will get your brand of playfulness. What you say in good fun might be construed as seriousness and/or fact by someone with a different sense of humor or perhaps no sense of humor at all.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The way you approach the day's tasks will defy conventional wisdom, which is why people watch you,



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

fascinated and taking bets on what you'll do next.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have no problem capturing people's attention. Success depends on knowing what to do with it after that. Decide what will make the most favorable difference to you.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Ask quality questions. Otherwise, you'll find yourself in boring, meaningless conversations — or worse, you won't learn what you need to know to get to your next goal post.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Frustration, untended, could turn to anger. One way to defuse it is to take away the time frame. Without the limitations and urgency that time imposes, a sense of relief and ease will settle in.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you simplify your life, you make other people's lives simpler, as well. This is a gift you can give the world: a beautiful, uncomplicated example.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't think you know more than anyone else about what it means to be human, and yet there are those who seek your counsel and will follow every bit of advice you offer.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Maybe happiness isn't merely about having a favorable ratio of positive to negative thoughts. Then again, it just might be that simple. Add a few more positive influences to see.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 23). You'll spend thousands of hours doing what you love. You will visualize, create, build and repeat the process. Your favorite people create memories with you in January. You'll invest in March and reap rewards for years. Travel in June and September. What you learn about another culture will help your business. Aquarius and Taurus people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 22, 14, 3 and 19.
HOLIDAY STRESS RELIEVERS: So many feel spent

and blue in December. What can you do to counteract holiday stress?
AQUARIUS: The holidays coincide perfectly with cold and flu season. Luckily, there are some contagions that actually promote health. One in particular triggers changes in the body that raise energy, reverse the damage of stress, diminish pain and boost the immune system. This contagion is highly infectious and — more good news — it's free. Can you guess what it is? Yes, it's laughter!
Most Aquarians have sociable natures, offbeat thought processes and open minds — the perfect combination for a sense of humor that is out of this world. The only trouble with that kind of humor is that it's sometimes misinterpreted or missed completely by those who are situated in the dead center of the mainstream. That's why stress relief for Aquarius has to do with getting the right cast of characters together: those who are ready to laugh at all the right things. The psychological closeness that comes with funny sharing also brings a shift of perspective. What seemed overwhelming will suddenly become manageable.
CELEBRITY PROFILES: Holly Madison was the center and star of "Holly's World," but she now confesses that her entire universe swirls around another beauty: her baby girl, Rainbow. This Capricorn model, showgirl and television personality has Mars, Jupiter and Saturn in nurturing Virgo, suggesting that she will find her greatest joy and good fortune through parenting.
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: For the past several years, my husband has taken out a new credit card each January and maxed it out over the next 12 months. This has resulted in major debt, which I fear will devastate our family and possibly affect our children and grandchildren.
My husband is a good and caring person who often picks up the restaurant tabs for our friends and family and buys them gifts they could buy for themselves. As a result, he is extremely popular. If I try to limit these unnecessary expenses, everyone thinks I'm a spoilsport.
We are approaching the time where he will apply for another new credit card. Should I prohibit this until we reach some agreement on budget cuts?



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Should I let him go ahead and get the new card and then try to negotiate budget cuts? Or do I keep on trucking as usual and hope for the best? — *Concerned Spouse*
Dear Spouse: If you are going into debt, please don't shove this under the carpet until you are living on the street. Your husband seems to be a compulsive buyer, and it can be similar to other addictions that require effort to overcome. Is he willing to recognize and address the problem? (Therapy can help.) Would he be willing to let you handle the family finances while he is put on a cash allowance? You also can contact Debtors Anonymous (debtorsanonymous.org) and the International OCD Foundation (ocfoundation.org) for information and referrals.
Dear Annie: Fifteen years ago, our daughter married a truly nice guy, and they made it clear right away that they didn't want "drop-in" visitors. I understood this, as they both work full time.
Three years ago, they bought a large home close to us, but in all the years they've been married, we can count on one hand the number of times we've

been invited over for anything, including the kids' birthdays, cookouts, etc. Yet I know my daughter's in-laws are often invited.
Our grandchildren ask why we never come to their house, and I simply say it's because we're never invited. What should I say? — *Confused in Indiana*
Dear Indiana: Please stop manipulating the children to get to the parents, which is exactly what you are doing when you tell them you're "never invited." Instead, talk to your daughter. Ask whether there is a problem and what you can do about it. She may have reasons for keeping you at a distance, so please make her understand that you cannot fix things if you don't know what the issues are. If she still doesn't invite you to her place, ask whether the children can visit at your house. As long as you can see your family, it really doesn't matter where.
Dear Annie: "Too Late To Try Again" said she was cut off by a relative with no explanation. This happened in my family. Tell her it might help if she can laugh about the situation.
I am from an Italian family and married into another Italian family. My

new mother-in-law was angry with her cousin "Angela." They had been close for a long time, but then they didn't speak for years.
When Angela died, my mother-in-law cried buckets but refused to go to the funeral. She said, "We didn't talk when she was alive, and I'm not going to talk to her now that she's dead." So I asked my mother-in-law what the argument was about, because it was obviously so terrible that good friends stopped speaking. She replied, with tears in her eyes, "I don't remember!" But true to her word, she did not go to the funeral. — *New York*
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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5 :PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias	News CBS	Seinfeld	Uri Harel D Stringer	Charlie Rose	King/Hill Cleveland	Street Out-laws			Castle (DVS)		Good Jessie	Around Pardon	SportCtr
6 :PM	Jeopardy! Wheel	Mentir Para Vivir	Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News News	Seinfeld	McDonald McGee	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Rules	Street Out-laws	(:15) Movie: Daniel Stern	Movie: The Expend-ables, Jet Li	Castle (DVS) Major Crimes	Movie: Hur-ricane Sea-son, Isaiah Washington	Dog Austin	SportsCenter	Monday Night Count-down
7 :PM	Shrek	Por Siempre	Almost Hu-man	How I Met Broke Girl	Marido en Alquiler	The Sling-Off	Fam. Guy	Upd	Antiques Roadshow	The Heart-radio Jingle Ball 2013	Street Out-laws					Santa Clause 3: Escape Clause	This Is Sportscenter College Basketball	(:25) NFL Football: Atlanta Fal-cons at San Francisco 49ers.
8 :PM	Chipmunk The Great Christmas Light Fight	Lo Que la Vida Me Robó (SS)	Sleepy Hol-low	Mike Mom	La Reina del Sur		Fam. Guy	Discovery Light of the Southwest	Christmas in Norway		Street Out-laws	(:45) Movie: Home Alone 2: Lost in New York	Movie: The Day After Tomorrow, Ian Holm	Major Crimes	Movie: American Gangster, Chiwetel Ejiofor	Fish Dog Jessie		
9 :PM	News Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Impacto Noticiero	Arsenio Hall	News Letterman	Noticias Titulares	News Jay Leno	Conan	House Mani	Return	Seinfeld Commu-n	Street Out-laws			Rizzoli & Isles Major Crimes		Dog Austin	SportCtr Olbermann	SportsCenter
10 :PM	Nightline	Familia-Suerte	How I Met How I Met	Ferguson	La Reina del Sur	Jimmy Fallon	Office	Cros	World	'70s	Street Out-laws	(:15) Movie: White Christmas, Rosemary Clooney	Cops Cops	Hawaii Five-0	Wendy Wil-liams	Good	Nation	
11 :PM	Extra Paid	Ni Contigo, Ni sin Ti	Raymond TMZ	Insider	Muecas Pagado	News	Office	Upd 1st Fruits	(Off Air)	'Til Death Browns	Street Out-laws		Cops Cops	Law & Order	Movie: American Gangster, Chiwetel Ejiofor	Shake It ANT Farm	SportsCenter NFL Prime-Time	
12 :AM	Paid	Conducta	Law & Order: SVU	Ent Paid	Pagado	(:06) Today	Movie: Hard-ball, John Travolta	Light of the Southwest		Browns Paid	Street Out-laws		Jail Jail	Law & Order		Deck Deck	NFL Films College	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

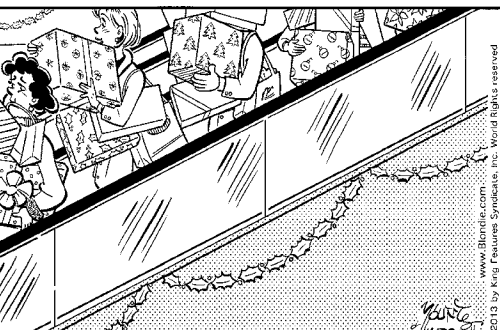


"If you're gonna guess what I got you for Christmas, Daddy, don't guess socks."

HAGAR



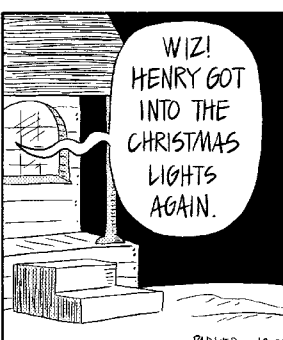
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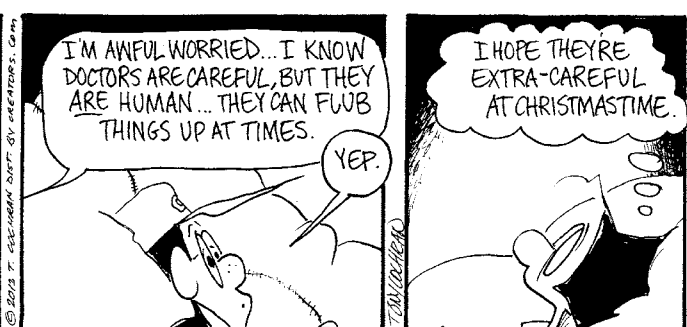
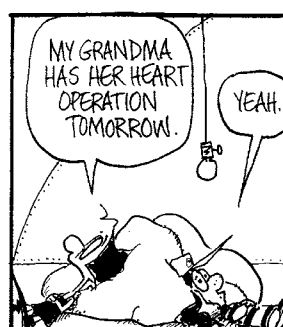
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THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Dec. 23, the 357th day of 2013. There are eight days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 23, 1913, the Federal Reserve System was created as President Woodrow Wilson signed the Federal Reserve Act.

On this date:

In 1788, Maryland passed an act to cede an area "not exceeding ten miles square" for the seat of the national government; about 2/3 of the area became the District of Columbia.

In 1823, the poem "Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas" was published anonymously in the Troy (N.Y.) Sentinel; the verse, more popularly known as "'Twas the Night Before Christmas," was later attributed to Clement C. Moore.

In 1893, the Engelbert

Humperdinck opera "Haensel und Gretel" was first performed, in Weimar, Germany.

In 1928, the National Broadcasting Company set up a permanent, coast-to-coast network.

In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt restored the civil rights of about 1,500 people who'd been jailed for opposing the (First) World War.

In 1941, during World War II, American forces on Wake Island surrendered to the Japanese.

In 1948, former Japanese premier Hideki Tojo and six other Japanese war leaders were executed in Tokyo.

In 1953, the Soviet Union announced the execution of Lavrentiy Beria, former head of the secret police, for treason.

In 1962, Cuba began releasing prisoners from the failed Bay of Pigs invasion under an agreement in which Cuba received more than \$50 million worth of food and medical supplies.

In 1968, 82 crew members

of the U.S. intelligence ship Pueblo were released by North Korea, 11 months after they had been captured.

In 1972, in football's "Immaculate Reception," Franco Harris of the Pittsburgh Steelers caught a pass thrown by Terry Bradshaw and scored a touchdown after the ball was deflected during a collision between Jack Tatum of the Oakland Raiders and the Steelers' John Fuqua; the Steelers won, 13-7. A 6.2-magnitude earthquake struck Nicaragua; the disaster claimed some 5,000 lives.

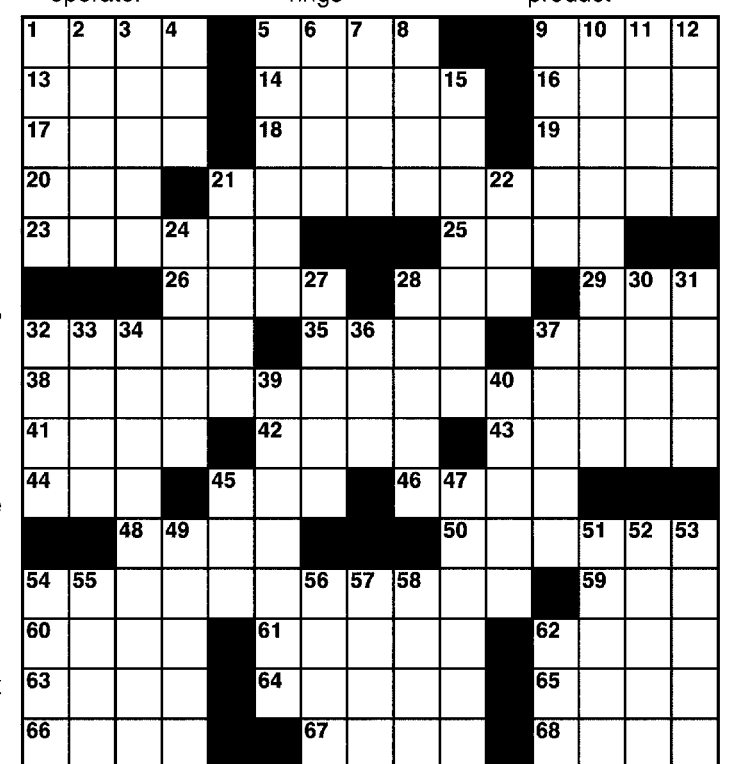
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Answer to previous puzzle
REVERSE CASELAW
ONEDOWN OSTRICH
LOGSOUT CHIANTI
LUG SNICKER KEN
SNIP GROAN SADE
ICEAX EAT CIGAR
NESTED LOCHNESS
CRIB OPEC
DISHONOR USEFUL
ANNEX LEG TRINI
UFOS FOURS EDEN
NEW HOTPINK GAD
TRIPOLI LOANERS
ENNOBLE LORETTA
DOGTOYS SPLASHY

Newsday Crossword

QUEEN'S SUBJECTS by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
1 Region
5 Said "Not guilty," for example
9 Air conditioner measures: Abbr.
13 Boxing signal
14 Wandered around
16 Come in second
17 Skin-cream ingredient
18 Getting chilled, as wine
19 All over again
20 Beer-keg insert
21 Oboe cousin
23 Not subject to a law
25 Leaning Tower city
26 Computer-screen image
28 Cherry seed
29 Mover's vehicle
32 Rodeo rope
35 Gorillas and chimps
37 Grow dim
38 Short-legged dog
41 24-hr. cash sources
42 "Look what I did!"
43 Fixed, as a squeak
44 Office neckwear
45 Hole-punching tool
46 Car-maintenance task
48 Money in Mexico
50 Usual
54 Cheese dish served over toast
59 Air-quality org.
60 Historical times
61 Gold measure
- 62 Read a bar code
63 Casino cubes
64 Sparkle
65 Farmland measure
66 Catches sight of
67 Bird-feeder food
68 Touches lightly
- DOWN**
1 Taper off
2 "Calm down!"
3 Get married secretly
4 Pub beverage
5 "Right now!"
6 Time-consuming
7 Wicked
8 One-tenth: Pref.
9 Bored feelings, with "the"
10 In vain
11 Computer operator
12 Stitched up
15 Loathe
21 Florida Disney attraction
22 Top tune
24 Light sprays
27 Twangy, as speech
28 Part of a rose
30 "Zip-_-Doo-Dah"
31 Geek
32 Future attorney's exam: Abbr.
33 First part of a play
34 At an unspecified location
36 Prof.'s degree, often
37 Appliance for making onion rings
- 39 "Your TV has been fixed"
40 Mechanical assembly-line worker
45 Fireplace residue
47 Joined together
49 Letters before tees
51 Popular tourist spot
52 In pieces
53 Places to bowl
54 Marries
55 One of the Great Lakes
56 Oohs and __
57 Soft French cheese
58 Ruination
62 Maple-tree product



Peyton Manning sets TD record in win over Texans

HOUSTON (AP) — Peyton Manning has broken Tom Brady's NFL record for most touchdown passes in a season with 51.

Denver's Manning did it on a 25-yard pass to Julius Thomas with 4:28 remaining in the game Sunday against the Texans. Just 2 1-2 minutes earlier, he tied the mark with a 20-yard pass to Eric Decker.

"I really feel like it's a team accomplishment, certainly an offensive accomplishment," Manning said. "There's a lot of people that played roles in this."

Manning made the throw to Thomas and walked toward the end zone, where his teammates patted him on the head. He then took off his helmet and walking to the sideline and

pumped his fist once. His teammates came out to greet him and he gave dozens of high-fives as he grinned and walked to the bench.

Decker picked up the ball after Thomas dropped it and tucked it in the side of his jersey, where it remained as he walked off the field.

Manning entered the game with 47 TDs and his first touchdown came on a 36-yard pass to Demaryius Thomas in the second quarter. The second one was a 10-yard throw to Decker early in the fourth period.

"We're not surprised at what Peyton does," Julius Thomas said. "The work he puts in every day, you see how he demands the best from himself. Fortunately for us, we're the beneficiaries of that."

Brady set the record, which previously belonged to Manning, in 2007. Manning had established the record by throwing 49 touchdown passes in 2004.

"They were able to make the big plays and we weren't able to stop them from doing that," Houston safety Shiloh Keo said.

Surrounded by the best targets he's ever had, operating a turbocharged assault with a body that's much less a question mark, Manning is putting up record numbers like he did in that remarkable 2004 season.

That year, Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokley all topped 1,000 yards receiving. Manning established NFL records with 49 touchdown throws and a 121.1 passer

rating, marks since surpassed by Brady and Aaron Rodgers (122.5).

Manning was the NFL's 2012 Comeback Player of the Year, showing he was every bit as good as before. He's having his best season at age 37, just two years removed from the four neck surgeries that weakened his right triceps and threatened his career. He hadn't missed a start with the Colts before 2011.

Last week, Houston interim coach Wade Phillips said Manning's season was "just the best year ever of any quarterback."

Manning threw 37 touchdown passes last year, which broke a franchise record of 27 set by John Elway in 1997 and tied by Jake Plummer in 2004.

NFL playoff picture: Panthers, Patriots, Broncos in, spots still open

(AP) — Tom Brady and Peyton Manning clinched division titles, Cam Newton reached the postseason for the first time and a pair of all-or-nothing games loomed on the final weekend in a scrambled NFL playoff race.

The Chicago Bears missed a chance to seal a spot with a 54-11 loss at Philadelphia on Sunday night. Now, they'll host Green Bay next Sunday — the

winner takes the NFC North, the loser is done.

Several hours later, in the last game of the regular season, the Dallas Cowboys will host the Philadelphia Eagles. The Sunday night showdown decides who wins the NFC East and who goes home.

Meanwhile, all the AFC division titles got settled. Denver, New England

and Cincinnati won to join Indianapolis with crowns.

Kansas City is assured of one AFC wild-card spot. Defending Super Bowl champion Baltimore, Miami and San Diego are tied at 8-7 for the other slot with even Pittsburgh at 7-8 still in it.

Newton and his Carolina Panthers, along with Seattle, are the only NFC teams with guaranteed playoff

berths.

San Francisco (10-4) can clinch a playoff spot Monday night with a win against visiting Atlanta.

Carolina (11-4) can wrap up the NFC South and a first-round bye in the playoffs with a win next Sunday at Atlanta. The 49ers, New Orleans and Arizona are competing for the last two NFC playoff slots.

DOLPHINS

Continued from Page 4

said. "I think you've seen today potentially

what we can do."

The defense took the burden off a depleted offense led by backup Thad Lewis starting in place of rookie EJ Manuel, out because of

a swollen left knee.

And the Bills' offense finished without its top three receivers.

Rookie Marquise Goodwin had a right knee injury late in the first quarter.

Fellow rookie Robert Woods was ejected for punching safety Reshad Jones in the facemask in the third quarter. Veteran starter Stevie Johnson was excused to be with his family following the death of his mother.

Dan Carpenter essen-

tially sealed the win by hitting a 45-yard field goal to cap the Bills' second possession.

Carpenter finished hitting all four attempts against his former team, and Fred Jackson had 111 yards of offense, including a 9-yard touchdown.

"I'm very proud of this team," rookie head coach Doug Marrone said. "It was an honor to be on that sideline and watch those guys perform."

Lewis, who grew up

in Miami, finished 15 of 25 for 193 yards and an interception. He improved to 2-2 this season, with both wins coming against the Dolphins.

Miami crossed midfield only three times, converted just two of 14 third-down chances, and managed just six first downs, including two in the second half.

Tannehill finished 10 of 27 for 82 yards and was briefly knocked out of the game with a left knee injury after Williams' second sack early

in the fourth quarter.

Matt Moore took over and provided Miami a short-lived spark by completing a 50-yard pass to Brian Hartline. He followed by throwing an interception to Jim Leonhard.

Though Tannehill said his knee's fine, he wasn't pleased with the offense's outing.

"It wasn't one thing, it wasn't one area," Tannehill said. "Every aspect of the game, we failed to step up to the plate."

Sudoku Answer on Page 4

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Famous Hand

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
East-West partscore of 90.

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

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ 1♥ 1♠ Pass
2♦ 2♥ 3♦ Pass
3♦ 4♦! Pass Pass !!
Dble 4♥ Dble Pass
4♠

Opening lead — six of diamonds.

This deal occurred in a rubber-bridge game many years ago. The hero was Milton M. Miller of Toronto, who held the East hand.

The bidding progressed smoothly until Miller bid four diamonds, the opponents' suit. His intent was clear: He wanted West to lead a diamond if South became declarer in a spade contract.

But West, for reasons known only

to himself, passed four diamonds! Perhaps he had made up his mind never to bid with such a dreadful hand, or perhaps the pass was strategic, since he would not have minded going down a few tricks undoubled.

With good prospects for a vulnerable game, North was unwilling to settle for a small penalty, so he doubled. This gave Miller a chance to rescue himself, after which North bid four spades.

Apparently, West did have some idea as to the meaning of East's four-diamond bid, because he led a diamond. Miller ruffed and, desperate to put West back on lead, returned the deuce of hearts!

Without giving the matter any thought, declarer played low, and West, to his astonishment, won the trick with the eight! When he had sufficiently recovered, he returned another diamond, ruffed with the king. Miller then cashed a heart, the defense's fourth trick, to set the contract.

There is no point in dwelling on the fact that South should have played the nine on East's heart return at trick two — it would have cost him nothing to do so. Rather, we would like to give full credit to Miller, who had the presence of mind to bid four diamonds and the daring to underlead his heart honors in a valiant attempt to defeat the contract.

Tomorrow: Even when you lose, you win.



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DALLAS

Continued from Page 4

interceptions in the waning minutes.

On Sunday, the Cowboys fell flat in the third quarter instead of the fourth, leaving just enough time for a comeback.

"Coming back and playing well and working hard can help your character. Now, I don't recommend the way we came back today as a way to get there," Dallas owner Jerry Jones said with a smile. "I would've liked for it to be a little easier and confident."

The Redskins (3-12) aren't building much of anything. They lost their seventh straight, the second in a row by one point, both with Kirk Cousins starting in place of shut-down franchise player Robert Griffin III.

Pierre Garcon (11 catches, 144 yards) provided the home team highlight by breaking Art Monk's single-season franchise reception record, while veteran

eran linebacker London Fletcher played in what is expected to be his final home game before retiring. Embattled coach Mike Shanahan clinched his worst record in his 20 seasons as a head coach.

"Everybody on the team is fed up at this point," Washington linebacker Perry Riley said. "We should be winning"

Romo completed 17 of 27 passes for 226 yards with two touchdowns and played much of the game with back pain. He was limping noticeably after a couple of plays in the fourth quarter.

"I took a hit that kind of triggered it a little bit. I felt it the rest of the game," Romo said. "You just play through it, just like anything in football."

The Cowboys led 14-6 at halftime before committing turnovers on back-to-back drives — a fumble by Tyler Clutts and an interception by DeAngelo Hall. The Redskins scored on three straight possessions and took a 23-14 lead on the first play of the fourth quarter.

But Romo converted a fourth-and-6 at the Washington 40-yard line to set up a field goal that cut the lead to six with 6:09 to play. The Cowboys started the go-ahead drive at their 13 with 3:39 remaining. A 51-yard pass to Terrance Williams set up the winning score, with the Cowboys surviving the 9-yard loss by Murray when knocking on the door at the 1.

"A couple of self-inflicted wounds in the second half hurt us," Dallas coach Jason Garrett said. "But you keep playing. Our guys scratched, clawed, and fought."