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MONDAY

OCTOBER 4, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 257

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Council to consider water, sewer rate hike

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council is expected to consider an increase in municipal water and sanitation rates Tuesday night designed to stave off a cost hike of more than 8 percent from the Colorado River Municipal Water District.

Part of the 2010-2011 budget recently



Walker

approved by the council, the water rate increases are part of a new tiered system the city is instituting to help spread the cost out among both residential and commercial water customers.

According to City Finance Director Peggy Walker, the new system divides its customers

— both residential and commercial — into different tiers based on the size and cost of the water meter, which determines the customer's demand on the water system.

"This allows us to cover the 8.5 percent increase from CRMWD without increasing anyone's base rate," Walker told the council. "The way the new system works, a normal residential home that consumes

approximately 5,000 gallons of water each month will see a 50-cent increase in their bill. Higher demand homes — such as residents that do more laundry or water their grass more often, using around 10,000 gallons — will see more of an increase, but in that case we're only looking at \$1 over what they are paying now."

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

COAHOMA QUEEN



Courtesy photo/Angie Sloan

Itzel Gomez, escorted by her father Marcos, was named 2010 homecoming queen for Coahoma High School during halftime of the Coahoma-Hawley football game Friday night.

Film society sets Oct. 16 showing of 'Poltergeist'

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring Film Society will be bringing the Crossroads area a frightful good time Oct. 16, as the local organization prepares for an impromptu screening of the film classic "Poltergeist" in Heart of the City Park.

Film Society Chairman Brandon Johnson said the group had previously decided to wrap up their season of outdoor screenings with the showing of "Jurassic Park" in August, but simply couldn't resist the chance to screen "Poltergeist" so close to Halloween.



Johnson

"It is an opportunity we simply couldn't resist," Johnson said. "It also fits right in with the Steven Spielberg retrospective we've been doing. Anyone who has seen 'Poltergeist' will tell you the film has Spielberg's fingerprints all over it, even if you don't see his name in the credits. It was more of a Spielberg film than a Tobe Hooper movie."

"The film is rated PG, but the public is warned it contains some extremely scary situations, and your young children will sleep with you until they are about

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Candidates for governor debate without Perry

HOUSTON (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry was absent from the first gubernatorial debate of the general election campaign Sunday night, and Democrat Bill White used the forum to criticize Perry following reports that companies linked to major donors received large state grants.

White, the former Houston mayor, joined Libertarian Party nominee Kathie Glass and Green Party candidate Deb Shafto in fielding questions during an event that drew about 300 spectators in Houston, the Houston Chronicle reported. The debate was sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

The trio discussed education, with White and Glass questioning the emphasis on standardized testing, and all three calling for a greater emphasis on vocational and technical education.

Glass endorsed securing the Texas-Mexico border with the Texas State Guard.

White also went after the Republican governor, saying state government

should be "well-run as a public service for all people and not as a political machine." His comment referred to an article in the Dallas Morning News on Sunday that said more than \$16 million from the Texas Emerging Technology Fund has gone to companies with ties to Perry's major campaign donors.

Perry told the newspaper that the donors' support had nothing to do with the grants.

Perry declined to participate in the debate. He had said he wouldn't debate unless White releases more of his income tax returns.

During the debate, White referred to the technology fund grants and said state government must not only do right but be seen as doing right.

"I certainly don't think that we ought to have politicians using taxpayer funds to decide which individual businesses they're going to subsidize. Something is wrong with that picture," he said.

Glass, a civil trial lawyer, also en-

dorsed cutting the state budget by 15 percent and abolishing franchise and property taxes. Regarding education, she questioned the need for school dropout programs. A 14-year-old, she said, "just possibly knows what's better for his life."

White and Glass both questioned the need for national public school standards and what they described as too much emphasis on testing.

"I've never met a person who makes their living taking multiple-choice tests," White said.

All three also called for a greater emphasis on vocational and technical education.

Shafto, a retired Houston school teacher, endorsed many of White's positions and urged that Texas be "the clean-energy leader of the whole world."

The three are scheduled to participate in an Oct. 19 debate sponsored by several of the state's major newspapers and public television station KLRU.

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Obituaries

Bonnie F. Tubb

Bonnie F. Tubb, 84, of Big Spring died Sunday, Oct. 3, 2010, in an Odessa hospice. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- JUAN RODRIGUEZ III, 21, of 1205 Barnes, was arrested Sunday on a warrant for harassment.
- JUAN SOSA RODRIGUEZ, 41, of 805 Rosemont, was arrested Sunday on a warrant from another agency.
- ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 70, transient, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MATTHEW WILLIAM VANDERPOOL, 22, of 1900 Martin Luther King Blvd. Apt. 314, was arrested Sunday on warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, failure to appear and criminal mischief.
- LANA RUTH MUNOZ, 47, was arrested Sunday on a charge of theft – shoplifting.
- RAUL REYES BELTRAN, 39, of Lubbock, was arrested Sunday on charges of evading arrest or detention, failure to identify as a fugitive – giving false information and a warrant from another agency.
- GILBERT RECIO JR., 37, of 1007 Wood, was arrested Saturday on charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct – language.
- ANDRES AGUIRRE DUENES, 37, of 1206 E. 11th Place, was arrested Saturday on warrants for driving into block where fire engine stopped and a warrant from another agency.
- ROMAN JOSE ORTEGA, 38, of 704 S. Johnson, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- ROBERT CASTANEDA, 20, of 1310 S. Birdwell Lane, was arrested Saturday on a warrant for accident involving damage to a vehicle.
- ASSAULT was reported:
In the 1300 block of Birdwell Lane.
In the 1800 block of Settles.
In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
In the 2100 block of Alabama.
In the 1400 block of N. Highway 87.
In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 2700 block of Coronado.
In the 200 block of W. FM 700.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 71 inmates at the time of this report.
- GEORGE W. EBERSOLE, 61, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of assault – family violence.
 - JACOB DANIEL PETROWSKI, 21, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
 - TONYA YAGER, 39, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
 - JOLANDA GONZALES, 41, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for escape from custody.
 - JUAN JOSE ACUNA JR., 26, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.
 - JAMES FERGUSON, 29, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for displaying an expired registration, violation of a promise to appear (two counts) and expired motor vehicle inspection certificate.
 - DENNIS MICHAEL RICHARDSON, 26, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
 - FORTUNATO ALVAREZ III, 22, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of driving while

license invalid and violation of a promise to appear.

- ISABEL GONZALEZ LOMAS, 54, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of failure to appear and no driver's license.
- GILBERT SANCHEZ, 37, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct – language.
- RHETT DAYLON DEDMON, 39, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container and second offense.
- SAMUEL HERNANDEZ, 56, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ROMAN ORTEGA, 38, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while disqualified – commercial vehicle with a previous conviction.
- ANDRES DUENES, 37, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of interfering with an emergency phone call and driving into block where fire engine stopped.
- ROBERT CASTANEDA, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of accident involving damage to a vehicle.
- CALVIN JACOB LAWSON, 27, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid, violation of a promise to appear and a Midland County warrant for possession of marijuana.
- JUAN SOSA RODRIGUEZ, 41, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.
- JUAN RODRIGUEZ, 21, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of harassment.
- ERNEST WILLIAM CLARK, 70, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MATTHEW WILLIAM VANDERPOOL, 22, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of failure to maintain financial responsibility, failure to appear and criminal mischief.
- RAUL REYES BELTRAN, 39, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive – giving false information, evading arrest or detention and a motion to revoke probation for burglary/forgery.
- LANA MUNOZ, 47, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- LEAH DENISE TIBBETS, 17, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- CANDACE ROCHELLE HILL, 17, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft.
- CHRISTOPHER CEARLEY, 26, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- CHANCE FELKER COOKE, 25, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.






Fire/EMS

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

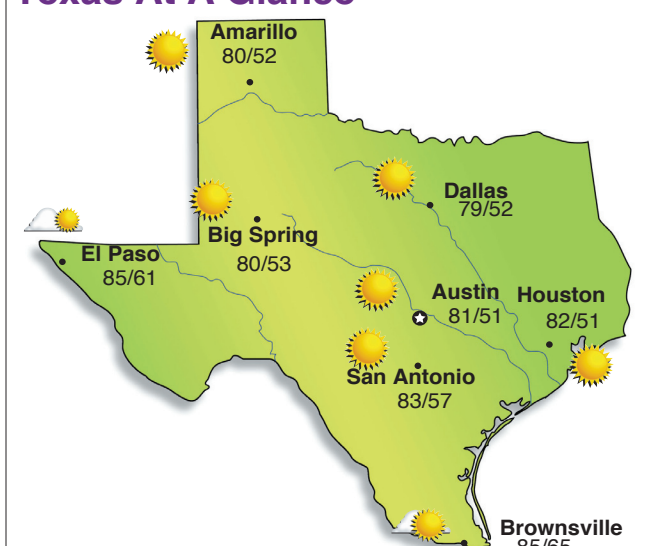
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 10/5	Wed 10/6	Thu 10/7	Fri 10/8	Sat 10/9
 80/53 Mainly sunny. High around 80F. Winds SSE at 10 to 20 mph.	 81/54 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	 81/53 Sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	 80/55 Sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	 82/57 Sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.
Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 7:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 7:24 PM	Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 7:23 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 7:22 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 7:21 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	82	55	sunny	Kingsville	85	60	sunny
Amarillo	80	52	sunny	Livingston	82	44	sunny
Austin	81	51	sunny	Longview	79	45	sunny
Beaumont	81	49	sunny	Lubbock	80	51	sunny
Brownsville	85	65	mst sunny	Lufkin	81	46	sunny
Brownwood	82	51	sunny	Midland	83	56	sunny
Corpus Christi	84	61	sunny	Raymondville	87	63	mst sunny
Corsicana	78	49	sunny	Rosenberg	81	51	sunny
Dallas	79	52	sunny	San Antonio	83	57	sunny
Del Rio	84	59	sunny	San Marcos	82	51	sunny
El Paso	85	61	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	78	49	sunny
Fort Stockton	84	55	windy	Sweetwater	81	54	sunny
Gainesville	77	49	sunny	Tyler	78	45	sunny
Greenville	77	47	sunny	Weatherford	78	50	sunny
Houston	82	51	sunny	Wichita Falls	80	52	sunny

SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Old Mill Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 5700 block of Cedar Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1400 block of Birdwell Lane. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the area of N. Midway Road. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of W. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of W. Broadway in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3000 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1100 block of Goliad. One person was transported to SMMC.

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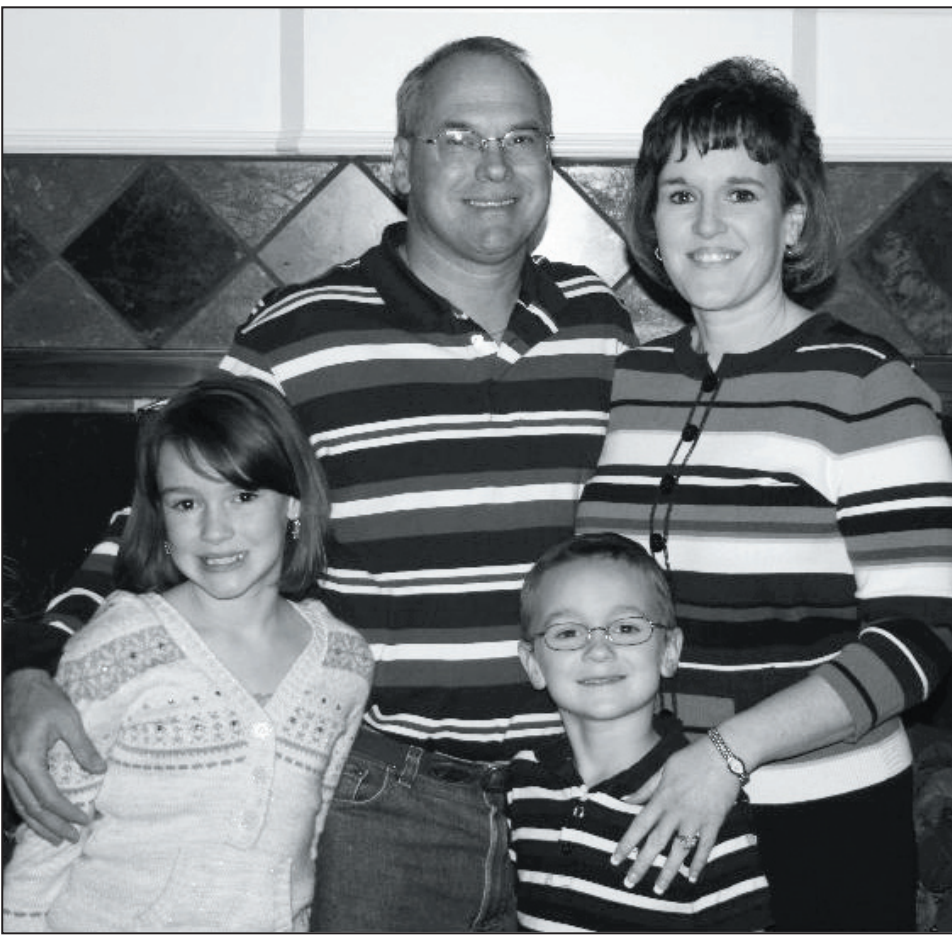
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FAMILY OF YEAR



Courtesy photo

The Morgan Family — Ernie, Lori, Kaylee and Cayden — were honored as the Big Spring Family of the Year during a luncheon held Thursday at Howard College. Vicki Jay, executive director of Rays of Hope Children's Grief Center, was the guest speaker. The Family of the Year Banquet is a fund-raiser for the Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas and helps fund low-income clients seeking counseling.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

First reading of the tiered system — including the rate hike — was approved by the council Sept. 21. Also during Tuesday's meeting, the council is expected to award the bid for construction of the new family aquatics

center intended for Comanche Trail Park. The aquatics center will replace the municipal swimming pool, which the council gave the order not to open at the end of the school year in May 2009 after city officials learned the facility failed to meet federal requirements laid out in the Virginia Graeme Baker Act, as well as the

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act). The \$4.2 million facility became a hotbed of controversy, as a number of citizens spoke out vehemently on the matter and whether or not it should have been weighed in on by voters. Despite the political heat, the city moved forward with the project, issuing certificates of obligation

— which do not require a bond election — for the full \$4.2 million. However, during later meetings the council decided to pare down the facility to \$3.7 million, with the remainder of funds expected to be applied to the debt service on the certificates of obligation. According to City Manager Gary Fuqua,

the project is expected to be completed by the end of May, just in time for the 2011 summer season. Also during the meeting, the council is expected to meet with John Grant, general manager of CRMWD, to discuss current lake levels and possible measures for water conservation in the future.

Tuesday's meeting is expected to get underway at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street.

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

FILM

Continued from Page 1

13 years old if you decide to bring them along." If Johnson seems excited about the Poltergeist screening, it's no wonder. "Poltergeist is a film that holds a very special place in my childhood memories," he said with a smile. "It's the film that caused me to bury my Ronald McDonald doll because I was afraid it was going get me. And it also caused me to sleep with my parents until I was 12 years old. It doesn't contain the type of over-the-top gore most recent horror movies feature, but it is certainly enough to scare the pants off most people."

The film society began its Spielberg retrospective more than a year ago, having held a screening of the Hollywood classic "Jaws" near the waters of Comanche Trail Lake and, most recently, "Raiders of the Lost Ark" at the Comanche

Trail Amphitheater. "JurassicPark"—which the group screened atop Scenic Mountain at Big Spring State Park —was originally going to be the last film in the effort, until the recent decision to squeeze in one more screening. Johnson said the Oct. 16 screening will be the group's first attempt at using the Heart of the City Park, located in downtown Big Spring. "Since we started doing these screenings, we've talked about different ways to incorporate downtown Big Spring into them," Johnson said. "We're planning to use that area for screenings next year, especially for the 'Ghostbusters' showing we're working on. So it just seemed to fit with the idea and feel of 'Poltergeist.' I'm really looking forward to seeing how it all turns out." Johnson said the screenings are a great way for area families to spend an evening, but they are also designed to do something else. "Getting the chance to

see these films in such wonderful settings and venues is something parents and children can share and never forget," Johnson said. "Most of these movings have some sort of meaning to moviegoers, no matter where they saw it or who they saw it with. However, this is something that is near and dear to our own hearts, and we're hoping they leave everyone — especially the children — with some great memories they can someday share with their children. "And while you can never dismiss the entertainment value of a good screening, they also give us a chance to meet with area residents that are not only interested in watching films, but in making their own movies and short films. That way, what starts out as nothing more than wishful thinking for some people can become a reality. That's

just a great side effect of these screenings, that it draws interest in the Big Spring Film Society. There's a lot we can do on our own, but when we all get together and pool our resources and knowledge, it's absolutely mind boggling what can be accomplished." Johnson said the film society is always in need of volunteers — and donors — to help with the screenings. "Trust me, there's plenty to do," Johnson said with a laugh. "We can always use another set of hands, or even just some fresh ideas. If anyone out there is interested in helping, they can give me a call and I'll let them know when our next meeting is, and we can get some things done. We're also looking for donors and sponsors to help cover the cost of the screening." For more information on volunteering or the

Big Spring Film Society, contact Johnson at (432) 213-0758 or by e-mail at cruiser1977@gmail.com. More information is also available at <http://www.bigspringfilm.org>

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

Take a moment and thank your carrier this week

Every day more than 59 million newspapers are delivered all across America. That's 683 newspapers delivered every second of every day, and several thousand of that total are copies of the Big Spring Herald.

Each of those copies of the Herald is delivered by a hardworking, dedicated carrier.

Without those special people, that daily ritual of reading a paper wouldn't exist for not only the Herald's readers, but almost 100 million Americans.

That's why the Herald's carriers, like all those across the nation, have one mission: to deliver the news that Big Spring and the surrounding area's residents depend upon.

We're now in the middle of National Newspaper Week, and Saturday's final day of the observance is designated as International Newspaper Carrier Day.

Since we don't actually publish a Saturday edition, we want to take the opportunity this to, maybe a little early, thank those independent contractors who deliver the Herald six days a week.

After all, without their dedication and hard work, very few people would have an opportunity to see the newspaper we produce.

It's a product we're pretty proud of these days, just as we're proud of the people who make sure it's sitting in your front yard or on your porch each day.

And we hope whenever you have an opportunity, you'll show your appreciation as well.

Thank your carrier for a job well done.

You might not get a chance today, tomorrow or this week. But don't worry. He or she will be back again. And again. And again.

After all, that's what they're good at.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we have a compelling urge, Lord, to seek You.

Amen

Getting engaged in the community

Our newspaper recently worked on a project on infant mortality among African Americans in our community. Rates rivaled those of third world countries here in the capital city of the nation's fourth largest state.

We posted information on what we were doing on social media.

As the responses came in it became clear that the newspaper had to fulfill a traditional role in a new way: We had to be a conduit for connecting the various parts of our community in a new way using new tools.

We actually introduced people working on the same topic from different government and educational agencies.

Through this process, our community began to work together more closely to give mothers and infants a better start.

Serving as a community conduit is more than posting on Facebook or Tweeting. It is engaging leaders and citizens in the democratic process, setting the agenda on what is critical to the health and well-being of our communities.



BOB GABORDI

And it is one more thing: It is our competitive advantage over all over media, and I believe our future.

When a 22-year-old Florida State graduate was killed when her role as a confidential drug informant for police went bad, we used social media to reach her peers to engage on our reporting.

When we were eventually able to report on how police had mishandled the case, young adult readers were read every word of our investigative reports.

By combining our traditional journalistic skills and tools with the power of social media, meaningful conversations can co-exist with simplistic posts about what so and so is having for lunch. It is the union of print with community conversation that is a difference maker.

The Tallahassee Democrat has a Facebook page for its websites, Tallahassee.com and NoleSports.com. We use them to talk to our readers, not at them, but to them. We converse. We join in their conversations about our stories. Combined we have more than 9,500 "friends." Many of our journalists maintain their own pages and talk about our work. I have close to 1,900 "friends," for example.

For point of reference, people will click off of Facebook or Twitter and onto our websites some

25,000 times in September. Another whole group of people will read our print edition with their computer open and ready to comment.

Even before a story publishes, there is already a buzz in the community.

The pump has been primed for good, fact-based conversations around our journalism. When the story is published, they are ready to take action, to make a difference.

It really comes down to this: The Internet has yet to prove its ability to attract readers to in-depth enterprise journalism; print has never had the power to deliver good and meaningful conversations.

For us, it is no longer something extra. It is how we do journalism. It is not simply posting on social media, it is doing journalism using social media tools. It is important to understand the difference or risk alienating even more readers.

For us, it is making a difference in how our community views us and keeping us relevant to new and traditional readers.

Bob Gabordi is executive editor of the Tallahassee Democrat and Tallahassee.com and writes a regular blog on Tallahassee.com. His e-mail address is bgabordi@tallahassee.com



Can you read my mind?

What woman hasn't wished her husband or boyfriend could read her mind?

Perhaps we've thought, "Just once, could he know what I'm feeling or what I need without me explaining it to him or writing him a book?"

Sorry to tell you this, my women friends, but not even Superman could read minds, much to Lois Lane's dismay.

I spent years in anguish and agony over my husband's inability to understand what I was thinking. The thought never occurred to me that I couldn't read his thoughts so why did I ever imagine — or hope — he could read mine?

I knew a couple who were married for almost 70 years. The wife wrote her husband weekly letters explaining to him — in infinite detail — her feelings, frustrations and longings.

I used to think it was a funny thing to do. But it seemed to work well for them.

I don't know if he ever wrote her letters.

I must admit that many years of my marriage went by before my communication skills with my husband began to improve. Why was it so hard to talk with him about my innermost feelings?

I remember many days I spent crying that he didn't understand me. And he didn't. But how could he have without me making an effort to help him?

Perhaps the place to get to in a marriage is the desire to understand your husband as much

as you want him to understand you. I think this is the essence of the "Golden Rule." The idea of treating others the way you would like them to treat you.

Webster defines communication as "a process by which information is exchanged between individuals."

"Exchanged" is the key word in this definition to me, as it suggests two parties exchanging — communicating — with each other.

Another definition of communication is "the exchange of thoughts, messages or information by speech, signals, writing or behavior." From my experience, speech and writing have been more effective at getting my point across than signals or behavior.

Every time I've tried the "silent treatment" when I'm upset about something and go to bed in that mode, my husband just thinks I'm sleepy and he goes on to sleep while I lay there half the night stewing. When I wake him — eventually — he is totally clueless that anything is wrong.

I've almost always found that signals can get crossed, which then results in a mutual misunderstanding, or in other words, a failure to communicate.

Using words to effectively impart information could be considered an "art" — as another definition of communication suggested.

There seems to be an art in how we say what we want to say. Specifically, implementing the proper use of tone and emphasis as well as body language when speaking, are significant factors in getting our meaning across correctly. Without the correct usage, however, the "recipient" in the exchange could become defensive or get hurt feelings as

well as totally misunderstand the meaning the "sender" intended.

I have definitely NOT mastered the art of communicating with my husband. And if there are wives out there who feel they have, I would sure love to hear from you. Tips and advice would be most welcomed!

Of course, it could be that women really are from Venus and men from Mars, so we're destined to never completely understand each other. But perhaps recognizing that men and women have different needs and communicate in different ways is a good way to begin.

It's probably important, too, to realize that words can have different meanings to men and women.

I heard a comedian explain this once. He gave the word — communication — as an example. He said women define communication as "the open sharing of thoughts and feelings with one's partner" while men define it as "leaving a note before taking a fishing trip with the boys."

Alas, without the ability to read each other's minds, men and women may never be able to completely understand each other, but we can remember that we never will without trying. And that takes some form of communication!

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. A mother and former public and homeschool teacher, she was first published by the Dallas Morning News after becoming an empty nester when her daughter left for college in 2001, she has since written weekly columns for numerous websites, newspapers and magazines.

THE WORLD BRIEFLY:
NATO supply tankers attacked in Pakistan; Taliban claims responsibility for gunfire

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility Monday for a pre-dawn attack on tankers carrying fuel to Afghanistan for U.S. and other NATO forces, left vulnerable on the side of the road after Pakistan shut down a key border crossing.

About a dozen militants peppered the vehicles parked at a truck stop on the outskirts of the capital Islamabad with automatic gunfire. Some 20 trucks went up in flames and four people were killed and seven injured, authorities said.

It was the third such attack since Pakistan last Thursday shuttered its main border crossing into Afghanistan to NATO supply convoys in apparent reaction to a series of alleged NATO incursions, including a helicopter attack that killed three Pakistani soldiers. Traffic has since been backing up at various points along the route from the southern port city of Karachi to the crossing at Torkham — where scores of trucks remain stranded and vulnerable to attack in the volatile Khyber Pass.

Although Pakistan says the blockade will soon be lifted, the latest attack and the Taliban threat seemed certain to raise the stakes in the closure, which has exacerbated tensions between Washington and Islamabad.

“We are trying our best to protect the places where are vehicles have accumulated, and we are not dispatching any more trucks from Karachi for now,” said Shakir Khan Afridi, president of the Khyber Transport Association, a major umbrella organization representing some 7,000 truckers.

Test-tube baby pioneer Robert Edwards of Britain has won 2010 Nobel Prize in medicine

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Robert Edwards of Britain won the 2010 Nobel Prize in medicine on Monday for the development of in-vitro fertilization, a breakthrough that has helped millions of infertile couples to have children.

“His achievements have made it possible to treat infertility, a medical condition afflicting a large proportion of humanity including more than 10 percent of all couples worldwide,” the medicine prize committee in Stockholm said in its citation.

Edwards, 85, started working on IVF, a procedure in which egg cells are fertilized outside the body and implanted in the womb, already in the 1950s. He developed the technique together with Patrick Steptoe, who died in 1988.

On July 25, 1978, Louise Brown in

Britain became the first baby born through the groundbreaking procedure, marking a revolution in fertility treatment.

“Approximately 4 million individuals have been born thanks to IVF,” the citation said. “Today, Robert Edwards’ vision is a reality and brings joy to infertile people all over the world.”

Supreme Court set to open new term with new Justice Elena Kagan on the bench

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court is starting its new term with a new justice, Elena Kagan, and bad news for hundreds of parties trying to get their cases heard at the nation’s highest court.

The justices are expected to start work Monday by denying many of the nearly 2,000 appeals that piled up in recent months. The court also is hearing argument in a bankruptcy dispute and an appeal by criminal defendants seeking shorter prison terms.

During the new term, the court will look at provocative anti-gay protests at military funerals and a California law banning the sale of violent video games to children. These cases worry free speech advocates, who fear the court could limit First Amendment freedoms.

The funeral protest lawsuit, over signs praising American war deaths, “is one of those cases that tests our commitment to the First Amendment,” said Steven Shapiro, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Another case involves a different aspect of the First Amendment, the government’s relationship to religion. The justices will decide whether Arizona’s income tax credit scholarship program, in essence, directs state money to religious schools in violation of the constitutional separation of church and state.

In Egypt’s ‘marriage crisis,’ TV sit-com becomes a hit by laying out the women’s side

CAIRO (AP) — It’s rare in Egypt’s pop culture to get a direct and frank look inside the minds of Egyptian women and what they really think of marriage and love. So a TV comedy became a startling voice in this conservative society’s debate over the changing role of women.

The show, “I Want to Get Married,” makes a simple point, but one that resounded strongly: Women want to be an active part of the process of finding a life partner, not passive objects whose fate is to be decided by their mothers, fathers or suitors.

The message made it a hit among Egyptians — that and the humor it mined from the quirks of Egyptian middle-class matchmaking, where

suitors file through the family salons of potential brides to check them out, confident with the expectation that every woman — particularly those above 30 — will be eager to snap them up.

“How is it that someone comes to meet you in the salon, and then by the third visit you have to be ready to talk about the dowry, wedding jewelry and date for a wedding,” said Ghada Abdel-Aal, the author who inspired the sit-com with a blog and book by the same name, based largely on her own experiences. “And you as the girl are just expected to accept that this is your fate without even knowing who the person really is.”

In one episode from the show, the heroine Ola is introduced to what seems to be the perfect suitor. Handsome, cultured, well-mannered, he has a good job and lives in Italy. Giddy that her long search may be ending, she then discovers the catch: He’s already married to an Italian woman. His mother, he explains, wants him to take a second, Egyptian wife — he’s allowed four wives under Egypt’s Islamic-based laws — to force him to spend more time back home in Egypt.

Brazil’s Rousseff faces veteran centrist in presidential runoff after failing to get majority

SAO PAULO (AP) — Ruling-party candidate Dilma Rousseff, who is trying to become Brazil’s first female leader, fell short of getting a majority of votes in presidential elections and now faces a runoff in four weeks against an experienced, centrist rival.

Rousseff — popular President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva’s hand-chosen successor — outpaced rival Jose Serra 46.9 percent to 32.6 percent in Sunday’s vote, but didn’t get the 50 percent she needed to win outright. Analysts were split on whether there was enough campaign time left for the underdog opposition candidate to close the gap.

Much depends on the other female candidate, the Green Party’s Marina Silva, who won a surprising 19.4 percent of the vote. She said her party’s leadership would decide whether to throw their support behind Rousseff or Serra, though she emphasized it was up to individual voters to make their own choices.

Rousseff, a former Marxist militant who was imprisoned for three years and tortured under Brazil’s military dictatorship, long ago left behind her rebel background and has made a career as a pragmatic bureaucrat, most recently serving as President Silva’s chief of staff.

Panel looking for information about safety culture, other issues during spill hearings

METAIRIE, La. (AP) — Federal investigators will be looking for key information about pressure tests, decision making and BP’s safety culture when the next round of hearings begins Monday to determine the cause of the Gulf of Mexico rig explosion and oil spill.

The weeklong hearings near New Orleans will be the fifth series held by the joint U.S. Coast Guard-Bureau of Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement investigative panel.

Besides figuring out a cause, the panel is examining how safety and oversight can be improved.

At least one more series of hearings is expected before the panel members begin collaborating on their report.

The April 20 Deepwater Horizon explosion killed 11 workers and led to 206 million gallons of oil being released from BP PLC’s well a mile beneath the Gulf. The well gushed for three months before being capped in July and then permanently sealed in September. The British oil giant owned the well but was leasing the rig from owner Transocean Ltd.

Researchers unveil biggest survey on sex in U.S. since 1994; details condom usage

NEW YORK (AP) — The male-female orgasm gap. The sex lives of 14-year-olds. An intriguing breakdown of condom usage rates, by age and ethnicity, with teens emerging as more safe-sex-conscious than boomers.

That’s just a tiny sampling of the data being unveiled Monday in what the researchers say is the largest, most comprehensive national survey of Americans’ sexual behavior since 1994.

Filling 130 pages of a special issue of the Journal of Sexual Medicine, the study offers detailed findings on how often Americans have sex, with whom, and how they respond.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I've had a problem with my 21-year-old kid brother for a long time. "Deacon" constantly lies and steals from me, as well as from my mother, other family members and friends. He's not a horrible person, but he has no respect for property, including his own. He's impossible to reason with. If you accuse

him of taking anything, he gets upset and leaves, or screams that he's innocent and we're unfair and he gets blamed for everything. We wish we could believe him when he says he "didn't do it," but it happens too often and there is usually no other explanation. My mother is ready to tell him he is no longer welcome in her home,

but I worry about what would happen to Deacon without the little support we are able to give him. Is there a healthy way to tell someone you need a break until he gets his act together? I love my brother, but am not willing to enable his poor choices. Is my mother's decision our best option? — Brotherly Love/Hate Relationship



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

phones her grandfather. Should I leave this alone or speak up? I have more stress in my life than I can handle, so please help me take care of this one. — Indian Wells, Calif.

improving. He began relying more on himself and less on outside influences. We found that love, acceptance and encouragement became the better motivators. We still hold high hopes and expectations for John. We just don't know where his success will be. — Finding Success in the Northeast

e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, Calif. 90045. 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. © 2010 CREATORS.COM

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.

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers filled in.

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Dear Brotherly: Deacon's reaction to these accusations seems almost delusional.

It's possible he does not realize what he is doing, why it is wrong or what the consequences might be.

If that is the case, he needs professional help, and you should approach him gently about seeing a therapist and provide a referral.

In the meantime, your mother does not have to allow Deacon into the house, although it's best not to reject him in anger.

Mom should make it clear that she loves him, but he obviously has issues to deal with, and until he does, none of you can afford to have him around your property.

Dear Annie: My husband has Alzheimer's.

His daughter and granddaughter live in another state. It really irritates me that neither of them ever calls.

His daughter may pick up the phone on his birthday or Father's Day, but I think she should be calling him at least once a week.

"Marge" is always promoting the Alzheimer's Association, going on walks, signing petitions, etc., so why can't she call her father?

And her 30-year-old daughter never, ever

Dear Indian Wells: It's possible Marge doesn't think her father would recognize her voice and believes a phone call would be pointless.

You need to tell her how much it would mean to him (and to you) if she were to phone more often, even for only a few minutes.

You might suggest a specific day of the week so she can put it on her calendar.

While we aren't so optimistic about the granddaughter, you could ask Marge to mention it to her, as well. It can't hurt to try.

Dear Annie: Like "Worried Mom in the Midwest," my wife and I spent our son's first 19 years trying to force a square peg into a round hole.

He had ADHD, and we tried everything to motivate him to work harder in school and improve his grades.

After getting kicked out of one college and flunking out of another, we finally retreated and accepted that a conventional degree may not be in his future.

From that point on, at the lowest point of his self-esteem and confidence, we began loving and supporting our son for his uniqueness.

"John" ultimately accepted two seasonal positions and began performing standup comedy, all areas of his passion.

In time, his confidence and self-esteem began

Dear Margo

by Margo Howard

Dealing with Dying Friends

Dear Margo: I have a good friend who's dying. We've been friends for decades, and she's very dear to me.

Unfortunately, she spends most of her time being furious and semi-abusive to the people who love her the most.

I tend to argue with her about it, reminding her that she's talking about people who love her and are well-meaning. Other friends just nod and listen and reinforce her growing misanthropy.

I just hate to see this increasing bitterness (which is exactly how my own mother



MARGO

died, I should add). Should I just listen and not judge — or speak up occasionally? — Another Well-Meaning Friend

Dear An: I think of the old Russian expression, "Once your head is cut off, there's no use crying about your hair."

The personality that you knew is no longer. Your friend is dying, and I suspect it is about that that she is furious.

There is nothing you — or any other friend — can offer that will change her outlook or her mood.

She is angry, which is unfortunate for her and a hell of a way to make an exit, but that's the way it is.

It sounds as though you have already "spoken up," so I think the real act of friendship is just to listen. I do buy the idea that we all die alone, but in the run-up to that, everyone reveals their inner philosophy, whether meaning to or not.

Hang in there, and try to sustain yourself with memories of the good days. — Margo, fatalistically

When Your Ears Are Part of Your Outfit

Dear Margo: A friend of my husband is getting married. I barely

know the man, and I've met the intended bride twice.

A verbal invitation was extended to both of us. Oh, by the way, the bride requested that I not wear my ears to the wedding.

Several years ago, my husband bought me a headband with little tiger ears on it.

Ever since he put it on me, I've worn my ears everywhere, including to two weddings and a funeral.

I've made them a part of my identity — my personal trademark, if you will.

Going anywhere without my ears makes me feel self-conscious and only partially dressed.

My initial reaction was to wear the ears anyway, but then I realized I am not exactly obligated to attend the wedding.

I'm not close to the bride or groom, but my husband considers the groom to be a good friend; the invitation included me out of common courtesy.

Perhaps I should keep my sulky, uncooperative self at home, even though my husband would prefer I suck it up and go.

I have some months to think about it. What's your take? — M.R.S.

Dear M.: Maybe you and I are on the same wavelength, or maybe we're both nuts, but I think your trademark ears are a hoot. And who doesn't love individuality — besides the bride?

Seeing as how you wear them everywhere, I wouldn't dream of suggesting you leave them at home for the upcoming nuptials. (Do go, by the way.)

Odd of the bride to suggest what you wear and what you leave home, but let's assume she will be so engrossed in the festivities that she will not notice.

And to be realistic: Little tiger ears are much less attention-getting than big, floppy bunny ears. At least with your little tiger ears, no one can say you are celebrating Halloween early or reliving your days as a waitress at a Playboy club. — Margo, individually

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 8 7 3
♥ A 8 5
♦ A 6
♣ K J 4 2

WEST
♠ Q 10 6 4 2
♥ J 4
♦ 9 7 4
♣ 9 6 5

SOUTH
♠ K
♥ K 10 9 7 2
♦ K Q J 3
♣ A Q 10

clubs, hoping neither opponent can ruff. After this hurdle has been cleared, a spade is trumped with the nine of hearts. Three top diamonds are then cashed, producing this position:

North
♠ J
♥ A 8 5
West
♠ Q 10
♥ J 4
East
♥ Q 6 3
♦ 10
South
♥ K 10 7
♦ J

Declarer next leads the diamond jack. If West trumps low, dummy overruffs, plays the ace of hearts felling the jack, and then traps East's trumps by finessing the ten. If West ruffs with the jack instead, dummy overruffs with the ace, finesses the eight of hearts, and South again picks up the suit. Let's therefore assume that West discards a spade on the jack of diamonds.

Dummy ruffs with the five and leads the jack of spades. East, down to three trumps, must play one. If he ruffs low, declarer overruffs and wins the last two tricks with the A-K of trumps. If East ruffs with the queen instead, South overruffs with the king and takes a finesse against West's jack. Miraculously, the defenders' natural trump trick simply vanishes.

Tomorrow: Precision defense.
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sudoku

ANSWERS to the Sudoku puzzle above.

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Bring on the Rays

Rangers end season with loss, ready for ALDS

ARLINGTON (AP) — Josh Hamilton was the batting champion, as was long expected, and the Texas Rangers found out they will finally play somebody other than the New York Yankees in a playoff game.

Hamilton finished the regular season with a .359 average after going 1-4 in the finale Sunday, when the AL West champion Rangers lost 6-2 to the Los Angeles Angels.

“Going to the playoffs means a lot more,” said Hamilton, whose average was 23 points higher than NL hitting champion Carlos Gonzalez of

Colorado. Texas was still playing when New York lost in Boston, making the Rays the AL East champions. The Rangers play Game 1 of the ALDS in Tampa Bay on Wednesday, while the Yankees go to Minnesota for the other AL series.

“We’re excited. The flight can’t leave early enough,” said Michael Young, the longest-tenured Ranger in his 10th season and going to the playoffs for the first time after 1,508 career games.

The Rangers (90-72), who clinched the division title

Sept. 25, are in the playoffs for the first time since 1999. In their three previous post-season appearances, they lost to New York in the first round each time. Their only victory came in Game 1 of the 1996 ALDS before they were swept in 1998 and 1999.

Rookie Peter Bourjos hit a tiebreaking homer in the sixth inning for the Angels (80-82), who still had their first losing record since 2003 after winning the division five of the previous six seasons.

Dan Haren, acquired July 25 by the Angels from Arizona in hopes of bolstering their play-

off chances, allowed two runs over six innings with three strikeouts. The right-hander went 5-4 for Los Angeles, including 4-0 with a 1.70 ERA his last eight starts, and was 12-12 overall with a career-high 235 innings pitched.

“It was a weird year for me. I came here with a fresh start. Obviously we would have liked to finish better,” Haren said. “But I threw the ball well and showed the club what I was capable of.”

After missing 24 games because of two broken ribs, Hamilton went 3 for 11 with a homer, a sacrifice fly and

three RBIs in the last three games of the regular season. He finished with 32 homers and 100 RBIs.

“It was a good test,” Hamilton said. “I jumped back in there a lot quicker than I probably would have normally. But it’s that time of the year. It’s a good time of the year knowing you’re going to keep playing into October. ... You might feel a little better just for the excitement and the adrenaline that’s going to be flowing by time we get into the first round.”

See **RANGERS**, Page 8

Lee, Manzella lead Astros over Cubs

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros had so much fun over the last few months of the season that they weren’t ready for it to end.

Carlos Lee homered and Tommy Manzella drove in two runs to lead the Astros to a 4-0 win over the Chicago Cubs in their season finale Sunday.

The victory broke a three-game losing streak for the Astros, who matched their run total from the previous three games combined. They went 59-52 since June 1 after going 17-34 through May.

“I wish we had a few more games,” manager Brad Mills said.

Nelson Figueroa (7-4) tossed six sharp innings of six-hit ball and struck out a season-high eight. He was pitching on three days’ rest after Wandy Rodriguez could not make his scheduled start because of back spasms. He got Houston’s last two wins of the year after also pitching six shutout innings in his previous start, a

2-0 win over the Reds on Wednesday.

“It felt great,” Figueroa said. “I wanted to go out there and put my best effort out to help the team win and give the fans something to look forward to for next year.”

Brandon Lyon worked a perfect ninth to complete the shutout after Fernando Abad and Wilton Lopez combined for two hitless innings.

“It was good to see the bullpen do a great job,” Mills said. “That was special to see those guys continue to throw the ball like they have.”

Cubs starter Ryan Dempster (15-12) yielded nine hits and three earned runs with seven strikeouts in six innings.

“I just got out-pitched,” Dempster said. “Figueroa threw the ball really well and pitched deep. It would have been nice to go out on a winning note in the last game of the year, but at the same time it doesn’t take away from how we’ve played down the stretch.”

Lee hit his 24th homer, a solo shot to left field to push Houston’s lead to 3-0 in the third. Brett Wallace led off the fourth with his first career triple and scored on a single by Manzella.

Chris Johnson singled and scored on a single by Manzella to make it 1-0 in the first inning. A single by Figueroa and an error by catcher Koyie Hill allowed Humberto Quintero to score later in the inning and put Houston ahead 2-0.

Figueroa retired eight of his first nine batters before walking Blake DeWitt with two outs in the third. Darwin Barney singled after that, but Marlon Byrd, who finished 0 for 4, struck out to end the inning.

The Cubs got consecutive singles by Aramis Ramirez and Xavier Nady with one out in the fifth. Figueroa intentionally walked Hill to load the bases before striking out Dempster to escape the jam.

See **ASTROS**, Page 8



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring quarterback DaVonte Anderson passes the ball in the Steers’ 47-7 win over Greenwood. Anderson and the Steers face Brownwood — the No. 1 3A team in the state — at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Brownwood.

Foster, Texans beat Raiders 31-24

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Arian Foster made up for lost time after an early game benching.

Foster scored on a 74-yard run and a 10-yard catch in the second half before Troy Nolan’s second interception sealed the Houston Texans’ 31-24 victory over the Oakland Raiders on Sunday.

Foster, a former practice squad player, has emerged as one of the biggest surprises of the NFL so far this season. Despite entering the game as the league’s leading rusher, Foster was held out until midway through the second quarter in what the Texans (3-1) said was a “coach’s decision.”

Foster took the game over in the second half. On the second play from scrimmage, he burst through a big hole and raced to the 74-yard score, breaking a tackle by Michael Huff on the way to the end zone.

Then on the first play of the fourth quarter, Foster caught a short pass from Matt Schaub for the score that gave Houston a 31-14 lead. Nolan’s second interception

iced the game after the Raiders (1-3) had cut the lead to seven.

Schaub also threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to Joel Dreessen and Derrick Ward scored on a 33-yard run for the Texans, who are off to their best start in franchise history despite playing this game without injured leading receiver Andre Johnson (sprained right ankle).

They still had too much for the Raiders to handle. Oakland lost for the second straight week but this time didn’t have a missed field goal at the end from Sebastian Janikowski to blame.

Bruce Gradkowski turned the ball over three times, losing a fumble to thwart a drive in Houston territory late in the first half with the game tied, and throwing the two second-half interceptions. The first came one play after Neil Rackers gave the Texans a 24-14 lead with a 35-yard field goal in the third quarter.

Five plays later, Foster beat rookie linebacker Rolando McClain in the flat for the score that put the Texans in control.

Foster finished with 131 yards on 16 carries and added 56 yards receiving despite not getting into the game until midway through the second quarter.

Schaub completed 16 of 29 passes for 192 yards and two touchdowns, breaking David Carr’s Houston franchise record with his 60th TD pass on the throw to Foster.

Gradkowski, who was sent to the locker room briefly in the second half after a hard hit by Bernard Pollard, tried to lead the Raiders back with a 14-yard touchdown pass to Zach Miller early in the fourth.

Gradkowski drove the Raiders to a 39-yard field goal by Janikowski that made it 31-24 with 6:13 remaining. After the Raiders’ defense came up with a second straight stop, Gradkowski got one last chance at his 25 with 3:04 to play.

But his fourth down pass went through Louis Murphy’s hands and was intercepted by Nolan with 1:40 remaining. Gradkowski was 24 for 39 for 278 yards, throw-

See **TEXANS**, Page 8

Area football results

Friday
Coahoma 46
Hawley 14

Big Spring 47
Greenwood 7

Idalou 23
Stanton 0

Sands 60
Dawson 6

Grady 64
Sterling City 50

Garden City 60
Ropes 26

Sports in brief

Big Spring Quarterback Club

The club meets every Monday at 7 p.m. All parents of football players 7th through 12th grade are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Denise Carrillo at 816-1685.

Over 80 2-man scramble

Gaines County Golf Course is hosting an over

80 2-man scramble on Oct. 23 and 24. The starting times are at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. The entry fee cost \$80 per person plus the cart. The entry fee also includes lunch on Oct. 23. For more information or to enter call (432) 758-3808.

Washer tournament

There will be a washer tourney at 2 p.m. Saturday at Comanche Trail Park.

Entry fee is \$50 per team and the deadline is at 1 p.m. Saturday. Prize money depends on the number of entries. For more information call Gilbert at (432) 816-3014.

Coahoma Girls Softball Association

The group is meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the community center in Coahoma. Everyone is welcome.

AP Top 25 poll

1. Alabama
2. Ohio St.
3. Oregon
4. Boise St.
5. TCU
6. Oklahoma
7. Nebraska
8. Auburn
9. Arizona
10. Utah
11. Arkansas
12. LSU
13. Miami
14. Florida
15. Iowa
16. Stanford
17. Michigan St.
18. Michigan
19. South Carolina
20. Wisconsin
21. Nevada
22. Oklahoma St.
23. Florida St.
24. Missouri
25. Air Force

Texas drops out of AP poll

(AP) — After running away from Stanford, Oregon jumped over Boise State and into No. 3 in The Associated Press college football poll on Sunday.

Meanwhile, for the first time in 10 years, Texas fell out of the Top 25. Two more traditional powers tumbled from the rankings, too, with Penn State and Southern California joining the Longhorns in the others receiving votes.

The top two spots in the rankings remained unchanged. Alabama is No. 1 and Ohio State is No. 2, just the way it's been since the preseason.

No. 4 Boise State spent the entire first month of the season ranked third, but the Broncos couldn't hold off the Ducks this week.

Oregon fell behind 21-3 in the first quarter against Stanford on Saturday night at home, but Darron Thomas and La-

Michael James brought the Ducks zooming back for a 52-31 victory.

The Ducks lead the nation in scoring (56 points per game) and total offense (569 yards).

Stanford came into the game ranked No. 9, but fell seven spots this week.

Boise State remained unbeaten with a 59-0 victory against winless league rival New Mexico State, but it appears the lack of respect for the Western Athletic Conference is already hurting the Broncos.

With a nonconference game against Toledo on Saturday, followed by meetings with WAC weaklings San Jose State and Louisiana Tech, it would seem that the Broncos could be stuck at No. 4 for a while unless one of those top three teams lose or struggle mightily with a weaker opponent.

The only team currently

ranked on Boise State's remaining schedule is No. 21 Nevada. The Broncos visit the Wolf Pack on Nov. 26.

Alabama received a season-high 58 first-place votes from the media panel after trouncing Florida 31-6. The Gators dropped seven spots to No. 14, their lowest ranking since they were 14th on Nov. 11, 2007.

Ohio State received one first-place vote and Boise State received the other. Oregon had 1,379 points and Boise State got 1,341.

TCU was No. 5 in the latest poll.

The top five in the USA today coaches' poll was the same as the AP's top five.

No. 6 Oklahoma, Nebraska, Auburn, Arizona and Utah round out the top 10 — a place where Texas has been a regular resident over the last decade under coach Mack Brown.

But the Longhorns lost their second straight game Saturday, 28-20 to Oklahoma, leaving them unranked for the first time since Oct. 15, 2000.

Their streak of 162 consecutive weeks in the rankings was the longest active streak in the country.

Ohio State now has the longest streak at 90 straight poll appearances. Florida is second at 87 straight.

Texas hasn't lost three straight games since closing the 1999 season that way. The Longhorns have a week off before visiting Nebraska.

"We have two weeks of work," linebacker Eddie Jones said. "Work hard as a team, stay up, stay motivated and keep this heart and drive that we had today."

"We can go back out and win. We can change things around here."

RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

Hamilton returned to the lineup in center field on Friday night, then was the designated hitter Saturday night before playing the finale in left field.

"It was good for his confidence that he felt like he could go up there and swing the bat and have no problems. It was good that he could get out there and run after flyballs," Washington said. "And it's good for the team. We're a different team with Josh Hamilton in the lineup."

The only other Texas player to lead the majors in hitting was Julio Franco in 1991, when he hit .341, the team record for a season until now. Young won the AL batting title with a .331 average in 2005.

Bengie Molina and Julio Borbon, the Nos. 8-9 hitters in the Texas lineup, had consecutive RBI singles in the fifth to tie the game at 2.

Dustin Nippert replaced Rangers starter Colby Lewis to start the sixth and the first batter he faced was Bourjos, who hit the second pitch into the left-field seats for his sixth home run. Bourjos started 50 of the last 51 games after being called up Aug. 3.

The only hit Lewis allowed in his five innings was a two-run homer by Hideki Matsui, his 21st.

Lewis, the right-hander scheduled to start Game 3 of the ALDS when the Rangers play at home Saturday, struck out four. His 201 innings are the most in any of his 12 professional seasons for Lewis, a 1999 draft pick by the Rangers who spent the last two years in Japan before coming back to his original team.

Alberto Callapso, like Haren a midseason acquisition for the Angels, had an RBI single in the ninth after an 11-for-85 skid. Mark Trumbo, who had been 0 for 14 with eight strikeouts to start his major league career, added a two-run single.

Notes: The announced crowd of 45,446 pushed the season attendance at Rangers Ballpark to 2,505,171, the highest since 2005. ... Los Angeles finished 35-22 vs. AL West foes, but 45-60 against everyone else. ... Torii Hunter, voted the Angels' team MVP, hit a team-leading .281. The last time the Angels finished without a regular player above .300 was 2001. ... After Nippert had completed his warmup pitches, manager Ron Washington came out of the dugout and made several defensive changes. He brought Young, Nelson Cruz, Ian Kinsler and Elvis Andrus out one-by-one so they could each be recognized.

Ohio State QB Pryor thinks he'll be back for Indiana

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Ohio State got a glimpse in its 24-13 win over Illinois of what life without quarterback Terrelle Pryor is like, and it didn't look anything like a national title.

With Pryor out with a strained left quadriceps muscle and backup Joe Bauserman at the controls, Ohio State (5-0, 1-0 Big Ten) struggled to move the ball.

Ohio State head coach Jim Tressel said after the game that he didn't know how badly Pryor was hurt, but he guessed he'll be healthy enough to play at home against Indiana.

"Hopefully, we get the right treatment going, so I'll be fine and back to

myself," Pryor told reporters after the 24-13 win at Illinois on Saturday, adding that he hopes to play.

Pryor hurt the muscle in his upper leg on a run around the left end for a first down during the third quarter with the Buckeyes leading 14-10. He wasn't gone long, returning a couple of possessions later.

Keeping the Illini in check while the Buckeyes scrounged for the points to win was the Buckeye defense.

After the first quarter, Ohio State held the Illini to a pair of field goals and 119 yards rushing. Illini tailback Mikel Leshoure managed 80 of those yards — his first game without 100

yards rushing since last fall.

Linebacker Brian Rolle said the Buckeye defense believes not many teams can run on them.

"We feel like that every game," he said. "They tried to run the ball, and they broke a couple of runs — a great team will do that. But the test was to see how our defense would step up to it, and I think we did a great job."

The Buckeyes, meanwhile, rushed for 213 yards, but at halftime they led just 14-10, had turned the ball over once on an interception and were struggling to protect Pryor. He was sacked twice in the game's first half hour.

"We played hard up until the end when they got outside us a little bit," Illini coach Ron Zook said. "We are continuing to get better and better on defense which is the key thing."

Illinois plays its next two on the road, and both against ranked teams, Penn State and Michigan State. But redshirt freshman Nathan Scheelhaase said the team, trying to rebound from a 3-9 season that led to most of Zook's staff being fired and an ultimatum that the team improve, is starting to show that it can play.

"I think we've kind of proved something to ourselves," he said. "We know what we've got."

Lakers' Bryant sits out scrimmage, still planning to play

LONDON (AP) — Kobe Bryant is determined to put on a good show and take care of his surgically repaired right knee at the same time.

Bryant got some rehab work in while the Los Angeles Lakers scrimmaged during practice Sunday, training sepa-

rately in the weight room. The guard is working his way back after the offseason knee operation but is planning to play in Monday's preseason opener against Minnesota Timberwolves, hoping to please a London crowd eager to see one of bas-

ketball's biggest stars.

"You feel a sense of responsibility, which adds to you wanting to go out there and play," Bryant said after practice, wearing large ice bags taped to both knees. "You have the opportunity to play in front of fans who have

never seen you play in person. I never get that chance with this particular club."

Bryant completed a full practice Saturday, only his second since training camp began, and said his knee was constantly improving.

"It feels real good," he

said.

Coach Phil Jackson plans to play Bryant and the rest of his regular starters for about eight minutes to start the game. Their playing time in the second half depends on how the game is going, he said.

The Lakers are with-

out starting center Andrew Bynum, who also underwent knee surgery in the offseason, and backup forward Luke Walton will miss Los Angeles' two preseason games in Europe after aggravating a strained right hamstring in practice.

TEXANS

Continued from Page 7

ing a 13-yard TD pass to Marcel Reece in the second

quarter. Miller had 11 catches for 122 yards.

The game was tied at 14 at the half after both teams missed prime scoring chances in the closing minute of the second quarter. The Raiders had the ball at the Houston 29 before Mario Williams beat Langston Walker around the edge and sacked Grad-

kowski, forcing a fumble that the Texans recovered at their 40 with 32 seconds left.

Schaub moved Houston into scoring range with passes to Dreessen and Foster, but Rackers hit the upright on his 46-yard field goal on the final play of the half.

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★ SONIC ★

★ WALMART ★

ENTRY FORM IN WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY EDITION OF THE BIG SPRING HERALD

ASTROS

Continued from Page 7

Chicago took the first two games in Houston and won eight of 12 series after interim manager Mike Quade took over.

"I'm just greedy," Quade said. "You get two, and it's great to win a series, but you'd like to come out and win for the club, win for Demp and all the rest of them. I wish we had done a little more offensively. But Figueroa pitched great."

NOTES: An emotional Geoff Blum said after the game that the Astros will not pick up his option for 2011. ... Houston RHP Jeff Fulchino is scheduled to have arthroscopic surgery on inflamed tissue in his right elbow.

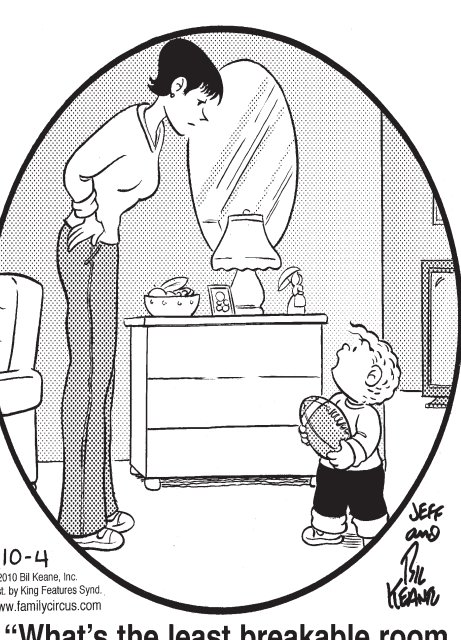
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5 :PM	News ABC	Vida Notic.	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Office	Chumney	BBC	Lyrics!	Cash Cab	You've Got Mail, Parker Posey	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Good Hannah	Nation Pardon	SportsCenter			
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Llena de Amor (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News	Caso Carrado	News	American	Van Impe	Business	'70s	Dual Survival		UFC Fight Night: Diaz vs. Guillard.	Bones		Phineas Phineas	The Body Issue	Monday Night Countdown			
7 :PM	Dancing With the Stars	Hasta que el Amor (SS)	Two Men Two Men	Ent	Millionaire	Ent	American	Holmes		90210	Dual Survival	Movie: Overboard, Edward Herrmann		Bones	Movie: How Stella Got Her Groove Back	Movie: Hal-Loeintown	2010 Poker	NFL Football: New England Patriots at Miami Dolphins.			
8 :PM	(01) Castle	Cristina (SS)	Simpsons	Hawaii Five-0	Alguien te Mira (SS)	Chase	Fam. Guy	Upd	Antiques Roadshow			Married Married	Dual Survival		(45) Rubicon	The Closer	Game Game	Sonny Sonny	Baseball Tonight		
9 :PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Lopez	House	Charlie Rose	King	Dual Survival				Certain Age	The Mo'Nique	Good	Good	30 for 30		
10 :PM	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Alguien Te Mira	Jay Leno	Earl	Scrivner	BBC	South Pk	Dual Survival				(45) Mad Men	Knockout	Knockout	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Hannah Hannah	Baseball Tonight
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Verdad Oculta	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Earl	CCM	T. Smiley	South Pk	Dual Survival				(11:47) Movie: You've Got Mail	Star Trek: Voyager	CSI: NY	Movie: The Last Dragon, Chris Murney	Wizards Wizards	NFL Films	NFL Prime-Time
12 :AM	Extra	Tontas Cielo	Paid		Pagado	News	Lopez Tonight	Upd	(Off Air)	Cops	Dual Survival				Amazing Video	Leverage			Suite Life Suite Life	Suite Life	SportsCenter
1 :AM	Paid	Mujer... Cero	King/Hill	(37) Up to the Mountains	Pagado	Movie: Road Trip: Beer Pong	Light of the Southwest														

DENNIS THE MENACE



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"What's the least breakable room in our house?"

HAGAR



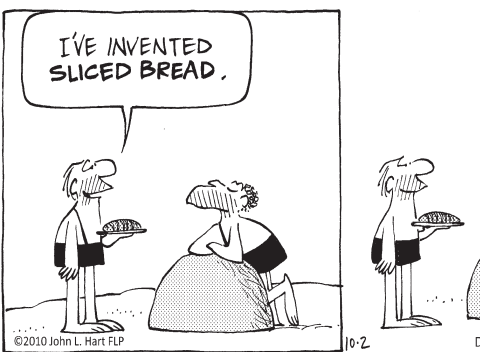
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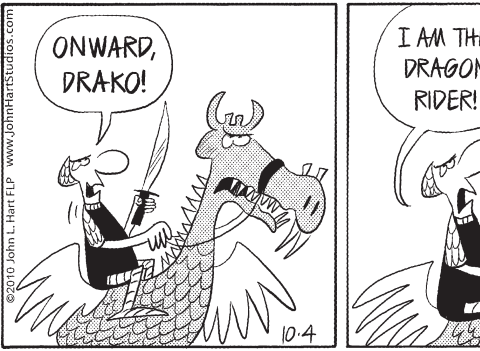
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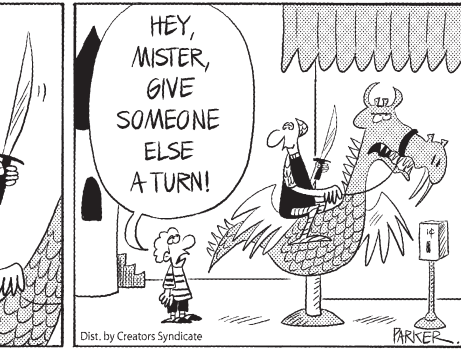
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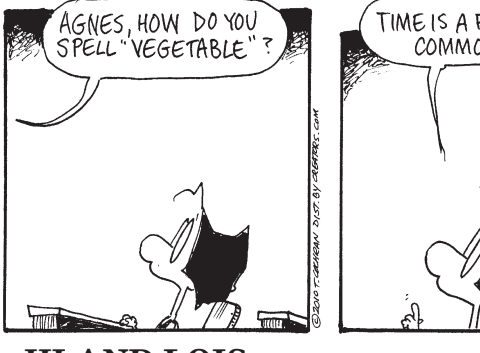
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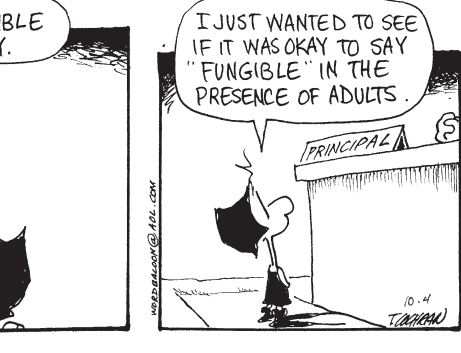
THE OTHER COAST



BEETLE BAILEY



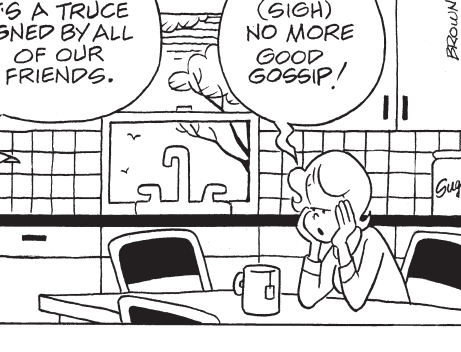
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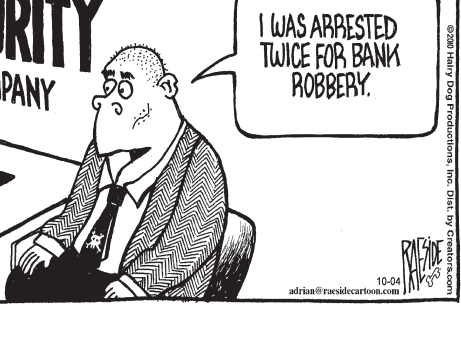
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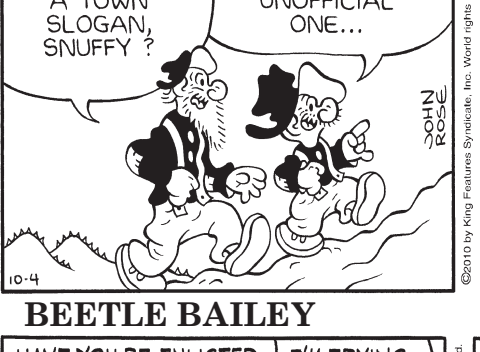
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THE OTHER COAST



BEETLE BAILEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BLONDIE



HAGAR



WIZARD OF ID



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Oct. 4, the 277th day of 2010. There are 88 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

- On Oct. 4, 1957, the Space Age began as the Soviet Union launched Sputnik 1, the first artificial satellite, into orbit.
- On this date:
 - In 1777, Gen. George Washington's troops launched an assault on the British at Germantown, Pa., resulting in heavy American casualties.
 - In 1822, the 19th president of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes, was born in Delaware, Ohio.
 - In 1931, the comic strip "Dick Tracy," created by Chester Gould, made its debut.
 - In 1940, Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini conferred at Brenner Pass in the Alps.
 - In 1958, the first trans-Atlantic passenger jetliner service was begun by the British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) with flights between

London and New York.

- In 1959, the Soviet Union launched Luna 3, a space probe which transmitted images of the far side of the moon.
- In 1960, an Eastern Air Lines Lockheed L-188A Electra crashed on takeoff from Boston's Logan International Airport, killing all but 10 of the 72 people on board.
- In 1970, rock singer Janis Joplin, 27, was found dead in her Hollywood hotel room.
- In 1976, agriculture secretary Earl Butz resigned in the wake of a controversy over a joke he'd made about blacks.
- In 1980, fire broke out aboard the Dutch cruise vessel Prinsendam in the Gulf of Alaska, forcing the 520 people aboard to abandon ship; no deaths or serious injury resulted. (The ship capsized and sank a week later.)

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Leroy Van Dyke is 81. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Sam Huff is 76. Actor Eddie Applegate is 75. Actress Felicia Farr is 75. Author Jackie Collins is 73. Author Roy Blount Jr. is 69. Author Anne Rice is 69. Actress Lori Saunders ("Petticoat Junction") is 69. Baseball manager Tony

La Russa is 66. Actor Clifton Davis is 65. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen, is 64. Actress Susan Sarandon is 64. Blues musician Duke Robillard is 62. Playwright Lee Blessing is 61. Actor Armand Assante is 61. Actor Alan Rosenberg is 60. Actor Bill Fagerbakke (FAY-guhr-bah-kee) is 53. Producer Russell Simmons is 53. Musician Chris Lowe (The Pet Shop Boys) is 51. Country musician Gregg "Hobie" Hubbard (Sawyer Brown) is 50. Actor David W. Harper is 49. Singer Jon Secada is 49. TV personality John Melendez is 45. Actor Liev Schreiber is 43. Actor Abraham Benrubi is 41.

Answer to previous puzzle

APES	THATSAWRAP
TERP	YOURADHERE
OKRA	PINENEEDLE
MOAT	EST PETER
BEN	CATBOAT ANA
OTTER	SELL ABET
MELMAC	EDGER
BAYONET	SEVENAM
RELIC	RANOUT
AGCY	ECHO DARTS
RAH	OBSERVE VON
MYALL	DIA SILO
INSISTEDON	PLOW
NOTFORSALE	OLAV
GREENACRES	TENT

Newsday Crossword

PLAY THINGS by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- Tiresome person
 - Artist Picasso
 - Got a photo of
 - Gorillas, for example
 - Mistake
 - Scout's outing
 - Tenant's expense
 - Make fun of
 - Storybook monster
 - Television transmission
 - Sounds of laughter
 - Dumpster contents
 - Opinion survey
 - Not at all boastful
 - Arrests
 - Cornea neighbor
 - Egypt's capital
 - Obtained
 - Mid-morning hour
 - After-bath footwear
 - Garden tool
 - Tip of a sock
 - Coffeehouse order
 - Sicilian volcano
 - Sicilia neighbor, for short
 - Old Faithful, for one
 - Beech or banyan
 - Bring about
 - Highly sloped
 - Plan's conclusion
 - Make simpler

- DOWN
- Stinging remark
 - Switchboard worker: Abbr.
 - Las Vegas alternative
 - Posh properties
 - Household purr
 - Neighborhoods
 - Too self-assertive
 - Misplaced
 - Metallic rock
 - Sand bars
 - Memorable parts of an event
 - Cajun veggie
 - Golfers' pegs
 - Physicians, for short
 - Pay tribute to
 - Untainted
 - Catcher's glove
 - Black-and-white snacks
 - Apartment furniture
 - Ready to harvest
 - Nary a soul
 - Quote, as a source
 - Quite likely
 - Lacerate
 - Catch some Z's
 - Not on time
 - Driver's license requirement
 - Fusses in front of a mirror
 - Bowling-alley border
 - Curvy letter
 - Group of plotters
 - "All kidding ..."
 - Crystal-ball user
 - Cry of accomplishment
 - Volcanic output
 - End in (come out even)
 - Elaborate party
 - Moose relatives
 - Cool, in the '40s

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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55						56					57		
58						59					60		
61						62					63		

CLASSIFIEDS

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Announcements

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Miscellaneous

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Preemies at risk: How to protect them



(Family Features) — With state and federal budgets stretched thin, and cost-cutting a primary motivator for insurers, programs providing healthcare services for our tiniest citizens — especially premature infants — are becoming more limited and restrictive. But, being armed with the right information can help parents best navigate what health issues to watch out for and how to best protect their family in this rationing environment

and, in particular, during this time of year.

Parents of Preemies Take Note

Preemies are at increased risk for a variety of health complications, including respiratory illnesses and chronic lung disease — even if they're born just a few weeks early. This is because they have underdeveloped lungs and immature immune systems in comparison with full-term babies.

As we approach the winter season, and

seasonal viral activity escalates, it's important that parents of preemies understand their baby's health risks and ensure they have access to a variety of therapeutic options to help keep them healthy.

For example, in addition to colds and the flu, there is another common virus that can be especially serious for the premature infant population: respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). RSV is a common, seasonal and easily spread virus that infects

nearly all children by their second birthday.

Most kids just get moderate to severe cold-like symptoms, however high-risk infants may get severe RSV disease.

RSV disease is the most common cause of death due to a virus in children under five years of age and is responsible for an estimated 125,000 infant hospitalizations annually in the United States.

There are simple ways to help protect your baby from viruses such as RSV, including washing hands and bedding frequently, and limiting your baby's exposure to large groups and environmental tobacco smoke.

And, of course, speak with your child's healthcare provider about any concerns and other prevention options.

Preemies Now Face Added Challenges

While being diligent about monitoring the health needs of your little one greatly helps them live a healthy life, it's also important to note how current economic pressures and their impact on the healthcare system can affect your baby's access to services.

In particular, preemies and other vulnerable babies have been facing

additional challenges because of healthcare system constraints, which are creating more restrictive reimbursement policies and forcing program cuts that limit access to care.

Across the country, for example, 45 percent of local health departments experienced budget cuts in 2009, which led to nearly a quarter of these departments reducing funding for maternal and child health programs, such as Medicaid's Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program.

Private and public insurers alike are also creating barriers to care by using increasingly restrictive care guidelines to drive their eligibility decisions.

For example, in 2009 the American Academy of Pediatrics issued more restrictive guidelines for RSV emphasizing cost issues over new or existing clinical data.

"One of the biggest challenges to ensure infants have access to the proper care they need is that insurers are adopting guidelines without considering all available clinical evidence, rather than analyzing high-risk infants on a case-by-case basis under the direction of the child's physician,"

said Dr. Mitch Goldstein, president of the National Perinatal Association.

What Can Parents Do?

If you're the parent of a preemie, talk with your child's pediatrician about proper prevention for all illnesses, such as respiratory illnesses like RSV disease.

"If healthcare coverage is denied, you can likely appeal the decision. Your doctor should be able to advise you on the appeals process and share additional resources that can help you," said Dr. Goldstein. "When there is advocacy from both the parent and the physician, there is more likelihood of success."

All babies deserve equal access to preventive care, and physicians, nurses, payers and parents must work together to protect them. Go to www.preemievoices.com or www.nationalperinatal.org for more information on preemies and infant health. To learn more about the signs, symptoms and risk factors of RSV disease, as well as additional prevention tips, visit www.rsvprotection.com.

Source: Medimmune

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Mercury and Saturn are lining up to crack down on our language. How we talk, the words we use and the sentiment behind them will be something to analyze. The negative things we say about ourselves and others, however casual,

could add up to big problems for us, and the positive things we say could gradually improve our lives.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You will

find it easy to get down to work and concentrate, wasting no time with personal concerns or communications. You will give yourself over to the needs of the group.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Business matters arise. Someone is pretending to be bigger than he or she really is. Better to get involved with overly ambitious people than with those who don't have any ambition at all.



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

Tomorrow's Horoscope

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Watch how people express their emotions. When you can read subtle, delicate expressions of feeling, it means you also can cultivate the ability to influence others on a very deep level.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The process of figuring out what to do next isn't always a reasonable one, nor is it tidy. While sorting through a big mess, you'll find the answers you're looking for.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The ones who do well in business know how to tolerate the ups and downs. It won't always go smoothly, and you have to be able to sustain a certain degree of loss. Practice endurance, and in the end you'll succeed. Keep going.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You enjoy togetherness, but you don't want to be smothered by it. Today you feel the need for more space, and your social cues will suggest that others don't engage you more than necessary.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Relationships require some effort. But today you'll feel inclined to work harder than is necessary. When things come up, you'll talk it out. Until then, don't worry about it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will take back your power by doing a job yourself. Try to minimize the amount of emotion you expend on this. Your attitude of ease and competence will radiate to the world and come back to you in the form of good luck.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You might feel like being alone, and yet this is not possible with the path you've chosen today. The more you wish to take on, the greater the number of people who will have to

be involved.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Sometimes you just don't know what you're feeling until you search for it. Looking into a mirror and asking yourself what's going on inside you will help you claim your emotions once more.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You know just what to say to keep your audience tuned in and happy. This quality will take you far. You'll pay attention and learn an even greater array of effectively pleasing phrases.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Those you deal with now may not "get" you, but they honor you with respect and pay what you're due. It's not so bad, really. Later, you'll get the full star treatment.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 4). You'll take a leap and share an entirely new part of yourself with the world. A deep personal connection is featured this month. November brings travel and a home investment. In December, you'll shine within a political framework. You'll figure out how to turn this into financial success in the new year. Aquarius and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 50, 36, 41, 28 and 19.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I think I might have a bit of the jack-of-all-trades-master-of-none syndrome. I am an artistic person, and I'm not sure how to best direct my creativity. I like to write poems, songs and stories, play instruments, make costumes, draw, paint, act, do comedy, design rooms, create hairstyles, make paper crafts — this list could go on forever. I don't make money with any of these things, and many of them cost money to do. I have a typing job that I don't totally hate.

Will I find work that highlights my talents? And how will I know which one to pursue?" — *Confused Libra*

Libra is the sign of art, and there are many wonderful artists born under the sign of the scales. With natural grace, you can balance this variety of talents, so you needn't choose one. Direct yourself toward an endeavor that will use many of your talents for one purpose — for instance, putting on a play or creating movies. It is important that you set artistic goals for yourself and don't allow yourself to quit until you've accomplished them. A good example of a goal: I will create three funny videos by Jan. 1, 2011, and share them with my friends. As you commit to your goals, new avenues of revenue will open to you.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Before anyone had ever dreamed of "Twilight," there was Anne Rice's "Interview with the Vampire," the first novel of Rice's "Vampire Chronicles." Rice is among the most widely read authors in modern history, having sold more than 100 million books. This literary Libra has both Mercury (communication) and Venus (love) in Scorpio, the sign of mystery, intrigue, transformation, death and rebirth.

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