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Don't let thieves rob your holidays

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

As the annual holiday retail season prepares to kick off with Black Friday, area law enforcement officials are warning shoppers to be vigilant of would-be thieves and robbers when doing their Christmas shopping.

Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, said thieves will be out and about this holiday season, just waiting to fill their stockings with ill-gotten gains.

"That's what they look for," Everett said. "You're going around and looking for

Christmas presents and they are walking around looking for things to steal. That's how they have Christmas. Whether it's your presents or your money, you can kind of look at it as if the thieves are out there shopping. That's what they do for a living. They steal."

While these criminals may seem impossible to stop, Everett said there are things you can do to keep you and your vehicle from being a target.

"Don't put your packages and presents in the back seat of your car without covering them up," he said. "The best way to discourage criminals

is to keep your belongings out of sight and out of mind by putting them in the trunk. If you have to put them in the seat though, be sure to cover them up or obscure them in some way.

"If you put them in the trunk, they can't see them," he said. "If you put them in the trunk, they can't see them."

See **THIEVES**, Page 3

Schools, entities to take time off

Herald Staff Report

All area schools will dismiss classes today for the Thanksgiving holiday, officials announced.

Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan public schools will dismiss classes at 3:30 p.m. today. Classes will resume Monday at Big Spring and Forsan and Tuesday at Coahoma.

Howard College will hold a full slate of classes today before shutting down for the holiday. Normal class schedules resume Monday, officials said.

City and county officials will close all non-emergency offices Thursday and Friday, with both entities resuming normal operations Monday.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Highland bagpipers Doug Forbese, left, and E.J. Jones, perform during the St. Mary's St. Andrews Day Evening Prayer and Scottish Music Festival Sunday night while John Marshall, parish deacon, stands in the background. A large crowd attended the 10th anniversary of the festival, which featured performances by area musicians, the debut of two compositions written especially for the occasion, as well as a number of Scottish bagpipe songs. The church parish also used the occasion to wrap up a year-long celebration of its 125th year anniversary.

Festival of Lights needs volunteers

By AMANDA MORENO
Staff Writer

The countdown is on ... at least to the Festival of Lights.

The annual event — set for Dec. 15 through Dec. 31 at Comanche Trail Park — is fast approaching, but can't go on without volunteers.

"This will be a fun experience," said Debbie Wegman, director of the Conventions and Visitors Bureau.

See **LIGHTS**, Page 3

St. Mary's celebrates annual festival, 125th anniversary

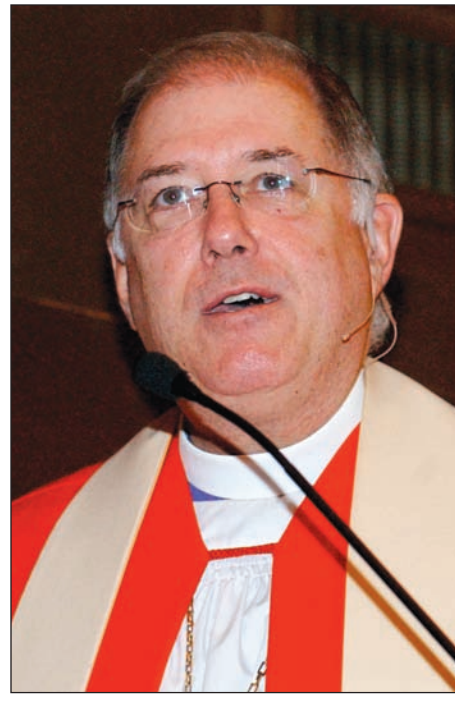
By LYNDEL MOODY
Features Writer

St. Mary's the Virgin Episcopal Church parish ended its year-long 125th anniversary celebration Sunday night, right back at the beginning with a packed house for the St. Andrew's Day Evening Prayer and Scottish Music Festival.

The parish kicked off its celebration at last year's St. Andrews Day, an event that draws an audience from around West Texas, and wrapped up by celebrating another milestone, the 10th anniversary of the popular festival to celebrate the domination's historical ties to the Scottish Church.

The highlight of the evening came from the trio of Highland bagpipers E.J. Jones, Doug Frobese and Richard Kean, along with Scottish snare drummer Stephen Cameron, who performed a melody of songs. Following the hour-long service, the audience was invited to enjoy a large buffet of Scottish fare prepared by parish members and coordinated by Cynthia Marshall.

"In 1885 Mr. and Mrs. CM Welstead, an English couple who had



Right Rev. J. Scott Mayer

settled in this last town on the Texas Pacific Railroad, gave land to erect an Episcopal mission in memory of their child," said the Right Rev. J. Scott Mayer, Bishop of the Diocese of North West Texas. "Bishop Alexander Charles Garrett held the first Episcopal service in the public school in March of 1885. The Bishop offered to give \$500 toward a building if the people could match it and to give an additional \$500 toward support of a missionary.

"One hundred and twenty-five years and four places of worship later, we gather tonight to celebrate our participation in the proclamation in the good news of God's love for all people. As made known in and through the life and death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

Two new musical compositions debuted during the service, "Mary, The Strong of Heart in Wonder,"

See **ST. MARY**, Page 3

INDEX

Comics	12
Classified	9-11
Features	6
Obituaries	2
Opinion	4
Sports	8,13-14



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Obituaries

Marvin Earl Burleson

Marvin Earl Burleson, 58, passed away Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011, in Odessa, Texas.

Marvin was born Dec. 10, 1953, in Big Spring, Texas, and had resided in Burleson, Texas, for more than 20 years prior to living in Odessa.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, E. Wayne and Eleanor Burleson.

Survivors include former wife Janet Burleson Fletcher of Burleson; son, SSgt. Eric E. Burleson of Clarksville, Tenn.; daughter, Elizabeth Earley and granddaughter, Olivia Earley of Burleson; brothers, David (Brenda) Burleson of Houston; Mike (Renee) Burleson of Crosby; Ronnie (Renee) Burleson of Big Spring and Donnie Burleson of Dallas; sisters, Carol (Mike) Schultz of Burleson; Betsy (George) Anderson of Odessa and Amy (Will) Stewart of Lubbock; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Marvin was loved by many and will be dearly missed.

Memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23 at St. Matthew Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 380 NW Tarrant Ave., Burleson.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sunset Funeral Home. To sign the guest book, go to www.sunsetodessa.com

Paid obituary

Frances Loftis



Frances Loftis, 83, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 21, 2011, at Midland Memorial Hospital. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25, 2011, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Sept. 23, 1928, in Munich, Germany, to Franziska (Horman) Seidenader and Otto Seidenader. She came to Big Spring in 1957 from England. She married William Russell "Bill" Loftis on Nov. 5, 1948, in Germany. He preceded her in death Jan. 30, 1990. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

She is survived by two sons, Bill Loftis and wife Suzanne of Spring Branch and Dean Loftis and wife Mary of San Antonio; four daughters, Ellen Austin and husband Donald of Big Spring, Corinne Nilsen and husband Erick of Wichita, Kan., Angie Cole and husband Gary of Big Spring and Gina Franklin and husband John of Austin; 16 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; one sister, Gudren Bishoff and husband Harold of Germany; and a sister-in-law.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Russell Loftis; daughter, Sylvia Storey; two granddaughters and a great-granddaughter.

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

Support Groups

TUESDAY
• Big Spring Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for those with Parkinson's Disease, Young Onset Parkinson's, caregivers, and those interested in learning more about the illness. There is time for socializing and information. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jody at 432-699-6640 or midlandparkinsons@yahoo.com or Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-2732.

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J.C. Rich



J.C. Rich, 83, of Lenorah died Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011, at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2011, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Joel Miller officiating. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton,

Texas.

J.C. was born Jan. 31, 1928, in Westbrook, Texas, to Willie Lee (Flanagan) Rich and Oscar R. Rich. He married Melba Brown on Dec. 16, 1949, in Mitchell County, Texas. He worked for the Martin County Road and Bridge Department until his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Melba Rich of Lenorah; five children, Jacqueline Hagins and husband Freddy of Fort Worth, Judith Simer and husband Gary of Big Spring, Patsy Simer and husband Larry of Stanton, Vicki Bryan and husband Jim of Stanton and Jim Rich and wife Tori of Lenorah; 12 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren; twin brother, J.T. Rich of Colorado City; sister, Lillian Berg of Tuscon, Ariz., and a number of nieces and nephews.

J.C. was preceded in death by his parents; five brothers; three sisters; and twin daughters.

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

Paid obituary

Rosie Lee Paxton



Rosie Lee Paxton, 66, of Clovis, N.M., formerly of Big Spring, died Friday, Nov. 18, 2011, at her home in Clovis. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, 2011, in Clovis, N.M. Burial will follow at Mission Garden of Memories.

Rosie was born Dec. 27, 1944, to Clarence William and Della Mae (Walker) Dickson in Bryan, Texas. She married Herbert Paxton and they came to Clovis in 1997.

Survivors include her son, David (Dalacia) Eddington of Clovis, N.M.; a daughter, Linda (Ken) Eddington Jones of San Angelo, Texas; a sister, Mary (Williams) Houston of Pueblo, Colo.; two brothers, William Dickson Jr. and Jimmy Lee Dickson, both of Bryan, Texas; six grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Della; husband, Herbert; a daughter, Della Renee Dickson; two brothers, Lester Dickson and Edward Dickson; and a sister, Georgia Lee Foster.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 1856, Clovis, N.M. 88101.

Arrangements are entrusted to Muffley Funeral Home Inc. and High Plains Crematory www.muffleyfuneralhome.com

Gary Chrane

Gary Chrane, 60, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 21, 2011, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rosa D. Saldivar

Rosa D. Saldivar, 85, of Big Spring died Monday, Nov. 21, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Police blotter

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

- MONICA ANN ROJERO, 26, of Odessa, was arrested Monday on two warrants for harassment.
- JAMES THOMAS SMITH, 57, of 109.5 S. Main St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ADAM ABRAHAM JUAREZ, 34, of 1310 Stanford, was arrested Monday on two warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- THEFT was reported: In the 1400 block of E. 18th Street. In the 200 block of W. FM 700.
- FORGERY was reported in the 2000 block of E. FM 700.

Sheriff

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.

- MONICA ROJERO, 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on two warrants for harassment.
- ADAM JUAREZ, 34, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on two municipal warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- JAMES THOMAS SMITH, 57, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

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 area of Piper Road. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. 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 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Lynn. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of W. FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Park. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Washington. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2700 block of Ann Drive. Service refused.

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News briefs

Dispute over Bush tax cuts dooms deal to cut deficit

WASHINGTON (AP) — A long-running war between Democrats and Republicans over Bush-era tax cuts doomed the debt supercommittee's chances of reaching a deal. Efforts to overhaul the tax code may await the same fate as both parties gear up to make taxes a central issue in 2012 elections.

Republicans insisted during the supercommittee negotiations that curbing tax breaks to raise revenues be coupled with guarantees that all the Bush tax cuts would continue beyond 2012. The tax cuts, which affect families at every income level, were enacted under President George W. Bush and were extended through 2012 under President Barack Obama.

Republicans for years have bashed Democrats as eager to raise taxes — a theme they will employ often in next year's elections — so they weren't about to agree to a tax hike unless they also could take credit for preventing a huge tax increase scheduled to take effect in 2013.

Democrats countered that the supercommittee was created to reduce the budget deficit, not add to it by extending tax cuts. Most Democrats, including Obama, want to extend the Bush tax cuts only to individuals making less than \$200,000 a year and married couples making less than \$250,000.

"We simply could not overcome the Republican insistence on making tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans permanent," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., a member of the supercommittee. "This was simply doctrine for some of our Republican colleagues, even as many worked very hard in good faith to find a better way forward."

Obama targets GOP in New Hampshire as he pushes for extension of payroll tax cut

WASHINGTON (AP) — Targeting Republicans in Congress and on the presi-

dential campaign trail, President Barack Obama is in New Hampshire, a political battleground, to begin a year-end push to extend payroll tax cuts.

During a speech Tuesday at a Manchester high school, the president was to argue that a failure to extend the tax breaks would hurt middle-class families already struggling amid a shaky economy, effectively daring congressional Republicans to block a measure and thus increase taxes.

"If we don't act, taxes will go up for every single American, starting next year. And I'm not about to let that happen," Obama said Monday, previewing the message he was expected to deliver.

The White House says a middle-class family making \$50,000 a year would see its taxes rise by \$1,000 if the payroll tax cuts are not extended.

The president's trip follows the collapse of the special congressional deficit-reduction supercommittee, which failed to reach a deal on \$1.2 trillion in cuts ahead of a Wednesday deadline. Democrats had hoped to tuck the payroll tax extension, as well as a renewal of jobless benefits for the unemployed, into a supercommittee agreement.

Egyptian protesters pack Tahrir Square for 4th day

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptians responding to a call for a mass rally began flowing onto Cairo's central Tahrir Square Tuesday as protests demanding the country's military rulers to step down entered a fourth day despite a crackdown by police that has killed at least 29 people.

Activists are hoping to increase the number of protesters in the square — which was the epicenter of the revolt that ousted Hosni Mubarak in mid-February — with a demonstration to bolster popular support for a "second revolution."

Violence also continued, with black-clad security forces backed by military troops firing volleys of tear gas and rubber bul-

lets to block protesters, who responded by hurling stones and fire bombs. The two sides have been engaged in intense clashes since the unrest began on Saturday.

Egypt's state-TV reported that three people were killed overnight in the Suez Canal city of Ismailia, east of Cairo, raising the overall death toll from the protests to 29.

Hundreds of protesters arrived early Tuesday to join several thousand who have been camping on Tahrir Square, sleeping in tents or on the grass rolled up in blankets despite efforts by police to clear the area.

Turkish prime minister calls on Assad to step down

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Turkey's prime minister says Syria's president must step down for the sake of his own people and the region.

Recep Tayyip Erdogan says Syrian President Bashar Assad's fight against his own people is "cowardice."

Erdogan said in a televised speech Tuesday that "for the welfare of your own people and the region, just leave that seat."

It was the first call from Turkey, which has been mounting criticism about Syria's brutal crackdown, for Assad to step down.

Obama invites country music stars to White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama turned the White House into a country music hall on Monday, inviting an array of country stars for a concert that gave voice "to the emotions of everyday life."

Cowboy hats and bolo ties mixed with the majestic chandeliers of the East Room for a toe-tapping series of performances by Dierks Bentley, Alison Krauss, Lyle Lovett, Kris Kristofferson, Darius Rucker, James Taylor, The Band Perry, Lauren Alaina and Micky.

LIGHTS

Continued from Page 1

Volunteers are needed for the greeters booth and gift shop. Two to four people will be needed to work two-hour shifts each night — from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. — in the greeters booth. The gift shop, which will be open Dec. 15-23, will need volunteers to work a three-hour shift from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. each night.

"This is the third year we've had the gift shop, which is located at the end of the trail of lights," Wegman said.

The gift shop will have T-shirts, ornaments and postcards available for sale.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be available Dec. 16-17 and again Dec. 21-23.

To volunteer, contact Wegman at 264-2516.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Thomas M. Yeats, Jr., died on Friday. Funeral services were at 10 a.m. today at Trinity Baptist Church. Burial followed at Trinity Memorial Park.

J.C. Rich, 83, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton, Texas.

Frances Loftis, 83, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m., Friday, November 25, 2011 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Adalinda Sarinana, 74, of Big Spring, died Sunday, November 20, 2011 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Gary Chrane, 60, of Big Spring, died Monday, November 21, 2011 at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Deborah Ann Lewis, 46, of Big Spring, died Sunday, November 20, 2011. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rosa D. Saldivar, 85, Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

THIEVES

Continued from Page 1

trunk, it makes it a real pain for the thieves to get to them, and they don't necessarily want to be out there working on your lock in a situation where they can be seen."

According to Sheriff Stan Parker, one of the most important things shoppers can do this holiday season to remain safe is, well, simply look around.

"Be aware of what's

going on around you," Parker stressed. "If you'll sit up at the front doors of Wal-Mart or the mall, you'll see people walking up and down the parking lots just looking in cars. After a minute or two you can tell they're not looking for their car or headed for their car. What they're doing is scoping out the inside of your vehicle to see if you have any packages or purses or anything laying loose like that.

"We also suggest people keep their doors

locked whenever they go inside a store, and make sure you take your keys with you. If someone gets into your car to steal a radio or wallet and they find the keys, you're probably going to lose your car. We generally recover the cars that get stolen around here, but a lot of time they're not in any kind of condition to be driven."

Parker said it may seem downright unholi-day-like to be so suspicious this Christmas holiday, but it's much

safer to err on the side of suspicion than to be caught unaware.

"A lot of people will walk outside and in between cars and really not be aware of what's going on around them," he said. "You need to pay attention to whether or not people are there or they seem to be watching you. I would rather have someone be suspicious of me if I'm standing out in the parking lot than to not even notice me.

"Also for the ladies with purses, we sug-

gest they don't just hold them by the strap and just leave them hanging. That makes them really easy to take. If they have straps on them we suggest you keep them over your shoulder so you can keep one arm over them and keep them secure. Also be sure you don't leave money that's in your purse visible."

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

ST. MARY

Continued from Page 1

by Willis Bodine, an anthem commissioned to celebrate the church's anniversary, and "St. Mary's Friendship," a bagpipe solo written by Jones, a St. Mary's parish favorite musician who has participated in the church's St. Andrews Day celebration for many years.

"Mary, Strong of Heart," was composed by my old college professor," said Linda Hill, St. Mary's music

director and coordinator of the event. "The original poem for this anthem was written during Christmastime. Elements relating to the parish and its buildings, as well as to the history of the Big Spring community, found their way into the text.

The two solo parts in the composition were written for area musicians, a flute solo for Gloria Steelman of Midland and a trombone solo for Rocky Harris, Big Spring High School band director. Also participating were Samuel

Hale on trumpet and French horn, Joseph Dawes on recorder, Darryl Knapp, musical director of St. Nicholas Episcopal of Midland, on organ and the choirs of St. Mary's, First Presbyterian Church, First Christian Church, the Howard College Choir and St. Nicholas' Episcopal of Midland.

Dr. Keith Graumann, Big Spring Symphony

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musical director, served as conductor.

Mayer and the Rev. Barbara Kirk-Norris, rector of St. Mary's, acted as the officiants of the service. Lectors for the evening were St. Mary's parish members

Patti Nabors and Debbie Jensen. This year's extended St. Andrews Day festival was bolstered by a contribution from James Weaver, executor of the estate of Maria Hoag, and by community donations.

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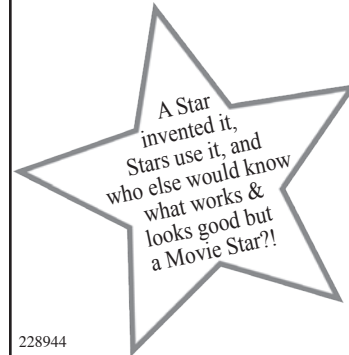
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EDITORIAL

"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.

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The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Steve Reagan 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

With You, Lord, we can be lighthearted.

Amen

A dirty job does not necessarily mean it has to equal a lousy job

"Why Americans Won't Do Dirty Jobs" is the presumptuous headline on a Bloomberg Businessweek cover. The subject is Alabama's new no-tolerance policy toward illegal immigrants and the people who hire them.

As expected, the law has caused an exodus of undocumented workers from Alabama, depriving fish-processors, farmers and other businesses of hands willing to perform killer work at minimum wage. As expected, the employers are complaining that Americans won't do dirty jobs.

The politics of this are all mixed up. A modern liberal might say: "See? American business needs undocumented workers. Serves you xenophobes right." An old-fashioned liberal might respond, "Serves you right for paying folks only \$7.25 an hour to stand and cut catfish for 10 hours."

Some conservatives would complain, "While businesses profit off illegal immigration, its social costs get dropped on us taxpayers." Other conservatives would agree with modern liberals, but avoid the truth that their agenda is not diversity but cheap labor.

This is a complex matter, and to portray the Alabama law as being all about prejudice against brown-skinned foreigners is unfair. What usually goes unsaid is that tolerating illegal labor forces also has racist con-

Even Pres. Obama's cheerleaders seem to be falling by the wayside

President Obama's cheerleaders are starting to peel away along with his approval ratings, and it's a fascinating sight to behold. They offer different reasons, but they all boil down to one obvious thing — Obama is first and foremost about Obama — and one less obvious: He has been a failed president.

Democratic pollsters Pat Caddell and Doug Schoen, admittedly more centrist than most of their Democratic counterparts, penned an op-ed in The Wall Street Journal urging Obama "to abandon his candidacy for re-election." The authors conclude that the only way Obama could possibly win in 2012 would be "to wage the most negative campaign in history," because he has no successful record to run on. If he would happen to win in that way, he wouldn't be able to govern, they say, so he should step aside and allow Hillary Clinton to run.

Their main beef with Obama seems to be his extreme partisanship, which is a particularly damning indictment coming from fellow Democrats. Should he resign, they argue, he would be in a better position to work with Republicans toward "a more constructive dialogue about our nation's future" instead of obsessing over whether he or George W. Bush is more to blame for our problems.

I don't agree that Obama would be any easier to work with if he were to withdraw from the race, but it is significant that two credible Democrats, both still loyal to their party, concede that Obama is hyper-partisan and hopelessly mired in the quicksand of scapegoating his predecessor.

Even more interesting was the viral video of Chris Matthews

sequences. It depresses pay and working conditioning for low-skilled African-Americans, who then get accused of laziness for refusing backbreaking work at basement-scraping wages.

Worse, it has put certain jobs off-limits altogether to the native-born and established immigrants — virtually closing many fields and factories to a conventional workforce.

"Some employers have begun to reorganize work in ways that systematically exclude certain native-born workers, especially those under the age of 35," according to a study at Northeastern University's Center for Labor Market Studies (the authors are Andrew Sum, Paul Harrington and Ishwar Khatiwada).

The pay and conditions often don't meet basic labor standards. The jobs are frequently off the books, and the work paid in cash.

Alabama officials say shutting down this parallel labor market is an objective of the law. "I don't consider this a labor shortage," Tom Surtees, Alabama's director of industrial relations, told Businessweek. He went on: "We're transitioning from a business model. Whether an employer in agriculture used migrant workers, or whether it's another industry that used illegal immigrants, they had a business model, and that business model is going to have to change."

Here's an example of said business model: A Guatemalan field hand told Businessweek that migrants like him made about \$60 for 11 hours of nonstop toil under the hot Alabama sun. Treating the tomato pickers as beasts of burden, the farm pays

by the 25-pound basket, rather than by the hour. Surely that work can be done in shorter shifts and paid on a per-hour basis. As Surtees notes, Alabamians are happy to do brute work in sweltering steel mills because they are offered decent wages and benefits.

Where the Alabama law goes wrong is in assuming that it can change the business model at the state level. Catfish processors in Alabama have to compete with catfish processors in Mississippi and Arkansas, who don't have such tough restrictions on using lower-cost illegal labor.

The Alabama employers will add, "And what about China?" Low-wage countries have invaded the U.S. catfish market. They, too, have a point.

But go through the aisles of Walmart. The coffeemakers, sweatshirts and bicycles — all once part of mighty American industries — are also made in China. What makes catfish special?

A healthy U.S. labor market clearly has many moving parts, of which immigration will remain one. But replacing low-skilled domestic workers with illegal ones is insane labor policy.

And "Why Americans Won't Do Dirty Jobs" is a pretend answer to a phony question.

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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explaining to fellow MSNBC host Alex Witt why his Obama-thrill is gone. This represents quite a fall from Matthews' previous perch of Obama hero worship.

Matthews clearly believes that Obama peaked about the time his campaign ended and his term in office began, because "the day he was inaugurated, with the Mall filled with people, African-Americans and everyone else, he sent us all home and said, 'Thank you. Now watch how smart I am.' That's the worst kind of a notion of the presidency."

Matthews is also upset that Obama is running a "virtual presidency," through endless impersonal emails, rather than building and exploiting the interpersonal relationships that are vital for effective governance. On that score, he laments: "I hear stories (from members of Congress) that you will not believe.

Not a single phone call since the last election."

Matthews is an incorrigible idealist, with a romanticized notion of politics, longing to relive his childhood conception of statecraft as a Camelot Neverland. He is livid at Obama for giving him a political fix with all that grandiose "Yes, we can" rhetoric and then removing it like a sadistic parole officer as soon as he was inaugurated.

Matthews wants a leader, not just to provide that fix but also to follow it up with a vision and policies to realize the vision. But here's what's revealing: Matthews excoriates Obama for failing to say "one thing about what he'd do in the second term. He never tells" us his plan for Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, the tax system or the long-term debt.

I think Matthews is disillusioned with Obama on two levels. First, he feels betrayed that Obama the person is so different from Obama the pseudo-messiah he calculatingly portrayed him-

self to be during the campaign. He's ultimately about himself; he's all hat and no cattle — something many of us knew years ago. He doesn't share Matthews' idealism about politics, and he is an abject fraud for pretending to.

Second, whether or not he fully realizes it or its implications, Matthews is frustrated that Obama, the apparently quintessential liberal, hasn't been able, through their shared ideology, to produce prosperity and world peace.

There is a disconnect at work here with Matthews' anger at Obama for doing precisely what liberals do. Obama shoved through a radically liberal agenda — the kind that should earn him permanent gratitude from a liberal such as Matthews, and it has led to economic catastrophe. Matthews, at least in part, is furious at Obama, perhaps subconsciously, for proving that Matthews' lifelong ideology is an epic fail.

But in fairness, Matthews is also rightly disgusted with Obama for refusing to provide leadership or show even a modicum of willingness to work in good faith to extricate us from these horrendous economic, entitlement and debt problems, which, maddeningly, are occurring on a liberal president's watch.

Matthews pleads: "Just tell us, Commander. Give us our orders, and tell us where we're going. Give us the mission. And he hasn't done it."

I feel your pain, Chris, but we tried to warn you.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.



FROMA HARROP



DAVID LIMBAUGH

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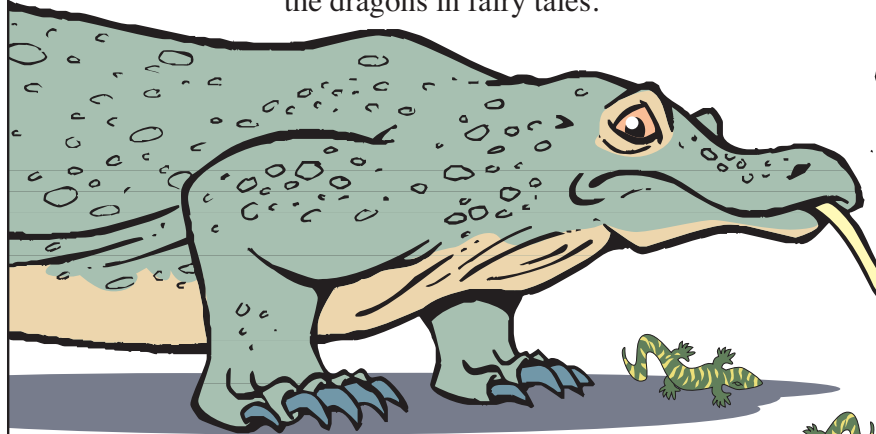
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Kid Scoop Funny Filler

Ask a friend to come up with nouns (person, place or thing), verbs (action words like swim and walk) and adjectives (describing words, such as hairy or silly). Use them to fill in the blanks in this story. Read it aloud to share some big laughs!

DRAGON TALES

Do dragons exist? There is a real-life lizard that people call a dragon—the Komodo dragon. And in some ways, it is like the dragons in fairy tales.



When you see a Komodo's yellow tongue flicking in and out, it's easy to understand where people got the idea that dragons breathe fire.

The Komodo Dragon

The Komodo dragon is a large, meat-eating reptile. It can grow to be feet long, or longer.

An adult Komodo dragon can eat an entire deer at once. Then it sleeps while digesting for days.

The Komodo dragon has a long yellow tongue, which it flicks in and out to get information. With its tongue, it can smell, taste and locate things like food, water and other dragons.

Komodo dragons live about years, although some have lived to be .

Male Komodo dragons can weigh up to pounds. Females weigh about pounds.

The Komodo's teeth look like those of a shark. They are perfect for slicing and eating meat. About every months, a Komodo gets a new set of teeth.

CODE		= 0		= 5
		= 1		= 6
		= 2		= 7
		= 3		= 8
		= 4		= 9

Make a list of words that you use to describe fairy tale dragons. Then read about the Komodo dragon on today's Kid Scoop page and make a list of words that describe it. How are they the same?

KOMODO DRAGON

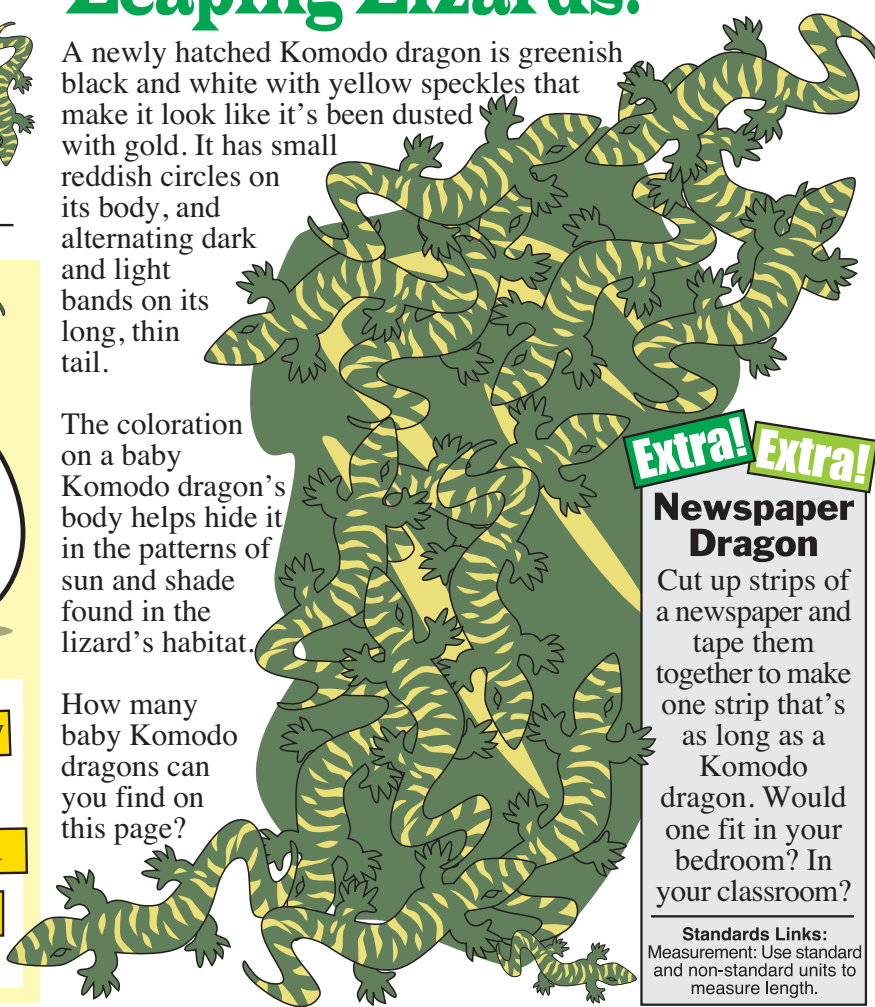
FAIRY TALE DRAGON

Leaping Lizards!

A newly hatched Komodo dragon is greenish black and white with yellow speckles that make it look like it's been dusted with gold. It has small reddish circles on its body, and alternating dark and light bands on its long, thin tail.

The coloration on a baby Komodo dragon's body helps hide it in the patterns of sun and shade found in the lizard's habitat.

How many baby Komodo dragons can you find on this page?



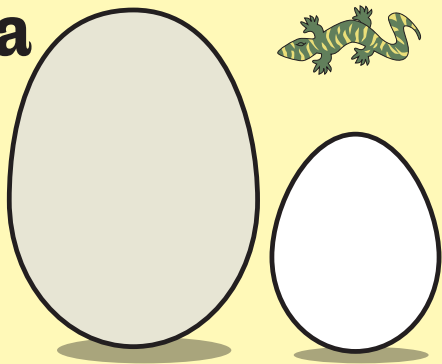
Extra! Extra! Newspaper Dragon

Cut up strips of a newspaper and tape them together to make one strip that's as long as a Komodo dragon. Would one fit in your bedroom? In your classroom?

Standards Links: Measurement: Use standard and non-standard units to measure length.

Eggs-tra Large

This is the size of a Komodo dragon egg compared to a chicken egg. The baby Komodo, curled up inside, is 18 inches long.



Put these sentences in the correct order.

- die within a day. The Komodo will follow
- with deadly bacteria. When it bites an
- The saliva of a Komodo dragon is filled
- patiently for many miles waiting for dinner!
- animal, the poisoned animal will usually

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Where do Komodo dragons live?

Komodo dragons live on seven of the 17,000 islands that form this nation. One of the seven islands is called Komodo. Though they have lived here for millions of years, Komodo dragons are now an endangered species. Only a few thousand remain.

Do the math to discover the Komodo dragon's home.

<u> </u> 30	<u> </u> 17	<u> </u> 43	<u> </u> 24	<u> </u> 17	<u> </u> 33	<u> </u> 35	<u> </u> 30	<u> </u> 55
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$23 + 17 + 5 + 10 = A$	$12 + 10 + 4 + 4 = I$
$16 + 16 + 9 + 2 = D$	$11 + 2 + 2 + 2 = N$
$15 + 8 + 4 + 6 = E$	$6 + 6 + 6 + 6 = O$
$13 + 17 + 7 = H$	$15 + 9 + 11 = S$

Standards Links: Math: Calculate sums to 100.



Learn more about this creature known as a "land crocodile" at:
www.kidscoop.com/kids

Double Double Word Search

- INDONESIA
- SPECKLES
- DRAGONS
- REPTILE
- KOMODO
- LIZARD
- LOCATE
- TONGUE
- ENTIRE
- FAIRY
- TALES
- SHARK
- LIST
- ONCE
- MEAT

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

I	E	T	A	C	O	L	R	A	S
N	T	O	N	G	U	E	D	R	E
D	A	D	E	T	P	G	O	N	L
O	I	L	R	T	A	L	E	S	K
N	Y	R	I	A	F	E	K	O	C
E	N	L	T	Z	G	R	M	R	E
S	E	I	N	E	A	O	A	C	P
I	L	S	E	H	D	R	N	L	S
A	I	T	S	O	F	O	D	S	E

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

Kid Scoop-doku™

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

D				A
	R		G	
		A	O	
			N	G
	A			O
O				N

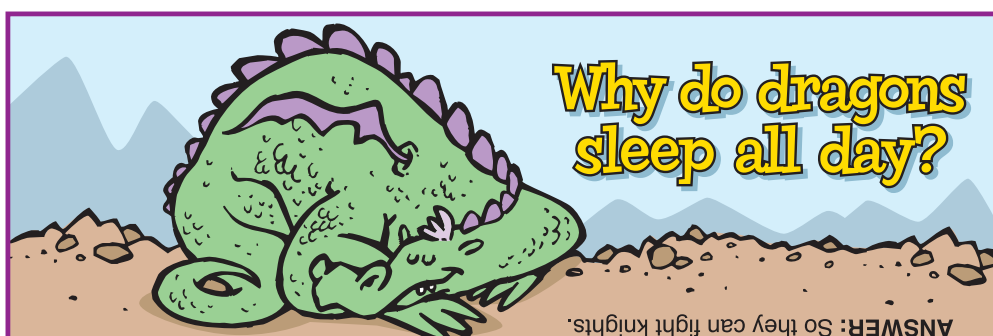
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Newspaper Article Mix-Up

Cut out an article from the newspaper. Cut it into four pieces. Give the pieces to a friend to see if he or she can put the article back together in the right order.

Standards Links: Reading Comprehension: Use general strategies of the reading process to sequence information.



Why do dragons sleep all day?

ANSWER: So they can fight knights.

Write On!

My Pet Dragon

Describe a day involving you and a pet dragon. Would your dragon follow you to school? Would it behave itself? What would you feed your dragon?

Attached to the rest of the world

Together, they walked through the withered stalks from a successful harvest. In the morning light, the remnants softened the reddish-brown furrows with tinges of beige, cinnamon, and bronze.

Pausing to pick up a forgotten melon, the farmer smiled as he thought not only of his cotton, but the produce his large garden had provided at the local farmers' market. As he and his field hand walked back to the house, they reminisced about the timely rains and early killing frost.

After discussing the chores that needed to be done during the rest of November, the owner left for the long drive into town. Grateful for the cup of coffee that had become a morning ritual, the hand headed for the barn.

Climbing into the cab and settling into the seat that had come to fit



Courtesy photo

A nocturnal bird of prey, the barn owl is easily identified because of its heart-shaped face. Hunting over open country, it has phenomenal eyesight and hearing. Due to its white face and underparts, it is often described as a "white owl" or "ghost."

him perfectly, he started the tractor. Heading toward the south and a day's work, he had just entered the field when

he thought he saw something between the furrows.

Although similar in color to the dried

foliage, it wasn't bent and curled like the dried leaves and stalks. Uncertain as to what it was, he stopped, climbed down from the cab, and started walking towards it.

Finally realizing that it was an owl, he was startled when it blinked. Not sure that the bird even knew he was approaching, he carefully took a few more steps.

Without opening its eyes, it barely moved as if to become more comfortable. Almost statue-like, the bird did not stir until the man accidentally stepped on a dried stalk. With the crunching of the brittle debris under his foot, the bird's eyes opened wide.

Scared to move, the man waited to see what would happen next. Slowly, over its penetrating black eyes, the bird's eyelids lowered. Once again, it slept.

Having encountered owls near the barn on several occasions, he felt the raptor should have taken flight. If he left it here in the field, coyotes, fox, or a bobcat would find it.

After unbuttoning his heavy denim jacket, he let it slide down his arms as quietly as possible. Having planned his every step until close enough, he then draped the coat over the bird. In addition to his large hands, the weight of the material was too much for resistance.

Once in the barn, the man made an enclosure out of bales of hay, an old sheet of plywood, and the grate from a barbecue pit. When his boss returned, they could figure out what to do.

As the farmer and his hand pulled into our driveway, the large cardboard box in the back of their double-cab was obvious. After carefully lifting it out, the twosome opened the lid.

Inside, a male barn owl stood with eyes closed and head bent. The slight droop of its left wing suggested a soft tissue injury, or bruise. Incapable of sustained flight with its nearly four-foot wingspan during the night, it could not hunt for mice, rats, or rabbits.

Thin, and disheveled, the bird of prey had the typical golden or tawny appearance, intermixed with hues of gray, on his back and wings. Bits of black and white mottling lent even more elegance to the coloration of this night creature.

His long, heart-shaped face was rimmed with a dark border around his white facial disks.

Mostly white underneath except for small

BIRD POOP

By BEBE McCASLAND



black spots on its breast and belly, the raptor had neared the brink of starvation.

To a regimen of fluids, followed by the introduction of its natural prey without the usual materials that form into cast pellets, the owl responded by gaining in strength and stamina. Only later would it be given the feathers and fur that normally accompany its nightly diet. Its feedings could literally kill it or cure it when its ability to digest and process food was critical.

After more than a week with us, the barn owl was transferred to Lubbock for further rehabilitation. Exercise in the following weeks would first be in a mew, and then the flight facility. Finally, with its long, broad wings, it would fly silently into the night upon release.

In a time of plenty, the raptor had suffered from extreme deprivation. The human intervention that saved it would likely be repaid often by the hunting skills of this night predator. Together, the two species exemplified the interconnection described by John Muir: When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world.

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

Accepting adversity

I have learned through the years that happiness is in our hearts, not in the circumstances we encounter; however, the way we make ourselves happy is unique to each of us. But the ways we make ourselves unhappy are remarkably common to all of us. So, perhaps, by not doing the things that make us unhappy, we can create more space for the deep and lasting happiness we long for.

There are certain things that remain constant: Everything changes and has an ending; things do not always go according to plan; life is not fair; pain is part of life; and people will not always live up to our expectations. These are life's givens. They are basic facts of our existence. If we fight these truths, we will lose. We will become frustrated, angry, and unhappy. But, if we accept them as reality, and work with them, we can think, feel, and act much more effectively.

We can be happy in

PARENT'S CORNER

By DARRELL RYAN



spite of what happens to us. We will discover that it does not help to whine and complain. We learn from our experiences and move on.

Like a sailor on the sea of life, when storms of change blow us off course, acknowledge but don't fight them. Go with them. "We cannot direct the wind," advises an old saying, "but we can adjust our sails."

Faced with one of life's givens, focus on what we want, accept reality as it is, and adjust our course. That way we can go with the flow and move toward what we truly want to create. It won't always be easy or effective. Difficulties and adversity will almost always get in our way. So be it. Accept them. Learn from

See RYAN, Page 7

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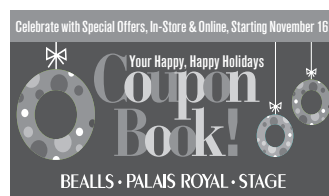
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Pet travel tips for Thanksgiving

You're all packed and ready to hit the open road with Fido and Fluffy for your Thanksgiving journey. Practicing some common sense rules of the road will help ensure that your precious pet has a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

No heads out the window: Although many pets find that sticking their head out the window is the best part of the road trip, it's not safe. Your pet can easily be injured by flying debris. This should go without saying, but never travel with a pet in the back of a pickup. Some states have laws restricting such transport and it is always dangerous.

Frequent pit stops: Always provide frequent bathroom and exercise breaks. Most travel service areas have designated areas for walking your pet. Be sure to stay in this area particularly when you pet needs a potty break ... and of course, bring along a bag to pick up after your pet. When outside your vehicle, make sure that your pet is always on a leash and wearing a collar with a permanent

and temporary travel identification tag.

Proper hydration: During your pit stops be sure to provide your pet with some fresh water to wet their whistle. Occasionally, traveling can upset your pet's stomach. Take along ice cubes, which are easier on your pet than large amounts of water.

Watch the food intake: It is recommended that you keep feeding to a minimum during travel.

Be sure to feed them their regular pet food and resist the temptation to give them some of your fast food burger or fries (that never has a good ending).

Don't leave them alone: Never leave your pet unattended in a parked vehicle. On warm days, the temperature in your vehicle can rise to 120 degrees in minutes, even with the windows slightly open. In addition, an animal left alone in a vehicle is an open invitation to pet thieves.

Practice restraint: Be sure that your pet is safely restrained in your vehicle. Utilizing a pet seat belt/pet safety harness or travel ken-

nel, vehicle pet barrier, or pet car seat are the best ways to keep your pet safe. They not only protect your pet from injury, but they help by keeping them from distracting you as you drive. A safety harness functions like a seatbelt. While most pets will not have a problem adjusting to it, you may want to let them wear the harness by itself a few times before using it in the vehicle.

If your pet prefers a travel kennel, be sure it is well ventilated and stabilized. Many pet owners prefer vehicle pet barriers, particularly for larger pets. Vehicle barriers are best suited for SUVs. No matter what method you choose, back seat travel is always safer for your pet.

Safe and comfortable: Whatever method you choose to properly restrain your pet in your vehicle, be sure to make their comfort a priority. Just as it's important for your "seat" to be comfortable for your long road trip, your pet's seat should be comfortable too. Typically their favorite blanket or travel bed will do the trick.

There are also some safe and very cozy pet car seats available that your pet may find quite comfy.

Pet friendly accommodations etiquette: If your journey's itinerary requires an overnight stay along the way at a pet friendly accommodation, there are a number of tips to consider.

Get a ground floor room to make bathroom runs easier.

At check-in, inquire about areas to walk your pet.

Cover any furniture and beds your pet will be allowed on.

Place litter boxes in the bathroom to make clean up easier

Avoid leaving your pet alone in the room. Even the best behaved pets can bark and become destructive when in a new environment. If your plans require you to stay for a longer period of time, inquire about local pet sitters or pet day care.

If your pet's demeanor is such that you are able to leave them alone for a short period of time, be sure to alert the front desk.

It also may help to put the tv or radio on to

Needing a home

These dogs are among those available for adoption at Big Spring Animal Control. Call 432-264-2372 to schedule an appointment or ask questions.



keep your pet comfortable, and place a note on your door indicating that your precious pet is inside.

Always keep your pet on a leash and refrain from taking them into the lodging dining areas.

Following some basic rules during road travel will help to make your journey with your little one much more enjoyable and safe.

For more information, visit www.tripswithpets.com.

Aging in place: A little help goes a long way

VERONA, N.J. (AP) — Retirement communities may have their perks, but Beryl O'Connor says it would be tough to match the birthday surprise she got in her own backyard when she turned 80 this year.

She was tending her garden when two little girls from next door — "my buddies," she calls them — brought her a strawberry shortcake. It underscored why she wants to stay put in the house that she and her husband, who died 18 years ago, purchased in the late 1970s.

"I couldn't just be around old people — that's not my lifestyle," she said. "I'd go out of my mind."

Physically spry and socially active, O'Connor in many respects is the embodiment of "aging in place," growing old in one's own longtime home and remaining engaged in the community rather than moving to a retirement facility.

According to surveys, aging in place is the overwhelming preference of Americans over 50. But doing it successfully

requires both good fortune and support services — things that O'Connor's pleasant hometown of Verona has become increasingly capable of providing.

About 10 miles northwest of Newark, Verona has roughly 13,300 residents nestled into less than 3 square miles. There's a transportation network that takes older people on shopping trips and to medical appointments, and the town is benefiting from a \$100,000 federal grant to put in place an aging-in-place program called Verona LIVE.

Administrated by United Jewish Communities of MetroWest New Jersey, the program strives to educate older people about available services to help them address problems and stay active in the community. Its partners include the health and police departments, the rescue squad, the public and public schools, and religious groups.

Among the support services are a home maintenance program with free safety checks

and minor home repairs, access to a social worker and job counselor, a walking club and other social activities. In one program, a group of middle-school girls provided one-on-one computer training to about 20 older adults.

Social worker Connie Pipher, Verona's health coordinator, said a crucial part of the overall initiative is educating older people to plan ahead realistically and constantly reassess their prospects for successfully aging in place.

"There are some people who just can do it, especially if they have family support," said Pipher, "And then you run into people who think they can do it, yet really can't. You need to start educating people before a crisis hits."

There's no question that aging in place has broad appeal. According to an Associated Press-LifeGoesStrong.com poll conducted in October, 52 percent of baby boomers said they were unlikely to move someplace new in retirement. In a 2005 survey by AARP, 89

percent of people age 50 and older said they would prefer to remain in their home indefinitely as they age.

That yearning, coupled with a widespread dread of going to a nursing home, has led to a nationwide surge of programs aimed at helping people stay in their neighborhoods longer.

Verona LIVE is a version of one such concept: the Naturally Occurring Retirement Community, or NORC. That can be either a specific housing complex or a larger neighborhood in which many of the residents have aged in place over a long period of time and need a range of support services in order to continue living in their homes.

Verona is an apt setting. Roughly 20 percent of its residents are over 65, compared with 13 percent for New Jersey as a whole.

Another notable initiative is the "village" concept. Members of these nonprofit entities can access specialized programs and services, such as transportation to

stores, home health care, or help with household chores, as well as a network of social activities with other members.

About 65 village organizations have formed in the U.S. in recent years, offering varying services and charging membership fees that generally range between \$500 and \$700 a year.

One of the potential problems for people hoping to age in place is that their homes may not be senior-friendly

Many older people live in homes that are 40 or more years old, abounding with narrow interior doorways, hard-to-reach kitchen cupboards and potentially hazardous bathroom fixtures.

"If you're a boomer person, with money to remodel, think about making your house more user-friendly, not just more beautiful, for when you have your knee replacement or a chronic condition," said Nancy Thompson of AARP. "We're talking smart, convenient. It doesn't have to look institutional or utilitarian."

RYAN

Continued from Page 6

them. Give ourselves time for appropriate sadness and disappointment. But don't focus on our loss, or the pain that accompanies it.

Accept loss as one of life's givens and rise above it by focusing on what is next. By ac-

cepting and embracing life's givens, we will be better able to transcend negative feelings and move in the direction of our heart's desires. If we can do that, then, whatever life gives us, we will feel a deep sense of inner peace and freedom.

True happiness is not found in the "whens" of life, it is found within us and is within our reach, here and now. If

we learn to value and have a good relationship with ourselves, feel competent, then we have what we need to enjoy life right now. Having the willingness to be open to new and different ways of viewing ourselves and embracing our ability to adapt to changes, which are bound to occur, are vital to the process of finding and sustaining happiness.

We will not feel happy all the time but we can choose to enjoy our opportunities whatever they may be and to think, feel and do something differently. We cannot always control the things that happen to us but we can always

control our reaction to those things.

So my challenge to us all is that the next time we find ourselves grumbling, fuming or irritated let's realize our reaction is our choice and it's ours to make but we must live

with the consequences. And in the words of Yogi Berra, "The box is always open, until it's closed."

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



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Dad spoils homecoming, Coahoma defeats O'Donnell

By ROBERT GRIFFIN

Sports Editor
COAHOMA — On a misty, foggy night, one of Coahoma's own returned to Bulldog Gym for a bittersweet reunion. It was father vs. son as the O'Donnell Eagles came to town, coached by Blake Nichols, son of Coahoma Coach Kim Nichols.

It was the first time the two men have met as coaches and this time, Dad got the better of Son, as Coahoma defeated O'Donnell 64-50, spurred on by 34-point night by Tanner Ruiz.

The Coahoma junior hit four 3-pointers to lead the Bulldogs to their second win of the young season.

Before the game, Blake Nichols talked about playing his father:

"I have a pretty good group

of boys here and I like their chances," the O'Donnell coach said. "I just hope the game doesn't come down to a coaches' duel. I might be in trouble then."

The game was a battle of two almost identical offensive strategies, as Eagles' coach showed where he learned the game, a little town called Coahoma.

The Bulldogs jumped out to an early lead and by the end of the first quarter, had claimed a 15-10 lead.

They would build on that lead in the second, outscoring O'Donnell 29-10 in the second frame and going into the locker rooms with a comfortable 44-20 lead.

"We jumped out on them early," Kim Nichols said. "But they have a good group of boys over there and they came out and played us really

well in the second half."

O'Donnell would outscore the Bulldogs in the third and fourth frames, but the lead was too much to overcome, as the final buzzer sounded with a 64-50 Coahoma win.

"Cage Miller played a great defensive game for us," Kim Nichols said. "He had three steals and was all over the court. Jacob Echavarria also had a good game, grabbing nine rebounds for us."

O'Donnell (2-1) — Gardner 2, Hunter 10, Leyra 3, Vasquez 5, Gruben 13, Castillo 8, Garces 4.

Coahoma (2-0) — Cage Miller 3, Aaron Acevedo 9, Tanner Ruiz 34, Marco Molina 2, Shanen Warneke 2, Ryan Reid 2, Alex Hill 7, Jacob Echavarria 5.

Next game: Coahoma at Klondike, 8 p.m. Friday Nov. 29



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler

Coahoma head coach Kim Nichols (foreground) hugs his son, Blake, after the Coahoma Bulldogs defeated O'Donnell Monday night. This was the first time the two men have met as opposing coaches.

Brady, Patriots run away from Chiefs Monday night

FOXBOROUGH (AP) — Rob Gronkowski somersaulted into the end zone, staggered to his feet and still managed to spike the ball.

"I was just fine," the Patriots star tight end said. "I just got the end knocked out of me a little bit."

New England was more than fine after looking groggy on offense early in the game before finishing big with a 34-3 win over the Kansas City Chiefs on Monday night.

Tom Brady threw two

touchdown passes to Gronkowski, who has five in his past three games. Julian Edelman returned a punt 72 yards for another score and Kyle Arrington had two of the Patriots three interceptions.

"We try to be a very opportunistic defense," Arrington said, "and when plays like that present themselves, you've got to capitalize on them. And if I can get into the end zone one of these times, that would be good, too."

The Patriots (7-3)

didn't need him to do that on Monday when they increased their AFC East lead to two games.

The Chiefs (4-6) weren't expected to do much on offense behind untested quarterback Tyler Palko, who threw three interceptions in his first career start with Matt Cassel injured. And they didn't, managing just a 26-yard goal by Ryan Succop with 1:30 left in the first quarter for their only lead.

"Three interceptions

is inexcusable," Palko said. "The game is hard enough as it is without making mistakes."

With Gronkowski collecting his ninth and 10th TD receptions of the season, the Patriots had their second straight dominant game after beating the New York Jets 37-16. The Chiefs lost their third straight.

The Patriots didn't generate much of an attack during their first four series. There were three punts and a fumble by Brady that was recovered by Kansas

City's Allen Bailey on the first play of the second quarter. And on his next series, Brady was sacked twice.

"Obviously, the first half we didn't do anything," Brady said. "I don't think it could have gotten much worse."

But the protection improved and Brady, who had thrown for just 19 yards in the first quarter, took advantage, leading three consecutive scoring drives.

He connected with Gronkowski for a 52-yard score when the

tight end caught the ball over the middle and scampered the last 35 yards, barely managing to remain inbounds on the right side as he neared the end zone.

"When I get the ball, you just don't want to go down," he said. "You've got to try and do something with the ball. That's why you get it."

Arrington, who leads the NFL with seven interceptions, got his first of the game on Kansas

See PATS, Page 13

Lady Buffs fall to Tahoka in close one

By ROBERT GRIFFIN

Sports Editor
FORSAN — The Forsan Lady Buffs played host to Tahoka Monday night in non-district action and though Forsan jumped out to an early lead, they would not be able to hold Tahoka down for all four quarters. Tahoka took the game 49-37.

Forsan held Tahoka scoreless through the first quarter, scoring 10 points of their own to take a 10-0 lead into the second quarter. But things got a lot closer by halftime, as Tahoka scored 19 points in the second frame and Forsan matched their first-quarter output of 10. Still, the Lady Buffs held a 20-19

lead at halftime. Unfortunately for the Herd, it would be the last lead they would have in the game, as the offense was unable to reach double digits in the third period, scoring only seven to Tahoka's 14.

Down 33-27 going into the game's final frame, Forsan managed to get their offense back into double digits, but the 10 points they scored could not match Tahoka's 14 and the Lady Buffs fell to 1-2 on the year.

Points: Ortiz 7, Haggard 6, Knight 6, Willard 6, Galloway 5, McDaniel 3, Hergert 2, Tilley 2.

The Lady Buffs will travel to Tahoka tonight for a 6:30 p.m. tip off.

Forsan falls at home

By ROBERT GRIFFIN

Sports Editor
FORSAN — The Forsan Buffaloes fell to Tahoka Monday night in non-district action 80-63. Patrick Robles had 14 points and Michael Mims had six steals, but the Buffs were unable to run with the Bulldogs in this one.

Keyshawn Liggins, a sophomore guard for the Bulldogs had a career night, scoring 42 points against Forsan, as the Buffaloes were only able to outscore the Bulldogs in the 12-11 third quarter.

Tahoka jumped out early, doubling up the Buffs in a 24-12 first frame. The second quarter showed Forsan coming closer,

scoring 15 points to the Bulldogs' 19.

In the third, Forsan had seen enough of Liggins and shut the Bulldogs down, only allowing 11 points in the quarter, but by the final frame he was back on the court, leading Tahoka to a 26-24 quarter and 80-63 final score.

B. Phillips scored 10 points for Forsan and Trevor Burchett added eight. Phillips also led the team with six rebounds, while Brendan Roman and K. Fannin each registered five.

Forsan was relatively close in most categories in this game. The one which made a huge difference was the points in the paint stat. Tahoka had 52 and Forsan had 36.

Rangers sign Nathan, move Feliz to the starting rotation

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Joe Nathan and the Texas Rangers agreed Monday night to a two-year contract with a club option for 2014, a move that means closer Neftali Feliz will shift to the starting rotation.

"We look at this as almost like two acquisitions," general manager Jon Daniels said.

The two-time defending AL champions had discussed moving Feliz into the rotation last spring, but the timing wasn't right then.

Daniels said being able to sign Nathan made that move easier now. It also would help offset the loss of free-agent starter C.J. Wilson if the left-hander signs elsewhere.

Texas planned to introduce Nathan during a news conference at Rangers Ballpark on Tuesday, the right-hander's 37th birthday.

Nathan missed the 2010 season following Tommy John surgery on his pitching elbow and struggled to find his form with Minnesota this year. The four-time All-Star went 2-1 with a 4.84 ERA and 14 saves in 48 appearances, losing his job as closer early in the season before reclaiming it later.

He pitched well in the

second half, saving 11 games and holding opposing batters to a .207 average while increasing his strikeout-to-walk ratio.

Daniels said Nathan was already in Texas and passed a physical late Monday before the deal was announced. Rangers scouts watched Nathan during the season, noting that his arm strength was back and he was commanding his slider.

"He was free and easy out there," Daniels said. "And he is an outstanding makeup guy."

The Rangers informed the hard-throwing Feliz a couple of days ago that he will switch from the bullpen to the rotation.

He joins a rotation that still has returning starters Colby Lewis, Derek Holland, Matt Harrison and Alexi Ogando. Scott Feldman, a 17-game winner in 2009 before right knee surgery, is also a viable option.

Daniels said the Rangers still have interest in re-signing Wilson, but the former closer who won 16 games last season has a lot of options and the team has to be "very realistic."

Feliz issued a statement through the team from his home in the Dominican Republic saying that he was happy to know the

club's decision this early. "I have plenty of time to get ready. I have already started running," Feliz said.

"I have time to work on my changeup and all my pitches. I know I have to work hard to be ready to help my team as a starter so we can get back to the playoffs."

Feliz was a starter through most of his time in the minors with the Rangers before he set a then-major league rookie record with 40 saves in 2010. He had 32 saves this season, but also gave up a two-out, two-run triple to David Freese in the bottom of the ninth inning of Game 6 of the World Series.

The St. Louis Cardinals went on to win that game in 11 innings, then won Game 7 to deny the Rangers their first World Series title.

Daniels said the blown save in Game 6 had nothing to do with the decision to move Feliz to the rotation. The Rangers were prepared to go into 2012 with the right-hander still closing if not for the opportunity to sign somebody like Nathan.

In 11 major league seasons, Nathan is 49-23 with 261 saves and a 2.87 ERA in 581 games.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The sun enters the fiery realm of Sagittarius. This part of the solar journey brings the longest nights of the year, night's filled with festivity and exploration, new friendships, travel, reading, study and passionate work toward the goals we believe will help ourselves and our loved ones prosper.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your creative mind will start searching for ways to express what's in your heart from the moment you get out of bed to the moment you get back into it and beyond. Even your dreams will be creative.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're stretched

beyond comfort, and yet you don't mind it so much. You realize that you must be challenged slightly more than is cozy in order to grow into the role you so desire.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You will be increasingly willing to explore what your senses are telling you. Whatever you feel, it informs you. Therefore, there are no inherently bad feelings, just feelings that give you different kinds of information.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). No one will accuse you of being boring. Maybe you'll say things that are even a little more "interesting" than you intended, producing a wave of publicity. If you believe the masters, any publicity is good publicity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be spending time with people who are difficult to get to know. You'll just have to work a little bit harder to crack the code, that's all. And only you can determine whether it's really worthwhile to do so.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.

22). You'll try harder when you don't think anyone is watching. Come to find out, people are. They can't help themselves, as they are drawn to your intriguing and original way of going about your business.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your faith helps you focus, and your focus helps you have faith. You'll find that whatever you gaze upon — either with your actual eyes or with your mind's eye — will talk back to you and further engage you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The way you speak will have a mesmerizing effect on others. You'll entertain and enchant them. The best part is that you probably don't even mean to have this effect. It happens naturally.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The term "personal responsibility" means something different to each person, although there's certainly a consensus. You prefer to act in a manner that most would deem highly responsible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). The role you play in a group, especially a family, can change. The thing that makes it change is your decision to act a different part. You'll bring about a new dynamic in the weeks to come.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Breakups are breakthroughs, and breakthroughs can cause breakups. Knowing this, you'll be happy for the status quo. You'll make a point of enjoying the relationships that are going well right now.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A conversation plays out in pretty much the same way every time you connect with a certain person. It's getting old, isn't it? You'll be the one who initiates something new to talk about.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 22). This will be a busy year for you. You will find new qualities to appreciate in yourself. You'll look after yourself and do what's best for you. The start of 2012 feels like you're waking up to a dream. In March, your personal life sparkles with new

characters. You'll invest, and it will pay off for you in August. Aquarius and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 39, 1, 21, 30 and 16.

HOLIDAY COPING STRATEGY: Why settle for getting to 2012 unscathed? Instead, resolve to have the best season ever! Here's how Capricorn and Aquarius can deal with holiday stress, from "Rock Your Stars, Your Astrological Guide to Getting It All":

CAPRICORN: Sometimes stuff happens. Sometimes the people you want to be there aren't there, and the ones you don't want to be there are present in full-force. You get gifts for people who didn't get one for you, and people you don't have gifts for give you gifts. There are never enough chairs or matching silverware. You inevitably run out of something important such as eggs, toilet paper or antidepressants. Still, it's never all bad. In fact, the things that might be considered bad probably add personality to your family time together and

give you a story for later, too.

AQUARIUS: Setting differences aside is your usual habit. During the holidays, it helps to broaden that rule to include not only differences, but also expectations, judgments, grievances and your attachment to any outcome whatsoever. When you do this, you achieve a personal Zen state of family unity that everyone in your family can feel.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Lovely Scarlett Johansson will play an alien seductress in the upcoming sci-fi flick "Under the Skin." Born on the cusp, Johansson is a good split of both Scorpio and Sagittarian influences. She was born when the sun, Mercury and Uranus were in fiery Sagittarius and the moon and Saturn were in intense Scorpio. Both influences are passionate. Scorpio turns the energy inward, and Sagittarius radiates out.

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Legals

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The Colorado River Municipal Water District and Garney Companies are soliciting supplier participation including those that qualify as SWMBE's for the following: Bid Package 2 Valves for the Ward County Water Supply Expansion Project. Bid Deadline is December 1, 2011 at 3 p.m. Bids will be received at CRMWD 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, TX 79721-0869. For more information contact Marcus Grace at (816)536-6485 or email mgrace@garney.com Garney Companies, Inc. is an Equal Employment/Opportunity Employer.
#7166 November 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, 2011

Legals

INVITATION TO BID
The Colorado River Municipal Water District and Garney Companies are soliciting supplier participation including those that qualify as SWMBE's for the following: Bid Package 3 Roads for a Ward County Water Supply Expansion Project. Bid Deadline is December 1, 2011 at 3:30pm. Bids will be received at CRMWD 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, TX 79721-0869. For more information contact Marcus Grace at (816)536-6485 or email mgrace@garney.com Garney Companies, Inc. is an Equal Employment/Opportunity Employer.
#7173 November 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30 and December 1, 2011

Legals

Howard County Sheriff Office has three black cows. Color black one Baldy, age unknown. Ownership not determined by 5th of December will be sold at public auction at Big Spring Livestock 500 N. Birdwell Lane. Please contact the Howard County Sheriff at 432-264-2231 for more information.
#7180 November 22 & 29, 2011

"Classic" Anne Landers®: Fed up sports parent

Editor's Note: Hundreds of Ann Landers' loyal readers have requested that newspapers continue to publish her columns. These letters originally appeared in 1999.

Dear Ann Landers: School sports have taken over the lives of my children, and I'm tired of it. Am I the only one?



ANN LANDERS

Some nights, my kids don't have the time or energy to study. They just fall into bed exhausted.

There is no time for doing home chores or taking on after-school jobs, which some kids need.

We hear a great deal about having well-rounded students. Sports participation interferes with that. If the kids want to play soccer and be in the band, too, forget it! The coaches won't allow it.

No excuse is acceptable for missing a practice or a game — including weddings or funerals, let alone eating supper with the family.

Let's face it. This is supposed to be fun for the kids. Most of them will never play

professionally or get a college athletic scholarship.

I propose parents unite and refuse to let the kids practice or play during school holidays or on weekends.

If parents would make a united stand and say, "Only Monday through Friday, and two weeks before school starts, and one week after school lets out for the summer," the coaches would have no choice but to schedule during that timeframe.

Too many parents and coaches have forgotten that the real purpose of school is to get an education. — *Sports Parents in La Crosse, Wis.*

Dear Sports Parents: You've written a very tough letter, but all your complaints are valid. I wonder if there are other parents who feel as you do. I also wonder if other coaches around the country are as demanding as the ones in La Crosse, Wis.

Dear Ann Landers: This is in response to the letter from "In a Quandary in Colorado." She said her 52-year-old daughter, "Eleanor," contacted her biological father, but that he would have nothing to do with her.

Shame on that man for

treating his daughter with such disregard. I have a similar story, but with a much happier ending.

My mom and my biological father, "Bill," were divorced when I was 4 months old.

When my mother remarried, Bill was in the Air Force, and I was 18 months old. Bill allowed my stepfather to adopt me because he wanted me to have a stable home.

He then agreed to stay out of my life. My adoptive father was wonderful and loving. My parents never sheltered me from knowing that I was adopted. From time to time, Mom would show me pictures of her first wedding and talk about Bill.

Bill stayed in contact with my maternal grandmother, who occasionally sent him photographs of me as I was growing up.

Two years ago, after 28 years, my grandmother asked if it would be OK for Bill to contact me.

I had just gone through a divorce and needed all the support I could get, so I was open to the idea. B

ill called me, and we talked on the phone for three solid hours. It was amazing how we bonded.

In September of that year, Bill and I met for the first time. It was a picture-perfect reunion.

The following June, I remarried, and both my fathers walked me down the aisle.

I felt this was a very generous and caring gesture for my Dad to share that special moment with Bill. I could not have been more proud. I am blessed to have such wonderful people in my life. — *Roberta in California*

Dear Roberta: What a lucky girl you are, and how generous of your mother not to resent her ex-husband's participation in the wedding. I hope you have let all these fine individuals know how much you appreciate their civility and consideration. You are indeed "blessed."

When planning a wedding, who pays for what? Who stands where? "The Ann Landers Guide for Brides" has all the answers. Send a self-addressed, long, business-sized envelope and a check or money order for \$3.75 (this includes postage and handling) to: Brides, c/o Ann Landers, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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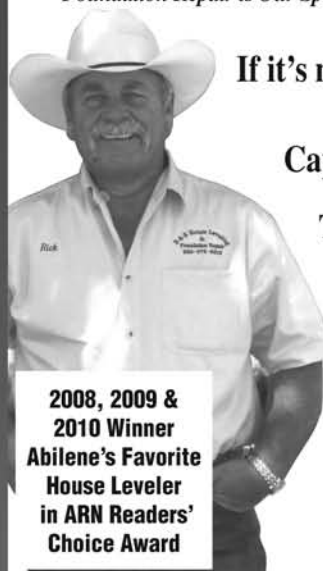
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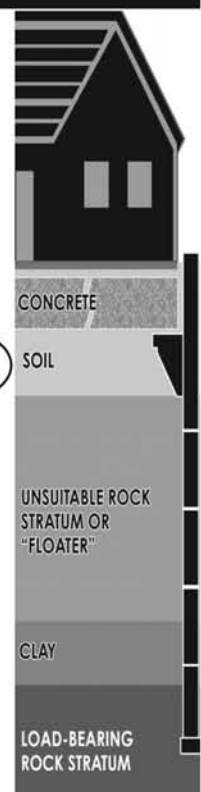


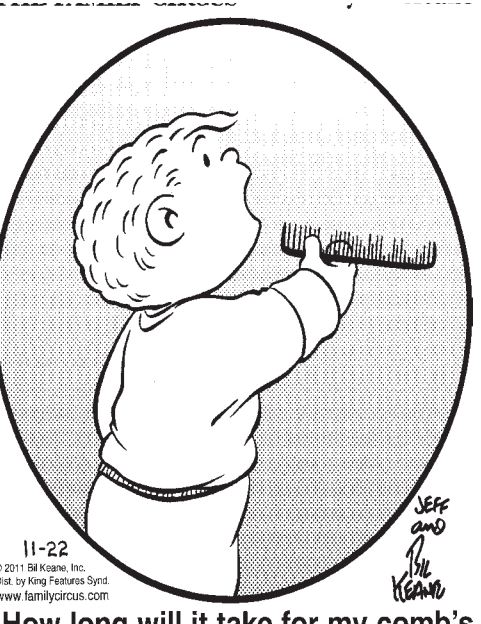
Table with 20 columns (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and 13 rows of TV listings.

DENNIS THE MENACE



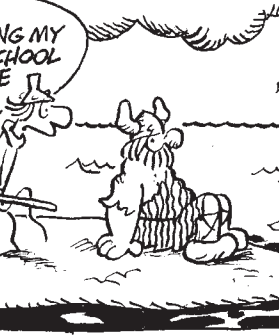
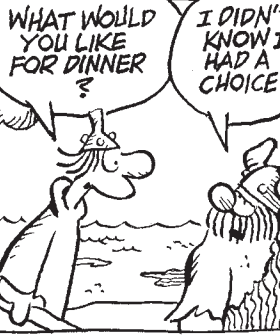
"I THINK DAD IS STARTING TO OVERHEAT, TOO."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"How long will it take for my comb's teeth to grow back?"

HAGAR



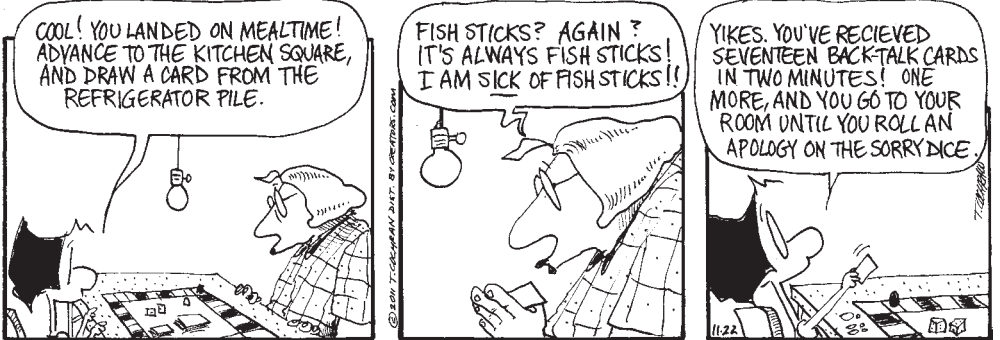
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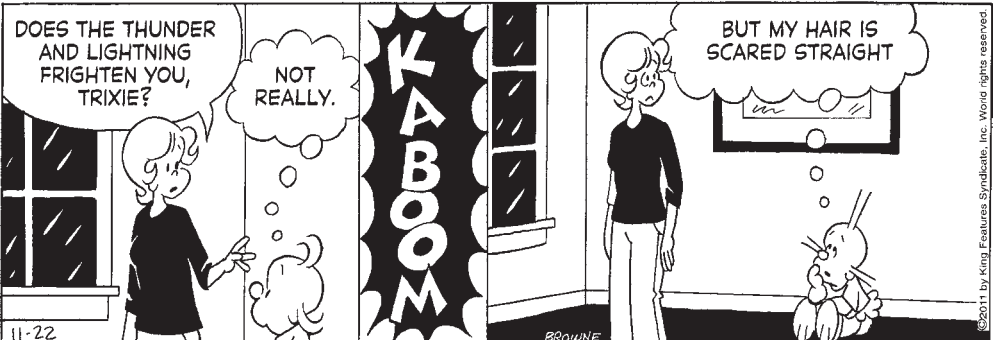
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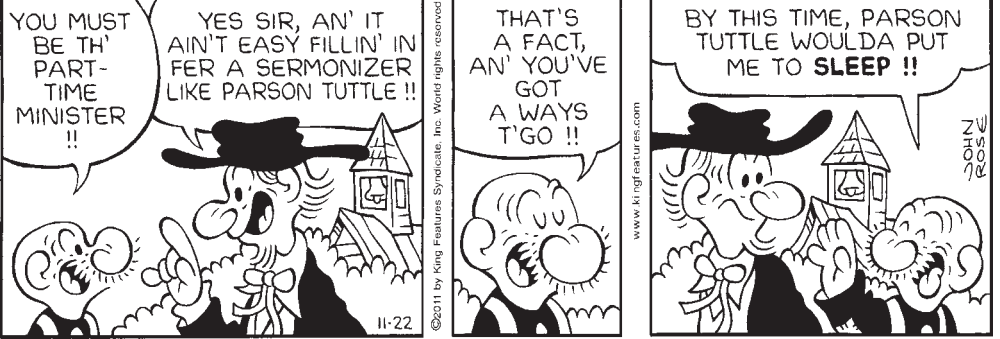
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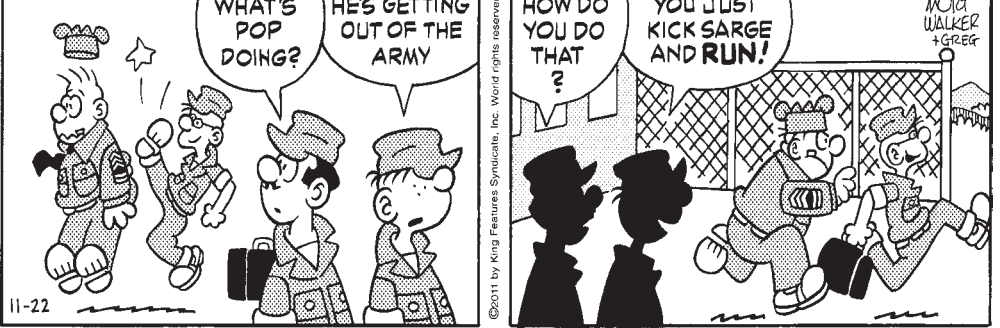
THE OTHER COAST



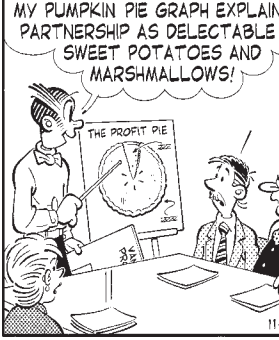
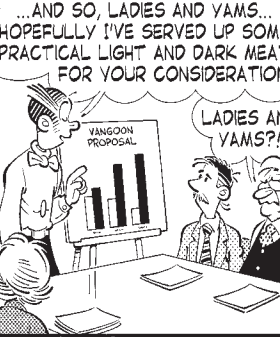
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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 22, the 326th day of 2011. There are 39 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated during a motorcade in Dallas; Texas Gov. John B. Connally was seriously wounded. A suspect, Lee Harvey Oswald, was arrested. On this date: In 1718, English pirate Edward Teach — better known as "Blackbeard" — was killed during a battle off the Virginia coast. In 1928, "Bolero" by Maurice Ravel (rah-VEL') was first performed, in Paris. In 1930, listeners of the British Broadcasting Corp. heard, for the first time, radio coverage of an American college football game as Harvard defeated Yale, 13-0. In 1935, a flying boat, the China Clipper, took off from Alameda, Calif., carrying more than 100,000 pieces of mail on the first trans-Pacific airmail flight. In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek (chang ky-shehk) met in Cairo to discuss measures for defeating Japan. Lyricist Lorenz Hart died in New York at age 48. In 1961, Frank Robinson of the Cincinnati Reds was named Most Valuable Player of the National League. In 1967, the U.N. Security Council approved Resolution 242, which called for Israel to withdraw from territories it had captured the previous June, and implicitly called on adversaries to recognize Israel's right to exist. In 1975, Juan Carlos was proclaimed King of Spain. In 1986, Elzire Dionne, who gave birth to quintuplets in 1934, died at a hospital in North Bay, Ontario, Canada, at age 77. In 1990, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, having failed to win re-election of the Conservative Party leadership on the first ballot, announced her resignation.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Arthur Hiller is 88. Actor Robert Vaughn is 79. Actor Michael Callan is 76. Actor Allen Garfield is 72. Animator and movie director Terry Gilliam is 71. Actor Tom Conti is 70. Singer Jesse Colin Young is 70. Astronaut Guion Bluford is 69. International Tennis Hall of Famer Billie Jean King is 68. Rock musician-actor Steve Van Zandt (a.k.a. Little Steven) is 61. Rock musician Tina Weymouth (The Heads; Talking Heads; The Tom Tom Club) is 61. Retired MLB All-Star Greg Luzinski is 61. Rock musician Lawrence Gowan is 55. Actor Richard Kind is 55. Actress Jamie Lee Curtis is 53.

Answer to previous puzzle: ERRS STOLE AWAY PAUL POLES WAVE ISLE HADAT ATON CHEESE DIP SKEWS VERSE HOER ST PETE COUNSEL TWO RIPUP LGE OER DIETARY IRA REC IPASS DEN ETHICAL ASSETS SLED MOCHA BAWLS SOUTHBEND IRIS LOTTO EROO DINE ALTER RITE SAGE DOORS SEAS

Newsday Crossword

CHINESE DINNER by Billie Truitt Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS 1 Lather 5 String entanglement 10 Beef cut 14 Suits to ___ 15 Cone-shaped dwelling 16 Letters on the "0" button 17 A bit moist 18 "You ___ kidding!" 19 ___ cost (free) 20 FIRST COURSE 23 Caribou cousin 24 Complete collection 25 Spaghetti, for instance 28 Billiards stick 31 IOUs 35 Navy VIP 36 Monotonous songs 39 Spherical hairdo 40 MAIN COURSE 43 Wizard of Oz dog 44 Hot-dog topper 45 Heart chart: Abbr. 46 Part of a play 48 Short time, for short 49 Cruise stops 51 Droop 53 Disapproving sound 54 DESSERT 62 Carpet measurement 63 Squirrel snack 64 Movie excerpt 66 College official

- 67 The ones there 68 Regarding 69 Put in pigeonholes 70 Tunes for one 71 Chick's sound DOWN 1 Unhappy 2 Great Salt Lake state 3 Floor model 4 Octet minus one 5 Offended the nose 6 Geeky type 7 Gorillas and chimps 8 Nevada city 9 "___ pray" (pastor's phrase) 10 Honey-glazed entrée 11 Capable of 12 Diner handout 13 Stage accessory 21 Alas and ___ 22 Camcorder button 25 Treaties 26 Kind of committee 27 Strike down 28 Walking sticks 29 Dad's brother 30 Moral code 32 "It's my impression..." 33 Tot's transportation 34 Musical numbers

Crossword grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting positions for clues.



HIGH-FLYING DOGS — With their coach's son, former Bulldog Blake Nichols, coming to town, the Coahoma basketball team brought their "A" game. The Bulldogs defeated O'Donnell 64-50 Monday night. **HERALD photo by Bruce Schooler.**

PATS

From Page 8

City's next series and Stephen Gostkowski made it 10-3 at halftime with a 21-yard field goal.

"We were still fighting and we knew it was a close game going into halftime," Chiefs safety Kendrick Lewis said. "They got a big play and a big score (Gronkowski's second touchdown) in the second half and that started their rally."

The Patriots got the ball to start the third quarter and went 85 yards on nine plays, scoring on Brady's 19-yard pass to Gronkowski, who went head over heels, landing on his neck in the right corner of the end zone after being hit by Derrick Johnson.

"He's a great football player," Patriots guard Brian Waters said. "It

doesn't surprise me for him to be able to bounce up."

Gronkowski has 20 touchdowns in 26 games, surpassing Mike Ditka's mark of 31 for the fewest games needed by a tight end to reach 20 touchdowns. He also pulled within three of the single-season, tight end record of 13 touchdown receptions held by Antonio Gates of San Diego and Vernon Davis of San Francisco.

"Everyone's doing their job and I just happen to be an open guy and Tom hits me in the end zone," Gronkowski said.

Just 1:03 after his second touchdown, Edelman got his second punt return touchdown of his career as the Patriots jumped to a 24-3 lead with 9:24 left in the third quarter.

Edelman, a wide receiver, also played defensive back, a position

hit hard by injuries.

"I do whatever I can to help the team," he said.

Arrington picked off another pass on the Chiefs' next possession, leading to a 19-yard field goal by Gostkowski.

And just when it looked as if Palko, who had thrown just 13 passes before Monday night, might direct his team to

a touchdown, he threw an interception to Philip Adams in the end zone with 10:50 left in the game. "We did too many things that get you beat in this league too many times," Chiefs linebacker Tamba Hali said. The Patriots finished the scoring on rookie Shane Vereen's first NFL touchdown.

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.

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

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Sure Way Is the Best Way

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 9 7 4 3

♥ K 10

♦ A Q 10 6

♣ 9 6 5

WEST

♠ K 8 6 5 2

♥ 5

♦ 7 3

♣ Q J 10 4 2

EAST

♠ Q J

♥ Q 9 8 6 2

♦ 5 4

♣ A K 7 3

SOUTH

♠ A 10

♥ A J 7 4 3

♦ K J 9 8 2

♣ 8

The bidding:

South 1♥

West Pass

North 1NT

East Pass

2♦

3♦

Pass

4♦

Pass

5♦

Pass

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

Here is a hand on which it would be very easy to go wrong.

West led the queen of clubs against five diamonds and continued with a club, ruffed by declarer. South drew two rounds of trump, both defenders following suit, led a heart to dummy's king and the heart ten back to the ace.

When West showed out, South realized he was in serious trouble,

but there was nothing he could do about it. He could not ruff all three of his heart losers, since only two trumps were left in dummy, and he also had to lose a spade trick, so he finished down one.

While South was certainly unlucky that the hearts divided 5-1, he nevertheless had a sure way to make the contract. After cashing dummy's king of hearts at trick five and leading the ten, he should have played a low heart from his hand instead of the ace.

Even if the ten lost to the queen, the contract would be 100 percent certain. After West took the trick with the queen, South would still have the A-J-7 of hearts on which to discard three spades from dummy and thus assure 11 tricks.

The outcome would be the same if the ten of hearts held the trick, as it would have in the actual deal. There would be no heart losers at all in that case, as South would need to ruff only the J-7 in dummy.

Finessing the ten of hearts could not possibly cost South the contract. In fact, by finessing, he has a slight chance to finish with an overtrick (if East has the Q-x-x of hearts). More importantly, though, the finesse guarantees the contract beyond the shadow of a doubt.

Tomorrow: Sylvia astounds them all.

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Crosby returns, leads Pens to shutout over N.Y.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Sidney Crosby split a pair of defenders, worked the puck to his backhand and let it fly.

New York Islanders goaltender Anders Nilsson never had a chance. Welcome back, Sid the Kid.

The Pittsburgh Penguins superstar capped his 10-month comeback from concussion-like symptoms in thrilling fashion, scoring a pair of goals to go with two assists in a 5-0 victory on Monday.

It was a storybook end to Crosby's frustratingly methodical return, one marked by numerous setbacks, rumors and questions about whether the 24-year-old former MVP would regain the

form that's made him one of the league's most popular players.

The early returns were a resounding yes.

Skating onto the ice to chants of "Crosby! Crosby!" the Penguins captain wasted little time showing he was back for good.

Pittsburgh nearly scored on his first shift and he made his third one count, taking a pass from linemate Pascal Dupuis before racing through the New York defense and zeroing in on Nilsson. The glove-side backhand was good for a moment that was nearly a year in the making.

Crosby thrust his arms to the sky in triumph, letting out a guttural

scream as crowd waved "Sid!" signs.

He did it again near the end of the first period, feeding Brooks Orpik on a pass to the point that Orpik turned into his second goal of the season.

It was the kind of brilliant performance reminiscent of Crosby's idol, Hall of Famer and current Penguins owner Mario Lemieux.

Super Mario notched a goal and two assists in his return from retirement in 2000.

Crosby said early Monday it'd be hard to match the moment.

It was. And Crosby may have topped it anyway.

The scintillating play was validation for Cros-

by, who never doubted he'd play hockey again. Never wavered as the months passed and his concussion-like symptoms stuck around. Never wondered if maybe he'd be better off hanging up his skates before his 25th birthday rather than risk the type of injury that jeopardizes more than a career.

There's no healing from the kind of shots Crosby took in back-to-back games last January. There's only dealing with a new normal.

Crosby spent nearly a year painstakingly going through the checklist, enduring test after test and blocking out rumor after rumor that he was done.

Sitting in his locker on Monday morning, the start of his seventh season finally at hand, Crosby smiled in a way he hadn't in a long, long time.

"I think now's the easy part, now you get to play," Crosby said. "When you're getting ready, that's the tough part, practicing and going through each of those steps, trying to get through each stage. That's really all the hard work. Now you've just got to go out and do it."

How, exactly, he'll do it remains to be seen.

Though Crosby has been cleared for contact since Oct. 13, he understands there's a major difference between hitting in practice and hit-

ting in a game.

Even he wasn't sure how he'd react.

"I think that anyone who has gone through this that would be lying if they said they weren't anxious to get those first couple hits in, whether it's giving it or taking it," Crosby said. "After that it's back to normal."

Things certainly looked that way, with Crosby taking a shot from New York's Travis Hamonic on a Pittsburgh power play. Hamonic checked Crosby cleanly to the ice. In a flash he was back on his feet allowing the Penguins — and hockey — to exhale.

Crosby's return produced the kind of buzz normally reserved for a Stanley Cup final. The team issued more than 250 media credentials — about four times the usual number for a late-November game — and upper concourse seats were being scalped for \$275 two hours before the puck dropped.

Though Pittsburgh has gotten along just fine this season without its captain, entering Monday night tied with Philadelphia atop the Atlantic Division, it understood things change the moment No. 87 slides off the bench and onto the ice.

In the span of a day, the Penguins went from Cup contenders to Cup favorites.

"With or without Sid

we wanted to win every night and we had a chance to win every night," center Jordan Staal said. "Obviously it's going to be different with him going back and everyone fitting in and having the pieces together ... we know what we have here."

Even if they're not quite certain how it's going to look, not even to coach Dan Bylsma.

Though the Penguins have upgraded the offense since Crosby went out last January, trading for James Neal and signing Steve Sullivan, Crosby was paired with Dupuis and Chris Kunitz in his return because of a certain comfort level obtained through years of playing together.

"You just hope you don't mess up for him," Kunitz joked.

Hardly. Crosby played with the kind of peerless ferocity that's become his trademark, the kind his teammates have seen enough of since training camp began to think the road back to spectacular play for their leader will be a short one.

"It's not going to be easy but who knows, he can make it look easy," Staal said. "You can't really do it unless you go through it, but he's talented enough that he can do some great things."

And do them in bunches. Crosby was on his way to capturing his second MVP award when he was injured.

It all changed on Jan. 6 when he was diagnosed with concussion-like symptoms that he later described as "fogginess."

He unwittingly became a case study for the effects of head shots on the game and led the NHL to crack down on such plays.

If it helps make the sport he loves safer, Crosby is all for it. That's not why he came back, however.



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Lone Star District Commissioner Boy Scouts of America
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5	6	8	7	2	9	1	4	3
3	8	1	5	9	2	4	7	6
7	4	2	3	1	6	8	5	9
6	9	5	4	8	7	3	1	2
2	5	6	8	7	1	9	3	4
4	1	9	2	6	3	5	8	7
8	3	7	9	5	4	6	2	1

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