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# HERALD

**BIG SPRING** TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017



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## Permanent detour: City begins to close off part of tarmac at airpark

By **ROBERT BARLOW**  
 Staff Writer

No more shortcuts through the Mc-Mahon-Wrinkle Airport and Industrial Park.

Last week, the city of Big Spring began the installation of barriers along Airpark Drive by the old Western Container building that will eventually cut off any public through traffic access on the tarmac from the back of the Hangar 25 Air Museum to the old plastic bottle manufacturing company.

This is the start of a bigger plan to ultimately change the traffic flow at the air-

park for the new rail that has been built in order to keep drivers who would normally use the road safe.

"We built some new track at the airpark that is adjacent to the tarmac," said Terry Wegman, executive director of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation. "Part of that design included some barriers that will basically close off part of the tarmac."

The changes that are being made stem from a master plan that was approved by the Big Spring City Council aimed to promote city growth and improve the

See **DETOUR**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Robert Barlow

Last week the city of Big Spring placed barriers to divert traffic away from the rail track along part of the airpark's tarmac near the old Western Container building.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

John and Cindy Middleton were named the Wildlife Conservationists for 2017 Monday night during HSWCD's annual banquet held at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

## Middletons honored as HSWCD Wildlife Conservationists for 2017

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
 Staff Writer

Long-time Howard County ranchers John and Cindy Middleton were named the Wildlife Conservationists for 2017 by the Howard Soil and Water Conservation District (HSWCD) Monday night.

"We think it's a really nice honor and we appreciate getting an award this year," John Middleton said. "We put in a lot of work and we care about what we do."

The Middletons have a

ranch in northern Howard County where, besides cattle, they also allow use of their land by hunters, mostly for quail hunting.

"This husband and wife team have completed many conservation practices on their land with a goal to enhance and maintain wildlife habitat," Mark Morgan, HSWCD board president told the crowd gathered in the east room of the Howard College Dorothy Garrett Coliseum during the organization's annual banquet. "The primary wildlife species of concern is quail, but all conservation practices completed also benefit white tail deer, pronghorn antelope, and other non-game species."

For the past several years, the Middletons have converted many of their wheat fields to a mixture of native

vegetation to provide both for livestock forage and a food source wildlife. The vegetation also provides brush cover for area wildlife. The ranchers plan to convert their remaining wheat fields with diverse native plants by the spring of 2018.

"The Middletons work closely with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to develop a conservation plan to meet their goals of managing for wildlife habitat," Morgan said. "Over the years, they have utilized the Conservation Reserve Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program to

See **HSWCD**, Page 3

## Britain's prime minister to seek early election on June 8

LONDON (AP) — In a shock announcement, Prime Minister Theresa May on Tuesday called for an early general election to be held June 8 to seek a strong mandate as she negotiates Britain's exit from the European Union.

Standing outside 10 Downing Street, May said she would ask the House of Commons on Wednesday to back her call for an election, just two years after the last vote and three years before the next scheduled date in May 2020.

She said that since Britons voted to leave the EU in June, the country had come together, but politicians had not. She said the political divisions "risk our ability to make a success of Brexit."

At present, May's governing Conservatives have a small majority, with 330 seats in the 650-seat House of Com-

mons.

With the main opposition Labour Party weakened and divided under left-wing leader Jeremy Corbyn and the pro-EU Liberal Democrats holding just nine Commons seats, May is calculating that the election will bring her an expanded crop of Conservative lawmakers.

That would make it easier for her to ignore opposition calls for a softer EU exit — making compromises to retain some benefits of membership — and to face down hardliners within her own party who want a no-compromise "hard Brexit" that many economists fear could be devastating. May triggered a two-year countdown to Britain's exit from the EU last month, and high-stakes negotiations to settle divorce terms and agree on a new relationship

See **MAY**, Page 3

## Local debuts new book



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Eunie Filler speaks with Juanita Stigen of Midland while signing a copy of her new book "Filler Up." The local author held a book signing Monday at the Howard County Library.

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## Obituaries

### Theron Dwayne McVae, Jr



Theron Dwayne McVae, Jr., 19 of Big Spring, died Tuesday, April 11, 2017 in Big Spring. The family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday at Life Church with Kevin Knudson, pastor officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born November 5, 1997 in Midland to Gracie Leal and Theron Dwayne McVae, Sr. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and had just started working at Fiberrod. Theron, AKA Jr., touched the lives of everyone he met just with his smile. He was always laughing and joking. Loving his family

was all that mattered. His smile will live on in our hearts.

He is survived by his wife Kaytlin Feemster of Big Spring; his mother: Gracie Leal of Big Spring; one sister: Leslie Leal of Big Spring; two brothers: Gregory Leal and Ronnie Leal and wife Danielle, all of Big Spring; one niece Becky Leal of Big Spring, one nephew Keone Ford of Big Spring, his grandparents: Bertha Leal and Eloy Leal, both of Big Spring and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Pallbearers will be Ronnie Leal, Gregory Leal, Caleb Leal, Matthew Leal, Vincent McVea, Josh McVea, Nathan Feemster, Terence Ross, Roy Carrillo and Jose Gaza.

All friends are considered Honorary Pallbearers. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

*Paid obituary*

## Take Note

• Tickets for the Howard College production of "Chess" are now on sale. Show dates for the musical will be held at 7:30 p.m., April 27-29. Tickets are \$10 for standard seats and \$5 for side seats. Tickets can be reserved by e-mailing Wills at [ewills@howardcollege.edu](mailto:ewills@howardcollege.edu) or calling 412-432-5103.

• Coahoma ISD Pre-K pre-registration is from April 18-21 at the Coahoma Elementary Office between the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. To register, parents must first go to administration building to obtain a proof of residency by taking a bill that has your address on it and then head to the elementary and fill out a pre-registration form.

You must bring the following: a state sealed birth certificate (not the hospital issued one with footprints), the child's Social Security card and shot record, and the parent's driver's license. All documents must be originals, no copies.

The student must meet the following qualifications:

- Transfers accepted for Pre-K.
- Students must be four on or before Sept. 1.

- Be unable to speak and comprehend the English language

- Be educationally disadvantaged, which means a student eligible to participate in the national free or reduced-price lunch program.

- Be homeless, as defined by 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 1143a, regardless of the residence of the child, of either parent of the child, or of the child's guardian or other person having lawful control of the child

- Be the child of an active-duty member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who is ordered to active duty by proper authority; or is the child of a member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who was injured or killed while serving on active duty

- Be in, or have been in, the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) following an adversary hearing held as provided by Section 262.201, Family Code.

- Coahoma ISD kindergarten pre-registration - To qualify, students must reside in the district to pre-register and be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1. Transfer requests will not be processed until June 1st.

Parents must first first, go to Administration Building to obtain a proof of residency by taking a bill that has your address on it. If the child is already enrolled, this step may be skipped. Next, the parent must go to elementary and fill out a pre-registration form.

The parents must bring the state sealed birth certificate (not the hospital issued one with footprints), the child's Social Security card and shot record, and the parent's driver's license. All documents must be originals, no copies

Kindergarten Round UP day will be on Friday, April 28 from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. Parents must pre-register their child during the April 18-21 dates to attend on

this day.

- The 19th annual "Master the Mountain" event will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 22, at Big Spring State Park. Master the Mountain will consist of both a 10K run and a 5K fun run/walk. Master the Mountain will help support the Permian Basin Women's Resource Center (The Life Center of Big Spring) and Big Spring State Park. Those interested in participating in the event can register online at [www.permianbasinevents.com](http://www.permianbasinevents.com), by email at [info@permianbasinevents.com](mailto:info@permianbasinevents.com) or [usatcraig@suddenlink.net](mailto:usatcraig@suddenlink.net); or in person at 8 a.m. on race day.

- The Permian Basin Underground Water District for will host its 2017 Rainwater Harvesting Workshop, at 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 4. The presentation will take place at the PBUWCD office at 708 W. St. Peter Street in Stanton, Texas and is free to the public. This year's guest speaker will be Extension Agent in Horticulture Jeff Floyd with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

- The Texas Department of State Health Services accredited food handlers program is being offered in Big Spring on April 27 at 10 a.m. and at 3 p.m. at Howard College's GC Broughton Agriculture Complex, 2411 Echols Drive. The class, which is being offered by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, is required for all food service employees to help promote the service of safe food. The class is a basic overview of food safety practices that are necessary to ensure such safe food practices as: good personal hygiene, prevention of cross contamination, and good time and temperature practices. The cost of the program is \$20. To register, call 432-264-2236.

- Registration is now begin taken for cancer survivors/caregivers who will be attending the 2017 Howard/Glasscock County Relay for Life. To register by phone or online call 1-800-227-2345 or [www.relayforlife.org/bigspiringtx](http://www.relayforlife.org/bigspiringtx). For assistance, you may contact Howard Stewart at 432-935-0582 or Beverly Grant at 432-967-0901.

- The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from current A&M students. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. For more information and to find the application, visit <https://westexags.com/>. Deadline for applications for current A&M students is June 1, 2017.

- The Howard County Fair thanks everyone who has picked up a crossstitch square for the annual quilt fundraiser. There are still a few squares left, so if you can do one, please see Cheryl at the Heritage Museum during regular hours, Tuesday through Saturday.

- Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work

is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

The next sacking session will be at 5:30 p.m. April 20 and 21 at the old Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 N.W. Seventh St. To get there, take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney, which is the block just past the Salvation Army retail store. Delaney turns into Seventh Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

#### Health Checks

- Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

- Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands.

No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

#### Meetings

- The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.

- The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

- The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

- Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

- Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

- Membership to the Big Spring Native American Association is open to the public. People interested in Native American culture are encouraged to find out more about the organization by calling Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125,

#### Volunteer opportunities

- The Scenic Mountain Medical Center volunteer program is in need of volunteers. A variety of opportunities are open for members of the community. For more information, call Anita Cline at 268-4721.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **TREYCEE LYNN FAIRMAN**, 37, of 100 Brown was arrested on a warrant for theft of property (less than \$100) and failure to appear.

- **MCKENZIE LEIGH STOLARCZYK**, 22, of 1207 Settles was arrested on a warrant for driving with invalid license, failure to appear, and a warrant from another agency.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King, the 2900 block of SSR, and the 2600 block of Fairchild Drive.

- **BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported in the 1400 block of N Hwy 87, the 3700 block of Connally Street, the 100 block of N Wasson Drive, and the 500 block of Dallas Street.

## Support Groups

#### TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder 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 all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will start Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship located in the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700.

There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided.

Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY

- **RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy)** a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

#### THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m.

Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to.

Flexible payment options.

- A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

#### FRIDAY

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

#### SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

#### SUNDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

#### MONDAY

- Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees it, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Pictured are in no particular order the winners of the 2017 HSWCD poster and essay winners. They are: Trooper Harrison, Isabella Dutchover, Kaylene Perez, Scout Stockton, Juliana Summers, Patty Yabes, Kaitlyn Byerly, Dylan Gonzales, and Fernanda Ferro (not pictured). The winners along with the second and third place finishers were honored during the HSWCD annual banquet held Monday night.

## HSWCD

Continued from Page 1

assist them with completing conservation practices.”

Morgan added quail feeders are stationed throughout the ranch to provide supplemental feed whenever native plant available to is low. Stock tanks are distributed throughout the ranch to provide water for livestock and wildlife. All but two of the tanks can be maintained by water wells.

The Middletons have also won many awards for their agriculture success including Howard County Agricultural Producer of the Year in 1989 and Outstanding Conservation Rancher in 2010.

“We’ve been taught from our grandparents on that land is very important,” Cindy Middleton said. “If you take care of the land it will take care of you so you need to always, always, take care of the land.”

Also during the banquet, the winners of the HSWCD poster and essay student contests were announced. Nine students received first place out of 94 entries in the poster contest and a Goliad Elementary third grader received the top award in the essay contest.

Trooper Harrison of Forsan Elementary school was the first grade winner. Trooper is the son of Stephanie and Michael Piercefield. He won in his division last year.

In the third grade division, Isabella Dutchover of Moss Elementary School and Kaylene Perez of Goliad Elementary School both placed first. Isabella is the daughter of Theresa and Coit Price. Kaylene is the daughter of Edna and Michael Rivera and this is her second year to participate in the contest. Second place honors went to Emily Carreon and the third place was awarded to Morgan Hughes. Both students attend Moss Elementary.

The fourth grade division had three top winners – Scout Stockton, Juliana Summers, and Patty Yabes, all Forsan Elementary School students. Scout is the daughter of Richard and Tandi Stockton. Juliana is the daughter of Megan Summers. She also advanced to area competition. Patty is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Yabes. Second place winners were: Alicia Fowler, Chance Leonard, and Colt Woodall, all of Forsan Elementary. Third place winners were: Kodi Raye Asmundson, Hannah Krodell, and Aracellie Melendez, all of Forsan Elementary. Kaitlyn Byerly and Dylan Gonzales received first place in the fifth grade division. Kaitlyn, the daughter of Erich and Angie Byerly, attends Forsan Elementary School. She also advanced to area competition. Dylan is the son of Praxedes Arvelo and Jesus Gonzales. He attends Big Spring Intermediate School. Dylan’s entry is the third poster submission to advance to area competition. Second place winners are: Mia Hernandez of Big Spring Intermediate and Lyssa Roman of Forsan Elementary School. Third place went to Marcus Cervantes of Big Spring Intermediate and Hilary Thompson of Forsan Elementary School.

In the sixth grade division, Fernanda Ferro was the first place winner. She is the daughter of Ernesto Ferro and Yenlia Gazquez.

The essay winner this year was Kaylene Perez.

“Her love of science is evident in her essay on why tress play such an important part in our life,” said Ed Miller, HSWCD board vice president.

This year’s poster and essay contest was themed “We all Need Trees.” First place winners received a monetary prize along with a pecan tree seedling. Teachers and principals from the schools the winning students attend were also honored with a pecan seedling.

## DETOUR

Continued from Page 1

quality of life for Big Spring residents. The master plan includes new light and heavy commercial zones as well as housing divisions. The plan also focuses on the development of the downtown area and the airport.

“This really goes back to the city’s master plan that was approved last year, and closes off that tarmac to through traffic in accordance to development plans,” said Wegman

Currently, the barriers are just southwest of what used to be the Western Container building and when finished, will be a long arc that curves across the tarmac. The construction is currently ongoing and the city plans to continue putting up the barriers all the way across to Douglas Street.

According to Wegman, the traffic primarily consists of drivers from the southwest part of town using the road as a shortcut to get to Interstate 20. The barriers currently only divert traffic away from the railroad tracks but will eventually extend to move traffic away from the tarmac entirely so the area can be used for loading and offloading from the tracks.

The city hopes this change will also solve another issue: Drivers who used the road were not operating their vehicles safely.

“According to Jim Little (Airport Manager), there have been numerous incidents of speeding on the road, and before the rail was there a fence ran along the tarmac and numerous times people had knocked that fence down,” said Wegman

A public notice has been sent out by the city reminding drivers that the maximum speed limit for streets without a posted speed is 30 miles per hour.

Wegman went on to say the roads south of the current barriers may eventually be impacted by future additions to the construction. There are three streets south of the barriers that connect to the tarmac that will potentially be affected by the changes and those are Douglas Street, Lockheed Drive, and Curtis Drive.

Drivers who normally use the road are encouraged to use caution and follow the cones and signage in the area abiding by all traffic laws.

Contact Staff Writer Robert Barlow at (432) 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

## MAY

Continued from Page 1

are expected to start within weeks.

May took office in July following an internal Conservative leadership contest, after predecessor David Cameron stepped down when voters rejected his call to remain in the EU. Since then she has repeatedly ruled out calling an early election to get her own mandate.

But May said Tuesday she had “reluctantly” changed her mind.

“We need a general election and we need one now,” she said.

May said that if there is not an election soon, “the negotiations with the European Union will reach their most difficult stage in the run-up to the next scheduled election.”

“Division in Westminster will risk our ability to make a success of Brexit and it will cause damaging uncertainty and instability to the country,” she said.

May said that “our opponents believe that because the government’s majority is so small, our resolve will weaken and that they can force us to change course” on leaving the EU.

“They are

wrong,” she said. “They underestimate our determination to get the job done and I am not prepared to let them endanger the security of millions of working people across the country.”

Under Britain’s Fixed-Term Parliaments Act, elections are held every five years, but the prime minister can call a snap election if two-thirds of lawmakers vote for it.

That is highly likely to happen on Wednesday. Labour Party leader Corbyn said he welcomed May’s decision “to give the British people the chance to vote for a government that will put the interests of the majority first.”

Labour campaigned for Britain to remain in the EU, but Corbyn says he will respect voters’ decision to leave. He said Labour would fight the election promising a fairer society and economy, and “a Brexit that works for all.”

Polls give May’s Conservatives a double-digit lead

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on Labour. But the election is still a risk for May, and could widen divisions within the United Kingdom. The country voted 52-48 percent to leave the EU, but Scotland backed remaining by a large majority, and Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon is seeking to hold a referendum on independence from the U.K.

Sturgeon said Tuesday that May was seeking “to crush the voices of people who disagree with her.”

She said it was “all the important that Scotland is protected from a Tory Party which now sees the chance of grabbing control of government for many years to come and moving the U.K. further to the right - forcing through a hard Brexit and imposing deeper cuts in the process.”

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## Archaeologists find 1,000 statues in tomb in Egypt's Luxor

CAIRO (AP) — Archaeologists in Egypt have discovered more than 1,000 statues and 10 sarcophagi in an ancient noble’s tomb on the west bank of the Nile River in Luxor.

The Antiquities Ministry said Tuesday that the tomb was built for a judge during the New Kingdom period, from roughly 1,500 to 1,000 B.C.

The tomb comprised an open courtyard leading to two halls, one containing four ancient coffins and the other including a chamber that houses six. The head of archaeological mission, Mostafa el-Waziri, says another chamber was found containing the statues, which depict kings from different dynasties.

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## Special prosecutor named in trial of Houston deputy's death

HOUSTON (AP) — A special prosecutor has been named to pursue the case of a Houston man accused of killing a sheriff's deputy at a gas station.

Montgomery County District Attorney Brett Ligon will prosecute Shannon Miles, the man charged with killing Harris County sheriff's deputy Darren Goforth. Miles is scheduled to appear in court Tuesday.

The Harris County district attorney, Kim Ogg, asked to be recused because her chief of staff while in private practice represented two witnesses who could testify on Miles' behalf. Miles is charged with capital murder. Goforth was shot 15 times while putting gasoline in his patrol car.

## Texas alcohol commission's director quits under criticism

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The embattled director of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission has resigned after lawmakers sharply criticized her agency taking taxpayer-funded trips to Hawaii and San Diego.

Sherry Cook's resignation came weeks after the Texas Tribune reported on those trips and the ties between the agency and the beverage industry it regulates. The commission said Monday that Cook would officially retire in May.

John Wittman, a spokesman for Gov. Greg Abbott, said Monday that Cook's departure was necessary "to restore trust in the agency."

Lawmakers from both parties questioned Cook after the Tribune report, which included a flyer for one conference featuring Cook's picture with a bottle of Lone Star beer superimposed on her hand.

## Texas House orders study before using poison on feral hogs

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas House has approved a bipartisan bill requiring further study before the state's agriculture commissioner can authorize the use of a poison he's boasted will trigger an "apocalypse" against the invasive creatures.

Approved Monday 128-13, the measure requires further academic or policy scrutiny on the poison's effects on the hogs as well as residents, hunters and the environment. A final, largely formulaic vote is all that's needed to send it to the state Senate.

Texas is home to an estimated 2.5 million feral hogs, which can be destructive to crops and property.

Commissioner Sid Miller has planned to alter state agricultural rules to allow the use of a pesticide called Kaput Feral Hog Lure. It is bait food laced with warfarin, a blood thinner that's lethal to feral hogs.

## Construction worker, 71, claims \$177M jackpot in Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — A 71-year-old construction worker from Texas is the winner of the largest lottery jackpot ticket ever sold in Arkansas. Arkansas Scholarship Lottery officials say 71-year-old Eliberto Cantu of Lubbock, Texas, purchased the winning ticket in a Mega Millions drawing worth \$177 million. Cantu bought the ticket March 30 in Stuttgart, about 55 miles west of Little Rock.

Wearing a black cowboy hat and sunglasses, Cantu held up a giant prize check on Monday with his wife, Anita. A lottery spokesman says Cantu opted for a lump sum payout of \$72 million.

## Texas mom accused of shooting video, photos of child's abuse

HUMBLE, Texas (AP) — Court records show a Houston-area woman is accused of placing a plastic bag over the head of her 1-year-old son and sending video of the abuse to relatives because she was upset that the child's father had a new girlfriend.

Twenty-three-year-old Jamelle Peterkin of Humble (UHM'-buhl) appeared in court Monday on a charge of endangering a child and was freed on \$15,000 bond. The boy's aunt, Ra'Neicha Broadnax, told KTRK-TV that in recent days she received videos and pictures from Peterkin also showing the child being slapped.

Broadnax said Peterkin indicated she was angry about the father's new girlfriend. Records show Peterkin also placed a plastic bag in the boy's mouth.

# North Texas city of Frisco proud home to pro sports venues



In an April 7, 2017 photo, Texas Legends President Donnie Nelson, center, shows his boots as Dallas Stars President Jim Lites, left, and Frisco RoughRiders CEO Chuck Greenberg watch during a panel at the U.S. Conference of Mayors Professional Sports Alliance at The Star in Frisco, Texas. Frisco claims a lock on the professional sports market like no other community in the country. The Dallas Morning News reports now Frisco is vying to be the champion in another area — sports innovation.

By VALERIE WIGGLESWORTH

The Dallas Morning News

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Already headquarters for three major league sports franchises — including America's Team, the Dallas Cowboys — plus two minor league organizations, Frisco claims a lock on the professional sports market like no other community in the country.

The Dallas Morning News (<http://bit.ly/2nUEj9D>) reports now Frisco is vying to be the champion in another area — sports innovation. And city officials say they're already way ahead of the competition.

"We're the No. 1 innovative sports city in the world," crowed Mayor Maher Maso, who recently hosted a three-day meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Professional Sports Alliance.

In addition to the Cowboys, the Dallas Stars and FC Dallas also call Frisco home. Joining in the fun are the Frisco RoughRiders, a minor league affiliate of the Texas Rangers, and the Texas Legends, a D-League team of the Dallas Mavericks.

Frisco is also home base for the nonprofit U.S. Youth Soccer, the largest member of the U.S. Soccer Federation, with more than 3 million players across the country.

And the World Olympic Gymnastics Academy, based in Frisco and Plano, has produced more than 30 national team members. It was also the training base for Olympic all-around champions Carly Patterson in 2004 and Nastia Liukin in 2008, and 2016 Olympic team gold and uneven bars silver medalist Madison Kocian. Last year WOGA owner and co-founder

Valeri Liukin, Nastia's father, was named the new head of the U.S. women's gymnastics team.

"One of the great things about sharing Frisco with all of our colleagues here is that it makes all of us try harder," said RoughRiders CEO Chuck Greenberg, who hit a big league home run last year by adding a lazy river just beyond the right field fence at the minor league ballpark.

Beyond the organizations are a multitude of facilities — from Fieldhouse USA to The PIT to city parks to the Toyota Soccer Center — that cater to youth and recreation leagues on a large scale.

Dallas Stars president Jim Lites said what's available now in Frisco is no accident. There's a business purpose behind everything the city does.

"They bring the best people," Lites said. "They find a way to work with everybody."

In 2011 Frisco was named by Men's Journal as the Best Place to Raise an Athlete.

Now one of the nation's fastest-growing cities wants to be known as the best place to take care of them. It has set its sights on becoming the America's premier location for sports medicine and research.

The Baylor Scott & White Sports Therapy and Research at The Star is under construction as part of a partnership with the Cowboys. The center will not only provide top-notch care for professional athletes but also make those same physicians, treatments and therapies available to the public.

Frisco ISD already benefits from Baylor Scott & White's ex-

pertise in concussion assessment and treatment. The not-for-profit health care system stationed neuropsychologists on the sidelines at every varsity football game in the district this past season. That relationship is expected to expand in the future.

Baylor Scott & White will also be the first health center in Texas to partner with Fusionetics, an app-based program to help athletes reduce injuries, optimize performance and enhance recovery.

"Kudos to Frisco and the partnerships they have going on here with the Cowboys and everything else to really make Frisco the safest place to compete in sports," said Dr. Adam Annaccone, director of clinical services at Baylor Scott & White Sports Therapy and Research at The Star.

Farther up the Dallas North Tollway, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children is building its north campus that will be anchored by a Center for Excellence in Sports Medicine. Among its specialties for children are orthopedic conditions as well as sports-related concussions. Its mission is to focus on the unique needs of growing athletes.

Another piece of the puzzle comes with Frisco-based Blue Star Sports. The year-old technology company creates digital efficiencies in youth sports, from registration to scheduling to performance.

"No one has that critical mass," Maso said. "You're going to have scientists moving here, sports researchers moving here. The Gatorades and Nikes — where are

See **FRISCO**, Page 5

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Trump, GOP face referendum in Georgia; Dems aim for upset



AP photo

In a Monday, March 27, 2017 photo, Democratic Congressional candidate Jon Ossoff greets supporters outside of the East Roswell Branch Library in Roswell, Ga., on the first day of early voting.

By KATHLEEN FOODY and BILL BARROW

Associated Press  
ALPHARETTA, Ga. (AP) — Republicans are bidding to prevent a major upset in a conservative Georgia congressional district where Democrats stoked by opposition to President Donald Trump have rallied behind a candidate who has raised a shocking amount of money for a special election. Tuesday's jungle-style primary lumps all 18 candidates on one ballot and is expected to be more competitive than Republicans' single-digit victory in Kansas last week that also tested both parties' strategies for the 2018 midterm elections with Trump in the White House.

Trump underperformed other Republicans in the suburban Atlanta dis-

trict, an affluent, well-educated swath filled with the kind of voters Democrats need if they hope to reclaim a House majority next year.

Republicans essentially concede that Democrat Jon Ossoff, a former congressional staffer, will lead Tuesday's voting. That leaves 11 Republican candidates hoping the 30-year-old investigative filmmaker fails to reach a majority. If he doesn't, Ossoff and the top GOP vote-getter would meet in a June 20 runoff.

Five Democrats will appear on the ballot, but Ossoff is the GOP's greatest threat. He raised more than \$8.3 million, most of it from outside the district. Two independent candidates also are running. The winner will succeed Tom Price, who resigned to become Trump's health secretary.

Videos show desperation of suspect in FB video killing

By MARK GILLISPIE

Associated Press  
CLEVELAND (AP) — The suspect in the random killing of a retiree posted on Facebook made his living mentoring teens in Cleveland, but his life appeared to be unraveling under the weight of gambling debts and trouble with his girlfriend.

Rambling videos he shared showed his despair, saying he was out of options and wanted to kill as many innocent people as he could.

While authorities have not found any evidence that he killed anyone else, the manhunt for Steve Stephens stretched into a third day on Tuesday and far beyond the neighborhood where police said he shot a 74-year-old man who was picking up aluminum cans on Sunday after spending Easter with some of his children.

Stephens, 37, could be anywhere, authorities said, calling it a nationwide search. A \$50,000 reward is being offered for information leading to his capture and prosecution.

Stephens posted a video of himself killing Robert Godwin Sr., a former foundry worker who had 10 children, police said. In it, he said, "I snapped, I just snapped." But police would not speculate on what was behind it.

"Only Steve knows that," Williams said.

In the video, Stephens told Godwin a woman's name and said, "She's the reason that this is about to happen to you." Godwin did not seem to recognize the name.

The woman Stephens spoke of, Joy Lane, said in a text message to CBS that "we had been in a relationship for several years. I am sorry that all of this has happened."

She also said Stephens was "a

nice guy" who was good to her and her children.

Police say Stephens had a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

WEWS-TV reports that a video Stephens posted to Facebook last year showed him firing rapidly at targets at the Sherwin Shooting Sports range, in violation of its safety rules, and being warned to stop by an employee.

The owner of the Willoughby gun range, Blake Frederick, told Cleveland.com that he recalls Stephens as nice and jovial and doesn't remember anything negative about him.

Stephens filed for bankruptcy two years ago despite holding down a job as a counselor helping young people develop job skills and find employment. The behavioral health agency where he worked said an extensive background check before he was hired turned up nothing worrisome.

In one video posted on Facebook, Stephens said that he gambled away everything and that he and his girlfriend had planned to marry but did not, without saying why. He blamed her for what was about to happen.

Some friends said they knew about his gambling. But the videos showed a man they did not recognize.

Alexis Lee, who saw Stephens last week, said his childhood friend always seemed respectful and got along with everybody.

"He never ever told me he had problems or issues. It was always good things," Lee said. "He was always just so happy and cool, calm, collected, like, that's why it's so shocking."

Other neighbors said he was quiet as a kid and intelligent, recalling how he went to college and got a master's degree.

"He was just a no problem per-

son at all, compared to a lot of people," said Cynthia Coley, a former neighbor.

In one video in which he blamed his girlfriend, Stephens said he woke up last week and "couldn't take it anymore."

Investigators said that Godwin was the only victim so far linked to Stephens, despite his claim on Facebook that he killed over a dozen people.

On Monday evening, Facebook announced that it was launching a review for reporting harmful content following the killing. The company said that Stephens posted a video of himself announcing his intent to commit murder, then two minutes later posted another video of himself shooting and killing Godwin. A few minutes after that, he went live and confessed.

The company said it disabled Stephen's account within 23 minutes of receiving the first report about the video of the fatal shooting and two hours after receiving any report.

"In this case we did not receive a report about the first video, and we only received a report about the second video — containing the shooting — more than an hour and 45 minutes after it was posted," said Justin Osofsky, Facebook's vice president of global operations. "We received reports about the third video, containing the man's live confession, only after it had ended." Officers searched dozens of places around Cleveland without finding Stephens or any other victims before expanding the manhunt. Detectives spoke with the suspect on Sunday by cellphone and tried to persuade him to surrender, police said.

Law enforcement officials said his cellphone was last tracked Sunday afternoon in Erie, Pennsylvania, about 100 miles east of Cleveland.

FRISCO

Continued from Page 4

they going to do their R&D?" Frisco, the mayor said.

But don't take just Maso's word for it.

Rick Horrow is in the business of sports. The Harvard Law School graduate has been involved in about 150 public-private partnerships involving sports venues and other urban infrastructure. He has his own radio show that's broadcast nationally and has co-authored several books.

"Every generation there comes an inspiring public-private partnership that combines vision and best practices," said Horrow, president of Horrow Sports Ventures. "Texas, the Dallas region and Frisco citizens should be incredibly proud."

Horrow has been watching Frisco's moves for some time. But it wasn't until the mayors' gathering earlier this month that he got an extensive look

at the city's sports-related offerings.

The group explored recent renovations at Toyota Stadium and what's to come with the National Soccer Hall of Fame opening next year. The out-of-town visitors then watched as the U.S. Women's National Team trounce Russia, 4-0, in a friendly match.

Maso, vice chairman of the sports alliance, played tour guide as the group went behind the scenes at The Star, where Cowboys players were running off-season drills and working out in the weight room.

They also learned from a host of experts about everything from partnerships to youth trends to innovation to tourism.

A panel discussion featured Lites; Greenberg; Cowboys executive vice president Stephen Jones; FC Dallas president Dan Hunt; and Mavericks president of basketball operations Donnie Nelson. All five talked about their positive experiences partnering with and being located in Frisco.

"Sports is no longer just what happens on the field," said Lee Igel of New York University's Tisch Institute for Sports Management, Media and Business. "It's big

business."

The mayors also visited Dr Pepper Arena, which serves as the home of the Texas Legends and the Dallas Stars practice ice. And they took in a RoughRiders game at Dr Pepper Ballpark.

On their final day, the group saw the city-owned Fieldhouse USA, which specializes in leagues, events and tournaments. They also got a glimpse of the city's emergency operations center, often the epicenter for monitoring large events and the traffic that comes with them.

Horrow said that what he witnessed in Frisco combines marvelous vision, first-class partnerships, tenacity in implementation and the ability to sustain and grow.

"Frisco's process is the next wonder of the public-private partnership facility world," he said.

Maso, who is leaving office next month because of term limits, believes there is a simple reason why Frisco has been so successful with its ventures, which have made the city stand out in an increasingly crowded sports market.

"They're not afraid to try new things," he said.

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## Memphis coach Fizdale blasts 'unprofessional' officiating

By RAUL DOMINGUEZ

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Memphis coach David Fizdale blasted the officiating in Game 2 of the Grizzlies' first-round series against the Spurs, deeming it "unprofessional" and "unacceptable" before slamming his fist on a table and storming off.

San Antonio held off a late rally to beat Memphis 96-82 on Monday night to take a 2-0 lead in their first-round

matchup.

Fizdale said the veteran crew of Danny Crawford, Rodney Mott and Bill Spooner "did not even give us a chance" to even the series. After initially saying he needed to "have a glass of wine on the plane" to analyze what happened, Fizdale unleashed a nearly two-minute tirade during a postgame interview that grew increasingly louder.

"It was a very poorly officiated basketball game," Fiz-

dale said. "Zach Randolph, the most rugged guy in the game, has zero free throws, but somehow Kawhi Leonard had 19 free throws?"

Leonard had a postseason career-high 37 points and made all 19 free-throw attempts. The Grizzlies took 15 free throws as a team against San Antonio's 32 even though Memphis attempted 35 shots in the paint, 17 more than the Spurs.

"I'm not a numbers guy, but

that doesn't seem to add up," Fizdale said.

Adding to Fizdale's consternation was the fact that Memphis rallied from a 26-point deficit in the second half and had an opportunity to win after a 29-point blowout in Game 1.

The Grizzlies closed with a 75-71 early in the fourth quarter, but San Antonio responded with 3-pointers by Tony Parker and Pau Gasol in rebuilding their double-

digit lead.

Leonard shot all four of the Spurs free throws in the final quarter while the Grizzlies were limited to one on a three-point play by Marc Gasol.

"I felt like I got fouled the times that I went to the line," Leonard said. "Memphis is a physical team throwing a lot of bodies at me. I guess I did something and the refs were paying attention and I was

See MEMPHIS, Page 12

## Morton, 3 Astros relievers combine to 5-hit Angels, 3-0

HOUSTON (AP) — Over the last four games, the Astros have combined to score 34 runs to support the pitching staff.

The pitching staff supported Houston's offense Monday night.

Charlie Morton and three relievers combined for a five-hitter, Jose Altuve drove in two runs and the Houston Astros beat the Los Angeles Angels 3-0 for their fifth straight win.

"To walk out of here with a nice clean win from a pitching standpoint ... we've just got to find different ways to win and today was a unique one," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said.

Morton (1-1) worked in and out of trouble over five innings, allowing five hits and two walks with three strikeouts. He had runners on in every inning, including stranding the bases loaded in the second when he got Ben Revere to fly out. Morton, who had his first scoreless outing since Apr. 12, 2016, when he threw 6 2/3 scoreless, has allowed three runs or fewer in each of his three starts this season.

"It would have been nice if I was in the zone more, executing my pitches a little bit better," Morton said. "I never like to be as sporadic, especially with my sinker because it was all over the place."

Chris Devenski followed Morton with two perfect innings, Luke Gregerson threw a perfect eighth and Ken Giles pitched the ninth for his third save. Astros pitchers retired the last 14 batters.

"The zeroes that our team put up, Devenski comes in and does what Devenski does, Luke comes in and has a clean inning and that's probably the best thing I pitched and looked in a while for him," Hinch said.

Jesse Chavez (1-2) allowed two runs and seven hits over a season-high seven innings. He struck out five and rebounded after allowing five runs in 4 1/3 innings in his last outing.

"I gave us a chance," Chavez said. "That's all. Being able to

See ASTROS, Page 12

## Texas Rangers top A's 7-0



Texas Rangers' Joey Gallo, right, celebrates with Nomar Mazara (30) after scoring against the Oakland Athletics in the fifth inning of a baseball game Monday, April 17, 2017, in Oakland, Calif. Gallo scored on a double by Carlos Gomez.

By MICHAEL WAGAMAN

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Unlike the first time he faced the Athletics this season, Texas right-hander A.J. Griffin had no problem keeping his emotions under control while pitching against his former club.

Having a strong curveball to counter an 87 mph fastball definitely helped, too.

Griffin pitched six scoreless innings in his return to the Oakland Coliseum, Nomar Mazara had two hits and three RBIs, and the Texas Rangers beat the Athletics 7-0 on Monday night.

"Haven't pitched off that mound in a long time and I felt right at home out there," said Griffin, who was released by the A's following the 2015 season. "My first outing this year against the

old team in Arlington, I was a little bit more jacked up. We were just pitching my game, keeping them off balance."

Carlos Gomez and Mike Napoli added two RBIs apiece to help Texas end a three-game skid.

Griffin (2-0) spent his first two seasons in the majors with the A's before being released near the end of 2015 after Tommy John surgery a year earlier. He hadn't pitched at the Coliseum since making his final start for Oakland on Sept. 18, 2013. He looked very comfortable in his return.

The Rangers' shaggy-haired right-hander allowed one hit and one walk, retired the final 14 batters he faced and finished with eight strikeouts — one shy of his career high.

"I would say that in the two years we've had him

that's about as smooth of an outing, in control, that he's had," Texas manager Jeff Banister said. "Just a masterful game by Griff tonight."

Three Texas relievers combined for the final nine outs to complete the three-hitter.

It was a rough day all around for Oakland, which extended its season-high losing streak to four games. The A's had only five baserunners and one got past second base.

"Just being able to pour that curveball in there first pitch, it just sets up anything that I want to do the rest of the at-bat," Griffin said. "It's good to be in the driver's seat at that point."

Before the game Oakland placed opening day starter Kendall Graveman on the 10-day disabled list with a strained right shoulder and

announced that shortstop Marcus Semien will undergo surgery to repair a broken bone in his right wrist.

Texas opened the game with three consecutive hits off A's starter Jharel Cotton (1-2) then pulled away with a four-run fifth.

Mazara had an RBI double in the first and a two-run single in the eighth.

The start of the game was delayed eight minutes due to rain, one day after the A's home game against Houston was postponed due to weather.

Cotton allowed five runs over 5 1/3 innings. The right-hander retired 12 straight during one stretch but walked four batters, three of which scored.

"That's something we preach, don't give them free passes," Oakland manager

See RANGERS, Page 12

## Watt can't wait for season as Texans begin offseason work

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — J.J. Watt is more than a little antsy.

After not playing football since Sept. 22, the Houston Texans star was more excited than anyone for the start of offseason workouts Monday.

Sure, those workouts were simply conditioning and a chance to reconnect with teammates after the offseason. But after missing games for the first time in his six-year NFL career last season while recovering from back surgery, Watt relished the day.

"You're away from the game for a year, like I've said many, many times before, it reaffirms how much you love it, how passionate you are about it, how badly you want to go out and

play with your teammates and just enjoy the game," Watt said. "I can't wait."

Watt, who was NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 2014 and '15, missed training camp and Houston's four preseason games after surgery in July to repair a herniated disk. The defensive end started the team's first three regular-season games before re-injuring his back and undergoing season-ending surgery.

He's healthy now, and although the season is still almost five months away, he's already envisioning being back on the field.

"My body feels really good, so I'm really looking forward to this whole offseason process and OTAs and just getting back to just playing football," he said. "I think that's the biggest thing,

I just want to play football. I can't wait to get back out there and play some ball."

Watt is a workout freak and has acknowledged he sometimes would do too much in his preparation for the season at the expense of his health. Now he's learned that such tactics aren't healthy and even though he wants to make sure he's ready when the season begins, he's learned to be smarter about his workouts.

"I need to make sure that I balance myself and not get overly crazy in the offseason and things like that," he said. "So I think it's been a really good time for me."

Watt enjoyed watching Houston's defense thrive last year despite his absence. He raved about the work the unit did in finishing the season

ranked first in yards allowed. A big factor in the group's success was the emergence of 2014 top overall pick Jadeveon Clowney.

"It was a lot of fun to watch," Watt said. "He obviously played very well and I think our whole defense played very well, and those guys — it was a lot of fun to watch them play, see them grow throughout the year, see them overcome a lot of adversity."

Though no one questions that Watt has established himself as one of the top defensive players in the NFL, some wonder if he'll be the same force who piled up 76 sacks. Watt has heard those whispers following two back surgeries, but doesn't spend any time worrying about what outsiders think

See WATT, Page 12

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

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**HOLIDAY MATHIS**

**Careening Moon**

As the Capricorn moon careens to Aquarius, what do you think the world of tomorrow will look like? Will it be like today, only with different technology, or will change occur on deeper and more basic levels so that the entire picture seems foreign and new? Your ideas about the future will influence where you wind up at the end of the week.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** The struggle continues between your rational ability to see the future and understand the value of goals and hard work and that fun-monkey in you

seeking gratification of a more instantaneous variety.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** The trick is to acknowledge the other's traits and foibles without indulging them. It takes a light touch and a flexible but firm social boundary. The reward is a sense of connection without the codependence.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** As today's conversation gets heated, you'll draw from your ever-growing information banks for interesting contributions. It's your congenial attitude they'll remember.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Many things will go as planned to satisfy your need for order and control. And some things will not. It's more fun when things don't go as expected. It gives you an excuse to interact in ways you might not have had to.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Old baggage will get left on the roadside of the

highway of love. Good riddance. Relationships will lighten up, cruise along and gain a real sense of progress and freedom.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** The process is the goal, really. And yet, without a stated goal, there is no process. This will all be a moot point as you follow your natural instincts today.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You're famous for your diplomacy, lovely manners and ever-considerate ways. You'll once again be the glue that brings people together today, and, like a clear-drying glue, your efforts will be invisible, the results uncredited.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Because you are not reliant on feedback, you don't ask for it. And yet, you need it now. Your success will depend on getting in touch with your audience, reading the room and finding the right kinds of rooms to begin with.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).**

Unless you're a world leader or you've been placed in charge of the livelihood and future of a great number of people, avoid overly serious conversation today. Truly, such grave talk will benefit no one.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** If you can afford to ignore the problem, you're rich. But if you can't, you'll wind up more capable, less afraid and more confident in your ability to handle and solve things.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You're not looking to surround yourself with perfect people; the showoffs and know-it-alls bore you. You want a sincere connection with a flawed, compassionate, authentic individual.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** There will be plenty of appreciation for the work you've done. New people want you to create similar results for them, and they'll offer to hire you,

consult with you or be your apprentice.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 18).** Mother Teresa suggested, "Joy is prayer. ... Joy is love. Joy is a net of love in which you can catch souls." This year illustrates the point, as you do "happy" like it was your birthright and others get caught up in your happiness -- one special person most notably. July brings a contract. There's a windfall in October. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 39, 33, 17 and 24.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "Would you shed a light on my lost soul? My ex (born May 17, 1977) is married, but I am still in touch with and have so much feeling for that I can't sleep. I fell in love with another Taurus (born May 15, 1976), who is so cool that he's cold sometimes. Since he denies me, I broke with him to find somebody who wouldn't take me for granted. But my ex-husband, with his

unhappy marriage and kid, is still there. What should I do?"

Fascinating that you include both of your love interests' birthdays and forget to include your own. But it's no matter, because, obviously, you should try dating someone who is not a Taurus. These men are so sensual and grounded that it's easy to project all of your need for security onto them. You feel as though if only they loved you, everything would be OK. Though Taurus men can be very loving, they need space -- lots of space. On second thought, my advice is to stop dating (and hoping and pining and wishing) and spend some time exploring that void in your heart that causes you to seek so much security outside yourself. True security comes from within.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit [www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis](http://www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis) and click "Contact." COPYRIGHT 2017 CREATORS.COM

**Annie's Mailbox**

**Unwanted Rings**

**Dear Annie:** Help! My coffee table is slowly being ruined, and I don't know how to prevent it without seeming like a control freak.

This table was my first big furniture purchase, after years of Ikea bargain pieces and Craigslist freebies. I got some really cute coasters right away, hoping to protect the table. But no matter how many times I've asked my roommates, they keep forgetting to use the coasters. They'll place a cold drink right next to a coaster but not on it. It drives me crazy!

I've asked at least 10 times now. They are starting to get a bit better about it and are remembering sometimes, but their friends are not.

I feel awkward going in there when they have guests over and placing their drinks on the coasters. I don't want to make anyone uncomfortable, and I'd love to be more relaxed about this, but I'm already noticing rings on the table and some warping. How can I get my roommates to listen to me without blowing up at them? -- Coaster Crazy

**Dear Coaster:** The best defense is a good offense.

Call a local custom glass-cutting business and have a protective top made to the dimensions of your table. This should be relatively inexpensive (between \$40 and \$60) -- well worth the peace of mind.

**Dear Annie:** Thank you for publishing a recent letter from a person in need of a kidney transplant. Kidney disease does not get the attention it deserves. Thirty-one million people -- babies, young children, teenagers, adults and senior citizens -- are dealing with this illness. Some aren't even aware they have kidney disease until symptoms appear. There is no cure for kidney failure.

On Jan. 3, my sister died from complications of kidney failure. Her last two years were not quality years. Even dialysis has devastating side effects. She was in and out of the hospital

too many times. She fought long and hard. She leaves behind a young teenage daughter and a husband, who stood by her side every step of the way.

As her sister, I could not sit by and watch her suffer. I tried everything to find her a living donor. I purchased a billboard where she lived. I posted on Facebook. I put my request on the back window of my car. I did radio, newspaper and TV interviews on her behalf because my sister and her family were financially, mentally and physically exhausted.

The transplant hospitals do not look for living donors for those in need. This is the responsibility of the family. I will always wonder what else I could have done. Like my sister, some become too sick or die before getting a second chance at life. My beautiful sister is just a statistic now.

There are currently 98,000 people on the kidney transplant waiting list. I know many people who are registered organ donors. This is not enough. Take it one step further and be tested as a living kidney donor. If you don't know where to start, call your local hospital and ask for the procurement center it works with. Please don't put this off. There are too many people who are waiting to get the call. -- A Grieving Sister in Kansas

**Dear Grieving:**

I am so sorry for the loss of your beloved sister. Thank you for raising awareness about the importance of living kidney donors. Readers interested in becoming donors, visit <https://www.kidney.org> for more information.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com). To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). COPYRIGHT 2017 CREATORS.COM

**Contract Bridge**

By Steve Becker

**Solution to a quandary**

North dealer. East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A 9 3  
♥ 8 4  
♦ A K J 9 6  
♣ 10 9 2

**WEST**  
♠ 10 8 6 2  
♥ K J 9 3  
♦ 10 8 5  
♣ Q 4

**EAST**  
♠ Q J 5 4  
♥ A Q 7 6 2  
♦ Q 3  
♣ 7 6

**SOUTH**  
♠ K 7  
♥ 10 5  
♦ 7 4 2  
♣ A K J 8 5 3

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1♦ Pass 2♣ Pass  
2♦ Pass 2NT Pass  
3NT

Opening lead — three of hearts.

"Dear Mr. Becker: This hand occurred in a rubber-bridge game. I held the East cards. My partner led a heart against three notrump, and I won with the ace. I returned the six, my original fourth-best heart, in accordance with standard practice.

"Declarer played the ten, and my partner took the jack. Partner then shifted to a spade, and South won the rest of the tricks, taking six clubs, two spades and three diamonds.

"Obviously, something went wrong with the defense, since we could have taken five heart tricks off

the top. My partner contends his play of switching to a spade was proper because it was possible that declarer had started with the Q-10-7-5 of hearts, in which case cashing the king at trick three could prove fatal.

"I see no flaw in his argument because I would also have returned the six had I originally held A-6-2. Is there any way for West to have known to play the king of hearts? Very truly yours, W.H.M."

Perhaps the best way to answer this question is to go back to East's play of the six at trick two. It is true that in returning the suit partner leads, it is customary to return the original fourth-best card from four or more cards, and the second-highest card from three. This usually enables the other defender to diagnose declarer's length and strength in the suit.

But, as can be seen in the present case, the lead of the six does not clarify the true position for West, since East's return may be based on either of two opposite holdings. West might have cashed the king of hearts and hoped for the best, but he could not be sure that play was right.

The answer to the problem is that East should have returned the two of hearts rather than the six. This would cause West to believe that East held four hearts originally and South only three. West would then have been safe in cashing the king, and the actual situation would have been revealed.

**Tomorrow:** The world of the card-pusher.  
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**su | do | ku**

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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. Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

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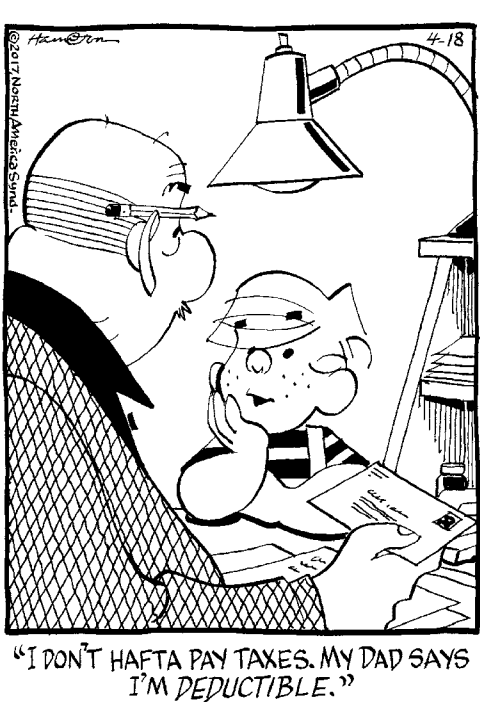
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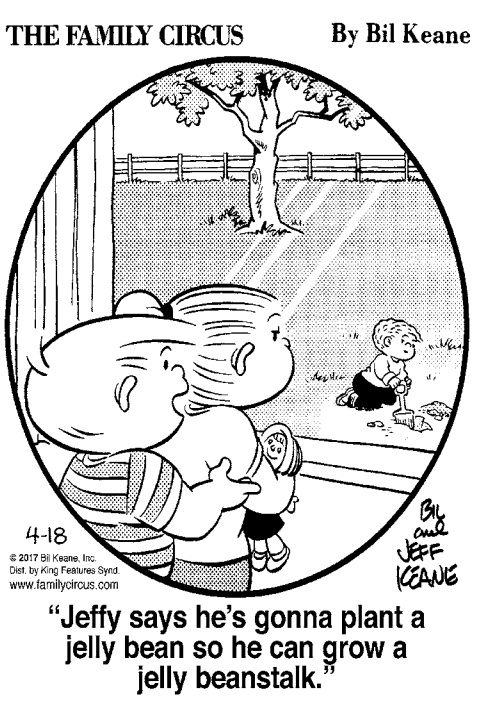
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Local 2	Hotel	The List	CBS 7	Tele	News	Shofar	Focus	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	Around	at Baylor.	Team Ninja	The First 48	Deadliest
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mod Fam	CBS	Noticias	News	Perspect	Business	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	Pardon		Team Ninja	The First 48	Deadliest
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cer	News	Our Mess	PBS News-	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Bones	We/Fans	SportsCenter	UFC	Team Ninja	Streets of	Deadliest
6:30	Wheel	Guadalupe	Big Bang	ET	rado	News	House	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Bones	We/Fans	SportsCenter	Spotlight	Team Ninja	Streets of	Deadliest
7:PM	Middle	La Reina	Brooklyn	NCIS (DVS)	La Doña	News	The Voice	Grand	Griffith	The Flash	Seinfeld	NBA	SportsCenter	Draft	Champ	Team Ninja	Streets of	Deadliest
7:30	House	de la	The Mick		(SS)	News	Behind	Coulee	Griffith		Seinfeld	Basketball:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
8:PM	Fresh-	Vino el Amor	Prison Break	Bull	La Doña	News	Light of	Frontline	MacGyver	iZombie	Seinfeld	Basketball:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
8:30	Mary				(SS)	News	Southwest				Seinfeld	First Round:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
9:PM	S.H.I.E.L.D.	La Piloto	News	NCIS: New	El Capo (SS)	News	Light of		Heroes	Seinfeld	Detour	Basketball:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
9:30			TMZ	Orleans	Trial	News	Southwest		Heroes	Seinfeld	Detour	First Round:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
10:PM	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	CBS 7	Tele	News	Aleph	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Conan	Basketball:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
10:30	ABC	Noticiero	Two Men	CBS	Noticias	News	M.25		Perry Mason	King	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
11:PM	Jeopardy!	Noticiero	Two Men	CBS	Noticias	News	M.25			King	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
11:30	Wheel	Noticiero	Two Men	CBS	Noticias	News	M.25			King	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
12:AM	Wheel	Noticiero	Two Men	CBS	Noticias	News	M.25			King	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
12:30	Wheel	Noticiero	Two Men	CBS	Noticias	News	M.25			King	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest
1:AM	Wheel	Noticiero	Two Men	CBS	Noticias	News	M.25			King	Conan	First Round:	SportsCenter	Spec.	Spotlight	WWE	Streets of	Deadliest

**DENNIS THE MENACE**



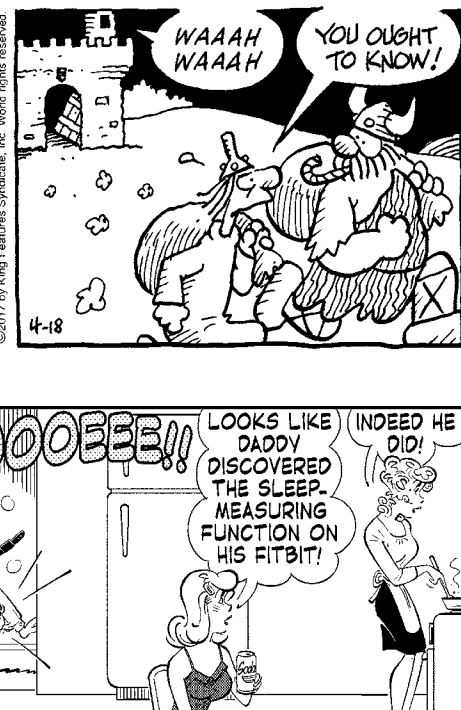
**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**



**HAGAR**



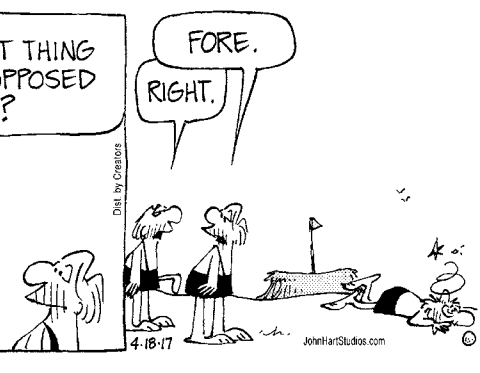
**BLONDIE**



**BC**



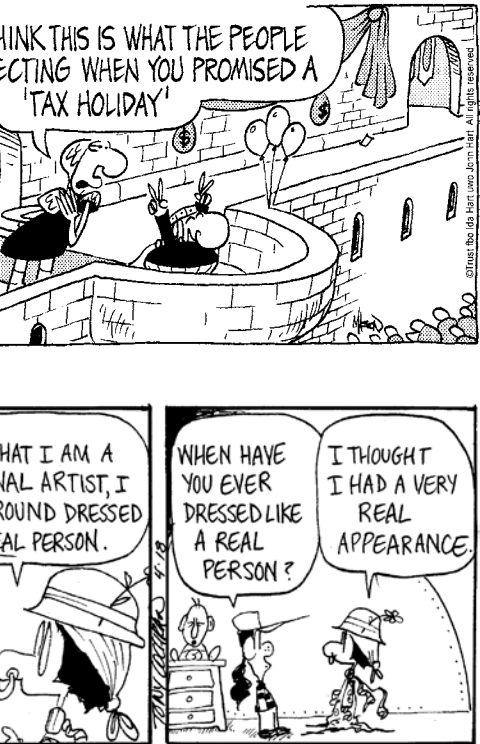
**WIZARD OF ID**



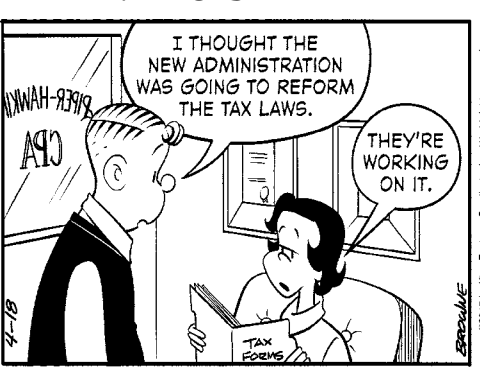
**AGNES**



**HI AND LOIS**



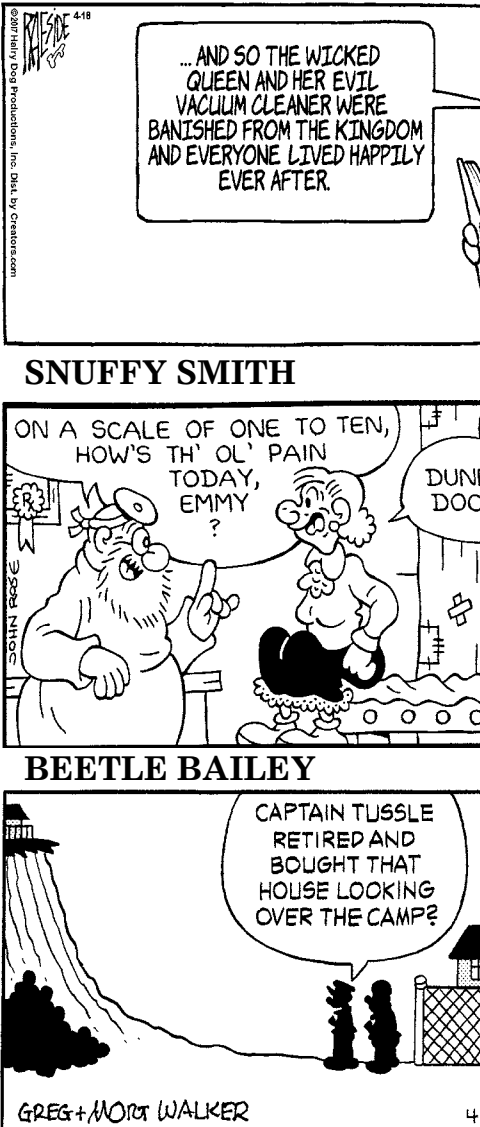
**THE OTHER COAST**



**SNUFFY SMITH**



**BEEBLE BAILEY**



**NEWSDAY CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Self-assurance
  - 6 Steam or mist
  - 11 America's Uncle
  - 14 Lazy \_\_\_ (revolving tray)
  - 15 Justice Kagan
  - 16 Big Aussie bird
  - 17 Legal step in a home purchase
  - 19 Butterfly catcher
  - 20 Not quite right
  - 21 Sophisticated
  - 23 Cry of accomplishment
  - 26 Artichoke center
  - 27 Sound judgment
  - 28 Pampering resort
  - 30 Pays attention to
  - 33 Watch display, for short
  - 34 Jacket arm
  - 37 Each, informally
  - 38 Vicinity
  - 40 Between ports
  - 41 Bewilder
  - 42 First in line
  - 43 Jacuzzi
  - 45 "I imagine that!"
  - 46 Clear up, as a car window
  - 48 GI hangout
  - 49 Make changes to
  - 51 All thumbs
  - 53 Sophisticated
  - 54 Music class impediment
  - 56 Suggest indirectly
  - 58 Big pig
  - 59 Make a dash to hide
- DOWN**
- 1 W. Coast clock setting
  - 2 Parisian "yes"
  - 3 Suffix for novel or violin
  - 4 Light lunches
  - 5 Foes
  - 6 Neckline shapes
  - 7 "That's a shame"
  - 8 For each
  - 9 At the proper time
  - 10 Enthusiastic
  - 11 Capitol Hill aides
  - 12 Prayer-ending word
  - 13 Turn off the sound from
  - 18 Take a chair
  - 22 Sandwich exterior
  - 23 Aruba or Cuba
  - 24 Judge's order
  - 25 Digit to point with
  - 26 Must
  - 28 Begin a trip
  - 29 Annoying ones
  - 31 Egg carton quantities
  - 32 Rapid
  - 35 "Well, \_\_\_-di-dah!"
  - 36 \_\_\_ de Cologne
  - 39 Make amends
  - 44 Outfielder's topper
  - 47 Prepare for action
  - 50 City Hall leaders
  - 52 Danish flavor
  - 53 Paramedic's skill: Abbr.
  - 54 Defrost
  - 55 Corn Belt state
  - 56 "\_\_\_ ain't broke..."
  - 57 Floor-washing implements
  - 60 Stanley Cup org.
  - 61 By way of
  - 62 Subj. for immigrants
  - 63 Sleep phase initials

**This Date In History**

Today is Tuesday, April 18, the 108th day of 2017. There are 257 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

- On April 18, 1942, during World War II, an air squadron from the USS Hornet led by Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle raided Tokyo and other Japanese cities. The first World War II edition of The Stars and Stripes was published as a weekly newspaper.
- On this date: In 1775, Paul Revere began his famous ride from Charlestown to Lexington, Massachusetts, warning colonists that British Regular troops were approaching.
- In 1865, Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston surrendered to Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman near Durham Station in North Carolina.
- In 1906, a devastating earthquake struck San Francisco, followed by raging fires; estimates of the final death toll range between 3,000 and 6,000.
- In 1925, the first Woman's World's Fair, an eight-day event, opened in Chicago.
- In 1934, the first laundromat was opened by John F. Cantrell in Fort Worth, Texas; the "Washateria," as it was called, rented four electric washing machines to the public on an hourly basis.
- In 1945, during World War II, famed American war correspondent Ernie Pyle, 44, was killed by Japanese gunfire on the Pacific island of Ie Shima (ee-eh shee-mah), off Okinawa.
- In 1946, the League of Nations met for the last time. The International Court of Justice, the judicial arm of the United Nations, held its first sitting in The Hague, Netherlands.
- In 1956, American actress Grace Kelly married Prince Rainier (ray-NEER') of Monaco in a civil ceremony. (A church wedding took place the next day.)
- In 1966, "The Sound of Music" won the Oscar for best picture of 1965 at the 38th Academy Awards. The first Major League baseball game played on AstroTurf took place at the Houston Astrodome as the Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Astros 6-3. Bill Russell was named player-coach of the Boston Celtics, becoming the NBA's first black coach.
- In 1978, the Senate approved the Panama Canal Treaty, providing for the complete turnover of control of the waterway to Panama on the last day of 1999.
- In 1983, 63 people, including 17 Americans, were killed at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, by a suicide bomber.
- In 1996, Israeli shells killed 107 Lebanese refugees in a United Nations camp; Israel called the attack an "unfortunate mistake." Gunmen opened fire at a hotel in Egypt, killing 18 Greek tourists they'd mistaken for Israelis.
- Ten years ago: The Supreme Court, in a 5-4 ruling, upheld the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act, saying it did not violate a woman's constitutional right to an abortion. Four large bombs exploded in mainly Shiite locations of Baghdad, killing at least 183 people. Mark Buehrle (BUR'lee) of the Chicago White Sox faced the minimum 27 batters in a 6-0 no-hit victory over the Texas Rangers. Curtis Strange and Hubert Green were elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Answer to previous puzzle

STAFF	STEP	CRAB
HOTEL	TOTE	HEMI
AGILE	AUTO	EVEN
MAPLE	SYRUP	RUNG
COS	LAREDO	
SAFER	CHEWY	
ANTI	TRUE	OCTET
SINGS	APR	LOOMS
STONE	VISA	LAMP
EASED	READY	
SHOWME	SIN	
HILL	AVOCADO	ERASE
UPDO	LOVE	ADIP
SPIN	ATON	ASYET
HOES	BEE	ROSES

4/18/17

**BY THE BOOK** by Billie Truitt  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14						15					16			
17					18						19			
			20					21		22				
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33				34	35				36		37			
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54	55									56	57			
58					59		60					61	62	63
64						65						66		
67							68					69		

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# RANGERS

Continued from Page 6

Bob Melvin said. "Here recently, not only have we done it, but it's cost us. It is a concern and we've got to continue to try and pound the strike zone."

## DEFENSIVE UNDOING

Oakland center fielder Rajai Davis was charged with a throwing error in the fourth inning, marking the 10th consecutive game in which the A's have committed at least one error. That gives Melvin's ballclub a majors-leading 16 errors this season.

## TRAINER'S ROOM

Rangers: Closer Sam Dyson was placed on the 10-day disabled list with a bruise on his right hand, one day after the pitcher blew a save for the third time this season. Dyson was hurt while trying to field a comebacker in the ninth inning of Sunday's 8-7 loss in Seattle. ... Right-hander Keone Kela was recalled from Triple-A Round Rock.

Athletics: Semien will undergo surgery Tuesday and will have another CT scan in six weeks to be re-evaluated. ... Bruce Maxwell was called up from Triple-A Nashville. . Sonny Gray threw 47 pitches over 2 2/3 innings during an outing in extended spring training.

## UP NEXT

Texas right-hander Yu Darvish (1-1) faces the A's for the second time this season on Tuesday while Oakland counters with right-hander Andrew Triggs (2-0). Darvish suffered his only loss this year against the A's on April 8.



Houston Astros starting pitcher Charlie Morton throws against the Los Angeles Angels during the first inning of a baseball game, Monday, April 17, 2017, in Houston. *AP photo*

# MEMPHIS

Continued from Page 6

able to get to the line."

The trio of Crawford, Spooner and Mott have officiated more than 400 playoff games over careers that span more than two decades for each, but Fizzdale was irate with their performance.

Fizzdale wasn't sure if his status as a first-year coach or his team's decorum had anything to do with the lopsided numbers, but he wasn't happy with the result.

"Kawhi shot more free throws than our whole team, explain it to me," Fizzdale said. "We don't get the respect that these guys deserve because Mike Conley doesn't go crazy, he has class and he just plays the game. But I'm not going to let them treat us that way. I know (San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich has) got pedigree and I'm a young rookie, but they are not going to rook us.

"That's unacceptable, that was unprofessional. My guys dug in that game and earned the right to be in that game and they did not even give us a chance."

Game 3 is Thursday night in Memphis.

# WATT

Continued from Page 6

about him.

"All I can do is give it everything I have every single day, whether it's practice, meetings, or film," he said. "I'm going to give it everything

I have. I'm going to go out there, I'm going to have fun. I'm going to play the game the way I know how to play it, with energy, with enthusiasm, with excitement, rallying around teammates, having a lot of fun. Just enjoying football again."

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# ASTROS

Continued from Page 6

give us a chance and with our offense they're capable of anything. Last two games haven't worked our way, but we put ourselves in position to have a chance."

Altuve had a sacrifice fly to make it 2-0 in the third and hit an RBI double in the eighth. Alex Bregman had an RBI single in the second. "We did a good job of capitalizing tonight," Bregman said. "If you're going to be a good team, you have to win the close ones, and Charlie did a great job tonight."

Mike Trout and Martin Maldonado each had two hits for the Angels, who stranded nine runners and were 0 for 7 with runners in scoring position. The Angels, who have lost six straight, were

shut out in consecutive games for the first time since July 28-29, 2012, against Tampa Bay.

"It's been a week where we're having trouble getting that that we need," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "I think the process is right it's just one of those times right now where we're not getting enough guys on base early in innings and getting that big hit."

Astros: SS Carlos Correa (right hand bruise) was not in the starting lineup after being hit by a pitch Saturday in Oakland. Hinch called Correa day to day. "Initially we planned on playing him," Hinch said. "We got back last night after the long flight and he felt OK. He woke up this morning, didn't feel great, still some lingering soreness. It's a fairly easy decision if he has as much soreness as he has to give him another day off."

## UP NEXT

Angels: RHP Ricky Nolasco (0-2) makes his fourth start of the season Tuesday in the second game of the four-game series. Nolasco lost his last start Thursday, allowing five runs on eight hits, but he is 4-0 with a 2.53 ERA in five games at Minute Maid Park.

Astros: RHP Joe Musgrove (1-0) takes the mound for his third start Tuesday. Musgrove will be looking for his second straight win after allowing three runs in 5 1/3 innings his last start Apr. 11 in Seattle.

Devenski has 21 strikeouts in 11 innings this season. The right-hander struck out the side in the sixth and has struck out seven of the last nine batters he has faced. He became the first reliever in club history to start a season by striking out three or more batters in his first four appearances.

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