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H BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2017



VOLUME 112, NUMBER 270 COPYRIGHT 2017 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

UBS blood drive set at SMMC for Wednesday

The call is out for blood donations to meet the needs of those impacted by Hurricane Harvey

Special to the Herald

Blood donors across the country are being asked to give blood as soon as possible over the next several days to help ensure patient blood needs can continue to be met despite the effects of Hurricane Harvey. Here in

Big Spring, residents have a chance to help by donating blood at a drive set for Wednesday.

The drive will be held at Scenic Mountain Medical Center from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Volunteer blood donors must be at least 16 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. All blood



www.UnitedBloodServices.org

types will be needed. Donors can save about 20 minutes by completing their Fast Track Health His-

tory the day they donate at www.bloodhero.com or call 877-UBS-HERO (877-827-4376) and give them sponsor code smmc. Donors will receive 2 Cinemark movie passes, a T-Shirt, and a Mighty Car Wash coupon. The AABB Interorganizational Task Force on Domestic Disasters and Acts of Terrorism issued a

news release calling for blood donations across the country Sunday afternoon.

In the wake of the storm, many blood drives have been cancelled and donor centers closed in the affected areas. With more sustained rain

See **DRIVE**, Page 3

Proud to be a Steer



Photo by Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring athletes celebrate at the end of the community pep rally held at Memorial Stadium Monday night. A large crowd showed up to cheer on the Steers. The evening included performances by the Big Spring High School marching band and cheers lead by the high school and junior high cheerleaders. The Steer' season opener is Friday in Amarillo against Caprock.

Howard County Commissioners Court propose keeping current tax rate

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

At their meeting Monday afternoon, Howard County commissioners voted to keep the current tax rate for the next fiscal year, a move which will replenish about a quarter-million dollars to the county's fund balance.

"0.44 (44 cents per \$100 valuation) is the current tax rate for 16-17, so we have proposed to go with that tax rate for next year, 2017-18," said County Judge Kathryn Wiseman following the meeting.

Wiseman noted that the proposed rate is slightly higher than the effective tax rate, 43.1259 cents per \$100 valuation, which is the percentage required to generate the same amount of money as this year. The additional funds generated by keeping the tax rate steady come to about \$250,000, she said.

"Our fund balance is down, and best practices for counties and entities is to keep six months' reserve, so that if something happened, we'd be able to pay payroll and pay our bills for six months," Wiseman said. "We

See **TAX**, Page 3



Wiseman

Big Spring man killed in a pedestrian/vehicle accident Sunday

Herald Staff Report

MIDLAND — A 20-year-old Big Spring man was killed in Midland County Sunday morning after being struck by an 18-wheeler while walking in the eastbound lane of FM 1787.

Brennan C. Darden was pronounced dead by Justice of the Peace Terry Luck at the scene of the accident located at mile marker 284 on FM 1787, which is 13 miles south of Midland, according to information released by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

According to the DPS news release, Darden "was wearing dark-colored clothing, walking west in the eastbound traffic lane of FM 1787 towards" a 2010 International truck tractor towing a tank-trailer driven by Ernesto Tellez, 53, of Lehigh Acres, Fla. The vehicle, which was traveling east, struck Darden.

The weather at the time of the accident was reported clear and

See **ACCIDENT**, Page 3



Darden

Local man organizes relief run to Houston

By **AMANDA ELSTON**
 Managing Editor

While the country watches the state of Texas, specifically the Houston area, in horror, local Howard County citizens are lending a helping hand to our friends down south. Big Spring resident Charley English is organizing a donation delivery this weekend to show that no one, not even Hurricane Harvey, is allowed to mess with Texas.

On Monday after seeing images of flood and hurricane victims on television all weekend, English decided to do something about what he was seeing.

"Over the weekend I had been thinking about it (donating items) and following the news reports so I started putting this together," said English.

English plans to head to the Houston area Saturday, Sept. 2 after collecting items all week. He plans on meeting up with donors Friday, Sept. 1 at Wal-Mart with his truck to collect the donations.



Courtesy photo

Big Spring resident Charley English will be making a run to Houston this weekend with donations for Hurricane Harvey flood victims. English will be meeting up with those interested in donating blankets, pillows, sheets, air mattresses, and monetary donations in the above truck this Friday at 6 p.m. at Wal-Mart to collect donations.

"I would like to fill this trailer with love for our brothers and sisters of Houston for the long rebuild ahead," said English in an e-mail. "I will be coordinating with a church (to be deter-

mined) in the Houston area to drop off these supplies."

While many organizations are donating water bottles, first-

See **RUN**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Brennan Darden



Brennan Chance Darden Nelson, 20, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Aug. 27, 2017 in Midland County. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Friday, Sept. 1, 2017 at Spring Creek Fellowship. The family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2017 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Brennan was born April 1, 1997 in Big Spring, Texas and attended

Forsan High School.

He is survived by his mother, Bobbi Nelson; his father, Ray Darden; two brothers, Richard Nelson and Austin Darden; three sisters, Vanessa Highfield, Carlie Darden and Cassie Darden; grandparents, Rick and Rhonda Nelson and Claudia Darden; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Brennan was preceded in death by his grandfather, Aubrey Darden; and uncle, Billy Joe Nelson.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Take Note

- School at Maranatha Baptist Academy, 903 Johnson St., begins Aug. 1 for the fall term. Maranatha uses Accelerated Christian Education curriculum, an individualized curriculum used internationally (see www.ace-ministries.com for more information). School and office hours are 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. week days. Tuition is reasonable. For more information visit the office or contact Dr. Lillian Bohannan at 432-213-1046.

- Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St. For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716 or Lions member David Stives at 432-270-2251.

- 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.

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

- 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.

- Howard County Republicans meet the second Monday of each month. Club members meet in the Cactus Room at Howard College at 11:30 a.m. for Dutch treat lunch and meeting at 12 p.m.

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

- Big Spring Centennial Lion's Club meets twice a month at the Big Spring TA Truck Stop. They meet on the first Tuesday of the month at noon and the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

- 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 432-271-2138.

- 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,

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary Group is looking to expand. Positions are available for the Auxiliary group and the Teen Volunteer program. Must be 15 years of age to take part in the teen volunteer program. If you would like to volunteer please contact Heath White at 268-4850.

- The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in need of volunteers to fill a variety of needs to assist the hospital's patients. Applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers can assist with a variety of functions, including The Chalet Resale Shop, various fundraisers and patient events. For more information, contact Dee Lindsey, Big Spring State Hospital Director of Community Relations, (432) 268-7535 or danielle.lindsey@dshs.state.tx.us

- Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to visit patients. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

- Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you would like to donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Maria at 816-6474.

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

- Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours of day, 365 days a year to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process and a background check, we need you.

For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 69 inmates at the time of this report.

- **LUCAS ANTHONY LOPEZ**, 22, was booked by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated and possession of a controlled substance (less than one gram).

- **KERRY RYAN MILLS**, 40, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for theft of property (greater than \$500 but less than \$1,500).

- **JESSIE ROGELIO OLGUIN-GAMEZ**, 33, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for bail jumping and failure to appear and probation violation.

- **ALANA DIANA ZAMORA**, 41, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of noise (class C).

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 be held 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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RUN

Continued from Page 1

aid-kits, and supplies that are needed immediately, English is thinking more long-term as far as relief aid is concerned.

"I think there is a lot of supplies headed that way, especially immediately needed supplies such as water and food, certainly," said English. "I think what they're going to need long term and what I want to bring are air mattresses, pillows, sheets, towels, that kind of thing."

English is also looking to collect light blankets, dry food such as canned food, toiletries, as well as monetary donations for fuel to get to Houston and for purchasing more supplies in San Antonio.

"I have a Paypal account at charleyenglish@gmail.com if you would like to donate for

fuel," said English in an e-mail. "I am thinking once I do one drop I may head back to (the) San Antonio area and get more supplies. Anything extra will be donated to churches in that area."

"I hope to drive in, drop off, and then get back out just so I don't cause more of a drain on resources," English continued.

In addition to supplies, English is also looking to collect at least five 5-gallon fuel cans to be used for gas so he doesn't run out of fuel in Houston.

"I will tag them and return when I get back in town," said English.

For those interested in donating to English's Hurricane Harvey relief run to Houston, he asks donors to meet him at Walmart, 201 E Marcy, at 6 p.m. this Friday by the fuel pumps. He will be in a camouflage truck and trailer.

Trump traveling to Texas for briefings on Harvey recovery

By KEN THOMAS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Confronting Harvey's fury, President Donald Trump made an all-out push Tuesday to show the federal government's responsiveness to the massive storm that has lashed the Texas coast and caused catastrophic flooding.

Trump is visiting Texas to observe the federal government's work to help the state recover after Harvey's devastation. The storm, bringing torrents of rain and all but paralyzing Houston, marks the first time Trump has been tested by a major natural disaster.

The president was scheduled to receive briefings on the relief efforts in Corpus

Christi, Texas, and later meet with state officials at the emergency operations center in Austin. The president was joined by first lady Melania Trump and other officials.

"Conditions haven't cleared in Houston yet so probably not appropriate for him to go up there," said Rep. Blake Farenthold, R-Texas. "But I do think having your own eyes on the devastation that I have seen is important."

Trump has appeared to relish the role of guiding the nation's response to Harvey, which made landfall along the Gulf Coast on Friday night as a Category 4 storm near Corpus Christi, and moved northeast along the

over Houston. The storm has dumped more than 30 inches of rain in parts of Texas and authorities have rescued thousands of people left stranded by the storm.

"Recovery will be a long and difficult road and the federal government stands ready, willing and able to support that effort," Trump said Monday.

Trump promised that Congress would act swiftly to approve a large recovery package to help the Gulf Coast region and said he was likely to return to Texas, and make a stop in Louisiana, during the weekend. But visiting the region only days after Harvey struck allowed Trump's critics to question whether his presence would complicate efforts by emergency responders.

DRIVE

Continued from Page 1

forecasted, these cancellations and closures are likely to rise. United Blood Services needs the community's help to ensure a safe and adequate supply not only for our community but for the communities impacted by this massive storm.

As noted in the UBS news release, type O blood donations are the most critically needed at this time, however all blood types are welcome. Blood centers across the country are working together in this effort. United Blood Services urges both existing and first-time donors to make and keep appointments over the next several days and in the coming weeks. Visit www.unitedbloodservices.org or call 877-827-4376 to schedule an appointment at our donor center or at a mobile blood drive. Walk-ins are welcome in the donation center or any mobile blood drive.

The timing of this storm is especially concerning as we approach the Labor Day - a time when donations dramatically decline across the country due

to the three-day holiday weekend.

As part of Blood Systems Blood Services Division, United Blood Services is included in a multi-state system of blood centers. This network works in tandem, moving lifesaving donations throughout the system to help ensure blood is available when and where it's needed most.

ACCIDENT

Continued from Page 1

cloudy. The incident was investigated by Trooper Jeffrey Robinson of the DPS Midland office. The trooper was assisted by Sgt. Juan Spivey of the DPS Midland and Trooper Richard Crum of the DPS Fort Stockton office.

Funeral arrangements for Darden is under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch of Big Spring.

TAX

Continued from Page 1

had dipped into that last year, and to replenish that, we felt we needed to go with the 0.44 again this year."

The rate will also allow the county to provide raises for county employees, which are in the 2017-2018 county budget, also approved by the commissioners at Monday's meeting. "Five percent raises," Wiseman acknowledged. "They've gone for two solid years without raises. And, of course, cost of living is going up, and they only got a very small raise the year before that."

The new rate will be open for discussion at two public hearings on Sept. 11 and Sept. 18, both at 5:30 p.m., before the commissioners vote on final approval.

In other business, the court heard the annual delinquent tax report from local attorney Drew Mouton. Mouton said that, while more tax revenue is being collected by local entities, the amount of taxes owed that are not being paid has also increased.

"The delinquent tax collection effort is becoming more significant because, number one, there's more money involved; and, num-

ber two, it's a higher percentage of the recent taxes. We've spent a lot of time the last month talking about that, and we're going to re-do some of our collection efforts in an attempt to address that problem. I consider it a problem, and I'm sure all the entities do as well," he said. "So there's good news, but unfortunately, the bad news is, there's more delinquent taxes than there ever have been before. I think we need to redouble our efforts to address this current issue."

Mouton said that the county's adjusted levy for the fiscal year - which is taxes collected accounting for things such as successful tax appeals - was slightly more than \$61 million. The amount of taxes that were uncollected was about \$2,535,000.

"That represents 4.1 percent of the current levy," he said. "What really concerns me is the trend that we see, and the increase not only in dollars, but the pure percentage of taxes that don't get paid timely, and go on the delinquent roll. A year ago, July '16, it was 3.6 percent. A year before that, July 2015, it was 2.4 percent. So we've seen it almost double, the percentage of taxes that don't get paid currently that go

on the delinquent roll. So that's a bad trend. Of course, there's nothing that you or I can do about that. Those are people who elect not to pay their taxes before they become delinquent. It's only after they become delinquent that can get with them and enforce it."

Judge Wiseman said the trend in unpaid taxes is troubling, but she sees it as a symptom of higher property valuations county-wide, in response to dictates from the state.

"I think what has happened, and why we're having such a large number of delinquent taxes, is because of the appraisal values that have been increasing by 200, sometimes 800 percent in a year's time," she said. "Some of our citizens, property owners, are having a hard time coming up with the money, and they are filing disputes with the appraisal office, and they are slogging through all of the many, many, requests they have had for disputing their tax valuation."

The county has little to no control over the valuation situation, Wiseman said.

"Our state attorney general is the one who gives the tax appraisal office their marching orders," she said. "And

they have changed the way they look at things. People come to me all the time, and Howard County has nothing to do with the appraisal office, as far as the way they're run or what they do. We have one board member, and that's the only say we have in what goes on at the appraisal office. I have many people coming to me and telling me their tax valuation is so inflated that they would love to sell their property for that amount if they could just get it, but that's not going to happen."

The problem is exacerbated by the state lowering the percentage of school expenses it funds, said the judge.

"We have a real problem throughout the state of Texas with school funding," she said. "The Texas legislature is pushing more and more of the cost of funding our children's schooling down to the local taxpayers. They have plans to go down another 13.5 percent that the local taxpayers will have to pick up. They're at an all-time low of 38 percent, state funded."

The state accepting less of the burden for education simply shifts that burden to local taxpayers, she said.

"The agreement from

the very beginning was that local tax entities would pay 45 percent, the state would pay 45 percent, and then federal would throw in their 10 percent," Wiseman said. "That's worked well for many years, but the state, increasingly every year, is pushing more of the tax burden down onto the local citizens. It's very unfair. It will affect all local taxpayers. Never forget that our county government are taxpayers also. All of us are taxpayers."

Commissioners also: • Approved the 2017-2018 County Budget, including the five-percent raises for county personnel mentioned above by Judge Wiseman.

• Rejected a proposal to pay \$2,060 to continue a lease on a radio tower for the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Stan Parker told the commissioners that the tower is used by the department infrequently, and would

require expensive re-programming of the department's radios to use effectively.

• Approved physician and pharmacy contracts for 2017-2018.

• Approved a request by Nati Saldivar of the North Side Community Center to donate old computers to the center for children's and youth educational purposes.

• Approved a resolution to accept grant money for rifle-resistant body armor for the Sheriff's Department.

• Announced the retirement of Jesse Bravo, longtime maintenance supervisor for the county. A retirement celebration will be held at the courthouse Aug. 31 at 1:30 p.m.

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Steve Gray, 52, died Thursday. The family will receive friends from 7:00 PM until 8:00 PM Thursday, August 31, 2017 and Friday, September 1, 2017 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10:30 AM Saturday at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

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A Houston family endured Harvey until the house was swamped

BY RAMIT PLUSHNICK-MASTI

Associated Press

Editor's Note: Ramit Plushnick-Masti was a journalist for The Associated Press from 2002 to 2014 in Jerusalem, Pittsburgh and Houston.

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston has seen hurricanes, tropical storms and floods. But even for me, a non-native Houstonian, it was clear by Thursday this was not going to be a typical event.

My mind was working overtime. I wanted to make sure my three sons, Shaked, 15, Ron, 14, and Eliran, 10, were safe. Food, gas and cash were also priorities, and my husband, Rafi, and I made sure that between the two of us we were prepared.

But then, there was work. I am the director of communications at the Houston Forensic Science Center (HFSC), the city's crime lab, and we had to make sure evidence was secure. My former Associated Press journalist instincts kicked into high gear and I fired questions to my

colleagues.

And yet, none of it compared to reality. The forecasts for Harvey were terrifying.

But our Houston neighborhood of Meyerland was not told to evacuate, and since 2010 when we moved to Houston we had been through four floods. We didn't really consider fleeing. Either way, I would have had to remain in the city because I am an essential employee at work.

Saturday was relatively quiet. It rained hard between Friday and Saturday, but it slowed down by mid-morning Saturday and our family, along with many others in the neighborhood, went out to peek at our local waterway, Braes Bayou. It was high, but looked like it could take more rain.

We went into the supermarket to buy strawberries, Klondike bars and peaches — hurricane necessities.

And around 7 p.m. Saturday it started. The skies opened, and a massive amount of rain fell. The weather report predicted more, but we went to

sleep.

At 4:30 a.m. Sunday, my husband woke me up. "There's water in our bathroom. We need to look around," he said.

Our sunroom already had six inches of water. The water outside was right at the door. My son's room was picking up water from the backyard. We woke everyone and put towels at the doors. Seems silly now, but it seemed the right thing to do at the time.

And then the water just started rushing in through the walls. Within an hour it was at my ankles. We moved our picture albums to counters. We picked up laundry baskets, clothes from bottom drawers and shoes. My boys grabbed the summer homework they had spent hours completing and put it on top shelves — no way they were going to redo that! Laptops went to the kitchen counter along with tablets and phones.

Text messages flew between neighbors, and it was only 6 a.m. Now, the water was at the middle of my shin. A col-

league and neighbor from work said he had more than a foot of water inside and was calling for rescue. I decided we could wait a little longer. Surely there were people in greater need.

By 7:30 a.m. I knew we needed to leave. The water was just under my knees. I grabbed Ziploc bags and stuffed two pairs of jeans, two T-shirts, underwear and moisturizer inside. I took all the chargers and went to the kitchen. The water was at my knees.

I called 911 and told them we needed to evacuate. I was still calm. I explained that we were fine for now but need to get out.

And then we waited.

My two older boys went to lay down: one on the dining room table and the other on his now-floating bed. The higher the water got, the more polluted the water looked. There were huge roaches crawling from the muck. At 11:30 a.m. there was a loud splash. The TV in the living room had tumbled into the water. The fire depart-

ment had answered our call but could not say when they would arrive. My boys were getting nervous.

The water was above the middle of the bottom kitchen cabinet. I called 911 again, and friends sent some phone numbers for the Coast Guard. Emergency dispatchers answered, but couldn't indicate where in the evacuation effort we might fall. The Coast Guard phone numbers were busy.

We sat on the kitchen counters. The water hit the top panel of the dishwasher. It was 12:30 p.m.

We had posted pictures to Facebook of our house. Now, it was time for some Facebook crowdsourcing. So I posted that we needed someone with a boat in Meyerland to get us out. The two older boys and my husband got on the roof to try to flag down boats going down what had once been Wigton Drive and was now a roaring river.

People shared the post, and

See FAMILY, Page 5

Harvey slams region's economy, with damages in the billions

By DAVID KOENIG

AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Flood damage from Harvey is likely to reach into the tens of billions and the storm is expected to cause the region's economy to shrink, at least in the near term.

Harvey is soaking refineries along the Gulf Coast, leading to higher prices at the pump. Gasoline futures were up nearly 4 percent on Monday afternoon after rising 7 percent in pre-market trading.

The storm could also put a kink in the shipment of consumer goods.

Harvey, which hit the coast as a Category 4 hurricane, will likely affect the South Texas economy for months. Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, predicted that the region's economic output will be cut about 1 percent, or \$7 billion to \$8 billion. It will recover, he said, helped by money from insurance payments and government aid to rebuild.

Here's a look at the effects on key industries:

— **REFINING:** Prices are expected to spike over the next week or more as about 10 refineries representing more than 15 percent of the nation's refining capacity are shut down.

Nearly 3 billion barrels of the 18 billion U.S.

daily refining capacity has been knocked out. Most of the shut-downs have been precautionary, with only a few reports of minor flooding.

But the slow-moving nature of the storm means it could cause shutdowns to linger

of oil per day. It turns that into gasoline and chemicals used in everything from shrink wrap to car tires.

Several other refineries closed, including a Royal Dutch Shell plant along the ship channel, and several in Corpus



AP photo

This image made from a video shows a view from U.S. Route 59 of flooding on West Bellfort Avenue in Houston, Sunday, Aug. 27, 2017. The remnants of Hurricane Harvey sent devastating floods pouring into Houston Sunday as rising water chased thousands of people to rooftops or higher ground.

and leave more-lasting damage, said Goldman Sachs analyst Damien Courvalin. Another 850,000 barrels per day of capacity remains under threat, he said.

Exxon Mobil closed its huge Baytown refinery, which lies along the Houston Ship Channel, 25 miles east of the city. The plant can handle up to 584,000 barrels

Christi, Texas, that are operated by Valero Energy, Citgo and Flint Hills Resources.

Gas stations in Houston are running dry. Rick Joswick, an analyst with S&P Global Platts' PIRA Energy, said it remains to be seen whether distribution terminals were

See ECONOMY, Page 5

Flooding disrupts care at Houston hospital, cancer center

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE and EMILY SCHMALL

Associated Press

Officials prepared Monday to evacuate one of the nation's busiest trauma centers as flooding from Harvey threatened the hospital's supply of medicine and food.

A spokesman at Houston's Office of Emergency Management said that all 350 patients at Ben Taub Hospital would be moved, hopefully within a day. Floodwater and sewage got into the basement of the hospital's main building and affected pharmacy, food service and other key operations. "Our kitchen is shut down so we're relying on dry foods" and have enough to last through dinner Tuesday, Bryan McLeod, a spokesman for the hospital's parent company, Harris Health System, said Monday afternoon. Heavy rains had thwarted plans Sunday to move the patients to neighboring hospitals in the Texas Medical Center, a large medical complex southwest of downtown.

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center also canceled outpatient services, appointments and surgeries at all Houston-area locations through Tuesday, and told patients not to attempt to travel

because of high water in the area of the medical complex. Patients who already had been admitted are receiving care as usual, a spokeswoman said.

Other hospitals also bore the brunt of the storm. As of Monday morning, San Antonio Fire Department firefighters had transferred about 800 hospital patients from Houston and other areas affected by Harvey, said department spokesman Woody Woodward. The city had an EMS convoy in Houston consisting of 12 workers, two ambulances and one ambulance — a "gigantic" ambulance with multiple beds, he said. The situation at Ben Taub seemed the worst, and raised fears and memories of the dire straits at some New Or-

leans hospitals, where dozens of patients were trapped for days after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Ben Taub, a large public hospital that cares for many of the city's poor and uninsured, asked authorities for evacuation help on Sunday "but at this point we haven't been able to transfer a single patient," McLeod said. Harris operates two other medical facilities — Clinton East, a 50-bed nursing home whose residents were moved Friday to Ben Taub because of concerns Clinton East would flood, and LBJ, a hospital on the northeast side of downtown Houston that now has about 150 people from the community seeking shelter, "another 150 mouths to feed," McLeod said.



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Residents in photo of flooded nursing home are 'doing fine'

By REGINA GARCIA CANO
Associated Press

The senior citizens who appear in a now-viral photo showing them submerged in waist-deep water in a Texas assisted-living center flooded by Hurricane Harvey over the weekend have been relocated to a nearby facility and a hospital.

Tim McIntosh, whose mother-in-law owns the facility in Dickinson, Texas, told The Associated Press Monday the National Guard rescued 20 people Sunday, about three hours after he shared on Twitter the harrowing photo of the living room of the La Vita Bella facility. The photo shows at least six senior citizens waist-deep in murky water, at least one sitting on a rolling walker, in a room with a popcorn machine, a cat and some bottles of water on a table.

"They are all doing fine," said McIntosh, who defended facility owner, Trudy Lampson, who some accused on social media of not evacuating the facility on time. He said Lampson had made arrangements to evacuate the residents, but local authorities told her to stay put.

"The nursing home had to follow protocol because it's a big ordeal to evacuate it," he said. "These ladies are on wheelchairs and most of them on oxygen."

On Monday, Harvey continued to pour rain in Houston after a chaotic weekend of rising water and rescues. The nation's fourth-largest city was still largely paralyzed, and there was no relief in sight from the storm that spun into Texas as a Category 4 hurricane, then parked itself over the Gulf Coast. The storm has been blamed for at least three confirmed deaths. Floodwaters reached the roof lines of single-story homes, and people could be heard pleading for help from inside. With nearly 2 more feet of rain expected, authorities worried whether the worst was yet to come.



AP photo

In this Sunday, Aug. 27, 2017, photo provided by Trudy Lampson, residents of the La Vita Bella nursing home in Dickinson, Texas, sit in waist-deep flood waters caused by Hurricane Harvey.

McIntosh, of Tampa, Florida, contacted several emergency officials on behalf of Lampson until he was able to reach one in Galveston. He then tweeted the photo taken by Lampson along with the message: "La vita Bella nursing home in Dickinson Texas is almost underwater with nursing home patients." A second tweet with the photo read: "Need help asap emergency services please RETWEET."

He said he posted the photo to see if anyone familiar with Dickinson or the nursing home could "maybe go down the street and help them." But the immediate response was not positive, with comments of "fake news" "fake photo," and "photo edited."

The narrative turned around, he said, after a reporter with a local paper spotted the tweet, interviewed McIntosh and wrote a story about the ordeal. "All of a sudden, it really started picking up and people actually believed it was a true event and the photo was real," he said. "We are in Tampa, Florida, the only way we could have an impact was by trying to reach out to emergency services and trying to do social media to gain attention to the cause."

FAMILY

Continued from Page 4

quickly we got on an evacuation list put together by a neighborhood rabbi who had some people with motorboats evacuating residents. The boys grabbed some clothes and we put everything in garbage bags. At 2 p.m. a boat arranged by the rabbi arrived. The water in our house was waist high. We needed to get out from the laundry room. The washing machine had turned on its side in the water, and so had the standup freezer. We climbed over it and out into the driveway. The water outside was over my head. I had to swim. On the boat were several other families: two elderly people, a six-month old baby and two dogs. As we made our way toward the local church that became a shelter, the boat's propeller hit the ground and we all got off.

Wading through knee high water, with white plastic garbage bags full of clothing and laptops on our shoulders, we made our way toward the church. They had no power. There were at least 100 people there and no cots. But it was dry, and we made it our home for the night.

We made a ravioli dinner for the other people, using a flashlight to see what we were doing, and we slept on the floor, but we knew we were lucky. Others had water in

their homes over their heads and had broken through the roof to get out. Elderly people did not have their medicine. Everything we lost is material. We will rebuild, and our family is whole.

At 11:30 p.m. Sunday night, as I was about to go to sleep at the church, my phone rang. It was the Houston Fire Department, calling to ask if we had gotten to dry ground — 16 hours after I had first called for help.



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ECONOMY

Continued from Page 4



AP photo

A gas pump sits demolished by Hurricane Harvey in Port Aransas, Texas, on Sunday, Aug. 27, 2017. Officials continue to keep the city on lockdown, preventing residents from entering the city.

damaged, which could crimp supplies beyond Houston.

— OIL AND GAS: Oil companies have removed workers from about 100 platforms in the Gulf of Mexico since late last week.

About 19 percent of oil production in the Gulf has been stopped, but that is down from nearly 25 percent on Saturday, according to the U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. The Gulf accounts for about one-fifth of U.S. oil production.

— SHIPPING: All major ports in the Houston and Corpus Christi areas remained closed Monday and might not open for several days until the week.

That would affect barge shipments of gasoline to the East Coast — if refineries have resumed operating. Several large container ships that were headed to Houston anchored off Mexico or Louisiana to wait out the storm. The port of Houston also

handles export shipments of grain. The ports can't reopen until the U.S. Coast Guard and ship pilots are confident that shipping channels are clear and not obstructed by silt washed into bays by the heavy rain. Silting has been reported near the ports of Freeport and Houston, according to S&P Global Platts.

— TRAVEL: Houston's two big airports are expected to remain closed to all but relief flights until later this week, as runways were flooded and nearby roadways were under water.

More than 1,600 flights on Monday were canceled, the bulk of them at Bush Intercontinental Airport and Hobby Airport, according to tracking service FlightAware.com.

The Federal Aviation Administration said Bush Intercontinental was expected to reopen Thursday and Hobby on Wednesday.

Those targets might be optimistic. Bill Begley, a spokesman for the airports, said they would not reopen until officials are certain they're safe, "and I don't even want to put a deadline on that."

Exceptions have been made for flights carrying people who were trapped at the airports when the storm hit. United Airlines took 272 passengers to Chicago on Sunday and planned two more such flights Monday, said Charles Hobart.

— INSURANCE: Property damage from Harvey will likely be counted in the tens of billions of dollars. Damage from flooding will far outstrip wind damage, said analysts for Risk Management Solutions, which makes forecasts for insurance companies.

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Tony Claxton photo (claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring varsity cheerleaders perform for the crowd during the community pep rally held on Monday, August 28, 2017.

Flooding forces Astros; Texans to move home games

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Hurricane Harvey has forced both the Houston Astros and Houston Texans to play home games miles away from the flood-stricken city with players wondering when they will be able to come back.

The Astros will play a three-game series against the Texas Rangers at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, Florida, this week, starting Tuesday, and the Texans will wrap up their preseason schedule against the Dallas Cowboys at AT&T Stadium in Arlington instead of NRG Stadium.

"You have to go about your business and handle it," Texans cornerback Johnathan Joseph said Monday as the schedule for the week became clear and the misery of Harvey continued unabated.

"But it's kind of hard at the same time to kind of sit there and play football and then think about your family that's back home when there's constantly updates going on around the clock about things that are going on back in your hometown."

Both the Astros and Rangers flew to Dallas after games in California on Sunday to await news of where the series would be held.

After a day off Monday, they will now head to St. Petersburg, where the Astros will have "home"

games far away from home, just as they did in the wake of Hurricane Ike in 2008 when they played two scheduled home games in Milwaukee.

The team also said a three-game series against the New York Mets that begins on Friday may also be played on Tropicana Field, the home of the Tampa Bay Rays. A person with knowledge of the decision told The Associated Press that the decision has already been made and shared with the players, though there was no word from the team or Major League Baseball. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the move was not disclosed.

If the Astros play both series in Florida, they will end up playing 19 straight games away from Houston, where the AL West leaders last played on Aug. 24. A 10-game road trip begins after the Mets series.

"The safety of our fans, players and staff remain our main priority," Astros President Reid Ryan said. "We are extremely grateful to the Tampa Bay Rays organization for allowing us to use their facility."

Rangers general manager Jon Daniels said the team was open to hosting the series in Arlington this week, but had no interest in swapping a series against the Astros later in the season to accommodate the change. He said the Rangers declined partially

See **FLOOD**, Page 12

Texans long for Houston home, try to keep focus on football

By SCHUYLER DIXON
AP Pro Football Writer

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Tom Savage longs to hold his tiny daughter and spend some quality time with his wife.

J.J. Watt wants to do more than raise money via video on social media about 250 miles from Houston with the city swamped by floodwaters from Hurricane Harvey.

While wanting simply to be home with family and friends, the Texans are instead stranded in the Dallas area. And now what was supposed to be a home preseason game against

Dallas will be played at the Cowboys stadium Thursday night.

"It's very, very tough," said Watt, the star defensive end who posted Monday that a fundraising effort that included selfie videos had raised more than \$500,000 within 24 hours. "It's very difficult to watch, your family, your friends, your city, go through a time like this and not be there to help."

After losing an exhibition game at New Orleans on Saturday, the Texans essentially flew over their flood-stricken city on the way to Dallas. They practiced Monday at Cowboys headquarters, and were

hotel hopping because of the uncertainty over what was next.

The NFL said late Monday afternoon that the exhibition game Thursday night was being moved to Arlington "due to public safety concerns resulting from the ongoing weather emergency related to Hurricane Harvey." The statement said the league and Texans would continue to closely monitor the situation in Houston and adjust the team's plans as necessary.

Cowboys coach Jason Garrett said the Texans were planning another

See **TEXANS**, Page 12



AP photo

Houston Texans quarterbacks Deshaun Watson (4), Tom Savage (3) and Brandon Weeden (5) take a breather from running sprints during a morning practice at the Dallas Cowboys training facility, Monday, Aug. 28, 2017, in Frisco, Texas. The Texans are working out in the practice facility of the Dallas Cowboys because of floods pounding Houston. An exhibition game in the Texans' stadium Thursday might be moved to the home of the Cowboys.

BYU-LSU moved to New Orleans because of flooding in Houston



In this Jan. 7, 2008, file photo, color lights play on the Louisiana Superdome at twilight before the BCS championship college football game in New Orleans. The BYU-LSU game will be played Saturday, Sept. 2, 2017 at the Superdome in New Orleans after massive flooding in Houston from Hurricane Harvey forced it to be relocated from NRG Stadium.

AP photo By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

The BYU-LSU game will be played Saturday night at the Superdome in New Orleans after massive flooding in Houston from Hurricane Harvey forced it to be relocated from NRG Stadium.

ESPN announced the move Monday. Finding a stadium

to play the neutral-site game was in the hands of the television network and AdvoCare Texas Kickoff organizers who wanted to find a place that allowed convenient access to at least some fans already holding tickets.

The game is still scheduled to kick off at 9:30 p.m. Eastern and be televised on ESPN.

"Efforts are un-

derway in New Orleans and we will work with the fans at the Superdome, the New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau and both schools throughout the week to ensure the most optimal game day experience for all, said Pete Derzics, ESPN senior vice president of college sports program

See **MOVE**, Page 12

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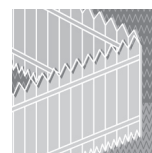
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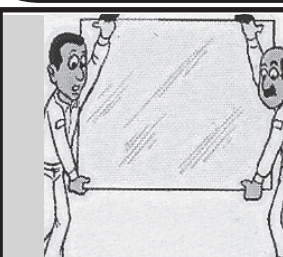
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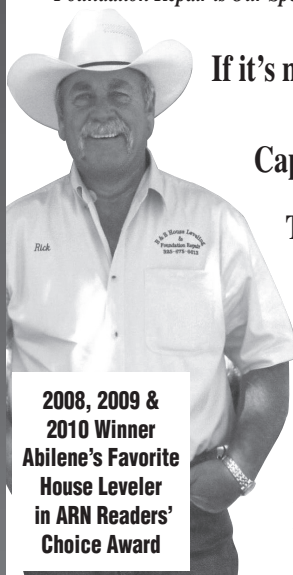
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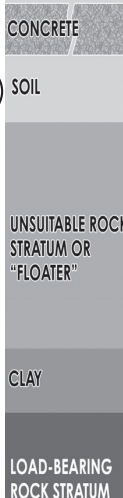
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Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Lunar Squares:
Conflict and Competition

We all have those certain friends who put us in a competitive mood. It's healthy to want to improve on your best, not so healthy to want your friend to lose so you can win. The time to be nice is when you don't want to be. With the moon making conflict out of thin air, you won't be sorry you forced yourself into a more compassionate place.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). No matter what else is going on in this big group around you, you remain uniquely yourself, concerned with your own business. Mindfulness of what is before you -- this is tranquility.

TAURUS (April

20-May 20). There's something to be said for automatic mode. You don't always have to "feel it" to do it. Sometimes it's just about showing up. And if your autopilot can get you there without too much thinking, thank it for a job well done.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You need a close relationship with another person to help you feel valued and cared for. Everyone does! That's what friends are for. If your friends aren't serving that role, it's time to look at the relationships.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It may feel as though you're not doing much, but in reality it takes massive amounts of brainpower to sustain your current lifestyle and manner of being. Thank your body and mind for keeping up with you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). As for those relationships that are more exciting than they are stable, you may still find you have a place for them. The solid people in your life help you endure

the roller coaster relationships.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If it seems too hard, and you don't want to do it (but you must), start with smaller increments of work. If an hour is too hard, think of a half hour, or fifteen minutes. You can do just about anything for 10 minutes. Start there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Professional success will be simple: Maintain your energy and love for the work. Bonus points if you can find a mentor. You will be especially responsive to the encouragement of a Gemini.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Talking is optional; you certainly don't have to try to impress anyone. Listening is harder. It's often enough to honor others with your attention. You'd be surprised how little eyeball-to-eyeball time some people actually get.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). This day gives you a chance to practice the art of managing other people's expectations. Be careful what's

implied and doubly careful with what's promised.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your fate is linked to others', so select partners, dates and friends with care. It only takes one personal connection to get a party started, give a project wings or push an idea into form.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People will come through for you and help you solve whatever problems arise. Show your gratitude and there will be more where this came from.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your mood: ultra-driven. So you'll get what you want and then have to deal with the reality of what you worked for. Therefore wanting well is crucial these days.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 29). Love is your essence, and it's reflected back to you from the majesty of nature, the fantasy world of fiction, the beauty of a loved one's eyes. New experiences envelop you in 2018; a lifestyle trans-

formation is in store. You'll hone a talent and fit it to a lucrative niche. Invest and believe in yourself. Cancer and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 11, 27 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "My sister and I have the same birthstone; she's a Gemini and I'm a Cancer. Is there any stone that is just for Gemini regardless of the month the person was born in? Also, I notice that she copies me a lot lately, and it bothers me. When we were kids it bugged me, too, and I thought she grew out of it, but recently she bought the same couch as I have for her living room."

Cancer is so wonderful at decorating: It's not just your sister; the whole world wants to emulate your cozy style. As the twin, Gemini will sometimes copy as a way to feel closer to another person. Try to be big about it. In regard to her birthstone (assuming you want her to have her own that is different than yours) one of the most

powerful birthstones for a Gemini is the unusual green stone chrysoprase. This stone holds no power for any other sun sign than Gemini, though it also has no negative effects for other signs. It can be used to ward off sickness of any kind, but it has the most profound affect on eyesight, improving vision for both afflicted and healthy eyes.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: One Direction's Liam Payne admits to having a strange phobia of spoons. However, maybe it's not so strange, considering the fact that his natal moon is in Aquarius. This moon is known to highlight zany eccentricities. It is also the moon of exceptional intelligence, creativity and kindness. Payne also has his sun and Mercury in hardworking Virgo and Venus in Leo, the sign of the entertainer.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact."
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Financial Assistance or Manipulation?

Dear Annie: I have a family dilemma. My mother is 95 years old and still living in her own home. My wife and I see her five or more times a week and help her with household chores and getting to doctors appointments. My brother and sister also help but to a lesser extent. My father passed away last February, and my mother misses him, as you might expect.

The problem is

that since Dad passed away, my younger sister has involved herself quite heavily in my mother's financial matters. She got her name put on my mother's checking and savings accounts. She also got her name put on my mother's investments as a trader. These investment accounts each contain thousands of dollars.

My mother also has a will that names me, the oldest, as executor of that will. Right now it appears that I am executor of not much, as my younger sister has

positioned herself as the recipient of these various accounts. This positioning took place within a few days of my father's passing.

My wife and I believe my mother was manipulated into this situation: She was grieving and my sister took advantage. My sister explained her actions as an effort to help my mother write checks and balance her checking account, although my mother writes her own checks and balances her checking account without assistance. My mother's will states that she wants her estate to go equally to her three children after she gives her nine grandchildren \$1,000 a piece.

I don't really want to think ill of my sister, and I keep looking for the silver lining in this matter. Maybe you can make some sug-

gestions as to what I should do, if anything. -- Concerned for Mom

Dear Concerned for Mom: Start with Mom. The next time you're one-on-one with her, ask her open-ended questions to see how she feels about her finances. Then I would talk to your brother to see if he shares any concerns about your sister's management of her funds. If she is siphoning money from your mothers' accounts as you say she is, consider consulting an attorney about your options. It's good you're looking for the best in your sister, but it's also wise to plan for the worst and do what you can to protect your mom from it.

Dear Annie: I have a 6-year-old son. We recently acquired 14 chicks to help take care of the tick population in our yard, and

my son loves them. But our old coop is rundown and too small for all of these soon-to-be hens!

I'm a longtime reader of advice columns, and I seem to remember that years ago, a young man wrote in and asked for readers to send him a penny to help pay for college. I was wondering if my son, Tobin, could experience the far-reaching kindness of strangers to help with this problem. He loves getting the mail every day. Could folks perhaps take a moment and send a penny to a boy and his special pets? -- Cooped in Connecticut

Dear Cooped in Connecticut: That young man was ahead of his time: He was crowdsourcing before online platforms such as Kickstarter,

GoFundMe and Indiegogo existed. I'd highly recommend starting a fundraiser through one of those websites. You can get your son involved in the process in many creative ways. He could create artwork about the chickens, or write a few sentences about his hopes and dreams for the new coop. Together you can spread the word in your community. Your son will not only experience the generosity of strangers but he'll also be proud of his own contributions.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to 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.
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Reverse psychology

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 4 2
♥ K J 7 5
♦ K Q 3
♣ 10 6 3

WEST
♠ A 9 6 5
♥ 3
♦ J 10 9 4
♣ J 9 5 2

EAST
♠ Q J 10
♥ 9 2
♦ A 8 7 6 2
♣ 8 7 4

SOUTH
♠ K 7 3
♥ A Q 10 8 6 4
♦ 5
♣ A K Q

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
4♥

Opening lead — jack of diamonds.
A defender should always be suspicious of any abnormal play made by declarer. Take this case where South made a good play and East failed to find the proper response to it.

South was in four hearts, and West led the jack of diamonds. Declarer saw that he might lose the contract at once if West had the ace of spades, so instead of making the normal play of covering the diamond jack with the queen, he played the

Tomorrow: A not-so-brilliant defense.

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three from dummy!
East allowed the jack to win, and West played another diamond. The queen forced East's ace, establishing dummy's king as a trick as South ruffed.
Declarer thereupon cashed the A-K of trumps, discarded a spade on the king of diamonds and later lost two spade tricks to make exactly four hearts.
It would not have mattered had West shifted to a different suit at trick two. Declarer could have established the diamond trick himself, and the outcome would have been the same.
East should have realized that declarer's highly unusual failure to cover the jack of diamonds was not simply an act of charity on South's part. He should have reasoned that declarer did not want East on lead at trick two because he feared East might shift to a particular suit. Furthermore, it was inconceivable that South would duck the jack with any holding but a singleton diamond.
East therefore should have overtaken the jack of diamonds with the ace and returned the queen of spades on the basis that if South thought it was good not to have East on lead, then it was wrong for East not to take the lead. That would have settled declarer's hash very quickly.

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sudoku

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

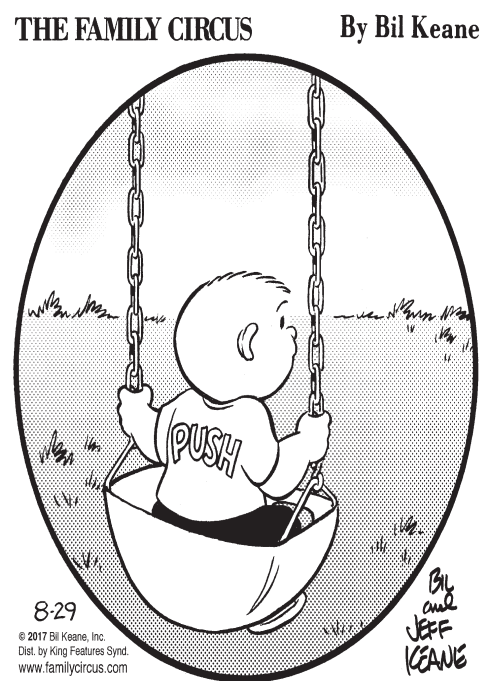
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:30	Local 2 ABC	P. Luche	The List	CBS 7	Tele	News	Shofar	Focus	Hawaii Five-0	American	Seinfeld	Movie: Avengers: Age of Ultron, Mark Ruffalo (DVS)		SportsCenter	Texas High School	Mod Fam	Leah Remini	Deadliest Catch
6:30	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cer-	News	Our Mess	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld		2017 U.S. Open Tennis: First Round.	NFL Live	Focused	Mod Fam	Leah Remini	Deadliest Catch
7:30	Bachelor in Paradise	Enamorán-dome	Big Bang	ET	Jenni Rivera	America's Got Talent	News Behind	American Experience (DVS)	Mama's ALF	The Flash	Big Bang		P.J. Fleck	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at Houston Astros.	WWE SmackDown!	Leah Remini	Deadliest Catch	
8:30	Someplace	La tierra prometida	News	NCIS: New Orleans	El Señor de los	Game Night	Light of Southwest	Frontline	Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang		Kickboxing: Glory 44.			Shooter (DVS)	Murder-Laci	Manhunt
9:30	Local 2 ABC	Impacto	Mod Fam	CBS 7	Tele	News	Aleph	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	Conan			Postgame Rangers	Law & Order: SVU	Leah Remini	Manhunt	
10:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Two Men	Late Show- Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	M:25	Ministerios	Newsline	T. Smiley								
11:30	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met	James Corden	El Señor de los	News	Inspired		Hitchcock	Cheaters	Seinfeld							
12:30	Extra	Quiero Amarte	Cleveland	Insider	Programa De'siónes	(:08) Today	Light of Southwest		Mannix	Paid Prg.	Broke Girl							
1:30	Paid Prg.	Mi Adorable	Law Order: CI	ET														

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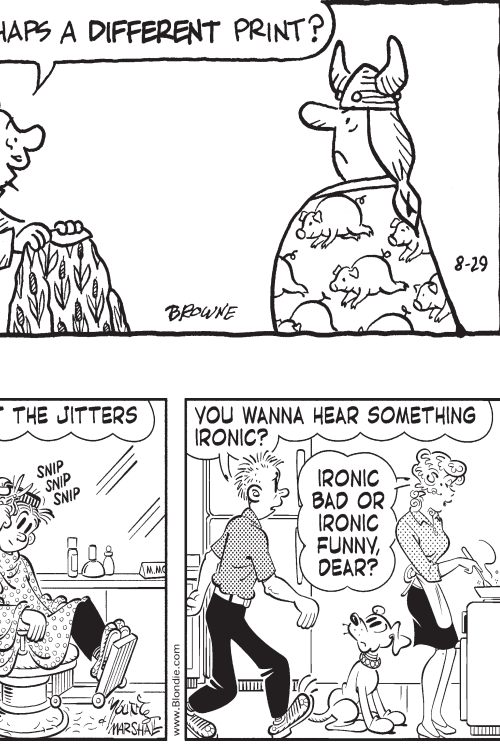
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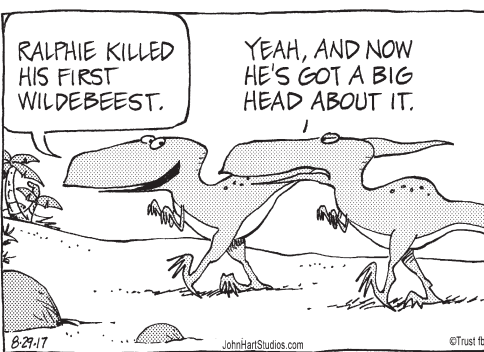
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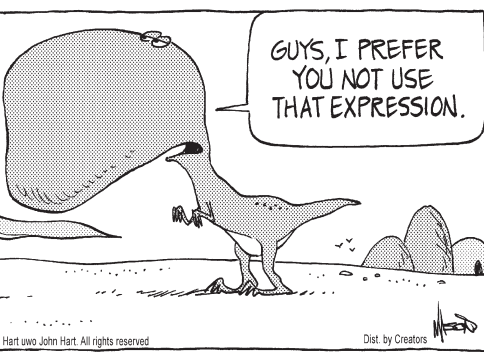
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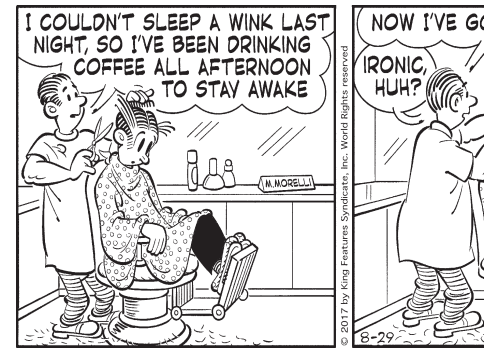
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This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 29, the 241st day of 2017. There are 124 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On August 29, 1967, the series finale of "The Fugitive," starring David Janssen as a doctor on the run after being wrongly convicted of murdering his wife, aired on ABC-TV, drawing an estimated 78 million viewers.

On this date: In 1533, the last Incan King of Peru, Atahualpa (ah-tuh-WAHL'-puh), was executed on orders of Spanish conqueror Francisco Pizarro.

In 1877, the second president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Brigham Young, died in Salt Lake City, Utah, at age 76.

In 1910, Korean Emperor Sunjong abdicated as the Japan-Korea Annexation Treaty went into effect.

In 1944, 15,000 American troops of the 28th Infantry Division marched down the Champs Elysees (shahms ay-lee-ZAY') in Paris as the French capital continued to celebrate its liberation from the Nazis.

In 1952, the composition "4'33" ("Four Minutes, Thirty-three Seconds") by avant-garde com-

poser John Cage premiered in Woodstock, New York, as David Tudor sat down at a piano, and, for four minutes and 33 seconds, played ... nothing.

In 1957, the Senate gave final congressional approval to a Civil Rights Act after South Carolina Sen. Strom Thurmond (then a Democrat) ended a filibuster that had lasted 24 hours.

In 1958, pop superstar Michael Jackson was born in Gary, Indiana.

In 1965, Gemini 5, carrying astronauts Gordon Cooper and Charles "Pete" Conrad, splashed down in the Atlantic after 8 days in space.

In 1972, swimmer Mark Spitz of the United States won the third of his seven gold medals at the Munich Olympics, finishing first in the 200-meter freestyle.

In 1987, Academy Award-winning actor Lee Marvin died in Tucson, Arizona, at age 63.

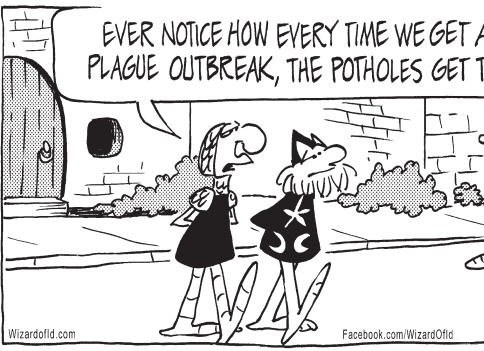
In 1996, the Democratic National Convention in Chicago nominated Al Gore for a second term as vice president. Earlier in the day, President Bill Clinton's chief political strategist, Dick Morris, resigned amid a scandal over his relationship with a prostitute.

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast near Buras, Louisiana, bringing floods that devastated New Orleans. More

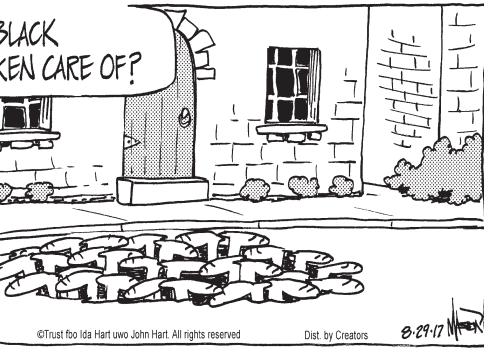
than 1,800 people in the region died.

Ten years ago: Fellow Republicans called on Idaho Sen. Larry Craig to resign and party leaders pushed him from senior committee posts as fallout continued over his arrest at a Minneapolis airport restroom and guilty plea to disorderly conduct. Prayers, protests and a lingering disgust with the government's response to Hurricane Katrina marked the disaster's second anniversary in New Orleans. Taliban militants in Afghanistan released 12 South Korean captives, part of a deal with Seoul to free all 19 hostages. Richard Jewell, the former security guard who was wrongly linked to the 1996 Olympic bombing, was found dead in his west Georgia home; he was 44.

AGNES



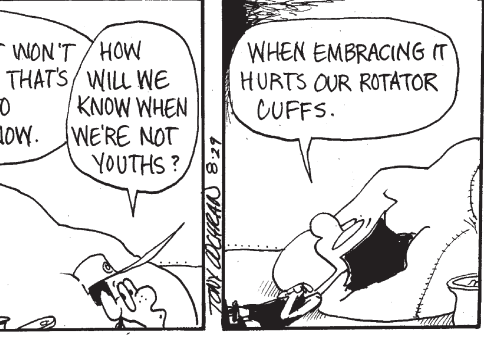
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Finds a sum
 - 5 Practice boxing
 - 9 Sound-boosting boxes
 - 13 Business attire
 - 14 Ocean's motion
 - 15 Grain-storage towers
 - 17 Creative thought
 - 18 Roundish shape
 - 19 Considering everything
 - 20 Constellation expert's field
 - 22 "Ditto!"
 - 23 Doc for a dog
 - 24 Woodland
 - 25 Gardeners' small shovels
 - 29 Tropical fruit
 - 31 Make changes to
 - 32 Affectionate greeting
 - 33 Home area to be mowed
 - 37 Weaving machine
 - 38 Large metal bolt
 - 39 Woodwind instrument
 - 40 Error in print
 - 41 Poems of praise
 - 42 Stares at
 - 43 33 Across material
 - 45 Most timid
 - 46 Was scared of
 - 49 Barnyard clucker
 - 50 Seaweed
 - 51 Supply-and-demand expert's field
 - 57 Film excerpts
 - 58 Feels poorly
 - 59 Right away, in a memo
- DOWN
- 1 India's continent
 - 2 Defective firecrackers
 - 3 Food plan
 - 4 Leading cast member
 - 5 Precious gems
 - 6 Turn on one foot
 - 7 Eden guy
 - 8 Depend (on)
 - 9 Sci-fi author
 - 10 Rock expert's field
 - 11 Dish that holds dinner
 - 12 One-person performances
 - 16 Vending machine opening
 - 21 More than
 - 24 Rapid
 - 25 Shaker contents
 - 26 Ruse
 - 27 Perched on
 - 28 Population statistics expert's field
 - 29 Donates
 - 30 Takes off the shelf
 - 32 Youngsters
 - 34 Up to the task
 - 35 Misfortunes
 - 36 Home for hatchlings
 - 38 Street or highway
 - 42 Cry of dread
 - 44 ___ Pieces (candy brand)
 - 45 Sight, smell and taste
 - 46 True statement
 - 47 Historic immigration island
 - 48 Anxiety, informally
 - 49 "Deck the Halls" plant
 - 51 Toward sunrise
 - 52 Italian farewell
 - 53 Atlas illustrations
 - 54 "That's clear"
 - 55 Part of TLC
 - 56 Tater

FIELD DAY by Sally R. Stein

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

Answer to previous puzzle

GNATS	SPAR	PINS
RIVET	CITE	IDEA
ONICE	ALOT	CLAP
WASHABLE	MARKERS	
DID	IVY	
POETIC	PALS	ATM
OHARE	MATE	GLUE
WATERCOLOR	PAINT	
ERIE	RAMP	EMCEE
RAN	CUTS	STEEDS
AIM	SIN	
ERASABLE	CRAYONS	
LACK	LURE	MARIE
MIME	EARN	ELATE
SLED	DUST	SELES

8/29/17

FLOOD

Continued from Page 6

because of thoughts for the fans, but also because that change would have left the Rangers with a 12-game road trip late in the season.

"Just the competitive challenge of having our guys' last road trip of the year, (a) four-city trip was not something that we wanted to do," he said. "We were prepared, we offered to host the series, but the decision was made to go to Tampa instead."

The Texans have been in the Dallas area since leaving New Orleans after playing the Saints there on Saturday night. As the flooding dominated the news for another day, athletes with ties to Houston kept nervous watch, worrying about loved ones.

Nationals star Anthony Rendon, who grew up in Houston, has been stressed out hearing tales of his relatives struggling back home. He spoke to his parents on Monday morning.

"They were saying the water was creeping up to their garage now," he said. "They've got a lot of land so it has to cover the land first before it gets to their house. It's tough to know they're not in a flood zone. They're in the middle of nowhere so how can the water reach over there?"

Consumed by feelings of helplessness and frustration, LSU starting right tackle Toby Weathersby said he filled his truck with gas with the intent of venturing into Houston to try to evacuate his grandparents. He held off — but it was hard.

"I was going to be stupid, but I had to come to the realization that I've got to leave it up to the professionals," Weathersby said. "I just sat down and just thought about the situation I was going to be putting myself in. I wasn't worried about school or nothing. I was just worried about trying to get there, get my people."

Weathersby, a junior, said he'd been in contact with his grandparents on Sunday and their home had not flooded, though rising water had engulfed their vehicles.

"They're stuck right now in the flood. Water is almost in the house," said Weathersby, a 6-foot-6, 308-pound junior. "You try to stay positive but ... It's one of those situations right now where you've got to keep praying. Hopefully my prayers reach over to my grandparents so they can hear me right now trying to tell them to try to get out."

Weathersby and his LSU teammates were supposed to play BYU on Saturday at the home of the Texans. That game has been moved to the Superdome in New Orleans.

The Rice football team was settling in on TCU's campus in Fort Worth. The Owls opened the season over the weekend in Australia, where they lost to Stanford. They arrived in Los Angeles on Monday morning before another flight to Dallas, and were expected to share the campus with the Horned Frogs until things improve in Houston. The Owls have a week off before traveling to play UTEP on Sept. 9.

"While we would love to be coming home today, our first responsibility is the safety of these players," coach David Bailiff said. "We learned some lessons in 2008 (during Hurricane Ike) about coming home too soon."

TCU coach Gary Patterson said there are still specifics to work out, but that the Horned Frogs will do whatever they can to help.

"They're worried about parents and their families back there, but then all their belongings and their apartments, and their housing," Patterson said. "It must have been a very tough feeling to be playing a ballgame all the way in Australia knowing that maybe everything that you own may be gone."

The University of Houston football team, meanwhile, is in Austin, where former coach Tom Herman is preparing for his first season in charge of the Longhorns after two seasons at Houston. He said the Cougars canceled their scheduled practice Sunday when the flooding was getting worse back in Houston, and "guys being worried and not really being focused on football, nor should they have been."

Houston coach Major Applewhite said he wasn't sure how long the team would remain in Austin, but that they'd been able to determine that the families of all players and staff back in Houston were safe.

"On this trip, our job is (to) be No. 1, parents, and No. 2, to be coaches," he said. "We have to understand the human element in this."

TEXANS

Continued from Page 6

practice at Dallas' facility on Tuesday afternoon.

Instead of a singular focus on his first season-opening start as an NFL quarterback, Savage was in constant contact with his wife between meetings and other team activities. At least he could say he was seeing his 7-month-old daughter, Summer, in video phone chats.

"Here you kind of feel like a little hand cuffed," Savage said. "You can't do anything and as a father, you want to be there to support her and protect her. That's the hardest thing for all the guys. I can speak for them. We're the fathers. We want to be out there."

While sidestepping any specifics, coach Bill O'Brien said several coaches and players had homes in neighborhoods with both mandatory and voluntary evacuations. O'Brien said there were about 10 players in Houston and that everyone associated with the club was



AP photo
Houston Texans defensive end J.J. Watt stretches at the start of a morning practice at the Dallas Cowboys training facility, Monday, Aug. 28, 2017, in Frisco, Texas. The Texans are working out in the practice facility of the Dallas Cowboys because of floods pounding Houston. An exhibition game in the Texans' stadium Thursday might be moved to the home of the Cowboys.

accounted for. "Every individual is dealing with some different things," O'Brien said. "But we're on top of that and in touch with them." The Texans had been home less than a week after spending training camp in West Virginia when they left for New

Orleans. Conditions in Houston deteriorated during the day of the game against the Saints, and the team revealed afterward that it was headed for Dallas. Savage said the message from his wife has been to keep his focus on football.

"She's always texting me every five minutes

telling me Summer's OK," the former Pittsburgh standout said. "She's very supportive and understanding. But at the same time, I've seen her probably three days in the last month."

MOVE

Continued from Page 6

and events.

ESPN said Dallas, San Antonio, Jacksonville, Nashville and Orlando also reached out about hosting the game.

The schools and NRG Stadium said they will be providing refunds to ticket holders for the game in Houston.

Tickets for the Superdome will go on sale through the schools and stadium box offices on

Tuesday.

BYU athletic director Tom Holmoe apologized to Cougars fans for the disruption of plans.

"We hope many of you will be able to make necessary changes to join us in New Orleans to cheer on the Cougars," Holmoe said. "Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the people in South Texas who are currently facing the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey."



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