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THE BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

JANUARY 8, 2016



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Gunman ambushes police officer

Victim stable after Philadelphia shooting

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A gunman ambushed a police officer as he sat in his marked cruiser at an intersection, striking him three times in the arm during a barrage of bullets and fleeing before being apprehended, officials said Friday.

Police Commissioner Richard Ross said the suspect fired at least 13 shots at Officer Jessie Hartnett and his car late Thursday. He said the officer returned fire, hitting his attacker at least three times. Hartnett was in stable condition.

"This is absolutely one of the scariest things I've ever seen," Ross said at a news conference early Friday. "This guy tried to execute the police officer. The police officer had no idea he was coming."

He said the officer was in his cruiser in West Philadelphia when the shooter approached from the sidewalk and began firing, eventually shooting through the driver's-side window as he got closer.

"I'm bleeding heavily!" Hartnett shouted into his police radio when he called in to report shots fired.

The suspect ran away but was quickly apprehended by other officers, authorities said.

Ross said there was no apparent motive for the attack.

Water leak on 15th



City of Big Spring Utilities workers worked a water leak on East 15th Street near State Street Thursday afternoon.

Plans finalized for Silver Wings Ball

Hanger 25's annual fundraiser gala scheduled for Jan. 23

By **JULIE BASS**
Staff Writer

The Hanger 25 Museum is hosting its 18th annual Silver Wings Ball on Saturday, Jan. 23.

"The Hanger 25 Museum has been admission-free for 18 years. The Silver Wings Annual Ball is how we have been able to keep it admission free all of these years. We would really like to continue to work as an admission-free museum," said Museum Director Amber Stokes.

This year's Silver Wings Ball will be held at Hotel Settles. There will be cocktails from 6-7 p.m. and dinner from 7-8 p.m. A silent auction will be going on and the live auction begins at 8 p.m.

"All of our items for the auctions have been donated by local businesses. The area businesses have donated some really nice items to help with the Ball," said Stokes.

During the evening, there will be membership opportunities as well as the opportunity to receive a one

night stay at the Hotel Settles in the Sunrise Suite.

"The Sunrise Suite is one of the very nice suites with a balcony," said Stokes.

The entertainment for the evening will be a live jazz band.

"A lot of fundraisers and events seem to have DJ's, we are excited to have the South Plain Jazz Band for our live entertainment this year," said Stokes.

See **GALA**, Page 3



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To reach us:
Please call 263-7331.
Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Two's a crowd



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Howard College's Shawn Jones (2) attempts a shot while under heavy pressure from a Western Texas College defender during their basketball game Thursday night in Snyder. See related story and photos on Page 9.

Powerball: Few ways to improve your odds

By **SCOTT McFETRIDGE**
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — The record-breaking \$700 million Powerball jackpot is the stuff of dreams, but it all boils down to math. From the huge prize to the enormous odds against winning it, Saturday night's drawing is a numbers game that gives players good reason to brush up on their algebra, maybe as they stand in line to buy a ticket. A look at some of the statistics:

THE MOST IMPORTANT NUMBERS

For those who match all five white balls and the red Powerball, the key numbers are the \$700 million

See **ODDS**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Frances Jones

Frances L. Jones, 86, of Farmersville, died Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2016, in a hospital in McKinney, Texas. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park, Big Spring.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Frances was born April 22, 1929, in Dawson County and was married to Herbert Jones.

Frances is survived by her husband, Herbert Jones of Garland; three sons, Ronnie Low and wife, Martha, of Midland, Bobby Jones of Columbus, Neb. and Sam Jones and wife, Teri, of Farmersville; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and a brother, G. E. "Jack" Cave of Ackerly.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Everett and Effie (McBee) Cave; two brothers, J. Provine Cave and Fred Cave; and three sisters, Delma Lou Harrell, Maynell Carmichael, and Effie Marlene Williams.

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

Emma Leeson

Emma Louise Leeson, 66, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 31, 2015 in Big Spring

Emma was born September 21, 1949 in Colorado City, Texas

Memorial services will be held, at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016 at Life Church located at 1004 Johnson Street in Big Spring.

Mike McGee

Mike McGee, 52, of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 7, 2016. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Amparo Franco

Amparo Franco, 85, of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 7, 2016. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police / Sheriff

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **SUZANNE MICHELLE MURPHY**, 51, of 501 Central, Coahoma, was arrested on warrants for safety belt – driving without being secured and bail jumping/failure to appear.
- **RAMONDA LYNN JONES**, 35 of 7016 Roberts Drive was arrested on a charge of theft of property, more than \$100 but less than \$750, shoplifting.
- **ALLEN DEAN AVANT**, 49, of 610 George St. was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **STEPHANIE DAWN MCINTOSH**, 29, of 201 Peterson Rd. was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 600 block of W. I-120.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700 and the 3200 block of Auburn Ave.
- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1300 block of Mt. Vernon Ave.

The Howard County Sheriff's Department report-

ed the following activity:

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

- **ALLEN DEAN AVANT**, 49, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **TREYCEE LYNN FAIRMAN**, 35, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for sentence – possession of a controlled substance.
- **RONALD HASELBY**, 65, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **RAMONDA LYNN JONES**, 35, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property, more than \$100 but less than \$750.
- **STEPHANIE DAWN MCINTOSH**, 29, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- **SUZANNE MURPHY**, 51, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for no seat belt – driver and violate promise to appear.
- **DOMINCA CARLYNN THACKER**, 35, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for motion to revoke probation – possession of a controlled substance, more than 1 gram but less than 4 grams.

Support Groups

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

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

VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

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.

Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls). Open meeting at 7 p.m.

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

VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

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

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.

Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

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.

Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls). Open meeting at 7 p.m.






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

FRIDAY

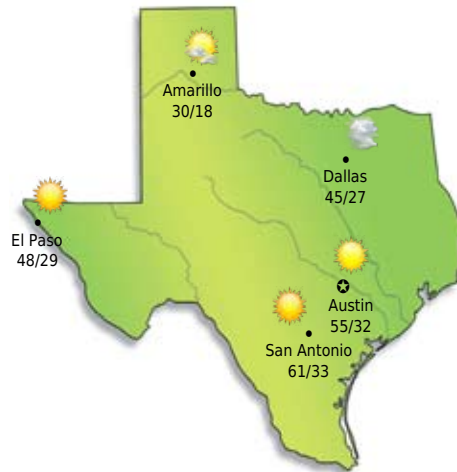
Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls). Open meeting at 7 p.m.

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.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 1/9	Sun 1/10	Mon 1/11	Tue 1/12	Wed 1/13
 43/22 Mostly cloudy early, then afternoon sunshine. High 43F. Winds NNW at 10 to 20 mph.	 46/28 Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 40s and lows in the upper 20s.	 51/26 Sunshine. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the mid 20s.	 55/29 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	 57/35 Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:58 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 5:59 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 6:00 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 6:00 PM	Sunrise: 7:48 AM Sunset: 6:01 PM

Texas at a Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	62	32	M Sunny	Kingsville	74	51	Foggy
Amarillo	38	21	Foggy	Livingston	66	51	Foggy
Austin	67	45	Foggy	Longview	64	47	Cloudy
Beaumont	70	53	Foggy	Lubbock	50	24	Cloudy
Brownsville	76	54	Foggy	Lufkin	65	50	Foggy
Brownwood	68	38	P Cloudy	Midland	57	32	Sunny
Corpus Christi	71	52	Foggy	Raymondville	79	53	Foggy
Corsicana	67	42	Foggy	Rosenberg	69	52	Foggy
Dallas	66	40	Foggy	San Antonio	70	47	M Sunny
Del Rio	72	44	Sunny	San Marcos	67	45	Foggy
El Paso	48	32	Cloudy	Sulphur Springs	67	42	Cloudy
Fort Stockton	57	35	Sunny	Sweetwater	57	32	P Cloudy
Gainesville	63	36	P Cloudy	Tyler	68	45	Cloudy
Greenville	66	40	Foggy	Weatherford	67	36	M Sunny
Houston	70	52	Foggy	Wichita Falls	59	35	P Cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	53	46	Cloudy	Miami	79	68	Cloudy
Boston	41	37	M Cloudy	Minneapolis	33	9	Cloudy
Chicago	42	38	Showers	New York	45	41	Sunny
Dallas	66	40	Foggy	Phoenix	55	41	Sunny
Denver	29	9	Snow Showers	San Francisco	55	48	Cloudy
Houston	54	34	Cloudy	Seattle	44	35	Cloudy
Los Angeles	59	44	Clear	Saint Louis	53	39	Showers

Lottery

All or Nothing Day
02-06-08-11-13-14-16-19-20-21-22-24

All or Nothing Evening
01-02-08-11-12-15-17-18-19-20-21-24

All or Nothing Morning
01-02-04-06-07-10-11-13-16-20-21-22

All or Nothing Night
07-08-10-11-13-14-15-16-18-19-21-24

Cash 5
08-10-14-26-28

Daily 4 Day
8-1-0-1, Sum It Up: 10

Daily 4 Evening
0-4-2-8

Daily 4 Morning
7-2-7-6

Daily 4 Night
2-8-9-4, Sum It Up: 23

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$165 million

Pick 3 Day
5-2-1, Sum It Up: 8

Pick 3 Evening
8-2-3

Pick 3 Morning
0-2-2

Pick 3 Night
9-7-4, Sum It Up: 20

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$675 million

Triple Chance
03-04-13-17-21-33-35-36-44-52

Two Step
05-16-26-35, Bonus: 12
Estimated jackpot: \$425,000



Jan. 23:
Silver Wings Ball:
Hotel Settles.
Contact 432-264-1999 or hangar25@crcom.net

Feb. 13:
Run 2 to Love 2 Run 5k:
Big Spring State Park 10AM.
www.permianbasinevents.com

Feb. 16:
Big Spring Chamber Annual Banquet:
Dorothy Garrett Coliseum
Contact 432-463-7641



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Take note

Town Hall Meeting

• Donald May, candidate for congress in Texas 19th district's open seat will be in Big Spring Jan. 11. He will conduct a Town Hall meeting in the Cactus Room, Student Union Building, Howard College at noon. It will finish at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited to hear Dr May's views and visit with him.

Holy Trinity service project

• The Holy Trinity Youth group is hosting its 5th annual "Warming up our Community" service project this Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the church school hall at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 1009 Hearn Street. Anyone in need can come and choose jackets and/or blankets that have been generously donated by the church community. This is free to the public.

MLK Walk

• A march to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan 18 on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. The march will commence at the corner of Gregg St. and Martin Luther King Boulevard. Youth organization and other groups are welcome. Please bring your favorite lighting devices to light your path.

Meetings

• The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m.

GALA

Continued from Page 1

Since this is a fundraiser, the Silver Wings Ball committee is still seeking businesses to sponsor the event so that all money raised can go to operating costs of the Hanger 25 Museum.

The Ball is open to everyone and officials invite anyone interested in going to contact the museum or speak with a member of the board

of directors. Currently, there are approximately 55 tickets left.

Tickets are \$50 apiece and include the full evening of cocktails, dinner, the auction, and the live band.

For more information about tickets, membership, the one-night stay at Hotel Settles or how to become a sponsor, contact the museum at 432-264-1999 or any of the Board of Directors. The museum is located at 1911 Apron Drive.

in the basement of the Howard County Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues are \$20.

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

• The Kiwanis Club of Big Spring meets at noon every Thursday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are welcome.

• 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.

Volunteer opportunities

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

• Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Kim Plew at 263-4016 or 213-7960.

• 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 inter-

view process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

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.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9-11 a.m. and get two for one, plus a rehab meeting.

Silver Wings Ball

• The largest fundraiser for the Hangar 25 Air Museum, the Silver Wings Ball will be held at the Hotel Settles, Jan. 23, 2016. Cocktail hour will begin at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased from any board member. To find out more information or to become a sponsor for the event, contact Hangar 25 Air Museum at 432-264-1999.

How to help

• An account has been set up at Western Bank (account number 1017623) for Blantyn Gusman and Zachary Duncan, who were seriously injured in an accident.

• For information on Garrett Parrish's condition, or to post messages of support, visit his Facebook page (#GPSTRONG). Parrish was seriously injured in a sledding accident.

ODDS

Continued from Page 1

jackpot, paid out over 30 years or as an immediate \$428.4 million in cash. Those figures are before federal and state taxes, which will eat up roughly half of the cash-option prize.

THE ODDS

Ticket holders have a 1 in 292.2 million chance of winning. To put that in perspective, the odds of hitting the jackpot are about the same as your odds of flipping a quarter and getting heads 28 times in a row, said Jeffrey Miecznikowski, associate professor of biostatistics at the University at Buffalo.

"The probability is so small, dare say impossible," Miecznikowski said. "It's like trying to count electrons or drops of water in the ocean or grains of sand in the world. We just can't imagine these types of things."

WHEN WILL SOMEONE WIN?

No one has won

the Powerball jackpot since early November, which is why the prize has grown so large. The bigger prize entices more people to buy tickets, and that drives up the jackpot. The increased ticket sales also make it more likely there will be a winner, simply because all those extra tickets mean more number combinations are covered.

DOES MATH OFFER ANY HINTS TO IMPROVE THE ODDS?

Scott A. Norris, an assistant professor of mathematics at Southern Methodist University, said there's no trick to playing the lottery, but your tiny odds of winning are a bit better if you let the computer pick rather than choosing yourself. That's because when people use birthdates or other favorite figures, they generally choose numbers 31 or below. That ignores the fact that there are 69 numbered balls.

HOW MUCH DOES BUYING MULTIPLE

TICKETS HELP?

Your odds increase with additional tickets, but it's important to keep in mind how small they are to begin with. If you have a 1 in 292.2 million chance of winning with one ticket, you have 10 times the odds if you buy 10 tickets. Yet the probability is still incredibly small.

"The odds are so astronomically small that even 100 times that number is exceedingly unlikely to win," Norris said. "It's probably still not going to happen if you buy a hundred tickets or a thousand tickets or even a million tickets."

If you have extra cash and are thinking of buying all possible number combinations, that is allowed, but it wouldn't be very smart. At \$2 a ticket, the strategy would cost about \$584 million, and when taxes are subtracted, you'd end up losing money.

And if someone else had the winning numbers, you'd need to split the prize. You'd make back some of that mon-

ey by smaller prizes paid for matching three, four or five of the balls plus the Powerball, but chances are it still wouldn't be a good bet.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE WINNINGS

Despite the odds, someone will eventually win the prize. What then? Is it better to take the money as an annuity or in cash?

Olivia S. Mitchell, a professor of Insurance and risk management at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, said to avoid the risk of overspending or an investment mishap, a safe option would be to take the annuity,

guaranteeing a huge annual payout for three decades.

"We know the average American is quite financially illiterate," Mitchell said.

For those who want to invest the money themselves, Mitchell suggested setting aside part of the cash option to buy their own annuity that would give them a guaranteed income in case the return on the money they do invest comes up short.

"That way, you still might not beat what the state pays," she said. "But on the other hand, you've protected your basic consumption needs."

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Mike McGee, 52, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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274629	Alvin & The Chipmunks: The Road Chip (PG) Fri.: 2:35 5:10 7:45 Sat.: 12:00 2:35 5:10 7:45 Concussion (PG-13) Fri.: 10:20 Sat.: 10:20	Star Wars: The Force Awakens 3D (PG-13) Fri.: 3:45 10:15 Sat.: 3:45 10:15 Daddy's Home (PG-13) Fri.: 4:55 7:30 10:05 Sat.: 11:45 2:20 4:55 7:30 10:05
	Star Wars: The Force Awakens 2D (PG-13) Fri.: 7:00 Sat.: 12:30 7:00	The Revenant (R) Fri.: 3:45 7:15 10:45 Sat.: 12:15 3:45 7:15 10:45

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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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Washington, D.C. 20500

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Phone: 202-228-0462

• **JOHN CORNYN**
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Phone: 202-224-2934

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative
19th Cong. District
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: 432-264-0722

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The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

DAILY PRAYER

Dear Lord, may we realize that our little prayers can add up to big things.

Amen

How government aggravates airline delays

Governments often act in response to perceived crises, which is not to say they act in ways that are helpful. The point is to be seen as doing something. The danger of a crisis is that it blinds policymakers to the fact that their remedies can cause more harm than they cure.

In the summer of 2007, the supposed emergency unfolded on airport tarmacs, where a small but noticeable number of commercial jets were stuck for hours waiting to depart. The passengers were unable to get to their destinations, but they were also unable to get off the plane. A February ice storm that hit New York stranded some travelers for 10 hours as food ran out and toilets filled up.

Congress might have assumed that in a competitive market, airlines that subjected their customers to intolerable conditions would be forced to improve or go bankrupt -- as many carriers have done.

The airlines involved in these ordeals apologized and vowed to avoid any repetition. After travelers on one flight endured an eight-hour delay, an American Airlines official said, “This was an extraordinary circumstance. We have learned from it, and frankly we don’t expect it to ever happen again.”

Even in 2007, the worst year, these events were exceptionally rare. They soon got even scarcer. By 2009, the number of tarmac delays lasting three hours or more had declined by 64 percent.

But that improvement did not satisfy the Obama administration. In 2009, it decreed that if passengers on a plane are stuck on the tarmac for more than three hours, the carrier is liable

for a fine of \$27,500 per passenger -- which on a typical flight could exceed \$5 million.

“Airline passengers have rights,” proclaimed Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, “and these new rules will require airlines to live up to their obligation to treat their customers fairly.”

But for almost every government action, there is an unwanted outcome. Threatening ruinous penalties worked beautifully in keeping passengers from being held for lengthy periods on the runway. Three-hour tarmac delays have gone the way of hot meals in coach, dropping by 99.6 percent. But that doesn’t mean travelers are no longer being subjected to maddening snafus.

Scholars Vikrant Vaze of

The danger of a crisis is that it blinds policymakers to the fact that their remedies can cause more harm than they can cure.

Dartmouth and Chiwei Yan, Allison Vanderboll and Cynthia Barnhart of MIT found a less congenial effect: a sharp increase in flight cancellations. A carrier faced with the prospect of keeping a plane full of anxious passengers on board too long, incurring a heavy fine, often ends up scrubbing the flight.

In that case, passengers who might have waited four hours to take off may find themselves waiting even longer to catch another flight. They may be stuck at airports far from home, sitting or sleeping on the floor. They may miss connecting flights.

They may also incur expenses for food, lodging and other needs. Some of them won’t ever get where they planned to go, because the delay renders the trip pointless.

Overall, the study found, “each

passenger-minute of tarmac time saving is achieved at the cost of approximately three passenger-minutes in total passenger delays. This is due primarily to increases in flight cancellations.” The authors’ conclusion confirms the finding of a 2011 report from the federal Government Accountability Office.

This consequence was unintended but not unforeseeable. In fact, it was foreseen. In 2007, when the idea gained currency, a spokesman for the Air Transport Association of America warned: “You have to keep in mind, if there is legislation that imposes inflexible standards on a carrier’s operations, that easily could have the unintended effect of inconveniencing customers more in some situations. It’s not always the easy or the right choice to simply say, ‘After a period of time, you have to go back to the gate.’”

The prediction was dismissed as special interest whining. No one was inclined to listen to people whose livelihood depends on accommodating the demands of the flying public. The assumption that government policymakers know better is one that stubbornly endures in Washington, despite being refuted over and over.

The reason this attempt to force change on airlines and passengers didn’t work out well is the same reason so many government ventures founder. No one bothered to ask the crucial question for any new policy: “And then what?”

Steve Chapman blogs daily at newsblogs.chicagotribune.com/steve_chapman. To find out more about Steve Chapman, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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When private money pays for science

As a select few accumulate massive fortunes, two schools of thought vie on how to funnel some of that money toward the public good. One school says to hike taxes on billionaires and let our elected officials spend the revenues on worthy projects. That’s involuntary giving, and the giver doesn’t have much of a say about where it goes.

The other school backs the light taxation of great wealth and applauds when the superrich make large charitable donations. The giving is voluntary (spurred on by tax incentives), and the money goes exactly where the donor directs it.

The second school, encouraged by the conservative doctrine of cutting taxes and spending, is winning. It’s interesting, though, to examine where the private money ends up. Privatized funding for science has favored a few regions, and usually not the conservative ones. The big donor dollars have been congregating in progressive enclaves on the East and West coasts and in the Upper Midwest.

Three examples: —Theodore Stanley, fortune made in collectibles, gave \$650 million to the Broad Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to study genetics and mental illness.

—Paul Allen, a co-founder of Microsoft, gave \$100 million to set up the Allen Institute for Cell Science in Seattle.

—Google Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt and his wife, Wendy, created the Schmidt Ocean Institute in Palo Alto, California, writing checks totaling more

than \$100 million.

Under federal guidelines, government grants for scientific research must be spread around geographically. The recently passed 2016 spending bill does restore some of the science funding so ruthlessly cut over the past decade. But it’s unclear what difference that will make on a map that shows concen-

Chicago.

Big private money begets more big private money. When Charles Munger, Warren Buffett’s partner in Omaha, decided to make his \$65 million gift to science, he chose the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics at UC Santa Barbara.

The Broad Institute, to which Stanley made his huge gift, was created through \$700 million in donations by Eli and Edythe Broad, who grew rich off housing and insurance.

The federal government remains the biggest supplier of science research dollars, but years of cutting back has forced American universities to turn to private donors for funds. A study of National Science Foundation data shows that by 2012, Americans had to find money for over 19 percent of their research, way up from just under 9 percent in 1962.

The institutions in the best position to tap donors are those where the donors live and party. And frankly, a lot of donors want their names plastered on the sides of buildings that their friends will see — at powerhouse institutions.

Facebook zillionaire Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Dr. Priscilla Chan, have just put \$45 billion in a limited liability company that they say will concentrate on “advancing human potential and promoting equality for all children in the next generation.” They say they want to cure diseases.

Those goals may be widely shared across this big, diverse country of ours. But one can bet that the bulk of those billions won’t be spent in the congressional districts of the politicians who created the conditions that have privatized spending for the public good. The law of unintended consequences at work.

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1 John 4:18

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Count Your Blessings

Love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us.
1 John 4:18

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. I will satisfy them with a long life and give them my salvation."
Psalm 91: 14-16

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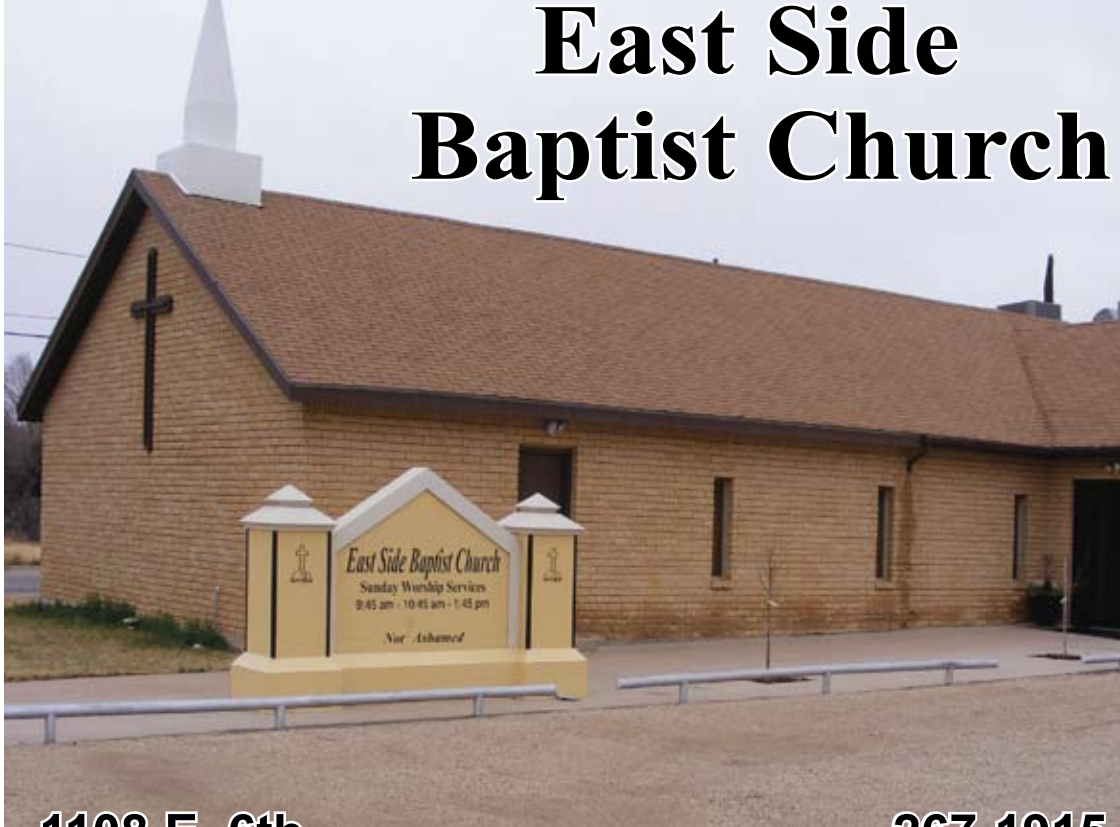
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Rejoice, you people of Jerusalem! Rejoice in the Lord your God! For the rains he sends are an expression of his grace. Once more the autumn rains will come, as well as the rains of spring.
(Joel 2:23)

God's love supply is never empty. "For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth."
(Psalm 103:11)

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Did you ever wonder: Water from the rock

Next the people complained because they lacked water. Did none of them think to pray to God Almighty who had so majestically delivered them from Egypt? Did they not think to ask Him to help them?

Rather, they complained to Moses that he should have done better. He should have provided water before they needed it. In essence they were asking, "Is God among us, or not?"

They raised such a commotion that Moses became very frustrated with them.

Ex 17:4 says, Moses cried out to Hashem, "What shall I do for this people? A bit more and they will stone me!"

God instructed Moses to take with

him the elders of the tribes and he was to strike "the" rock in Horeb.

There is much to be gleaned from this story. The Israelites were in Rephidim. It was necessary to take the elders to witness the water from the rock in Horeb. The elders were to assure that the water was not already there. They were to testify that the water came forth when Moses struck "the" rock.

In recent years, some Christian explorers braved Arab restrictions and explored the Sinai Peninsula and the mountains of southeast Arabia. They searched for landmarks and traces of the Israelite trek that is documented in the Bible.

One thing that they found was "the" rock in Horeb! It is a gigantic boulder standing atop a hill. It is not craggy, as part of a mountain. It is smooth and oval shaped... a minimum of 40 ft. high! It is split from top to bottom into two equal pieces.

The Bible doesn't specifically say

so, but it seems that when Moses struck the gigantic boulder with a wooden staff, it split in half.

From the bottom of the rock, there is a dry streambed running down the mountain. An extremely strong force of water gushed from the rock in order to gouge the deep streambed and move the boulders.

Standing beside "the" rock looking down the mountain, a large dry lakebed is still evident. Think about the number of people all wanting water at the same time... about 3 million. Consider the number of livestock that also wanted to drink at the same time. The dry lakebed is near where the Children of Israel were waiting, at Rephidim.

Moses named the place Massah U'Meribah which means Test and Contention. The people tested God and questioned if He was even with them.

God told Moses, "I shall stand before you by "the" rock in Horeb."

He told Moses this to answer the challenge of the people, assuring Moses that He was among them always. He is always watching. He always knows what is happening and what is in our hearts. All our provisions come from Him.

Do you see God around you, walking beside you when you are scared or in danger? Do you feel Him holding you up when your knees are like rubber? Do you sense Him with you in happy times? Do you thank Him for small things?

Maybe "the" Rock at Horeb was the beginning of why we call Jesus our "Rock of Ages!"

Eunice Filler, author of "Rachael: Porch Swings and Spearmint Tea," is a former school teacher with ties to the Big Spring community. She has returned to enjoy her retirement as a Big Spring resident. Questions? Fillereunice@yahoo.com.



EUNICE
FILLER

Church News

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

The Holy Trinity Youth group is hosting its 5th annual "Warming up our Community" service project this Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in our church school hall at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 1009 Hearn Street. Anyone in need can come and choose jackets and/or blankets that have been generously donated by our church community. This is free to the public.

Spring Creek Fellowship

Our Classical Worship Service begins this Sunday at 8:15 a.m. We are excited about this more traditional service in addition to our current Contemporary Worship Service.

Our "E-Giving App" is up and running. With this app you can make tithes/donations, leave messages, send prayer requests and follow prayer chains. We will also have a Bible reading plan.

A new session of our Chronic Pain Management group begin Tuesday, January 12 at 6 p.m. at the church.

If you are interested in attending the Marriage Conference at Gateway Church February 12-13, contact Lloyd or Chelsea Wells for more information.

Weekly Happenings:

Sunday-
9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - Sunday school/connection groups
10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - "Holy Grounds Café" is open with snacks and fellowship.
10:45 a.m. - Noon - Worship Service
Tuesday-
Noon - 2 p.m. - Prayer team
Noon - Narcotics anonymous
6 p.m. - Pain management group
Friday-
7 p.m. - 8 p.m. - Narcotics anonymous
Saturday-

7:30 a.m. - Weekly men's prayer breakfast and fellowship

10 a.m. - "Sowing Seeds of Hope" crafting fellowship

Sunday

4 p.m. - "Grief Share"

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, please contact the church office or visit our website.

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the Spring Town Plaza at 1801 E. FM 700. Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org.

First Presbyterian Church

- Big Spring

Christine Boling is in charge of Take Ten for this Sunday. Ushers for January are Paschal Odom, David Wilson, Lane Reynolds, and Susan Holstedt. Communion servers are Paula Farquhar, Louise Hitch, John Yater, Mark Morgan, and Tom Koger. Rip Patterson will serve as Lector for January.

The lectionary for the Baptism of the Lord Sunday is Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22. Rev. Craig Holstedt will deliver the sermon and officiate at Communion. The Chancel choir will offer Pachelbel's "Canon of Praise," arranged by Hal Hopson as the offertory anthem.

Please note that our worship service begins at 10:50 a.m. for announcements and parish concerns before our radio broadcast starts at 11.

The Lectionary Bible Study at 5:17 p.m. and the Chancel Choir at 6:30 p.m. will be held as usual on Wednesdays. The children's choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday.

The Session met at 9:30 a.m. last Sunday in a called meeting, and the Congregational Meeting, originally called for Dec. 27 was held after worship on Jan. 3. After the Congregational Meeting,

church members stayed to remove the Christmas decorations from the sanctuary. Special thanks go to Johansen's Nursery for the poinsettias used in decorating this year.

The Session Planning Retreat will be on Saturday at 2 p.m. (rather than at 10 a.m. as announced earlier).

The children begin a new study from January-February called "The Found Stories" from Luke 15:1-10. This unit focuses only on the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin. Workshops for the unit include Art, Audiovisual, Drama/Storytelling, and Games.

The Youth continue their studies of modern versions of particular scriptures presented in DVDs.

The Adult Covenant Class, led by John Ferguson, embark on the second unit of a study of Sacred Gifts and Holy Gatherings. This unit, "Four Weddings and a Funeral," includes "The Most Beautiful Bride" (from Song of Solomon) this Sunday, "An Unfaithful Bride" (from Hosea) on Jan. 17, "A Wedding in Cana" (from John 2:1-12) on Jan. 24, and "The Death of a Friend" (from John 22:38-44) on Jan. 31.

The Adult Discovery Class continues the study of a series by Adam Hamilton on the life and ministry of Paul, entitled The Call. Titles for the lessons include "Called to Follow Christ," "Called to Go," "Called to Suffer," "Called to Love," "Called to Give," "Called to be Faithful."

If you cannot attend worship, you may listen in on KBST 1490 AM., beginning at 11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, please call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: www.fpchs.org. On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by Rev. Craig Holstedt. We would be pleased for you to Like us on Facebook.

Birdwell Lane Church of Christ

Make God the focus of your life in 2016.

Sunday:

Bible study - 9 a.m.

Worship - 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Wednesday:

Ladies Class - 9:30 a.m.

Bible study and devotional - 7 p.m.

Birdwell Lane Church of Christ is located at the southwest corner of 11th Place and Birdwell Lane

First Christian Church

We begin our Sundays with Fellowship serving Coffee and Donuts at 9:15 a.m. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and Worship begins at 10:50 a.m.

Our Guest Minister, Joel Miller will be preaching a sermon entitled: "I Chose You" based on Colossians 3: 12 - 17.

In addition, our choir led by our Director Tara Trowbridge and accompanied by Lawrence Thibeault will help to enhance our worship with beautiful renditions of hymns such as Marching to Zion, Jesus Loves Me and Lord, Take My Hand.

Serving our church this Sunday will be Shirley Burgess as our Liturgist, Joyce Davis and Erma Dunne are our Elders and Ken and Mary Beth Johnson will serve as Deacons.

As always we look forward to seeing new faces join us in worship. We are always looking for new friends.

We share communion every Sunday and believe in an open table so all are welcome to partake.

Isaiah 58 is located at 809 Scurry St. which helps with food distribution on Monday and Tuesday evenings between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

If you have questions concerning our worship services, Isaiah 58 or if you just need someone to pray with you please call our office between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, 432-517-4821.

First Christian Church is located at 911 Goliad, Big Spring.



Courtesy Photo

This is Santa making a special visit to our Angel Tree Ministry Party. He also made appearances for our annual parties for Special Needs Children and MHMR Children and Adults. Submitted by Spring Creek Fellowship.

See CHURCH NEWS page 7

Why don't we all believe the same things?

The Apostle John, in his second letter, addresses this question. First of all, we must understand that our faith (our beliefs) must be based upon truth (2 John 1-2). Jesus, in His prayer to the Father, prayed that His followers and all those who would believe on His name would be set apart because of truth. In John 17:16-17, Jesus says, *They are not of the world, just as I am not of the*



GREG SURLES

world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth (ESV).

God's word, the Bible, must be our standard of truth. Back in 2 John, the Apostle rejoices for those who are walking in the truth (verse 4). That should be our goal as well – to walk in the truth. But the Apostle also warns that not everyone will walk in the truth. 2 John 7, *For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist (ESV).*

So those who deny that Jesus actually came in the flesh are not walking in the truth. But what about everyone who claims to believe in Jesus and that He is the Son of God? Why

don't we all believe the same things? The broader world of Christianity seems to accept the fact that we all do not believe the same things. Is that what Jesus prayed for? Was that the desire of the Apostles and inspired writers? Read 1 Corinthians 1:10-13 and Ephesians 4:1-6.

John gets to the heart of the problem. People have moved away from the standard of truth and have formulated their own standards and teachings. 2 John 9-11, *Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him*

into your house or give him any greeting, for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works (ESV).

The goal of each and every one of us should be to have a relationship with the Father and Jesus the Christ. We can only have such a relationship if we abide (remain) in the teachings of God's word. Put your trust (faith) in the Lord and not in anyone or anything else! May we all be united in the teachings of Christ and the New Testament so that we can draw others into a relationship with him through obedience to the gospel.

Greg Surles is the preacher at the Birdwell Lane Church of Christ.

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from page 6

First Baptist Church – Big Spring

Come worship with us Sunday morning at 10:50 a.m. as we rejoice in the truth that The Savior of the World, Jesus Christ, lives.

Pastor Mark Lindsey continues the sermon series "New Year's Revolution". Drawn from 1 Corinthians 15, we will explore the eternal impact of Christ's resurrection as we unwrap the gift of a new year. The worship choir will offer "Immortal, Invisible, (God Only Wise)". If you are unable to attend, you may view the service through the live stream on our web site at: fcbigspring.org.

At 9:30 a.m., Sunday school groups gather throughout the building with children coming together in the Good News Garage on the first floor, and youth, college students, and adults meeting in second floor classrooms. Greeters are happy to assist you in finding your class and direct you to coffee. Come share in this time of fellowship and Bible study.

Evening worship service starts at 6 p.m., and offers a great opportunity to prepare our hearts for the upcoming week.

Upward Basketball season is here and games begin Saturday. Come support the players and coaches as God is glorified by this fun activity. Call the church at 267-8223 for schedule information, or to find out how to register your child for next year's season.

All area teens are invited to participate in DNOW(Discipleship Now) Jan. 29-31. The cost to attend this weekend retreat is \$25 and details are available by contacting Youth Pastor Jonathan Raffini at: 432-270-8332. DNOW is a focused time of spiritual growth and application for youth, provided in a loving and supportive environment. Sign your teen up today for this wonderful opportunity. Scholarships are available through the church; call 267-8223 for information.

The Mission Center/Food Pantry will be open Thursday from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. It is located on Lancaster, one block behind HEB.

Our Mother's Day Out program is open each Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Contact Tracy Boeker at 432-267-8223 for information about openings for your little ones.

Wednesday evening begins with a meal served in the Family Life Center from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. followed by activities for all age groups. Go to fcbigspring.org for details. Join us Wednesday for Chicken & Rice casserole.

FBC is located at 705 W FM 700. You are always welcome at First Baptist Church.

We look forward to seeing you Sunday.

tion about Blessed Hands Deaf Church, including Wednesday evening schedule, contact Pastor Jim at: jwalterhouse@gmail.com.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS Baptism of Our Lord is "Celebrating and Sharing God's Love and Grace in our lives".

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood Neighborhood in Big Spring. To connect with us call 432-64-7818, or e-mail us at aliveinchristtx@gmail.com.

Sunday Service begins at 9 a.m. with Bible study and Sunday school at 10:15 a.m. If you are new to the area or haven't been to church before or in a while, please accept this as an invitation to join us this Sunday.

George von Hassell will present the scripture readings this week.

Our Wednesday night bible study is on hold until mid January.

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 a.m. and 6:50 a.m. each morning for these devotions: "Morning Meditation Thoughts".

First United Methodist

First United Methodist Church is located just off Gregg Street at the corner of 4th and Scurry downtown.

The 9 a.m. Traditions service on Sunday morning features our pipe organ, the Celebration Choir led by Gershom Garcia and the classic hymns of the faith.

The Bridge at 11 a.m. is led by our worship band and includes contemporary, upbeat music. Worship at The Bridge is led by Gershom Garcia, Adrian Calvio, and many others. The Bridge is broadcast live each Sunday on radio station KXCS-105.5 FM.

This Sunday, Pastor Bill Ivins will launch a new sermon series entitled "Restart Your Life!" Do you ever wish you could reboot your life like a computer? Fresh starts don't begin with a change of circumstances – a new job, a new location, or even a new relationship. They begin with a change of heart. It's a new year, and at First United Methodist Church, we invite you to join us to learn about the God whose specialty is new beginnings.

To go along with the new series, First Methodist is also launching several new groups to help people restart their lives in 2016. Those new groups include Divorce Care, Financial Peace University, and First Place 4 Health. We'll also be celebrating strong marriages with our Sweetheart Banquet on Sunday Feb. 14. For more information, please visit our website at fumcbs.com or call our church office at 267-6304.

Pastor Ivins will launch a new study in the Gospel of Mark at the Wednesday noon Bible study this coming week. Next Wednesday, participants will study chapter 3 where the Apostle Paul deals with the spiritual state of the Corinthian Church. Meal service begins at 11:50 a.m. in Garrett Hall. There is a small fee for the meal. All are welcome.

For more information on any activity, please visit our website at www.fumcbs.com or call the church office at 267-6394.

Forsan Baptist Church

This Sunday morning our message comes from Mark 6:7-9 and is called, "The Road Ahead."

Our Sunday evening study on "Heaven: Now and Then" concludes this week with the final chapter of Revelation. Our topic of discussion will be, "The Final Plea."

Sunday school begins at 9:50 a.m., with worship services at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Regular youth and children's activities have resumed on Wednesday afternoons. Youth and children's meal will be served at 5:30 p.m., and age-appropriate classes will begin at 6 p.m. We will be offering CHAOS for youth, GA's for girls, RA's for boys, and Heroes in Training for kids age 3-5. We also have a Bible study geared toward adults.

Wednesday services begin at 6:00 P.M. Rides for all youth activities are available if arranged ahead of time.

Our church is located at 201 Main St. in Forsan. Call the church at 432-457-2342 or Pastor Darren Weaver at 432-213-2348.

See CHURCH NEWS page 8



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Spring Creek Fellowship is excited to announce the addition of an 8:15 a.m. service to our Sunday morning worship schedule! "Classic" is the name we use because the songs we will be singing are the familiar hymns that so many have grown up singing.

We invite you to join us for a morning of uplifting music and timely messages from God's word.

Spring Creek Fellowship is located in the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700.

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Reflections: Heart Healthy

This week we start our New Year's resolutions, and many of us are focused on a "healthy heart." It apparently is making a difference. According to the American Heart Association, "The epidemic increase in heart disease mortality ended in the 1960s or 1970s." Deaths from heart disease have fallen dramatically over the last 50 years. Heart-healthy alternatives are produced in almost every food category. Restaurants include heart-healthy menus. Smoking has been banned in most public places. Physicians and non-profits promote diet-and-exercise.



BILL TINSLEY

Church News

Continued from page 7

First Church of the Nazarene

We are starting a new series this week called "Church & Culture." Sunday, Pastor Cal will be talking about using culture to help us understand our need for God using Acts 17.16-34. Check out all of our small groups by visiting our website at nazfamily.org. We have a lot of exciting groups for you to choose from throughout the week. Sunday morning youth, adult and children's classes begin at 9 a.m. throughout the campus. Sunday service begins at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Children's church is at 10 a.m. Sunday in the Fellowship Hall. Wednesday nights we have weekly prayer start-

groundbreaking book that opened the eyes of millions to the benefits of aerobic exercise and healthy diet for a healthy heart. When I visited Brazil I was fascinated to find hundreds of Brazilians walking and jogging every morning to get in their "Cooper." The doctor's name had found its way into Portuguese as a synonym for heart-healthy aerobic exercise. When I followed Cooper's regimen, I experienced the benefits: lost weight, increased strength and stamina. Unfortunately, I have not always followed those disciplines, and it shows. Developing a healthy heart requires more than knowledge. As important as it is to maintain a healthy heart physically, it is even more important for us to develop a healthy heart spiritually. The Bible clearly sets forth the disciplines and characteristics of a healthy spiritual heart. They include gratitude, hope,

forgiveness and love. If we discipline ourselves to be grateful every day for what God has done, if we hope when things look hopeless, if we forgive those who injure us, if we love our enemies instead of just loving those who love us, we will have a healthy heart. But, like our physical heart, having a spiritually healthy heart requires more than knowledge. We may know that we need to be grateful, hopeful, forgiving and loving. But how do you create heartfelt gratitude, hope, forgiveness and love? In the spiritual realm, this requires a spiritual heart transplant. God has to create a new heart within us, something that He is more than willing to do. We are all born with spiritual heart disease. Jeremiah says, "The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?" (Jer. 17:9). But later he writes, "I will give them a heart to

know Me, for I am the Lord; and they will be My people, and I will be their God." (Jer. 24:7). And in Ezekiel He says, "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh." (Ez. 36:26). God sent His son Jesus so that He might create in us a healthy heart that is full of gratitude, hope, forgiveness and love. He changes the heart that has grown callous, bitter and resentful into one that overflows in gratitude. Someday our physical heart will beat its last beat and our bodies will die. But the spiritually healthy heart that God creates will live forever.

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. Visit www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com.

ing at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary while children and youth classes are in other classrooms. You can listen each Sunday to KBST 95.7 at 10 a.m. for a live broadcast of our service. Contact the church office at 432-267-7015 if you have any questions, or visit us in the glass class following Sunday Service to sit and visit.

Cornerstone Covenant Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church would like to invite you to join us Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for a time of fellowship, praise and worship. In January, we ask that each day for the first 21 days you take a portion of your day for a time of fasting and prayer. Wednesday at 7 p.m. is the mid-week worship service in the main sanctuary as we worship, enjoy fellowship, spend time in the word and in prayer. Monday, Jan. 18 at 6 p.m., The Soul Sisters wom-

an's small group will be starting "The Armor of God", a series by Pricilla Shirer. The group meets at 1709 Yale Ave, Kathryn Lane's home. All ages are welcome. For more information contact Kathryn Lane at 512-577-0132. Sunday, Jan. 31 at 10:30 a.m. the CCC will have Bountiful Blessings Sunday. Join us Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for worship. CCC is located at 706 E. 12th Street. For office hours or other question about the ministry contact the administrative office at 432-264-0015. Find us at facebook.com/cccbigspring or visit www.cccbigspring.org if you would like more information.

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Wednesday Service.....7:00 p.m.

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Howard sweeps past Western Texas College

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

SNYDER — Howard College's basketball teams took different paths to victory against Western Texas College here Thursday night.

For the Howard women, it was a case of grabbing an early lead, then hanging on for a 44-40 victory. In the men's case, the Hawks dialed up their long-range shooting to overcome a first-half deficit en route to a 78-68 win.

Lady Hawks 44

Western Texas 40

In the women's game, Howard grabbed an early four-point lead after the first quarter, but had to fight and scratch the rest of the way.

WTC stayed within striking distance all the way and even took a 35-34 lead heading into the final quarter. But the Lady Hawks' clamped down on defense, limiting WTC to 5 points in the fourth to take the win.

See HC, Page 14



Tony Claxton photos (www.claxtonphotography.com)

In the above photo, Howard College's Shazay Norris attempts a shot during the Lady Hawks' game with Western Texas College Thursday. At right, Howard's Michael Dawn goes for a layup during the men's game.



Texans pin hopes on Watt, defense

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — J.J. Watt has had plenty of great games for the Texans.

And as Houston looks to end Kansas City's 10-game winning streak in the wild-card round of the playoffs, it can take comfort in this: Some of the star defensive end's best games have come in the postseason.

In his playoff games, Watt has five sacks, 17 tackles, three batted passes and an interception return for a touchdown.

His most notable playoff performance came as a rookie in the 2011 season in Houston's first postseason game against Cincinnati. The game was tied 10-10 when Watt swatted down a pass, grabbed his first career interception and returned it for a touchdown to give Houston the lead in a 31-10 win.

Watt was also good in Houston's only other playoff win which was also against Cincinnati in the wild-card round a year later. He had five tackles, a sack and swatted down two passes in the 19-10 victory.

"The playoffs are the goal, obviously," he said. "It's the goal

to get to the playoffs and then to take it from there. So all you can do is take it one game at a time. You need to play your best football in the playoffs. So it's a great opportunity for us to go out there in front of our home crowd, fly around, have some fun and enjoy ourselves."

Coach Bill O'Brien knows it helps to have players such as Watt and many members of his staff with playoff experience as they prepare for Saturday's game.

"I think it's good because you can just talk to them about our experiences and things that went wrong and things that went right and how we've all learned from it and try to give them our thoughts on those things," O'Brien said.

Watt believes it's important to try and treat this game like any other.

"There is some added emotion, added energy, added excitement and you need to harbor that and use it the right way and channel it to use it for positive and don't let it overwhelm you," he said. "Having been here and played in four playoff games now since I've been here, I think I've got a handle on how to do that."

Watt, who won his second Defensive Player of the Year award last season, had another big season. He led the NFL with 17½ sacks to join Reggie White as the only players in NFL history to have three 15-sack seasons in their first five years in the league. He also had 76 tackles, 29 tackles for losses, 50 quarterback hits, batted down eight passes, forced three fumbles and recovered one.

Watt broke his left hand on Dec. 9 and played the next three games with a club-like cast that slowed him down a bit. He played without the cast for the first time on Sunday and looked like his old self, finishing with three sacks, recovering a fumble and forcing another one.

He shared his plans for what he'll do with his injured hand on Saturday.

"I'll be wearing the same thing I was wearing last week," he said. "Just a little thing to make sure that it's protected because it's still not fully healed. But it's very nice to have it back, and I'm looking forward to playing another week with it back in use."

See TEXANS, Page 14

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Boys basketball

Big Spring at Fort Stockton, 8 p.m.
Borden County at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.
Eldorado at Forsan, 8 p.m.
Robert Lee at Garden City, 8 p.m.

Girls basketball

Lamesa at Big Spring, 8 p.m.
Coahoma at Reagan County, 6:30 p.m.
Eldorado at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.
Robert Lee at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.

Swimming

Big Spring at Andrews Invitational

SATURDAY

Men's basketball

Midland College at Howard College, 5:45 p.m.

Women's basketball

Midland College at Howard College, 4 p.m.

Swimming

Big Spring at Andrews Invitational

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 235, or e-mail reporter@bigspringherald.com

Harden, Rockets once again get best of Utah, 103-94

By JORDAN GODWIN

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Utah coach Quin Snyder loves watching James Harden play.

Just not when Harden is facing the Jazz.

Harden led the Houston Rockets over the Jazz for the second time in four nights, this time scoring 33 points in a 103-94 victory on Thursday.

"He's a terrific player," Snyder said. "I don't know what more we could have done."

Including his 30 points in Monday's 93-91 win in Salt Lake City, Harden has scored at least 30 in three of his last four games.

"My teammates put me in a good position to be successful, put-

ting me in spots where I could get a shot or make a pass," Harden said. "I couldn't make a 3 tonight, but just getting to the basket and my pull-up game was there."

Harden missed all seven 3-point attempts but made up for it by hitting 13 of 18 field goals inside the arc and making 7 of 10 free throws.

Playing without Dwight Howard, who sat out with lower back tightness, the Rockets beat the Jazz for the 10th time in the last 12 meetings.

Gordon Hayward scored 15 points for Utah. Center Rudy Gobert played for the first time since spraining a left knee ligament on Nov. 30. He was limited to just 15 minutes but

chipped in six points and three rebounds.

"This game was to see how I was feeling, and I felt great. I wasn't tired at all," Gobert said. "I've been working hard for a month, and my knee wasn't really bad."

In the second half, Jazz guard Rodney Hood limped off the court with an apparent right ankle injury. The severity of his injury was unknown after the game.

"I'm not sure we can do any more than we're doing," Snyder said. "I knew it would be hard and even harder when we lose Rodney."

Howard was ruled out shortly before the game after playing a season-high 41 minutes on Monday. Despite his absence,

the Rockets had a 48-42 advantage in points in the paint.

Clint Capela started at center and had seven points, 10 rebounds and three steals.

Houston outscored Utah 17-2 in fast-break points.

"This team, Utah, they want to slow it down, they want to grind it out," Rockets coach J.B. Bickerstaff said. "It's just a matter of whose system is going to be more effective that night and who's going to impose their will."

Houston entered the fourth quarter with a 10-point lead and held on with timely 3-pointers from Jason Terry and Trevor Ariza. Terry and Marcus Thornton both had 12 points off

the bench.

After having one of the league's worst defenses in the first month of the season, the Rockets have held opponents to less than 100 points in five of their last seven home games, going 5-2 in that stretch.

Utah has lost three straight after winning three of the previous four.

"It's definitely depleting, and it's going to be tough on us mentally besides the obvious physical part," Hayward said of the latest starter to go down with injury. "It's been a tough period for us."

TIP-INS

Jazz: Utah fell to 10-6 in games where it held a halftime lead. ... Derrick Favors (back

spasms) missed his eighth straight game, while Alec Burks (fractured left fibula) missed his seventh straight.

Rockets: Houston was without guard Ty Lawson, who was suspended three games for driving under the influence of alcohol last July, the league announced Thursday.

Houston improved to 5-0 without him. ... After committing 16 turnovers in his previous three games, Harden had just four on Thursday.

GET OFF THE BIKE! Gobert waited for more than five weeks to return to action after a left knee ligament sprain, but when his name was called on Thursday night, he wasn't ready

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South Plains Rural Health Services is seeking a full-time Outreach Worker for the Lamesa/Big Spring Offices. The Outreach Worker assists in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the outreach program for the community health center, under the direction of the Outreach Coordinator. The Outreach Worker assists in developing Community awareness of services provided by participating in community coalitions and by performing presentations. The Outreach Worker assists in providing opportunities for economic growth by initializing and maintaining contacts with groups of potential patients. Must have a high school diploma and at least two to five years of experience in a community health center setting. Outreach or Case Manager experience preferred. Bilingual a plus Interested Applicants please mail resume/application to Anne Martin, South Plains Rural Health Services, Inc. 1000 FM 300, Levelland, Tx. 79336 or email to amartin@sprhs.org or complete application online at www.sprhs.org

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

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

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Bidding Quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has gone:
West North East South
1 ♣ 1 ♠ Pass ?
What would you bid with each of the following five hands?
1. ♠ Q863 ♥ AK954 ♦ KJ6 ♣ 9
2. ♠ J92 ♦ A17 ♦ KJ983 ♣ 84
3. ♠ 75 ♥ J6 ♦ AKQJ72 ♣ AJ3
4. ♠ KQ94 ♥ AJ983 ♦ Q5 ♣ 92
5. ♠ Q6 ♥ Q972 ♦ KJ83 ♣ AQ5

1. **Four spades.** Partner's spade bid is an overcall, not an opening bid, and more often than not he will have less than opening-bid values. Generally speaking, an overcall is based more on playing tricks than high-card values. But even though partner might have as little as nine high-card points (and as many as 16) for his one-spade bid, the fact remains that he is unlikely to lose four tricks opposite this hand. A jump-raise to game is therefore clearly indicated — particularly since a jump to three spades (or even three hearts) would be merely invitational and not forcing.
2. **Two spades.** Partner might be able to make 10 tricks if he is at the top of his bid, so you must give him some encouragement. If partner passes, then the raise might turn out to have pre-emptive value. It would be incorrect to bid two diamonds,

since bidding a new suit in response to an overcall tends to deny support for partner's suit, and, because it is not forcing, you could wind up in the wrong contract.

3. **Three notrump.** No guarantees go with this bid, as there is an obvious danger in hearts, but three notrump is nevertheless a favorite to make. You don't need a 100 percent shot for game to bid it. A nonforcing bid such as two or three diamonds would be a mistake when you are so close to making game.

4. **Three spades.** Whether you can make game depends on the strength of partner's overcall. Since there is no way to judge this without consulting partner, you should invite him to go on to game instead of bidding it all by yourself.

5. **Two notrump.** Here also you must rely on partner to judge the chance for game, since he is looking at his hand and knows whether his overcall was based on minimum, medium or maximum values.

The jump to two notrump indicates roughly 12 to 14 points and merely invites game. It shows balanced distribution and all-around strength, with special emphasis on the opponents' suit. It is a picture bid that pinpoints both high-card values and distribution and places the decision on where and how far to go right where it belongs — in partner's lap.

Tomorrow: Viennese gambit.
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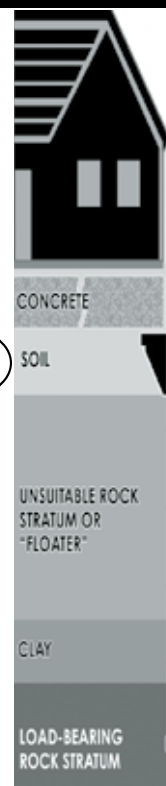
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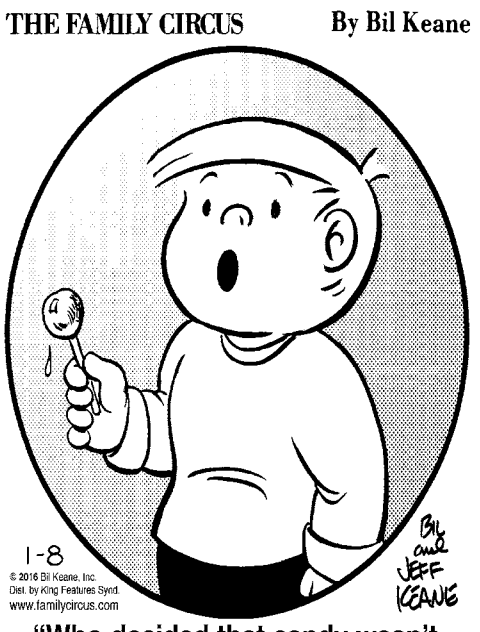
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5 :PM	News	Hotel	Big Bang	News	Tele	News	Zola Lev.	Euromaxx	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	Around	Und.	Law & Order:	Criminal	Gold Rush
6 :PM	ABC	Notic.	Cleveland	CBS	Noticiero	News	Chevalme	Business	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	Pardon	Rangers	SVU	Minds	Gold Rush
7 :PM	Jeopardy!	Muchacha	Mod Fam	News	Caso Car-	News	M:25	PBS News-	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Bones	NBA	College	Mavericks	Mod Fam	Criminal	Gold Rush
8 :PM	Wheel	Antes Muerta	MasterChef	ET	News	All About	Wash	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA	Basketball:	Valparaiso at	Mavs Live	Mod Fam	Criminal	Gold Rush:
9 :PM	Last Man	Dr. Ken	MasterChef	ET	News	All About	Wash	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA	Basketball:	Valparaiso at	Mavs Live	Mod Fam	Criminal	Gold Rush:
10 :PM	Shark Tank	Dr. Ken	MasterChef	ET	News	All About	Wash	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA	Basketball:	Valparaiso at	Mavs Live	Mod Fam	Criminal	Gold Rush:
11 :PM	Shark Tank	Dr. Ken	MasterChef	ET	News	All About	Wash	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA	Basketball:	Valparaiso at	Mavs Live	Mod Fam	Criminal	Gold Rush:
12 :PM	Shark Tank	Dr. Ken	MasterChef	ET	News	All About	Wash	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA	Basketball:	Valparaiso at	Mavs Live	Mod Fam	Criminal	Gold Rush:
1 :PM	Shark Tank	Dr. Ken	MasterChef	ET	News	All About	Wash	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA	Basketball:	Valparaiso at	Mavs Live	Mod Fam	Criminal	Gold Rush:

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This Date In History

Today is Friday, Jan. 8, the eighth day of 2016. There are 358 days left in the year.

In 1815, the last major engagement of the War of 1812 came to an end as U.S. forces defeated the British in the Battle of New Orleans, not having gotten word of the signing of a peace treaty.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson, in his State of the Union address, declared an "unconditional war on poverty in America."

Today's Highlights in History:

On Jan. 8, 1918, President Woodrow Wilson outlined his Fourteen Points for lasting peace after World War I. Mississippi became the first state to ratify the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which established Prohibition.

In 1863, America's First Transcontinental Railroad had its beginnings as California Gov. Leland Stanford broke ground for the Central Pacific Railroad in Sacramento. (The transcontinental railroad was completed in Promontory, Utah, in May 1869.)

In 1975, Judge John J. Sirica ordered the early release from prison of Watergate figures John W. Dean III, Herbert W. Kalmbach and Jeb Stuart Magruder. Democrat Ella Grasso was sworn in as Connecticut's first female governor. Opera singer Richard Tucker, 61, died in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

On this date:

In 1642, astronomer Galileo Galilei died in Arcetri, Italy.

In 1935, rock-and-roll legend Elvis Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi.

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In 1790, President George Washington delivered his first State of the Union address to Congress in New York.

In 1959, Charles de Gaulle was inaugurated as president of France's Fifth Republic.

Answer to previous puzzle

PROS	MAZDA	MEL
JOLT	ALARM	EMIR
STEAM	LOCOMOTIVE	STOLE
TATUM	TINE	TOT
MARE	TWIT	RENE
CHAT	ROOM	SEEDED
TEA	KETTLE	
DEPEND	SMALL	FRY
EXES	SUIT	TAKE
CPR	BEEP	ROBOT
ALGEBRA	BLARE	FOOTBALL
SILO	SEE	IN EGAD
TAN	EDGED	LETS

1/8/16

Newsday Crossword

ONE OF A KIND by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Clobber
 - 5 Slightly, to Schubert
 - 9 Bring about
 - 14 Others: Lat.
 - 15 "Discover Your Possibilities" sloganer
 - 16 Adjustable loop
 - 17 Crunchy lunches
 - 18 Schmoose
 - 19 Lens speed setting
 - 20 Start of an observation
 - 23 Mown tract
 - 24 Engulf
 - 28 Number on an ATM receipt
 - 29 Keep occupied
 - 32 Opposite of "Fold"
 - 33 Polo alternative
 - 34 King in Samuel
 - 35 Sent regrets, perhaps
 - 37 Part 2 of observation
 - 38 Part 3 of observation
 - 39 Don't back down
 - 42 Geo Metro successor
 - 43 Traditional Super Bowl debuts
 - 46 Be windy?
 - 47 On the line
 - 49 Wite-Out maker
 - 50 National symbol
 - 52 March marchers
 - 54 End of observation
 - 57 Land near Cuba
 - 60 Sushi bar offering
 - 61 Consider
 - 62 Euro user since 2008

- DOWN**
- 1 Did a traditional Granny task
 - 2 Chivalrous offering
 - 3 Install
 - 4 Starts a fight with
 - 5 Exhibit anxiety
 - 6 Polynesian Cultural Center site
 - 7 Optic nerve descriptor
 - 8 Showing a preference
 - 9 Facetiously
 - 10 Rapid decline
 - 11 Simple sleeper
 - 12 Military morale booster
 - 13 Salesperson
 - 21 First cloned primate
 - 22 Expresses doubt about
 - 25 Energize, with "up"
 - 26 Word after black or bow
 - 27 Furthestmost point
 - 30 '70s tennis star
 - 31 Breadbasket
 - 36 Chicago suburb
 - 37 Teller's magic partner
 - 38 Numeral for the 2022 Super Bowl
 - 39 Grey's Anatomy locale
 - 40 René's refusal
 - 41 Bracketed notation
 - 42 Insect named for its "raids"
 - 43 Eisenhower Library city
 - 44 Analyze minutely
 - 45 Conspiracies
 - 48 Group of foot bones
 - 51 Spa frequented by Proust
 - 53 Second chances
 - 55 Steinbeck migrant
 - 56 First upcoming
 - 57 Royal Navy designation
 - 58 Sound of a sigh
 - 59 Ending for project

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HC

Continued from Page 9

Shazay Norris and Audrey Suterfield each scored 9 points to pace the Lady Hawks, who return to action Saturday at home against Midland College. Game time is 4 p.m.

**Hawks 78
Western Texas 68**

In the men's game, Howard College found itself with a dilemma after the first half: The Hawks were trailing by 10 points and were unable to get much interior offense going.

That's when Howard dailed up the long-range artillery — the Hawks connected on 10 of 15 three-pointers in the second half (they were 14 of 27 from beyond the arc for the game) to earn the win over WTC.

Reggie Oliver, who led Howard with 24 points, had five 3-pointers. Srdjan Budimir added 15 points, including three 3-pointers. Jukub Niziol made four 3-pointers and scored 13 points. Winston Morgan had two 3-pointers.

The Hawks return to action Saturday at home against Midland College. Tip-off is set for 5:45 p.m.

Stars bet Jets to end losing streak

DALLAS (AP) — Tyler Seguin and the Dallas Stars didn't plan to get picky while trying to snap out of their first funk this season.

Seguin and Patrick Sharp scored back-to-back goals to start the shootout and the Stars ended a sea-

son-high three-game losing streak with a 2-1 win over the Jets on Thursday night.

"It wasn't our best game, but the guys found a way to win," said Seguin, who stopped a three-game pointless streak, his longest of the season, with a

first-period goal. "We're going to be happy with that."

Kari Lehtonen stopped 27 of 28 shots in regulation and all five in overtime. Leading 2-1 in the shootout, he turned away Bryan Little to clinch his seventh win in nine

games against the franchise that drafted him second overall in Atlanta in 2002.

Connor Hellebuyck had 23 saves in Winnipeg's first game since he tied a rookie franchise record with 43 stops against Nashville.

TEXANS

Continued from Page 9

Watt, who has made several attempts at dancing after making big plays in the past, tried out his dance moves again last week.

After his second sack of Blake Bortles he did basically every dance that's been hot in the past year,

starting with the "whip" before moving onto the "nae, nae," the "dab" and "running off on the plug twice."

While the Texans were happy to see Watt have a big game, the man who has the unenviable task of teaching the 6-foot-5, 289-pound Wisconsin native dance moves was not impressed with his effort in that realm.

"J.J. doesn't have good

coordination as you can see," Houston cornerback and Watt's dance coach A.J. Bouye said.

"He can play football, but he can't dance. So we try to work on him. We're going to put in some more time this week after practice just to teach him a few things. I'm going to send him some YouTube videos so hopefully that should help."

Even Watt knows he

isn't the most graceful dancer and called his moves "terrible". But the home crowd seems to enjoy the effort.

"We're just trying to get him a little rhythm, that's pretty much it," Bouye said. "He gets the crowd going (but) I don't think they're really screaming — I think they're more laughing at him if anything. But we're going to work on it."

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Venus and Saturn Conjunction

What's your dream scenario? Once you know that, the right people start showing up to make it happen as Venus and Saturn align in Sagittarius. Note that there's a bit of déjà vu today, too, as Mercury backs into the realm of Capricorn. It feels "so last week" but, as it turns out, it's actually a reversal of last week's plot.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your style will set you apart, even though you are probably so immersed in it that you don't even realize what "your style" is. Relax and know you're effective without trying.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll get your "aha!" moment, but not today. Keep doing what you're doing. This is about the grunt work that, unfortunately, must be handled before the glorious ideas can drop in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's quite a lot of information and

misinformation zinging around today and, because of this, you're better not to weigh in with too heavy an opinion. Listen and accept what you hear -- no judging.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You feel like reeling it back some. You're not being shy, just more in control and in touch with your inner nature. The natural outcropping of that is that you will consume and express less.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). From time to time we all slip back into the mentality of a three-year-old fighting over a toy. These primal instincts are legitimate. Feel the childish feelings, and then invite your inner adult to keep the behavior in check.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The time to change the topic is when everyone in the circle who wants to speak on it has had a turn. Your mindfulness of this basic common courtesy will bring you stellar luck.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're pretty good at finding the value in another person but sometimes you keep it to yourself.

Today, they need to hear your discovery echoed back and maybe even broadcasted to a wider circle.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The one who touches your heart may be unaware of your feelings, but those quiet and constant actions you take will eventually become something that can't be overlooked.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you know what to expect at every step of the way, you're no longer on a ride: You're in a rut. Get out of that line and go walk around the park to choose a new adventure.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're the king of cool. Your creed: Once you lose your temper, you've lost, period. However, sometimes losing is just in the cards, so don't be too hard on yourself when the heat rises.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). An introverted group won't give you immediate feedback, but if you give them time and ask directly for a response, you'll get a good one. Stick with the expressive types; they'll provide fast help.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When

you can't think of the answer, that's ok. Thinking isn't always going to come first. Put your feelers into the ether. Reach for something else and your mind will softly follow.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 8). The spiritual growth spurt starts now. Maybe it won't be so comfortable, but you'll love the transformation. At work you'll sharpen your skills and start to think bigger. You may change your answer to some moral, ethical and social questions based on the new experiences and influences of the year. Sagittarius and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 26, 15, 20, 38 and 41.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:

ARIES: Buckle up; the emotions will be big. In love and Space Mountain, a secure, seated position is safest.

TAURUS: It's funny. Once you accept the other person's flaw it starts improving immediately. Probably the same will happen with your own.

GEMINI: Send your love and attention to your home environment so it reflects more

clearly the life and relationships you want.

CANCER: You're not the only one who is feeling it, but you won't find that out until you speak up.

LEO: You're holding out hope for a relationship to change. If it does, it will be a gentle, gradual change.

VIRGO: The heart has many questions and only one or two should really be asked this weekend.

LIBRA: Two who are bonded in a secret are bonded for as long as that trust is broken.

SCORPIO: You will let your guard down just as soon as you feel the other person is really willing to take care of you.

SAGITTARIUS: Grasp or let go? It's all about timing, and not doing too much of either.

CAPRICORN: Romance will be made better through travel.

AQUARIUS: If you're wondering who should be the

first one to say, "I love you," it should be you.

PISCES: Nervous energy has a way of blocking your best comeback, conversation and comedy, but at least it proves you really like someone.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Can two Capricorns make love work?

Why, yes, and in a rather powerful way, at that! As the sign of social leaders and status positions these two are naturally drawn to influence the people around them. They know how to feed one another's ambitions and help each other be the best they can be. The new moon in Capricorn this weekend provides a sparkling start to this promising pairing.

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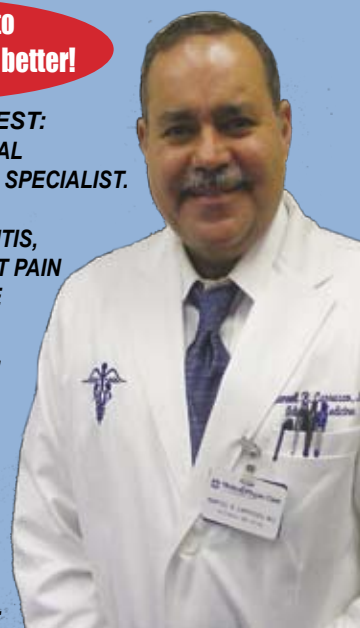
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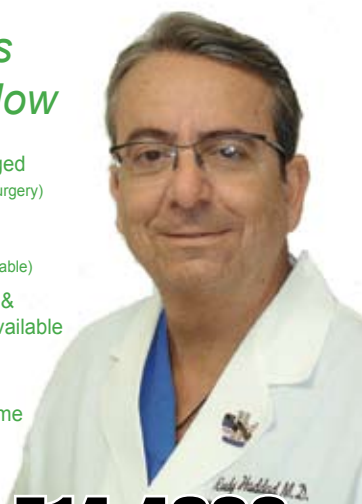
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