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HERALD

BIG SPRING FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017



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Pops in the Park preparing to light up the night

By **ROBERT BARLOW**
 Staff Writer

On Monday July 3, the 20th annual Pops in the Park will light up the skies over the Comanche Trail Park for the residents of Big Spring.

"The Pops in the Park mission is to give back to those who have served our country and pay tribute to them for their selfless sacrifice as well as the sacrifices of their families," said Hayley Herrera, a member of the Pops in the Park committee in a news release. "Pops in the Park combines a family-friendly atmosphere in the historic and beautiful Comanche Trail Amphitheater with world-class music provided by our pre-show entertainment, Vocal Trash, and the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra and Chorus. We cap off the event with a spectacular display of choreographed fireworks from one of the nation's leaders in pyrotechnics."

Every year thousands of people flock into the park to honor veterans, watch the night's activities, and of course, to see the fireworks show.

"It gets you moving and gets you in a Fourth of July mood," said Debbye ValVerde, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce. "Our Pops in the Park is to honor all of our veterans, those who served before and those who are serving now, and we do a flag ceremony during the event. We've got a few surprises as well during our patriotic event. It's going to be a fun evening."

ValVerde mentioned the symphony has some new material to go along with the fireworks display that's sure to get people excited.

"This is our 20th anniversary for Pops in the Park and of course we always try to have the symphony change up the music," ValVerde continued. "This year we have few new ones, we're excited about some of the new music that's going to go with the fireworks."

The event takes a massive amount of planning and effort from volunteers and coordinators. Rehearsals for the chorus began the month following the event which puts in just slightly less than a year's worth of practice.

"If you would like to volunteer to help with donations, please contact Felicia Guerra at 432-264-2540," Herrera said. "If you want to volunteer as a shuttle with your own personal golf cart, please



See **POPS**, Page 3

Kicking off the 'Funtastic' weekend



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Above, guests at the Downtown Revitalization Association's VIP Dinner Thursday evening at Moss Creek Ranch mingle and chat before eating. The dinner, sponsored by Refractory Construction Services, was a "thank you" from the DRA to sponsors of the annual Funtastic Fourth celebration, which kicks off this evening in downtown Big Spring. At right, country singer J.R. McNutt performs for guests at the Downtown Revitalization Association's VIP Dinner Thursday evening at Moss Creek Ranch. The Funtastic Fourth kicks off today at 6 p.m. with a weekend music lineup including Mark McKinney, Ronnie Milsap, Quiet Riot, and Great White.



Blood drive slated for next Friday

By **AMANDA ELSTON**
 Managing Editor

Two Big Spring staples are teaming up to ensure the community has a fun and safe 4th of July holiday. KBEST and Back in Motion Chiropractic, along with United Blood Services, are hosting a community blood drive next Friday complete with prizes, food, and local celebrities.

"KBEST has partnered

with Back in Motion for years," said Linda Grace, senior donor recruitment representative with United Blood Services. "KBEST is giving away all kinds of stuff including Pops in the Park t-shirts. There are a ton of people in need, and it's a perfect partnership coming into the July 4th holiday because the blood need is so high. It's a great time to donate."

Two bloodmobiles will

be in the Back in Motion parking lot, 1113 S. Scurry, accepting donations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, June 30. Donors won't be going away empty-handed or with an empty stomach either. Donors will receive a KBEST Pops in the Park t-shirt, a 4th of July goody bag, a free cholesterol check, grilled hot dogs and ice cream, and will also be entered into a drawing for four Schlitterbahn tickets.

"I hear those t-shirts are very coveted," laughed Grace. "They are providing such a great community event. Donors will also be getting a Sonic coupon and Back in Motion is grilling out. KBEST will be doing a live remote and talking to people and giving things away. It's kind of like a party!"

According to Grace, blood donors are

See **DRIVE**, Page 3



Staying healthy after age 50

Courtesy photo

Dr. Vernon Johnson spoke at the Tuesday Rotary meeting about proper health screenings after the age of 50. The Big Spring Rotary Club meets each Tuesday at noon in the Cactus Room of the Student Union Building at Howard College.



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Obituaries

Marcos Garza



Marcos Garza, 57, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, June 20, 2017, in Big Spring.

Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Friday, June 23, 2017, at Myers and Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m., Saturday at Myers and Smith Chapel.

Marcos was born April 26, 1960, in Big Spring, Texas, to Aurora Perez Garza and Victor Garza. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring. He married Joelda Quinones on Aug. 15, 1979. He had worked in the oil field all his life and loved his work. He worked for many years for D.L. Dorland. At the time of his death, he was a driller for Robinson Drilling. He had also worked as derrick hand and floor hand while working for them. He loved the outdoors, especially the mountains and astronomy. He loved his grandchildren. His daughters were his pride and joy. He was described as being a hardworking man who took pride in meeting the needs of his family. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife, Joelda Garza of Big

Spring; four daughters, Julie Morales and husband Gilbert of Midland, Tiffany Cruz and husband Burt Cook III of Austin, Desirrae Schultz and husband Scott of Wisconsin, and Alysha Garza of Seattle, Wash.; and eight grandchildren, Gilbert Morales Jr., Gabriel Morales, Vinny Cruz Jr., Nicholas Cruz, Halen Cook, Nova Cook, Marley Schultz, and Penelope Schultz. He is also survived by nine brothers, Lupe Garza and wife Rachel, Albert Garza and wife Patsy, and David Garza and wife Lucy, all of Big Spring, Robert Garza, Joe Garza, and Raul Garza and wife Tina, all of Temple, Armando Garza and wife Adela of Cleburne, Oscar Garza and wife Martha of Big Spring, and Fernando Garza and wife Lupe of Cleburne; four sisters, Esperanza Garza of Lubbock, Gloria Garza, and Ellie Hilario and husband Robert, all of Big Spring, and Olga Galan and husband Abel of Kerrville; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Erma Lozano; and two brothers, Ricky Garza and Victor Garza Jr.

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

Paid obituary

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **EDRION PATRICK HOUSTON**, 27, of 2504 Joann Drive, was arrested on a warrant for failure to appear, two counts of no drivers license, and failure to control speed.
- **AARON PAUL DELEON**, 30, of 4117 Muir Street, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended with previous suspension or conviction.
- **LINDSEY MAE WOODARD**, 19, of 3704 Boulder, was arrested on a warrant for disregarding a stop sign, expired registration, failure to control speed, and violating a drivers license restriction.
- **KAMARA MARIESHA**

WILLIAMS, 23, of 2601 Langley Drive, was arrested on a charge of criminal mischief between \$100 and \$750.

- **CHARLES WILLIAM POOL III**, 20, of 507 North Main Street, was arrested on a charge of assault with family violence, threat, or offensive touch.
- **RAYNA MARLENE RODRIGUEZ**, 19, of 507 North Main Street, was arrested on a charge of assault with family violence, threat, or offensive touch.
- **JORDAN RAY MYERS**, 20, of 1812 Alabama Street, was arrested on a warrant for criminal mischief between \$100 and \$750.
- **BRADLEY ALAN DALTON**, 26, of 1500 Terrace, was arrested on a warrant for criminal trespassing, theft of property less

than \$100, and bail jumping or failure to appear.

- **TYLAR MORGAN-MAREE HALE**, 19, of 1214 Lloyd Avenue, was arrested on a warrant for burglary of a habitation.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 500 block of North Main Street, and the 1800 block of Alabama Street.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 700 block of East 17th Street, the 300 block of South Owens Street, the 3600 block of West Highway 80, and the 2000 block of South Gregg Street.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2600 block of Langley Drive and the 900 block of Golf Course Road.
- **HARASSMENT** was reported in the 1300 block of East I-20.

Take Note

• 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.

• The Big Spring Salvation Army is holding a fan drive to collect and distribute electric fans to those in Howard County who need one but can't afford it. Those wishing to donate can take new or gently used box or pedestal fans to the Salvation Army headquarters at 811 W. Fifth St. Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

People who need a fan should call the Salvation Army at 432-267-8239 to register and receive the distribution date.

• 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.

• 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 fund-raisers 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

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 85 inmates at the time of this report.

• **BRADLEY ALAN DALTON**, 26, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for criminal trespassing, theft of property less than \$100, and failure to appear.

• **AARON PAUL DELEON**, 30, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with previous conviction or suspension.

• **JOLISA LYNN GRACE**, 27, was booked by the HCSO on a bailman off bond warrant for theft of property between \$100 and \$750.

• **TYLAR MORGAN-MAREE HALE**, 19, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for burglary of habitation.

• **EDRION PATRICK HOUSTON**, 27, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for failure to appear, failure to control speed, and two counts of no driver's license.

• **JORDAN RAY MYERS**, 20, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief between \$100 and \$750.

• **MARTIN KING NORWOOD**, 34, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for theft of property.

• **CHARLES WILLIAM POOL III**, 20, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of assault with family violence, threat, or offensive touch.

• **RAYNA MARLENE RODRIGUEZ**, 19, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of assault with family violence, threat, or offensive touch.

• **KAMARA MARIESHA WILLIAMS**, 23, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief between \$100 and \$750.

• **LINDSEY MAE WOODARD**, 19, was booked by the BSPD on capias warrants for violating drivers license restriction, displaying expired registration, disregarding a stop sign, and failure to control speed.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 100 block of Jonesboro. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Boulevard. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1200 block of Young Street. Emergency medical services were refused.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported on Driver Road. One person was transported to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Support Groups

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.

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.

Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Roundup, a common weed and grass killer, has been linked to the development of **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma** in farm workers and employees in garden centers, nurseries, and landscapers. If you or someone you care about has been diagnosed with **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma**, contact us today as time may be limited.

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POPS

Continued from Page 1

contact a member of the committee to be approved. You can like the Pops in the Park Facebook page for more information: www.facebook.com/PopsInThePark."

ValVerde also mentioned they are really needing volunteers to help with the entrances and the donation bucket.

The volunteers will be helping hand out fans to deter some of the summer heat for as long as they have the supplies. ValVerde said they will need people to help volunteer with that.

"Pops in the Park is a community event and without support from the community it would not be possible," Herrera said.

Pops in the Park also depends heavily on donations from generous people and companies all over Howard County to keep the show as exciting

as it is every year.

"To donate please contact the Big Spring Chamber at 432-263-7641 or send donations to Pops in the Park, 215 W. Third St., Big Spring, Texas, 79720; or P.O. Box 1391, Big Spring, Texas, 79720."

As a note to residents, according to the city of Big Spring, only service dogs are allowed in the amphitheater at the park.

Pops will be Monday, July 3, with the gates opening at 5 p.m. The event

is set to take place in the amphitheater, but several people make their camps around the park for the best view of the fireworks.

For more information, contact the Big Spring Chamber at 432-263-7641, or the Big Spring Convention and Visitors Bureau at 432-263-8235.

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

Trump suggests he was trying to keep FBI director honest

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump suggested he was just trying to keep fired FBI Director James Comey honest with his cryptic tweet implying there might be recordings of their private conversations.

Trump ended a monthlong guessing game Thursday by tweeting that he never made and doesn't have recordings of his private conversations with Comey. In an interview that aired Friday on "Fox & Friends," Trump said: "When he found out that I, you know, that there may be tapes out there, whether it's governmental tapes or anything else, and who knows, I think his story may have changed."

Asked if he was trying to keep Comey honest, Trump added: "It wasn't very stupid, I can tell you that. He was — he did admit that what I said was right."

The tapes saga began in May, just days after Trump fired Comey, who then was leading an investigation into Trump associates' ties to Russian officials. Trump has disputed Comey's version of a January dinner during which, according to Comey, the president asked for a pledge of loyalty.

Trump responded at that time, via Twitter, that Comey "better hope that there are no 'tapes' of our conversations before he starts leaking to the press!"

Trump, in the Fox News Channel interview, did not say exactly what he thought had changed about Comey's story. The former FBI director has only offered his story publicly once, in testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee, although his associates

provided some details to the news media before that.

Comey testified that he had told the president in multiple conversations he was not personally under federal investigation and said the president implored him to make that public. Trump has seized on that statement as vindication, though the investigation continues, as do congressional inquiries.

Comey also testified that Trump asked him for "loyalty" — which Trump emphatically denies.

Trump's initial Twitter missive about the possibility tapes triggered a series of consequences, each weightier than the last. Comey has suggested that the tweet prompted him to ask an associate to release damaging information to The New York Times.

The resulting news reports built pressure on a top Justice Department official to appoint an independent prosecutor to oversee the Russia investigation.

That special counsel, former FBI Director Robert Mueller, is now reportedly investigating Trump's own actions in a probe that could dog his presidency for the foreseeable future.

Trump showed concern about that situation as well, telling Fox that Mueller is "very, very good friends with Comey which is bothersome."

Without recordings, Comey's version of his conversations with Trump — which he documented at the time, shared with close associates and testified

about to Congress — will likely play a key role as prosecutors consider whether Trump inappropriately pressured the lawman to drop the investigation into former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn. Investigators will also weigh the credibility of Comey against a president who has shown a wobbly commitment to accuracy.

Trump adviser Kellyanne Conway muddied the waters a little Friday morning when she told CNN that, while Trump "answered definitively" he has made no tapes, "he left open the possibility that they may exist."

Trump's tweets, old and new, left many perplexed about whether there was motive or strategy behind the whole affair. The president appeared to enjoy ginning up mystery and spinning Washington reporters about the possibility there was a trove of surreptitiously recorded Oval Office conversations.

"I think he was in his way instinctively trying to rattle Comey," former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, a longtime Trump confidant, said before the Thursday tweets. "He's not a professional politician. He doesn't come back and think about Nixon and Watergate. His instinct is: 'I'll out-bluff you.'"

Thursday's revelation came a day ahead of a deadline to turn over any tapes to the House intelligence committee. The timing drew attention away from the release of the Senate's health care bill, which the White House hopes can provide Trump a much-needed legislative victory.

But the episode tired Trump's defenders and aides, who for weeks have been dodging questions about the re-

cordings. Advisers who speak to Trump regularly have said he had not mentioned the existence of tapes during their conversations. More than a half-dozen aides said they were unaware of any recording devices.

All demanded anonymity to speak about private discussions with the president.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Thursday she didn't think Trump regretted the initial tweet. As for his possible motivation, she would only say it was perhaps about "raising the question of doubt in general." She also could not explain Trump's new reference to possible surveillance.

Trump's earlier suggestion about tapes evoked the secret White House recordings that led to Richard Nixon's downfall in the Watergate scandal. Under a post-Watergate law, the Presidential Records Act, recordings made by presidents belong to the people and can eventually be made public. Destroying them would be a crime.

Mark Warner of Virginia, top Democrat on the Senate intelligence committee, said, "This administration never ceases to amaze me." He said the tweeting is an example of Trump's "willingness to just kind of make things up."

"It's remarkable the president was so flip-pant to make his original tweet and then frankly stonewall the media and the country for weeks," Warner said. "I don't know how this serves the country's interests."

This is not the first time that Trump, the former star of reality TV and tabloids, has manufactured a melodrama that begins with bluster but often ends

DRIVE

Continued from Page 1

especially needed during the summer months and especially during popular holidays such as the Fourth of July as more people are out and about celebrating and more prone to accidents.

"We always struggle in the summer," said Grace. "With the holiday it's that much more important to come and donate."

While United Blood Services is looking for all blood types to donate, they are aiming to reach a specific goal to help restore the blood bank at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

"We are looking to get 75 pints of blood on the 30th," said Grace. "It is very doable and it will go a long way in building the blood banks back up."

According to Back in Motion, food will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with KBEST personalities showing up around 11 a.m. or earlier.

Appointments are strongly encouraged for those donating. To sign up, call Maegan at 432-267-2224 or 877-UBS-HERO. Donors can also sign up by going to bloodhero.com and entering the sponsor code "motion". To qualify, donors must be at least 16 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in good health to donate. Donors between 16 and 22 must meet additional height and weight requirements and 16-year-old donors must present a Minor Donor Permit Form signed by a parent or guardian. The form can be found online at unitedbloodservices.org.

Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel, 24th & Johnson, 267-8288. Marcos Garza, 57, died Tuesday. Vigil service will be at 7:00 PM tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 11:00 AM, Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

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Marcos Garza, 57, died Tuesday. Vigil service will be at 7:00 PM tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 11:00 AM, Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 23-24:
Funtastic Fourth
Downtown Big Spring
www.bigspringdra.com

July 2-4:
Russ McEwen Family Aquatic Center Closed For Independence Day Holiday

July 3:
Pops in the Park:
Comanche Trail Amphitheater
Pre-Show featuring Vocal Trash

July 8:
Big Spring Super Sprint and Kids Triathlon:
Russ McEwen Family Aquatic Center
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Did you ever wonder?

David's tribulations

In the Ten Commandments "You shall not murder" comes before "You shall not commit adultery." Murder seems to be worse in the order of things God forbids.

Uriah was one of God's creations. David had no right to kill one of God's soldiers.

Let's accept that David sinned when he had Uriah killed. He also sinned when he committed adultery. But David realized the depth of his sin and truly repented. He mourned before the Lord because he had separated himself from God.

We serve a merciful God...He saw that David's sorrow was sincere. God forgave David, but David's punishment was that the child died.

God gave them another child, a son whom they named Solomon, meaning "peace."

For a number of years, David was at war with the Philistines. There were many more battles to fight and win. His sons were growing up without David's guidance. And his sons brought turmoil and calamity as Nathan the prophet prophesied.

Remember that David had several wives. Of course there was competition between the wives. There was also competition between the sons of his different wives.

Traditionally, the oldest son in a dynasty would inherit the father's position as king after the death of the father. But trouble began while David was still a strong man.

David's first wife was Michal, daughter of Saul, but she seems to have never borne children for David. While he hid in the desert from Saul, David married Ahinoam. She bore David's eldest son, Amnon.

Next, David married Abigail, the widow of Nabal. She bore David's second son, Kileah. Kileah must

have died in childhood; there is no further mention of him. Maacah, daughter of the King of Geshur bore David's third son, Absalom.

When the sons became young men, Amnon, the rightful heir to the throne, loved Tamar, the sister of Absalom. His half-sister would not give in to him, so he raped her. Immediately, his love for her turned to hatred! (2 Sam 13:15).

King David became furious, but he did nothing about it.

Two years later, Absalom held a feast at the end of shearing his sheep, and all his brothers attended. Absalom had instructed his servants to kill Amnon while he was in high spirits from drinking wine. All his other brothers fled to the palace of their father.

Absalom fled to his grandfather in Geshur in Bashan across the Jordan River. He stayed there for three years.

After David had grieved for Amnon, his heart began to long for his son Absalom. Joab went to Geshur and brought Absalom back to Jerusalem. But King David would not grant him an audience.

Absalom was a handsome, muscular young man with beautiful, thick hair. All of Israel praised him for his looks.

He drove a chariot and surrounded himself with 50 men. He showed concern for the trials and needs of the people, and all the people favored him. Eventually he had gathered a large following, and at his urging they proclaimed him King in Hebron.

David fled Jerusalem, leaving ten of his concubines to occupy the palace. Absalom entered Jerusalem and seized David's palace.

Eunice Filler, author of "Rachael: Porch Swings and Spearmint Tea" and "Filler Up" is a former school teacher with ties to the Big Spring community. Questions? Fillereunice@yahoo.com.



EUNICE FILLER

Is your house worthy?

What would you do if Jesus knocked on your door? It might seem like a slightly silly question, because that is not going to happen for real. Even still, it's not a bad thing to think about. Would you have to run back to the living room and turn off the television so he wouldn't see what you were watching? Would you shut down your computer so he wouldn't notice what websites you had been looking at? Would you quickly change the radio station or song that you were streaming because of the profanity in the lyrics?

Jesus comes to us figuratively through those around us. He comes to us as the poor man who doesn't know where his next meal will come from. He comes to us as the single mother who worries about her kids because she has to work two jobs just to provide them a place to live. He calls out to us from the hospitals and care centers as the hurting and the forgotten in our communities. What do we do when Jesus shows up at these times and in these ways?

Jesus also comes to us through his teachings. This is what the remainder of this article will consider. In Matthew 10:5-15, Jesus is sending out the 12 Apostles. We looked at that group in our previous study, but here we will notice what Jesus said about how they might be received. Remember, they are going out and proclaiming the message that he gave them. Notice Matthew 10:11-15, "And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. As you enter the house, greet it. And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if the house is not worthy, let your peace return to you. And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town" (ESV).

How often do you read God's word - not in a "daily devotional" book or calendar, not just when the preacher or teacher quotes a verse or puts it up on the screen, and not just from the pretty posters, decorations, or stickers you get from Hobby Lobby to make people think that you and your house are serving the Lord?

When confronted with the teaching of Jesus from the Bible, do you simply dismiss it? If you don't like what you read in the Bible, do you try to explain it away or justify yourself by claiming that the "Jesus" you follow wouldn't say things like that? If you can't be at peace with what Jesus said you must do to follow him, do you make up your own version of God and Jesus who will accept you just the way you are and don't demand anything from you?

The Apostles went out and proclaimed that the kingdom of heaven was at hand. According to Matthew 16:18-19, that kingdom is the church. Jesus promised to build his church. Those in the church, which began in Acts 2, were united in their beliefs because they continued to follow the Apostles' teachings (Acts 2:42).

If we want to be worthy, then we must accept the teachings of Jesus and the Apostles. We must accept the Bible as God's word. We must look to it to determine right from wrong and good from evil. And if we choose to disregard the teachings of Jesus and do what we want to do, when the day of judgment comes, it will not be a happy, joyful time for us.

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



GREG SURLES

Church News

Birdwell Lane Church of Christ

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

This Sunday, services begin at 9 a.m. with Bible Class, which will continue to explore the topic "How to study the Bible"; followed at 10 a.m. by Morning Worship, which will focus on the question "What is the Church?" Sunday Evening Worship, starting at 5 p.m. will contemplate 2 Timothy 1:11-12.

On Wednesday, Bible Study and Devotional at 7 p.m. will welcome a guest speaker, Greg Fleming from Midland.

First Baptist Church of Sand Spring

Services at First Baptist Church of Sand Spring begin with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Coffee and donuts, orange juice, and chocolate milk is provided for adults and students alike. Worship is at 11 a.m. with Children's Church available if needed. Rides are available. Call 432-266-0132 if you need a ride. First Baptist Church of Sand Spring is located at 201 E. 24th St. in Big Spring.

Baptist Temple Church

Services at Baptist Temple Church begin at with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., followed by Worship at 11 a.m. There will not be an evening service this Sunday due to the start of Vacation Bible School, which will be from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Kids from kindergarten through fifth grade are welcome to attend VBS.

Baptist Temple Church is located at 400 E. 11th Place. For more information call 432-267-8287.

Midway Baptist Church

Services at Midway Baptist Church begin with Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m., followed by

Sunday service at 11 a.m. Children's Church and nursery are provided.

Evening worship on Sunday and Wednesday starts at 6 p.m., and youth and children's programs are provided.

Each Monday, the Women's Prayer and Share Group meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

There will be a Bereavement/Comfort Group meeting Monday, June 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

All groups are open to everyone, not just Midway Baptist Church members.

Midway Baptist services will soon begin live streaming on Facebook. For more information about Midway Baptist, visit midwaybaptistchurch-bigspring.com, or call 432-263-6274.

Forsan Baptist Church

During Sunday worship this week at 10:50 a.m., the series on the importance of giving will continue. This week's message comes from Luke 21:1-4, and is called "Given in Trust."

There will be a garage sale fundraiser at the church on Saturday, June 24 beginning at 8 a.m.

Saturday evening, June 24, there will be a movie night in the west parking lot. The screening will begin as soon as it is dark.

Youth and children's activities on Wednesday evenings will resume when school starts in August. Wednesday evening adult Bible study will continue through the summer at 6.

Forsan Baptist Church is located at 201 Main in Forsan. Sunday School begins at 9:50 a.m., with worship services at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday services begin at 6 p.m. Rides for all youth activities are available if arranged ahead of time. Call the church at 432-457-2342, or Pastor Darren Weaver at 432-213-2348.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

"Celebrating and Sharing God's Love and Grace in our lives".

Bible Study and Sunday School at Alive in Christ begin at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday, and the Worship Service begins at 10:30 a.m. If you are new to the area or haven't been to church before or in a while, you're invited to join the congregation this Sunday.

Bo Vizcaino will present the scripture readings this week.

Tune in to KBYG on 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 each morning for a devotional entitled "Morning Meditation Thoughts" sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Also tune in every Sunday morning at 8:30 to listen to the Lutheran Hour.

Alive in Christ is located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood neighborhood in Big Spring. If you would like to contact the church, call 432-264-7818, or e-mail aliveinchristtx@gmail.com.

Blessed Hands Deaf Church

Pastor Jim Walterhouse and the congregation of Blessed Hands Deaf Church encourage you to gather with them in worship of The Living Hope, Jesus Christ, Sunday at 10:50 a.m. or 2 p.m. Select the time that is best for you, and join BHDC in praising God and learning from His Word. Currently, BHDC meets inside First Baptist Church at 705 W FM 700. For detailed information about Blessed Hands Deaf Church, including Wednesday evening schedule and activities, contact Pastor Jim at jwalterhouse@gmail.com.

First Baptist Church

"And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through Him" Colossians 3:17.

Women's Bible Study will be Monday, June 26, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. All area ladies are welcome, and the study

will be "Finding I Am" by Lisa TerKeurst. The group will meet in the church dining room, and childcare will be provided. Enter through the east kitchen doors. For additional information contact Lindsey at 405-308-3357 or Courtney at 432-634-0462.

At 10:50 Sunday morning, join the people of First Baptist Church as they gather in adoration of The Living Hope, Jesus Christ. Pastor Mark Lindsey continues the sermon series "Follow God" with the message titled "Taking the First Step." Based on Luke 5:1-11, listeners will be awed and humbled by the observation that Jesus makes use of one's daily life as His pulpit for drawing in everyone who would respond to His call. Music in honor and praise of God will be led by Jay Phinney, and will include the selections "Great is Thy Faithfulness," "Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King," "Cry of My Heart," and "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus." A special music selection will be offered by Hill Durham. Use the west circle drive if you have mobility issues, and someone will be happy to assist you inside and park your vehicle. If unable to attend, you can join the service through the live stream on the website at fbcbigspring.org.

At 9:30 a.m. each week, Sunday School groups meet throughout the building. Children come together on the first floor in the Good News Garage; while teens, college students, and adults meet in second-floor class



Reflections: Disciples in disguise

A number of years ago I attended a conference at the Harley-Davidson factory in Kansas City. A number of pastors and church leaders assembled at the factory to spend a few days touring the facilities and visiting with the administrators. Some of us were there because we had a lifelong love of motorcycles. Most of us were there because we wanted to learn how the Harley-Davidson leaders had transformed a nearly extinct motorcycle company into a model of success at the turn of the century.

The thing I remember most about the conference was a statement made by a young executive who spoke to the group. He had just returned from Europe, where he helped introduce the Buell sport bike. He stepped to the microphone and introduced himself. He said, "I am a disciple of Jesus Christ disguised as a Harley-Davidson Executive."

Since that time I have discovered disciples dis-



BILL
TINSLEY

guised in many walks of life: teachers, doctors, mechanics, students, professors, engineers, nurses, administrators, athletes, grocery clerks, farmers, businessmen, soldiers, homemakers, ... the list is almost endless.

Many people consider themselves to be Christians. Far fewer think of themselves as disciples of Jesus Christ. To be a Christian usually means we give assent to the Christian religion; that we are comfortable with occasionally attending church; and we know we are not Muslim, Buddhist, or some other religion. To be a disciple, however, raises the expectations to a whole new level.

Interestingly, Jesus never used the term "Christian." In fact, the term is only found three times in the Bible, and twice it is used by non-believers. Jesus chose to speak about disciples. He said, "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:27). "If you continue in my word then you are truly disciples of mine" (John 8:31). "By this shall all men know you are my disciples, that you have love for one another" (John 13:35). "My Father is glorified by

this, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples" (John 15:8). "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

So, what does a 21st century disciple look like? They look a lot like those we find in the first century. Those who followed Jesus then were fishermen, tax collectors, business men and business women, mothers and fathers. Today, they look like you and me. They come from every nation and every race. They can be found among the rich and poor, the educated and uneducated, the famous and obscure. Wherever you find fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ who have received God's grace and love others as God has loved them, you will find disciples in disguise.

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

CHURCH

Continued from Page 5

rooms. These groups are a great way to develop friendships while studying the Bible. Come early for fellowship and coffee; greeters are available to help you find a class.

At 5:30, everyone age five and older are invited to the Summer Sunday Nights study of "I Am A Church Member" by Thom Rainer. Participants will meet in the Family Life Center gym and enjoy a light supper and time of worship followed by small group discussion. Materials will be provided. Nursery will be available for younger children.

Saturday, June 24, "Hope Mommies" group will meet at 10 a.m. in the church dining room to assemble boxes to give to future "Hope Moms" and families. The purpose of the "Hope Mommies" organization is to bring the hope and comfort of Christ to women and their families who, at any point in their lives, have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant loss (up to 2 years of age). Everyone is welcome. Mother's Day Out meets each Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Tracy Boeker at 267-8223 for information about available openings for your little ones.

Summerama is also meeting each Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This action-packed Bible based program is for students going into first grade through seventh grade. Attendees will be involved in fun activities, and multiple field trips are planned. Call the church at 267-8223 for further information.

Wednesday evening activities begin at 6, and include Adult Bible study and prayer time, Adult choir practice, Saturate youth group for teens, and Real LYF for children. Call 267-8223, or go to fbcbigspring.org for details.

FBC is located at 705 W. FM 700. There is always a place for you at First Baptist Church.

Cornerstone Covenant Church

The people of Cornerstone Covenant Church would like to connect with you this week at one of the

following events:

Sunday June 25 - Join the CCC congregation this Sunday on a radical journey to discover God's love. It doesn't matter where you've been, it doesn't matter what you've done, it doesn't matter what you've experienced... God loves you. Find out how your life is impacted when you experience God's love for you.

Sunday, July 2 - Changing Sunday Worship Service Time. In an effort to better serve the church family and the community at large, CCC has decided to add an additional Sunday worship service. The current 10:30 a.m. service will move to 11 a.m. starting Sunday, July 2; then, starting Sunday, Aug. 27, a second service will be added at 9 a.m., just in time for the 2017 Back-To-School Service.

CCC is also looking forward to adding more parking space by making the west-side of the church a temporary parking lot, and possibly the site for a new sanctuary, depending on advice of an architect.

Cornerstone Covenant Church is located at 706 E. 12th St. For office hours or other questions please contact the Administrative Office at 432-264-0015 or email Info@cccbigspring.org. You can also visit [Facebook.com/CCCBigSpring](https://www.facebook.com/CCCBigSpring); or www.cccbigspring.org if you would like more information.

First Christian Church

First Christian Church is located at 911 Goliad St. in Big Spring. You are welcome to attend their services, including Fellowship Hour beginning at 9:15 a.m., Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., and Worship at 10:50 a.m.

Pastor Sandy Sandlin will preach a sermon called, "What A Difference A Day Makes," taken from the third chapter in Joshua, verses 3, 15, and 17. Assisting Pastor Sandlin in worship will be Dan Miracle, who will serve as Worship Leader. Serving at the Lord's Table will be Mary Beth Johnson and Shirley Burgess.

Choir Director Tara Trowbridge and Music Director Lawrence Thibeault are working to prepare music to enhance worship. A few pieces they are working on for this week's service are "Precious Name," "Near to the Hearts of God," and "Have Thine Own Way, Lord."

Sunday, June 25, First Christian Church Board of Directors will have their monthly Board Meeting in the Parlor. Directly after the meeting, a Fellow-

ship Luncheon will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

First Presbyterian Church

On Wednesday, the Lectionary Bible Study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, meets at 5 p.m. in the church library. The Chancel Choir rehearses at 6 p.m. this Wednesday, but there will be no choir practice June 28 nor during July, since the choir takes the month off.

The Session had its monthly stated meeting Tuesday, June 20, at 6 p.m. in the church library.

The 109th Stated Meeting of Tres Rios Presbytery will be Friday, June 23, at First Presbyterian Church in Marfa, Texas. Susan Holstedt is the commissioner from the Big Spring congregation.

Louise Hitch is in charge of Take Ten for this Sunday. Jim Little is Lector for the month.

Ushers are Glen Burch, Paula Farquhar, Louise Hitch, and John Yater. Communion Servers on the first Sunday were Paula Farquhar, Patti Horton, Kay and Danny Kennemur, and John Yater.

Worship services for the next two Sundays (at least) will be held in the

Chapel at Seventh and Runnels, due to work on the air conditioning system in the Sanctuary.

The lectionary passages for the Third Sunday after Pentecost are Genesis 21:18-21, Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17, Romans 6:1b-11, and Matthew 10:24-39. The sermon will be in the form of a congregational Hymn Sing. The Noisy Offering will be collected during the service. The anthem by the Chancel Choir will be "Old Time Religion Medley" by Mark Hayes. The offertory is "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" by William Bradbury, an instrumental solo by Laura Holleman.

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

If you cannot attend worship, you can listen in on KBST 1490 AM, beginning at 11 a.m. If you would like 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 the website at www.fpcbs.org, where you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Rev. Craig Holstedt. We would be pleased for you to Like us on Facebook.

First Church of the Nazarene

NazFamily Church is looking forward to a great summer filled with lots of activities. Vacation Bible School is set for June 29 through July 2, with the theme of "Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God." Following the Sunday service on July 2, there will be a church potluck with homemade ice cream. Everyone is welcome to

See **CHURCH**, Page 7



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CHURCH

Continued from Page 6

join in.
The WOW – Women of Worth Conference in Wichita Falls will be Aug. 3 through 5. Kids, Families and Youth camps are also going on throughout the summer.

The NazFamily Church has an app now. Everything going on at the church can be viewed on the app, or through the Facebook or website.

Nazfamily offers two different types of services. Visit either the 118 Cedar Road Campus inside the New Hope Christian School cafeteria for a contemporary setting, or the 1400 Lancaster campus, which is more traditional, for Sunday Service beginning at 10 a.m.

On Wednesday at 6 p.m., the Cedar Road Campus has a meal, Bible study, and children's and youth activities.

At 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, the Lancaster campus has prayer, and children's and youth activities.

Other small groups meet throughout the week; if you are interested pick up the small group bulletin. For more information contact the church office at 432-267-7015.

Spring Creek Fellowship

The youth will be manning the Mr. W. Fireworks Stand from June 24 through July 4. This is a fundraiser for camp and other activities. Please come out and support the youth. If you would like to help with this fundraiser or need more info, contact Lloyd Wells.

Look for the Spring Creek Blessing Box just outside the front doors of the building. Everyone is welcome to take what they need and donations are greatly appreciated. If you are interested in participating in the "Our Daily Bread Food Pantry" ministry, would like to make a donation or need more information, please contact Kay Pittman.

The new Connection Group study for ladies on Sunday mornings called "Uninvited – Living Loved When You Feel Less Than, Left Out, and Lonely" by Lysa TerKeurst begins July 16.

SCF Kid Connection will meet each month during the summer for a fun time together. The first activity will be June 28 at the waterpark. Watch for more about that. Kid Connection will start back up on a weekly basis when school starts.

Carla Mosely is requesting help with funds for a kidney transplant she needs soon. Carla has set up "GoFundMe" accounts, and Spring Creek Fellowship asks you to consider donating to this cause.

The Women's Ministry Bible Study called "Becoming Myself: Embracing God's Dream of You" by Stasi Eldredge will be each Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, starting June 25. For more info contact Adrianna Kocak or Janna Thompson.

The Men's Ministry is working through a study called "Spiritual Warfare" by David Jeremiah on Thursday, May 18, at 7 p.m.

Spring Creek Fellowship's children connection group needs two pre-k thru kindergarten teachers, and another teacher for first and second grade. Dana Tompkins is the teacher for this class, but she could sure use some help. Contact Donna Wennik for more information.

Spring Creek has set a goal of 90

percent participation in church ministries, and will be focusing on two ministries each Sunday morning to get the word out about what is available. Stop by the Connections Table in the garden area to get more information. Join the "90% Club" by getting involved.

The Nursery needs workers on Sunday mornings. If you have a heart for children and would like to give some of your time loving on Spring Creek's smallest members, please contact Donna Wennik.

Parents who want to keep up and share in their children's Sunday Bible Lessons can go to the website at www.springcreekfellowship.org for the information. Just click on "Kid Connect" for past and current lessons.

"People Caring for People" is a ministry serving local widows with small projects and "honey do" kinds of things. This ministry has no operating budget, so repairs are made with donations. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, either in a "hands on" way or by donation, contact Bob Abendshan at 432-528-7397.

The Spring Creek Worship Team is fundraising for eight wireless/in-ear monitors. If you would be interested in donating to this fundraiser, please contact Clint Bratcher.

"Let the Morning Bring," a downloadable song, as well as a few other songs written and performed by the Spring Creek Fellowship Worship Team, is now on iTunes. If you would like to get these songs, point your web browser to <https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/let-the-morning-bring-single/id1176877429>

Men's Bible Study meets on Thursday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. The title of the study is "Ephesians".

With the Spring Creek app you can learn about upcoming events, make tithes/donations, leave messages, send prayer requests, and follow prayer. Search your smartphone's app store for "Spring Creek Fellowship" and download. Be sure to allow notifications when given the option; those messages are generated by the church office to keep you updated about upcoming events and much more.

Weekly Happenings:

Sunday-8:15 a.m.-Classical Worship Service

9:15-10:15 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

5 p.m. Prayer Meeting

Tuesday- Noon- Narcotics Anonymous

6:30 p.m.-Pain Management Group

Wednesday- Community Groups-various times and places

Thursday 7 p.m.-"Spiritual Warfare" Men's Bible Study

Friday- 7-8 p.m.- Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday- 7:30 a.m.-Weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast and Fellowship

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

"Every Member a Minister"-1 Peter 4:10 NKJV

4 cardinals press pope to clarify divorce-remarriage stand



AP photo

Pope Francis arrives for his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, Wednesday, June 21, 2017. (AP Photo/Alessandra Tarantino)

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Four conservative cardinals who publicly questioned Pope Francis' opening to divorced and civilly remarried Catholics are pressing their case and arguing that the issue is dividing the Catholic Church.

In a new letter, the cardinals ask Francis for an audience, noting he never responded to their written request for clarification in September.

Francis published "Joy of Love" last year, opening the door to letting civilly remarried Catholics receive Communion. Church teaching says these Catholics must either obtain an annulment of their first marriage or abstain from sex, if they want to receive Communion. Since then, bishops

and bishops' conferences around the world have issued different interpretations of what Francis wrote. More conservative bishops have reaffirmed traditional church teaching on the indissolubility of marriage; others have taken Francis' opening and gone further. The bishops of Malta, for example, said sometimes it might be "humanly impossible" for the new couple to abstain from sex.

In the new letter, published by the blog of veteran Vatican journalist Sandro Magister, the cardinals lamented: "How painful it is to see this — that what is sin in Poland is good in Germany, that what is prohibited in the archdiocese of Philadelphia is permitted in Malta."

"Faced with this grave situation, in which many Christian communities are being divided, we feel the weight of our

responsibility, and our conscience impels us to ask humbly and respectfully for an audience," said the letter, dated May 6 and signed by Cardinal Carlo Caffarra, emeritus archbishop of Bologna, on behalf of the other three.

Francis hasn't responded, though he has made clear that he wants his church to show a more merciful and less rigid face for Catholics facing difficult family situations. That said, on Wednesday he made clear that marriage is forever.

In his weekly Wednesday catechism lesson, Francis noted that the nuptial Mass invokes the help of saints to help newlyweds live as a married couple forever. "Not like some say 'as long as love lasts.' No: Forever! Otherwise it's better to not get married. Either forever or nothing," he said.



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Gomez homers twice, Texas wins 11-4 for split with Blue Jays

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**
AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — Carlos Gomez was munching on a doughnut and a piece of watermelon simultaneously before the game, when he predicted he would hit a home run.

Then there was the recording of a rooster call the Texas center fielder wanted played for one of his teammates.

Turns out things went even better than he planned.

Gomez went deep twice for a career high-matching five RBIs and the Rangers beat the Toronto Blue Jays 11-4 on Thursday for a split of the four-game series.

"I've been feeling really well at the plate the last couple of games, and I've been keeping up the good work," said Gomez, who has five homers in his six games since returning from the disabled list after missing a month with a right hamstring strain.

Mike Napoli and Robinson Chirinos also homered for the Rangers (36-36), won for the ninth time in 13 games to get back to .500 before playing 20 of their next 26 games on the road.

After his pregame snack, Gomez had sent a recording of a rooster call to the public address announcer, asking it to be played for Rangers slugger Joey Gallo, whose last name in Spanish translates to rooster.

Instead, the call got played when Gomez came to bat in the second inning and had a single.

"I want to put it up to make fun of him, so they confused it and put it on mine," Gomez said.

That rooster call got played again after Gomez hit a three-run shot in the third that ricocheted off the left-field foul pole and put Texas up 6-0. He added a two-run homer in the seventh.

"When he's locked in, he's extremely challenging, he's a true professional hitter with a ton of power," manager Jeff



AP photo
Home plate umpire Greg Gibson, left, Texas Rangers' Carlos Gomez, center, and Toronto Blue Jays' Luke Maile all watch the flight of Gomez's three-run home run ball down the left field line during the third inning of a baseball game, Thursday, June 22, 2017, in Arlington, Texas. The homer scored Rougned Odor and Adrian Beltre.

Banister said.

The Texas Jays (35-37), who beat Texas in the AL Division Series each of the past two seasons, lost for the ninth straight time when they had

a chance to reach .500 for the first time this season. They have been outscored 73-24 in those nine losses.

"It's been a battle trying to get back to that .500 mark.

... It seems we get knocked around pretty good on that day," Jays manager John Gibbons said. "If it was a team

See **TEXAS**, Page 14

Reddick's big day lifts Astros over Athletics 12-9



AP photo
Houston Astros' Josh Reddick, left, slides to score behind Oakland Athletics catcher Bruce Maxwell during the eighth inning of a baseball game Thursday, June 22, 2017, in Oakland, Calif.

By **GIDEON RUBIN**
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Josh Reddick will take a three-hit game any time. This one meant just a little bit more to the Houston Astros outfielder, though.

"I always want to do well against your former team," said Reddick, who played in Oakland for parts of five seasons. "I enjoy beating them regardless. Whether I got 0 for 4 or I go 4 for 4. So, it is fun."

Reddick homered and scored four runs, Jake Marisnick and Marwin Gonzalez each went deep and the Astros beat the Athletics 12-9 on Thursday.

The major league-leading Astros completed a four-game sweep with their 10th straight victory in Oakland and their 15th win in 16 games

against the A's overall. They've won 12 of their last 14 road games. Their 27-8 record away from home is the best in the majors.

Reddick also doubled, tripled and drew a walk, and Marisnick and Gonzalez each drove in three runs.

Reddick didn't get a shot at a single to complete the cycle after tripling in the eighth inning.

"I think anybody would want to have a shot at it just to see," Reddick said. "Once you get to that one, you want to see the boys bat around for you and get up there to get the opportunity to do it."

"I got asked a few times if I was going to stop if it was in the gap. I was, like, 'Nah, I can't do that.' If it's in the gap, I'm

See **ASTROS**, Page 14

TCU's Wymer stymies Louisville in 4-3 CWS win; Florida next

By **ERIC OLSON**
AP Sports Writer

OMAHA, Neb. — With TCU holding a one-run lead and two outs in the fifth inning, Sean Wymer got called out of the bullpen.

The first batter he faced: national player of the year Brendan McKay.

Wymer struck out McKay to end the inning, and he fanned him again with a runner on to end the eighth during another shutdown performance that helped the Horned Frogs win 4-3 on Thursday night at the College World Series.

TCU advanced to its bracket final for the third year in a row. The Frogs must beat Florida on Friday night and again Saturday to reach the best-of-three championship series for the first time.

"I felt like it was a classic ballgame from beginning to end," coach Jim Schlossnagle said. "Obviously, the story tonight was Sean and how well he pitched out of the bullpen for us. I was trying to hold off on putting him in there as long as possible but felt like it was the fifth inning there with McKay coming to the plate. That could be the game."

Wymer (6-4), who worked the last 4 1/3 innings, has thrown nine shutout innings over his last four appearances. He limited the Cardinals (53-12) to two hits after they had pulled within a run on Logan Taylor's 18th homer of the year and Logan Taylor's first homer in 123 games.

McKay, the No. 4 overall pick by

Tampa Bay in last week's Major League Baseball draft, was the Dick Howser Trophy winner as the nation's top college player and also is a finalist for the Golden Spikes Award.

"I knew what my job was when I came in," Wymer said of facing McKay in the fifth. "I had to get that out because you wanted to keep the game, obviously, in our favor. So that's really it."

The Horned Frogs led 4-0 in the second inning against freshman left-hander Nick Bennett (5-1), who was making his first start since a regional win over Xavier on June 4. After Connor Wanhnen doubled in a run, Omaha native Ryan Merrill singled in two more to knock out Bennett.

Josh Watson scored the second run on Merrill's base hit on a play at the plate that stood after a video review. The sliding Watson was able to touch home with his left hand as catcher Colby Fitch tagged his knee almost simultaneously.

Austen Wade followed with an RBI single off Adam Wolf to break an 0-for-15 slump.

The Cardinals scored each of the next three innings to pull within one. Josh Stowers singled in a run, McKay homered on the first pitch of the fourth and Taylor on the first pitch of the fifth to chase TCU starter Nick Lodolo.

Louisville coach Dan McDonnell was ejected in the eighth inning after pinch runner Ryan Summers was caught stealing second. McDonnell sprinted out of the first-base dugout to argue with second-base umpire Mark



AP photo
TCU players Evan Skoug, Brian Howard and Durbin Feltman, cheer after the team scored two runs during an NCAA College World Series baseball game vs. Louisville on Thursday, June 22, 2017.

Winters. The play was not subject to review. The play showed Summers' foot touching the bag as Cam Warner tagged his helmet. McDonnell was the first coach ejected in a College World Series game since Cal State Fullerton's George Horton on June 18, 2007.

"I lost my cool and just fought for my guy knowing the point of the game and how valuable that base was," McDonnell said. "But I'm never going to stand behind a camera and blame an umpire. That's not the reason we lost. I don't know if I should have been thrown out, but that's not my call to

make."

Drew Ellis came into the CWS as the Cardinals' leading hitter, but he was 1 for 10 after popping out in the eighth with a runner on first.

TCU is in the bracket final despite its Nos. 1 through 3 hitters struggling. Wade, Zach Humphreys and Evan Skoug are a combined 3 for 29 in the CWS.

Louisville failed to win multiple games at the CWS for the fourth time. The Cardinals are 2-8 all-time in the CWS and 1-4 in elimination games. Their only win in an elimination game was in 2007.

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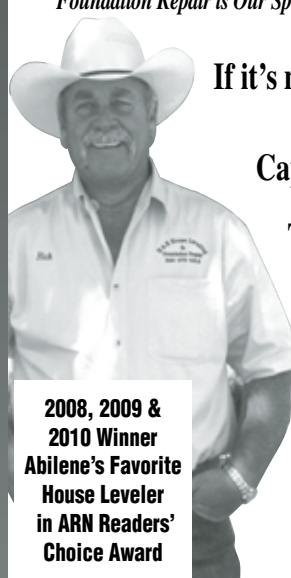


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Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of EDWARD PLAGENS, DECEASED were issued on June 20, 2017, in Cause No. 426 pending in the County Court of Glasscock County, Texas, to BERNADETTE PLAGENS. The residence of BERNADETTE PLAGENS is 4675 FM 2401, Garden City, TX 79739.

Legals

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 20th day of June, 2017

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The Big Spring Herald will be closed Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day!

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Sunday, July 1st **Deadline – Friday, June 30th by 10am**
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Tuesday, July 4th **Deadline – Monday, July 3rd by 10am**
Wednesday, July 5th **Deadline – Monday, July 3rd by 12pm**

Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY MATHIS

New Moon in Cancer

The Cancer moon offers a boost of intuitive energy for a brand-new endeavor. Not all who embark will arrive. Those who get there may employ the same strategy as those who don't. There are no guarantees. Refrain from comparing yourself and focus inward to understand what feels right to you. Each person has a unique standard of success.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Stop overthinking. Make a move. Whether a move is wrong or right, it tells you what the next move should be. This will stop you from going in circles in your head and will get you going on a straight line instead.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're being marketed to all of the time by those who would like you to choose their products or services. Market to yourself. It works. Surround yourself with symbols and messages about what you want yourself to choose.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Fear is energy that can be directed in a positive way, but that's not how it's used very often. To direct your fear well, keep reminding yourself of what it is you want to achieve, and breathe toward that aim.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Long blocks of focused, uninterrupted concentration are necessary to accomplish anything worthwhile. There is something (or more likely (SET ITAL) someone(END ITAL)) preventing you from having time to focus -- a situation that must be remedied.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Risking rejection is no fun (even for extroverts) but it must be faced in the name of progress. Go where the opportunities are and make friends. If you don't know where they are, go where you think they are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). As the mountain cradles the lake, your earth-sign nature will hold a water-sign individual very dear. These are the Pisces, Scorpio and Cancer people, and they could really use someone with your reliability.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Sometimes you wonder if you're too brave for your own good. You've been known to jump into the spotlight unprepared, but that's better than

missing out. After all, opportunities usually don't wait around until you're ready for them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The people who have the best perspective about the job will be the ones who have done it. Go to the ground level, not the top (unless the ones at the top started at the bottom and have worked their way all through).

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). As it is with anything, what you pay attention to loves you back. When you give attention to your deeper feelings and the subconscious layers of yourself, too, you start feeling more resoundingly fulfilled.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The tools used to create will be a focus, but don't be fooled; the tools do not make the creation. Creativity is in the head and heart. Fancy, expensive tools can actually work against the art.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Customs matter -- but not really. Following the right movements in the correct order will show respect when you don't yet have the other person's. Once you've earned a place in the heart, the protocol will become less important.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You sense you're being flattered. That doesn't mean the compliments aren't true; it just means your flatterer is smart enough to grease the gears. One person's dishonesty is another person's clever navigation of complex times.

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

Bridge is a partnership game, and it's impossible to achieve good results unless you and your partner have a firm agreement on the meanings of certain bids.

Below are seven bidding sequences. You are to decide whether the last bid shown is Forcing or Nonforcing. A forcing bid is defined as one that cannot be passed. If the last bid merely invites your partner to bid again, treat such a bid as nonforcing. Answer all the questions first before reading the answers.

- North South
1♠ 1NT
3♠
- North South
1♥ 1♠
1NT 3♠
- North South
1♦ 2NT
- North South
1♠ 1♠
2♣ 2♦
- North South
Pass 1♥
2♦
- North South
1♥ 1NT
3♠
- North East South West
1♥ 1♠ 2♦ Pass
3♥

1. **Nonforcing.** Three spades asks responder to bid again only if his one-notrump bid, which indicates six to 10 points, is in the upper half of that range.

2. **Forcing.** Unless agreed upon otherwise, a jump-bid by responder with an unpassed hand is forcing to game. The exception is mentioned because many players now treat jump-bids in previously bid suits as merely invitational.

3. **Forcing.** Responder is showing 13 to 15 points, a balanced hand and stoppers in the unbid suits.

4. **Forcing.** When responder, as an unpassed hand, names a new suit, that bid is unconditionally forcing. This applies not only to the first response, but also to any subsequent response in a new suit.

5. **Nonforcing.** Since North passed initially, his two-diamond bid can be passed. This exception to the rule stated in the previous problem has a very sound basis, as the opening bidder often knows there cannot be a game opposite a passed partner.

6. **Forcing.** The jump in a new suit by an opening bidder (a jump-shift) is forcing to game. It informs responder that even a six-point hand opposite his is enough to assure a game in some denomination.

7. **Forcing.** Since South promised at least 10 points with his initial two-diamond response, he cannot pass North's jump-rebid, which shows at least 16 points.

Tomorrow: When and how to lose a trick.

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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	9	1			4		
				5		2		1
4	5				6			9
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		7			4	9	2	

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

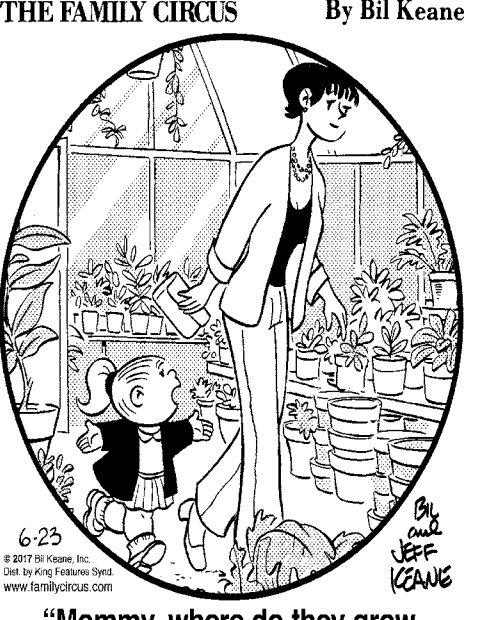
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery	
5 :PM	Local 2	Hotel	The List	CBS 7	Tele	News	Dr. Young	Euromaxx	Hap.Days	American	Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	Nation	Rangers	Mod Fam		Alaskan Bush	
5 :30	ABC	Noticiero	Mod Fam	CBS	Noticias	News	Zion	Business	Griffith	American	Seinfeld			Outside	Pregame	Mod Fam		Alaskan Bush	
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cer-	News	Hidden	PBS News-	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	NFL Live	MLB Base-	Mod Fam		Alaskan Bush	
6 :30	Wheel	Guadalupe	Big Bang	ET	radio	News	Z. Levitt	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld				ball: Texas	Mod Fam		Alaskan Bush	
7 :PM	Shark Tank	José de	MasterChef	MacGyver	El Capo (SS)	America's	Got Talent	News	Wash	Griffith	The Originals	Movie: Walking Tall (DVS)	College Baseball: NCAA World Series, Game 12: Teams TBA.	WNBA Basketball: Mystics at Lynx	Rangers at New York Yankees.	Mod Fam	Live PD: Rewind	Alaskan Bush	
7 :30	What Would	Vida E Car-	Lucifer (DVS)	Hawaii Five-0	La Querida	Light of Southwest	British Baking	ALF	Riverdale	Movie: From Paris With Love (DVS)	Movie: The A-Team, Jessica Biel (DVS)	Movie: The Rock, Ed Harris	SportsCenter 30 for 30	Drone Racing	Postgame Rangers	Mod Fam	Alaska:		
8 :PM	20/20	La Piloto	News	Blue Bloods	El Señor de los	Dateline NBC	Light of Southwest	Alicia Keys -- Land	Heroes	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Movie: The A-Team, Jessica Biel (DVS)	SportsCenter 30 for 30	Champ Spotlight	Playing		Last Frontier		
8 :30	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	King	Movie: The Rock, Ed Harris	SportsCenter 30 for 30	Champ Spotlight	Playing		Last Frontier		
10 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto	Cleveland	Late Show- Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Shepherd's Heart	Newsline	Perry Mason	King	Rules	Movie: The Rock, Ed Harris	SportsCenter 30 for 30	Champ Spotlight	Playing		Last Frontier		
11 :PM	Nightline	Deportivo	How I Met	James Corden	El Señor de los	News	Shabbat	(:08) Today	Light of Southwest	Mani (Off Air)	Hitchcock	Cheaters	Movie: 17 Again (DVS)	Hawaii Five-0	SportsCenter 30 for 30	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at New York Yankees.	Playing	Last Frontier	
12 :AM	Extra	La Mujer del	How I Met	Faith	Insider	Programa	Programa												
1 :AM	Paid Prg.	Mi Adorable	Law Order: CI	ET	Programa	Programa													
1 :30	Paid Prg.																		

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I SAID I HAD A SURPRISE FOR YOU. I DIDN'T SAY IT WOULD BE A GOOD ONE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy, where do they grow artificial plants?"

HAGAR



BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



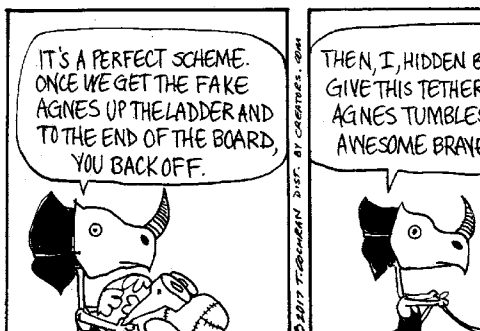
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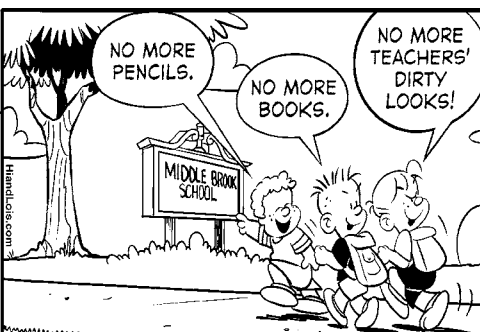
THE OTHER COAST



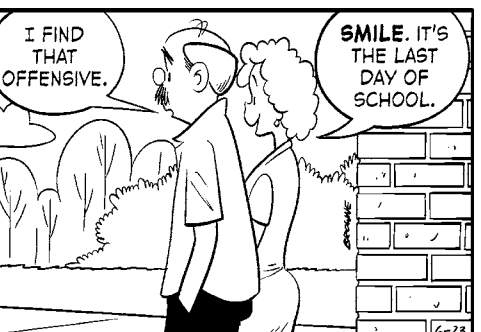
SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, June 23, the 174th day of 2017. There are 191 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On June 23, 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson, Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin (ah-LEK'-say koh-SEE'-gihn) and their advisers opened a three-day summit at Glassboro State College in New Jersey. The U.S. Senate voted 92-5 to censure Democrat Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut for diverting campaign money to his personal use.

On this date:

In 1314, during the First War of Scottish Independence, the two-day Battle of Bannockburn, resulting in victory for the forces of Robert the Bruce over the army of King Edward II, began near Stirling.

In 1537, Spanish explorer Pedro de Mendoza, the founder of Buenos Aires, died aboard his ship while heading back to Spain.

In 1757, forces of the East India Company led by Robert Clive won the Battle of Plassey, which effectively marked the beginning of British colonial rule in India.

In 1892, the Democratic

FILL-IN WORK

by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

national convention in Chicago nominated former President Grover Cleveland on the first ballot.

In 1904, President Theodore Roosevelt was nominated for a second term of office at the Republican national convention in Chicago.

In 1931, aviators Wiley Post and Harold Gatty took off from New York on a round-the-world flight that lasted eight days and 15 hours.

In 1947, the Senate joined the House in overriding President Harry S. Truman's veto of the Taft-Hartley Act, designed to limit the power of organized labor.

In 1950, Northwest Orient Airlines Flight 2501, a DC-4, crashed into Lake Michigan with the loss of all 58 people on board.

In 1969, Warren E. Burger was sworn in as chief justice of the United States by the man he was succeeding, Earl Warren.

In 1972, President Richard Nixon and White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman discussed using the CIA to obstruct the FBI's Watergate investigation. (Revelation of the tape recording of this conversation sparked Nixon's resignation in 1974.) President Nixon signed Title IX barring discrimination on the basis of sex for "any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

In 1985, all 329 people aboard an Air India Boeing 747 were killed when the plane crashed into the Atlantic Ocean near Ireland because of a bomb authorities believe was planted by Sikh separatists.

In 1997, civil rights activist Betty Shabazz, the widow of Malcolm X, died in New York of burns suffered in a fire set by her 12-year-old grandson; she was 61. (Malcolm Shabazz pleaded guilty to arson and other charges and was placed in juvenile detention.)

Ten years ago: Searchers in Summit County, Ohio, found the body of Jessie Davis, a missing 26-year-old pregnant woman, in a park. (Bobby Cutts Jr., a former Canton police officer who was the father of Davis' unborn child, was later convicted of murder and aggravated murder and sentenced to 57 years to life in prison.)

Answer to previous puzzle

UVB	BIBB	BIBI
CEE	ADEE	RALPH
ABRA	ROAN	AMASS
PABST	BLUER	RIBBON
ONSTAR	ENS	
BAA	BLY	GWB
ABFAB	BALI	BLEU
BYEBYE	BLACK	BIRD
BONE	COBS	EBBED
ABS	BOT	TBA
BUN	ONABET	
BURSTONES	BUBBLE	
ICEIT	ARAB	BARN
BLADE	COAL	ALOT
ALES	LOBE	SLY

6/23/17

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Some desktops
- Sonic the Hedgehog
- Guy whom Sam plays for
- India's Capital Territory
- Alpine transport
- Laser pointer battery
- City north of Cologne
- "What's_our_ersatz?"
- Sci-fi smuggler
- Old-school show of support
- Internal trunk
- "Se_io_sly?"
- Position without promise
- River through Wheeling
- CEO stint, perhaps
- Start of a seventh-inning song
- Dickens' Mutual Friend
- Construct
- Verbal bother
- Mini-Me portrayer
- Object
- Tolstoy title character
- Prolong, as delicious bites
- "W_ll do, s_!"
- Big name in bedtime stories
- Sneaker section
- Island in the Commonwealth
- Web regular
- "T_u_h break!"
- Square things
- Superman's mom
- Hawaii's state bird
- North African capital
- Pony pace
- Internist imperative
- Columns with a slant
- Uneconomical
- "Cheering loudly"
- Pillage
- Tragic manipulator
- Name on the cover of Cosmos
- Bout rout
- Shrinking superhero
- "That's not good"
- Angel Stadium city
- Ash's anchor
- Star Trek officer
- Russian ballet company
- Group getting Treasury checks
- George W.'s youngest
- Gulf State resident
- Was founded
- Until now
- Big-wheel inventor
- Mag about business
- Rollout for some workouts
- Had a swell time
- Turkish hostel
- Base of some vodka
- Larger-than-life figures
- Major shake-up
- Gelatin substitute
- Surrealist
- Vladivostok veto
- Around-the-globe region
- Sooner city
- Ending like -ity
- Genetic messenger

DOWN

- July 15th, e.g.
- Fit together well
- As well
- Old chap's goodbye
- Legendary voyager
- Moon of Pluto
- Fade away
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TEXAS

Continued from Page 8

that never won big games and hadn't experienced it, I'd look at it differently. We just can't seem to give over that hump yet, and we will."

Martin Perez (4-6) went six innings, and all four runs he allowed came with two outs in the fifth. The lefty struck out three, walked two and hit a batter.

Marcus Stroman (7-4) matched a career high allowing seven runs over four innings, giving up three homers. The right-hander has lost consecutive starts after going 6-0 in his 10 games before that.

"The long ball hurt me," Stroman said. "Just didn't have a good feel of my sinker and all of the other pitches kind of played off of that. I'll make a few adjustments."

Adrian Beltre put the Rangers ahead to stay with an RBI double in the first. Beltre added another double in the seventh, his 2,962nd hit, one behind Sam Crawford for 33rd all-time. He had a sacrifice fly in the eighth for his 1,587th RBI.

The Rangers won four games during the seven-game home-stand. They scored at least 10 runs in three of those wins. ...

Chirinos, the No. 2 catcher, homered for the fourth time in his past seven starts. He also doubled twice. ... Shin-Soo Choo walked twice, making the eighth consecutive game he has reached base multiple times. He has reached base in 28 of 56 plate appearances his past 12 games.

Blue Jays: 3B Josh Donaldson was a late scratch from the lineup as the DH because of left knee soreness. ... LF Steve Pearce didn't play a day after bruising his right knee when crashing into the wall on Joey Gallo's inside-the-park home run.

Rangers: RHP Jeremy Jeffress (strained lower back muscle) was put on the 10-day DL, and RHP Preston Claiborne's contract was purchased from Triple-A Round Rock. Jeffress first felt something wrong when warming up before pitching Tuesday. "The next morning I couldn't get up out of bed," he said.

Blue Jays: J.A. Happ (2-4) starts the opener of a weekend series in Kansas City.

Rangers: Yu Darvish (6-5) pitches against the New York Yankees in his first MLB match-up against fellow Japanese starter Masahiro Tanaka (5-7).

ASTROS

Continued from Page 8

going two. I don't have it in me to be that guy to get the personal goal."

David Paulino (2-0) struck out six and gave up three runs, seven hits and two walks. The 23-year-old rookie right-hander struck out five of his first six batters in his sixth career start.

Astros center fielder George Springer left with a left hand contusion after being struck by a fastball from Jesse Hahn (3-5) leading off the game. The ball also grazed Springer's left shoulder. Springer is tied for second in the AL with 21 home runs. X-rays taken during the game were negative, manager A.J. Hinch said. Springer's status is day-to-day.

Springer said after the game he has no intention of going on the disabled list.

"No," Hinch said. "I'm hoping he'll be able to play

tomorrow."

Hahn gave up 10 runs (nine earned) in two innings. He acknowledged that hitting Springer threw him off.

"Yeah I think maybe that affected (me)," Hahn said. "For me, my game is coming inside on righties, throwing my sinker in on righties and I kind of babied it in there after that. I started spiking a lot, yanking stuff and it just wasn't good."

Oakland trailed 10-0 after two innings and 12-3 going into the eighth, when Adam Rosales' two-run double highlighted a six-run inning.

Nori Aoki was 3 for 5 with a double for Houston.

A's catcher Bruce Maxwell, called up from Triple-A Nashville earlier in the day, was 3 for 4 with a double.

The Astros became the first team in the majors to reach the 400-run mark. "Shows how special our lineup can be," Reddick said.

ROSTER MOVES

Athletics: C Stephen Vogt was designated for assignment. Maxwell and 1B/OF Matt Olson were called up from Triple-A Nashville.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Astros: 2B Jose Altuve didn't play on Thursday, and Hinch said he wanted to give the reigning American League batting champion an off day.

Athletics: INF Matt Chapman was placed on the 10-day disabled list with a bacterial skin infection on his left knee (retroactive to June 19).

UP NEXT

Astros: RHP Joe Musgrove (4-6, 5.09 ERA) will make his third start since coming off the disabled list with shoulder discomfort in the series opener against the Mariners.

Athletics: RHP Jharel Cotton (4-7, 5.40) will face the Chicago White Sox for the first time. Cotton has allowed 12 home runs over 39 2/3 innings over his last seven starts.

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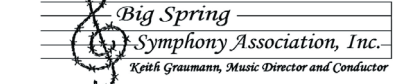
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