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BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2017



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FUMC of Big Spring preps for holiday program



File photo

In this photo from December 2016, children and adults perform the Christmas program "The Gift" at First United Methodist Church of Big Spring. This year's Christmas program entitled "Our Savior" will be Dec. 2 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 3 at

By **ERIN STEPHENS**
 Staff Writer

First United Methodist Church members and volunteers from the community are working together on this year's Christmas program entitled "Our Savior." FUMC of Big Spring has a long history of producing quality Christmas programs made for entertainment and educational purposes.

The program will take place at the church on the first weekend in December, with the opening performance day set for Saturday, Dec. 2, at 8 p.m., and the final day on Sunday, Dec 3., at 6 p.m.

"The performance is free to the public and is unlike anything we've ever done before," said FUMC Senior Pastor Derrell Patterson. "For years we performed a program known as The Living Christmas Tree and while 'Our Savior' has similar elements, this year's theme will be different."

Attendees of "Our Savior" are encouraged to involve

themselves in the praise and worship aspect of the program. Words to songs that are part of the program will be displayed on a projection screen in front of the audience.

"Christmas programs have been an annual event at our church for almost 40 years," said Patterson. "We departed from The Living Christmas Tree two years ago, and last year's program entitled 'The Gift' was the first year we decided to start something new."

Music and drama will be the two largest components of 'Our Savior,' with visuals that can be seen on a projection screen added to enhance the experience of attendees. There will be participation by a children's choir, youth, Howard College students, and adults.

According to Patterson, the program tells a story and walks audience members through the life of Christ, his teachings, miracles, death,

See **FUMC**, Page 3

Herald Christmas Parade coming soon



File photo

Santa and Mrs. Claus catch a ride to their spot in 2016's Herald Christmas parade. This year's parade is scheduled for 5:30, Dec. 2. The theme this year is "Christmas Across the World."

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

Now that we have Thanksgiving under our much-loosened belts, it's time to start thinking about Christmas. And the traditional start of the Christmas season in Big Spring is the Big Spring Herald's annual Christmas parade.

This year's parade will wind its way down Scurry Street starting at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, said Rick Nunez, publisher of the

Herald. Although in past years, the parade traveled down Gregg Street, truck traffic on the town's major north-south thoroughfare has made that a major inconvenience, and for the past few years, the parade has moved one block east to Scurry Street.

"Scurry is really perfect because it runs right in front of the Herald, and down in front of the Heritage Museum where people sit out in front and watch it," Nunez said. "And it keeps the flow on Gregg moving along."

The parade travels straight as an arrow for 20 blocks before hooking to the right, forming, if you squint, kind of a candy cane shape.

"It goes all the way down to

Fourth Street, Fourth and Scurry, and then hangs a right over to Wells Fargo, which is Fourth and Main, and then turns south," Nunez said. "The officials want to do the drop off for the children and whatnot in that area where it's not as congested. If kids are on floats, they can just get off there and not have to worry."

This year's parade theme is "Christmas Across the World," said Nunez.

So far, about 37 entries have signed up to participate in the parade.

"But we always have at least that many more at the last minute, just because people forget about it," Nunez said. "We always plan to have about 60. Last year, I believe we had close to 58 or 59. We always get entries at the last minute. They're not judged, because, of course, they haven't filled out the form, but a lot of people don't want to judge, they just want to participate. We want to encourage as much participation as possible."

Various school and community organizations are expected to participate in the parade, as well as a jolly visitor from up north.

"We're not sure if we'll have a Mr. and Mrs. Santa, but we'll definitely have a Santa," Nunez said. "This year we'll also have a

See **PARADE**, Page 3

Salvation Army Thanksgiving Meal a success

By **AMBER MANSFIELD**
 Staff Writer

Thursday the Salvation Army had their annual Thanksgiving Meal with high turnout. Every Thanksgiving the Salvation Army provides by either delivery or dining in at the Salvation Army headquarters, a Thanksgiving meal to those who don't have any other means of getting one. The Salvation Army's slogan is "Doing the Most Good" and with the turn out of yesterday Thanksgiving Feast of feeding and giving the joy of Thanksgiving to over 500 people, they certainly live up the that.

"We provide a warm turkey meal with the works to

those of community who may not have any other way of getting to enjoy one," said McKain. "We are just blessed that we are able to do help out the people, it seems every year gets a little bigger."

This Thanksgiving the Salvation Army provided over 500 meals, both deliveries and dine-in at the Salvation Army. Without the Salvation Army, Thanksgiving wouldn't even be possible for some people.

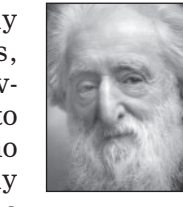
The Salvation Army has always believed in teaching the word and helping our the fellow man.

In the year 1865 in England, a man by the name of William Booth abandoned the concept of the traditional church, in which the gospel is taught and preached at a podium

See **SA**, Page 3



McKain



Booth

Big Spring Herald's
Christmas Countdown



Amanda says
 "Only **31** Days
 'til Christmas!"
 (Amanda Elston, Editor)

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Obituaries

Shirley Cross Bodin



Shirley Cross Bodin, 80, of Sand Springs died Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Linda Bequette, pastor, of the Coahoma First United Methodist Church. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Shirley was born Sept. 21, 1937, in Big Spring, to Bonnie Alren Ayers Cross and Mitchell Dalton Cross. She was a lifetime resident of Howard County and was a homemaker. She was a member of the Coahoma First United Methodist Church. She married Robert Boyett in 1960. He preceded her in death in 1967. She married Bill Bodin in 1972. Shirley received her Bachelor's Degree from Texas Women's University. She was a registered nurse at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Big Spring from 1967 until 1973. She did volunteer work at the Big Spring State Hospital for over 20 years. Shirley and Bill were foster par-

ents for several years for a number of children.

Shirley is survived by her husband Bill Bodin of Sand Springs; four daughters, Janet Nelson and her husband Jeff of Elk City, Oklahoma, Karen Martin and her husband John of Big Spring, Terri Croft of San Angelo, and Brook Bodin of Big Spring; one son, Robert Bodin and his wife Stephanie of Amarillo; daughter-in-law, Toni Bodin of Sand Springs; one sister, Carolyn Cross "Cookie" Stephens and her husband Steve of O'Donnell; 14 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and her first husband, Shirley was preceded in death by two sons, Greg and Edward Bodin; and one sister, Sandra Cross Cox.

Pallbearers will be Jeff Nelson, John Martin, Andre Byrd, Robert Boyett, Jeremy Hart, and Patrick Croft.

The family suggests memorials to the First United Methodist Church of Coahoma, P. O. Box 50, Coahoma, Texas 79759.

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

Paid Obituary

Laverna Uptergrove

Laverna Uptergrove, 90, of Big Spring died Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jimmy De Los Santos

Jimmy De Los Santos, 76, of Ackerly died Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Miguel Bencomo

Miguel Bencomo, 23, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home

Kelly Jean Long

Kelly Jean Long, 66, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Chapel.

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.

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

• A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship located in the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

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

• GriefShare is a biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support). Weekly 10/5/17 through 01/11/18; 6:00 - 8:00 pm at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for more information.

• 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.

Take Note

• The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations.

Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

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

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

It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

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

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

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first,

third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

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

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

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

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

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

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

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact 432-271-2138.

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

• Membership to the Big Spring Native American Association is

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

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary Group is looking to expand. Positions are available for the Auxiliary group and the Teen Volunteer program.

Must be 15 years of age to take part in the teen volunteer program. If you would like to volunteer please contact Heath White at 268-4850.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in need of volunteers to fill a variety of needs to assist the hospital's patients. Applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Volunteers can assist with a variety of functions, including The Chalet Resale Shop, various 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

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to visit patients.

Volunteers set their own hours.

For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

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

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

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SA

Continued from Page 1

inside a church structure. Booth left because he didn't agree with the church's views of only allowing the wealthy or elite to be able to come to a sermon. If someone of the lower class was allowed to go to church at all, they were only allowed seating in the back.

"Anyone of a lower standard in the social setting usually wasn't even allowed in the church," said Josh McK-

ain Corps Officer of the Salvation Army. "(Booth) thought that everyone, regardless of standing, should be able to learn about the word of Jesus."

So Booth took to the streets with his wife, Catherine, and started to preach to all who would listen, homeless people, the poverty-stricken, prostitutes, and the worn down. Operating under the name "Christian Mission," many started to follow the couple and join them in the fight for lost souls. In just 10 years they gained over 1,000 volunteers.

One day, Booth was reading reading

the Christian Mission annual report when he saw the statement written, "The Christian Mission is a volunteer army." Crossing out the words "volunteer army," he penned the new name "Salvation Army."

"Booth called it 'Salvation Army' for a few different reasons," said McKain. "The people who were a part of Christian Mission, all said we aren't volunteers, we are here because we want to be, and those who convert became soldiers of Christ. The soldiers of Salvation Army try and bring salvation to others."

In 2017, the Salvation Army has reached over 1.5 million members in 128 countries around the globe, all with the goal of trying to meet human needs without discrimination. The Salvation Army mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus and also to help try and provide for those who can't.

Contact Amber Mansfield at 432-263-7331 ext. 234, or by email at life@big-springherald.com.

After weeks of deals, stores aim to draw Black Friday crowds



AP photo

Shoppers wait to make purchases at a Best Buy on Black Friday in Dartmouth, Mass., Friday, Nov. 24, 2017.

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO and JOSEPH PISANI

AP Retail Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — Shoppers were out before dawn in the U.S. for fun and for deals, as retailers that have had a tough year were hoping to bring customers to their stores and websites for Black Friday, one of the biggest shopping days of the year.

Black Friday has morphed from a single day when people got up early to score doorbusters into a whole season of deals, so shoppers may feel less need to be out. Some love the excitement, even if they've already done some of their shopping online.

Friends Yeshica Jeffers and Stacey Rhodes-Sofer hit a Walmart in suburban Albany, New York, early Friday.

"We always do it. It's a tradition," said Jeffers, the mother of four children, including twin 7-year-old girls. "It's fun. It used to be a lot more fun before stores started opening on Thanksgiving."

Rhodes-Sofer said she was buying cosmetics for her 20-year-old daughter and books for her goddaughters — Jeffers' twins. Also on the shopping list: kitchen gadgets and fishing gear for her husband.

At a nearby shopping plaza, four women were loading pur-

chases from a Dick's Sporting Goods into the back of an SUV. Meg Noonan said it was the third Black Friday she has joined three friends for pre-dawn shopping.

"Honestly, it's fun to do it with friends while the kids are sleeping," Noonan said.

All four women said they went to Dicks for sports equipment and winter coats, and all said they'd "hit the computer" to make online purchases. Jeffers and Rhodes-Sofer, too, said they'll still do plenty of online shopping, especially through Amazon.

The shift to online buying will be a factor as industry analysts watch closely at how the nation's malls are faring for the start of the holiday shopping season. The Mall of America in Minnesota says that 2,500 people were in line at the 5 a.m. opening Friday, in line with a year ago. Shoppers started queuing up as early as 5:45 p.m. on Thanksgiving.

Jill Renslow, Mall of America's executive vice president of business development, said that stores like Nordstrom, Macy's and Best Buy were crowded. She said the items that caught shoppers' attention included voice-activated devices like Amazon Echo, nostalgic toys, clothing and shoes.

Renslow says more than 60 of the 500-plus stores now allow

shoppers to order online and pick up the goods at the mall. That's a big increase from a year ago.

With the jobless rate at a 17-year-low of 4.1 percent and consumer confidence stronger than a year ago, analysts project healthy sales increases for November and December. The National Retail Federation trade group expects sales for that period to at least match last year's rise of 3.6 percent and estimates online spending and other non-store sales will rise 11 to 15 percent.

Analysts at Bain say Amazon is expected to take half of the holiday season's sales growth. And Amazon is the top destination for people to begin holiday shopping, according to a September study by market research firm NPD Group.

"I buy pretty much what I can on Amazon," said Lam Huynh, who was at Macy's on Thursday evening during a visit to New York from Grand Rapids, Michigan. Like many consumers, he's been spending less time at the malls and more online. For the holiday season, he plans to do what he's been doing for the past few years: Go to deal sites and find the best prices.

PARADE

Continued from Page 1

couple of individuals on horses that will be helping us. Traditionally we always use golf carts to line everybody up, but now we have a couple of people on horses as well."

People can literally get into the parade at the last minute, he added.

"I will be at the corner of 24th and Scurry, because I will be the one that will have everyone set up according to their number," Nunez said. "I will tell them where they'll need to go and line up. They'll have to be at the tail end, right before Santa Claus. There's nothing after Santa."

The parade's grand marshal

this year will be Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tommy Sullivan; while parade judges will be Howard County Attorney Josh Hamby, Big Spring Police Chief Chad Williams, and Terry Telchik of the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The Herald invites everyone out for the parade, and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas!

"We look forward to everyone coming out, and we always want to make it even better than before," Nunez said.

For more information about the parade, call the Herald at 432-263-7331.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

FUMC

Continued from Page 1

and resurrection. The Senior Pastor went on to explain that the purpose of the story of Our Savior is to put Christmas in perspective and show the totality of all that Christ did.

FUMC music director and head of the Howard College music department Dan Kiley organized "Our Savior" with help from Howard College drama professor, Dan Evers.

"Dan Kiley is responsible for the music in this year's program and Dan Evers with assistance from HC students, will take over the drama portion," said Patterson. This yearly program is made possible by The Dora Roberts Foundation.

Big Spring residents can expect more FUMC holiday events to take place in the month of December, like Christmas caroling by church members Wednesday, Dec. 6; a "Polar Express" movie viewing party Friday, Dec. 15, for all ages at FUMC's Partee building; and a

youth Christmas party on Wednesday, Dec. 13.

Contact Staff Writer Erin Stephens at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Shirley Cross Bodin, 80, died Wednesday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Kelly Jean Long, 66, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Jimmy De Los Santos, 76, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Miguel Bencomo, 23, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home

Laverna Uptergrove, 90, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Big Spring Center thanks volunteers, staff, sponsors

Special to the Herald

Big Spring Center for Skilled Care offers the following letter of thanks for sponsors, staff, and volunteers:

"We here at Big Spring Center for Skilled Care have much to be grateful for this season. We have been blessed to celebrate Thanksgiving with so many of you in the last week and today. Our Thanksgiving Feast hosted at Ryan Hall last Wednesday, Nov. 15, turned into a true success in getting our community together for an enjoyable afternoon. Thank you to the members of the LULACS and the North Side Movement for partnering with us in making this happen. Thank you to those who donated to make such a wonderful feast possible: Alon USA, Cowboys Steakhouse, Delta Lightning Arrestors- Lori Speck, Troy Thompkins- Prudential, Kindred at Home, Marcy Place, Cecil Bynum, Porter's, HEB, Walmart, Farmers Insurance- Eric Escamilla, Don Avant.

"The very next day, Thursday Nov. 16, our home made six more turkeys to have a Thanksgiving Feast with our residents and their families. Thank you to our kitchen for cooking and all the staff

who worked hard in making it a pleasant evening. While the team in the kitchen was cooking, there was a team in the activity room doing hair and makeup to prepare the residents, and another team setting up furniture for the evening. THANK YOU! Thank you to the families and friends for joining us as you always do. Your support means so much to the residents as well as it does to the family we have at Big Spring Center for Skilled Care.

"Today, I am grateful to be a part of a community that continuously supports each other to make such activities happen all year long. I'm also grateful for the individuals at our home that make each day in healthcare a success. Happy Thanksgiving from our Team to all of you, Big Spring!!"

- Charlien Lynch, Administrator. Big Spring Center for Skilled Care

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UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1-22: Heritage Museum Christmas Tree Forest

December 1: Chamber of Commerce Sip and Shop

December 2: Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade

December 2: Breakfast with Santa and Parade Watch - The Heritage Museum

December 2: North Pole Shopping Extravaganza- Heritage Museum

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Opinion

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@big-springherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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- By telephone at 263-7331
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- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

DAILY PRAYER

Dear Lord,

Thank you for always being there for us.

Amen.

Diversity obsession

A common feature of our time is the extent to which many in our nation have become preoccupied with diversity. But true diversity obsession, almost a mania, is found at our institutions of higher learning. Rather than have a knee-jerk response for or against diversity, I think we should ask just what is diversity and whether it's a good thing. How do we tell whether a college, a department or another unit within a college is diverse or not? What exemptions from diversity are permitted?



WALTER W. WILLIAMS

Seeing as college presidents and provosts are the main diversity pushers, we might start with their vision of diversity. Ask your average college president or provost whether he even bothers promoting political diversity among faculty. I'll guarantee that if he is honest — and even bothers to answer the question — he will say no. According to a recent study, professors who are registered Democrats outnumber their Republican counterparts by a 12-1 ratio (<http://tinyurl.com/gpp4svq>). In some departments, such as history, Democratic professors outnumber their Republican counterparts by a 33-1 ratio.

The fact is that when college presidents and their diversity coterie talk about diversity, they're talking mostly about pleasing mixtures of race. Years ago, they called their agenda affirmative action, racial preferences or racial quotas. Not only did these terms fall out of favor but also voters approved initiatives banning

choosing by race. Courts found some of the choosing by race unconstitutional. That meant that the race people had to repack-age their agenda. That repack-aging became known as diversity. Some race people were bold enough to argue that “diversity” produces educational benefits to all students, including white students. Nobody has bothered to scientifically establish what those benefits are. For example, does a racially diverse student body lead to higher scores on graduate admissions tests, such as the GRE, LSAT and MCAT? By the way, Israel, Japan and South Korea are among the world's least racially diverse nations. In terms of academic achievement, their students run circles around

Ask your average college president or provost whether he even bothers promoting political diversity among faculty. I'll guarantee that if he is honest - and even bothers to answer the question - he will say no.

diversity-crazed Americans.

There is one area of college life where administrators demonstrate utter contempt for diversity, and that's in sports. It is by no means unusual to watch a Saturday afternoon college basketball game and see that the starting five on both teams are black. White players, not to mention Asian players, are un-

derrepresented. Similar underrepresentation is practiced in college football. Where you find whites overrepresented in both sports is on the cheerleading squads, which are mostly composed of white women. If you were to explore this lack of racial diversity in sports with a college president, he might answer, “We look for the best players, and it so happens that blacks dominate.” I would totally agree but ask him whether the same policy of choosing the best applies to the college's admissions policy. Of course, the honest answer would be a flat-out no.

The most important issue related to college diversity obsession is what happens to black students. Black parents should not allow their sons and daughters to fall victim to the diversity hustler even if the diversity hustler is a black official of the college. Black parents should not allow their sons and daughters to attend a college where they would not be admitted if they were white. A good rule of thumb is not to allow your children to attend a college where their SAT score is 200 or more points below the average of that college. Keep in mind that students are not qualified or unqualified in any absolute sense. There are more than 4,800 colleges — a college for most anybody. The bottom-line question for black parents and black people in general is: Which is better, a black student's being admitted to an elite college and winding up in the bottom of his class or flunking out or being admitted to a less prestigious college and performing just as well as his white peers and graduating? I would opt for the latter. You might ask, “Williams, but how will the nation's elite colleges fulfill their racial diversity needs?” My answer is that's their problem.

Should Trump be able to start a nuclear war?

Every home should have some essential items around in case of a disaster or another emergency — including canned goods, bottled water, spare batteries and a first-aid kit. But in 2017, every American should also have at hand an answer to one question: What would you do if you had only half an hour to live?

A nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missile launched from North Korea would take about 30 to 40 minutes to reach its target in the United States. North Korea has tested such missiles, and it may also have nuclear warheads small enough to be carried across the Pacific.

That's not the worst news. The worst news is that Donald Trump is president, with the power to initiate a nuclear exchange. Should Kim Jong Un go over the line in his insults and threats, our president might have a tantrum and decide to nuke North Korea. And there is no reason to believe anyone would stop him.

The consequences would redefine the term “cataclysmic.” When Trump threatened to unleash “fire and fury like the world has never seen,” he probably had only a vague idea of what a nuclear strike would do. Millions of North Koreans would instantly be killed or injured. North Korea, however, might be able to launch its missiles before ours arrived, dooming any number of American cities and their inhabitants.

In our system of government, the president can do very few things without the assent of others. He can't make laws. He can't spend money. He can't install Cabinet officers. He can't fill a court vacancy. He can't ban Muslims from traveling here.

As Trump has discovered to his disgust, he can't even deploy law enforcement agencies to persecute political opponents. These mechanisms were devised to con-

strain the president from making hasty, ill-considered decisions or abusing his power.

But on the most consequential matter imaginable, the chief executive is unconstrained. He can order a nuclear launch with good reasons, bad reasons or no reasons. He alone has the codes required to start the countdown to Armageddon. Once the order is sent down the chain of command, it is supposed to be executed.

It may be hoped that some officer down the line would refuse — emulating Denzel Washington's defiance of his submarine commander in “Crimson Tide.” At a Senate hearing Tuesday, retired Air Force Gen. Robert Kehler said the head of U.S. Strategic Command, a job he once held, could disobey an order he or she deems illegal.

But Bruce Blair, a Princeton

out our nuclear arsenal with a surprise attack. In that instance, the president would have been under intense pressure to launch in response while the enemy missiles were still in the air, with no time to consult Congress.

But those days are gone. Even if North Korea were to mount a nuclear strike, there would be no need to respond immediately. The president could take as much time as he wanted, consult with generals and security advisers, and even request authorization from Congress before proceeding to the task of making mushroom clouds. He could also choose not to.

Leaving complete authority to vaporize entire cities in the hands of one person has always been a risk. Richard Nixon once bragged, “I can go in my office and pick up a telephone, and in 25 minutes, millions of people will be dead.” But Trump gives it new urgency.

Some members of Congress propose putting the nuclear football in a vault and keeping one of two keys needed to open it. Sen. Ed Markey, D-Mass., and Rep. Ted Lieu, D-Calif., have introduced legislation requiring the president to get a declaration of war from Congress before ordering a first strike (though not a retaliatory strike).

Maybe Trump won't succumb to the temptation to press the ultimate button. Maybe if he does, someone will intervene to foil him. Maybe our luck will hold. It's a big gamble to leave this decision solely with him or any other fallible individual. And if we lose the bet? Well, it's not the end of the world.

Oh, wait...

Leaving complete authority to vaporize entire cities in the hands of one person has always been a risk. Richard Nixon once bragged, “I can go in my office and pick up a telephone, and in 25 minutes, millions of people will be dead. But Trump gives new urgency.

security scholar and former nuclear missile launch officer, wrote recently in The Washington Post, “I believe the nuclear commanders at all levels would obey such an order, despite deep misgivings about its wisdom and legality.”

Placing all power with the president may have made sense in the days when strategists worried that the Soviet Union would wipe

Steve Chapman blogs at <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/chapman>. Follow him on Twitter @SteveChapman13 or at <https://www.facebook.com/stevechapman13>. 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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Be a good tree

You've probably heard the saying, "You can fool all of the people some of the time. You can fool some of the people all of the time. But you can't fool all of the people all of the time." There are different reasons for different people as to why they would want to deceive or fool others. They may want others to think that they are better than they are (or more like the group). It may be pride or selfishness which leads people to think they should create a false image about themselves.

In Matthew 12:33-37, Jesus addresses this type of charade that people play in order to make themselves look good to others. The passages reads - Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the

tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give an account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned (ESV).



GREG
SURLLES

Jesus always had this way

of cutting right to the heart of the matter. That is exactly what he is saying in this passage - it is all about a person's heart. He's not referring to the muscle which pumps blood through your body. He's talking about the inner person and what makes you, well, you.

The treasure of which he speaks is everything you see as valuable. What do you value most? Are they mostly selfish things - money, power, influence, notoriety, etc.? Whatever we place value on will be the things that we love. Do you love God more than yourself? Do you love your neighbor (other people) more than yourself? Is it of more value to you to have pleasure in this life? Are you living this life like there is

nothing after it's done?

You can fool others. The bad thing is that after a while you can start to fool yourself, too. However, there is someone who can never be fooled because he can see our hearts. The good news is that we can change our hearts! It starts from within. Stop living just for yourself and start living for God. Stop doing things just for yourself and start doing things for others. Make the tree good!

You can start by submitting your will to the will of God. Paul speaks of it as putting to death the physical desires within us (Colossians 3:1-5). Out of this death comes a new birth, or rebirth (John 3:3-8). What do you do with a dead person? You bury them. So, when we die to ourselves

we are buried in water. This is the baptism of which Jesus spoke (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16). It is the same baptism of which Paul wrote (Romans 6:1-11).

From that point on, our focus changes. The things we view as valuable changes. This is because we are no longer living for ourselves, we are living by faith in Jesus (Galatians 2:20). When we are obedient to the commands of Jesus, then God performs a heart transplant on us. Our tree is made good so that we can now live for him and produce good fruit.

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

Church News

First United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church is located just off Gregg Street at the corner of Fourth and Scurry in downtown Big Spring. The usual Sunday Morning Schedule includes the 9 a.m. Traditions Service, featuring the pipe organ, Choir, trumpet, and hymns, followed by Sunday School, and then The Bridge service at 11 a.m. which features contemporary music led by a wonderful praise team.

On Sunday, Nov. 26, Pastor Derrell's message is "The Already and Not Yet," and the scriptures are from Revelation 1: 4-8; 11: 15-19, and John 18: 33-37. Since it is "Christ the King Sunday," we will lift up Christ as not only Savior, but also as our Lord and our coming King. Worship services are broadcast live each Sunday at 11 a.m. on radio station KXCS-105.5 FM. You can also find the services live streamed on our Facebook page, at First United Methodist Church Big Spring.

The Wednesday Noon Bible Study meets for lunch and a study in Garrett Hall on Wednesdays. The meal is served at 11:50 a.m. for \$5.

The Church is thankful to be able to share the Christmas Musical called "Our Savior." It will be presented for the community on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 and 3, through the generosity of the Dora Roberts Foundation. There are skits, a children's choir, an adult choir, dancers, full orchestra, drama, and special effects that make it an experience you will not want to miss. Singers, musicians, and cast members from Big Spring, Howard College, and the surrounding area are preparing for this dramatic presentation of the Birth and Life of "Our Savior." You may view promotional videos of "Our Savior" on our Facebook page at First United Methodist Church Big Spring. Please contact Dan Kiley for more information at 214-883-1868.

Evening Adult Bible Study, "Real Life," continues on Wednesday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. A meal is served from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Garrett Hall. Besides children and youth programs, an adult Bible Study is also offered. The Adult Bible Study is led by Pastor Derrell, and is entitled "Sun-

day Sermon 2.0." Questions and group discussion help those who attend dig deeper into the scripture and sermon from the previous Sunday.

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

Forsan Baptist Church

This week Quinton Burton will be the public speaker.

There will be no Sunday evening services on Nov. 26.

The Forsan Christmas Parade will take place Dec. 2.

The Children's Christmas Program will take place during morning worship on Dec. 18.

Wednesday youth and children's activities continue throughout the school year. Students from pre-k to 6th grade are provided a light snack right after school, with age-appropriate classes beginning at 4 p.m. Van rides are available at 5 p.m. IMPACT youth begins with a meal at 5:30, followed by class at 6 p.m. Van rides are available at 7 p.m.

Wednesday adult Bible study class begins at 6 p.m.

If anyone needs a ride to or from Wednesday evening activities, please call Pastor Darren Weaver at 432-213-2348.

Blessed Hands Deaf Church

Pastor Jim Walterhouse, wife Debbie, and the congregation of Blessed Hands Deaf Church invite you to join them in worship Sunday at 2 p.m. Come lift your heart to God with this vibrant group as they give praise and thanks for our risen Savior Jesus Christ. Currently, BHDC meets inside First Baptist Church at 705 W FM 700. For more information about Blessed Hands Deaf Church, including Wednesday evening schedule and activities, contact Pastor Jim at: jwalterhouse@gmail.com.

First Baptist Church

"But when the goodness and love for man ap-

peared from God our Savior, He saved us not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to His mercy, through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that having been justified by His grace, we may become heirs with the hope of eternal life." Titus 3:4-7. Sunday morning at 10:50, you're invited to join the people of First Baptist Church as they welcome in the Christmas season while gathering to praise the great "I AM," Jehovah God. Music Minister Alan Schantz will lead worshippers in a selection of music which will include: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus," "Here I Am to Worship," "Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery," "Above All," and "Go, Tell It On The Mountain." Pastor Mark Lindsey will deliver the message from Scripture titled "All I Want for Christmas: Love." Drawn from Revelation 1: 5-6, congregants will solemnly ponder Christ's loving sacrifice of Himself on the cross: willingly shedding His blood to purchase both pardon and purity for all mankind, thus being the sole bridge of access to God. Consequently, each believer becomes Divine royalty in Him, and ascribes all glory, sovereignty, and reverential homage and exaltation to God, The Father, forever. If unable to attend, you may join the service through the live stream on the website at: fbcbig-spring.org.

At 9:30 Sunday School groups meet throughout the building with children gathering in grade level rooms in 'Kids' City' on the first floor, while youth, college students, and adults meet in second floor classrooms. Greeters are available to help you find your class and direct you to coffee; come early to enjoy a time of fellowship.

Come join the fun Sunday evening at 4 pm in the church sanctuary for "The Hanging of the Greens," which is a joyful time of decorating for Jesus' birthday, aka: Christmas. Following the festivities, there will be a worship service at 6.

Mark your calendars for Sunday December 10 at 6 pm when the FBC annual "Mingle and Jingle" will be held in the Family Life Center. The Worship Choir and Drama Ministry will present "Come Let Us Adore." Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday evening activities begin at 6 p.m., and include Adult Bible study and prayer time, adult choir practice, Real LYF for children, and Saturate Youth for teens. Go to fbcbigspring.org for details.

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.

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

Cornerstone Covenant Church

We at Cornerstone Covenant Church would love the opportunity to Connect with YOU! Please join us this week at one of the following events:

Sunday, Nov. 26th - Join us this Sunday as we focus on God as our true source of all our blessings. We offer both a 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship service so come on out as you can expect biblical teaching & preaching, genuine loving fellowship and live spirit filled praise & worship. We would love the opportunity this Sunday to share what God has for you, and get to know you better.

Starfish Program - Starfish is a tutoring program for 3rd graders. They meet on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings from 6 p.m.-7 p.m. in our Academic Resource Center. The first phase of our STARFISH program is to assist 3rd grade children by offering character building principles; academic tutoring; and remedial and reinforcement assistance. We are also needing volunteers. If you are interested in being a part and are willing and available to serve in this powerful ministry to our community we would love to hear from you.

Monday, Nov. 27th - Far Above Rubies is hosting Fearfully & Wonderfully Made Art with Larenda Harrison at 6 p.m. in the ARC Academic Resource Center. Dinner, drinks, canvases and paint will be provided. All donations are given/accepted by Larenda Harrison. Please RSVP!! Contact Debbie Rieger by Wednesday, Nov. 22nd at 432-935-1257.



Reflections: Thanksgiving and Black Friday

I like Thanksgiving, partly because it resists being hijacked by commercialism. I like the sounds of family and friends laughing around the table. I like the fall leaves scattered about the lawn, the crisp mornings and the smell of turkey baking in the oven. I like what goes with it: cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad and pie (any kind of pie). And, most of all, I like dressing, the one thing that still divides the north from the south. Those from the north prepare bread dressing. Those with southern roots cook corn bread dressing. Turkeys come and turkeys go, but my wife's corn bread dressing is to die for.

She learned the recipe from her mother: corn bread, celery, onions, chopped boiled eggs, broth, butter and other ingredients I will never figure out. With giblet gravy, it is a meal in itself.



BILL
TINSLEY

By Friday the tryptophan and carbohydrates have worn off. After missing the third quarter of the Thanksgiving ball game we regained consciousness enough to stumble into the kitchen for leftovers. Loaded up again, and slept the sound sleep of a thankful soul. And now we are ready

to get on with the real business of the American holiday season: shopping.

Of course Black Friday isn't what it was. Online shopping, Amazon and some stores opening their doors late on Thursday have taken some of the zap out of it. At its peak, lines would form in front of Wal-Mart, Best Buy and Target long before the first gray light of day. A few spent the night camped out in tents on concrete sidewalks. Our pilgrim fathers knew nothing of this. They hunted and harvested and cleaned and cooked, but they never stood in lines in front of glass doors waiting for the opening bell. They never rushed through aisles searching for treasures

that were sure to disappear. They never stood in check out lines that stretched to the back of the store. They had it easy.

Fifty years ago we eased into Christmas. No one had heard of Black Friday. We used Friday to digest the Thanksgiving feast. It was a quiet day, the day after we gathered at grandma's with cousins and kin. Christmas decorations were not yet up. We savored the season. But today, we are jolted from Thanksgiving into Christmas.

Black Friday seems to symbolize our rush through life, our efforts to get the best deal, to be first in line. It seems to represent the commercialization of Christmas and threat-

ens to turn Thanksgiving into a season of "thanks getting." Don't get me wrong. I like a good deal and deep discounts. I want the American economy to thrive. But, along the way, I hope we cultivate a thankful heart and grateful spirit that is not measured by the sum of what we can get at the cheapest price. "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:15).

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 6

Tuesday, Dec. 12th- 50 & over small group will be gathering at 7p.m. for a white elephant exchange/gift limit is \$10.00. Don't forget to bring your favorite dish to share. We will meet at the Flower's Residence 2405 E. 25th St. For more info please contact Faye Flowers @ 432-213-3883.

Monday, Dec. 18th- Far Above Rubies- Ornament Exchange & Potluck held in the ARC Academic Resource Center @ 6 p.m. Bring and share your Christmas ornament and a favorite dish.

Covenant Life New Believers Course - Are you a New Believer? Were you recently baptized? We have a course just for you. Our CLNB Course will be held each Sunday in December from 10 a.m.-10:50 a.m. in the Academic Resource Center. Members of our Pastoral Care Team will be sharing this four week course designed to walk you through the steps of: Salvation, Faith & Assurance, Power of the Holy Spirit and Overcoming Trials.

Sunday, Dec. 24th Christmas Concert @ 11 a.m. Service- The days are getting shorter and the nights colder, meaning the countdown to Christmas is on its way. Join us as we honor and celebrate our Saviors Birth. We will be having a Candle lighting service and our very own Children's Church department will be singing and performing.

Cornerstone Covenant Church (CCC) is a unified, spirit-led, purpose-driven church, which cultivates an atmosphere of faith so that lives can be transformed by Jesus Christ. Please join us every Sunday at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m. for worship services.

CCC is located at 706 East 12th Street. For office hours or other questions please contact our Administrative Office at 432.264.0015 or email us at info@cccbigspring.org. You can also find us at [facebook.com/CCCBigSpring](https://www.facebook.com/CCCBigSpring) or visit us at www.cccbigspring.org if you would like more information.

Midway Baptist Church

Midway Baptist Church is located at 6200 S Service Rd in the Midway area, with Dr. Michael Seay serving as pastor. Services at Midway Baptist Church begin each week with Sunday

school classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m., followed by Sunday morning worship at 11 a.m. A children's church and nursery are provided. On Sunday and Wednesday evenings, worship begins at 6 p.m. Children's and youth programs are also available.

Every Monday, a morning ladies' prayer and share group meet at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall at Midway Baptist Church.

We will be having a PJ'S and Pancakes breakfast, Saturday, Dec. 16th. We will be collecting a love offering for kid's Christmas presents and we will be doing an ornament decorating craft with Dot Ditto. The breakfast is from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. We would love to have you join us!

Our Christmas Cantata will be during the morning service Sunday, Dec. 17th. Please join us as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas!

Big Spring First Presbyterian Church

On Wednesday the Lectionary Bible Study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, meets at 5:00 p.m. in the church library. This week the Chancel Choir rehearsal was at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 20, because there was no Wednesday rehearsal. Next week regular rehearsals will resume at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

Thursday, November 30, there will be a special cantata practice for any singers who plan to sing in the Christmas musical "Peace Has Come," which will be present-

ed during the worship hour on Sunday, December 3, in the Sanctuary. The practice begins at 6:00 p.m.

The Children's Choir will not meet at 5:30 p.m. this Sunday afternoon. The Youth will not have their regular activities this Sunday but are asked to come and help with the church decorating. Organist/choir director Laura Holleman will be at the church at 4:30 to play for rehearsal for the Christmas musical for any singers who wish to have extra practice.

The monthly Stated Session Meeting was held in the church library on Tuesday, November 21, at 6:00 p.m.

Due to some unforeseen problems, the anthem by the choir for last week was cancelled. However, the Children's Choir presented "How Beautiful if the Green Earth" during the Children's Moment.

Last Sunday at the close of worship, Jim Little reported for the Nominating Committee in presenting the latest class of Elders (all of whom have agreed to serve) as John Brode, Katie Grimes, Susan McDaniel, and Paschal Odom. The floor was opened for further nominations, but there were none. The proposed slate of Elders was elected by acclamation. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Last Sunday afternoon the Adopt a Military Hero group used the Fellowship Hall to have more than 200 volunteers of all ages come to pack 500 boxes to send to troops overseas at Christmas. This is the third year that First Presbyterian Church has hosted this heart-warming and worthwhile activity.

Tuesday, November 28 at noon, Presbyterian Women Annual Cookie Project and catered lunch takes place in Fellowship Hall. Women are asked to bring cookies to pack and mail to the college students and shut-ins out of town and to deliver plates of cookies to local shut-ins.

This Sunday afternoon at 6:00 p.m. everyone who is able is asked to come to the church to decorate for Christmas. The Children's Sunday School class has been making new Chris-

mons for the tree in the sanctuary. There will be refreshments after the decorating is done.

Jennifer Patterson is in charge of Take Ten for this Sunday. Lector for November is Danny Kennemur. Ushers for November are Ellen Austin, John Brode, Danny Kennemur, and John Yater.

The lectionary passages for Christ the King Sunday are Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; and Matthew 25:31-46. Rev. Craig Holstedt will deliver the sermon. The Chancel Choir will open the service with the Introit "Come, Thou Almighty King" Italian hymn. The Choir will present the anthem "A Time for Turning" by Craig Courtney, and the Offertory will be "All Glory Be to God on High I & II," by James Coe (on the organ). The Noisy Offering will be collected during the Children's Moment.

Please note that our 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 may listen in on KBST 1490 AM, beginning at 11:00 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.fpcbs.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.

Mark your calendars, the Live Annual Drive Through Nativity starts December 8th through the 10th from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Come enjoy the magic of the Christmas presentation in the comfort of your vehicle while you view stunning scenes of the life and resurrection of Christ Jesus.

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

On Wednesday at 6:00 pm, the Cedar Road Campus has a meal, bible study and children's and youth activities. At 6:30 pm 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 our small group bulletin.

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Coahoma varsity basketball update

Coahoma Bulldogs defeat Miles Bulldogs 60-40

Bulldogettes down Miles Lady Bulldogs 44-31



Courtesy Photo by Lyndel Moody

Coahoma's Gage Clark goes head to head with a Miles Bulldog in the opening tip off in their game on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 vs. Miles.

Special to The Herald

The Bulldog varsity basketball team earned a win over the Miles Bulldogs with a final score of 60-40 Tuesday night held at the Coahoma ISD competition gym.

The Bulldogs captured the lead early after Mason Moore netted two shortly after the tip off in the first quarter. From there, Coahoma slowly widened the lead throughout the game.

The lead through the game Hill at 6:53 left in the game added two more points to the board. Gage Clark would follow up with another two 34 seconds later making the score 6-2. Also adding points on the board were Bryson Cline and Moore, who increased the lead at 17-7 before the 'Dogs headed into the second period of play.

Clark was the first Bulldog to put points on the board in the second

quarter, adding 4 to the score board before the Momentum stepped toward Miles. The Miles Bulldogs topped up to the free throw line four times in a row and successfully put 4 more points on the board before draining a basket for another two. That made the score 21-15 with 3:52 left on the game clock for the half.

With the clock ticking down from 2:35, the game turned in Coahoma's favor as Brice Martin and Joe Manning added to Coahoma's lead leaving the score 30-15 at the end of the second quarter.

The Miles Bulldogs were quick to put the first points on the board after halftime, making the score 30-17. At the free throw line, Manning added one more to the score board with 6:27 left in the game. At 5:40, a Miles

See **DOGS**, Page 14



Courtesy Photo by Lyndel Moody

Coahoma's Cassie Grant (25) passes the basketball to Mikayla Overton in their game on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 vs. Miles.

Special to The Herald

The Coahoma Bulldogettes remain undefeated for the season as the team bested Miles Tuesday night 44-31 in basketball action.

The win at the Coahoma ISD competition gym brings the Bulldogettes record to 3-0 for the season. Sophomore Caitlyn Corley led the team with 14 points for the game. Senior Makayla Overton was right behind as she finished with 11, and Junior Jovi Gonzales and freshman Abbie Lopez each had six.

The Bulldogettes ended the first half of play strong with the 24-12 score in their favor over the Miles Lady Bulldogs, thanks to big performances by Corely and Gonzales. Howard helped put the last point for the half by sinking a basket for 2 at the 1:55 mark.

In the third quarter, Corley shot the ball for two points with 5 minutes left of the game clock. Lopez added to two to the score board as the clock ticked

down to 3:57 to increase their lead to 30-19. Successful shots by Makayla Overton and Corley put the score at 34-25 by the end of the third.

The Miles Lady Bulldogs struck first with a successful layup at the beginning of fourth quarter, but Corley answered right back by sinking a shot of her own at the 6:16 mark. A successful basket by Grant at the free throw line made the score 39-27 with 5:53 left in the game. Makayla Overton sank a shot from behind the three-point line at the 4:27 mark to widen the lead as the Bulldogettes then began to focus more on defense, and attempted to run the clock down. Corely made the last basket of the night at the 2:01 mark ending the game with a final score of 44-31.

Corley lead the team in points as she finished with 14 on the game. Overton was right behind her as she finished with 11.

Up next, the Bulldogettes will host Grady on Tuesday, November 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Junior Big Spring Steers finish regular season undefeated



Courtesy Photo

Pictured above is the junior Big Spring Steer football team. Howard County has been well represented by many young boys and girls playing football in the Permian Basin Youth Football League (PBYFL). The Howard County chapter is comprised of three organizations: The Broncos, The Predators, and The Steers. Last weekend, the PBYFL hosted their finals to the championship playoffs. The Big Spring Steer Nation juniors finished 3rd in the Division II playoffs 1-1, by defeating the Big Spring Predators 6-0. The Junior Steers were also undefeated during their regular playing season 8-0, with an overall 9-1 year. This team is under the direction of Keegan Clark, head coach.

2017 Hawk Buddies Basketball Program

Special to The Herald

Howard College is putting on a "Hawk Buddies Basketball Program" for boys and girls in kindergarten all the way through grade 8. This camp will be directed by Howard College head womens' coach Earl Diddle, associate head coach Tara Lisle and the 2017-18 Lady Hawks.

When: Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum

Time: Registration is between 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Buddies Clinic 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pizza Party immediately following clinic 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Entry Fee: \$20.00 includes Hawk Basketball, free admission for ALL FAMILY MEMBERS to Hawk home games, Clinic with lec-



tures on goals and basketball fundamentals, Pizza party with the Lady Hawks and a Buddies Night (Autographs and pictures with the Lady Hawks)

Buddies Night: Buddies will be recognized at half-time of our Monday, February 12th game against Clarendon College. The Lady Hawks will be signing autographs and taking pictures courtside immediately following the game.

For further information, please call Tara Lisle at 264-5155 or Earl Diddle at 264-5043.

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Annie's Mailbox

Intimidated by
Boyfriend's Friend

Dear Annie: I've
been dating "Tim" for
about a year. When
we first started dating,
I was intimidated by
how pretty some of his
female friends were,
but that feeling faded
when I got to know
them. They've all been

warm and welcoming
-- that is, except for
one girl. I've always
gotten a weird feeling
from "Meg." She hasn't
been mean exactly,
but she's always just
been a bit standoffish.
I can't put my finger
on what it is. She's
been perfectly polite
and not obviously cold.
But something makes
me wonder whether
she and Tim used to

have a thing or she
likes him now. Oddly,
this didn't start really
bugging me until about
a month ago, and I'm
thinking that may be
because Tim and I
have been spending a
little less time together.
I've been really busy
with work, and so has
he, and our schedules
don't line up great.

I've been afraid to
bring this whole thing
up with him. I don't
want to drive him away
by acting jealous.
Plus, he's given me no
reason to worry. He is
very trusting of me and
doesn't mind that some
of my best friends are
guys. He proudly intro-
duces me to everyone
as his girlfriend. And
perhaps the ultimate
sign of trust in this day
and age: He never
hesitates to let me use
his laptop.

Yet I still keep
thinking about Meg
and wondering wheth-
er the two of them text,
and when he leaves
the room, I'm tempted
to look at his phone. I
know; it's bad! I ha-
ven't given in to the
temptation, but if this
feeling keeps up, I'll
probably cave eventu-
ally. Am I being para-
noid? How can I tell?
-- A Little Green

**Dear A Little
Green:** When you find
yourself acting like
a private investiga-
tor with your partner,
redirect that magnify-
ing glass to examine
yourself and your
relationship instead. I
don't think Meg is the
problem. I think that
you were having some
anxiety about the
relationship and that
she's what your mind
latched on to. Still,

because it's been both-
ering you this much,
it's worth gently raising
the topic with Tim. Tell
him you've always felt
a little intimidated by
Meg, and ask whether
there was ever any-
thing between them.
He won't get defensive
if you present it as an
earnest question and
not as an accusation.
Communication and
trust go hand in hand,
and if you can learn
to speak openly and
listen carefully to your
partner, deeper trust
will follow.

Dear Annie: When
you divorce your
spouse, are you sup-
posed to refer to your
in-laws as "ex-in-laws,"
as in "my ex-brother-
in-law"? My neighbor
says yes, but I thought
my in-laws would
always be my in-laws,
even after a divorce. --

Just Curious
**Dear Just Curi-
ous:** In conversation,
you can refer to them
however you'd like.
But your neighbor is
correct: Legally speak-
ing, your in-laws are
no longer your in-laws
after a divorce. It might
feel less awkward to
say "my ex-husband's
brother" than "my ex-
brother-in-law."

Send your questions for
Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. To find out
more about Annie Lane
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Test your play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Hearts, and North leads the king of clubs. How would you play the hand?

WEST	EAST
♠ A 9 2	♠ K 8 4
♥ A K Q 10 9 5	♥ 7 3
♦ 10 7 4	♦ A 9 6 2
♣ 6	♣ A J 7 3

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the queen of hearts. Played correctly, you can make the contract regardless of how the North-South cards are divided. How would you proceed?

WEST	EAST
♠ Q J 2	♠ A 10 3
♥ 7 6	♥ A K 3
♦ 9 4	♦ A 10 8 7 2
♣ A K 10 9 8 6	♣ Q 3

1. Ten tricks are easy if the missing trumps are divided 3-2 or either opponent has the singleton jack. The only real threat to the contract is that one of the opponents was dealt the J-x-x of trumps, so you should take steps to deal with that possibility.

Accordingly, you win the club lead with the ace and ruff the three of clubs at trick two. You then cash the A-K of trumps to find out where you stand in the trump suit. If everyone follows twice, you're home free, so let's say North was dealt this hand:

♠ 7 6 ♥ J86 2 ♦ J5 ♣ KQ1052
In that case, he'll wind up taking second money — despite his sure trump trick — because of your foresight in trumping a club at trick two.

After next cashing the queen of hearts and A-K of spades, you ruff another club, then play a diamond to the ace followed by a third club ruff. That brings you to 10 tricks, which was your goal from the start. Note that the same line of play also yields 10 tricks if South rather than North started with four trumps.

2. Win the opening heart lead with the king, play a low club from dummy and finesse the ten! If North wins the trick with the jack, which is certainly possible, you have nine sure tricks consisting of five clubs, a spade, two hearts and a diamond.

If the ten of clubs wins the trick, you are equally certain of the contract, whether North follows suit or not. You next lead a low club to dummy's queen and continue with the ace and another spade, establishing a spade entry to your hand to cash at least two more club tricks.

This method of play guarantees at least four club tricks, two spades, two hearts and a diamond. The unusual club finesse at trick two guards against any possible division of the suit, whether it is divided 3-2, 4-1 or 5-0.

Tomorrow: How to win by losing.
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SUDOKU

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

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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



Aquarius Lunar Notes

To turn from pain is violence. A lot of people choose not to see the pain, as though that makes the violence not count, but it still counts anyway. Some can't help but see the pain, however invisible or covered up it may be. Perhaps there's nothing to be done for the pain, but awareness alone brings a degree of peace under the Aquarius moon.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Who is on your side? Not that people have to be on your side for you to get something out of interacting with them. But if they do happen to be on Team You, you're going to feel much more comfortable and free around them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Lying opens the door to doubt. It makes it hard to believe or to be believed. There's a small and tempting lie hanging over you -- maybe it seems like the kinder choice -- but if you can avoid it, do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Improvement is the goal. If improvement is always the goal, eventually you'll hit the heights. But if you make the heights the goal, every small win will be diminished by the cruelty that is comparison.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). For the sake of being orderly, you may have to cut something out. You may have to lose a lot of something, actually, but the remaining part should be much easier to manage.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The simplicity of your approach will be disarming to those dealing with massive complexities. And as they pause to observe, perhaps in wonderment or maybe just to chuckle to themselves, you'll make your next brilliant move.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Strongly consider putting your thoughts into written form, especially in a letter to someone you

feel good to you today.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 24). It's not that you want a total change, but a few key refinements on your wish list will be granted in the next three months, and this will up your entire game.

January is the start of a new level of self-love and acceptance. March brings a change of scenery, and June is all about building up your loved ones. Gemini and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 44, 5, 16, 21 and 37.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: ARIES:

The other person's intentions delight you, whether or not they land right. This is love. TAURUS: All you're doing is finding out what's a good match and what isn't. Take nothing personally. GEMINI: Your desires might not match up perfectly, but there's a resonance that makes things very interesting. CANCER: As you get deeper and deeper into your interest, you get more and more attractive. LEO: You're not sure if someone is telling the whole truth. The question becomes: "How much does it really matter?" VIRGO: The way to have the greatest possible control over your surroundings and the people in them is to be alone. LIBRA: If your victory makes the other person happy, you know the other person is really for you. SCORPIO: Your presence will be requested. You earned this. SAGITTARIUS: If it's too predictable or controlled, it won't be a magical night. Leave openings for things to happen that enhance the story.

appreciate. Everything about the written expression will be thoughtfully received, maybe even cherished.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If you can keep to the topics and activities that contribute to your health and stay on purpose, this is no small thing. Reward it. You might be surprised how few people can do this.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Every family has its own kind of delicate balance to strike, and today you're throwing weight in this corner or the other just to keep things afloat. Don't wear yourself out over it. Give others a chance to contribute.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your family balance may be upset, but this is very positive. It's what had to happen to strengthen the bonds. Tonight, you're open-minded. You may even be willing to travel beyond reality as you know it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Do you have people around you who believe in you even more than you believe in yourself? Because that's a gift. Treasure them, and let them know about that, too!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Today's luck springs from appreciating where you come from, partly because you're now experienced enough to understand the pressures and freedoms of adulthood and the difficulties involved in raising another human.

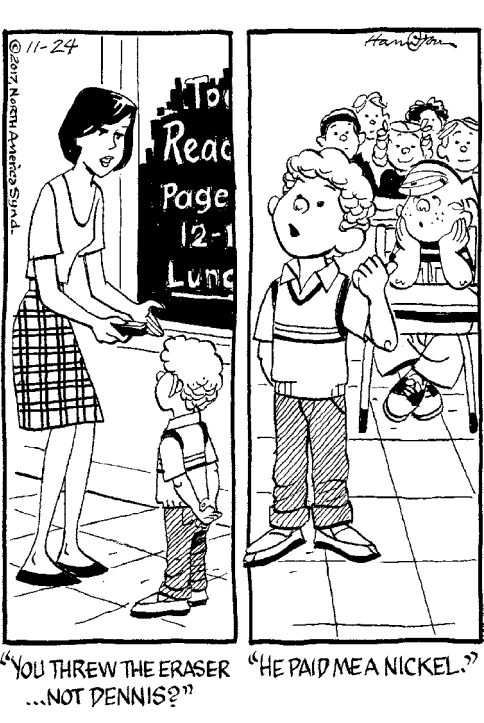
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). In the wizarding world, you say your spell, wave your wand, and it's done. In the physical world, there's so much more breath and flesh to involve in it. Maybe that's better. Work will

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

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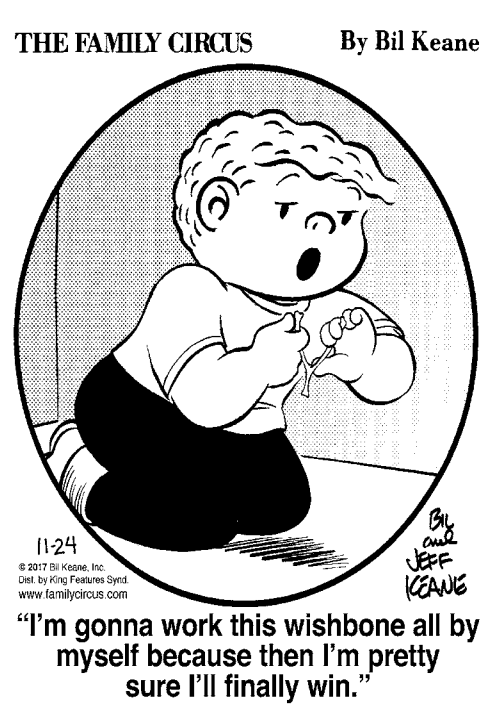
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5 :PM	Scores	P. Luche	Basketball	CBS 7	Tele	News	Dr. Young	Euromaxx	Hawaii	American	Fam. Guy		Basketball		UEFA High-lights			Gold Rush
5 :30	Jeopardy!	Noticiero		CBS 7	Noticias	News	Zion	Business	Five-0	American	Fam. Guy							Gold Rush
6 :30	Wheel	Enamorán-dome	Extra	ET	Caso Cer-rado	News	Hidden	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld		College Basketball	Mavericks				Gold Rush
7 :30	Santa Claus, Town	Rosa de Guadalupe	College Football: Texas Tech at Texas.	Frosty	El César (SS)	Grinch	News	Wash	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld		College Football: Teams TBA.	NHRA Drag Racing: Auto Club NHRA Finals.				Gold Rush
8 :30		Mi marido tiene		Frosty	Sin Senos Si	Trolls	HaYesod	Charlie	Griffith	iHeartRadio Music Festival Night 2	Seinfeld		College Basketball: Teams TBA.					Gold Rush
9 :30		Caer en tentación			Señora Acero 4		Light of Southwest		Heroes	Page Six			College Basketball: Teams TBA.	Fantasy Football				Escobar's Millions
10 :30	Local 2	Impacto		CBS 7	Tele	News	News	News	Heroes	Seinfeld			College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Football				Gold Rush
11 :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	News	Late Show-Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Creation	Ribbon	C. Burnett	Seinfeld			College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Football				Gold Rush
12 :30	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	Mod Fam	How I Met	Sin Senos Si	Seth Meyers	Shepherd's Heart	Newsline	Perry Mason	Rules			College Basketball: Teams TBA.	High School Scoreboard Live				Gold Rush
1 :30	Extra	Quiero Amarte	Two Men	James Corden	Señora Acero 4	Mani	Shabbat	(Off Air)	Twi. Zone	King/Hill			College Basketball: Teams TBA.					Gold Rush
1 :30	Paid Prg.	Faith	Holly		Programa	Today-Kathie	Light of Southwest		Hitchcock	Cops			SportCtr					Gold Rush
1 :30	Paid Prg.	Las amazonas	Mom	FamFeud					Mannix	King			College Basketball					Gold Rush

DENNIS THE MENACE



"YOU THREW THE ERASER ...NOT DENNIS?" "HE PAID ME A NICKEL."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



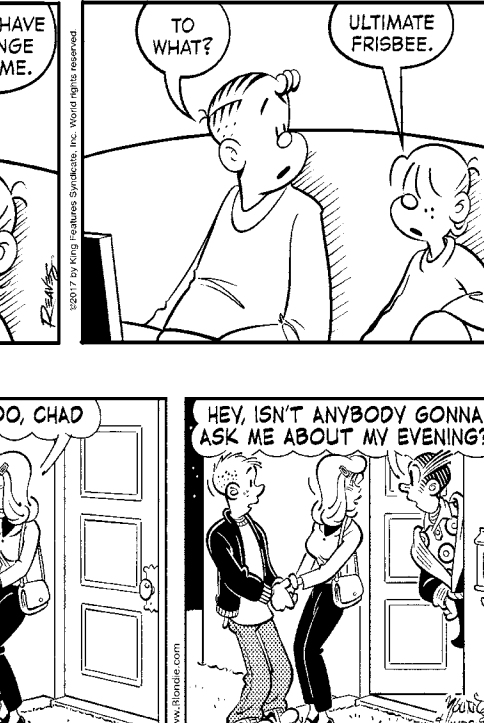
"I'm gonna work this wishbone all by myself because then I'm pretty sure I'll finally win."

HI AND LOIS



WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO DO ABOUT ALL THE INJURIES IN PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL? THEY'LL HAVE TO CHANGE THE GAME.

BLONDIE



I HAD A WONDERFUL EVENING, COOKIE ME TOO, CHAD HEY, ISN'T ANYBODY GONNA ASK ME ABOUT MY EVENING?

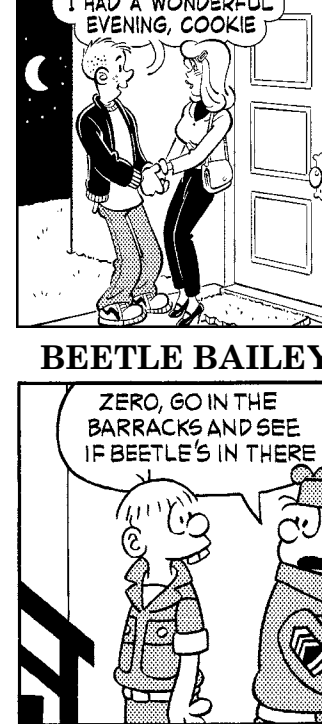
This Date In History

Today is Friday, Nov. 24, the 328th day of 2017. There are 37 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 24, 1917, nine members of the Milwaukee police department and two civilians were killed when a bomb exploded inside a police station. (The suspicious-looking package was brought to the station by a local resident after it was discovered outside a church; anarchists were suspected, but the culprits were never caught.) On this date:

In 1784, Zachary Taylor, the 12th president of the United States, was born in Orange County, Virginia. In 1859, British naturalist Charles Darwin published "On the Origin of Species," which explained his theory of evolution by means of natural selection. In 1939, British Overseas Airways Corp. (BOAC) was formally established. In 1944, during World War II, U.S. bombers based on Saipan attacked Tokyo in the first raid against the Japanese capital by land-based planes. In 1947, a group of writers, producers and directors that became known as the "Hollywood Ten" was cited for contempt of

Congress for refusing to answer questions about alleged Communist influence in the movie industry. John Steinbeck's novel "The Pearl" was first published. In 1957, Mexican muralist Diego Rivera, 70, died in Mexico City. In 1963, Jack Ruby shot and mortally wounded Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy, in a scene captured on live television. In 1969, Apollo 12 splashed down safely in the Pacific. In 1971, a hijacker calling himself "Dan Cooper" (but who became popularly known as "D.B. Cooper") parachuted from a

BEETLE BAILEY



ZERO, GO IN THE BARRACKS AND SEE IF BEETLE'S IN THERE IF HE'S ASLEEP, WAKE HIM

GREY MORT WALKER



HOW AWAKE DO YOU WANT HIM, SARGE?

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- ACROSS
- 1 Confounds
- 6 A, as for Aristotle
- 11 Relaxing wellness facility
- 14 Vibrant
- 15 Despot, for instance
- 16 Cockpit stat.
- 17 Pollution control system
- 19 ___ Cruces, NM
- 20 Parapsychology subject
- 21 Some elongated incisors
- 22 Uniquely
- 24 Balzac's being
- 26 Xylophone cousin
- 28 Singing acceptably
- 32 Semisoft cheese
- 33 Easter preceder
- 34 Team-building impediment
- 35 Facets
- 37 Sri Lanka export
- 39 Online daily mag
- 43 Mail ctr.
- 45 Historical interval
- 47 Vigorous spirit
- 48 Stop being careful
- 51 Yet to be broadcast
- 53 Rolaid's alternative
- 54 Ray in the water
- 55 Disney miner
- 58 Defeated by flooring
- 61 Pen name
- 62 NFL infraction
- 65 Preparatory time
- 66 Valentine opener

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
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Northwest Orient Airlines 727 over the Pacific Northwest after receiving \$200,000 dollars in ransom; his fate remains unknown. In 1985, the hijacking of an Egyptair jetliner parked on the ground in Malta ended violently as Egyptian commandos stormed the plane. Fifty-eight people died in the raid, in addition to two others killed by the hijackers. In 1991, rock singer Freddie Mercury died in London at age 45 of AIDS-related pneumonia. In 1992, a China Southern Airlines Boeing 737 crashed in southern China, killing all 141 people on board. Ten years ago: A fast-moving wildfire pushed by Santa Ana winds raced through the canyons and mountains of Malibu, California, for the second time in little more than a month, destroying some 50 homes. In Australia's election, conservative Prime Minister John Howard suffered a major defeat at the hands of Labor Party head Kevin Rudd. Five years ago: Fire raced through a garment factory in Bangladesh that supplied major retailers in the West, killing 112 people; an official said many of the victims were trapped because the eight-story building lacked emergency exits. Former championship boxer Hector "Macho" Camacho died at a hospital in Puerto Rico after doctors disconnected life support; he'd been shot in his hometown of Bayamon earlier in the week. One year ago: President-elect Donald Trump gathered with family at his Palm Beach estate Mar-a-Lago for Thanksgiving. A car bomb tore through a gas station south of Baghdad, killing at least 92 people in an attack claimed by the Islamic State group. A Northern California woman, Sherri Papini, was found near an interstate three weeks after disappearing while jogging; Papini told police she had been abducted at

gunpoint by two women in a case that has baffled investigators. Florence Henderson, who went from Broadway star to become one of America's most beloved television moms in "The Brady Bunch," died in Los Angeles at age 82. Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson is 79. Country singer Johnny Carver is 77. Former NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue (TAG-lee-uh-boo) is 77. Rock drummer Pete Best is 76. Actor-comedian Billy Connolly is 75. Former White House news secretary Marlin Fitzwater is 75. Former Motion Picture Association of America Chairman Dan Glickman is 73. Singer Lee Michaels is 72. Actor Dwight Schultz is 70. Actor Stanley Livingston is 67. Rock musician Clem Burke (Blondie; The Romantics) is 63. Record producer Terry Lewis is 61. Actor/director Ruben Santiago-Hudson is 61. Actress Denise Crosby is 60. Actress Shae D'Lyn is 55. Rock musician John Squire (The Stone Roses) is 55. Rock musician Gary Stonadge (Big Audio) is 55. Actor Conleth Hill is 53. Actor-comedian Brad Sherwood is 53. Actor Garret Dillahunt is 53. Actor-comedian Scott Krinsky is 49. Rock musician Chad Taylor (Live) is 47. Actress Lola Glaudini is 46. Actress Danielle Nicolet is 44. Actor-writer-director-producer Stephen Merchant is 43. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Chen Lu is 41. Actor Colin Hanks is 40. Actress Katherine Heigl (HY-guhl) is 39. Actress Sarah Hyland is 27.

Answer to previous puzzle

S	O	F	T	M	A	M	A	S	S	T	I	R	
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Sputtering Cowboys: Prescott playoff hopes fade without Zeke

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — Dak Prescott faked a handoff, swept around to the left side with a wide open path to the end zone.

For the Dallas Cowboys without Ezekiel Elliott, it's never that easy these days to score a touchdown. Prescott's apparent 34-yard TD run was wiped out by a holding call, and the Cowboys punted after his incomplete pass on the following play in the third quarter of their 50th Thanksgiving Day game, a 28-6 loss to the Los Angeles Chargers.

"I take more responsibility in a loss like this, when the offense is in a funk. I'm the leader of the unit," Prescott said. "I've got to figure out what I've got to do to get that whole unit rolling better and consistent."

When 235-pound running back Rod Smith powered in for a 2-yard TD run with 12:48 left in the game, the Cowboys (5-6) finally ended a streak of 10 consecutive quarters without a touchdown that is believed to be the longest such drought in team history.

Dallas went more than 158 minutes of game action without a touchdown after Prescott's TD run in the first quarter at Atlanta on Nov. 12 — a stretch that encompasses their three-game losing streak, half of Elliott's six-game suspension for alleged domestic violence.

The Cowboys have been held under 300 total yards in all three of those games while scoring only two offensive touchdowns without Elliott, the NFL rushing leader as a rookie last season.

Opposing defenses have scored two touchdowns

against them in that same stretch, including Desmond King returned an interception 90 yards for a TD midway through the fourth quarter for the Chargers.

"Everybody's got a piece of it. Starts up front. But the quarterback, the runners, the guys outside, certainly as a coaching staff we're always looking at ourselves and what our role is in it," coach Jason Garrett said. "Offensively, the performance wasn't up to par. It certainly wasn't enough to match what they were doing on their side of the ball."

Prescott had two more interceptions, giving him five in two games after throwing just four a year ago. Last year's NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year has nine picks for the season.

The Cowboys trailed only 3-0 at halftime, then the Chargers opened the second half with a 10-play, 77-yard drive. Then after the Prescott run to the end zone was wiped out, Los Angeles went 92 yards on eight plays and led 16-0 after Philip Rivers' 27-yard pass to Tyrell Williams.

The Cowboys have been outscored 72-6 in the second half of the three losses, including to the NFC East-leading Philadelphia Eagles (9-1) only four days before Thanksgiving.

"In each of the games we were in position at half-time, in a really good position to challenge," Garrett said. "In each of the games, we just didn't do what we needed to do in the second half. They were able to sustain drives and cash in on drives and we weren't able to match those. Happened in different ways in each of the games."

Not a good recurring theme for the Cowboys, who instead of trying to win their second straight NFC East title will instead have a struggle to make the playoffs.

Dallas is home again next Thursday against the Washington Redskins before playing three of its last four games on the road.

While surprised at the offensive struggles without Elliott, who won't be back until Christmas Eve with only two games left, Jones insists that he believes the Cowboys can turn this season around.

"Yes, I do, because I think we've got players that have played at a high level, won games," Jones said. "I know that as long as you've got a breath to get into those playoffs — we had the Giants come up the backside on us out here and beat the top seed here five, six, seven years ago and won the whole thing. That's what's great about this game."



Courtesy Photo by Lyndel Moody

Coahoma's Bryson Cline dribbles the ball in their game vs. Miles on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 in Coahoma.

DOGS

Continued from Page 8

Bulldog would put one more on the board for his team from the free throw line.

Moore quickly added to the Coahoma's lead as he made 4 from shots taken at 4:09 and 3:32 on the game clock, putting the score at 37-20.

Coahoma would end the third quarter on top 45-24 thanks to crucial baskets by Martin and Cline.

Although both teams scored 15 points each in the fourth quarter, Coahoma continued to control the game throughout. Successful baskets from Moore and Manning put the score at 53-30. Game play intensified on both sides as the game clock ticked down to 3:18 with the score at 54-31. Manning and Moore put six more on the board to salt away the win.

Moore lead the team in points as he finished with 15 for the game, and also recorded two steals, two rebounds and one assist. Right behind him was Manning with 14 points, six steals, six rebounds and five assists. Clark controlled the boards all night long as he finished with a total of 12 rebounds for the game, and contributed seven points to the score board.

The Coahoma boys basketball team will be back in action on Tuesday against Grady at home. The varsity boys will take the floor at 8 p.m.

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AP Photo

Los Angeles Chargers' Brandon Mebane, left, and Tenny Palepoi, right, celebrate sacking Dallas Cowboys' Dak Prescott (4) in the first half of an NFL football game, Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017, in Arlington, Texas.

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