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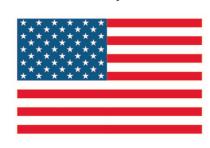


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BIG SPRING MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2018



VOLUME 114, NUMBER 71

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75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Last chance for Festival | Santa heads back on Christmas Day



HERALD photo/Marissa Loftin

This Saturday, December 22, 2018 photo shows a scene from thousands of peothis year's Festival of Lights. If you haven't made it out there to ple have already see the gorgeous Christmas light display, hurry! The last night enjoyed the milto see the show is Tuesday, December 25.

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

Been out to see the Comanche Trail Park Festival of Lights yet?

A lot of people have, but if

you haven't, you've got until Christmas night. The festival isn't staying open during the week between Christmas and New Year's this year - the lights go out 'til next year at 10

p.m. Dec. 25.

"If you're driving through, remember there's going to be a lot of people coming out to see, so allow yourself time to come and enjoy the lights," said organizer Stewart. Vicki "Don't expect to come and just speed through. It might take you 20 minutes."

Stewart lion-plus adorning the candv canes, historical images,

and lighted poinsettias - as well as all the other goodies

See **FESTIVAL**, Page 3

Salvation Army brightens holidays for many



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Salvation Army Capt. Rachel McKain, right, works with volunteers to organize and distribute donated gifts at the group's Angel Tree Distrubution, held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Nearly 400 children and senior citizens received toys, clothes, food packages, and other gifts through the program this year.

Big Spring Herald's **Christmas Countdown**



Brennen says "Only 1 Days ʻtil Christmas!" (Brennen Green, Grandson of

YMCA of Big Spring (432) 267-8234

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com





Students receive bikes for perfect attendance

By ROGER CLINE Staff Writer

Some diligent kids got rewarded this week for their perfect school attendance. They each had a

chance to win a brand new bicycle as part of a program sponsored by the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club.

"We sponsor an attendance incentive at

all four of the elemen-

Coahoma Elementary as well," said GBSRC President George Bancroft. "Any kid that gets perfect attendance, their name goes in a hat for a drawing. Each semester they pick one name from each grade. Well, it's actually two names one boy and one girl."

tary campuses and

The drawings

See BIKES, Page 3

to North Pole after Porters visit



HERALD photo/Anna Gutierrez

Santa made a surprise, last-minute visit to Porter's Grocery Store on Saturday, asking kids what they would like for Christmas, taking photos with them and giving out sweet treats. Above, Santa Claus holds little Martina Parnell as Martin Castillo (Center) and Jayden Parnell (right) stand next to them for a photo. Santa went back to the North Pole shortly after his visit to make sure he and his elves have everything ready for Christmas morning!

Birth certificate changes may cause delays

By ROGER CLINE

Staff Writer

If you were born outside Howard County, and you're going to be needing a birth certificate through the Howard County Courthouse any time soon, you better go get it pretty quick. New statemandated procedures are going to create a gap in availability of such documents, said Howard County Clerk Brent Zitterkopf.

"The ones for other Texas counties, the whole system for the state is changing on how we get those," Zitterkopf said. "Our current system will be going down at noon on the 28th, next Friday. The new system starts on Jan. 2 when we come back, but they've also changed the paper we have to have. It's doubtful our paper will come in, because there's only one place it can be ordered, and all 254 counties are having to order it. I don't know how long. We can't do it even after the first of the vear until we get paper, which I don't know. They haven't even given me a time frame on when we're going to get our paper. We may not even be able to do it all of January."

Zitterkopf said people who know they'll need a birth certificate soon should make plans accordingly.

"The reason I was wanting people to know was, if they know they're going to need one, they need to come before noon on Dec. 28," he said.

The only other option during the down time is to contact the courthouse in the county of birth, and request a birth certificate directly from them, said Zitterkopf.

"That will take mail time and all of that," he said.

Contact the Howard County Clerk's Office at 432-264-2213 for more information.

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

Contact Staff Writer Roger



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All About Hearing, Inc. **Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center**

306 W. 3rd St. 432-267-3806 Dr. Sally sees patients every Wednesday: 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.



Gary "Dodo" Phillips



Gary "Dodo" Phillips, 71, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2018, at First Baptist Church with Elwin Collom, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church and Mike Moates, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Gary was born Oct. 1, 1947, in Lampasas, Texas, to Mildred Joyce Reagor Phillips and Billy Lewis Phillips. He married Karan Miller on Oct. 5, 1968,

in Big Spring. He worked at Cosden, Fina, and Alon for 40 years, being a member of the 25 years club. He had coached Little League for ten years. He was an active member of Hillcrest Baptist Church having served as Deacon and Youth Director. He loved to play golf, hunting, watching his grandkids, and watching the Forsan Buffaloes.

Gary is survived by his wife, Karan of Big Spring; one son, Jason Phillips and his wife Lauri of Forsan; one daughter, Brittney Smith and her husband

Morris of San Angelo; two granddaughters, Kendall Phillips and Reagan Phillips, both of Forsan; one grandson, Jadyn Phillips of San Angelo; mother, Joyce Davidson of Big Spring; three sisters, Nancy Ward of Colorado City, Cindy Graves and her husband Glenn of Big Spring, and Vicki Scott of Andrews; one brother, Rusty Phillips and his wife Mona of Big Spring; sister-in-law, Evie Batchelor of Big Spring; and several nieces and nephews.

Gary was preceded in death by his father, Billy Lewis Phillips; step-father, Ray Davidson; one brother, Terry Phillips and two nephews.

Pallbearers will be Mike Moates, Ronnie Dale Smith, Bobby Baker, Don Stabeno, Jimmy Miller, and Donnie Baker. Honorary pallbearer will be Rav Kennedv. The family suggests memorials to the Gary

"Dodo" Phillips Athletic Memorial Scholarship Fund at Forsan ISD, p. o. Box 689, Forsan, Texas,

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

Paid Obituary

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following ac-

- JERRY DOPORTO, 32, of 501 E 12th St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication. • JARRO LEE MEJIA, 38, of
- 607 S Aylesford, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid.
- FREDDY CANO RODRI-**GUEZ JR.,** 31, of 706 E 12th St., was arrested on a charge of pubic
- TRISTON MICHAEL PHIL-**LIPS,** 19, of 801 W FM 700, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two

ounces.

- JARED DALE SIMONOSKI. 35, of 5000 Denton Hwy, Hamlton City, was arrested on a possession of marijuana less than two
- JOHNNY JAMES RANGEL. 24. of 1604 Delmar St., was arrested charges evading arrest/
- detention with vehicle, evading arrest/detention, possession of marijuana less than four ounces. six outstanding warrants. JAMES ROBERT SNYDER,
- 46, of 605 Richie Rd., was arrested on a charge of public intoxica-
 - FOLLOW UP REPORT was

reported in 800 block of WI20, in the 1500 block of W 5th St., in the 3200 AV C, and on 4th and Lan-

- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 800 block of W FM 700, and in the 1100 block of W 6th St., BURGLARY OF BUILDING
- was reported in the 7600 block of Brandon Rd.
- BURGLARY OF VEHICLE was reported in 100 block of Hooser Rd.
- THEFT was reported in the 700 block of E 12th St.
- ACCIDENT MINOR was reported in the 100 block of Canton

Take Note

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We
- need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www. BecomeaCASA.org or
- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.
- Maranatha Baptist Academy, 903 Johnson Big Spring, Texas 432-213-1046, Call today for educational needs. In School, High School Tutoring, graduation, homeschool. We are qualified to help you with your child's education, kindergarten through twelfth grade. Come by or give us a call. Open enrollment.
- Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for new members. If you have a heart for serving people, have at least four hours a week to spare, SMMC Auxiliary might be the fit for you.

Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more.

To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

- The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending
- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit tions to allow the Lions dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure.

If you want to stop mortgage foreclosure and are need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For free foreclosure help, call the hot-

- The Howard County Democrats will meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 pm.at the Howard County Democratic Headquarters, 1408 Scurry, behind Prosperity Bank.
- The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prochaplains spective 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

• 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 donato 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

For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-

• 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 Cen-

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 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.

We Know Where Santa Is! Big Spring Herald Official Santa Tracker Go to www.bigspringherald.com call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221. (432) 242-6002 www.jncelectricllc.com

Roger Sparks

Roger Sparks, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Josefina Hernandez

Josefina Hernandez died Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral

Arthur "Tudy" Islas Arthur "Tudy" Islas, Jr. 51, of Big



Spring, died Friday Dec. 21, 2018. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2018, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Services will be as 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018, at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Arthur was born June 24, 1967, in Big Spring and had lived here all his life. He married Amy Jones

Islas on August 16, 1996 in Big Spring. Arthur is survived by his wife Amy Islas, two

daughters, Ashley Rodriquez, and Meagan Islas, his parents, Arturo and Christina Islas, his brother: Benjamin Islas, a sister, Annie Islas -Cuellar, grandchildren, Isaiah Rodriguez, Joseph Rodriquez, Jayden Rodriquez, Madison Rodriquez, Emery Rodriguez, and Ember Lopez, niece, Jessica Gonzales, four nephews: Brandon Moran, Cubby Moran, Anthony Islas, and Christian Islas.

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

Support Groups

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

 Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's 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 at 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.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 and 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

- · Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until
- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

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AP Explains: What happens in a partial government shutdown

By The Associated Press

A look at the impact of the partial government shutdown:

WHAT'S OPEN AND WHAT'S

Social Security checks will go out and troops will remain at their posts. Doctors and hospitals will receive their Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements. The U.S. Postal Service, busy delivering packages for the holiday season, is an independent agency and won't be affected. Passport services, which are funded by fees and not government

Virtually every essential government agency, including the FBI, the Border Patrol and the Coast Guard, will remain open. Transportation Security Administration officers will staff airport checkpoints.

spending, will also continue.

The air traffic control system, food inspection, Medicare, veterans' health care and many other essential government programs will run as usual. The Federal Emergency Management Agency can continue to respond to disasters. Nearly 90 percent of the Depart-

ment of Homeland Security's 240,000 employees will be at work because they're considered essen-Special counsel Robert Muel-

ler's office, which is investigating potential ties between the Trump campaign and Russia, is unaffected by a shutdown. But hundreds of thousands of fed-

eral workers will be forced off the job, and some services will go dark. In the past, the vast majority of

national parks were closed to visitors and campers, but beginning with the last government shutdown, in January, the Interior Department has tried to make parks as accessible as possible despite bare-bones staffing levels. Some are staying open thanks to funding from states and charitable groups.

In Washington, the museums along the National Mall will remain open at least through Jan. 1, but Smithsonian officials said they will reevaluate the situation if the shutdown continues into the new year. The Washington Monument is closed for repairs.

Arizona and Utah officials put in place plans to keep open Grand Canyon, Zion, Arches and Bryce Canyon and Zion national parks.

At the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, it was business as usual, thanks to funding from New York

FEDERAL WORKERS STILL GET PAID — EVENTUALLY While they can be kept on the

lining the roadways in Comanche

"I can give you numbers for now,

and I can give you what I can project

we'll have," she said. "As of Wednes-

day night, Dec. 19, we had 19,424 go

through. If we have about the same

tonight...Santa's nights we usually

have more, and then Christmas

Eve we usually have a big number,

and then Christmas Day we usual-

ly have a big number. If we do that,

we'll be at about 28,000. Our goal

was 30,000. I don't think we'll make

it, personally. Numbers – it's very

possible, because our biggest night

so far we had 2,985 go through, and

that was a Saturday night. Say we

have 2,700 go through each night...

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1

Trail Park this year.

job, federal workers won't be paid for days worked during the lapse in funding. In the past, however, they have been repaid retroactively even if they were ordered to stay home. White House officials said that would be the case again.

The Senate already has passed legislation ensuring that workers will receive back pay. The House seems sure to follow suit. Federal employees already were

granted an extra day of vacation on

Monday, Christmas Eve, under an executive order Trump signed this Federal workers are exempted from furloughs if their jobs are

national security-related or if they perform essential activities that "protect life and property." According to a report by Demo-

crats on the Senate Appropriations Committee, more than 420,000 federal employees deemed essential will continue to work without pay, including about 41,000 law enforcement and corrections officers. The Homeland Security employees who will keep working include about 150,000 from the Coast Guard, TSA and Customs and Border Protec-More than 380,000 employees will

be furloughed — including nearly all from NASA and Housing and Urban Development and 41,000 from the Commerce Department. About 16,000 National Park Service employees — 80 percent of the agency's workforce — will be fur-

Also among those who will furloughed: 52,000 staffers at the Internal Revenue Service, slowing analysis and collection of hundreds of thousands of tax returns and au-SHUTDOWNS HAPPEN

Shutdowns happened every year when Jimmy Carter was president, averaging 11 days each. During President Ronald Reagan's two terms, there were six shutdowns, typically just one or two days

Before a three-day lapse in January, caused by Democrats' insistence that any budget measure come with protections for young immigrants known as "Dreamers," the most recent significant shutdown was a 16-day partial shuttering of the government in 2013.

That one came as tea party conservatives tried to block implementation of President Barack Obama's health care law. The government also shut down for a few hours last February amid a partisan dispute over deficit spending.

making 30,000. There's just no way of knowing. But it's very possible."

Many of the visitors hail from far-flung locales, she added.

"I haven't tabulated where all they're from yet, but our greeters – I've talked to all our greeters. Last time, maybe four or five days ago, Pat (Simmons) said we've had over 30 states," Stewart said. "But countries, we've had Cuba, Turkey, Australia, Israel, Germany, France, Spain, Thailand, Brazil – one of them just wrote in 'European - no English' - and Mexico."

The Festival of Lights is open from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. through Christmas. The entrance to the lighted holiday path is on South U.S. 87 across from Wal-Mart.

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

10 Things to Know for Today

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. WHY US DEFENSE SECRETARY **MATTIS STEPPED DOWN**

Jim Mattis resigned after clashing with President Donald Trump over the abrupt withdrawal of U.S. troops from Syria and after two years of deep disagreements over America's role in the world.

2. TRUMP'S DEMAND FOR WALL PUSHES GOV'T CLOSER TO SHUT-**DOWN**

The federal government was careening toward a partial shutdown after Trump's quest for a border wall left Congress without a clear plan to keep the government run-

3. 'WHO CALLED WHO 'ARROGANT AND SELFISH'

China lashed out at the U.S. after it charged two Chinese citizens with stealing trade secrets and other sensitive information from American government agencies and corporations.

ALLEGATION AGAINST NISSAN'S GHOSN

Japanese prosecutors added a new allegation of breach of trust against Nissan's former chairman, dashing his hopes for posting bail quickly.

5. AFTER YEAR OF THE WOMAN, 2020 BUZZ SO FAR FOCUSES ON THE A year defined by the political power of

women is ending with men enjoying much of the attention as Beto O'Rourke, Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders are emerging as early favorites in the opening phase of the 2020

6. WHO IS BEING OPTIMISTIC ABOUT

NORTH KOREAN DENUCLEARIZATION The Trump administration's special envoy for North Korea expressed optimism about the diplomatic push to resolve the nuclear

7. TOYS R US CLOSURE HITS TOYS FOR TOTS HARD

The toy giant's decision to close its stores this year left some huge holes for the annual

8. RESORTS OFFER PERKS FOR HANDING OVER PHONES

A growing number of hotels are offering perks, like snorkeling tours and s'mores, to guests who manage to give up their phones

9. ALBINO ORANGUTAN RETURNED TO JUNGLE

Alba, the world's only known albino orangutan was released into a remote Borneo jungle more than a year after conservation officials found her starving and dehydrated in an Indonesian village.

10. GYMNASTICS MAKES MOVES ON FREE-SPIRITED PARKOUR

The funky street sport that has spread globally from the suburbs of Paris is talked about as a possible new Olympic discipline but is also the focus of a heated custody battle as its popularity and marketing potential grow.





Courtesy photos

Rotary members presented local students with bikes to reward them for their perfect attendance last week. In the top photo, Caden Cole of Coahoma recieves his bike, and in the bottom photo, Ashlee Greenly and Hayden McNally recieve their bikes. Congratulations to the winners and to all the students at local schools with exemplary attendance!

BIKES

Continued from Page 1

Wednesday at started Washington Elementary School, where Pyper Still and Jaiden De La Cruz took home the two-wheelers. Later that same day, Caden Cole and Alexa Ontiveros won the bikes at Coahoma Elementary.

Thursday, only Moss Elementary was on the schedule, and Hayden McNally and Ashley Greenlee were the recipients of two new bikes.

On Friday, Marcy's James Strong and Bella Martinez were the winners, and then later at Goliad, Jade Valenzuela and Gavin Terry pedaled home the prize.

Congratulations to the winners and to all the students at local schools with exemplary attendance!

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

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson

Nease Crosby, 59, died Wednesday. A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec, 29, 2018, at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Lamesa.

Gary Phillips, 71, died Wednesday. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2018, at First Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Josefina Hernandez died Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Arthur Islas, Jr. died Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. Visitation will be 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Roger Sparks, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Martin County

Hospital

if we have that, we'd be borderline Correction: On Page 3A of Sunday's edition of the Herald, the headline reading "Parkview claims gingerbread honors" is incorrect. As the photo's caption indicates, the winner of the Heritage Museum of Big Spring's 2018 Gingerbread House contest was Parkplace Retirement Living.

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DON'T DRINK & DRIVE Just A Little



Affects A Lot

One drink here, another there... No big deal, right? WRONG! All it takes is just a couple of drinks to affect the body. The more alcohol consumed, the worse the effect on the body and the more compromised the ability to drive becomes.

Be aware of the effects alcohol can have on your body. Drink in moderation this holiday season and don't drive impaired.



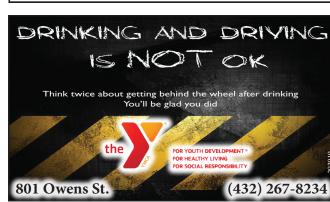






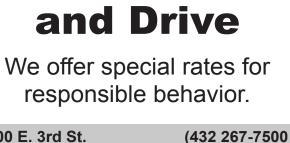






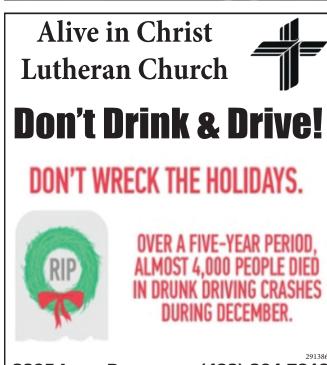






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Page 5 Monday, December 24, 2018

Bulldogettes fall to Jim Ned in district play



Courtesy photo/Lyndel Moody

Coahoma Bulldogette Kaylie Kaczyk, No. 25, defends against a Jim Ned Lady Indian during the junior varsity match up held Friday, Dec. 21, 2018, in Coahoma.

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — A tough Jim Ned Lady Indians team proved to be too much for the Bulldogettes to overcome Friday night. Coahoma lost 21-

The Lady Indians (3-0, 15-4) were dominate from the first scoring in the double digits through the first three quarters of play. In the last quarter of the game, the Bulldogettes surged back defensively keeping Jim Ned to only 6 points while adding 5 of their

Caitlyn Corley led Coahoma with 9 points followed by Cassie Grant who brought in 5 for the night. Grant and Kenzi Canales both nailed a 3-point basket a piece.

Next: The varsity girls will play in the Mary Tatum Tournament hosted by Reagan County ISD over the Christmas break set for Friday and Saturday, Dec. 28-29. The Bulldogettes will return to district play on Jan. 4, when they travel to Stanton to

face the Lady Buffaloes. JIM NED 53, BULLDOGETTES 21 Jim Ned: 11, 25, 11, 6 — 53 Coahoma: 5, 9, 2, 5 - 21

Jim Ned — Taylor Benton 13, Jenna Moore 2, Alexis Espinosa 12, Leticia Salas 6, Claire Graham 14, Brooke Galvin 6.

Coahoma — Macee Grant 2, Caitlyn Corley 7, Paige Atkins 2, Kenzi Canales 3, Cassie Grant 5, Abbie Lopez 2.

Free Throws — Jim Ned 8-13, Coahoma 3-4; 3-Point Goals — Jim Ned 5 (Espinosa 2, Graham 3), Coahoma 2 (C. Grant, Canales); Total Team Fouls - Jim Ned 7, Coahoma 15.

Coahoma JV vs Jim Ned

Coahoma — The Bulldogettes JV team fell to the Jim Ned Lady Indians

Katlyn Johnson and Maddison Rogers both had 6 points each to lead the Bulldogettes in scoring for the eve-

Next: The Bulldogette JV team will take a break for Christmas and resume the season on Jan. 4, when they travel to Stanton to take on the Lady Buffaloes.

JIM NED 54, COAHOMA 18 Jim Ned: 8, 13, 19, 14 — 54



Courtesy photo/Lyndel Moody Caitlyn Corley, No. 11, reaches for the ball in the tip off to start the Coahoma Bulldogettes/Jim Ned Lady Indians game held Friday, Dec. 21, 2018, in Coahoma.

Dakota Harrison looks to get around a Jim Ned player during the

Coahoma Bulldogs/Jim Ned Indians game held Friday, Dec. 21,

Coahoma: 2, 2, 8, 6—18

Jim Ned — Emma Harback 8, Kennadi Beasley 10, Brooklyn Weaver 6, Claire Cooley 17, Bradee Ross 3, Kylie

Gwinn 10. Coahoma — Maddie Scott 2, Katlyn Johnson 6, Maddison Rogers 6, Vada Cortez 4.

Free Throws — Jim Ned 6-8, Coahoma 2-5; 3-Point Goals — Jim Ned 6 (Beasley 2, Weaver 2, Cooley, Ross); Team Fouls — Jim Ned 8, Coahoma 8

Coahoma drops district opener to Indians



Courtesy photo/Lyndel Moody

Bryson Cline, No. 14, races through two Jim Ned players during the Coahoma Bulldogs/Indians game held Friday, Dec. 21, 2018, in Coahoma. Cline had 9 points for the match.

Special to the Herald

COAHOMA — The Bulldogs lost to a tough Jim Ned Indian team Friday night 26-59 in their first district 5-3A game of the season.

The Indians came into the match

having already built up a strong 11-2 win record for the season including a victory against Clyde last Tuesday in their first district game. However, the Bulldogs make it clear from the first they were there to compete.

For the first two minutes of play, both teams played heavy defense not allowing any score. Finally, Jim Ned's Dylan Bryant broke the stalemate by nailing one of his two free throws.

The Indians followed by two more free throws, a 3-point basket, and a 2-point field goal before Bryson Cline got the Bulldogs on the board by nailing a shot for 2 at the 3:22 mark. Cline added 2 more points from the charity

strip before the first quarter was over. Jim Ned headed into the second up 4-13 with 8 of those points coming

from free throws. Coahoma fared better in the second although Jim Ned continued to outscore the Bulldogs. Cline, Joe Manning, Gaige Hill, and Gage Clark-Burdell scored a total of 6 points while the team was successful at keeping the Indians to just 9 points. However, Jim Ned left for the locker room with a 12-point advantage.

Returning for the second half, Jim Ned broke the game wide open by scoring 25 points in the third while holding Coahoma to just 3. Not ready to give up, the Bulldogs had their best quarter in the fourth and outscored Jim Ned 13-12. Clark-Burdell brought a little excitement to the tense game when he picked off the ball from a Jim Ned player and raced down the court for a slam dunk.

Even with the last quarter surge, the Bulldogs were unable to chip away the huge lead the Indians built

in first three quarters before the end of the game.

Cline led the Bulldogs with 9 points followed by Manning with 7. Next: The Bulldogs will spend part of their Christmas break in Reagan County playing in the Mary Tatum tournament set for Friday and Saturday, Dec. 28-29. The Coahoma varsity boys team will return to district play on Jan. 4 in Stanton against the Buf-JIM NED 59, COAHOMA 26 Jim Ned: 13, 9 25, 12 — 59

Coahoma: 4, 6, 3, 13 - 26

2018, in Coahoma.

Jim Ned — Rhett May 5, Bay Brannan 4, Cortland Baum 4, Ethan Senne 18, Caden Martin 2, Cade Ford 3, Caden Burke 11, Alex Rosales 3, Dylan Coahoma — Brice Martin 2, Joe

Manning 7, Zack Schneider 3; Gage Clark-Burdell 3; Gaige Hill 2, Bryson

Free Throws — Jim Ned 18-25, Coahoma 12-25; 3-Point Goals — Jim Ned 5 (Senne 3; Rhett, Burke); Total Team Fouls — Jim Ned 20, Coahoma 19.

home Friday night.

Bulldog JV vs Jim Ned COAHOMA — The Coahoma Bulldogs JV team lost to Jim Ned 21-32 at

Tony Haggins had a game high of 7 points including a 3-point goal to the lead the Coahoma team at the post. Teammates Avery Burgan and Garrett Anderson both added 4 points each.

Next: The JV team will enjoy a couple of weeks off for the mid-semester break and will return to action on Jan. 4, when they head to Stanton to take on the Buffaloes.

JIM NED 32, COAHOMA 21

Jim Ned: 5, 12, 8, 7 — 32 Coahoma: 6, 4, 7, 4 - 21

Jim Ned — Duncan 3, Noland 3, Smith 3, Lukenbach 7, Chavez 3, Barron 2, Tant 1, Martin 6, Hussman 4.

Coahoma — Avery Burgans 4, Isaiah Martin 2, Sean Striegler 2, Tony Haggins 7, Dakota Harrison 2, Garrett Anderson 4.

Free Throws — Jim Ned 8-16, Coahoma 0-2; 3-Point Goals — Jim Ned 4 (Duncan, Smith, Lukenbach, Chavez), Coahoma 1 (Haggins); Total Team Fouls -Jim Ned 7, Coahoma

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mouth was drawn up like

a bow And the beard of

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reindeer, With a little old

driver, so lively and quick,

A Vist From St. Nick

Dear Readers: To all of the children out there and all of the children young at heart, I wish you all a very merry Christ-

"A Visit From St. Nicholas"

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse; The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there; The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads; And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap, Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap, When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash. The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow Gave the lustre of mid-

day to objects below,

dering eyes should

sleigh, and eight tiny

When, what to my won-

appear, But a miniature

I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick. More rapid than eagles his coursers they came, And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name; "Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donder and Blitzen! To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall! Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!" As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky; So up to the house-top the coursers they flew, With the sleigh full of Toys, and St. Nicholas too. And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof The prancing and pawing of each little hoof. As I drew in my head, and was turning around, Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound. He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot, And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot; A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back, And he looked like a pedler just opening his pack. His eyes -- how they twinkled! his dimples how merry! His cheeks were like roses, his nose

like a cherry! His droll little

his chin was as white as the snow; The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth, And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath: He had a broad face and a little round belly. That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly. He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf, And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself; A wink of his eye and a twist of his head, Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread; He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk, And laying his finger aside of his nose, And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose; He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, And away they all flew like the down of a thistle, But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight, "Happy Christmas to all,

> Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

and to all a good-night."

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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
:PM	Big 2	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Creation	Danube	Mama's	American			Monday	SportsCenter	Texans	Mod Fam		Fast N' Loud
5 :30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS	Noticias	News	Cost	Business	Jeff'sons	American	Fam. Guy	(:45) Movie:	Night Count-		Texans	Mod Fam	1	
:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de	Big Bang	CBS 7	Ice Age 3:	News	Families	PBS News-	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	The Wizard		Basketball: A	Epic	Mod Fam	Movie:	Fast N' Loud
6 :30	Wheel	Guadalupe	Big Bang	ET	Dawn of the	News	TBA	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	of Oz (DVS)		Love Story	Beyond	Mod Fam	Ocean's	
:PM	Movie:	Celebrando	MasterChef	Neighbor		Movie: It's	News	Antiques	Griffith	Arrow	Movie: A	1	(:15) NFL	1		WWE Mon-	Eleven, Andy Garcia	Fast N' Loud
7 :30		en Noche-	Junior:	Neighbor	(33)	a Wonderful	Being	Roadshow	Griffith		Christmas		Football:		Football	day Night	Garcia	
:PM	the Beast	buena	Celebrity Showdown	God Friend-	Pelicula: 2	Life, Lionel Barrymore	Light of	Christmas	G. Pyle	DC's Leg-	Story (DVS)	INIOVIC. A	Denver Broncos at	Basketball: A		RÁW		
8 :30			Showdown	ed Me	I asi Z I uii-	(DVS)	Southwest	With the	WKRP	ends		Christmas	Oakland	Love Story			Movie:	
:PM	The Good		FOX 24	Bull	ous (SS)	(/	Light of	Candlelight	Heroes	Page Six	Movie: A	Story (DVS)	Raiders.				Ocean's	
9 :30	Doctor		News at 9				Southwest		Heroes	Gold	Christmas						Thirteen, Matt Damon	
:PM	Big 2	Impacto	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Amanpour-	C. Burnett	Gold	Story (DVS)	Wovie: A		Basketball: A	C'boys	Movie: The	IVIALL DAITION	Fast N' Loud
10 :30	Jimmy Kim-	Noticiero	Mom	A Baylor		Christmas	American	Co	Perry Mason	Seinfeld		Christmas	W/Van Pelt	Love Story	Cowboys	Fast and		
:PM	mel Live	Misa de gallo	Mod Fam	Christmas	winagi oo ac	Choir	House	(Off Air)		Seinfeld	Movie: A	Story (DVS)			World Poker	the Furious (DVS)		Fast N' Loud
11 :30	Nightline		Funny	A Bold New		(:34) Christ-	Zion		Twi. Zone	Rules	Christmas		NFL Prime-			(500)	Ocean's	
:AM	(12:07) King		Two Men	Love: A	winagroo ac	mas Eve	News		Hitchcock	Rules	Story (DVS)	Wovie: A	Time	Basketball: A			Eleven, Andy Garcia	
12 :30	of Kings		Simpsons	Access	Navidad	Mass	Creation		Hitchcock	King		Christmas	SportsCenter	Love Story	loaded	(:25) Movie:	Garcia	
:AM	(:05) Extra	En tierras	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of		Mannix	Top 30	Movie: A	Story (DVS)				2 Fast 2		
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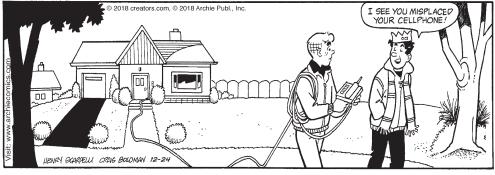




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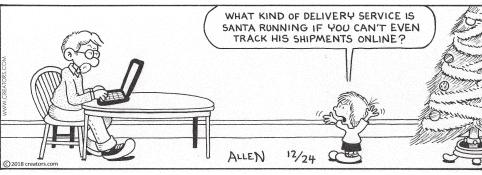


ONE BIG HAPPY



ISTHATALLYOU BOUGHT MOMMA WITH ALL THE MONEY I

NEST HEAD



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Dec. 24, the 358th day of 2018. There are seven days left in the year. This is Christmas Eve. Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 24, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower supreme commander of Allied forces in Europe as part of Operation Overlord.

On this date:

In 1814, the United States and Britain signed the Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812 following ratification by both the British Parliament and the U.S. Senate.

In 1865, several veterans of the Confederate Army formed a private social club in Pulaski, Tennessee, that was the original version of the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1871, Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Aida" had its world premiere in Cairo, Egypt.

In 1906, Canadian physicist Reginald A. Fessenden became the first person to transmit the human voice (his own) as well as music over radio, from Brant Rock, Massachusetts.

In 1913, 73 people, most of them children, died in a crush of panic after a false cry of "Fire!" during a Christmas party for striking miners and their families at the Italian Hall in Calumet, Michigan.

In 1914, during World War I, impromptu Christmas truces began to take hold along parts of the Western Front between British and German soldiers.

In 1968, the Apollo 8 astronauts, orbiting the moon, read passages from the Old Testament Book of Genesis during a Christmas Eve tele-

In 1974, Cyclone Tracy battering began Australian city of Darwin, resulting in widespread damage and causing some 65 deaths.

In 1980, Americans remembered the U.S. hostages in Iran by burning candles or shining lights for 417 seconds — one second for each day of

In 1990, actor Tom Cruise married his "Days of Thunder" co-star, Nicole Kidman, during a private ceremony at a Colorado ski resort (the marriage ended in

In 1992, President Bush pardoned former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and five others in the Iran-Contra scandal.

In 1993, the Rev. Norman Vincent Peale, who blended Christian and psychiatric principles into a message of positive thinking," died in Pawling, N.Y., at age 95.

Ten years ago: A man dressed in a Santa Claus suit shot his way into the Covina, Calif., home of his former inlaws and set it on fire, killing nine people (the attacker, identified as Bruce Jeffrey Pardo, committed suicide the next day). The Federal Reserve granted a request by the financing arm of General Motors to tap the government's \$700 billion rescue fund, bolstering GM's ability to survive. Nobel Prizewinning playwright Harold Pinter died in London at age

Five years ago: In Egypt, a car bomb ripped through a security headquarters in the Nile Delta city of Mansoura, killing 16 people, almost all policemen. Britain's Queen Elizabeth II granted a posthumous pardon to code-breaker Alan Turing, who was convicted of homosexual behavior in the 1950s. Pope Francis lauded Jesus' humble beginning as a poor and vulnerable baby as he celebrated his first Christmas Eve Mass as pontiff in St. Peter's Basilica.

One year ago: Peru's president announced that he had granted a medical pardon to jailed former strongman Alberto Fujimori, 79, who had been serving a 25-year sentence for human rights abuses, corruption and the sanctioning of death squads. In Christmas eve remarks, Pope Francis likened the journey to Bethlehem by Mary and Joseph to the migrations of millions of people today who are forced to leave homelands for a better life, or just to survive. Hundreds of supporters of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny nominated him for president, allowing him to file the required endorsement papers and putting pressure on the Kremlin to allow him to run. (Navalny was blocked from the ballot because of a felony convic-

Answer to previous puzzle

tion in a case that his supporters regarded as falsified.) Today's Birthdays:

Songwriter-bandleader Dave Bartholomew is 100. Author Mary Higgins Clark is 91. Federal health official Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., is 78. Recording company executive Mike Curb is 74. Actress Sharon Farrell is 72. Former Attorney General Jeff Sessions is 72.

ACROSS

fabric

1 Fine necktie

9 Ship's diary

12 Obama's vice

president

13 Scary and

strange

15 Top card in

assistance

17 Boxing match

altemative

19 "Five ___, four

21 Portion of corn

23 Qualifies for

29 Season after

Madam . . ."

(cameo roles)

. . . ___, two

41 When a plane is

44 Was familiar with

42 "Mighty" trees

46 Don't stop at

50 Moved quickly

52 Pull apart, as

43 Devour

47 Selected

paper

53 ". . . and a

turtledoves . . ."

expected: Abbr.

summer

31 Angry look

32 "___ Sir or

34 Walk-

25 Minister in

church

calling birds . . ."

poker

locale

18 Coffee

22 Emcee

16 Without

cars, for short

Actor Grand L. Bush is 63. Actor Clarence Gilyard is 63. Actress Stephanie Hodge is 62. The former president of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai (HAH'-mihd KAHR'-zeye), is 61. Rock musician Ian Burden (The Human League) is 61. Actor Anil Kapoor (ah-NEEL' kuh-POOR') is 59. Actress Eva Tamargo is 58. Actor Wade Williams is 57. Rock singer Mary Ramsey (10,000

Maniacs) is 55. Actor Mark Valley is 54. Actor Diedrich Bader is 52. Actor Amaury Nolasco is 48. Singer Ricky Martin is 47. Author Stephenie Meyer is 45. TV personality Ryan Seacrest (TV: "Live With Kelly & Ryan") is 44. Actor Michael Raymond-James is 41. Actor Austin Stowell is 34. Rock singer Louis Tomlinson (One Direction) is 27.

"12 DAYS OF" EXCERPTS by Sally R. Stein

Thought for Today:

"To perceive Christmas through its wrapping becomes more difficult with every year."

> E.B. White American author and journalist (1899-1985).

® 2018 The Associated Press.

Edited by Stanley Newman

a car seat

40 Secret agent

45 Horse's cry

46 Pod veggie

shipping

48 Adds to the

50 Break in two

55 Female choir

member

51 Annoying ones

54 Hammer target

payroll

container

47 Wooden

www.stanxwords.com

attachment atop

Newsday Crossword

63 Midmorning hour **10** Pacific or Atlantic **38** Opponent

64 __ off (get along 11 Car transmission 39 Safety well)

5 Upscale German 65 "Great!"

66 Double-curve

letter 67 Land parcels to

build on

68 Adolescent

DOWN

1 Farm's grain

tower

2 Much-admired celebrity

3 Give temporarily

4 Desk space for legs

5 "Grizzly" beasts 6 Qualify for

7 Small warbling

bird

9 In a little while

8 Perform a ballad

30 Curved line

choices

satchel

14 Artist's stand

fowl

24 Hawaiian hellos

25 California winter

clock setting:

20 Neither fish

Abbr.

28 Minor

27 Alphabetize

12 Pocketbook or

32 Sketch a picture

modifications

29 Ceiling-mounted

room coolers

33 "A mouse!"

35 Receives after

taxes

36 Ignore socially

26 Muscle soreness 49 Unlocks

57 Cowpoke's lasso 58 Adam and Eve's

home

56 Factual

59 Occupational

suffix for auction

10 11

13 15 12 14 18 17 16 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 35 36 37 38 40 39 42 43 41 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 54 55 56 57 58 59 52 53 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 CREATORS SYNDICATE @ 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@ AOL.COM 12/24/18

61 Irritates greatly **62** Wear away

partridge ___" 60 "Roses"___ red . . ."

Tomorrow's Horoscope The Neptunian Sugarand merry music. Even

Mercury and Neptune may interfere with the vision of sugarplums supposedly dancing in our heads. The remedy is to take the vision out of our heads (where it might get distorted or lose its sweetness) and stop leaving everything to the plums. Turn up the music, and do your own dance. Move your

body and life moves

merrily along.

plum Situation

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your abiding respect for words and your love of their eloquent or novel expression will enhance your experience as you take part in a brilliant conversation or piece of writing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Though a belief in something that cannot be observed or quantified exists only in the mind, the tangible things that happen because of and in expression of the belief can change the world. **GEMINI (May 21-**

June 21). Human relationships are very intricate, requiring the complex balance of several layers all at once. So when you feel as if you're getting it right, give yourself a lot of credit. And when you're not, offer up a huge amount of grace.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The reason the card is as important as, if not more important than, the gift is that the spirit in which you do things matters much more than the actions themselves.

be around loved ones. going where there are food and music and strangers will give you

LEO (July 23-Aug.

22). Open your eyes to

only have to see one for

there to suddenly be an

clues to point you in the

right direction or provide

reassurance anytime you

VIRGO (Aug. 23-

Sept. 22). You're power-

ful, capable and creative.

traditions into something

you can get behind, or

you'll do things in a way

that's all you; the tradition

LIBRA (Sept. 23-

Oct. 23). Sometimes you

simply don't let yourself

want what you want. You

reason it away as too ex-

pensive, time-consuming,

caloric, difficult to obtain,

because the want keeps

coming back. Go on and

SCORPIO (Oct.

connects you with family

and friends like good food

24-Nov. 21). Nothing

etc., but to no avail,

let yourself have it.

So you'll turn the old

endless ticker tape of

need it.

starts now.

the secret clues. You

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS if you don't happen to

a connected feeling. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your heart is filled with a boundless, conditionless kind of love. However, relationships don't live solely in the heart. Relationships live in a conditional world. You'll be

attuned to how every-

one's conditions are

being met.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). What's shared between you and the other person is a formless feeling, yet when you try to put it into form, you come pretty close to creating a perfect understanding of the emotion.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The move that improves things happens before the main action. It's the moment you take to project an outcome that will please you, to create an intention, and to decide who you're going to be in the scenario.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Romantic or not, each relationship has its own chemistry. What's going on at this level is good information, and you'll have a heightened awareness of what's clicking and feeling great.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com. **COPYRIGHT 2018** CREATORS.COM

Contract By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH

♥J 10 6 3 **♦** 10 6 2 **♣**AQ872 **EAST** ♠ K 10 7 6 5 **♥**98742 **♦** A K Q J 9 8 7 4 **♦** 5 **4**94 **SOUTH ♠** A Q 3 **♥** A K Q 5

The bidding: South

West North Dble Opening lead — four of diamonds.

♣KJ1065

One of the great attractions of bridge is its intrinsic ability to generate a steady supply of unexpected situations. For example, imagine how East must have felt at the end of the first trick on this deal, which occurred in a match between Canada and Bermuda.

The bidding requires some explanation. The Bermuda South's oneclub bid guaranteed 16 points or more but had nothing whatever to do with clubs as a suit. West's five-club overcall also had nothing at all to do with clubs, but instead showed very long diamonds and instructed his partner to bid them.

Against six clubs, the Canadian West (Subhash Gupta) decided that his best chance to get two tricks was to try to get a heart ruff. Since this required his partner to be on lead at trick two, he elected to lead the four of diamonds, hoping to find East with the ten!

The scheme should have miscarried, since dummy had the ten, but the unusual opening lead caught declarer fast asleep. South could have won the first trick with either the six or the ten, but when he played dummy's deuce instead, an astonished East found himself winning the trick with the five!

East may have been momentarily flabbergasted, but he certainly was not paralyzed. After the five held the trick, it did not take him long to figure out what to do next.

Since his partner had obviously gone to great lengths to try to put him on lead, there had to be a reasonable explanation. And the only conclusion East could reach that made any sense was that West was trying to get a heart ruff.

The heart return was duly trumped by West at trick two, and declarer quickly went down one. At the other table, there were no fancy doings, and declarer bid and made six clubs, giving the Canadians a gain of 1,470 points (16 IMPs) on the deal.

Tomorrow: Pièce de résistance. ©2018 King Features Syndicate Inc.

East

Pass

SUDOKU 4 6 5 7 9 4 5 9 Level: Intermediate

Fun By The **Numbers**

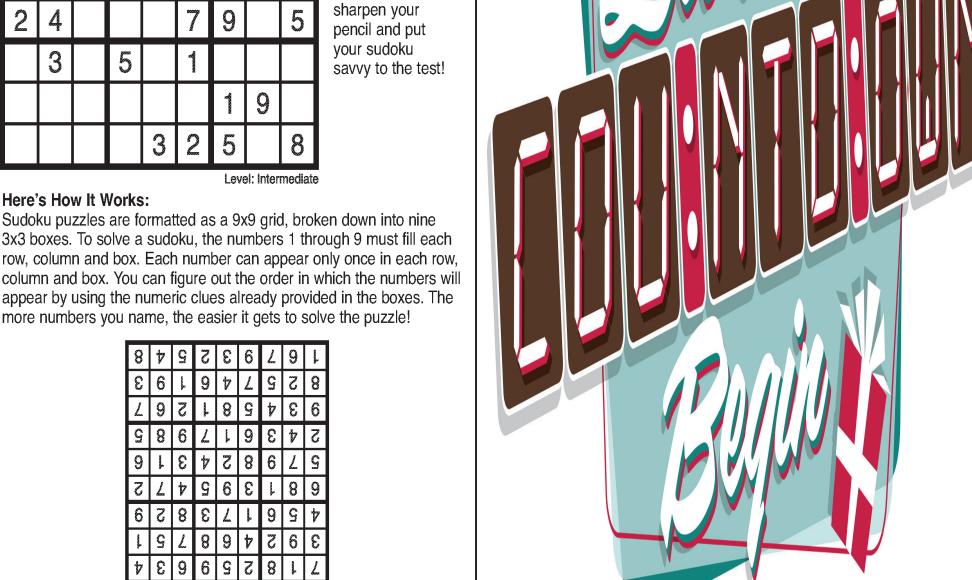
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put vour sudoku

Here's How It Works:

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!

8	Þ	ç	2	3	6	Z	9	wade
3	6	undh	9	Þ	L	G	5	8
L	9	2		8	ç	Þ	S	6
G	8	6	2	www.	9	ε	Þ	7
9	mah	ε	V	7	8	6	Z	G
7	Z	7	G	6	3	numå	8	9
6	S	8	3	L	anada	9	ç	7
mend.	G	L	8	9	7	2	6	3
Þ	3	9	6	G	2	8	- mark	L

ANSWER:



Prescott, Cowboys wrap up NFC East with 27-20 win over Bucs

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas Dak Prescott shared a brief hug with star running back Ezekiel Elliott after the Dallas quarterback kneeled twice to wrap up their second NFC East title in three seasons together.

The postgame celebration was equally muted after Prescott accounted for two touchdowns and Jaylon Smith returned a fumble 69 yards for a score in a 27-20 win over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Sunday.

Now it's on to something Prescott and Elliott couldn't do after an NFCbest 13 victories during year together in 2016: win a playoff game.

"We've got a lot more

work to do," Prescott said after running for Dallas' first touchdown and throwing a 4-yard pass to Michael Gallup for the last. "This is something that we set out, wanted to do way back in the offseason, and this is giving us a chance to go and get the greater goal."

Smith's long return came after a scrambling Jameis Winston lost the ball on a blind-side sack by Randy Gregory, who also recovered a fumble to set up a touchdown for a 14-point lead late in the third quarter.

The Cowboys (9-6) clinched their third division title in five seasons a week after failing in their first chance with their first shutout loss in 15 years, 23-0 at Indianapolis.

It was a moment of redemption for Elliott, whose six-game suspension over domestic violence allegations last year came just as the Cowboys were playing their best. The ensuing three-game losing streak ultimately kept them out of the playoffs.

"We can't get comfortable," said Elliott, who had 85 yards rushing. "We can't afford to take a week off next week. We've got to keep working and make sure we're ready for the play-



their remarkable rookie Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott (4) celebrates scoring a touchdown on a running play in the first half of an NFL football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in Arlington, Texas, Sunday, Dec. 23, 2018.

Winston threw for 336 yards in another prolific passing game for the Buccaneers (5-10), who outgained the Cowboys 383 yards to 232 but hurt themselves with turnovers and holding penalties. Tampa Bay's third straight loss clinched the franchise's fifth season of at least 10 losses in the past six years, a week after the Bucs were eliminated from postseason con-

"It's frustrating to move the ball like that and not get touchdowns," coach Dirk Koetter said. "Against good teams, that's what you're supposed to

Smith's fumble return and Gregory's recovery at the Tampa Bay 4 helped a Dallas offense that wasn't sharp for a second straight week. Prescott was 20 of 25 but for just 161 yards.

Prescott ran 7 yards to cap the only lengthy Dallas touchdown drive, a 75-yarder. His toss to the rookie Gallup came after Gregory's recovery, which resulted from a botched exchange between Winston and receiver Bobo Wilson.

A play before that bad exchange in a seven-point game, Peyton Barber's 33yard run was wiped out by one of four

holding penalties against the Bucs.

Smith gave the Cowboys a 14-3 lead in the second quarter, scooping up the loose ball after Gregory hit Winston from behind and outrunning the Tampa Bay quarterback down the sideline for his first career touch-

The sprint was one of the best illustrations of Smith getting his speed back after the devastating knee injury in his final game at Notre Dame that sidelined him as a rookie with the Cowboys in 2016. For the first time this season, he's playing without a brace designed to offset nerve dam-

"I've been known as a sideline-tosideline fast linebacker and athlete," Smith said. "Had I run the 40 (at the NFL combine), I would have been somewhere in the 4.4s and all that good stuff. But it feels good to be able to open up like that again at the high-

Winston's 7-yard pass to Mike Evans got the Bucs within a touchdown with 2:05 remaining, but Dallas linebacker Leighton Vander Esch recovered the onside kick. Evans had six catches for 90 yards, and Adam Humphries

had 10 grabs for 79 yards.

With a chance to get within a touchdown earlier in the fourth quarter, Winston was stopped about half a yard short of the first down at the Dallas 1 on a fourth-down scramble.

CARE OF TAKING **BUSINESS** The Cowboys could

have clinched the division with a Philadelphia loss at home against Houston. The issue was already settled by the time Jake Elliott hit a 35-yard field goal as time expired to give the defending Super Bowl champion Eagles a 32-30 win. "I think it was mandatory for us to go out there and take care of it ourselves," Elliott said. "Honestly, it just feels better."

RUSHING RACE

Elliott, the NFL rushing leader by 98 yards over Todd Gurley of the Los Angeles Rams coming in, is at 1,434 yards with what could be seen as a meaningless game at the Giants to finish the regular season. In a similar situation two years ago, Elliott didn't play at Philadelphia. His final carry Sunday was an 11-yarder for a first down that allowed Prescott to run out the clock.

CRAWFORD SCARE

Dallas defensive lineman Tyrone Crawford went to a hospital to have a neck injury evaluated after getting hurt on the second play of the game. Crawford's neck was stabilized on a stretcher with his facemask removed. The seventh-year player was moving his arms and legs before he was taken off the field.

The Cowboys said after the game that Crawford was released from the hospital and would be re-evaluated by the team's medical staff Monday.

UP NEXT

Buccaneers: Finale at home against Atlanta next Sunday.

Cowboys: Regular-season finale at the Giants next Sunday.

Texans lose to Eagles 32-30, lose control of No. 2 seed



Philadelphia Eagles' Zach Ertz (86) scores a touchdown over Houston Texans' Aaron Colvin (22) during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Dec. 23, 2018, in Philadelphia.

By ROB MAADDI

AP Pro Football Writer PHILADELPHIA — Deshaun Watson made one

big play after another to rally the Houston Texans back from a 13-point deficit to take the lead only to watch the defense let it slip away. The Texans missed an opportunity to clinch the

AFC South and lost control of the No. 2 seed when

Jake Elliott kicked a 35-yard field goal as time expired to give the Philadelphia Eagles a 32-30 victory on Sunday. Houston would secure the division title with a

victory against Jacksonville next week. They need the Patriots to lose or tie to get a first-round bye. But they own at least a wild-card spot because Pittsburgh lost to New Orleans later Sunday. "We just have to go out there and win next week,"

J.J. Watt said after being held to only three tackles and no sacks. "We can't worry about anything else." Watson was 29 of 40 for 339 yards and two touchdowns and also ran for 49 yards and two scores.

Down 29-16 in the fourth quarter, the Texans started their comeback after recovering Josh Adams' fumble. Watson threw a 14-yard TD to DeAn-

dre Hopkins to cut the deficit to 29-23 with 4:48 left and the Texans got the ball back at their 20 after a three-and-out.

Watson made an incredible escape on thirdand-11 and threw 22 yards to Jordan Akins for a first down at the Philadelphia 34.

On third-and-11, he hit Vyncint Smith deep in the back of the end zone. Smith made an outstanding catch, and dragged his feet to stay inbounds.

"He played great the last two drives," Texans coach Bill O'Brien said. 'He's just got incredible instincts, he sees things well, he hangs in there. he's tough. The football field for him is heaven on earth. Obviously we

have a strong belief in him and what he can do." The Texans had a tough time moving the ball until the fourth quarter and the absence of Lamar Miller hurt their rushing attack. Alfred Blue and

D'Onta Foreman had 13 yards on 11 carries.

"I think the ball in (Watson's) hands is the best thing for our offense and for our football team," O'Brien said. "But we have to figure out how to run the ball better. I have to figure it out because it hasn't been good enough."

Watt and the rest of Houston's defense blamed



themselves for the loss after giving up 519 yards and allowing the Eagles to go 4 for 4 on fourth downs.

"I'll put that on my shoulders," Watt said. "The offense did a great job giving us a chance, and we just didn't get a stop at the end. I'll take that as a leader of the defense. We have to get a stop."

'As long as we get in, then it's a new season,' Watson said before the clinching was official. "My mentality is whoever we have to play, wherever we have to play, we are going to play all four quarters. All that stuff is irrelevant. We have to focus on Jacksonville, get everyone healthy and try to win the next game and see what happens."

The Texans lost wide receiver Demaryius Thomas (right leg) and cornerbacks Kareem Jackson (knee) and Kayvon Webster (thigh) in the game. Thomas was carted off the field in the fourth quarter and his injury appeared most serious.

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