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THURSDAY EDITION,
 NOVEMBER 28, 2019

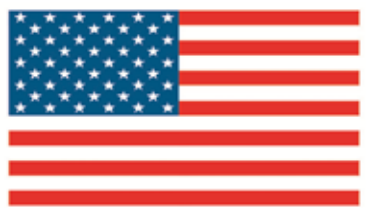


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D.A.V. and TA feed local veterans Thanksgiving Dinner

Upcoming Events

Happy Thanksgiving from the Big Spring Herald



Christmas Tree Forest Heritage Museum through Dec. 20

Dec. 5

Tour of Homes 6 p.m.

Alive After 5 Hotel Settles 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Pictures with Santa Howard Co. Library 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

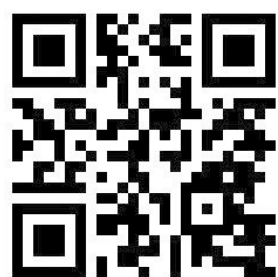
Dec. 7

Vintage Christmas Heritage Museum 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Boomtown Parade 10 a.m. Forsan

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HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat

Members from the local DAV chapter joined together last week to feed local veterans the annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the TA Truck Stop. More than 35 veterans turned out.

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

For they deserve our appreciation and gratitude, especially at Thanksgiving. The local DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Chapter served up Thanksgiving Dinner for veterans at the TA Truck Stop last Thursday evening.

"This is something that we have done for many years," Mike Tarpley, DAV vice commander, said. "They (veter-

ans) look forward to this each year."

The DAV treats the veterans from the West Texas VA Medical Center Domiciliary and Community Living Center a special Thanksgiving Dinner and again at Christmas time.

"This dinner is one of the many ways we are able to give back to the veterans in the community from the donations that we receive throughout the year," Tarpley said. "The community helps make this possible."

DAV members joined together to visit with the veterans. The Crossroads Young Marines took part in the evening by presenting the colors before the veterans enjoyed their meal.

"It is an honor to be able to serve them. This is an opportunity for them to receive thanks for what they've done for our country," Lynne Morris, TA Restaurant General Manager, said. "It's due to these guys that we have what we

See DAV, Page 3

Thankful for Big Spring history

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

Families are gathering around the table, meals are being prepared, and the Big Spring community is coming together to celebrate Thanksgiving and gearing up for Christmas.

Big Spring contains a wealth of history and a piece of that history that many may not be aware of, revolves around Thanksgiving. According to several local historians, the first Thanksgiving in Texas took place in Big Spring, near the Big Spring.

"The Big Spring served as the only watering hole for miles around and it drew a lot of travelers in way before Big Spring as we know it was here," Terri Telchik, Big Spring resident, said. "It's rather amazing to think we



had the first Thanksgiving right here in Big Spring."

As a story told by Marquita Moss, a member of the Dallas News Austin Bureau, after researching and speaking with Mrs. D.M. Parmellee, director of research for the Texas Historical Survey Committee, she reported there was a good authority that the first American Thanksgiving was celebrated in Texas in 1535 or 85 years before the Plymouth

event.

"It transpired near Big Spring about seven years after DeVaca's Spanish expedition ship was wrecked on the coast by a storm ... He had no supplies, no horses, no mules - nothing," she wrote from information provided by Parmellee.

History reports that when the Eastern Apache Indians encountered DeVaca in 1535, he was walking along the

Pecos River without a stitch of clothing on. The Indians piled pelts, maize (corn) and pecans before him, but DeVaca knew he couldn't do a thing with those gifts, so he showed his goodwill by holding a sort of blessing service.

"If that Thanksgiving service doesn't give Texas first claim to the ceremony, Dr. H. E. Bolton goes on in his book, 'Coronado: Knight of Pueblos and Plains,' to describe a second one in 1541, apparently near Palo Duro Canyon," the article states.

After reviewing documents and hearing the stories from Parmellee, Moss reported that while DeVaca did cross the Pecos this was quite a number of days or weeks after he had paused at the "big

See THANKS, Page 3

Thanksgiving holiday closings across Big Spring

Herald Staff Report

The holidays are here; Thanksgiving is Thursday, and city, county and the State of Texas offices have issued early closure and closing announcements. The following will affect the Big Spring and Howard County area offices and local businesses:

The Big Spring Herald office will close for Thanksgiving Day and re-open for business on Friday, Nov. 29.

The City of Big Spring will close the Sanitation Department for Thanksgiving. For those residents who have a roll-out, they will need to have the roll outs placed before 8 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 27, morning. Pick up will take place Wednesday. Sanitation will resume normal pickup services on Friday, Nov. 28.

The landfill will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the day after, Nov. 29. The landfill will reopen on Saturday, Nov.

30 with normal working hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Offices with the City of Big Spring will close at 3 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 27 and begin the Thanksgiving holiday. All offices will remain closed through Friday, Nov. 29. Emergency services - police, fire, and EMS - will continue normal operations throughout the holiday. The Emergency Utilities Department will also continue operations and can be contacted at 432-264-2392. The City of Big Spring wishes the community a Happy Thanksgiving.

The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will close at Noon, Nov. 27, Wednesday and remain closed through Nov. 29. The office will resume regular business hours on Monday, Dec. 2.

Howard County will close all offices Thursday - Thanksgiving Day - Nov. 28 through Friday, Nov. 29 in observance of

See CLOSE, Page 3

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DPS Offers Tips for Safe Thanksgiving Travel

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) wants to remind all drivers to practice safe driving habits and exercise extra caution while traveling on Texas roadways during the busy Thanksgiving holiday. Texas Highway Patrol Troopers will increase enforcement starting Wednesday, Nov. 27, through Sunday, Dec. 1. DPS Troopers will be on the lookout for drivers failing to wear seat belts, violating the Move Over, Slow Down law, speeding and driving while intoxicated, among other traffic violations.

“As we gather with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving, you will play a key role in keeping everyone safe as you travel on our roadways this holiday,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw. “We urge drivers to celebrate the holiday responsibly by obeying traffic laws and monitoring weather conditions when traveling. DPS Troopers will also work to protect Texans by increasing traffic enforcement over Thanksgiving.”

During the 2018 Thanksgiving holiday, DPS Troopers issued more than 74,000 traffic citations and warnings, including 956 seat belt and child safety restraint citations. DPS enforcement efforts also resulted in 337 DWI arrests, 244 fugitive arrests and 213 felony arrests.

DPS offers the following tips to help Texans arrive at their destinations safely for the Thanksgiving holiday:

Do not drink and drive. Make alternate travel plans if you are consuming alcohol.

If you can Steer It, Clear It: If you are involved in a non-injury crash and your vehicle can be moved, clear the traffic lanes to minimize the impact on traffic. Leaving vehicles in a traffic lane not only increases traffic congestion, but it also leaves those involved with an increased risk of harm and chance for a secondary collision. On some highways, it is actually a violation of the law to not move your vehicle over when it is safe to do so.



Texas
Department of Public Safety

Move Over or Slow Down for police, fire, EMS, Texas Department of Transportation vehicles and tow trucks stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated. Also, show the same courtesy to fellow drivers stopped along the road. As of Oct. 31, DPS Troopers have issued 23,611 citations and warnings for violations to the Move Over, Slow Down law in Texas in 2019.

Slow down — especially in bad weather, construction areas, heavy traffic and unfamiliar areas.

Eliminate distractions while driving, including the use of mobile devices. Texas law prohibits using a portable wireless device to read, write or send an electronic message unless the vehicle is stopped.

Buckle up everyone in the vehicle — it's the law. Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.

Don't drive fatigued — allow plenty of time to reach your destination.

If you see a road hazard or if you observe anything suspicious, report it to the nearest law enforcement agency.

On multi-lane roadways, use the left lane for passing only. Not only is it courteous driving and avoids impeding traffic, Texas law requires slower traffic to keep to the right and to only use the left lane for passing (when posted).

Before your trip begins, make sure your vehicle is properly maintained and always double check to make sure all cargo is secure.

Monitor weather and road conditions wherever you are traveling. For road conditions/closings in Texas, visit Drive Texas.

Police agencies — including the Texas Highway Patrol — across the country will also increase enforcement efforts over the Thanksgiving holiday as part of Operation CARE (Crash Awareness and Reduction Effort).

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 89 inmates as of Friday, Nov. 23, 2019. Technical difficulties prevented this report from being previously published.

- **BRYAN LONNIE CHAVEZ**, 30, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxication.
- **ADAM JOSEPH COMMONS**, 25, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of theft of property (\$750 to \$2,500).
- **LUIS RAMON GARCIA JR.**, 39, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant for bondsman off bond-burglary of a habitation.
- **JAMES HENRY HARDMON JR.**, 31, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.
- **JOSE MANUEL JIMENEZ III**, 24, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant for motion to revoke-unauthorized use of a vehicle.
- **ELIAS SOL LEDESMA**, 33, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of failure to identify fugitive giving false or fictitious information, and warrants for

failure to appear-possession of a controlled substance penalty group 1 (less than one gram), failure to appear-intoxicated assault with a vehicle, and bail jumping and failure to appear.

- **TYLER MICHAEL MARTIN**, 24, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant for failure to control speed.
- **ANTHONY PAUL MUNOZ**, 61, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication with three prior convictions.
- **MYKAELA MICHALE NUNEZ**, 20, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **AARON MICHAEL RAMIREZ**, 18, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana (less than two ounces).
- **NORMA LEE RIOS**, 40, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant for motion to revoke-possession of marijuana (less than two ounces).
- **CHRISTIAN ANTHONY TORRENCE**, 24, was arrested by BSPD on warrants for two counts of burglary of vehicles.
- **DWAYNE EDWARD WILSON**, 32, was arrested by DPS on a warrant for assault causing bodily injury.

Take Note

• Anthony Rivas, local musician, is collecting food for Isaiah 58 Food Pantry. If you would like to donate, please contact Rivas at 432-935-0779, and he will arrange a time to drop off the donations at the food pantry. The food will then be distributed to the less fortunate in our area on Tuesday, Nov. 26. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided that day, and a DJ will be on site for entertainment. Thank you Anthony for doing this for our community.

• Christmas in Coahoma at the Park will take place this year on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 3 to 6:30 p.m. There will be hayrides and caroling, Christmas art projects for kids, free coffee, cocoa, popcorn and cookies. There will also be a special visit from Santa from 3 to 5 p.m. If you would like to enter your house into the Best Decorated House contest, you can pick up an application at City Hall or at the Office of the Justice of the Peace and return by December 11. The winner will be announced at the

park and will receive a yard sign and stocking of goodies.

• VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out more information.

• A fund has been set up in order to assist Brent Fowlkes with medical expenses. Brent is the husband of Ashley Martin Fowlkes, CEO of Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit

union located at 1110 Benton, or call 432-263-8393. Please see the tellers to make a donation. Thank you to everyone for your kindness and support during this difficult time.

• Senior and/or mature adults are invited to come to a dance every first and third Friday each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center, located at 100 Whipkey Drive. Come two-step the evening away, or just mingle with old friends and make new friends. Dances are from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live entertainment. No alcohol or smoking permitted. Cost is \$5 per person.

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Support Groups

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.
- Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI) military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.
- 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); there is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held three times per year on Thursday evenings, 6 to 8 p.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the GriefShare Ministry of TBC Facebook page. You can also call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

FRIDAY

- Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Fridays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.
- 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. to 8 p.m.

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.
- Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The meetings are held at the Senior Citizens Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. These meetings are open for any caregiver, whether medical professional or family member. For more information, please call Becky Letz at 267-1628.

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THANKS

Continued from Page 1

spring”.

Professor Bolton wrote in his book on Coronado's adventures that De-Vaca escaped from Galveston Island where Indians had made him a prisoner, if not a slave, and made his way to the Colorado River. He then is reported to have made his way north, turning off on the Sulphur Branch - what we call Beal's Creek - and came to the site of what is now Big Spring. He is said to have halted briefly at the spring then continued westward, finally reaching El Paso.

“According to the story, if the Thanksgiving event occurred near Big Spring, then it was around the area of Beal's Creek, probably in Eastern Howard County,” the story reported.

While the rich history is something to be thankful for this holiday season, several business leaders and community members shared what they are thankful for this holiday season. Family and friends and joyful celebrations are only the tip of the iceberg of reasons to be thankful for anyone who has grown up or spent time in Big Spring can find a list of reasons to see the positive that exists.

Curator of the Heritage Museum Tammy Schrecengost has the privilege of living in the historical side of Big Spring and the present day, in essence walking the best parts of both worlds. “I have often considered moving somewhere else, perhaps where there is an ocean or to the Colorado mountains, or even to a perfect town without drugs, robberies and murders,” Schrecengost said. “Hmmm, I wonder where that could be? At the end of the day, I realize Big Spring is home and has been for more than 60 years.”

As Schrecengost states, as with any community there are going to be is-

sues - perfection is only an illusion - but the benefits in a small town such as ours, the extended family almost overwrites the bad that can be found in any community.

“Memories that have been made in Big Spring involving family, friends and even strangers are vast,” she said.

Through her historical adventures and even shopping trips, Schrecengost crosses paths with people who like to reminisce about living in Big Spring, which just so happens to be a part of her job, which she loves dearly.

“I have found that the journey home feels good to the soul. Past or present, it's home and we sometimes must return to the place where we first planted our roots. Big Spring is a community that pulls together and is made up of caring individuals who work hard on causes that are for the betterment of the town,” Schrecengost said.

Natalie Permenter and her husband, Earl, both were born in Big Spring. Having lived the majority of her life, all but three years to be exact, she has grown to love several aspects of Big Spring and this year, she reflected on many reasons she is thankful to have roots in Big Spring.

“During my time away, I missed being here and wanted to come home,” Permenter said. “This is a great place to live, raise a family, work and worship. The heart of any great community is its people, and we are blessed with many generous and respectful citizens.”

Permenter is one of the many residents who have seen first hand the generosity of the community, especially during hard times. “Big Spring is filled with people with big hearts. When it comes down to it, our community knows how to come together in tough times,” Debbye Valverde, Big Spring Area Chamber of

Commerce Executive Director, said. “We know how to lift each other up when times get tough and we don't let people walk alone.”

Whether you come across someone you grew up with or pass by a stranger, it isn't uncommon to have someone hold open a door, lend a helping hand in the store or paying an act of kindness forward.

“Our community is like a family and rises to the occasion for those in need,” Permenter said.

While Big Spring may be a small community at first glance, the depth of the community is immense. For a small town, we are blessed to have several attractions that draw in visitors year round, from the Festival of Lights, Pops in the Park celebrating the Fourth of July and our freedoms, and even a professional symphony.

“We are a very business friendly community for both the owners and the patrons, and in return, our business owners invest in their community and let their generosity shine,” Permenter said. “I am grateful to be a local resident and can't imagine living anywhere else.”

Just as Permenter cherishes and embraces her Big Spring roots, another community member Troy Tompkins, also feels blessed having roots here.

“Growing up here, we were surrounded by extended family - grandparents, aunts and uncles, even greats. Many of them attended school or worked in Big Spring, making many friends; some of those old connections still exist and have passed down through generations,” Troy Tompkins, said. “I frequently come across school classmates of mine still residing here, and I enjoy seeing them. I have a sense of community and familiarity in Big Spring. Big Springers tend to be generous and caring; it is a great place to serve and

give back.”

As the youth in the community nears the end of their high school careers and prepare to embark on the real world, many express their desire to leave Big Spring and never come back. However, as several have stated, there is something about Big Spring that offers a family atmosphere. As years go by, those young minds take to the road and eventually find their way back to embrace the place they called home.

“I am thankful life came full circle and brought me back to my hometown, where even strangers are family,” Jodi Duck said. From the revitalization of Downtown Big Spring with Hotel Settles to Comanche Trail Park, where history is still being unearthed, to the beautiful view of Scenic Mountain, the outlook of what Big Spring has to offer is almost unending.

“Sure there are prettier places to live, but if you stand back and look at Big Spring as a newcomer, you will see the beauty,” Schrecengost said. “If I decide I want to see the ocean I will travel and enjoy it, but I will always return home to Big Spring, the town I am thankful to be a part of.”

As you sit down this Thanksgiving with family and friends, take the time and take in the memories and spend a moment seeing the beauty your community has to offer. As a fellow Big Spring resident who at one time also spoke about how great it would be to go out into the world, I also say, I am thankful to have returned home and am blessed to see the beauty of Big Spring from the inside out. From our family at the Big Spring Herald to yours, Happy Thanksgiving.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, email editor@big-springherald.com or call 432-263-7331.



HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat
Veterans gathered at the TA Truck Stop cafe to enjoy a Thanksgiving Dinner provided by the local DAV chapter. There were more than 30 veterans on hand for the annual event.

DAV

Continued from Page 1

have today, that we have our freedom.”

Thursday evening there were more than 30 veterans who enjoyed the special meal.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, email editor@big-springherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

CLOSE

Continued from Page 1

the Thanksgiving Day holiday. County offices will open again for business on Monday, Dec. 2. The Howard County Sheriff's Administrative Office will be closed, but Law Enforcement Services will operate as normal.

Texas Department of Public Safety offices will be closed, including the driver's license office. Offices will resume normal business hours Monday, Dec. 2.

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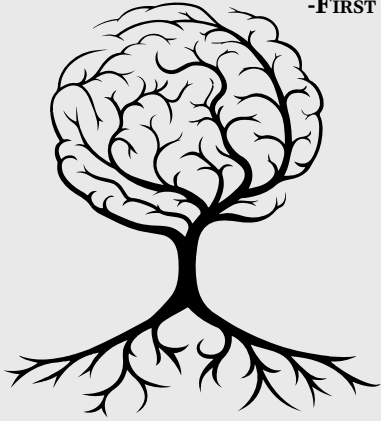
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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT



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

LETTERS POLICY

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

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:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
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Medicine for the Soul

As I sit here getting ready for another busy winter week, I think about every exam room in my clinic. Every room has a problem which requires a solution.

Every five minutes of time requires years of training from life and hours of hard work. Those five minutes to 10 minutes required hours and hours of studying that I did when I was in school and continue even now.

Every problem is not solved in one day just like every illness is not cured with just a shot of antibiotics.

I know, and I try to teach my students that every day; I walk into my clinic and in one room I will be victorious as I watch that well child walk out of my office, but in the next room I know that I will be humbled.

One of my mentors in Pediatrics told me, “in one room you will be the champ and in the next you will be a chump so get used to it.”

You have to know how to take the bad with the good. You have to know how to deal with the negative to get to the positive; you have to be wrong to learn how to be right.

To do this in life maybe we

The dark

have to ask ourselves a few questions. What do we do in life with the negative aspects of our life? Do we ignore them and hope they go away or do we take responsibility for them?

We have to ask ourselves, how does the night turn into day? How does a long cry and sadness turn into a smile and happiness? How do we deal with failure, sadness, depression, anger, which are unfortunately a very large part of our life?

What is really frustrating about those emotions, they are always there, but we have to realize it takes work to make it past them.

How do we deal with that job where the supervisor does not appreciate your hard work after you put in those long hours? How do

we reach that goal we set for ourselves when we keep failing over and over again? Who is responsible for making us feel these feelings and who is to blame for our failures? Do we feel self-entitled and blame others for our negative feelings?

Another question, why do we listen to negative people who make us feel less than we are and who we can be?

Just like in my clinic, every day, there is a solution to every problem. Some days it can take minutes to solve that problem and other problems can take years to solve. Sometimes it takes a change in our lifestyle and a change in the choices that

we make. That is where we have to admit we were wrong about some bad choices that put us where we do not want to be.

When we admit we are wrong then we can find out how to solve our problems and make that change.

Like I said, sometimes it can take minutes and other times it takes weeks, months, and even years.

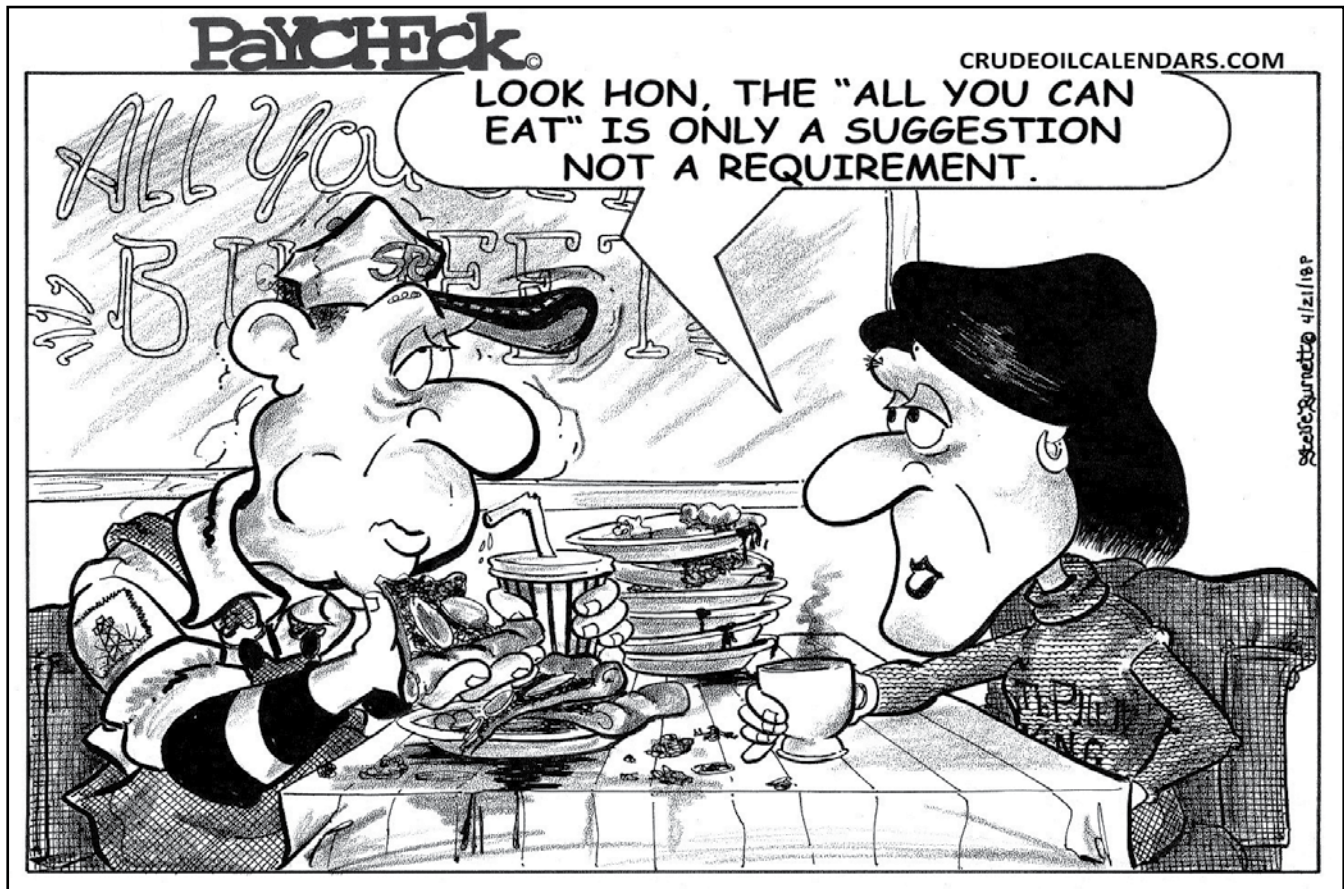
Everyone of us can make changes to our life, we just have to be patient and remember why we started.

When I started college I was immediately humbled by people who were smarter than me. Then over the years I finally found out I had to admit that I was wrong to expect that dream to happen without hours of hard work and determination.

I soon found out after multiple failures what many successful people find out; most people want to be in the result, but not the process. However, it is in the process where you realize who deserves to be in the result.

It takes time and long, hard-work to raise a child. It takes talking to a professional and possibly medication to get through depression, mental illness, and addiction. It takes admitting we are wrong to turn failures to success.

What we have to remember is that it always takes that look inward and remind yourself that every day has to go through the dark to reach the light, and all it takes is time.



The Postscript: The lost feather

I lost a feather the other day and I understand this does not qualify as news.

But I want to say—for the record—that this was a really nice feather. I paid good money for it and pinned it to my favorite blue hat. I wore that hat out for a walk, one evening, when it was chilly.

This was the last night that my husband, Peter, and I were in Frigiliana, a little town in the south of Spain. I walked to the top of the very steep hill where, four hundred years ago, a Moorish castle stood, guarding the town from invaders. The invaders eventually made it there anyway and the castle was knocked to the ground. Only the amazing view over the Mediterranean remains. And that's where I went walking when I lost my feather.

There was no hope of finding it that night. The sun was already down. So, the next morning I headed out, looking for my feather.

When I got to the foot of the hill (a small mountain, really) I realized what a foolish idea this was.

The ground was covered with autumn leaves that, surprisingly, all looked a lot like feathers. There was a stiff wind blowing

and I had no idea when the feather had parted ways with my hat.

Just then, I met a young pair of Germans heading up the hill.

“Do you speak English?” I asked.

“Yes!” they told me (because all Germans do, it seems).

“I’ve lost a feather. You haven’t seen it, have you?”

“A feather?” the young man repeated.

It struck me that this was the stupidest question I’d ever asked anyone, and I was filled with relief that I would never see these two people again.

“Actually, yes,” he said. “I saw one near the donkeys.”

I knew exactly where the donkeys were.

“Right by the donkeys?” I asked, rather incredulous.

“Yes, I saw it when I stopped to take a photo.”

“Thank you so much!” And I raced back down the hill, back to the donkeys.

“It pays to ask for help!” I told myself. “It’s worth asking stupid questions!” I added in my little sermon to myself.

Except there was no feather.

I searched and searched and could not find it anywhere. Even the donkeys lost interest in the project. I was there so long the Germans came down the hill

again and found me.

“Did you find the feather?” the young man asked.

“No, no I didn’t,” I confessed. He took me to where he had seen it. There was no feather.

“Ah well. Don’t waste any more time on this!” I told the considerate German couple.

“Well, good luck!” they said as they headed down the hill.

Since I still hadn’t made it to the top of the mountain, I kept climbing. I went all the way to the top, to the place I had looked at the Mediterranean the night before. And there was my feather, lying no more than a foot from where I had sat. I held that feather in my hand, amazed.

Because, you see, I didn’t really think I was going to find that feather. I thought the whole idea was crazy from the start. But once I shared the idea with that nice German couple, the possibility of finding it seemed more real, more attainable. Sometimes we just need someone else believing in our ideas to make those ideas—even the crazy ones—seem possible.

It was only because they believed I could find the feather that I did.

*Till next time,
Carrie*

Carrie Classon’s memoir, “Blue Yarn,” was released earlier this year. Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

DAILY PRAYER

*Dear Lord, help us to be a beacon
of light for You. May we show
Your grace to the world.
Amen*

Big Spring High School shares creativity Stories about Christmas

Editor's Note: Students at Big Spring High School, in Mrs. Patterson's class wrote Christmas-themed stories, shared memories and more. Here are a few of those submissions.

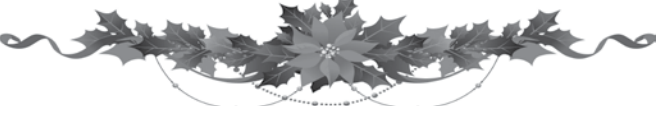
One day on a happy Christmas my family all got together for a family festival. Each and every family member brought a food bite to the table.

Soon enough we got all the presents and put them under the tree. We all surrounded the table, bowed our heads, and said a thankful blessing prayer for our good food we were about to eat and having our family together for another great Christmas year.

Although I have a big family we did a gift exchange for everyone so as soon as they drew a name from the bowl that person had to give the other person they chose the gift they bought them.

After we spend family time opening presents and exchanging gifts we wait for another great year to come around, sleep in our pj's and soft fluffy Christmas shirts, and enjoy the rest of our night watching Christmas movies and drinking a cup of warm cocoa.

Submitted by Jazmine



It was 7 a.m. looking out the window I saw a white blanket of snow. I then realized that I was almost late for school. I quickly got prepared for school, threw on some winter clothing.

(I went) racing out the door, praying I get to school on time. I had to walk which made it all the worse. Feeling the cold breath of wind on my face I finally reached the high school.

"Late again Bella," said Peter.

Bella, your stereo-typical name for a popular cheerleader, not some shy smart girl.

I have liked Peter since the seventh grade. It's currently sophomore year for us. The Christmas dance is coming up, and I would like to go with him. The bell rang to go to first period.

Luckily I have my best friend Alexis in that class. "Going to go with anyone to the dance?" said Alexis.

"No." I stated.

"Well what about Peter?"

"What about him?" I said in an annoyed voice.

"Ask him." she said. "Okay, fine. I'm only asking so you will leave me alone."

As the last bell rang for the end of the day I ran into Peter.

"Hey Bella I was wondering if you were going to

the dance with anyone?"

"No." I answered, my heart trying to escape out of my chest.

"Well would you like to go with me?"

"Sure" I said.

The day of the dance came, and we had a blast during the dance. Then Peter took me under a mistletoe and kissed me.

"You are my very Merry Christmas," he said to me.

I blushed and said, "I want to be with you forever. That's how Bella and Peter got together.

Submitted by Joshua Yanez



Make it white. Make it blow.
Let it cover the roads.

Let the jingles ring through blocks.

Let's have hot cocoa next to the fire place with the stocking caps hanging above the children of the night.

Listen for the slay bells ringing, set out the milk, and cookie.

Wait until Christmas morning for something magical.

Short poem submitted by Kelsey Woods



Christmas is supposed to be jolly, happy, and full of joy. That's one of the best holidays; family comes around, plays games, opens presents, watches Christmas movies, etc.

My Christmases are always joyful. Family comes from out of town. We laugh, play, always gossip, and eat the food my granny cooks all day and night. My uncle Head is a big part of the holidays. He laughs, always has funny jokes, eats all the deserts. His favorite is pig feet. He has the biggest plate.

This year is going to be a little different, Oct. 30, 2019 my Uncle Head had a bad asthma attack that caused him to be nearly on his death bed. We don't know how our Christmas is going to be. We don't

know if we'll have Christmas with or without him. It's really messing with our hearts. We've been praying for miracles to happen. Hopefully we have our Christmas with him, even though he won't be as stable, we still want him to be there with us.

Submitted by Passion Groage



There this little boy named Jimmy. For Christmas he always asks to go to the moon with his dog Bongo. So over Christmas he sent Santa a letter to let him know that he wanted to go tot he moon but every time he did he never go. So one Christmas he was over it because he didn't get what he wanted so he stopped asking Santa for gifts for Christmas and just stopped believing in Christmas itself. So no more cookies, no more tree, no more nothing and so he just slept the holiday through and just lost the spirit. His dog Bongo was sad that they couldn't go to the moon next Christmas passed and he still didn't have the nerves to get up until there was a glow at the front door and it was so bright that Jimmy couldn't open his eyes then it was the main man Santa Claus he walked up to Jimmy and said Jimmy I came down to talk to you because you were sending your letters to the South Pole not the North Pole Jimmy and Santa said that if you want to go to the moon with your dog then here you go and so Jimmy and his dog went to the moon with Santa Claus and had a blast and then Jimmy woke up with his dog and they were very happy at what happened that night he went downstairs with and saw that his whole house was decorated with every thing lighted up with happiness and so Jimmy looked under the tree and got a rock from space. The End.

Short story submitted by Jordan Vasquez

Kelsey Woods shared her thoughts on Christmas: Christmas day is just another way to celebrate Jesus Christ's birthday!

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Thanksgiving Celebration at Runnels: A Classical Christian Academy



Courtesy photos
Students at Runnels Academy enjoyed a Thanksgiving celebration and meal with other students and their families, hosted by the RPC. In addition, prior to the celebration, students had fun drawing costumes to disguise their turkeys.



Happy Thanksgiving from the Herald staff. Share your holiday memories with us!
Email editor@bigspringherald.com

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HOME REALTORS

'Tis the season for giving: West Texas Centers consumer donates hats to Veterans

Special to the Herald

A young Justin Jaegar needed an outlet to keep his temper in check.

Born with Down syndrome, Justin stated he became frustrated with the daily occurrences of life, often lost his cool. Whether it was interacting with others or learning a new task he often got irritated but then he discovered a hobby that would become his calling.

Knitting.

The 37-year-old stumbled upon knitting by happenstance. His congregation was performing a humanitarian mission in Prescott Valley, Arizona, and they needed people to make hygiene kits, quilts and hats for people in need, his father, Bruce Jaeger said. Once Justin learned the basic skills involved in making hats, he never looked back.

And he rarely lost his temper. "All my life I'm making them and it keeps me calm and I'm not yelling and I'm not screaming," Justin Jaeger said. "I'm trying to relax and do my hats in peace and quiet."

"It's very relaxing for him," his father said. "He's been doing it now for about 10 years."

Gloria Talamentes, Justin's Vo-Tech service provider at West Texas Centers agreed that knitting has had a calming effect. Once Justin finishes his classes and work activities are completed, he sits down and makes hats and beanies which he eventually shares with others.

On November 25, Justin will present 50 hats to veterans at the Veterans Outpost.

"He's very excited," Talamentes said. "He was telling me the other day about his plans to give hats to people who need them. I think it's wonderful."

She also remembers when Justin presented a hat to everyone at the West Texas Center Christmas party.

"It makes him feel proud of himself," Talamentes said. "He feels that even though he lives with Down

syndrome, that he can still do this. It's exciting to know what he has accomplished."

Justin even has a business card, she said. Justin can do custom ordering especially for his favorite team - the Green Bay Packers.

Justin's dad said the hat making is something he just fell into but has been therapeutic as well.

"It's not an active business but he does sell them, mostly word of mouth," Jaeger said. "He can make about two hats a day. He's pretty good at it."

He even has brought more of his friends at the Vo-Tech Center into the fold.

"He has encouraged a couple of friends to sit down and start making hats," Talamentes said. "They have even brought their own hat frames."

Another accomplishment that Justin is very proud of is being a member of the Planning Network Advisory Committee (PNAC) for West Texas Centers.

Justin has served for two years and represents the IDD population. This committee is a diverse group of participants that include consumers, family members, providers and interested citizens, a collaboration of WTC staff, consumers, community leadership, and family members with individuals in services.

"Justin is a wonderful advocate for individuals with Intellectual and developmental disabilities said Community Relations Director/PNAC Chair member Amy Vidal.

He attends every meeting and actively supports and works with members to accomplish PNAC functions.

Justin purchases yarn at the store or finds it at garage sales. Several people have donated yarn as well. Anyone who would like to donate yarn to Justin may bring it by the Vo-Tech Center at 501 Birdwell or the Veterans Outpost, 3205 S. Hwy 87, Alan D. Harris building.

If anyone knows of a veteran who needs a beanie,



Courtesy photo

West Texas Centers consumer Justin Jaegar decided to turn his outlet for his temper into a way to give back to veterans. Jaegar donated hats to veterans to keep warm on Nov. 25.

they may stop by the Alan D. Harris building, Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

West Texas Centers serves as the local authority for mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities for 23 counties in rural West Texas.

So what hat does Justin wear? "I don't wear hats," Justin said. "My hair is sensitive."

Let's bake a pie to share



Courtesy photo

Students at Forsan ISD got a jump start on baking for the holidays. The class was able to try their hand at making their favorite pies.

Loco Motives perform with Marcy students during Thanksgiving show

Courtesy photo

The Loco Motives performed with the Second and Fourth graders during their Thanksgiving performance at Marcy Elementary last week. The group is pictured during their performance of Jailhouse Rock. The presentation was a 50s theme.



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Comedy greats take a bow, make 'em laugh at ceremony

By LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — "There's nothing I believe more than this, that laughter adds time to one's life," Norman Lear told an audience gathered to honor him and other four other television comedy greats.

"I believe that as much as I believe my mother loved me," the writer-producer added. "She said she did. But I wasn't sure."

Like the 97-year-old Lear, who made his name — and TV history — with groundbreaking sitcoms like "All in the Family" and "The Jeffersons," the other honorees at Thursday's Paley Center for Media ceremony proved that talent is ageless. Carl Reiner, 97; Bob Newhart, 90; Carol Burnett, 86, and Lily Tomlin, 80, each won over the room with their humor and memories.

"Guess this is a hell of a time to tell you no, we're not coming to your Christmas party," Newhart teased Conan O'Brien after the late-night host introduced him as "one of my all-time comedy heroes."

"He pulls off the hardest kind of comedy — timeless, human, clean and subversive. And he makes it all look effortless," O'Brien said of Newhart.

The onetime accountant became an instant sensation in 1960 with his debut album, the Grammy-winning "The Button-Down Mind of Bob Newhart,"

scored sitcom hits with "The Bob Newhart Show" in the 1970s and "Newhart" in the '80s and won an Emmy as Professor Proton on "The Big Bang Theory."

The sentimental moments included Rob Reiner's introduction of his father, the writer-actor-producer whose TV career stretched from the 1950s variety series "Caesar's Hour" to creating "The Dick Van Dyke Show" to a recent role in "Angie Tribeca." "This is the nicest thing, to be able to do this for my dad," said the younger Reiner, who gave him an arm for support as they walked onto the hotel ballroom stage at The Paley Honors: A Special Tribute to Television's Comedy Legends.

Carl Reiner, who credited a government-supported acting program with his childhood start in entertainment, charmed the audience by reciting lines from a Shakespeare soliloquy he learned as a kid and sharing an anecdote about another TV comedy force, Jack Benny.

He called his children and grandchildren his greatest pride.

Carol Burnett was introduced by Kristin Chenoweth, who lauded the singer-actress-comedian as one of the few who can do it all and always "with such heart."

Burnett, who starred on Broadway, as well as TV, recalled what preceded the 1967 arrival of "The Carol Burnett Show."

"As a woman in this business, it wasn't always easy to do what the naysayers said couldn't be done," she said.

When she sought to exercise a contract clause with CBS for an hour-long variety show, Burnett said executives told her, "and I quote, 'It's not for you gals.'"

She punctuated the story with a derisive "huh." Her long-running show won armloads of Emmy Awards on CBS.

Tomlin, whose parade of characters made her a hit on "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In" and who stars opposite Jane Fonda on "Grace and Frankie," was self-effacing, saying she couldn't match Newhart's "sterling one-liners." Instead, she delighted the audience by reciting some of her characters' catchphrases, including telephone operator Ernestine's "one ringy dingy."

"I'm so grateful for this great, great honor," Tomlin said.

Lear was introduced by "black-ish" star Anthony Anderson, who said Lear's work forced audiences to confront difficult issues while shedding light on common bonds, and by late-night host Jimmy Kimmel, who said the producer used laughter to challenge "us to make progress."

The night's last word went to Lear.

"Bless you all, thank you all. To be continued," he said, smiling.

Melania Trump receives official White House Christmas tree

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Melania Trump opened the holiday season in the nation's capital Monday by accepting delivery of the official White House Christmas tree.

Members of the U.S. Marine Band played "O Christmas Tree" as a pair of horses named Cash and Ben trotted up the White House driveway pulling a green carriage that carried an 18 ½-foot (5.49 meter) Douglas fir. The towering tree will become the centerpiece of Christmas in the White House Blue Room.

The first lady appeared moments later, escorted by a military aide, and smiled, waved and chatted up the top-hatted men holding tight to the reins. She walked around the carriage and paused to look at the tree before posing for photos with the Pennsylvania farmer who donated it.

Mrs. Trump wished everyone a "Merry Christmas" before going back inside the White House.

Delivered three days before Thanksgiving, the fir was harvested from Mahantongo Valley Farms in Pitman, Pennsylvania. Owner Larry Snyder earned the honor of presenting the White House a tree from his farm after winning an annual contest held by the National Christmas Tree Association.

The White House chief usher and grounds superintendent picked the tree during an October visit to Snyder's farm. A massive chandelier that hangs in the oval-shaped Blue Room is removed to accommodate the tree, which is trimmed and anchored to the ceiling for safety and stability.

The tree's delivery marks the start of a flurry of holiday season activity at the White House.

President Donald Trump is scheduled Tuesday to participate in another seasonal ritual when he issues a presidential pardon to the National Thanksgiving Turkey before he flies to Florida to spend the holiday with his family at his Palm Beach home. The White House is sponsoring an online contest to help decide which of two gobblers - 45-pound (20.41 kilogram) "Bread" or 47-pound (21.32-kilogram) "Butter" - should be spared.

Meanwhile, during Trump's absence from Washington, an army of volunteer decorators, florists and others will fly in from around the country after Thanksgiving to help decorate the 132-room executive mansion for Christmas. Thousands of tourists will stream

through the building in December.

Wreaths are already in place on exterior windows on the South Portico of the White House.

Christmas planning starts several months out.

In late July, Mrs. Trump tweeted photos of herself in the Map Room looking over a table covered with fabric swatches, floral samples and Christmas photos.

"Christmas planning has begun in the East Wing at the @WhiteHouse," she wrote, referencing the wing of the White House where her office and staff are based. "I'm looking forward to sharing our final vision for this unique tradition in the coming months."

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Baking up Thanksgiving pies at Forsan ISD



Courtesy photos

The Forsan ISD Nutrition Class, taught by Mrs. Lefever tried their hand at baking Thanksgiving pies. Students worked together in teams and some tackled the process by themselves. The treats came out tasting wonderful.

Blackberry-Ripple Lime Cheesecake

- Crust**
 1½ cups pecans
 2 tablespoons sugar
 ¼ cup (12 stick) unsalted butter, melted
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 1 teaspoon cornstarch
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 1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
 2 teaspoons finely grated lime zest
 ¼ cup fresh lime juice
 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
 3 large eggs, at room temperature

- Position a rack in the middle of the oven and preheat the oven to 350 F. Generously butter the bottom and sides of a 9-inch springform pan.
- To make the crust: Pulse the pecans, flour and sugar in a food processor until the nuts are finely ground. Add the butter and pulse just until combined. Press the crust evenly over the bottom and 1 inch up the sides of the pan. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, until light brown. Transfer to a wire rack and cool completely. Reduce the oven temperature to 300 F.
- To make the filling: Mash the blackberries and sugar together in a medium saucepan with a pastry blender or a fork. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until the berries begin to release their juices. Stir in the cornstarch, bring to a boil over medium-high heat, stirring constantly, and boil for 1 minute. Pour the purée through a coarse strainer set over a small bowl, pressing hard on the sol-

- ids to extract as much liquid as possible. Refrigerate, tightly covered, until thoroughly chilled.
4. With an electric mixer on medium-high speed, beat the cream cheese in a large bowl for about 2 minutes, until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in the condensed milk, zest, lime juice, and vanilla, scraping down the side of the bowl as necessary. Reduce the speed to medium and add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Pour the batter into the pan.
5. Transfer the blackberry purée to a small glass measure. Drizzle it in a spiral pattern over the batter, then swirl a table knife through the batter to marbleize it. Bake for 55 to 60 minutes, until the cheesecake is puffed on the sides and still slightly jiggly in the center. Let cool on a wire rack.
6. Refrigerate the cheesecake, tightly covered, for at least 8 hours, until thoroughly chilled and set, or for up to 2 days.
7. To serve, run a sharp

knife around the edge of the pan to loosen the cake and remove the side of the pan. Cut the cheesecake into thin wedges with a sharp knife dipped into hot water and wiped dry after each cut.

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Big Spring powers through Andrews 77-54

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

A barn burner went down at Big Spring High School on Tuesday night in a matchup between the hometown Steers and the Andrews Mustangs.

At least that is the way the game appeared to be heading through the first quarter.

"We just had a little slow start," Steers Head Coach Kris Hise said. "Two games and two practices in two days probably hurt them a little bit, but we settled in and we were okay."

Both teams were shot out of a cannon, putting up big scoring numbers with a mixture of long-range and inside-the-paint shots. The Mustangs were leading 18-14 heading into the second quarter and were being powered by the play of sophomore guard Paetyn Walker.

This caused Hise to adjust his defense to put pressure on Walker with multiple defenders.

"We started trapping (Walker) every time he touched the ball, so that was the biggest thing to get it out of his hands," Hise said. "He's a great player. A great coach's kid. He knows the game, understands the game, makes the right pass most of the time. He's a good player. I'm glad we got him slowed down."

Following the defensive shift, the Steers were able to lasso the Mustangs and quickly take the lead.

They did not look back from there. Hise credited the change in pace of basketball the last few years pioneered by the greatest shooter in NBA history.

"The three-ball," Hise said. "The three-ball has changed the game of basket-



Courtesy Photo/Tony Claxton (claxtonphotography.com)
Sophomore Guard Chris Martinez goes up for a layup in Tuesday night's win over Andrews.

ball. Steph Curry. When it goes in it's a good thing, and when it doesn't go in it's a bad thing."

Big Spring was on fire in the second quarter, outscoring Andrews 23-12 and catapulting into a seven-point advantage at halftime.

Junior Guard Kyler Seymore posted another 20-plus point game, making use of all facets of the jump-shot. Seymore knocked down several from beyond-the-arc, from the midrange near the free-throw line, and with his textbook turnaround jumper.

Five players recorded at least three steals for the Steers, and they only allowed nine points to be scored by the Mustangs in the third quarter.

"We talk about kills: three stops in a row," Hise said. "I'm interested to see if we got our seven kills tonight."

Heading into the fourth, Big Spring was holding onto a 60-39 lead. That did not mean the Steers were going to let up on defense.

The Steers were able to close out the game strong with several big plays such as a saucy step-back three-pointer by sophomore guard Chris Martinez where he was fouled. Martinez missed the shot from the line, but "trash-man" Abel Clark was able to gather the offensive rebound and score the put-back layup for a five-point possession for the Steers.

Once again, Big Spring outscored Andrews in the final quarter and extended their win streak to three games with a convincing 77-54 win.

"I told those guys that we're going to go through some lows and we're going to go through some highs," Hise said. "We just have to ride the wave when it happens."

UP NEXT: The Steers will travel to Pecos High School on Dec. 3 to take on the Eagles.

Shawn Moran is the sportswriter at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, email sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Texas football third round matchups

CLASS 6A

Division I

Region I

Midland Lee (11-1) vs Southlake Carroll (12-0), 5 p.m. Saturday at Abilene's Shotwell Stadium

Arlington Martin (11-1) vs Duncanville (12-0), Noon Friday at Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Region II

Rockwall (10-2) vs Klein Oak (10-2), 1 p.m. Saturday at Waco's McLane Stadium

Prosper (10-2) vs The Woodlands (8-4), 7 p.m. Saturday at Waco's McLane Stadium

Region III

Katy (12-0) vs Galena Park North Shore (11-1), 4 p.m. Friday at Houston's NRG Stadium

Katy Tompkins (11-1) vs Humble Atascocita (11-1), 2 p.m. Saturday at Houston's NRG Stadium

Region IV

Lake Travis (11-1) vs Weslaco (10-2), 1 p.m. Friday at San Antonio's Alamo Stadium

Converse Judson (11-1) vs Laredo United (10-2), 8 p.m. Friday at San Antonio's Alamodome

Division II

Region I

Arlington (9-3) vs Denton Guyer (11-1), 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Frisco's Ford Center

Amarillo Tascosa (9-3) vs Flower Mound Marcus (11-1), 3 p.m. Saturday at Wichita Falls' Memorial Stadium

Region II

Dallas Jesuit (8-4) vs Klein Collins (11-1), 7 p.m. Friday at Waco's McLane Stadium

Waco Midway (9-3) vs Spring Westfield (11-1), 2 p.m. Saturday at Bryan's Green Stadium

Region III

Cypress Creek (8-4) vs Houston Strake Jesuit (10-2), 8 p.m. Friday at Houston's NRG Stadium

Katy Taylor (7-5) vs Humble (10-2), 6 p.m. Saturday at Houston's NRG Stadium

Region IV

Austin Westlake (11-1) vs Weslaco East (9-3), 7 p.m. Friday at San Antonio's Alamo Stadium

San Antonio Brandeis (12-0) vs Edinburg Vela (9-3), 2 p.m. Friday at Laredo's United ISD Student Activity Center

CLASS 5A

Division I

Region I

Birdville (9-3) vs Colleyville Heritage (8-4), 11 a.m. Saturday at Frisco's Ford Center

Abilene Cooper (11-1) vs Denton Ryan (12-0), 3 p.m. Friday at Denton's Collins Athletic Complex

Region II

Frisco Lone Star (12-0) vs Highland Park (11-1), 3:30 p.m. Friday at Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Lancaster (10-2) vs Frisco Independence (10-2), 7 p.m. Friday at Richardson's Eagle-Mustang Stadium

Region III

Richmond Foster (8-4) vs Alvin Shadow Creek (12-0), 2 p.m. Friday at Webster's Challenger-Columbia Stadium

Cedar Park (11-1) vs Manor (7-5), 6 p.m. Friday at Pflugerville's The Pfield

Region IV

San Antonio Wagner (11-1) vs San Antonio Harlan (12-0), 4 p.m. Friday at San Antonio's Alamodome

Corpus Christi Miller (12-0) vs Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial (9-3), 2 p.m. Friday at Corpus Christi's Buccaneer Stadium

Division II

Region I

Wichita Falls (5-7) vs Wichita Falls Rider (8-4), 2 p.m. Friday at Wichita Falls' Memorial Stadium

Lubbock Cooper (11-1) vs Canyon Randall (5-7), 4 p.m. Friday at Canyon's Kimbrough Stadium

Region II

Aledo (11-1) vs Red Oak (11-1), 7 p.m. Friday at Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Frisco (11-1) vs Ennis (11-1), 1 p.m. Friday at Frisco's Ford Center

Region III

Huntsville (9-3) vs Fort Bend Marshall (11-1), 2 p.m. Saturday at Shenandoah's Woodforest Bank Stadium

Manvel (12-1) vs Barbers Hill (11-1), Noon Friday at Houston's NRG Stadium

Region IV

Brenham (10-2) vs Corpus Christi Calallen (11-1), 8 p.m. Saturday at San Antonio's Alamodome

Boerne Champion (11-1) vs Mission

Pioneer (11-1), 4 p.m. Saturday at San Antonio's Alamodome

CLASS 4A

Division I

Region I

Springtown (11-1) vs Andrews (11-1), 3 p.m. Friday at Brownwood's Gordon Wood Stadium

Dumas (12-0) vs Decatur (12-0), 7 p.m. Friday at Lubbock's Lowery Field

Region II

Waco La Vega (11-1) vs Melissa (9-3), 7 p.m. Friday at Fort Worth's Brewer Bear Stadium

Argyle (12-0) vs Brownwood (11-1), 1:30 p.m. Friday at Waco's McLane Stadium

Region III

Crandall (10-2) vs Carthage (12-0), 5 p.m. Friday at Tyler's TMF Rose Stadium

Palestine (7-5) vs Midlothian Heritage (8-4), 2:30 p.m. Friday at Hewitt's Panther Stadium

Region IV

Needville (10-2) vs Lampasas (11-1), Noon Saturday at San Antonio's Alamodome

El Campo (10-2) vs Liberty Hill (6-5), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Bastrop's Memorial Stadium

Division II

Region I

Midland Greenwood (12-0) vs Lubbock Estacado (12-0), 7 p.m. Friday at Abilene's Anthony Field

Iowa Park (11-1) vs Glen Rose (7-5), 6 p.m. Friday at Abilene's Shotwell Stadium

Region II

Sunnyvale (12-0) vs Texarkana Pleasant Grove (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Frisco's Ford Center

Gilmer (9-3) vs Waco Connally (12-0), 7 p.m. Friday at Allen's Eagle Stadium

Region III

Bellville (9-3) vs West Orange-Stark (9-1), 6:30 p.m. Friday at Porter's West Randall Reed Stadium

Silsbee (7-4) vs Giddings (7-5), 7 p.m. Friday at Shenandoah's Woodforest Bank Stadium

Region IV

Geronimo Navarro (12-0) vs Sinton (7-5), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Cuero's Gobbler Stadium

Rockport-Fulton (9-3) vs Wimberley (9-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Beeville's Veterans Memorial Stadium

CLASS 3A

Division I

Region I

Brock (10-2) vs Bushland (12-0), 3 p.m. Friday at Iowa Park's Hawk Stadium

Wall (12-0) vs Pilot Point (11-1), 6 p.m. Friday at Graham's Newton Field

Region II

Pottsboro (12-0) vs Malakoff (11-1), 2 p.m. Friday at Wylie's Wylie ISD Stadium

Wynnsboro (8-4) vs Gladewater (9-3), 2 p.m. Friday at Mount Pleasant's Parker Field

Region III

Whitney (11-1) vs Troy (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Hewitt's Panther Stadium

Cameron Yoe (11-1) vs Grandview (11-1), 1p.m. Friday at Waco's Waco ISD Stadium

Region IV

Columbus (10-2) vs Vanderbilt Industrial (11-1), Noon Friday at San Antonio's Alamodome

Hallettsville (9-2) vs George West (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday at San Antonio's Farris Stadium

CLASS 2A

Division I

Region I

See **PLAYOFFS**, Page 15

NHL Standings

Atlantic	Overall	Points	GF	GA
Boston Bruins	15-3-5	35	83	60
Florida Panthers	12-7-5	29	88	89
Montreal Canadiens	11-7-5	27	80	75
Toronto Maple Leafs	11-10-4	26	81	85
Buffalo Sabres	11-9-3	25	67	68
Tampa Bay Lightning	11-7-2	24	75	66
Ottawa Senators	11-11-1	23	65	71
Detroit Red Wings	7-16-3	17	59	98

Metropolitan	Overall	Points	GF	GA
Washington Capitals	16-4-5	37	91	75
New York Islanders	16-3-2	34	68	51
Carolina Hurricanes	15-8-1	31	83	68
Pittsburgh Penguins	12-7-4	28	78	60
Philadelphia Flyers	11-7-5	27	70	71
New York Rangers	10-9-2	22	71	76
Columbus Blue Jackets	9-9-4	22	58	73
New Jersey Devils	8-10-4	20	57	79

Central	Overall	Points	GF	GA
St. Louis Blues	14-5-5	33	72	66
Dallas Stars	14-8-2	30	68	57
Winnipeg Jets	14-9-1	29	68	73
Colorado Avalanche	13-8-2	28	81	69
Nashville Predators	10-9-3	23	78	76
Chicago Blackhawks	9-9-5	23	66	69
Minnesota Wild	9-11-3	21	64	77

Pacific	Overall	Points	GF	GA
Edmonton Oilers	16-7-3	35	85	73
Arizona Coyotes	14-8-3	31	71	58
Vancouver Canucks	12-8-4	28	78	69
Vegas Golden Knights	11-10-4	26	75	73
San Jose Sharks	12-11-1	25	69	80
Calgary Flames	11-12-3	25	65	80
Anaheim Ducks	10-11-3	23	65	75
L.A. Kings	9-13-1	19	60	79

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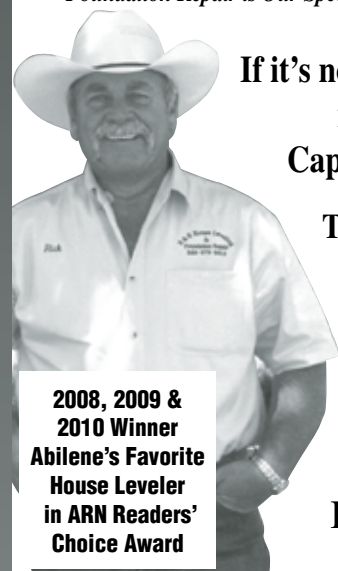
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Annie's Mailbox

Thank You, Readers

Dear Readers: In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I would like to thank all of you -- my readers. I particularly want to single out those of you who have reached out by offering your questions and opinions. Without you, the column would not be possible. To celebrate this special day, I'd like to share one of my favorite poems, because it helps remind us that noticing the simple pleasures of life brings us the most joy.

"We Thank Thee," by Ralph Waldo Emerson

For flowers that bloom about our feet,
Father, we thank Thee.
For tender grass so fresh, so sweet,
Father, we thank Thee.
For the song of bird and hum of bee,
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.
For blue of stream and blue of sky,
Father, we thank Thee.
For pleasant shade of branches high,
Father, we thank Thee.
For fragrant air and cooling breeze,
For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For this new morning with its light,
Father, we thank Thee.
For rest and shelter of the night,
Father, we thank Thee.

For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

Dear Readers: Thanksgiving is such a wonderful holiday because it helps us focus on all the many blessings we have in our lives. There is a book on this topic that I highly recommend: "The Simple Act of Gratitude," by John Kralik.

Kralik tells us how he turned his life around completely by disciplining himself to send one thank-you note each day for an entire year. Rather than obsessing about the things that upset him, he forced himself to find things for which he was grateful.

From that same place of gratitude, a number of readers wrote in to share about being grateful for each day.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Fearing the Future As An Old Man." You are starting from a good place: Gratitude is the key component of a successful old age. So

why are you sabotaging yourself? You have no idea of what the coming years will be like, any more than you did as a teen. There is so much to look forward to and yet you are projecting a negative existence that will more than likely never happen. Your body will change, so exercise and eat well and you may end up like my 90-year-old female friend who is in a long-distance bicycle group or my 73-year-old brother-in-law who just finished a full triathlon.

You sound as if you have gifts and talents, so look for those who need what you have, and forget about the judgments of youngsters. Those in assisted living may have mental or physical needs that require caretakers, and they, too, may be very grateful for their existence. Add a dose of acceptance to your gratitude, and you're good to go.

I am 84 and just got back from the gym. -- The Best Time of Life

Dear The Best Time of Life: Thank you for sharing your optimism and gratitude.

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



home between two people is important to the workings of the entire world. It's hard to believe, but just think about how this has already been true in your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll shed one idea of who you are to adopt a new one. You've already done this many times, always for the better. For instance, you were a child once, and now you're responsible for what happens in your own life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Feng shui suggests your front door be larger than your back door so good energy can easily come in and have difficulty leaving. The principle will hold, regardless of your door size.

tial. If they haven't already, they will, and your belief plays a part in this.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Focus your energy where it will be most appreciated. Keep imagining that people mean to help you, even if that's not what they seem to be doing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Such a lot will go on: interpersonal dynamics, family psychology, petty differences, sibling bickering, history revealed and more. You'll be that calm touchstone, a neutralizing influence, indispensable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Hugs, genial conversation, gentle sharing... whatever buffers the negative feelings is also a promotional agent for health and well-being, not to mention the higher realms of joy, fun and laughter.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You rejoice in what you have, which is so much. The more you talk, share and reach out, the better you feel. Tonight you'll tell a good story -- a useful skill that others will watch and learn from.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 28). You'll live by your word and earn the reward of this many times throughout the year. In 2020, mystical inclinations emerge, and you'll explore your creativity and spirituality. Complicated relationships get ironed out through simple acts of forgiveness. After that, the adventuring starts. Virgo and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 45, 3, 28 and 44.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Avoiding a guess

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

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

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 3♥ 3♠

Opening lead — six of spades.

Assume you reach six hearts as shown and West leads a spade. When you play the ten, East covers with the queen, and you win with the ace.

There is no way you can avoid losing a spade, so the big question is how to avoid a diamond loser. This would be easy enough to manage if you could see the opponents' cards — all you'd have to do is finesse against the player with the queen.

But you can't see the adverse hands and will therefore have to rely on your ingenuity to help solve the problem. The only clue so far as to the probable location of the queen is that East entered the bidding, so he is perhaps a bit more likely to have it.

This evidence is far from conclusive, however, and it would be incorrect to rely upon it exclusively. It is far better to try to learn more about the defenders' hands before making a final decision.

Accordingly, you cash the ace of clubs at trick two, then play a heart to the nine and ruff a club. When you next play a heart to the queen and return the jack of clubs, all your worries cease when East plays the king on it.

Instead of ruffing the club, as originally planned, you discard your spade loser, relieving you of the problem of having to guess how to play the diamonds.

East is now on lead and must hand you the contract regardless of what he returns. If he leads a spade, dummy's jack becomes a trick, while if he leads a diamond, your potential diamond loser disappears. It turns out that the best way of dealing with the queen of diamonds is not to try to guess its location at all.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

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

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Thankful Trine of Mercury and Neptune

ARIES (March 21-April 19). What people will remember about this day is how you made them feel. Whatever efforts you give toward serving needs will be effective in so far as they are delivered with warmth.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your mood will be dictated by a thought process that is either inclusive or defensive. Both modes will be appropriate at different moments of the day. Generosity is enabled by good boundaries.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). While "thanks" is a word, gratitude is an embodiment. You'll enact it, radiate it, be it. This takes no effort on your behalf, partly because you're so relieved that things have turned out as well as they have.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You could over-complicate things by trying to give more and differently than what is necessary. All together now: "All you need is love. Love is all you need." -- The Beatles

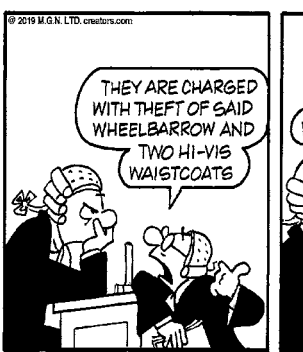
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). What happens in your

Table with 18 columns (KMGD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, KWES, WTBS, TNT, ESPN, ESPN2, FSN, USA, A&E, DISC) and 24 rows of TV listings.

ANDY CAPP



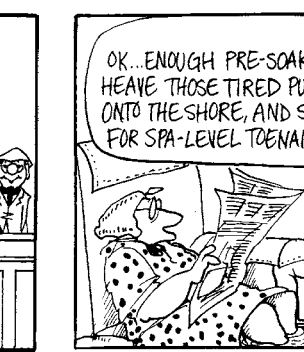
AGNES



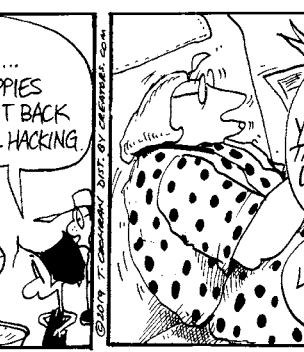
ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



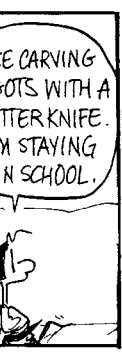
MOMMA



NEST HEAD



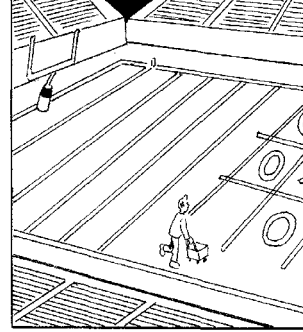
AGNES



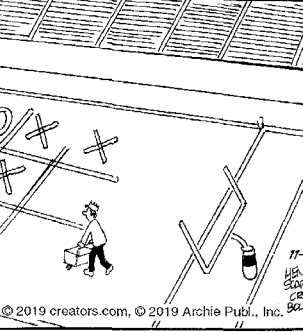
ANDY CAPP



AGNES



ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



MOMMA



NEST HEAD



AGNES



This Date In History

Today in History Today is Thursday, Nov. 28, the 332nd day of 2019. There are 33 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 28, 1942, fire engulfed the Cocoanut Grove nightclub in Boston, killing 492 people in the deadliest nightclub blaze ever. (The cause of the rapidly-spreading fire, which began in the basement, is in dispute; one theory is that a busboy accidentally ignited an artificial palm tree while using a lighted match to fix a light bulb.) On this date: In 1520, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean after passing through the South American strait that now bears his name. In 1861, the Confederate Congress admitted Missouri as the 12th state of the Confederacy after Missouri's disputed secession from the Union. In 1905, Sinn Fein (shin fayn) was founded in Dublin. In 1919, American-born Lady Astor was elected the first female member of the British Parliament. In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin began conferring in Tehran during World War II. In 1961, Ernie Davis of Syracuse University became the first African-American to be named winner of the Heisman Trophy. In 1964, the United States launched the space probe Mariner 4 on a course toward Mars, which it flew past in July 1965, sending back pictures of the red planet. In 1975, President Ford nominated Federal Judge John Paul Stevens to the U-S Supreme Court seat vacated by William O. Douglas. In 1979, an Air New Zealand DC-10 en route to the South Pole crashed into a mountain in Antarctica, killing all 257 people aboard. In 1994, serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer was slain in a Wisconsin prison by a fellow inmate. Sixties war protester Jerry Rubin died in Los Angeles, two weeks after being hit by a car; he was 56. In 2001, Enron Corp., once the world's largest energy trader, collapsed after would-be rescuer Dynegy Inc. backed out of an \$8.4 billion takeover deal. (Enron filed for bankruptcy protection four days later.) In 2004, NBC Sports chair-

man Dick Ebersol was injured, his 14-year-old son Teddy among three people killed, when a charter plane crashed during takeoff outside Montrose, Colorado. Ten years ago: A conservative Iranian legislator warned his country might pull out of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty after a U.N. resolution censuring Tehran. For a second straight day, Tiger Woods was unavailable to speak to the Florida Highway Patrol about an accident involving his SUV that sent him to the hospital with injuries. Five years ago: French President Francois Hollande (frah-n-SWAH' oh-LAWND') brought a message of hope to Guinea, where thousands of residents turned out to catch a glimpse of the first Western leader to visit a country hard hit by Ebola. Pope Francis urged Muslim leaders to condemn the "barbaric violence" being committed in the name of Islam against religious minorities in Iraq and Syria as he arrived in neighboring Turkey for a visit aimed at improving interfaith ties. A gunman fired more than 100 rounds at downtown buildings in Austin, Texas, and tried to set the Mexican consulate ablaze before he died during a confrontation with police. One year ago: Democrats overwhelmingly nominated Nancy Pelosi to become House speaker when Democrats took control of the House in January. Stocks surged to their biggest gain in eight months after Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell hinted that the Fed might not raise interest rates much further; the Dow soared 617 points higher. President Donald Trump told the New York Post that a pardon for former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort was "not off the table," prompting critics to fear that Trump would use his executive power to protect friends and supporters caught up in the Russia probe. Today's Birthdays: Recording executive Berry Gordy Jr. is 90. Former Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., is 83. U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross is 82. Singer-songwriter Bruce Channel is 79. Singer Randy Newman is 76. CBS

News correspondent Susan Spencer is 73. Movie director Joe Dante is 72. Former "Late Show" orchestra leader Paul Shaffer is 70. Actor Ed Harris is 69. Former NASA astronaut Barbara Morgan is 68. Actress S. Epatha (eh-PAY'-tah) Merkeron is 67. Former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff is 66. Country singer Kristine Arnold (Sweethearts of the Rodeo)

is 63. Actor Judd Nelson is 60. Movie director Alfonso Cuaron (kwahr-OHN') is 58. Rock musician Matt Cameron is 57. Actress Jane Sibbett is 57. Comedian Jon Stewart is 57. Actress Garcelle Beauvais (gar-SEHL' boh-VAY') is 53. Actor/comedian Stephnie (cq) Weir is 52. Rhythm-and-blues singer Dawn Robinson is 51. Actress Gina Tognoni is 46. Hip-hop musician apl.

de.ap (Black Eyed Peas) is 45. Actor Malcolm Goodwin is 44. Actor Ryan Kwanten is 43. Actress Aimee Garcia is 41. Rapper Chamillionaire is 40. Actor Daniel Henney is 40. Rock musician Rostam Batmanglij (bot-man-GLEESH') is 36. Rock singer-keyboardist Tyler Glenn (Neon Trees) is 36. Actress Mary Elizabeth Winstead is 35. R&B singer Trey Songz is 35. NHL goalie

Marc-Andre Fleury (markh-ahn-dray FLOOR'-ee) is 35. Actress Scarlett Pomers is 31. Actor-rapper Bryshere Gray is 26. Thought for Today: "Knowledge is proud that it knows so much; wisdom is humble that it knows no more." — William Cowper, English poet (1731-1800).

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Firm hold 5 Evince 9 Cut corners 14 Pro __ share 15 Arizona native 16 One working underground 17 Open a bit 18 Seuss' If __ the Circus 19 More than unusual 20 Large museum on the Mall 23 Indefinite amount 24 Where the LAD and NYY play 25 Wood shaper 28 NATO alphabet conclusion 31 Haughty attitude 35 Adams or Poehler 36 With no principles 38 Letter opener's creation 39 Strutting like a king 42 Poetic "soon" 43 Must 44 Hair care substance 45 Very soft mineral 46 Betting consideration 47 Hollow stone 49 Major period 51 Wolf cousin 52 Hay fever, for instance 61 Spotted horse 62 Sanctity symbol 63 Unimportant 64 "Like it __ . . ." 65 Starter of a Bard comedy title 66 Prepare for planting

- 67 Gift-wrapping mishaps 68 They're larger than coves 69 Apparel DOWN 1 Dad's mom 2 Erstwhile prince of India 3 "Just leave __ that!" 4 Shunned one 5 Newly buffed 6 Fiddler . . . dance 7 Cameo stone 8 Albatross appendage 9 Certain sense 10 Polish sausage 11 Legal brief beginning 12 '70s Israeli leader

- LARGELY DIFFERENT by Billie Truitt Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 13 Part of a food chain 21 Julian calendar beginning 22 Magic charm 25 Wash gently against 26 KitchenAid alternative 27 Austrian region 28 Allocated (for), as neighborhoods 29 Arm-twisted 30 Enriches, as a roast 32 Volunteer's offer 33 Vexed expression 34 Artistic expression 37 Culture of ancient Crete

- 40 Seth, to Noah 41 Russian playwright 48 Excused (from) 50 What settlers put down 51 Dental string 52 Locality 53 Word on Irish euros 54 Santa __ (Alamo attacker) 55 Quaker captain of fiction 56 __ land (dreamy state) 57 Supporter 58 What HR might pay for a new hire 59 Pirate potato 60 Conifers that sound like sheep

Answer to previous puzzle EBB BAIT FAR AREA TIME COMA TALK TURKEY HUMP ASTER OCELOT LEERY PIERRE EDDY TURKEYTIME DENSE PAVER BEGGED ATHENA ALERT CHESS TIME ENOUGH BEET GROTTO KENYA EMBOSS PACES PIER ENOUGH TALK INDY EASY USES GDS TRAM PET

PLAYOFFS

Continued from Page 10

Division II
Region I
Friona (10-2) vs Abernathy (11-1), 3 p.m. Friday at Lubbock's Lowery Field
Canadian (12-0) vs Cisco (11-1), 2 p.m. Friday at Vernon's Lion Stadium
Region II
Gunter (11-1) vs Rogers (11-1), 2 p.m. Friday at Corsicana's Tiger Stadium
Holliday (9-3) vs Lexington (5-7), 6 p.m. Friday at Burleson's Burleson ISD Stadium
Region III
Bells (9-3) vs Omaha Pewitt (11-1), 6 p.m. Friday at Sulphur Springs' Prim Stadium
Dainierfield (10-2) vs Newton (11-1), 7 p.m. Friday at Nacogdoches' Bryce Stadium
Region IV
Comfort (10-2) vs East Bernard (12-0), 1:30 p.m. Friday at Bastrop's Memorial Stadium
Poth (11-1) vs Ganado (9-3), 2 p.m. Friday at Cuero's Gobbler Stadium

CLASS 2A
Division I
Region I
Stinnett West Texas (10-2) vs Post (12-0), 4 p.m. Friday at Dimmitt's Wildcat Stadium
Hawley (12-0) vs Sundown (10-2), 7 p.m. Friday at

Colorado City's Wolf Stadium
Region II
Valley View (10-2) vs Crawford (9-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Bedford's Pennington Field
San Saba (12-0) vs Bogota Rivercrest (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Mansfield's Newsom Stadium
Region III
Groveton (10-2) vs Joaquin (10-2), 7 p.m. Friday at Nacogdoches' Dragon Stadium
Harleton (10-2) vs San Augustine (11-0), 7 p.m. Friday at Henderson's Lion Stadium
Region IV
Holland (12-0) vs Mason (10-2), 7 p.m. Friday at Buda's Shelton Stadium
Shiner (12-0) vs Refugio (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Converse's Rutledge Stadium
Division II
Region I
Wink (9-3) vs Vega (9-3), 7 p.m. Friday at Leveland's Lobo Stadium
Stratford (11-1) vs Gruver (8-4), 2 p.m. Friday at Amarillo's Bivins Stadium
Region II
Wellington (11-1) vs Windthorst (10-2), 7 p.m. Friday at Vernon's Lion Stadium
Hamlin (9-2) vs Wheeler (10-2), 6 p.m. Friday at Childress' Fair Park Stadium
Region III
Muenster (10-2) vs Dawson (10-2) 2 p.m. Friday at North Richland Hills' Birdville Fine Arts/Athletic Complex
Mart (9-3) vs Grapeland (10-2), 2 p.m. Friday at Fairfield's Eagle Stadium

Region IV
Bremond (11-1) vs Flatonia (11-1), 7 p.m. Friday at Rockdale's Tiger Stadium
Falls City (11-1) vs Granger (9-3), 7 p.m. Friday at New Braunfels' Cougar Stadium

CLASS 1A
Division I
Region I
McLean vs. White Deer, 6 p.m. Friday at Borger
Region II
Rankin vs. Borden County, 4 p.m. Saturday at Robert Lee
Region III
Saint Jo vs. Blum, 7 p.m. Friday at Springtown
Region IV
Jonesboro vs. Nueces Canyon, TBA
Division II
Region I
Groom vs. Motley County, 7 p.m. Friday at Nazareth
Region II
Jayton vs. Blackwell, 6:30 p.m. Friday at Borden County
Region III
Strawn vs. Gordon, 7 p.m. Thursday at Hico
Region IV
Oakwood vs. Richland Springs, 7 p.m. Friday at Hico

Sports betting: Even Thanksgiving pickup football isn't safe

By WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press
ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Each Thanksgiving, families and friends across America face off in backyards or public parks in pre-meal football games they dub "Turkey Bowl."
Now, there's a way to determine which side is favored to win — a way you can bet on.
Bookmaker William Hill US has come up with a tongue-in-cheek formula to generate point spreads in individual Turkey Bowl games. It's designed to add some more fun to the family faceoffs while promoting itself as the fast-growing legal sports betting industry spreads throughout the country.
Are there any college football players, past or present, on your team? You'll be giving 3.5 points for that. No one on your team was a college athlete? You'll get a point for that.
Is Uncle John drunk again (or hung over)? You're getting 2 points for that. Everyone on your team clear-headed? That's a minus-2.
Cigarette smokers or those considered "extremely" out of shape (be your own judge on that) will either add or take away a point. Have a player over 6 feet tall on your team? You'll give 1.5 points for that.
Add and subtract those and other numbers, and the result is the point spread for your very own Turkey Bowl game.
Jauckee Moton is excited to try it out in the Turkey Bowl he and friends have been playing for the


past five years in Zion, Illinois.
"It's been getting kind of competitive the last couple years," he said. "The winning team gets a trophy that they take home and keep until the next year's game."
The teams don't form until 30 minutes before kickoff, so he can't calculate a point spread until then. But he's fairly certain a number of criteria will apply to the two teams in his game.
"Far as being hung over, yeah, we get some of that from Thanksgiving Eve," he said. "Injuries, surgeries, we got that, too."
Several regular players routinely bet on college and pro football, so Moton thinks there might be some interest in a friendly wager on the outcome of his Turkey Bowl.
Other criteria used in determining the spread include whether a player had run in a Thanksgiving Day race earlier that day and would presumably be tired (plus or minus 2 points); having one more player than the other team does (plus or minus 2 points); having an injured player or one who recently had surgery (plus or minus 1.5 points); a player wearing (or not wearing) cleats and gloves (plus or minus 1 point); and wearing non-athletic clothes such as blue jeans or a dress, or loafers or heels (plus or minus 1 point.)

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