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AARP Tax-Aide Mondays

Big Spring Senior Center

INDEX

Classifieds.....10-12

Comics .....13

News ..... 1 & 3


Obituaries .....2

Health .....4

Religion .....5-8

Sports .....9 & 14

Find us online at: www.bigspringherald.com





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Proactive measures implemented to ensure community health

New visitor policies, emergency management reviews, additional screenings, event cancellations

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic that is spreading across the nation, local health care facilities and organizations are taking extra precautions to safe guard their patients, visitors and staff. While at this time there are no known cases of the COVID-19 virus in Howard County, precautionary and proactive measures are being put into place.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center was the first to issue a new visitor policy, which was released Wednesday afternoon.

“As we continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 across the United States,

Scenic Mountain Medical Center remains focused on doing all we can to protect our employees, patients and the community we serve,” Daniel Moreno, SMMC Marketing Coordinator, said.

According to the release, per Steward Health Care’s system-wide policy, effective March 10, children age 12 and under who are not seeking medical treatment will not be allowed to visit any Steward hospitals until further notice. Odessa Regional Medical Center, who is also a Steward hospital has also issue the following statement and implemented the visitor restrictions. Any person older than age 12 who feels sick and is not seeking care is asked to avoid visiting hospitals or other health care facilities for the protection of patients, hospital staff and the broader community.

“Thank you for your cooperation and helping us to keep our communities safe,” a press release stated.

Medical Center Hospital has implemented a screening process for all visitors of their facility. According to a news reporter earlier this week, hospital officials stated they will be screening those who plan to visit. All visitors will be asked to use specific entrances for the screenings. The screenings and restrictions are part of the proper infection prevention protocols and guidance from the CDC.

The local West Texas VA Medical Center is also following suit and being pro

See WASH, Page 3

CASA receives donation from Run2Love2Run

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

Last month more than 40 runners came together to take part in the Run2Love2Run event. As part of the annual event, part of the funds raised are donated to CASA of West Texas to support their Big Spring services. The check presentation - \$800 donation – took place at Star Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram, last week.

“We are always looking for community support organizations that we can partner with and CASA is one of the valuable resources that we have in Big Spring,” Cherise Felty said.

“We chose CASA as the focus of this race about four years ago because we strongly believe in what they do.”

She continued, “Besides the donation we try to help raise awareness in our community about what they do for kids in Howard County. They have a constant need for more volunteers and foster parents to help children who have been neglected or abused.”

Once again Star Dodge served as the banner sponsor for the event. Star Dodge has joined in the support efforts for the past three years, as well. According to Fox, the car dealership is also always on the lookout for ways to invest

See CASA, Page 3



Courtesy photo

Star Dodge General Manager Clint Fox, Tabitha Clark, Star Dodge Marketing Manager, Hope Stadler, CASA of West Texas Volunteer Recruitment and Marketing Specialist, and Craig Ferguson, Permian Basin Events, are shown with the \$800 donation check that came from the February Run2Love2Run

Sands One Act Play advances to Bi-District

Honorable mention All Star Cast, Overall Outstanding Crew and All Star Crew



Courtesy photo

Sands CISD One Act Play advances to Bi-District which will be taking place at Post on March 26. Members of the All Star Crew are pictured above. The crew was also recognized as Overall Outstanding Crew and received Honorable Mention All Star Cast. The crew includes: Bryce Hamlin, Landry Morrow, Niall Connell, Zander Barraza, All Star Cast Kaylee French, Tristan Reed, Lakyn Sandlin.



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## Obituaries

### Jeremy Alcantar



Jeremy Alcantar, 39, of Big Spring died Tuesday, March 10, 2020. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday with a Rosary at 6 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Coahoma Cemetery.

Jeremy was born April 5, 1980, in Big Spring. He went to school at Coahoma and was a lifetime resident of Howard County. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

He loved wrestling and watching "The Walking

Dead".

Jeremy is survived by his mother, Lydia Rodriguez and her husband, David of Big Spring; father, Lee Alcantar and his wife, Mary of Venus; two brothers, Jason Arguello and his wife, Amanda of Big Spring, and Chris Alcantar and his wife, Keveen of Colorado City; seven nieces and nephews, Joseph Arguello, Anissa Arguello, Addison Arguello, Christopher Alcantar, Ryland Alcantar, Brady Alcantar and Michael Alcantar; step-brothers, Eric Rodriguez, Rocky Rodriguez, Marc Rodriguez, and David Jr. Rodriguez; and a half-brother, Jacob Alcantar.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

*Paid Obituary*

### Alfred Eugene Perry



Alfred Eugene Perry, 91, of Lomax, died Tuesday, March 10, 2020. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Monday, March 16, 2020, at First United Methodist Church in Stanton with Rev. Charlie Stevens officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, March 15, 2020, at Gilbreath Funeral Home.

Survivors include his daughter, Carla Brooks of Lomax; and two granddaughters.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Jeneane Perry; one son, Dirk Perry; a brother, J.R. Perry; and a son-in-law.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

### George Everett "Jack" Cave



Funeral service for George Everett "Jack" Cave, 93, of Ackerly, Texas, will be held Saturday, March 14, 2020, 10 a.m. at First Baptist Church, Lamesa, with Pastor Jim Medley officiating. Visitation will follow the service. Arrangements are under the direction of Branon Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Cemetery in Big Spring, Texas.

Jack passed away Wednesday, March 11, 2020, in Lamesa. He was born on March 4, 1927.

Jack is survived by his spouse, Dorothy; daughters Pam Burgess of Plains, Texas, Jackie Stogner of Lamesa, Judy Hatcher of Brownwood; and son, Jon of Lamesa; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, Everett Monroe and Effie Cave; siblings, Francis Jones, Merlene Williams, Delma Harrell, Mae Nell Carmichael Barclay, Jefferson Provine, and Fred.

To send condolences online, please visit [www.branonfuneralhome.com](http://www.branonfuneralhome.com)

## Police Report

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **TOYA DENISE RIVERS**, 57, of 1311 Stanford., was arrested on assault against elderly or disabled individual.

• **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the 7000 block of N. Service Road.

• **ASSAULT** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

• **THEFT** was reported in the

4500 block of S. Hwy 87 and 1500 block E. Hwy 350.

• **ACCIDENT MAJOR** was reported at 15<sup>th</sup> and Goliad.

• **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported in the 1700 block of E FM 700.

## Sheriff Report

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 90 inmates at the time of this report.

• **MATTHEW ROSS BRAZIEL**, 32, was arrested by DPS on

a charge of assault causes bodily injury.

• **DONALD JAY BROWN**, 44, was arrested by HCSO on possession of controlled substance less than one gram.

• **ELIAS SOL LEDESMA**, 34, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of fail to identify fugitive

intent give false information.

• **DAVID WAYNE LOCKER**, 34, was arrested by DPS on a charge of civil capias/neglect child.

• **TOYA RIVERS**, 57, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of injury to child/elderly/disabled individual.

## Fire/EMS Report

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N. Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical

• **MEDICAL CALL** was report-

ed in the 500 block of Young. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of Algerita. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of Westover. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of Dow. No transport.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of 15<sup>th</sup> and Goliad. Three persons were involved with no transports.

## Take Note

• Big Spring High School will be recognizing the football team, band members and cheerleaders who participated in the first game at Memorial Stadium in the fall of 1956. The recognition will take place Friday, Sept. 4, 2020 at Memorial Stadium. If you are a member of these groups, or know of a member of these groups, and would like to participate, please contact Edward Slate at 432-270-1995, or at 813 Vista Ridge, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

• The Alzheimer's Association West Texas Chapter will host the Big Spring Community Forum on March 26, 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at the Big Spring Senior Center, located at 100 Whipkey. The event is free, but space is limited. RSVP to [WestTexas@alz.org](mailto:WestTexas@alz.org), call 1-800-272-3900, or go to the link at [bit.ly/ConfBS20](http://bit.ly/ConfBS20). More information can also be found at [www.alz.org/westtexas](http://www.alz.org/westtexas).

• Scenic Volunteers will be having their annual jewelry sale April 7 and 8, 2020, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Medical Plaza, right next door to the hospital.

• Kindred at Home will be hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Vitalant Bloodmobile will be on site. See Nicole Doose to sign up. The Sponsor Code is BSKindred. Eat a good meal, drink plenty of water, and bring a picture ID.

• AARP Driver Safety Course will be taking place on Thursday, March 12, 2020, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The course is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Class takes place at the Big Spring Senior Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. Why take the AARP Smart Driver Course? Because driving has changed since you first got your license and doing so could save you money. Please call 267-1628 for more information.

• 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.

## Support Groups

### 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.

• Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible?

There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. The next session begins Sept. 3, 2019. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

### 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.

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**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**





# CASA

Continued from Page 1

back into the communities.

The support that the dealership has poured into the Run2Love event is in alignment with their continued partnership with CASA. According to Felty, this is the eighth year for the run and the fifth year

# WASH

Continued from Page 1

active regarding COVID-19.

“While the Centers for Disease Control still considers COVID-19 to be a low threat to the general American public, the West Texas VA Health Care System is paying special attention to it,” Michael Cole, Public Affairs Officer, said in an official press statement. “As part of this process, everyone who enters the campus will be pre-screened. This may lengthen entry times, so patients are advised to allow for that when arriving for their appointments.”

According to the statement issued by the West Texas VA Medical Center, per CDC guidance and VA protocols, individuals known to be at risk for a COVID-19 infection are immediately isolated to prevent potential spread to others. Veterans and staff are encouraged to take everyday preventive actions to avoid being exposed to the virus:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home if you are sick or becoming sick.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that con-

they have partnered with CASA.

“We are a big believer in the work CASA is doing in the community,” Fox said. “We are proud to support their efforts.”

This year, the race was moved from atop Scenic Mountain State Park to the new SM Energy Pavilion at Comanche Trail Park. This provided an opportunity for those taking part to experience the recent addition to the park along with the opportu-

ties at least 60% alcohol.

• If you have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with symptoms, call the VA before going to the facility.

Also according to the press statement, in addition, VA has initiated new safeguards aimed at limiting exposure for two of its most susceptible patient populations: nursing home residents and spinal-cord injury patients: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5400>

The City of Big Spring is doing their part by reviewing the emergency plan with regards to the pandemic. According to Mayor Shannon Thomason there are no closures or restrictions being placed or considered at this time.

“We are sharing information with the community via Channel 17, the city website and through the public information Facebook page,” Mayor Thomason said. “Right now we are just encouraging folks to take the usual precautions as they would with the flu.”

Other healthcare facilities are limiting visitors, adding screening precautions and/or prohibiting visitors at this time, as a way of taking extra precautions.

• Big Spring Center for Skilled Care is not allowing visitors to their facility at this time.

• UIL has postponed the State CX debate tournament. More information will be provided as we receive it.

• Alive After 5 at C. Larson which was rescheduled for March 19 has been postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date.

Howard College - Big Spring Campus posted the following their website Thursday night:

“Since Feb. 3, our Communicable Diseases Co-Chairs have been monitoring the COVID-19 matter. This week we have been participating in a daily call hosted by the Texas Department of State Health Services to provide the latest information to counties, school districts and higher education. We have also been monitoring what is happening across the state, country and world,” a press release stated.

Although there are no known cases of COVID-19 in the West Texas region or on any of Howard’s campuses at this time, we know travel has created many of the cases in other parts of the state and country. Spring break is a time that people do travel which heightens concerns about exposure and community spread.

“In the best interest of our college community, to mitigate the spread as best we can in our communities and with an abundance of caution, the following decisions have been made:

- Spring Break will be extended through March 22 for all students, including online. Classes will resume on Monday, March 23. Students in Health Professions programs are instructed to contact their programs for more information.
- Student workers should contact their supervisors for further information.
- Faculty and staff will report on March 16 to begin preparing for classes to resume on March 23.
- Campuses will continue to be open to the public.
- Student events planned for the week of March 16th will be postponed until further notice.
- Athletic events will continue until further notice.

• Residence Halls and Food Service on the Big Spring and SWCD campuses will be available to students. Returning students should determine whether the campus or their permanent residence is best suited for their situation. Residence Hall students should contact Student Services for more information.

• The Fitness Center on the Big Spring campus is open until further notice.

• Howard Cottage is open until further notice. Parents should confer with the Cottage Director for further instructions.

We will continue monitoring the situation and will share information as appropriate. In the meantime please follow guidelines being shared by authorities on ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19.”

The Big Spring Police Department has been working with the Texas Department of State Health Services and issued an update on COVID-19 on their Facebook page.

“The Texas public health system is working hard to keep Texas as safe and protected from COVID-19 as possible. Today we want to assure you we too are making plans to help keep our

nity to enjoy a different scenery as they took part in Run2Love.

To find out more about CASA efforts or to become a volunteer, call 1-877-316-8346 or visit [www.BecomeaCASA.org](http://www.BecomeaCASA.org) or [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org).

*Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.*

workplace and communities safe,” the BSPD posted as part of their statement.

A few of the preventative tips listed included:

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces you touch often with a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Regarding travel, the follow guidance was also listed:

• If you plan to take any trips soon — in or outside the U.S. — please always check the CDC website for guidance, and plan accordingly. The guidance is changing almost daily.

• People who are well do not need to wear masks at home or in public.

The Texas Department of Public Safety also issued a release on Friday morning regarding some of their increased safety measures to ensure the health of those going into DPS offices.

“The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is taking preventative measures against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) by implementing additional sanitation practices at driver license (DL) offices and issuing guidance to members of the department on best practices, as we know that common sense hygiene and cleaning practices can aid in preventing the spread of many diseases, including COVID-19,” a press release stated.

As many outlets have said, the best way to prevent infection is to take precautions to avoid exposure to COVID-19, which are similar to those you take to avoid the flu. That’s why the department has posted signage throughout DPS offices related to best practices for hygiene and prevention efforts.

For more information about the Coronavirus, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

At this time no other community events have been cancelled or postponed. At press time, no area schools had issued notices of closures or delays.

As information is provided to the Big Spring Herald, updates will be placed in our daily paper, on our website and shared on our Facebook page.

*Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.*

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## MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288


Arthur Jackson, 53, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

John Edward Fierro, 22, died Friday. Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Raymond Hall, 72, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 2:00 PM until 3:00 PM Friday. Memorial service will be at 3:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Jeremy Alcantar, 39, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM Friday with a Rosary at 6:00 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Service will be at 10:00 AM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Coahoma Cemetery.

# Weather



**Today:** A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms could be severe. Cloudy, with a high near 63. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Tonight:** Showers and possibly a thunderstorm before 7 p.m., then showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 7 p.m. Some of the storms could be severe. Low around 52. East wind 10 to 15 mph becoming light and variable. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. West wind around 5 mph.

**Saturday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph after midnight.

*(Weather courtesy National Weather Service via forecast.weather.gov)*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
March 21:  
**Pints for Polio**  
The Courtyard  
119 South Main Street  
April 4  
**Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Health Fair**  
Dorothy Garrett Coliseum  
8am-noon  
April 4:  
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# Coronavirus causing festivals, sporting events, classes, and more to cancel

## Austin officials cancel South by Southwest festival

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The organizers of South By Southwest — which draws hundreds of thousands of visitors and some of Hollywood and music's biggest stars — announced Friday they had cancelled the annual arts and technology festival, saying they're "devastated" but recognize it is necessary to prevent a serious threat of contagion.

Mayor Steve Adler announced a local disaster Friday afternoon as a precaution because of the rapidly spreading new coronavirus, effectively cancelling the annual event that had been scheduled for March 13-22. Travis County Judge Sarah Eckhardt, the county's top elected official, signed a companion disaster declaration for the county surrounding Austin. The order banned festival gatherings that would attract people from areas where COVID-19 has been found.

No one in the Austin area has been found to have the virus, Eckhardt said. However, South by Southwest was expected to have drawn an international audience into close quarters, posing a serious threat of the disease spreading.

Festival organizers noted that Austin Public Health had stated as recently as Wednesday that "there's no evidence that closing SXSW or any other gatherings will make the community safer," but that the situation evolved rapidly and they respect officials' decision.

"We are devastated to share this news with you," the organizers said in their statement. "The show must go on" is in our DNA, and this is the first time in 34 years that the March event will not take place. We are working through the ramifications of this unprecedented situation."

South By Southwest started in 1987 as a small showcase for up-and-coming bands that turned into an international extravaganza, which now includes movie premieres and performances from major artists.

The COVID-19 threat is growing rapidly nationally, said Dr. Mark Escott, interim medical director and health authority for Austin Public Health.

## MLS shutting down for 30 days due to coronavirus

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Major League Soccer is shutting down for 30 days because of the coronavirus, delaying the home opener for the expansion team co-owned by former England captain David Beckham.

"Our clubs were united today in the decision to temporarily suspend our season — based on the advice and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Agency of Canada and other public health authorities," MLS Commissioner Don Garber said in a statement Thursday.

Inter Miami, co-owned by Beckham and Jorge Mas, had been scheduled to play its home opener Saturday. MLS started its season on Feb. 29 and each of the 26 teams has played two league matches.

Mas told players and coaches late Thursday morning, then held a news conference at the team's temporary stadium.

Mas says he expects the full 34-match season to be played.

## Texas Tech cancels classes after spring break

LUBBOCK, Texas (KCBD) - Texas Tech is now among other universities in Texas that have cancelled its classes after spring break. Once classes resume, they will be online.

Classes on Thursday and Friday will go on as scheduled. Tech's spring break is March 14-22.

A letter was sent to the Tech community on Thursday morning from the university's president Lawrence Schovanec.

In the letter Schovanec wrote classes scheduled from March 23 to 27 are cancelled. After March 30, classes will resume online until further notice.

"The health and safety of all members of the Texas Tech University community are our primary concern. At this time, there are no confirmed or suspected coronavirus cases among the Texas Tech University community, including those who are currently studying and working outside the United States," Schovanec wrote in the letter. "As local, national, and global health recommendations shift to reduce the spread of the virus, we are taking steps that will help protect our community."

The university's IT division has also set up an online web page with information for faculty, staff and students to continue working and learning. That can be accessed here.

Most campus operations will go on as normal and the campus will remain open. Students are also allowed to stay on campus during spring break.

## NCAA DII South Central Regional Closed to the General Public

CANYON, Texas — Due to the continued national spread of COVID-19, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) announced today all upcoming championships will be closed to the general public. This includes the upcoming Division II Men's Basketball South Central Region Championship to be held at West Texas A&M University.

"This decision is in the best interest of public health, including that of coaches, administrators, fans and, most importantly, our student-athletes. We recognize the opportunity to compete in an NCAA national championship is an experience of a lifetime for the students and their families. Today, we will move forward and conduct championships consistent with the current information and will continue to monitor and make adjustments as needed," said Mark Emmert, NCAA President.

The South Central Championship will be played as scheduled March 14 – 17. All games will be broadcast free and live (video and audio options) via GoBuffsGo.com. West Texas a&M will open its 2020 tournament against Colorado Mesa at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Refunds for advance purchase tickets purchased by credit card will be completed no later than March 24. If you have questions regarding a refund, please send an email to ticketoffice@wtamu.edu.

## Area students feel affects from Houston Livestock Show cancelation

(AP) - A decision to cancel the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo has youth leaders frustrated and their students devastated.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo committee announced it was complying with the city of Houston's and Harris County's order to cancel all events "in the interest of public health" due to the spread of the novel coronavirus, event organizers said in a release on the website.

"The rodeo will respectfully and dutifully comply with the city's order," it said. "The rodeo is deeply saddened; however, the safety and well-being of our guests and our community is our top priority. Out of precaution, the city has decided that this is the best course of action for our community."

The 4H and FFA exhibitors who were already in the process of showing lambs and goats had to finish out the show on Wednesday, but after that, all the contests ended, Seguin FFA advisor Krysta Canham said.

"There's a lot of heartache," she said. "It is so heartbreaking. They spent a lot of time and money on their projects on their entry fees. It is very devastating for us. It is very crazy, very unfortunate and I feel sorry for my kids."

Texas AgriLife Extension Agent Travis Franke said the decision to cancel the entire event came from city of Houston and Harris County officials.

"Houston Health Department pretty much ordered all events in Houston be canceled because of a specific case in one county over that they think is community spread," he said.

## Angelo State Extends Spring Break One Week

The health and wellness of Angelo State University's students, faculty and staff are top priority. Angelo State has decided to postpone classes for an additional week (March 16-20) in order to further assess the evolving situation with the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Residence halls and dining services will remain open, and further details concerning dining locations and hours will be provided to the students, faculty and staff.

Please note, there currently are no reported cases of the coronavirus within the ASU community.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to monitor the university's COVID-19 webpage as it will be the primary source for updates. We ask that they note the travel form which should be completed as described on this webpage.

As circumstances change, details will be communicated to the ASU community. We encourage the Ram Family to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## St. Patrick's Day parades nixed from New York to Dublin

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade has been postponed for the first time in its 258-year history because of coronavirus concerns, Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced on Wednesday.

The postponement of the March 17 parade adds to the roster of events and holidays upended around the world by the spreading infection. Chicago, Boston, and even the Irish capital of Dublin, have cancelled St. Patrick's Day parades.

The New York parade honoring Irish heritage dates back longer than the United States and draws tens of thousands of marchers and throngs

of spectators to Manhattan's Fifth Avenue.

Cuomo, a Democrat, said while the risk of transmission might be lower in an outdoor gathering, health experts had urged him to call it off.

"While I know the parade organizers did not make this decision lightly, public health experts agree that one of the most effective ways to contain the spread of the virus is to limit large gatherings and close contacts, and I applaud the parade's leadership for working cooperatively with us," Cuomo said in a statement.

The governor's statement did not say when this year's parade will take place, if at all. But Mayor Bill de Blasio tweeted late in the night that he promises the parade will go on, "whether it's in the heat of summer or on a clear fall day."

The coronavirus has spurred quarantines, lockdowns and other measures in spots around the globe. And it has sunk annual events from Lunar New Year festivities in China to the South by Southwest music, film and tech festival in Austin, Texas.

The New York City metropolitan area has been home to one of the largest outbreaks in the U.S., with many cases linked to one community in the suburb of New Rochelle.

In Chicago, the city's mayor said she couldn't risk the kind of gathering that scientists warn could hasten the further spread of COVID-19.

"Like cities across the nation, we concluded that having a parade at this time posed an unnecessary risk to the public's health," Mayor Lori Lightfoot told reporters at a news conference with a supportive Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker.

The mayor of Savannah, Georgia, later announced that city's 196-year-old St. Patrick's Day parade, scheduled for Tuesday, and a weekend festival had been called off as well. Chicago's parade had been scheduled for Saturday, ahead of St. Patrick's Day on Tuesday.

"We all know what the St. Patrick's Day celebrations mean to the city of Chicago," said Pritzker, a Democrat.

"Because of what we've seen nationally, and across the world, of the increased risk of large gatherings, this was the right call."

Indeed, it was deemed the right call in cities from Boston and Philadelphia to Denver, Dallas, San Francisco and Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The cities of Dublin — the one in Ohio and the one in Ireland — also pulled the plugs on their parades.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia.

The cancellations come as the number of confirmed coronavirus cases climbs. In the U.S., the total has topped 1,000. Worldwide, more than 119,000 have been infected, and more than 4,200 have died. Lightfoot's announcement came a day after officials announced that the number of cases in Illinois had climbed by eight to 19.

## Shots fired call leads to arrest of man with gun

### Special to the Herald

Odessa Police arrested Omar Alejandro Venegas, date of birth 10/15/1997, on 3-10-20 for Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon (2nd Degree Felony), Evading Arrest "Class A Misdemeanor", Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon "Class A Misdemeanor", and Criminal Mischief "Class B Misdemeanor". Officers responded to the 4400 block of Redbud in reference to shots being fired.

Investigation revealed that a male subject fired a round out the window of a vehicle. Officers arrived on scene and observed a male subject matching the suspect's description, later identified as Venegas. Officers gave commands to Venegas to show his hands but he ignored the officers and began running northbound. Officers observed Venegas grab a handgun and throw it on the ground. The handgun was later recovered by officers.

A perimeter was setup and Venegas was eventually located and placed into custody with the assistance of a K9 unit. Based on the facts and circumstances presented during the investigation, Venegas was charged and arrested accordingly and transported to the Ector County Law Enforcement Center. There no reports of any injuries.



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love, how can you  
love others?*

  
*Receive the Holy Spirit.*  
John 20:22

You began your life in Christ  
by the Spirit.  
Now you are trying to make it  
complete by your own power?  
That is foolish.  
**(Galatians 3:3)**

  
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love has not been perfected in us.*  
1 John 4:18

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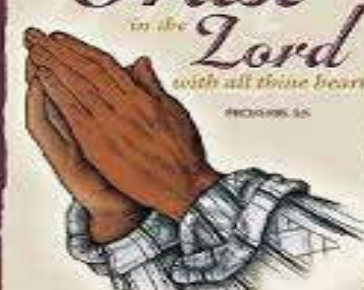
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everywhere the Good News about the  
Kingdom. And he healed people who  
had every kind of sickness and disease.*  
Matthew 4:23

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but Christ lives in me."*  
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Rejoice in the Lord your God! For the  
rains he sends are an expression of his  
grace. Once more the autumn rains will  
come, as well as the rains of spring.*  
(Joel 2:23)

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


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# Church News

## Life Church

Life Church meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome to join in worship and service. Childcare is provided for children from nursery school through elementary.

A few events coming up include:

- Vacation Bible School which will focus on a camp theme this year – Camp Life. We will be exploring the connection with God and building upon this relationship. Vacation Bible School is set for June 17-20 and will be open for kids age kindergarten through fifth grade.
- Wednesday night services will kick off March 25 and will take place from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Our Wednesday nights will include a study of God’s Word for the adults, our youth ministry, Champion Culture, will be gathering and our Life Kids will be having their fun as well!

• Easter Sunday is April 12. The community is invited to join us. After service concludes, we will have an Easter egg hunt directly following the service.

If you are looking for a church home or just wanting to see if Life Church is the place for you, join us for service as we come together in worship.

If you want to make Life Church your home church and get more involved then sign up for our Journey to Life classes and become a Life Partner. These classes are designed to share with you the heart of our church and to provide you the opportunities to get involved in a local church.

Life moves at the speed of relationships; we look forward to having you get connected at Life Church. Life Church is located at 1004 Johnson St.

For more information go to [www.golife-church.net](http://www.golife-church.net) or follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bigspringlife>

## First United Methodist Church

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

On Sunday, March 15, Pastor Derrell’s sermon is “Overcoming Sin” from James 4:7-8. Worship services are broadcast live each Sunday at 11 a.m. on radio station KXCS-105.5 FM. You can also find the service live streamed on our Facebook page at First United Methodist Church Big Spring. You can watch previous worship service videos on that Facebook page including recordings of our Christmas program, “Our Savior”.

The Wednesday Noon Bible Study meets in Garrett Hall. The meal is served at 11:50 for \$5, followed by a Bible study from the Book of John. The Community Lenten Lunches continue on March 18 at First Presbyterian Church at 11:45 a.m., and the public is invited. The Lenten Lunches are held at different churches, rotating from church to church between March 4 and April 1.

Real Life Wednesdays include Celebrate Recovery, choir rehearsal, women’s Bible study, and youth meetings which all meet at 6:00 p.m. The children’s choir meets at 6:15 p.m. The Praise Team rehearsal is at 7 p.m. The College Ministry, Wesley Foundation, meets on Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. at Howard College.

“Celebrate Recovery” sessions are offered every Wednesday in Youth Hall for anyone in the community seeking freedom and healing from hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Worship and helpful Bible-based discussions begin at 6 p.m. The public is invited to drop by the north entrance of the building on Scurry Street any Wednesday. Men’s Step Studies meet at 8 a.m. on Sundays in Youth Hall.

Other events on the church calendar include:

- March 16: Administrative Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Open Door Room
- March 18: Lenten Lunch, 11:45 a.m., First Presbyterian Church
- March 22: Confirmation Classes begin at noon, Partee Building, for Jr. High Students
- March 27-29: Confirmation Retreat
- March 29: Fifth Sunday Service (only one worship service, at 11:00 a.m.)

For more information on any activity, please visit the website at [www.fumcbs.com](http://www.fumcbs.com) or phone the church office at 432-267-6394.

## First Presbyterian Church

The Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study meets at 5 p.m. in the library, and the Chancel Choir rehearsal is at 6 p.m. in the parlor.

Monika Robinson asks everyone to look at the church’s website at [fpcbigspring.com](http://fpcbigspring.com) to

see the weekly improvements. It is under continuing construction, and she welcomes input from any member of the congregation.

The Discovery Class, which meets in the Theater Room, is involved in a DVD study for Lent, “A Journey through Lent” by Dr. Timothy Keller and other pastors from the Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City. This is a study of several Psalms: “Prayer of Confession” – Psalm 32; “Prayer of Seeking” – Psalm 34; “Prayer of Thirst” – Psalm 42-43; “Prayer of Rest” – Psalm 91; “Prayer for the World”- Psalm 98.

John Ferguson’s Covenant Class begins a new spring quarter study which focuses on justice as presented in Scripture from the Prophets and in the reading for Easter Sunday from First Corinthians. Unit 1, “God Requires Justice,” is a five-lesson study from four of the Minor Prophets, Amos, Habakkuk, Micah, and Malachi.

The Lenten Luncheon this week on Wednesday, March 11, was at First Baptist Church, Sonia Scott, Bakers Chapel AME, speaker. Next week’s luncheon will be at First Presbyterian Church, Chaplain Scott Jimenez, Church of the Nazarene, speaker.

Next week the Church Life Committee meets Monday, March 16, at 6 p.m. in the library. Tuesday, March 17, PNC meets at 5 in the library; Fellowship-Membership Committee meets at 6 in the parlor

Thursday, March 19, Stated Session Meeting is in the Library. This is a week earlier than the regular meeting date because Rev. Todd leaves next for Alabama to attend the birth of his first grandchild.

Presbyterian Women meet Tuesday, March 24, at 2 p.m. in the library for a short business meeting, followed by Bible study in the Theater Room. The study for this meeting is Lesson 7, entitled “Words of Love: Do Not Steal.”

Ushers for Sunday, March 8, were Vickie and Mark McLean, Danny Kennemur, and John Yater

Sarah Salinas will be in charge of Take Ten on Sunday, March 15.

Lectionary passages for the Third Sunday in Lent are Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42. The choral Introit is “God So Loved the World,” by John Stainer. Rev. Taylor Todd will deliver the sermon. The choir will present the anthem, “Walk Softly,” by John D. Horman as the Offertory.

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

If you cannot attend worship, you may listen in on KBST 1490 a.m., beginning at 1 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, please call the church office at 263-4211. We would be pleased for you to like us on Facebook.

## Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

### Third Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020

### “Celebrating and Sharing God’s Love and Grace in our lives”.

We are located at 2805 Lynn Dr. in the Kentwood neighborhood in Big Spring. If you would like to reach Pastor Kohl or the church office, please call 432-264-7818, or e-mail us at [aliveinchristtx@gmail.com](mailto:aliveinchristtx@gmail.com).

Bible study and Sunday school begin at 9:30 a.m., and our Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. If you are new to the area or haven’t been to church before or in a while, please accept this as an invitation to join us this Sunday.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study has stopped for the Lenten Season. Please join us for our Lenten Services every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. A meal will be provided at 6 p.m., and the service begins at 7 p.m. We will have a Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service at 7 p.m. on April 10. We will have our Eggstravanza on Saturday, April 11, from 10 until noon. Bring your kids and join us! Our Easter Service will be on April 12 at 10:30 a.m. Please come and join us.

Bill Dorey will present the scripture readings this week.

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to 106.3 FM or 1400 a.m. between 6:45 and 6:50 each morning for these wonderful devotions: “Morning Meditation Thoughts”. Also tune in every Sunday morning at 8:30 to listen to the Lutheran Hour.

## Cornerstone Covenant Church

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

events:

Sunday, March 29 - Join us this Sunday at our 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship service. Come on out as you can expect biblical teaching and preaching, genuine loving fellowship and live spirit filled praise and worship. We would love the opportunity this Sunday to share what God has for you, and get to know you better.

3 DAY Extravaganza April 10, April 11 and April 12 - Mark your calendars and join us as we gather:

Day 1: For our Good Friday Communion Worship Service Friday, April 10 at 7 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary.

Day 2: Come on out on Saturday, April 11 for CCC’s Spring Fellowship. We will have our Sweets and Meats Cook-Off at Big Spring Comanche Trail Park in the Belaski Pavilion from 11 to 3. We will also have family fun, games and sports competition everyone can participate in.

Day3: Closing out this amazing weekend on Sunday, April 12 at our 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. We will have performances from our adult choir and our children’s church, Covenant Kidz. Come on out and Celebrate Resurrection Sunday.

Van transportation - We have an active van ministry that picks-up on Sundays for our 11 a.m. worship service. If you are needing a ride please contact the church office.

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

CCC is located at 706 E. 12th St. For office hours or other questions please contact our administrative office at 432-264-0015 or email us at [info@cccbigspring.org](mailto:info@cccbigspring.org). You can also find us at [facebook.com/CCCBigSpring](http://facebook.com/CCCBigSpring) or visit us at [www.cccbigspring.org](http://www.cccbigspring.org) if you would like more information.

## NazFamily Church

- Lenten Lunch

Several congregations in the Big Spring area come together during the season of Lent providing a lunch and time of devotion each Wednesday leading up to Easter. This is a great opportunity to connect in Christ-centered community!

- Alpha Special Session

Got questions? Alpha is a place to ask the deeper questions of life and faith. We are gathering each Wednesday to explore those questions together. Everyone is also invited to join us for a couple of special session on Sunday, March 15 at 5:30 p.m. You won’t want to miss it!

- Youth Fundraiser

Our Revolution NazYouth are selling tickets for an enchilada dinner for \$10 per meal. You will be able to come eat or pick up your meal on Wednesday, March 25 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All the proceeds will go to help send our youth to camp.

- NCA Easter Program

Nazarene Christian Academy will present a special Easter Program called “All Because of Jesus” on Wednesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. Come out as our students share the reason we celebrate this season.

- Good Friday

“Amazing love, how can it be, that You, My King, would die for me!” We will have a special Good Friday service on April 10 at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to join us for this meaningful time of reflection, worship, and prayer.

- Community Egg Hunt

NazFamily’s Annual Community Wide Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 11. Registration begins at 9 a.m. at the Old Settler’s Pavilion in the Comanche Trail Park. There will be food, face painting, bounce house, coloring contests, door prizes, and of course, thousands and thousands of eggs. The Easter Bunny may even make an appearance. Come on out and enjoy a time that is fun for the whole family.

- Resurrection Sunday

We are planning a powerful worship gathering on Easter as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. We will begin with a sunrise prayer time at 7 a.m., followed by all church breakfast at 9: a.m. in the gym. Our Worship Gathering at 10 a.m. This is a great time to invite friends, family and neighbors to come worship with us. You won’t want to miss out on this meaningful time together. He is risen indeed!

## St. Mary’s Episcopal Church

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church welcomes all to participate in our services. We are at 1001 S. Goliad, north of the high school, and would love to have you visit. Sunday services begin



## CHURCH

Continued from Page 6

at 10:30 a.m. followed by brunch in the Parish Hall. On Wednesdays we have Bible study and coffee in the morning at 10:30 a.m., and evening we have evening prayer, dinner, and book study starting at 5:30 p.m. What a great opportunity to have meaningful fellowship and develop relationships with people who have a common interest, following the steps of Christ.

Please come and join us for a time of worship and fellowship in a place that welcomes all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Crestview Baptist Church

We at Crestview Baptist Church want to extend a warm invitation for you and your family to come and join us for worship, discipleship, evangelism, and fellowship. At Crestview, we are all about the gospel of Jesus Christ and serving Him as we learn His Word together.

Sunday School begins at 10 a.m., and Sunday worship is at 11 a.m. Pastor Tom Lassiter will be preaching through the first five chapters in the book of Psalm. On Sunday and Wednesday nights, at 6:30 p.m., the pastor is teaching through the Attributes of God.

Please come join with us at Crestview if you are looking for a church home, where we believe that man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever! We are at 2305 Gatesville Rd., in Big Spring.

### First Baptist Church

"For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake." 2 Corinthians 4:7

Saturday March 14, all area men are welcome at the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. in the church dining room. Guys, bring your friends and neighbors to this special time of fellowship and a delicious breakfast. Enter through the east kitchen doors.

Join the family of First Baptist Church Sunday at 10:50 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. as they gather in joyful adoration of The Light of the World: Jesus Christ. Music Minister Alan Schantz will lead worshippers in a blend of contemporary praise music and classic hymns of the faith. Pastor Mark Lindsey will continue the sermon series "The Jesus Story", and listeners will em-

brace the marvelous truth: that through Jesus Christ we can know God, and experience His glory.

FBC offers Deaf Interpretation in the morning worship service. If you need assistance accessing the sanctuary due to mobility issues, use the west circle drive, and someone will be glad to assist you inside and park your vehicle. If unable to attend, you may join the service through the live stream on the church website at: fbcbigspring.org. (Click on 'MORE' tab, then 'SERMONS' ).

At 9 a.m., The Gathering Place, FBC coffee shop, is open, and you're invited to have some coffee and a sweet treat while enjoying a time of fellowship. Greeters are happy to direct you to The Gathering Place which is located in the former library space.

At 9:30 Bible study/Sunday school groups meet throughout the building with children gathering in the Good News Garage on the first floor, and teens, college students, and adults meeting in second floor classrooms. Greeters are available to help you find your class.

At 5 p.m., you're invited to gather in the parlor, across the hall from the chapel, for a time of prayer. This is a special time of focused prayer for our community, and church body. Don't miss the blessing.

Evening worship service begins at 5:30 in the chapel, and is a wonderful opportunity to prepare one's heart for the upcoming week.

Thursday March 19, the Mission Center/Food Pantry is open at 9 a.m. It is located on Lancaster one block behind HEB at Iglesias Central.

Wednesday evening activities begin at 5 p.m. with a meal served in the Family Life Center. Reservations are requested by Monday noon to assist with planning; call 267-8223 or go to fbcbigspring.org to save your place and learn more.

Wednesday evening schedule includes: 5:45 p.m. children's activities; 6 p.m. adult Bible study and worship choir practice; 6:15 p.m. youth activities; contact Youth Pastor Roger Stafford at 267-8223 for details about teen events, or just come to the second floor Youth room at 6:15, and join the fun!

At 7:30 p.m., the worship band rehearses, and there's room for you if you play an instrument. Contact Music Minister Alan Schantz at 267-8223 or just stop by Wednesday evening if you're interested in being part of praising God through participation in the Worship Band.

Mother's Day Out is open each Tuesday and

Thursday from 9-3. Contact Tracy Boeker at 267-8223 to hear about available openings for your little ones. To learn more about what's happening at FBC, go to the website fbcbigspring.org or call 267-8223.

FBC is located at 705 W. FM 700. There is always a place for you at First Baptist Church. "...may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, ...guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7

### Blessed Hands Deaf Church

Blessed Hands Deaf Church invites you to worship with them Sunday at 10:50 a.m. Currently, they are joining with the First Baptist Church family in the main sanctuary with interpreters provided. First Baptist Church is located at 705 W. FM 700. For information about additional activities or to learn more about Blessed Hands Deaf Church, contact Pastor Jim Walterhouse at jwalterhouse@gmail.com.

### College Baptist Church

Pray that Big Spring and Howard County Christians will follow God's pattern for Revival. On March 22, 2020, Bro. Steve Payson will meet with us at the Big Spring High School Auditorium at 5 p.m. for Harvest Howard County 2020. SEND, First Priority, Bible teaching, preaching from God's word, backpack ministry, Women of the Word fellowship, 3/10/2020, are ongoing ministries at College Baptist Church located at the southeast corner of 11th Place and Birdwell Lane. Choir is getting ready for Resurrection Sunday in April.

We invite you to come join us on Sundays for Sunday school Sunday morning at 9:15 for all ages, followed by worship at 10:45 in the auditorium. GA's at 5 p.m. for grades first through fifth girls' missions, then Bible study for youth and adults at 6 p.m. Wednesday we have a craft time, King's Kids, and prayer and Bible study for youth and adults all beginning at 7 p.m.

Come worship with us as we celebrate the God of all seasons. No matter the program, we enjoy the worship time where our pastor, Bro. Ken McMeans, helps us as we delve into God's Word, which inspires us to live as Jesus lives through us. Get your spiritual 20/20 vision on and come and be a part in these joyful activities with us in exciting worship as we praise the Mighty God we serve. Please call 432-267-7429, for more information about this exciting, loving church.

## Why a Roman philosopher's views on the fear of death matter as coronavirus spreads

Thomas Nail

University of Denver

(THE CONVERSATION) With the global spread of the new coronavirus, fears about illness and death weigh heavily on the minds of many.

Such fears can often result in a disregard for the welfare of others. All over the world, for example, essential items such as toilet paper and hand sanitizer have been sold out, with many people stockpiling them.

A first-century B.C. Roman poet and philosopher, Lucretius was worried that our fear of death could lead to irrational beliefs and actions that could harm society. As a philosopher who has just published a book on Lucretius' ethical theory, I cannot help but notice how his predictions have come true.

Lucretius and his beliefs

Lucretius was a materialist who did not believe in gods or souls. He thought that all of nature was made of continually changing matter.

Since nothing in nature is static, everything eventually passes away. Death, for Lucretius, allowed for new life to emerge from the old.

When there is no immediate danger of dying, people are less afraid of death, Lucretius says in "The Nature of Things." But when illness or danger strike, people get scared and begin to think of what comes after death.

Some people might make themselves feel better by imagining that they have immaterial souls that shed their bodies or that there is a benevolent God, Lucretius writes. Others might imagine an eternal afterlife, as the philosopher Todd May argues in his 2014 book, "Death."

The fear of death may lead people to seek comfort in the idea that there is an immortal soul that is more important than the body and the material world.

Fear and social divisions

However, an ethical danger of such beliefs, Lucretius argues, is that people may become preoccupied with something that literally does not matter at all.

This fear and anxiety, Lucretius says, stains ev-

erything in life. It "leaves no pleasure clear and pure" and it could even lead to "a great hatred of life." Studies show that anxiety about death can lower one's immune system and make it more vulnerable to infections.

Additionally, Lucretius says, the fear of death can also lead people to create social divisions. When people are afraid of dying, they might think that withdrawing from others will help keep danger, disease and death away.

"This is why people, attacked by false fears, desire to escape far away and to withdraw themselves," Lucretius says.

This phenomenon is well documented in terror management studies. The fear of death results in a desire to escape from disadvantaged groups.

In China, for example, rural migrant workers were blocked from quarantined cities, kicked out of apartments and turned away by factory owners, as authorities tried to control the spread of the coronavirus.

In the U.S., poorer workers do not have the luxury to work from home when schools close, and cannot afford to take sick days or see a doctor. They are thus more vulnerable compared to those who can afford to isolate themselves.

Asian Americans are also experiencing increased discrimination following the coronavirus spread. Fewer people are going to Chinese restaurants out of fear of being infected. Asian American schoolchildren too have been targets of racist comments.

Focus on staying healthy

The fear of death is irrational, according to Lucretius, because once people die they will not be sad, judged by gods or pity their family; they will not be anything at all. "Death is nothing to us," he says.

Not fearing death is easier said than done. That is why, for Lucretius, it is the most important ethical challenge of our life.

Instead of worrying about what may happen after death, Lucretius advises people to focus on keeping their bodies healthy and helping others do the same.

## Mormons to hold major conference without attendees

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints announced Wednesday that it will hold a major conference in April that features speeches by top leaders without any attendees because of the spread of the coronavirus.

It marks the first time in more than 60 years since the Utah-based faith has taken this extraordinary step of barring church members from attending in person.

The twice-yearly conference usually brings about 100,000 to Salt Lake City over two days. Instead, the speeches will only be broadcast via television and the internet.

The only people allowed inside the church conference center on April 4-5 will be top leaders, their spouses, musicians, choir members and technicians, the faith widely known as the Mormon church said in a news release.

The decision was made after consulting with government and medical leaders, the church said. Church members are also being discouraged from gathering at local churches or buildings to watch .

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# Receiving God's Perfect Gift

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6:23

Paul is emphatically pointing out one single truth – eternal life is a gift. And this gift is not to be earned or worked for. Otherwise, it would be no gift at all. And this gift is to be received freely, by faith. By the way, the faith to receive this gift is also a gift in and of itself. So, everything about this gift is a gift, from start to finish. But the manner in which this gift comes to us by way of However, there are those who say that, yes, eternal life is a gift, when, and only when, we go and seek out this gift. And the highest mountains, crossed and the deepest, darkest valleys, fought and defeated the fiercest swelling rivers, tra- leys, fought and defeated the every conceivable sickness ity, suffered the most insuff- cient tears, made the greatest having repented of all our sins an irate God, then, and only the “gift” of eternal life. the Bible, it doesn’t say that we have to go through all this to receive the gift of God. Yes, I did check the Good Book, you know, the Scriptures we call the Word of God, yea, that one, the one with sixty-six books, containing the Old and New Testaments. Well, the last time I checked, this Book says nothing at all about roughing it so we can receive the gift of God. As a matter of fact, it says just the opposite... ..it says that God’s gift is a true gift.



TOM  
SLOAN

## When Things Go Haywire

As the end to any project is nearing, things begin to go haywire. I don’t really know why the word haywire is used to describe those mishaps. It might be that if you’ve ever worked around hay, and you used pliers to snap the wire holding it, it would snap and spring all over the place and perhaps cut you. But it is a well-known fact that things go wrong for all of us. I remember when I was little, we were ready to go on vacation, and something would cause us to wait to start out. It was either a flat tire, a delay in Daddy getting in from his rail- in, or illness in one of the fami- breaking for all concerned. We Now any project we start, to getting it accomplished. It abandonment of the project. It the deadline is reached. So In a Christian’s life, delay project to be ended as yet. His with what we should think they thoughts are not our thoughts. not our ways. When the delays rest until He finishes His part. only wants us to trust Him. When this life is over with, we will understand the wait times in our lives, but if we go ahead and try to finish the projects we have set our hearts on, we will only be frustrated beyond measure. We will live in a state of stress and won’t accomplish a thing worthwhile for Him. Remembering God is still in control and has not given control over to any other creature, will keep projects from become frustrating and going haywire. I will be so excited to get to Heaven one day and realize the stress is over. I don’t know whether they will have hay up there, but I doubt it. The animals will probably eat grass and won’t need to eat last season’s hay bundled in hay- wire.

Can you imagine a place without stress? Can you imagine a place all pre- pared for us by the Master Carpenter? Can you imagine this place as ours who claim the name of Christ, for all eternity? I can’t even imagine. But Lord, we sure thank You for Heaven.



LILLIAN  
BOHANNAN

## Something to think about...

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Every- one who loves has been born of God and knows God.” ~ 1 John 4:7

I’m convinced that God is present in every expression of genuine love. Those with eyes to see will recognize Him there. I read a beautiful depic- tion of that truth recently in Richard Selzer’s book, “Mort- tal Lessons: Notes on the Art of Surgery.”

“I, the doctor, stand by the bed where a young woman lays, her face postoperative, her mouth twisted in palsy appears clownish. Her face droops when she tries to smile and she speaks with a muffled slur. A tiny twig of the facial nerve, the one to the muscles of her mouth, has been severed. She will be thus from now on. The surgeon had followed with religious fervor the curve of her flesh; I promise you that. Never- theless, to remove the tumor in her cheek, I had to cut the little nerve. Her young husband is in the room. He stands on the opposite side of the bed and together they seem to dwell in the evening lamplight, isolated from me, private. Who are they, I ask myself, he and this wry mouth I have made, who gaze at and touch each other so generously, so lovingly?



RICHARD  
SCHNEBERGER

first time her limitation. The young woman speaks. ‘Will my mouth al- ways be like this?’ she asks. ‘Yes,’ I say, ‘It will. It is because the nerve was cut.’

She nods and is silent; a tear runs down her cheek and her head drops low. Then a transforming thing hap- pens. The young man steps closer to her and smiles. ‘I like it,’ he says, ‘It is kind of cute.’ All at once I know who he is. I under- stand and I lower my gaze. One is not bold in an encounter with the divine. I witness them as, unmindfully, he bends low to kiss her crooked mouth; as she attempts to form her kiss her mouth distorts and I am so close as their lips meet I can see how he twists his own lips to accom- modate to her inability, to show her that their kiss still works.

That’s what God, in Jesus did – He bent low from heaven and con- formed himself to accommodate our distorted heart. He twisted himself in human flesh on a cross to bring heav- en’s kiss to you and to me.”

What great love the Father has lav- ished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! 1 John 3:1 God loves you whether you like it or not. May we receive His love this week so that we may know Him and make Him known!

# Reflections: Finding Faith in Difficult Days

We are drowning in bad news. The coronavirus, COVID-19, continues to spread. Many corporations are in- structing employees to work remote- ly from home. Colleges are shifting to online classes. The United States Ten- nis Association cancelled the Indian Wells tennis tournament to avoid ex- posure to the disease. From one case in Wuhan, China, in less than three months, it has spread throughout the globe. All of Italy has been placed un- der a lock down that closes all schools and prohibits all public gatherings and suspension of religious gather- ings including weddings and funerals. Israel has imposed a 14 day quarantine on anyone entering the country. The list is long and growing.

The stock market hit the skids on Monday, March 9, with a drop of more than 2,000 points. Retirement accounts that include stock portfolios were hard hit. People are wor- ried. It seems like a perfect storm.

Suicides are up. The South Bend Tribune ran an article last week about the alarming rise of sui- cides among Midwest farmers. More than 450 Midwestern farmers took their own lives between 2014 and 2018. The Centers for Disease Con- trol and Prevention has reported that farming is the most vulnerable occupation to suicide in the nation. At the same time, suicide among the young has escalated. The National Center for Health Statistics reported that suicide was the second leading cause of death among young Ameri- cans age 15-24. The suicide rate for those age 10-24 rose 56 percent from 2010 to 2017. In 2018 the U.S. recorded 1,400,000 suicide attempts.

Clearly something is wrong. A world without faith is being over- whelmed with fear.



BILL  
TINSLEY

Our forefathers have something to teach us here. Previous generations have survived plagues, economic cri- ses, wars and persecution by putting their faith in God. God alone can sus- tain us in the most difficult times.

The Bible is rich in reassurance regarding the ultimate source of life and hope. “I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where shall my help come? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth. He will not allow your foot to slip. He who keeps you will not slumber... The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun will not smite you by day nor the moon by night. The Lord will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul” (Psalm 121:1-7).

“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the pow- er will be of God and not from ourselves; we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; per- plexed, but not despairing; per- secuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed” (2 Cor- inthians 4:7-9).

“Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or naked- ness, or peril, or sword?...But in all these things we overwhelmingly con- quer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, not things to come, nor powers, nor height, not depth, nor any other thing, will be able to sepa- rate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:35-38).

*Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith per- spective. His books are available at [www.tinsleycenter.com](http://www.tinsleycenter.com). Email [bill@tinsleycenter.com](mailto:bill@tinsleycenter.com).*

## Calvary

Calvary, god dressed in crim- son garments, courted our love. There, at the interlock- ing of the ages, Christ put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself, redeem- ing man from death unto life, cancel- ling man's debt of judicial obligation by an equivalent which offered legal satisfaction - voluntarily passing un- der death's dreadful shadow, though owing the law no debt.

There, with power to smite His en- emies with a thunderbolt, He elected to die on a cross.

There, God's eternal attri- butes emptied their vials of burning wrath upon the sin- less Sacrifice in agony enough to make the earth shudder, the sun in darkness hide, the spheres go wailing along their eternal circuits.

There, God, the Father of clouds (Job 38:28), permitted Him to thirst who came to re- move the moral thirst of man- kind.

There, God, who clothes the valleys with corn (Psalms 65:13), and feeds the young ravens, left Him naked under the darkening clouds and an- swered not His cry.

No wonder the heavens went black and the sun withdrew its light, and the earth reeled in an unsteady course, as in astonishment that love so sweet, so vast, should meet a doom so fearful.

No wonder that all the people came together to that sight, beholding things that were done, beholding love incarnate, rejected, crucified, tortured, beholding the way in which men treat the embodied perfection of virtue, and then smote their breasts and returned, sorrowing (Luke 23:48).

No wonder the rocks rent - the rocks less hard than men's hearts that day - as though shattered that so great a love could find so ungrateful a return.



RALPH  
ANDERSON

Earth has no darker sin, history no blacker page, humanity no fouler spot, than that of the Savior's Cruci- fixation. Irreproachable Christ's life. Matchless Christ's teaching. Aston- ishing Christ's miracles.

Marvelous Christ's example. But all of these would have availed nothing for our salvation had they not found consummation in the cross.

Coming up from Edom with dyed garments, from Bozrah, glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength, Christ paved the way of man's retreat, opened the way to the tree of life, liquidated the bond of the inexorable law, sheathed the sword of justice behind the blood-drenched Mercy Seat. Then God's perfec- tion opened wide their arms re- pentant sinners to receive!

And as the rays of glory eman- ating from Christ find focus in Calvary, so at Calvary the history of human guilt illu- minates, the purposes of divine love become intelligible, the mysteries of prophecy are unraveled, the majesty of the law vindicated, the great prob- lem of human redemption is solved.

At Calvary, Satan's armor is re- moved, the fires of the law extin- guished, the penal claims of God against us exhausted, every righ- teous judgments of God perfectly met, the serpent's head bruised, the door to heaven opened, the fountain of sal- vation unsealed, the world stripped of its charms, shadows of death dis- pelled, the darkness of eternity eradicated, the death of sin made certain, our death sentence revoked, and our condemnation lifted.

THANK  
GOD FOR  
CALVARY

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Lutheran Church - LCMS

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Worship: 10:30am

**Wednesday Night**  
Supper: 5:30pm  
Bible Study: 6:30pm

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for publication on Friday and let  
the community what your  
church is doing.



# Big Spring Steers pull out win at Security Bank Ballpark against Fort Stockton



*Courtesy Photos/Tony Claxton (claxtonphotography.com)*

**Pictured above left: Joshua Wood makes contact with the ball at the plate during Thursday morning's win over the Fort Stockton Panthers. Pictured above right: Joshua Miramontes makes a play on the ball from his shortstop position.**

**By SHAWN MORAN**

Herald Sportswriter

MIDLAND — The 25th annual West Texas March Classic kicked off for the Big Spring Steers against the Fort Stockton Panthers on Thursday morning at Security Bank Ballpark.

In the third meeting between both teams so far this season, the Steers used a collective strong showing in the batter's box and a solid performance from starting pitcher Brayden Cruz to come out with a 6-4 win.

"I do like playing teams in shortened time like that just because you get a little rivalry going," Steers head coach Daniel Carrillo said.

Big Spring wasted no time getting on the scoreboard in this matchup. In the first inning, lead-off man Javarious Ford was hit by a pitch before his teammate Anthony Sarmiento was able to hit a double.

With those two players occupying second and third base, Joshua Miramontes hit a double that brought home two runs. This gave the Steers an early 2-0 lead and put the squad in a good position to start out the day.

On the mound, Cruz racked up four strikeouts through the first two innings. He would finish his day with six strikeouts in almost four innings pitched.

"He throws strikes and when he does that, good things happen," Carrillo said. "I'm proud of him. He's been a great teammate and he works hard. We just need to clean some things up before we get to district."

The Steers had already increased their lead at that time after another strong performance at the plate during the second inning. With two runners on base, Sarmiento hit his second double in as many innings that brought home another two runs.

Fort Stockton finally got on the board in the third inning when their designated hitter stole his way from first base all the way home after hitting a single.

The fourth inning was a big one for both teams. Holding onto a 4-1 lead, the Steers were on defense when the Panthers scored three runs in the top of the

fourth inning. Fort Stockton only recorded two hits in the inning but were able to notch three runs scored through the skill of their baserunners.

"When you have a young team like this, that can happen," Carrillo said. "But it could've been worse."

With the score tied up at four runs apiece, the Steers had a big half-inning at the plate as well. After getting two runners on base, the Fort Stockton pitcher fell apart and walked three straight batters before being pulled from the game. Those walks gave the Steers a pair of players crossing the plate and Big Spring was able to regain a 6-4 lead.

After Cruz was pulled from the mound in the fourth inning, Gabriel Baeza finished things off for the Steers. Baeza moved from his second base position to allow only one hit and closed out the game with a three-up, three-down showing in the top of the fifth.

After hitting the two-hour tournament game time limit, the Steers headed back to Big Spring with another win notched on to their overall record.

Later in the day, the Steers played a home tournament game against Crane that they lost 1-0. Hitting was a struggle for the Steers throughout the game and both teams' pitching staffs had outstanding performances.

When this young Steers team is able to put together a great team effort on the field, this could be one of the top teams in West Texas. With a few more games to go this weekend, Carrillo and his players will be looking to show the region just how legitimate of a threat they are.

**UP NEXT:** The Steers (6-7-1) will play three games at home on Saturday as part of the 25th annual West Texas Classic. They will start the day off with a doubleheader against Lamesa (8:00 am) and Pecos (10:30 am). They will close out the day against Brownfield (6:00 pm).

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

## UIL Basketball Tournament to Take Place With Limited Attendance

### Special to the Herald

AUSTIN — Amid growing concerns over COVID-19 (coronavirus), the UIL Boys State Basketball Tournament will take place with a limited number of fans in attendance.

"The health and safety of our student-athletes and patrons is our number one priority," said UIL Executive Director Dr. Charles Breithaupt, "While we are saddened to limit the fans that can be inside the arena supporting their teams, it is crucial we take every possible precaution to keep participants safe."

The UIL is releasing the following daily procedures for limited attendance:

#### Thursday, March 12:

Normal schedule and entry for pre-purchased ticket holders with no additional tickets sold except for a limited number of championship game tickets for the winning teams on-site at the box office immediately following the semifinal games. Championship game tickets will be limited to 500 per school.

#### Friday, March 13:

Normal schedule and entry for pre-purchased ticket holders with no additional tickets sold except for a limited number of championship game tickets for the winning teams on-site at the box office immediately following the semifinal games. Championship game tickets will be limited to 500 per school.

#### Saturday, March 14:

Each school will be allotted 500 tickets to be sold following semifinal games and until the limit is reached. All-Tournament tickets will no longer be

accepted on Saturday. Previously scheduled honor team presentations will no longer take place.

Looking at historical data and in consultation with Alamodome event staff, the UIL reasonably believes that this limit allows for attendees to have additional space and limit contact with other attendees.

The UIL is also working closely with the Alamodome to ensure appropriate preventative measures are being taken. The facility has put several safeguards in place including anti-bacterial sanitizing stations and enhanced cleaning and sanitation initiatives before and during the tournament in locker rooms and throughout high traffic areas, as well as wiping down seats between sessions.

As this is a fluid situation, the UIL will continue to follow the direction of local officials to monitor this situation and will make additional announcements as needed.

## Pair of Howard athletic stars closing in on college commitment



*HERALD File Photos*

**Pictured above left: Sophomore utility player Laela Minnich has recently announced her commitment to Southern Arkansas. The Lady Muleriders are currently the top-ranked Division II softball program in the nation. Minnich will bring her explosive bat to that squad and will surely keep Southern Arkansas near the top of the polls. The slugger has launched 11 home runs through 22 games this season and ranks second in the nation in that category. Pictured above right: Sophomore guard Eric Reed Jr. has named his Top Five for his recruitment: Utah Valley, UAlbany, Incarnate Word, New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Mount St. Mary's. The high-energy team captain led the Hawks in points this past season (15.7) and was also a menacing presence on defense where he also was near the team lead in steals per game (1.5).**



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Hiring Full-time Office Clerk. Must be dependable and organized. Must have basic computer knowledge and be willing to learn and acquire new skills. Apply in person at the Big Spring Herald 710 Scurry or email resume to [publisher@bigspringherald.com](mailto:publisher@bigspringherald.com). No Phone Calls.



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Parkview Skilled Care and Rehab is currently accepting applications for Housekeepers. Must be motivated, caring and that love the elderly. We offer Competitive Pay, Insurance, other benefits and a Great Family working environment! You can apply online at [www.parkviewnursing.com](http://www.parkviewnursing.com) or in person at 3200 Parkway.

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We are looking for an ambitious, creative, self-starter, to fill a staff writer role at the Big Spring Herald. Do you have a heart to share others stories and the desire to be involved in your community? We want to hear from you!

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**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR INJECTION WELL PERMIT**

Sheridan Production Company, LLC, 1360 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 2500, Houston, Texas 77056 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid types of Saltwater and H2S into the SAN ANDRES formation in the GLASSCOCK, HOWARD W. (G-S) UNIT lease well #171W. The well is located 12 miles SOUTH from BIG SPRING, TX in the HOWARD GLASSCOCK (CONSOLIDATED) field in HOWARD County. Fluid will be injected into the strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2140 to 2328' and 2370 to 2463', as a DUAL Injector.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil & Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Request for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711-2967 (Telephone: (512) 463-6792).

#10492

**A Trine Twist on Friday the 13th**

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** A strange communication is happening between your mind and your heart, and it has the effect of placing the one you love at the center of all of your activities whether or not said activities have anything to do with that person.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** As for the one standing on a mountain of achievement, or declaring a nuanced personal philosophy, or delving geekishly into a niche... when do they find the time? Time isn't found; it's used. And you'll use it well today, too.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Fear can be more than just a feeling. Fear can be a habit, a personality, a passion. Fear can be a friend. You diffuse your fear by inviting it in for a congenial and short visit.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You hate confrontation so much that sometimes you give generously or even foolishly

just to get out of having to come face to face with a bit of unpleasantness. Today, it will be better to take things on and get them over with.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Defeat isn't the end. It's just another step, a chance to regroup, change the plan, give it another go.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Knowledge is obtained through study. Wisdom, on the other hand, cannot be learned this way, nor can it be had through observation. There is only one way to become wise and that is through experience.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** The interesting ideas will come and go, giving little sparks to your day. It's the great ideas that will stick around, lighting a fire in you that keeps you burning into the night.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** There's a time to doubt yourself and a time to go full-on, fool-heartedly forward. Both will occur over the course of the day, but don't let them overlap.

Once you decide, step with confidence and don't look back.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Ordinary thinking does not recognize extraordinary qualities. You've the higher intelligence to appreciate originality and to discern the wonderful nuances between things in the same category.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Let things come and go without worrying too much about what's really yours. If it's yours, then it can't be taken from you, won't leave you, and there's nothing you can do to rid yourself of it either.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-**

**Feb. 18).** Follow the time traveler's rules today. Any action that changes the course of any person, including you, will alter the timeline and thereby matter significantly.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Today offers a prime combination of calm stability and exciting chaos. This is partly due to the characters who populate your life, all of them spectacular in their own way.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MARCH 13).** Key into your own life and times as though you were a journalist writing a story about it. There's something in "witnessing" your own life from that point of view

that will liberate you to make this year an adventure slightly beyond what you were used to. Young people emulate you, and older people need you. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 22, 48, 10 and 5.

**WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST:** ARIES: A little makes you want a lot. This is the indicator of wonderful trouble. TAURUS: One person who believes in you is better than a million followers who don't. GEMINI: Your personality is a beautiful design you've co-created with your genetic and other codes. Share it, and believe in its perfect imperfection. CANCER: If there's a trade to be made, think of it as a game. Stay in the fun-zone. LEO: Shine your heart in any direction and someone's bound to be jealous over it. Therefore, you may as well shine it in the direction that makes you the happiest. VIRGO: Love flies beautifully because you've an excellent sense of when to push and when to pull the throttle. LIBRA: There's nothing you can do to change how much a person loves

you right now. SCORPIO: You don't have to agree with everything the other person says. Sometimes it's more attractive not to. SAGITTARIUS: Everyone needs, but not everyone knows what they need. CAPRICORN: Shared music will be a connector like no other. AQUARIUS: You doing what you love to do is the most exciting thing to witness. PISCES: All flirting will be flirting with disaster. That's the fun of it; you don't know what's going to happen.

**COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:** Pisces and Sagittarius are adaptive signs that fall into the modality of "mutable." They can custom fit their mannerisms, attitudes and behaviors to suit their special bond and are quite willing to do so. The relationship is elevated because of the specific kind of attention they give to one another. It doesn't matter that each behaves differently outside the relationship -- that's part of the human condition.

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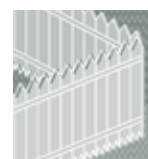
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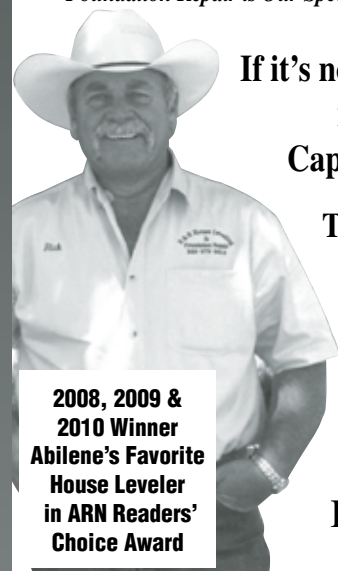
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#### Prioritizing Health Checkups

**Dear Annie:** I lost my wife to cancer two weeks ago after a two-year battle, with surgery and radiation treatments. I just saw a story on the news about how, in America, fewer and fewer people are getting regular wellness checks. There are a variety of reasons why. I ask that you implore your large readership to get annual checkups, especially related to cancer. My wife put off the doctor's appointment for months thinking her jaw pain was related to her teeth. Unfortunately, it turned out to be cancer. Please stress to readers that their chance of getting cancer at some point in their lives is 50%. Yes, that's right. Flip a coin. I, myself, was diagnosed with cancer in 2018. I lost my left kidney (and then the cancer spread). I, too, thought that I was in good health, and in November 2016, skipped getting the blood test with for my wellness

checks. That may have caught the abnormal red blood count and diameter readings before it spread. What's the chance two people in the same house get diagnosed with cancer in the same year? -- Regretful Husband, Dad and Grandpa

**Dear Regretful Husband:** I know there are no words that can reach the painful place where you are. I am so sorry for your loss. I appreciate your reaching out with this plea to help others avoid the anguish you're experiencing. You've encouraged me to schedule a checkup I've been putting off, and I'm sure your letter will have the same effect on people reading this.

**Dear Annie:** I have noticed over the last five or so years, people have started addressing others as "Hun," "Sweetie," or "Sweetheart" almost everywhere you go.

At first, that sounds endearing and pleasant, but these people are strangers to me. For

example, the checkout person, the waiter, the waitress, the receptionist on the phone at the doctor's office often address me as "Hun" or "Sweetheart." I am 52 years old, and these people are about 30. It feels awkward and inappropriate. I understand it has become trendy, and I can mostly ignore it in those instances.

What I can't seem to ignore is when my girlfriend of 30+ years chose to start addressing me this way a few years ago. We are very close in age. So it is unclear to me why she thinks it is appropriate to call me "Hun" or "Sweetheart" etc. To me, it feels condescending with patronizing superiority (and I am not as insecure as that might sound).

I run it through my mind on how to ask her to stop doing it, and it comes out wrong. I know I will sound upset if I confront her, and she will reply with something like: "Oh, Babe, what's the matter with you, Sweetheart?"

I hear her talk to her daughter that way.

We have a long history together and get together as couples with other friends. It feels impossible to cut her out of my life, and believe me, I have tried. We live in different states now, and she and her husband will be visiting us soon.

How would you handle this? -- Long History of Good Times

**Dear Long History:** Simple: Be honest with your friend. Make it about your feelings, not her offenses; tell her pet names are a pet peeve of yours and that you'd really appreciate it if she could try to stop. Might it be a little uncomfortable for a few minutes? Maybe. But your long history of good times is worth too much to throw away so hastily.

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

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## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### Test your play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Diamonds. North leads the ace and another spade. How would you play the hand?

West	East
♠ Q	♠ K 5 4
♥ 8 2	♥ A Q J 6
♦ A K J 10 5	♦ Q 9 2
♣ A K Q 6 4	♣ 8 5 3

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the jack of hearts. How would you play the hand?

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

\*\*\*

1. The danger is that the opposing clubs might be divided 4-1, in which case if you were to discard a heart on the king of spades at trick two, you would very likely finish down one.

The best method of play is to ruff the second spade lead, draw trump and then play the A-K of clubs. If both opponents follow suit, you have the rest of the tricks, but if either opponent shows out on the second club, you still have two heart finesses to fall back on to save the day. Thus

you make the slam on the suggested line of play if North holds something like ♠ A1098 ♥ K1097 ♦ 7643 ♣ 9, but you would almost surely go down if you made the mistake of prematurely discarding a heart on the king of spades at trick two.

2. After winning the heart, you must resist the temptation to immediately develop the diamond suit. Four diamond tricks and four tricks in the majors would not be enough, and when you attempted to score the ninth trick by leading a club, the enemy would grab the ace and cash at least three hearts to put you out of business.

Instead of pursuing such a hopeless course, you should win the heart and lead a low club at trick two. This play offers a legitimate chance for the contract. If North has two or three clubs including the ace, he must play low; otherwise, you'll be able to score two spades, two hearts, a diamond and four clubs for nine tricks.

Once you succeed in "stealing" a club trick, you can then attack diamonds, intending to finesse if South follows low. Unless North turns up with all three missing diamonds, you make the contract.

Tomorrow: Two chances are better than one.

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## SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

#### 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!

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

ANSWER:



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	KMID ③	UNI ④	KPEJ ⑤	KOSA ⑦	KTLE ⑧	KWES ⑨	KMLM ⑫	KPBT ⑬	KWWT ⑭	KWES2 ⑮	WTBS ③③	TNT ③④	ESPN ③⑤	ESPN2 ③⑥	FSN ③⑧	USA ⑤⑤	A&E ⑤⑧	DISC ⑥①
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Midland	Atlanta	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Sports	New York	New York	Discovery
5:30	Big 2	Noticiero	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Dr. Young	Ready Jet	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Bones	College Basketball	Daily Wager	Women's College Basketball	SVU		Gold Rush: D. Turin
6:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS	Noticias	News	Creation	Euromaxx	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy					Law & Order: SVU		Gold Rush: D. Turin
7:30	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatlón Estados Unidos (SS)	News	M:25	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Hot Ones					Law & Order: SVU		Gold Rush: D. Turin
8:30	Wheel		Big Bang	ET		News	For the		M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Movie: Identity Thief, Jon Favreau (DVS)	Movie: Thor: Ragnarok, Cate Blanchett (DVS)	College Basketball	College Basketball	The Blitz	Live PD: Rewind	Gold Rush	
9:30	Shark Tank	Ringo	WWE Friday Night SmackDown	MacGyver	Lincoln Rhyme	News	Issues4	Wash	Andy G.	Penn & Teller					College Basketball	Women's College Basketball	Movie: Doctor Strange, Rachel McAdams (DVS)	Live PD
10:30	(.01) 20/20	Amor eterno		Hawaii Five-0	La Doña (SS)	Lincoln Rhyme	Light of Southwest	Great Performances	Andy G.	Who's?	G. Acres	Who's?				Spotlight		
11:30		Sin miedo a la	FOX 24 News at 9	Blue Bloods	Operación Pacífico	Dateline NBC	Light of Southwest		Heroes	Seinfeld	Movie: Ted (DVS)				NHL Hockey: Panthers at Stars	Mod Fam	Opal Hunters	
12:30	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Amanpour-Co	C. Burnett	black-ish		(.45) Movie: The Wolverine, Famke Janssen (DVS)	SportCtr	Max		Mod Fam		
1:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	(.35) Boxeo Telemundo (SS)	Tonight Show	Words of Heritage	Wash	Perry Mason	black-ish			SportsCenter	Always		Mod Fam		
2:30	Combate	Mod Fam				Seth Meyers	Shofar	Hoover		Gold	Super Punch			UFC Live		Mod Fam	Gold Rush	
3:30	Nightline	Américas	Funny	James Corden	Operación Pacífico	News	Great Performances	Hitchock	Live PD	Movie: How to Be Single, Alison Brie (DVS)			SportsCenter	UFC Unleashed	ROH Wrestling	Mod Fam		
4:30	Extra	Two Men	Faith	Holly	Late-Lilly	The Is		Mannix	Cops			Movie: Prometheus, Charize Theron				Mod Fam		
5:30	Mel Robbins	Nosotr.	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of Southwest		Paired Prg.				SportsCenter	Formula 1 Racing	NBA G League Basketball	The Biggest Loser		
6:30	Como dice el dicho		Pawn	Paired Prg.	Programa	Inside Ed.												
7:30	Paid Prg.																	

ANDY CAPP

AGNES

ARCHIE

ONE BIG HAPPY

MOMMA

ANDY CAPP

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ARCHIE

ONE BIG HAPPY

MOMMA

# This Date In History

**Today in History**  
Today is Friday, March 13, the 73rd day of 2020. There are 293 days left in the year.  
Today's Highlight in History: On March 13, 1913, Jorge Bergoglio (HOHR'-hay behr-GOHG'-lee-oh) of Argentina was elected pope, choosing the name Francis; he was the first pontiff from the Americas and the first from outside Europe in more than a millennium.  
On this date:  
In 1639, New College was re-named Harvard College for clergyman John Harvard.  
In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed a measure prohibiting Union military officers from returning fugitive slaves to their owners.  
In 1865, Confederate President Jefferson Davis signed a measure allowing black slaves to enlist in the Confederate States Army with the promise they would be set free.  
In 1901, the 23rd President of the United States, Benjamin Harrison, died in Indianapolis at age 67.  
In 1925, the Tennessee General Assembly approved a bill prohibiting the teaching of the theory of evolution. (Gov. Austin Peay (pee) signed the measure on March 21.)  
In 1933, banks in the U.S. began to reopen after a "holiday" declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.  
In 1934, a gang that included John Dillinger and "Baby Face" Nelson robbed the First National Bank in Mason City, Iowa, making off with \$52,344.  
In 1954, the Battle of Dien Bien Phu began during the First Indochina War as Viet Minh forces attacked French troops, who were defeated nearly two months later.  
In 1969, the Apollo 9 astronauts splashed down, ending a mission that included the successful testing of the Lunar Module.  
In 1975, the first Chili's restaurant was opened in Dallas by entrepreneur Larry Lavine.  
In 1980, Ford Motor Co. Chairman Henry Ford II announced he was stepping down, the same day a jury in Winamac, Indiana, found the company not guilty of reckless homicide in the fiery deaths of three young women in a Ford Pinto.  
In 1996, a gunman burst into an elementary school in Dunblane, Scotland, and opened

fire, killing 16 children and one teacher before killing himself.  
Ten years ago: At least 30 people were killed in a series of Taliban suicide bombings in Afghanistan in what appeared to be a failed attempt to free inmates from a Kandahar prison. The Vatican denounced what it called aggressive attempts to drag Pope Benedict XVI into the spreading scandal of pedophile priests in his German homeland. With the biggest fight crowd in the U.S. in 17 years cheering him on at Cowboys Stadium, Manny Pacquiao dominated Joshua Clottey from the opening bell to retain his welterweight title.  
Five years ago: In his first visit to the Phoenix Veterans Affairs hospital whose practices sparked a health care scandal, President Barack Obama acknowledged lingering weaknesses in the federal government's response to the chronic delays and false waiting lists in the VA health system. Al Rosen, the muscular third baseman who won the 1953 AL MVP and played on the last Cleveland Indians team to win the World Series, died in Rancho Mirage, California, at age 91.  
One year ago: A late winter storm brought blizzards, floods and a tornado across more than 25 states from the northern Rocky Mountains to Texas and beyond. A federal judge in Washington increased to a total of seven and a-half years the prison sentence for former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort for misleading the government about his foreign lobbying work; Manafort was also hit with fresh state charges in New York accusing him of giving false information on mortgage loan applications. (A state judge later threw out those charges.) Cardinal George Pell, the most senior Catholic to be convicted of child sex abuse, was sentenced in Australia to six years in prison for molesting two choirboys in an Australian cathedral. California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an executive order granting reprieves to all 737 condemned inmates on the nation's largest death row, putting a moratorium on executions during his term as governor.  
**Today's Birthdays:** Jazz musician Roy Haynes is 95. Country singer Jan Howard is 90. Songwriter Mike Stoller (STOH'-ler) is 87. Singer-

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**Today's Birthdays:** Jazz musician Roy Haynes is 95. Country singer Jan Howard is 90. Songwriter Mike Stoller (STOH'-ler) is 87. Singer-

songwriter Neil Sedaka is 81. R&B/gospel singer Candi Staton is 80. Opera singer Julia Migenes is 71. Actor William H. Macy is 70. Comedian Robin Duke is 66. Actress Dana Delany is 64. Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., is 63. Rock musician Adam Clayton (U2) is 60. Jazz musician Terence Blanchard is 58. Actor Christopher Col-

let is 52. Rock musician Matt McDonough (Mudvayne) is 51. Actress Annabeth Gish is 49. Actress Tracy Wells is 49. Rapper-actor Common is 48. Rapper Khujo (Goodie Mob, The Lumberjacks) is 48. Singer Glenn Lewis is 45. Actor Danny Masterson is 44. Bluegrass musician Clayton Campbell (The Gibson Brothers) is 39. Actor Noel

Fisher is 36. Singers Natalie and Nicole Albino (Nina Sky) are 36. Actor Emile Hirsch is 35. Olympic gold medal skier Mikaela Shiffrin is 25. Tennis star Coco Gauff is 16.  
**Thought for Today:** "History repeats itself. That's one of the things wrong with history." — Clarence Darrow, American lawyer (born 1857, died this date in 1938).

## Newsday Crossword

SEE 33 ACROSS by S.N.  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

54 Sartre play

55 Legislative enactments

56 AL East city

57 "\_\_\_ be silly not to"

58 Iconic marshal

59 Threw out

DOWN

1 "I see"

2 Trepid

3 Aerial photography fleet

4 Innocents

5 Series shortener

6 Supermarket section with slicers

7 WWII auxiliary

8 Aleve alternative

9 Fancy fundraisers

10 Delta material

11 Secluded

12 Acting class subject

13 Wings without feathers

16 Casablanca pianist

20 Precept

24 LO-CAL KIDS' LUNCH

27 Maximum or minimum

28 Exuberant spirit

29 Sausages, for short

30 Ages and ages

31 Is becoming to

32 Bloke

33 Film fan

34 Yellow pages for notes

35 Atoll material

36 Hand over bills

39 Sausage

40 Elaborate deceptions

41 Fire up

42 Summed (up)

44 Mazda model

45 Dishwasher sounds

47 Col. Aldrin alma mater

48 Steadfast

50 Part of 47 Down

51 Prefix for cross

53 About 5 mL

Answer to previous puzzle

GOSH	SNUB	MCM
ROPE	HAZE	SHED
ROLE	PLAYING	GAME
IDIOMS	ORION	
GET TOE	BUS	SIT
MAPLES	MONSTERS	
AREA	HOODIE	
NATIVE	PEOPLES	
HAILED	LALA	
ASSEMBLY	PASTOR	
SIC	NEO	WOK
IMAGO	MANIAC	
MILITARY	VETERAN	
OWES	BONE	AROSE
VEST	SEAS	OWIE

3/13/20



# Uncertainty awaits as NHL puts season on ice -- for now

By **JOHN WAWROW and STEPHEN WHYNO**  
AP Hockey Writers

Michael Peca knows all about NHL work stoppages.

The two-time Frank Selke Award-winning forward endured two lockouts and lost another season due to a contract dispute with the Buffalo Sabres during his 14-year career, which ended with Columbus in 2009.

Never could Peca have imagined a season – never mind essentially the entire North American sports schedule – being placed in limbo because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"It's weird because nothing like this has ever happened, and it'll probably never happen again, hopefully," Peca said Thursday, when the NHL joined numerous pro sports leagues in suspending its season.

"It's like, 'Is this even real?'" he added. "But there's a big-picture purpose to it. ... It's about making sure we can slow down if not cease, but more likely slow down how quickly it's spreading."

The NHL placed the final month of its season on ice – for now – but hopes to eventually resume play and still award the Stanley Cup.

Commissioner Gary Bettman said the league followed the NBA's lead after Utah Jazz players Rudy Gobert and Donovan Mitchell tested positive for COVID-19.

With the two leagues sharing numerous facilities and locker rooms across North America, Bettman said: "It now seems likely that some member of the NHL community would test positive at some point — it is no longer appropriate to try to continue to play games at this time."

The NHL Players' Association backed the decision, calling it "an appropriate course of action."

The decision left numerous unanswered questions, ranging from when games might resume to what shape players might be in once they return. The stoppage also raised concerns over what the economic impact might be on the bottom line in the league's 31 markets.

As Nashville Predators president Sean Henry put it: "We're working through really uncharted territory."

Henry wouldn't rule out the possibility of the season not resuming.

"I think there's a fear for all of us of that," he added. "We all want answers. Unfortunately, there are not a lot of them."

There have only been two years in which the Stanley Cup wasn't awarded since 1893. It happened in 1919, when the final was canceled after five games because of the Spanish flu outbreak, and then again in 2005, when an NHL lockout wiped out the entire season.

Though disappointed, players understood the reasoning.

"Nothing is more important than everyone's health and safety. The league did the right thing today," Columbus Blue Jack-

ets captain Nick Foligno wrote in a post on his Twitter account. "We have the best fans in the world, and we'll get through this together."

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia. The vast majority of people recover from the new virus.

While players will continue to be paid, they won't be allowed to practice together for at least the short term, the Predators' Henry said.

The NHL has not said any player has tested positive for COVID-19. The Washington Capitals, who used the same visiting locker room as the Jazz at New York's Madison Square Garden, said they will closely monitor the health of players, coaches and staff.

The Tampa Bay Lightning, who followed the Jazz into two arenas last weekend and occupied the same locker room while in Boston, said deep cleaning and sanitizing was done before they arrived.

In Dallas, Stars forward Alexander Radulov has been sick, but team president Brad Alberts said no players had yet been tested.

Alberts said he's encouraged a majority of employees to work from home. Players have also been encouraged to quarantine themselves in the event they might have contracted the virus.

Retired NHL forward and Minnesota Wild assistant director of player development Matt Hendricks noted how different this hiatus is to past stoppages.

"This is kind of no-man's territory," Hendricks said.

"When we were locked out, we had the ability to go and skate and train," he said. "But this one's a little bit different in the sense that you really don't want to expose yourself if you don't have to. ... So going into public gyms that might not be the best thing to do to put yourself at risk and put others at risk."

In Buffalo, former Sabres and Wild forward Jason Pominville said it can't be easy for players to stop competing a month before the playoffs were scheduled to begin..

"They just want to play, they're in a rhythm, not a lot of practices, playing a lot of games and then, all of a sudden, it's shut down for who knows how long," said Pominville, who hasn't filed his retirement papers since completing his 15th NHL season last year.

He's spent this season playing in a local beer league. Upon learning of the NHL pausing its season, Pominville playfully reached out to former Sabres teammate, Kyle Okposo.

"I was like, 'Hey bud, if you or any of the boys are looking to skate, my beer league's not canceled yet, and you guys are welcome,'" Pominville said, laughing. "We're always looking to get better."

# March Madness: NCAA Tournaments canceled due to coronavirus

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**  
AP College Sports Writer

March Madness came to a screeching halt before a bracket could even be filled out.

The NCAA canceled its men's and women's basketball tournaments Thursday because of the spread of coronavirus, putting an abrupt end to the season less than a month before champions were to be crowned.

The unprecedented move comes a day after the NCAA announced the games that were scheduled to start next week would go on, but played in mostly empty arenas. That plan was scrapped as every major American sports league from the NBA to MLB put the brakes on its season due to concerns about the pandemic.

"This decision is based on the evolving COVID-19 public health threat, our ability to ensure the events do not contribute to the spread of the pandemic and the impracticality of hosting such events at any time during the academic year given the ongoing decisions by other entities," the NCAA said in statement.

The NCAA canceled championships in every spring sport, which include hockey, baseball and lacrosse.

The stunning end to the major college basketball season came about four hours after a frantic

morning when conference tournaments around the country came to a sudden stop. Moments away from tipoff at some arenas, and minutes apart, each Power Five conference — the Atlantic Coast, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12 and Southeastern conferences — canceled its remaining games.

At Madison Square Garden in New York, the Big East game between Creighton and St. John's did start, but at halftime the conference called off that game and all the rest. Turns out that was the last Division I basketball to be played this season.

"This has been the most extraordinary stretch of days I've ever had or ever seen in my 30-plus years of working in the sports business," Big East Commissioner Val Ackerman said.

Smaller conferences followed suit, shutting down their tournaments, and within a few hours 58 men's games scheduled in 16 conferences had been canceled.

Then the conferences began shutting down all athletic activities, for at least a few weeks like the SEC, or indefinitely like the ACC.

A few hours later, the NCAA put an end to it all.

"So you telling me I transferred to not play in the tournament," tweeted Gonzaga point guard Ryan Woolridge, a graduate

transfer from North Texas. Gonzaga was expected to be a No. 1 NCAA Tournament seed and play a possible second-round game in its home city of Spokane, Washington.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia. The vast majority of people recover from the virus.

According to the World Health Organization, people with mild illness recover in about two weeks, while those with more severe illness may take three to six weeks to recover.

The NCAA men's basketball tournament has been played every year since 1939 when Oregon won the championship in Evanston, Illinois. It has grown through the years, both in size and stature. The three-week tournament generates almost a billion dollars in revenue each year for the NCAA and its hundreds of member schools.

NHL Standings					
Eastern (Atlantic)	Overall	PTS	GF	GA	
Boston Bruins	44-14-12	100	227	174	
Tampa Bay Lightning	43-21-6	92	245	195	
Toronto Maple Leafs	36-25-9	81	238	227	
Florida Panthers	35-26-8	78	231	228	
Montreal Canadiens	31-31-9	71	212	221	
Buffalo Sabres	30-31-8	68	195	217	
Ottawa Senators	25-34-12	62	191	243	
Detroit Red Wings	17-49-5	39	145	267	
Eastern (Metro)	Overall	PTS	GF	GA	
Washington Capitals	41-20-8	90	240	215	
Philadelphia Flyers	41-21-7	89	232	196	
Pittsburgh Penguins	40-23-6	86	224	196	
Carolina Hurricanes	38-25-5	81	222	193	
Columbus Blue Jackets	33-22-15	81	180	187	
New York Islanders	35-23-10	80	192	193	
New York Rangers	37-28-5	79	234	222	
New Jersey Devils	28-29-12	68	189	230	
Western (Central)	Overall	PTS	GF	GA	
St. Louis Blues	42-19-10	94	225	193	
Colorado Avalanche	42-20-8	92	237	191	
Dallas Stars	37-24-8	82	180	177	
Winnipeg Jets	37-28-6	80	216	203	
Nashville Predators	35-26-8	78	215	217	
Minnesota Wild	35-27-7	77	220	220	
Chicago Blackhawks	32-30-8	72	212	218	
Western (Pacific)	Overall	PTS	GF	GA	
Vegas Golden Knights	39-24-8	86	227	211	
Edmonton Oilers	37-25-9	83	225	217	
Calgary Flames	36-27-7	79	210	215	
Vancouver Canucks	36-27-6	78	228	217	
Arizona Coyotes	33-29-8	74	195	187	
Anaheim Ducks	29-33-9	67	187	226	
Los Angeles Kings	29-35-6	64	178	212	
San Jose Sharks	29-36-5	63	182	226	
PLAYOFF PICTURE					
<b>EAST (Atlantic):</b> (1) Bruins, (2) Lightning, (3) Maple Leafs					
<b>EAST (Metro):</b> (1) Capitals, (2) Flyers, (3) Penguins					
<b>WILD CARD:</b> (1) Hurricanes, (2) Blue Jackets					
<b>WEST (Central):</b> (1) Blues, (2) Avalanche, (3) Stars					
<b>WEST (Pacific):</b> (1) Golden Knights, (2) Oilers, (3) Flames					
<b>WILD CARD:</b> (1) Jets, (2) Predators					

NBA Standings (Season Postponed Indefinitely)					
Eastern Conf.	Division	Overall	PPG	OPPG	
Milwaukee Bucks	13-1	53-12	118.6	107.4	
Toronto Raptors	8-4	46-18	113.0	106.5	
Boston Celtics	7-6	43-21	113.0	106.8	
Miami Heat	10-4	41-24	112.2	108.9	
Indiana Pacers	8-7	39-26	109.3	107.4	
Philadelphia 76ers	11-4	39-26	109.6	107.4	
Brooklyn Nets	6-9	30-34	110.8	111.4	
Orlando Magic	9-5	30-35	106.4	107.3	
Washington	5-9	24-40	115.6	119.6	
Charlotte Hornets	2-7	23-42	102.9	109.6	
Chicago Bulls	7-9	22-43	106.8	109.9	
New York Knicks	2-11	21-45	105.8	112.3	
Detroit Pistons	5-10	20-46	107.2	110.8	
Atlanta Hawks	6-7	20-47	111.8	119.7	
Cleveland Cavaliers	4-10	19-46	106.9	114.8	
Western Conf.	Division	Overall	PPG	OPPG	
L.A. Lakers	9-2	49-14	114.3	106.9	
L.A. Clippers	8-4	44-20	116.2	109.7	
Denver Nuggets	10-1	43-22	110.4	107.4	
Utah Jazz	5-5	41-23	111.0	107.9	
Oklahoma City	7-4	40-24	110.8	108.3	
Houston Rockets	7-4	40-24	118.1	114.4	
Dallas Mavericks	10-3	40-27	116.4	110.3	
Memphis Grizzlies	4-7	32-33	112.6	113.7	
Portland	4-8	29-37	113.6	115.3	
New Orleans	3-8	28-36	116.2	117.0	
Sacramento Kings	7-5	28-36	109.0	110.9	
San Antonio Spurs	4-6	27-36	113.2	114.9	
Phoenix Suns	5-9	26-39	112.6	113.9	
Minnesota	2-10	19-45	113.3	117.5	
Golden State	2-11	15-50	106.3	115.0	
PLAYOFF PICTURE					
<b>EAST:</b> (1) Bucks, (2) Raptors, (3) Celtics, (4) Heat, (5) Pacers, (6) 76ers, (7) Nets, (8) Magic					
<b>WEST:</b> (1) Lakers, (2) Clippers, (3) Nuggets, (4) Jazz, (5) Thunder, (6) Rockets, (7) Mavericks, (8) Grizzlies					


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