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Cancellations/ Postponed events:

Gun and Blade Show for April 4-5 at Horseshoe Pavillion has been cancelled

Big Spring Film Festival Postponed until later date

National Pharmaceutical Take Back Initiative for April 25

No School for Forsan ISD, Coahoma ISD, Big Spring ISD through April 3

Health Fair for April 4 has been postponed until August 8.

KBSB has cancelled Trash Off set for April 4 along with all other activities, including Toasty Tuesdays until further notice.

INDEX

Classifieds.....10-12
 Comics13
 News 1 & 3
 Obituaries2
 Religion4-7
 Nation/State8
 Special14
 Sports9

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City Council approves BSEDC Airpark project loan by 5-2 vote

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

The Big Spring City Council convened for a special meeting - with council members physically attending and some telephonically attending to keep in alignment with the gathers of 10 or less - Thursday evening, to hear the second reading of two resolutions, and to discuss an emergency reading to move the upcoming May 2 election to November, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A lengthy discussion surrounded the final reading of a Resolution of the City Council of the city of Big Spring, Texas authorizing and approving a project and a loan (and terms thereof) in the amount of up to six million dollars to finance infrastructure and road improvements to the Big Spring Airpark, approving the execution and delivery of loan documents relating thereto, delegating authority to the President of Big Spring Economic Development Corporation to consummate the loan

and containing other matters related thereto: providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

"We are in a significant strife in our community, if not nationally and globally due to COVID-19; the Permian Basin even more so with the price of oil. I think it does bear witness to say it's important to take into concern the economy we are looking at right now, but I would also argue this is the most important time in our foreseeable future that we should do this project," Jeff Ward, President of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation, said in regards to the EDC proposed loan and project on the agenda. "Right now our economy is so reliant on oil and gas industry that it cripples us when the price per barrel drops and for that reason I feel this project would allow distribution centers and other non oil related business activities to relocate and incentivise them to our industrial park."

The proposed BSEDC project is to build a road from the reliever route into

the Industrial Park in order to allow for easier access. The access into the Industrial Park is projected to be under \$6 million and is to take around three months, according to the information provided in the contract discussed.

"I know we are all a supporter of I-27 coming through Big Spring and I feel like this is a significant gesture to those who are making decisions in Ports To Plains, that Big Spring is ready for I-27 to come right through and this investment that our community is willing to make, at least consider to make, is a testament to how much we want to see the future of Big Spring grow."

During the lengthy discussion surrounding the matter, City Manager Todd Darden, Public Works Shane Boiles and Andrew Hagan, Big Spring City Attorney, offered input on perceived red flags in the proposed contract that was submitted to the BSEDC regarding the project and legal ramifications of the

See **CITY**, Page 3

Making a mark: Big Spring Area Community Foundation new signage arrives, gets placed



By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

Giving hearts are scattered all around the world and if you were to ask, many might even say that the biggest pool of generous people reside in Howard County.

The generosity of people who want to invest back into a community that helped form their story has an avenue to do just that in the Big Spring Area Community Foundation.

BSCF was formed as a way to channel money in the form of charitable donations, scholarships and grants to deserving individuals and organizations in Howard County and the surrounding area. Almost a year ago, the foundation that has been serving Howard County for many years finally found a home. The new office, located at 707 Scurry, opened it's doors with Greg Henry serving

See **BSACF**, Page 3

Keeping the positivity flowing through creativity



Courtesy photos
 Parkview residents may not be able to receive visitors while they practice social distancing and help slow the spread of the virus, but it hasn't taken out their opportunity to have fun and make memories. Pictured above are residents taking part in a game of Hallway bingo.

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

Vistations have been ceased for the moment at nursing homes, rehabilitation centers and other healthcare facilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For residents and families with a loved one in one of these facilities, the initial announcement came as a shock, but since the original order has been passed down there have been creative ways of com-

munication and support that have risen from this restriction. "Families have been very understanding of the fact that this is to protect their loved ones," Laurie Martinez, Activity Director at Parkview Skilled Care and Rehabilitation, said. "We are a family within our walls so the activities department as well as rehab and other staff is keeping our residents active and occupied."

See **BINGO**, Page 3



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Obituaries

John Lyons

John Lyons, 66, of Big Spring died Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

John will be in state Noon until 9 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Private funeral

service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Courtney Ballard officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Louise Smith

Louise Smith, 98, of Big Spring died Wednesday, March 25, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having

78 inmates at the time of this report.

• **CHRISTOPHER ISAIAH HINOJOS, 21**, was arrested by BSPD on charges of unauthor-

ized use of vehicle, unlicensed possession of firearm by felon and aggravated assault with deadly weapon.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1200 block of E. 17th St. 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 reported in the 2600 block of Central. One person was transported to

Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 4000 block of Vicky. No transport was required.

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

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block of S. Main St. No transport was needed.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 700 block of E. 15th St.

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 Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Take Note

• 2020 Advocating for Agriculture Symposium will be hosted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension – Corpus Christi based specialists is set for Tuesday, April 14, 2020 from 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The symposium can be attended from the comfort of your home. To register visit <https://agrifliferregister.tamu.edu/ag>. For more information email megan.clayton@ag.tamu.edu.

• Effective immediately, to contact the City of Big Spring Water Office, please call 432-466-3264, 432-466-3568, or 432-466-7248. The Water Office is temporarily located at 305 South Johnson. Be advised, all City of Big Spring offices, including the Water Office, remain closed to the public and open by appointment and electronic means only. Ways to make your payment: 1. Pay online at www.mybig-spring.com. Click ONLINE BILL PAY; Pay via the automated phone system by calling 833-227-1752; Payment can be placed in the Drop Box at the Polly Mays Annex (501 Runnels). Staff checks the box daily; Pay over the phone by calling 432-466-3264, 432-466-3568, or 432-466-7248. Water Office staff are still available to assist customers by appointment and over the phone during normal business hours.

• City of Big Spring offices will remain open by appointment and electronic means only effective Sunday, March 22, at midnight. These offices include: City Hall (432-264-2401); Finance Department (432-264-2513); Public Works Department (432-264-2501); Human Resources Department (432-264-2346); Water Office (432-264-2319); Code Enforcement/Permits (432-264-2505); Community Services Office; Convention and Visitors Bureau (432-263-8235); Facilities (432-264-2322); Cemetery (432-264-2323); Police Department (432-264-2550); Fire Department (432-264-2304); The Big Spring Senior Center will be closed to congregate meals, but those who wish to pick up a to go order can call 432-267-1268, for more information. All City pavilions and playground structures will remain closed until further notice. For any questions or concerns please contact the City Manager's Office at 432-264-2401.

• Gun and Blade Show for April 4-5 at Horseshoe Pavillion has been cancelled.

• The City of Big Spring will be following CDC guidelines and the executive order by Governor Abbott concerning COVID-19 and will be closing all city park playground structures and park pavilions including: Kidz Zone, Cotton Mize softball field, playground structures at ABC Park, Bert Andries Park, Dr., Morgan Park, and any other city owned playground structure or pavilion until at least April 20th. The date of closure has the possibility to extend. We also ask that you refrain from gathering in groups of 10 or more during this time so we can help stop the spread of COVID-19. For any questions or concerns please contact the City Managers Office at 432-264-2401.

• 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 Whiskey. The event is free, but space is limited. RSVP to WestTexas@alz.org, call 1-800-272-3900, or go to the

link at bit.ly/ConfBS20. More information can also be found at www.alz.org/westtexas.

• **CANCELLED** - 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 Foundation Tax-Aide offers free tax preparation help to anyone, and if you're 50 and older, and can't afford a tax preparation service, AARP Tax-Aide was made especially for you. They understand that retirement or other life changes may mean your taxes are a little more complicated now. With the help of our team of IRS-certified volunteers, we make it easy for you. AARP Tax-Aide Service will be available at the Big Spring Senior Center every Monday, beginning on Feb. 3, 2020, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. There's no fee and no sales pitch for other services, and AARP membership is not required. Additional information can be found on the AARP web site https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/info-2004/about_aarp_taxaide.html

• 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.

• 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. 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.

• O'Neal-Kunkle, Chapter #47 of the Disabled American Vets (D.A.V.), meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at 2204 Runnels Street. For more information, please contact Norman Witcher at 432-413-6663.

• **ON HOLD** - Senior and/or mature adults are invited to come to a dance every first and third Friday each month at the Dora Roberts.



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Food Pick Up Info

Big Spring ISD will be providing sacked meals for students while the campuses are closed. Meals will be available at three schools from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. Meals can be picked up at any of the three campuses where they are being handed out, which will be Moss, Marcy and Big Spring Junior High School. At both March and Moss, pick up will be in the bus lane behind the campus. At BSJH, pick up can be made at Door #3 on the east side of campus.



Children in Big Spring ISD can also pick up meals at the following times and locations:

From 9 a.m. to 9:55 a.m., you can pick up at:
 Bus 13-Navajo and Choctaw
 Bus 14-Bauer
 Bus 15: Larry and McDonald
 Bus 27: 5th and Abrams
 Bus 28: 3rd and Lockhart
 Bus 77: Parkway and Hearn
 Bus 85: Goliad Elementary
 Bus 86: 6th and Circle
 Bus 90: Southridge RV Park
 Bus 96: Albrook and Randolph

From 10 a.m. to 10:55 a.m., you can pick up at:

Bus 13-Barcelona Apartments
 Bus 14-Lakeview
 Bus 15: Colby and Drew
 Bus 27: 8th and Lorilla
 Bus 28: Roy Anderson Complex
 Bus 77: Airport and Mobile
 Bus 85: Scott and Macausian
 Bus 86: Washington Elementary
 Bus 90: Oasis and Neill
 Bus 96: Anderson School

Lunch is also available at North Side Movement for all children in the area. Meals can be picked up at Ryan Hall, located behind the church, at 605 N. Main St. To comply with Governor Abbott's mandate, all meals will be set-up drive-through style. No meals will be served inside the hall. Deliveries will depend on number of volunteers available. You can follow the North Side Movement Facebook page for additional information.

Coahoma ISD will provide take-home lunches to all students while the campuses are closed. Students can pick up a lunch at the back door of the cafeteria, Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Forsan ISD will be providing sacked meals for students while the campuses are closed. Meals are available at the following three locations: Forsan Elementary at the south entrance of the building, Special Education 87-20 Coop, or "The Pad". Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., and lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If your restaurant or organization is helping feed students during this time, please e-mail us information and we will be sure to include it in our listing and let the community know. On behalf of the Big Spring Herald and all those who are able to receive support during this time, we say Thank You for all that you are doing and continue to do. The support is much appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association and The Associated Press.
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 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
 USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
 BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$13.00 monthly; \$140.40 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$16.00 monthly Howard; \$19.50 elsewhere.



MEMBER 2020

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

CITY

Continued from Page 1

verbiage in the contract. The deficiencies in the contract brought City staff to offer the recommendation that the City Council not approve the loan, according to Mayor Thomason's comments during the meeting.

"We will move forward with projects and allow City Manager or the Mayor to finish out contracts and really that is all we are doing here; we are saying EDC here is your money finish working out your contract," Councilwoman Camilla Strande said.

She continued, "In doing my own risk analysis, the risk of if we move forward with this and we are unhappy it will be because the EDC didn't work out the stuff that needed to be and it becomes more expensive than those costs or the risk of not doing the project now could be that it becomes more expensive to do the project or the project could just not get done at all and we lose business opportunity, \$859,000 that's already been placed into the project ... there are a lot more risks in not doing this project than there are in doing it."

After hearing and reviewing the proposed information presented in the meeting, the City Council passed the final reading of the Resolution with a 5-2 vote; Council members Raul Marquez, Terry McDaniel, Gloria McDonald, Camilla Strande and Jim DePauw voted for the approval of the loan with Councilman Doug Hartman and Mayor Thomason voting against.

The Council also took into consideration an emergency reading of an ordinance of the City of Big Spring, Texas, postponing the General Election to be held on May 2, 2020 for the purpose of electing a City Council Member for District 1 and District 3, to Nov. 3, 2020 pursuant to a proclamation from Governor Abbott; providing for the publication and posting of notice; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

"I don't think it provides a fair election process," Councilman Raul Marquez said. "I know I walked door meeting constituents, potential voters and with what's going on today that doesn't provide the

candidates to actually speak to the voters ... It's in what's in the best interest of the people and that's why we are up here. We are here for the best interest of the people and if anything the health of the people is at high stakes ...providing the current situation it is best we take action as soon as possible to postpone the election for the best interest of the candidates and the people."

Marquez referenced the atmosphere that has ensued the nation due to COVID-19, and while there are no confirmed cases in Howard County as of Thursday evening, there have been confirmed cases around the region. The citizens of Howard County know the reality of seeing the shelves not stocked, the uncertainty of what the next day holds and in his opinion, voting is not top of mind for residents at this time.

"I agree with Marquez with regard to the individuals who are seeking these positions. They aren't going to have the time under the circumstances we are in," Councilman Terry McDaniel said.

While the Council did not agree unanimously that the issue was an emergency, the acclamation item failed, but the first reading of the ordinance took place and did pass with a 6-1 vote, with the Mayor voting against.

"The ultimate determination of this issue should be the citizens and since this was brought to the Council just today I think the citizens should have an opportunity to voice their opinions whether or not they want their election postponed until November," Mayor Thomason said. "Since this was plopped on the citizens I think we should give them an opportunity to offer up any comment if they so choose."

In response to Mayor Thomason's comments, Councilman McDaniel and other council members raised the concern of being able to get the citizens to vote on the matter within the next seven days to get a consensus. Since a unanimous decision was not obtained regarding it as an emergency issue, a special meeting will need to take place in order to make the deadline to move the election without incurring additional cost to the election. Forsan and Coahoma ISDs have already postponed their elections.

A heated discussion ensued as Mayor Thomason

reminded the council members of the requirements and ramifications of Texas Government Code Section 551.143 (Texas Open Meetings Act). According to the Government Code "a member of a governmental body commits an offense if the member knowingly engages in at least one communication among a series of communications that each occur outside of a meeting authorized by this chapter and that concern an issue within the jurisdiction of the governmental body in which the members engaging in the individual communications constitute fewer than a quorum of members but the members engaging in the series of communications constitute a quorum of members ..."

The code also states that an offense under this is punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500; confinement in the county jail for not less than one month or more than six months; or both the fine and confinement.

The consent items on the agenda included the final reading of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Big Spring renewing and extending a Declaration of Public Health Emergency/Disaster issued by the Mayor on March 18, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the United States "15 Days to Slow the Spread" campaign and authorizing City Manager or his designee to take such steps as are necessary to support the declaration therein and the final reading amending the Employee and Working Conditions Designation: telecommuting and leave. These items passed with a 5-1 vote with one absent at the time of the vote.

Council also approved the minutes from the BSEDC meeting from the regular meeting of Feb. 18, 2020, and special meeting of March 3, 2020.

For those who were unable to tune into the Live Stream of the meeting Thursday evening, a recording can be found on Channel 17. The agenda from the meeting can also be found at mybigspring.com.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Retha Southwood, 80, of Lubbock, formerly of Big Spring died Sunday, March 22, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

John Lyons, 66, died Tuesday. John will be in state Noon until 9:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Private funeral service will be held at 10:00 AM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Courtney Ballard officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park at 11:00 AM Saturday.

Frances Carolyn Andrews Ferguson, 77, died Monday. Friends may pay their respects from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Friday and Saturday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM Saturday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Memorial services will be at a later date.

Louise Smith, 98, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

BSACF

Continued from Page 1

as the Executive Director.

The office received the finishing touches as the new signage was placed this past week.

According to Henry, the sign is one more representation of community, as it was made by TexaStone Quarry - locally owned and operated. Upon completion of the sign, Henry found another valuable partnership to help with the foundation and placing of the sign, through the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department's Kem and Mitchell Hooper.

"These two gentleman helped with their guidance and expertise when it came to getting our new sign placed properly in it's

new home," Henry said.

Henry continued, "We are honored to be a part of this community and have the ability to support the great things that are happening. We want to extend an open invitation to have the community come by and say hello, find out about us, once things are able to get back to normal and social distancing isn't being practiced."

Persons interested in submitting grant requests or finding out how to donate funds to the foundation can contact Henry by mail at P.O. Box 2007, Big Spring, Texas 79721, by e-mail at greghenry1996@gmail.com or by phone at 432-714-4316.

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

SMMC issues no visitor policy on Thursday

Special to the Herald

The health and safety of our patients, visitors, employees, and our communities remain our top priority at Scenic Mountain Medical center. Therefore, in line with the latest guidance provided by the CDC and the Texas State Department of Health related to COVID-19, all hospital visitors will be restricted until further notice. The only exceptions are for women in labor and end of life circumstances, who will be allowed one (1) visitor each.

"We are here, as always, to serve all patients. Our commitment to providing care for the ongoing health and well-being community is vital, particularly in times like these," the press release stated. "To protect our patients and employees from the spread of COVID-19, we are making every effort to keep our facilities safe through enhanced screening of patients and strict visitor restrictions to our facilities."

All patients who enter through available access points will be screened immediately upon arrival. Points of entrance will be limited to: 1) ER Entrance 24/7; 2) West Texas Medical Plaza (Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

If you are not a provider working at our facility, hospital employee, or seeking immediate medical attention, we ask that you avoid the hospital.

If you are experiencing a cough, fever,

and/or shortness of breath or have been in direct contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, please call your primary physician's office. Your physician will help determine whether you may come in for an appointment, or if you should stay at home and await further instruction.

You can also call our COVID-19 hotline for a phone screening and additional resources at 432-268-4785. Please do not come to the hospital unless it is an emergency.

"Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work to keep our community safe," the press release stated.

was too busy wondering how she got all those wrinkles."

Through the support of technology and a caring, loving staff the residents and their families at Parkview have been able to keep spirits up as they get through the COVID-19 pandemic together.

"We want to thank our community for their support and we want them to know we are all working together to make this time as enjoyable and comfortable as possible," she said. "We are a faith based company and instead of living by fear we are living by faith."

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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Reflections: *Surviving the C crisis together*

Last Saturday afternoon, March 21, my wife and I invited a group of our neighbors to bring their lawn chairs and meet in our driveway.

Ten of us showed up and positioned our chairs 6 feet apart. (If more had come, we were prepared with a second driveway across the street). A few had met, but most did not know each other.



BILL
TINSLEY

Our neighborhood has been typical of most suburbs. We pass each other coming and going to work, then disappear into our garages. We occasionally see each other walking our dogs, but we rarely speak. Faces may become familiar, but we don't know each other's names.

But this Saturday was different. Under the ominous cloud of the coronavirus, our neighbors were hungry to meet each other, to talk and to share.

The group included a widow in her 70s, two young couples in their 20s, a couple in their 30s recently moved from Philadelphia and a couple in their late 40s, recently married and adjusting to a blended family. My wife and I married over 50 years ago.

The gathering was not somber. There was much laughter. One couple brought gifts of toilet paper with a card: "Just a little something to show that we got your back." But there was a serious undercurrent, not knowing what comes next. We each introduced ourselves and shared how the COVID crisis is affecting us and our families. At the end, I led the group in prayer.

We are praying for the people of the world. We are all in this together.

The pain and suffering includes Asia, Africa, Europe, North and South America. All the nations of the earth are being affected. We are praying for the sick and the dying, and for those who have lost loved ones. We are concerned for first responders, for our medical professionals, for the elderly and the weak. We pray for students whose studies have been disrupted, whose classes have been cancelled. We are burdened for those who are suffering economic disaster, for hourly workers, minimum wage employees, those who live week to week, who cannot pay their rent next month or afford food for their children.

We are discovering in this crisis that the place to which we can turn is to God and to one another. We are discovering that more than big government, more than money, we need people. We need our

families and we need our neighbors and we need God. Instead of seeing a society implode in anger and frustration and chaos, we are watching people step up to stand in the gap. We are looking for ways to encourage one another, to support each other. We want to help.

Jesus taught us this amazing truth about human nature centuries ago when an arrogant young lawyer asked him, "Who is my neighbor?"

He replied by telling the story of the Good Samaritan. Across the ages in every culture where the message of Christ has been told, that story has enabled people to overcome and withstand the most severe catastrophes.

Instead of "passing by on the other side," instead of just thinking about ourselves and our own concerns, we must stop and help just one, somebody for whom we can make a difference.

One of my neighbors reminded me that often Jesus stopped to help just one. That's what we need to do. That is what we each can do, like the Good Samaritan. (Luke 10:25-37).

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. His books are available at www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com.

Something to think about...

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." ~ 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NIV

In times of crisis, we can become so focused on the immediate that we lose sight of the eternal. If we develop a primarily worldly perspective, we find ourselves overwhelmed, losing heart, and sinking down into discouragement. Believe it or not, even pastors get discouraged.

Dealing with difficulty, challenges, and conflicts can get us so focused on the negative that we forget our ultimate purpose. One statistic states that more than 1,700 pastors leave the ministry every month. They simply quit. We all face moments when we want to give up, but Scripture tells us that our ability to press on ultimately depends on our perspective.



RICHARD
SCHNEBERGER

Another Pastor shared about a season when he faced deep discouragement. He desperately needed a break, so he cleared his schedule for the week and took a moment to get away. He checked into a hotel for some solitude and prayer. It happened to be a nice sunny day, so he decided to go out and sit by the pool. He sank into a nice lounge chair, got out a book and thought he would just decompress for a bit. However, before he could even start reading, he noticed a little boy confidently walk over to the diving board and jump right off into the deep end.

It was immediately evident that this young boy couldn't swim well. He started flailing, splashing, bobbing up and down in the water. The kid was coughing and spitting, as he slowly made his way over to the edge.

The Pastor was at the edge of his seat and thought he was going to have to jump in and save the boy. When he was just about to jump in, the boy made

it to the ladder and climbed out. The Pastor breathed a deep sigh of relief and started to sit back, but to his amazement the little boy walked right back over to the diving board.

He watched as the boy, without hesitation, jumped right back into the deep end, with the same results. The kid started flailing, kicking, splashing, turning red, coughing. Again, the Pastor was about to jump in, but the boy finally made it back to the edge.

This time when the little boy climbed out, the Pastor thought he should stop this madness.

He said, "Son, it looks like you are learning to swim."

The boy said, "Yes, sir."

Then the pastor said, "You know, you could learn just as well in the shallow end and you wouldn't drown down there because you could touch bottom."

The boy said, "That's okay, I like the deep end."

Then the pastor said, "Yeah, but you could really get hurt or drown down here."

But the boy replied, "Oh, I can't drown."

The pastor said, "Oh yes you can."

"No," the boy said, "I can't drown. You see that man over there reading the newspaper. That's my dad. He's with me and he won't let me drown."

And at that the little boy walked right back over to the diving board and jumped in the deep end. In that moment, the Pastor looked up and said "Thank you, Lord. I hear you."

You may feel like you're in the deep end right now. You may be kicking and splashing for all you're worth and you don't know if you're going to make it to the edge.

Don't give up! Take heart, your Heavenly Father is with you. He won't let you drown. "Fix your eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

Do not be afraid

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27

Are you afraid of the dark? Fear is one of the most natural responses to those things we don't understand. There are certain things that are just plain hard not to be afraid of because there is no shortage of tough situations which easily disturb our peace of mind. That is why we look to science to explain the secrets of the dark.



TOM
SLOAN

Science is awesome because it gives us the answer to so many things.

But we cannot live our lives entirely by scientific answers because it cannot teach us the most important or basic things of life. For example, science cannot teach me to rest and be calm when everything seems to be on the verge of destruction. Scientific statistics are hardly the fountain of our peace.

We love science because it speaks to our logic. But our logic is easily tricked and deceived. In the wrong hands, science can easily be manipulated and used to cause more fear and panic.

Grace is God's greatest miracle, and this miracle trumps all science. There is no scientific explanation for God's unconditional love and mercy. As a matter of fact, every scientific statistic indicates that God will and must punish us eternally based on the fact that we have all violated every single one of His laws. But grace tells an entirely different story.

This is the story about how God, by the power of Christ's all-sufficient sacrifice, defied every statistic, every law and every bit of human wisdom that He might forgive, justify, sanctify, accept and bless us.

Jesus comes to us in the dark, and invites us to think outside the box, to not be victims of our own flawed logic.

When our minds are flooded by scientific data which declare war on our emotions, Jesus invites us to process every bit of it by saying...

...let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

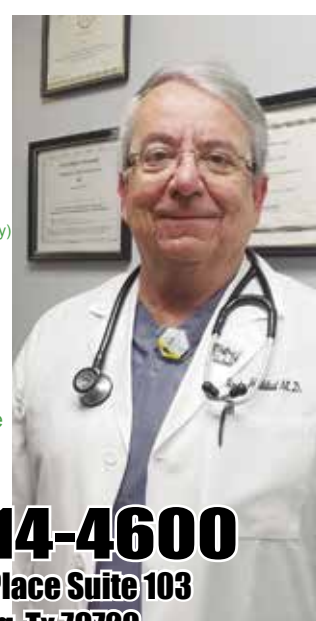
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If you aren't convinced of God's love, how can you love others?

Receive the Holy Spirit.
John 14:26

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 no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us. 1 John 4:18

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF PRAYER

Love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us. 1 John 4:18



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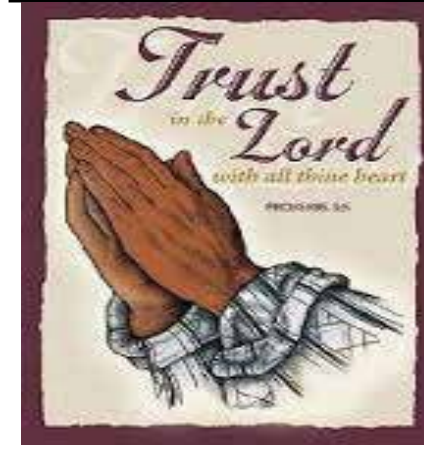
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Jesus traveled throughout Galilee teaching in the synagogues, preaching everywhere the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed people who had every kind of sickness and disease. Matthew 4:23



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As a glove responds to the strength of the hand, so you will respond to the leading of Christ to the point where you say, "I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me." Galatians 2:20

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Rejoice, you people of Jerusalem! 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

Crestview Baptist Church

Crestview Baptist Church will continue as normal, with our meeting times the same as listed below, during the Coronavirus situation.

We are told in scripture not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. However, if this problem gets worse, and it begins to take thousands of lives, like the common flu does every year, we will then make changes. So, if you are sick, stay home. If you are well, come and worship the Lord, who is still in complete control.

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.

NazFamily Church

Drive-In Church - Load up your vehicles and invite your friends to our NazFamily Church drive-in service this Sunday at 10 a.m.

NazFamily Live - Our ministry staff gathers each Tuesday at Noon for a time of Word, worship, and prayer together. We will also continue to have a Wednesday evening service at 6:30 p.m. You can join us through FaceBook Live for all of our services. Stay connected.

Alpha - We will be posting a link to our upcoming Alpha videos. We encourage you to find a time to watch the video with your family and discuss it together.

Events & Activities - Except for our regular weekly services, all other upcoming NazFamily activities are currently postponed. Our board and ministry leaders will be meeting to make decisions about future events. We will let you know as soon as new plans are in place.

Resurrection Sunday - We are still 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!

Blessed Hands Deaf Church

Blessed Hands Deaf Church is currently joining with the First Baptist Church family in the main sanctuary with interpreters provided. Due to the corona virus health crisis, BHDC and FBC leadership are conducting worship services online at 10 a.m. Sunday.

Please go to: fbcbigspring.org or First Baptist Church Big Spring Facebook to join the live-streamed service. For additional information, contact Blessed Hands Pastor, Jim Walterhouse at: jwalterhouse@gmail.com.

First Baptist Church is located at 705 W FM 700. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths." Proverbs 3:4-5

Spring Creek Fellowship

All services and other activities have been cancelled until further notice due to the Coronavirus Situation.

We will have live feed Worship Services on our Spring Creek Fellowship Facebook page on Sunday mornings at 10:45 am. Pastor Lloyd will also be doing daily videos to lift up our spirits, keep in contact and keep everyone updated on information as needed.

Know we are all praying for a quick resolution to the current state of our world, our leaders, medical person and everyone effected. Please follow our leader's advice and take care of yourselves and be considerate of others. Check on your neighbor, stay a safe distance away and please leave some toilet paper at the store for someone who has none.

We cannot wait to see you in person again when this is all over. There will be great celebration and lots of hugs to go around!

If you are in need or have a way to help those in need at this time, please contact the church office.

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, please contact the church office or visit our website at springcreekfellowship.org

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

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

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

We are happy to begin this week's news with the announcement of the birth of the grandson of Interim Pastor Taylor Todd and Mrs. Abby Todd. David Jackson Whitney arrived in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, on March 21, 2020. He and his parents are doing well. He is the first grandchild of Dr. and Mrs. Todd.

The Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study and the Chancel Choir rehearsal are suspended until further notice.

The Stated Session Meeting was conducted by email on Thursday evening, March 26, with Dr.

Taylor Todd, who is in Alabama for a few weeks.

Take Ten and Sunday School have been suspended until further notice.

Lectionary passages for the Fifth Sunday in Lent are Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45. Tom Koger, Elder from this church and Commissioned Ruling Elder, will lead the worship service this week. The modified worship service will be available on Radio Station KBST 1490 AM and on a recording on the church's website fbcbigspring.com. Click on the tab SERMON and select the sermon for the week. The worship service will include announcements/updates, a call to worship, scripture readings, sermon, affirmation of faith, pastoral prayer, and benediction. Church musician Gabe Martinez will supply appropriate music for the service.

Apologies for the lack of the broadcast of the worship service last week, due to circumstances beyond our control. Anyone wishing to hear Dr. Todd's sermon on March 22, may go to the church's website (see address above), and click on the sermon tab for that date.

As everyone realizes, these are extraordinary times and circumstances, but with prayer and use of all of the digital and technical means of communication, God's people can continue to be His hands and feet and voice.

You may listen in on KBST 1490 AM, beginning at 11 a.m. Please call the church office at 263-4211 for other information. We would be pleased for you to Like us on Facebook.

First Baptist Church

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits; Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases;" Psalm 103:2-3

Worship online with the people of First Baptist Church Sunday morning at 10 a.m., and join hearts and minds in giving all praise, glory, and honor to Jehovah-Rapha, The LORD Who Heals. Worship service will be live-streamed through the church website and Facebook-live; go to fbcbigspring.org or First Baptist Church Big Spring on Facebook. Wednesday evening Bible teachings led by Pastor Mark Lindsey are available, also. Call 432 267-8223 for additional information.

Pastor Mark also welcomes you to contact him at: 432-254-0176 if you would like to talk about what it means to accept Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord.

FBC invites all believers to join them in prayer: Almighty God: We come before You praising Your Holy Name. You, and You alone, Jehovah-Yahweh, are the one true God, The Great 'I Am', The Alpha and The Omega, Creator, Redeemer, Comforter, Counselor, and Sovereign LORD of all. May everything that has breath praise You forever! All creation testifies of Your majesty! We thank You, Father God, for the recent rains, and acknowledge Your Divine Hand as the seasons change.

As we see green leaves sprout from dormant tree limbs, and flowers emerge from seemingly empty soil, we marvel at their beauty and remember Your promise to make all things new; thank You LORD. You bring light out of darkness, strength from weakness, and hope from despair; You specialize in giving life to that which is dead, and Your Living Water fills to overflowing wells that are empty and dry. Jesus, You are the answer to every question! We thank You for loving us, and for Your indescribable compassion. Forgive us, Father, for our selfishness and pride; forgive us, also, all the times we have taken Your precious love for granted, and sought Your Hand rather than Your presence. We know, LORD, that no situation escapes Your notice, and You are sovereign over all. The times we live in may be uncertain....but You, LORD, never change. In awe-struck humility, we bow before You in grateful adoration that You have placed our feet upon The Rock of Jesus Christ.

While we may be physically distanced from each other...You are always near. Please Father, unite our hearts in closer unity to Yours, and to each other's as never before. Help us, to fix our minds on You, LORD. We ask in faith for wisdom, thankfully receiving it as You grant it to us as promised in Your Word. Great is Your faithfulness!

We thank you LORD, that as we navigate this coronavirus situation, our path through it grows brighter and brighter. We ask for Your continued guidance each day, and for health amid hidden dangers. LORD, our hope is in You alone! Throughout these circumstances, there is much we cannot understand...but we trust You. We may feel overwhelmed...but we trust You. We may feel discouraged...but we trust You. We may feel afraid...but we trust You. O LORD, You are our strength, our hope, our courage, our compassion, our wisdom, our source of health, and our righteousness.

Please keep us close to You, Father, that we might walk daily in integrity with tender concern for everyone. In Your name, Jesus, we take authority over fear and panic in this world wide health crisis, knowing that Your Word has declared that You have forgiven all our sins and healed all our diseases. Thank You for Your merciful loving kindness. You are The Great Physician, and we thank You, Father, that no weapon formed against us will prosper, and we ask that You would restore health to all infected with the corona virus that they might declare Your praise before every nation on earth, and give You glory. We ask that through this health crisis, all who do not know You...will turn to You, and accept Christ as their Lord and Savior, and that hell would be plundered as The Gospel overtakes this virus, and souls are saved. LORD, there is no disease beyond Your healing ability. Your Word tells us that the enemy, Satan, seeks to kill, steal, and destroy. Chaos is his home, and

fear is his invitation into any situation, but he is bound by Your authority, and this corona virus situation is under Your feet! We ask that You quickly stop the spread of this virus! We acknowledge that You are the source of all healing. We pray for Your protection and encouragement for our leaders, doctors, nurses, researchers, and all healthcare workers. We ask You, Father, to multiply Your comforting presence in the echoes of isolation, especially those in nursing homes and care facilities.

We ask that You restore double all lost income and revenue to those whose jobs and businesses have been negatively impacted. We thank You for Your provision, friendship, and love. We thank You for the finished work of The Cross! We cry to You LORD, believing You hear us and are bringing streams of Living Water to the desert of corona virus. Jesus, we know You are The Good Shepherd who tenderly cares for us. We thank You, LORD, for bringing beauty from the ashes of this health crisis situation. We love You, and await with confident expectation Your answer to our prayer. In the Name Above All Names: Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

College Baptist Church

II Chronicles 7:13-14 tells us: "If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Pray that Big Spring and Howard County Christians will follow God's pattern for Revival.

All other activities for our church have gone to virtual reality on our Facebook page at our regularly scheduled times.

SEND, First Priority, Bible Teaching, Preaching from God's Word, Back Pack Ministry, Women of the Word fellowship, 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 join us on Facebook for the next two weeks every day for prayer, Sundays for: Sunday School, Sunday morning at 9:15 for all ages, followed by Worship at 10:45 all on Facebook. No GA's at 5 p.m. for grades 1st-5th girls' missions. Then Bible study for youth and adults at 6 p.m. on FACEBOOK.

No Wednesday evening Craft time, or King's Kids. Prayer and Bible study for Youth and Adults all beginning at 7 p.m. on Facebook.

We are trying to comply with the complications the COVID-19 has caused on our community. Please pray for our nation and your families. Do a prayer walk around your church this week. Prayer text your pastor and youth pastor and families and church workers this week. Let each other know you are praying for them. Pray with your elderly. Ask them for advice when you can't find necessities.

Worship together 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 2020 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.

First United Methodist Church

Permission has been granted to share these "Thoughts from a young mother":

As I mopped my house for the third time in the last week I thought long and hard about the world's recent battle. COVID-19 sneaked into our lives and turned them upside down. It has been mentioned that maybe God hit a reset button and gave us the opportunity to get down to our core necessities.

While I have taken this as an opportunity to pray, it hasn't been a prayer for Him to keep me safe or take this all away. It has been a prayer of gratefulness for the reminder of how to be a mother, friend, and overall human being. Right now my home smells like it usually does on Saturday morning, because I've been cleaning every night! My laundry is clean and not piling up, my son is happy to see me when I get home from work, I have control and time to teach him things I feel are important, and I'm genuinely happy with this "reset," despite the way it has come about.

I keep hearing everyone talk about what they're going to do when things "go back to the way they were," and I keep thinking, "Man, I hope they don't! I would love for people to be healthy, shelves to be stocked, and for goodness sake, have an aisle full of toilet paper. But I don't want to go back to the way things were."

I pray everyone uses this opportunity to survive the best they know how and have a blast doing it. We have cooked meals, danced in the living room, gone for walks, and just sat and talked about life.

I don't want the busy life, fast food, and video games to take over again. So in this time of fear,

See **CHURCH**, Page 7

Praying over our elders, our community

Courtesy photo

Visitors may not be allowed inside nursing home facilities, but it doesn't mean that the residents can't receive prayer. Parkview Skilled Care and Rehabilitation recently shared this photo on their Facebook page, to show appreciation for local pastors and their continued support for their residents. Pastor Daniels comes every Wednesday to pray over staff and residents, but as many know outside visitors are not allowed at this time so this was such a blessing when Trinity Baptist Church Pastors showed up to pray from the window over our residents and staff it was so greatly appreciated.

Philippians 4:6 Matthew 18:19



Listen

I am a grandmother, in fact, a great grandmother. It's time for anyone my age and younger to speak to people older than I am. Now is the time for all children and grandchildren and great grandchildren to listen up. We are living in some pretty radical days right now. We won't make it, if we don't listen, and will find ourselves frustrated.



LILLIAN BOHANNAN

When you can't find your shoes in the morning, who do you ask? Mom, right? When you can't find something to eat, who do you ask? Same answer, second verse.

Our mothers and dads are our source of knowledge for school work right. They know how to get you on the internet if you don't know how to do something. I had a 12 year old teach me how to use a computer 40 years ago on a Commodore 64. Most of you youngsters don't even know what that is.

Study time right now is important. Set a time to get your home school work done. Then get out of the house. Ask dad to put up a tire swing. Go for a bike ride around your block, fourteen times if necessary. Work off your energy instead of whining to mom. When I was at home as a child, if I told my mom I was bored, she put me to work. That's okay. Learn a new skill. My son ironed uniforms in the barracks in the Marines and made money because I taught him to iron his own clothes at eight years old. He learned to wash dishes without breaking them at six. Learn something useful.

I am a teacher. We let the older students listen to younger ones read. It helps them both. Work as a team, families.

On another note: God is our Source of Strength. He is our Rock in a weary land. He told the Israelites to hunker down in their homes while He took down their enemies. He will do the same for us when we trust Him in our dilemmas and tribulations. This is a time of testing. We are all in the classroom six-feet apart. We can pass the test with one hundred percent if we trust Him whether we are afraid or not.

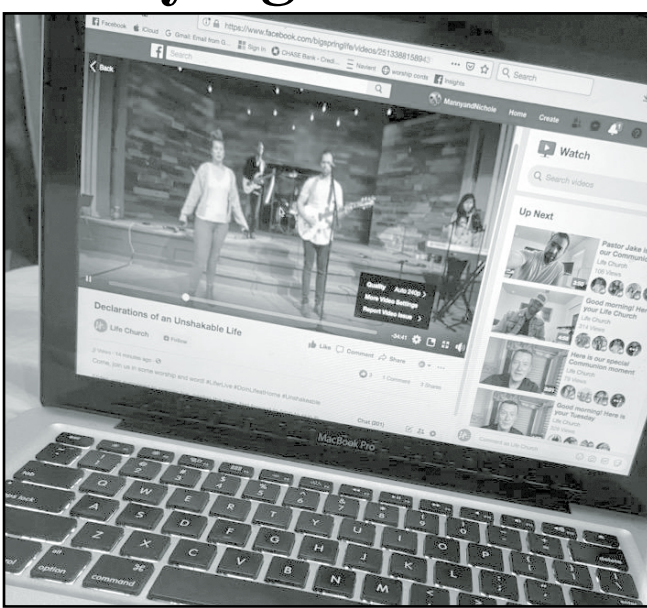
Moses told Joshua in Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." And Psalm 56:3 is the first Scripture I ever learned as a child: "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

We can only go through this storm with our hand in the hand of the Man from Galilee. Trust Him, His name is Jesus and He hasn't lost control and nothing has taken Him by surprise. Remember: He is never late, and the hardest thing we have to do is wait. So wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and He let strengthen your heart, and give your peace in the midst of this storm.

Staying connected through technology

Community Report Photo

Sunday services are looking a little different for many churches locally and across the nation. Many churches have moved to online services as we work together trying to slow the spread of the virus. While service is looking different, the ability to worship God and "gather" in His name has not been stopped. Let us know how you and your family are taking part in Sunday services by emailing your photos to editor@bigspringherald.com or post them to the Big Spring Herald Facebook page. Let the community know how to get connected to your church or simply to other believers.



CHURCH

Continued from Page 6

accusations, and chaos let's please take the time to sit down and thank the good Lord for giving us a chance to be still and learn how to be human again!

I'm scared; everyone is scared. This is a new territory for everyone. I just wanted to reach out and tell you I love you all and still believe God has a plan. *I Peter 5:7—"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."*

Also, wash your hands!

Only one Sunday morning worship service will be held on March 29 through Facebook Live and will be broadcast as normal over KXCS-105.5 FM at 11 a.m.

You may mail prayer requests and offerings to the church at 400 Scurry Street, Big Spring, TX 79720, or give offerings online through our "Tithely" app, also available through our church website. Please check our Facebook page to find ministry and activity updates.

First United Methodist Church is located just off Gregg Street at the corner of Fourth and Scurry in downtown Big Spring.

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".

Because of the national emergency caused by the Coronavirus most of the activities of the church are postponed for the next few weeks.

For more information on any activity, please visit the website at www.fumcbs.com or phone the church office at 432-267-6394.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church, LCMS

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

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive 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.

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., you can also catch us on our Facebook page for a Facebook Live the service begins at 7 p.m. We will have a Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service at 7 p.m. on April 10th. We will have our Eggstravangza on Saturday, April 11th from 10 till noon. Bring your kids and join us! Our Easter Service will be on April 12th at 10:30 a.m.. Please come and join us.

Bo Vizcaino 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 AM 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.

Life Church

During this time of limited gatherings, as we do our part to slow the spread, we are thankful for the ability to connect with others through technology. Life Church meets Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and while the limitations are in place, we will continue to hold service through Live Stream on our website and through Facebook. This week Pastor Kevin will continue his series, "Revealing the Father's Heart." All are welcome to join in worship and service.

Online Wednesday night services kicked off March 25 and will continue each week taking place at 7 p.m.

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 Street.

For more information go to www.golifechurch.net or follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bigspringlife>.

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, April 5 - As we deal with the impact of the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) Our Sunday morning worship service will be held at 10 a.m. live on Facebook/CCCBigSpring Connect with us

as you can expect biblical teaching and preaching, genuine loving fellowship and live spirit filled praise & worship. We would love the opportunity this Sunday to share what God has for you, and get to know you better.

Ways to give- We have had some inquires of ways to give since the coronavirus is hitting closer to home. Here are some ways you can give. (1) Text it to 84321 and look for church name Cornerstone Covenant Church. (2) Mail it to P.O. Box 1770 Big Spring, Texas. (3) Push it www.cccbigspring.org (4) Drop it by the church located at 706 East 12th Street.

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 9:00AM, 11:00AM and Wednesday at 7:00PM for worship services.

CCC is located at 706 East 12th Street. For office hours or other questions please contact our Administrative Office at 432-264-0015 or email us at info@ccbigspring.org. You can also find us at facebook.com/CCCBigSpring or visit us at www.cccbigspring.org if you would like more information.

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Worldwide virus infections top 500,000, economic toll rises

By COLLEEN LONG and DAVID RISING

Associated Press

Italy has reported 6,153 new coronavirus infections, pushing the global total over half a million, based on a count kept by Johns Hopkins University.

Italy now has 80,539 cases, almost as many as China. Italy's Civil Protection Agency reported 662 deaths on Thursday, bringing the country's death toll to 8,165, which is the highest in the world.

THIS IS A BREAKING NEWS UPDATE. CHECK BACK SOON FOR MORE INFORMATION. THE PREVIOUS STORY IS BELOW.

The number of coronavirus infections closed in on a half-million worldwide Thursday, with both Italy and the U.S. on track to surpass China, and a record-shattering 3.3 million Americans applied for unemployment benefits in a single week in a stark demonstration of the damage to the world's biggest economy.

Health care systems in Europe and New York buckled under the strain, with Spain's death toll climbing to more than 4,000.

In the U.S., an unprecedented \$2.2 trillion economic rescue package to help businesses, hospitals and ordinary Americans make it through the crisis cleared the Senate and is expected to be voted on in the House on Friday. The plan would dispense checks of \$1,200 per adult and \$500 per child.

At least 2.8 billion people, or more than one-third of the Earth's population, are under severe travel restrictions. But the head of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, scolded world leaders for wasting precious time in the fight against the virus that has already killed more than 22,000 people and infected over 480,000, thrown millions out of work and ravaged the world economy.

"The time to act was actually more than a month ago or two months ago," he said Wednesday. "We squandered the first window of opportunity. ... This is a second opportunity, which we should not squander and do everything to suppress and control this virus."

In India, where the country's 1.3 billion people are under orders to stay at home, untold numbers of them are now out of work, and many families have been left struggling to eat.

"Our first concern is food, not the virus," said Suresh Kumar, 60, a bicycle rickshaw rider in New Delhi. He said he has a family of six who rely on his daily earnings of just 300 rupees, or about \$4. "I don't know how I will manage."

South Africa planned to lock down at midnight. The country recorded more than 700 cases of COVID-19, the highest on the continent.

In the United States, where deaths passed 1,050 and about 70,000 people were infected, the damage from the widespread economic shutdown was made plain when the number of people applying for unemployment benefits last week was nearly five times the old record, set in 1982.

A political battle, meanwhile, raged between those demanding urgent action for a long siege against the pandemic, like New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, and President Donald Trump.

Trump has expressed hope churches could return to normal by Easter on April 12, and grumbled that "our country wasn't built to be shut down" — apparently concerned that the outbreak's devastating effects on financial markets and employment will harm his re-election chances. Democrats say Trump is putting the economy ahead of the health and safety of Americans.

"I'd like to say, let's get back to work next Friday," said Joe Biden, the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination. "That'd be wonderful. But it can't be arbitrary."

In Brazil, the country's governors are defying President Jair Bolsonaro over his call to reopen schools and businesses, dismissing his argument that the "cure" of widespread shutdowns is worse than the disease. As of Thursday, the country had more than 2,500 cases and 59 deaths.

New York has emerged as a virus hotspot. The city's mammoth convention center is being turned into a hospital. The state recorded more than 350 deaths.

Spain has become the country in Europe where the outbreak is spreading the fastest. On Thursday, the Health Ministry reported nearly 8,600 new infections and 655 deaths, bringing the total cases to over 56,000 and more than 4,000 fatalities — second only to Italy's death toll of about 7,500.

Health Minister Salvador Illa sought to assure Spaniards that government measures to slow the virus were working, telling Parliament that the rises had been smaller than in previous days and "indicate a changing trend that brings us to think that we are entering a phase of stabilization."

In Italy, doctors and nurses begged the government to provide more masks, gloves and goggles and urged the public to understand how important onerous social distancing measures really are. Scientists say stopping just one person from getting

the virus means scores of others will not become infected down the road.

"Help us help you," Dr. Francesca De Gennaro, who heads a small medical clinic in Italy's hard-hit Bergamo region, wrote in an open letter.

The rate of increase in Italy has slowed slightly, noted Dr. Hans Kluge, the head of the WHO's European office. He said officials hope to soon figure out whether lockdown measures in numerous countries have worked.

Germany has had a high number of infections at more than 39,000 people, but just 222 deaths — which has widely been attributed to early and aggressive testing, among other factors.

On Thursday, Lothar Wieler, the head of Germany's Robert Koch disease control center, said the country now has the ability to test 500,000 people a week, perhaps the greatest capacity in the world.

European Union leaders were holding their third summit in three weeks on the virus to manage the havoc it is wreaking on their 27 economies. As the number of deaths in Europe soared past 12,000, Spain extended a state of emergency that will allow it to impose broader lockdowns, while French President Emmanuel Macron launched "Operation Resilience," a military-backed response to the crisis.

France began evacuating infected citizens from the northeastern hotspot of Alsace using a special high-speed train.

Britain ordered 10,000 ventilators, working with engineers from Dyson. The government wants to increase its supply of the breathing machines from 8,000 to 30,000.

For most people, the coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia and death.

So far, more than 115,000 people have recovered from the virus, according to a running count kept by Johns Hopkins University.

China's cases have slowed, with only 67 new cases reported, all recent arrivals.

The leaders of the Group of 20 largest economies held a special video conference to better coordinate a response to the outbreak, amid criticism that the world's wealthiest countries have not taken cohesive action. The conference was chaired by Saudi Arabia's King Salman.

Long reported from Washington, Rising reported from Berlin.

Congress' relief bill would vastly expand unemployment aid

NEW YORK (AP) — With record-high numbers of Americans seeking unemployment benefits after losing their jobs because of the coronavirus, Congress is set to significantly enhance the program.

The \$2.2 trillion rescue package nearing final approval will, for four months, add \$600 a week to standard unemployment benefits, which vary by state. It also provides funding for states to let people collect their payments immediately, eliminating a one-week waiting period. And it adds 13 weeks of coverage for people who have exhausted their existing jobless benefits.

Perhaps most significantly for a large swath of America's workforce, the legislation for the first time makes gig workers, independent contractors, the self-employed, people with limited work history and part-time workers eligible for unemployment benefits.

Such short-term measures are meant to shore up a system that wasn't designed to cope with a surge of people suddenly thrown into the ranks of the unemployed.

Nearly 3.3 million Americans applied for unemployment benefits last week, according to government figures released Thursday — almost five times the previous record set in 1982.

Among the people being hit hardest by layoffs as businesses have shut down across the country are employees of restaurants, hotels, airlines and retailers. Business activity at such companies has plummeted or vanished altogether as much of America stays home to help contain the spread of the virus. Incomes of taxi and ride-hailing drivers have cratered as passengers have all but disappeared.

Brian Alectine, who drives for Lyft and Via in New York City, stopped picking up passengers a week ago out of fear that he would contract the virus. He is holding out hope that he will be able to receive unemployment benefits. But even so, he worries that he may need financial aid before payments kick in.

Alectine must still pay \$350 a week to rent his car, along with rent on the apartment he shares with his wife, their 4-year-old daughter and his mother-in-law.

"I know April 1 my landlord is going to text me and ask me if the money is ready, so I'm very worried about those things," he said.

Besides the expansion of unemployment benefits, the legislation provides aid for vulnerable workers

in other ways, too. For many households, there will be a one-time direct payment of \$1,200 per adult, plus \$500 per child. There are also incentives for employers to keep workers on the payroll, including tax breaks. Small businesses that receive loans under the package won't have to repay money they use to pay employees.

Congress has acted much more quickly to provide aid to workers than it did during the Great Recession. Unlike the aid that Congress provided a decade ago, the current rescue package will provide substantial assistance to workers who have lost their jobs and is intended to enable them to keep up with fixed expenses.

The Century Foundation, a progressive think tank, estimated in a study that up to 11 million workers could benefit, depending on how many lose their jobs. The foundation said the weekly \$600 supplement would more than double the benefits currently available to unemployed people.

And economists at Goldman Sachs calculate that for the average worker, who earns about \$1,200 a week, the enhanced weekly benefit should fully replace their lost wages. And for lower-income employees of restaurants and hospitals, it should provide more than their usual salaries.

Still, economists caution that it won't be enough to support their previous levels of spending or prevent a deep recession.

"You've got to get that cash to households to meet those bills for food, shelter, and medicine," said Jeffrey Bergstrand, a professor of finance at Notre Dame. But, he added, "this is not a stimulus package. It's to provide liquidity and ensure against deeper damage and forestall the possibility of depression."

Jade Apisuk, who was laid off from his job selling wine and liquor to hotels in and around Walt

Disney World, said the extra money will be a "huge help."

"It means I will be able to buy groceries and freeze them," said Apisuk, who lives in Orlando, Florida. "My No. 1 priority through this it just to keep food and shelter available."

Apisuk said he was able to apply for unemployment benefits early Tuesday morning after first trying Monday, when the website kept crashing. He said he would receive \$275 a week from the state. That amounts to just 20% of his lost wages and is barely enough to cover his usual grocery bills. He has told his two sons that they will not be getting haircuts since they aren't going to school anyway.

Megan Greene, an economist and senior fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, said some of the impact of the benefits will be limited by the fact that many state unemployment systems are swamped with applicants. The flood of applications could delay thousands of jobless workers from being able to obtain aid. Congress has already approved legislation providing \$1 billion to states to help them administer the program. But that will take time to have an impact.

One other criticism is that the onetime checks will go only to those Americans who have filed a tax return this year or in 2019.

Josh Bivens and Heidi Shierholz, economists at the progressive Economic Policy Institute, calculate that roughly 30 million people, including senior citizens and those with very low incomes, don't file tax returns.

That means "that in order to get this aid, they will have to file tax returns during this pandemic," the economists wrote.



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Worship: 10:30am

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Supper: 5:30pm
Bible Study: 6:30pm

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Pair of Howard softball teammates make their future college commitments



Courtesy Photos/Tony Claxton (claxtonphotography.com)

Pictured above left: Infielder Treyana Timai slides into second base during a win against Laredo from early March. Pictured above right: Outfielder Emily Magana makes an acrobatic diving catch during her freshman season as a Lady Hawk.

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

One of the most prestigious NJCAA softball programs in the nation sent two more sophomores on their way to new four-year universities this week where they will continue their softball careers. After spending two years at Howard, Emily Magana and Treyana Timai will have two years of eligibility left when they arrive on their new campuses in the fall.

Emily Magana is a playmaking outfielder who is not afraid to give up her body to make a play on the ball in the field. Magana has made several diving catches during her time at Howard that had caught the eye of some NCAA coaches. The 2020 Howard left-fielder has committed to continue her athletic and academic career next fall at Carson-Newman University.

Carson-Newman plays in the South Atlantic Conference (SAC) and is usually one of the top teams in the conference annually. They had compiled an overall record of 14-4 this season before the COVID-19 situation cut the season short. The Lady Eagles will be a great spot for Magana to bring her strong defensive talent to and she will also be able to improve in her performances at the plate.

"She's a very good defensive player so I think that's how we definitely used her," Howard head coach Kelly Raines said. "She definitely had a lot of grit and made a lot of diving catches so I always felt that she was going to make a play if we needed her to make a play."

This past season, Magana had only 32 at-bats and was able to compile a .250 batting average by collecting eight hits, 12 runs scored, and just one run batted-in. Those stats do not tell the whole story though, because Magana also brought her competitive attitude to the diamond every single time her cleats stepped onto the vivid green grass of the field.

"She's a feisty, scrappy player and one that the other team would recognize so I was happy that she was on our team versus the other team," Raines said.

On the other hand, Timai will be taking her talents to Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU). ENMU is an up-and-coming Division II Lone Star Conference program under second-year Head Coach Kira Zeiter. Timai will bring a strong bat and excellent fielding skills to the Lady Greyhounds when she joins them in the fall.

Timai finished this past shortened season with only 17 at-bats but put up an eye-popping batting average (.529). The infielder with the strong bat added 10 runs batted in, three doubles, and three home runs to finish out her 2020 season and career at Howard. The Vista, California, native will be extending

her softball career farther and Raines knows what she will bring to her new squad.

"She's very powerful when it comes to her hitting and I think that's definitely what attracted them to her," Raines said.

While they were not the top players at Howard during their time there, this pair of former Lady Hawks will be suiting up next spring for a pair of NCAA Division II programs. The duo will now be on almost complete opposite ends of the country from each other, but their junior college roots will always be intertwined.

Raines has the ultimate confidence in her players and knows that they will be making an influence on their new teams in their new hometowns.

"I think they can both go in and make an impact," Raines said.

In a time of sports uncertainty, this pair of Lady Hawks know where they will be suiting up for the next two years. Once they are allowed back on the field, the duo will immediately be looking to make an impact.

NCAA Men's Basketball Top 25 (Final Season Poll)

Ranking	Team	Overall	Points	Prev
1	Kansas	28-3	1623	1
2	Gonzaga	31-2	1547	2
3	Dayton	29-2	1505	3
4	Florida State	26-5	1381	4
5	Baylor	26-4	1337	5
6	San Diego St.	30-2	1279	6
7	Creighton	24-7	1154	7
8	Kentucky	25-6	1118	8
9	Michigan St.	22-9	1023	9
10	Villanova	24-7	1011	11
11	Duke	25-6	990	10
12	Maryland	24-7	924	12
13	Oregon	24-7	892	13
14	Louisville	24-7	768	15
15	Seton Hall	21-9	727	16
16	Virginia	23-7	586	17
17	Wisconsin	21-10	539	18
18	BYU	24-8	537	14
19	Ohio State	21-10	459	19
20	Auburn	25-6	453	20
21	Illinois	21-10	263	21
22	Houston	23-8	179	22
23	Butler	22-9	165	24
24	West Virginia	21-10	159	22
25	Iowa	20-11	109	25

RECEIVING VOTES:

Stephen F. Austin (78), East Tennessee State (66), Providence (63), Michigan (62), Utah State (36), Saint Mary's (33), Penn State (21), Arizona (7), Rutgers (6), Richmond (6), New Mexico State (4), USC (4), Texas Tech (3), UCLA (2), Vermont (2), Utah (1), Purdue (1), Belmont (1), Liberty (1)

NCAA Women's Basketball Top 25 (Final Season Poll)

Ranking	Team	Overall	Points	Prev
1	S. Carolina	32-1	746	1
2	Oregon	31-2	724	2
3	Baylor	28-2	676	3
4	Maryland	28-4	654	4
5	UConn	29-3	642	5
6	Louisville	28-4	588	6
7	Stanford	27-6	560	7
8	NC State	28-4	543	8
9	Mississippi St.	27-6	505	9
10	UCLA	26-5	501	10
11	Northwestern	26-4	394	12
12	Arizona	24-7	385	13
13	Gonzaga	28-3	359	11
14	Oregon State	23-9	321	14
15	DePaul	28-5	298	15
16	Kentucky	22-8	283	16
17	South Dakota	30-2	259	17
18	Texas A&M	22-8	246	19
19	Florida State	24-8	239	18
20	Indiana	24-8	194	20
21	Iowa	23-7	174	21
22	Princeton	26-1	163	22
23	Missouri State	26-4	121	23
24	Arkansas	24-8	97	24
25	Arizona State	20-11	31	25

RECEIVING VOTES:

TCU (11), Ohio State (10), Boston College (6), Marquette (5), Rutgers (4), Florida Gulf Coast (3), Texas (2), Iowa State (2), Boise State (2), Duke (1), Central Michigan (1)

Tom Brady over Jameis Winston easy decision for Buccaneers

By FRED GOODALL

AP Sports Writer

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — The decision to pass Tom Brady in free agency was a no-brainer for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

That's not to suggest a lot of thinking and planning didn't go into it.

In snaring the six-time Super Bowl winner, who signed a two-year, \$50 million contract that's fully guaranteed, the Bucs also pulled the plug on trying to develop a talented and much younger Jameis Winston into a championship quarterback.

The first overall pick from the 2015 draft, the 26-year-old Winston has been wildly inconsistent over the first five seasons of his career. There were flashes of brilliance on the way to becoming Tampa Bay's all-time leading passer, but also a league-leading 111 turnovers that hindered the team's prospects for success.

Brady, who'll turn 43 in August, has been one of the best ever at protecting the ball, leading the Patriots to nine Super Bowl appearances, 13 AFC championship games and 17 division titles in 20 seasons with New England.

Bucs coach Bruce Arians and general manager Jason Licht are confident Brady can still play at a high enough level to not only end Tampa Bay's 12-year playoff drought, but win another Super Bowl — or two.

"He is a Buccaneer today not for what he has done in the past, but for what we know he can accomplish here in the near future as well," Licht said. "We know that Tom is going to have a transformative effect in our locker

room, and he is going to demand the best out of himself, his teammates and anybody that is around him."

Three factors that made it an easy decision to seek Brady as a replacement for Winston:

BALL PROTECTION

Winston led the NFL with 5,107 yards passing in 2019. He also threw for 33 touchdowns and 30 interceptions to become the first 30-30 player in league history. Opponents returned a record seven interceptions for TDs last season and scored 112 points off his league-high 35 turnovers overall.

Brady has never thrown more than 14 interceptions in a season. His 1.79 career interception percentage is the second-best of all time behind Aaron Rodgers among quarterbacks with at least 2,500 pass attempts. He's thrown just 27 picks total while throwing for nearly 13,000 yards and 85 touchdowns the past three seasons.

Winston's interception percentage was 4.8 last season, hiking his career mark to 3.5.

HE WINS ... A LOT

Brady's .774 regular season winning percentage ranks first in the Super Bowl era among quarterbacks with at least 50 starts. With 249 victories overall, including playoffs, he's won almost as many games in two decades as the Bucs have won (273) in the franchise's 44-season history.

Winston topped 4,000 yards passing in three of his five seasons in Tampa Bay, but that didn't translate to team success. He was 28-42 as a starter and produced just one winning record, 9-7 in 2016, which wasn't good enough to make the playoffs.

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office support with a variety of administrative activities and related tasks. General office support consist of: answering incoming calls and routing calls to appropriate person/department, greet visitors and announce to appropriate person, maintain office equipment. Assist with maintaining and developing The District's Record Management System. Communication will include District staff, member and customer city staff, general public and local, state and federal agencies.

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Annie's Mailbox

Compulsive Religious Behavior Causing Conflict

Dear Annie: I am concerned about several of my six siblings. We were brought up very strictly, and we experienced shame if we missed church or sinned. We're all adults with kids of our own now. Over the years, several siblings and their spouses have become obsessively religious. It's their drug. No amount is enough. They practice Catholicism compulsively, and religious conversation is infused into daily conversation. For them, it's about practicing religious rules and expectations, more than the spiritual meanings behind the behaviors. They often cannot answer why

they do their rituals but know they must. They ask strangers if they went to church that day and what affiliation they are. They embrace only people of their faith. They avoid anyone else. They seem to need the "spiritual high" from attending church: When they travel, finding a church is a source of anxiety.

Many of their children (my nieces and nephews) do not participate. Because my siblings feel that they have failed as parents, and they are in a constant state of fear their children will go to Hell.

They have become dysfunctional. They've lost their personalities to this disorder. What causes this? Are they filling a void with religion? Is it low self-esteem and fear?

What can others do when too much of a good thing turns obsessive-compulsive by all clinical and professional definitions, but they see it as "growing in one's faith"? -- Outside the Bubble

Dear Outside the Bubble: Indeed, virtually anything can become toxic in large enough doses. It sounds as though your siblings may suffer from scrupulosity -- which the International OCD Foundation defines as a "subtype of OCD in which the person's obsessions have a religious or moral theme" -- or another kind of OCD.

You can express your concern, citing all the troubling behaviors that you mentioned in your letter to me. They'll

likely write you off. But saying your piece might bring you some measure of peace.

Beyond that, I strongly encourage you to find a support group such as those organized by NAMI (<https://www.nami.org/find-support>) or Families Anonymous (<https://www.familiesanonymous.org>). You can find more information about OCD and relevant resources at <https://iocdf.org>. While you cannot change their behavior, you can find a way to maintain serenity even in the face of their dysfunction.

Dear Annie: You gave excellent advice to "Desperate Stepdad." As a 76-year-old alcoholic with 39 years of sobriety, I've been around the block a few

times regarding this type of situation. The one thing you should have mentioned to him is that until his wife realizes she is an enabler and takes action, the situation with his stepson will never change, no matter how diligent he is with his endeavors. -- AA in NY

Dear AA: I appreciate your sharing the hard-won wisdom. The following reader had some additional tips for "Desperate Stepdad."

Dear Annie: "Desperate Stepdad" could get some immediate relief in considering these facts:

- 1) His stepson is in no way capable of a job or self-help now. Let that go.
- 2) His wife likely feels so guilty and so dis-

tressed as to lose all logic. She needs love, not anger, nagging or threats.

3) If his wife won't go to Nar-Anon, Stepdad still should. They could arrange an intervention for his wife. Once she sees love and support, and learns what to do, she will likely "join the team" and act effectively to both help her son and restore her marriage. If Stepdad will step up to help save his family, his reward will be great. -- Old Social Worker

Dear Social Worker: I appreciate the expert insights and am glad to print them. Thanks for writing.

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

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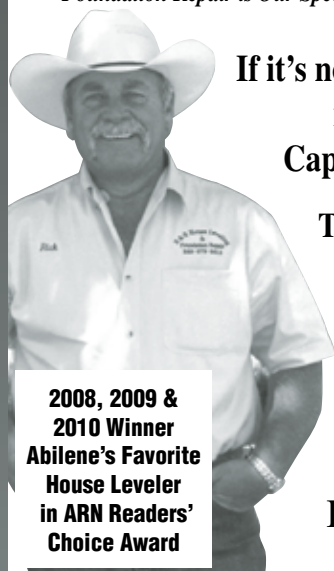
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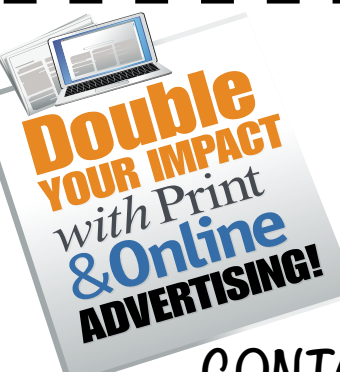
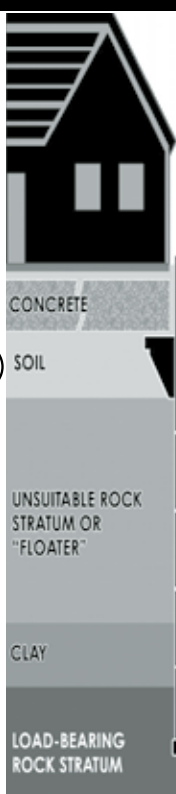
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

By HOLIDAY MATHIS with this



Venus and Jupiter Agree!

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When was the last time you heard no one you had to answer to, saw no issue that needed solving, felt no pressure at all? It's been a while. Go where you can create the illusion of tranquility.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Social awkwardness can be blamed for 90% of today's stress. Whatever you do to make interactions easy will improve the day for anyone within a 10-yard radius of you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The exceptional work you do may be awarded in the future, but it's the daily stuff that really deserves mention and yet may not get it for a while. Know your value.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The usual work you do may, unfortunately, go unmentioned. You know the quantity and scope of what you've done, and that gives you a private feeling of accomplishment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In sports and in life, people tend to root for the underdog. In business, not so much. When it comes to money, many need to have a confident feeling they'll be getting theirs back. Use this concept to your advantage.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There will be something to cut out, many things to organize and several things to align. All the magic

comes from focusing in a particular direction.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Making other people change is hard and, ultimately, unsatisfying. Changing yourself though -- that usually feels like soul sunshine. Start with small things. You'll be surprised how they add up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The sun burns the sky, not because it's angry but because things naturally combine in this way. Make a point to be around the people who won't be offended by what you do naturally.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you know something is better than the thing that other people are accepting, you feel it's your duty to speak up, and you will speak up today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Life is a privilege that you can't feel past a few years inside it. It's not our fault that our brains get used to the status quo, although we might be able to feel better about things by simply repeating this: Life is a privilege.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What is truth? You'll grapple

graces to get exactly what you want. CANCER: The ones you want to keep close are the ones like you -- true, sweet and loyal. LEO: Pictures and mementos will be a springboard to broaden your sense of who you are. VIRGO: You may have the sense that a relationship is overwhelming. So, where should you start? Start where you are, with what you have. LIBRA: You choose your moments. Knowing when

to approach is crucial. SCORPIO: Your timing is impeccable; approach with aplomb. SAGITTARIUS: The end of one love story is the beginning of a lasting friendship saga. CAPRICORN: Your moods are a beautiful landscape of emotion. Anyone who can go with that is golden. AQUARIUS: Money shouldn't be an issue, and if it is, there's a problem. PISCES: The fun thing about relationships is the discovery part.

clude feeling your way through.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You've anticipated this moment. It's probably nothing like what you thought it would be. But here you are, at this age in this time, and it's the most interesting thing to witness.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 27). You are important to a community, and you'll take this responsibility to the next level. Many prosper because of your decisions. Your heart will be open for different kinds of love to drop in, and drop it will, like rain in a garden. You'll make plans and serve goals. There will be a steep learning curve in regard to how those goals are best served. Capricorn and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are 8, 20, 14, 4 and 18.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: ARIES: Your stubborn qualities will be your saving grace. TAURUS: You'll keep your object of desire so long as you don't worry too much about it. GEMINI: Use your charming social

graces to get exactly what you want. CANCER: The ones you want to keep close are the ones like you -- true, sweet and loyal. LEO: Pictures and mementos will be a springboard to broaden your sense of who you are. VIRGO: You may have the sense that a relationship is overwhelming. So, where should you start? Start where you are, with what you have. LIBRA: You choose your moments. Knowing when to approach is crucial. SCORPIO: Your timing is impeccable; approach with aplomb. SAGITTARIUS: The end of one love story is the beginning of a lasting friendship saga. CAPRICORN: Your moods are a beautiful landscape of emotion. Anyone who can go with that is golden. AQUARIUS: Money shouldn't be an issue, and if it is, there's a problem. PISCES: The fun thing about relationships is the discovery part.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Aries and Gemini are a fire and air combo that can burn out quickly if they don't have enough to do. Activities and projects give these two a reason to connect, collaborate and fall in love. If these two meet in a class or at work, they've got it made. But if they meet in another way, the best thing to do is introduce a problem that needs solving into the relationship. This is how they will bond.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Bidding Quiz

Below are seven common bidding sequences. Where the question mark appears, indicate whether you consider partner's last bid as forcing (compelling you to bid again) or non-forcing (permitting you to pass). If partner's last bid merely invites you to bid again, treat that bid as non-forcing.

	North	South
1.	1♦	2 NT
	?	
2.	1♣	1♥
	1♠	?
3.	1♥	1 NT
	3♥	?
4.	Pass	1♠
	2♣	?
5.	1♥	2♦
	2♥	2 NT
	?	
6.	1♦	1♥
	1♠	3♥
	?	
7.	1♣	1♥
	2♣	2♦
	?	

1. Forcing. In Standard bidding, South's two-notrump bid shows 13 to 15 points, balanced distribution and stoppers in the other three suits. Such a hand opposite an opening bid obviously should offer excellent prospects for game. North is therefore required

to bid again, even with a minimum opening.

2. Non-forcing. North may have minimum values for his opening bid, and South may have minimum values for his response, so South is not compelled to bid again. If North wanted to force partner to bid again, he would have to jump in a new suit (a jump-shift).

3. Non-forcing. Here South is being strongly invited to continue bidding, but he may pass with only six or seven points instead of the eight to 10 he might have had for the initial notrump response.

4. Non-forcing. Ordinarily, the bid of a new suit by responder is 100% forcing, but when a player has passed originally, the change-of-suit principle no longer applies.

5. Non-forcing. South should have 11 or 12 points, making his two-notrump bid merely invitational.

6. Forcing. Without prior discussion, a jump bid by the responder is forcing to game, but many players now treat a jump bid by responder in a suit previously bid as invitational.

7. Forcing. Just as the one-heart response forced North to bid again, so does the mention of another new suit. North may have minimum values and be tempted to pass if he prefers diamonds to hearts, but he is nonetheless required to honor South's forcing bid.

Tomorrow: Sure thing.
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SUDOKU

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

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

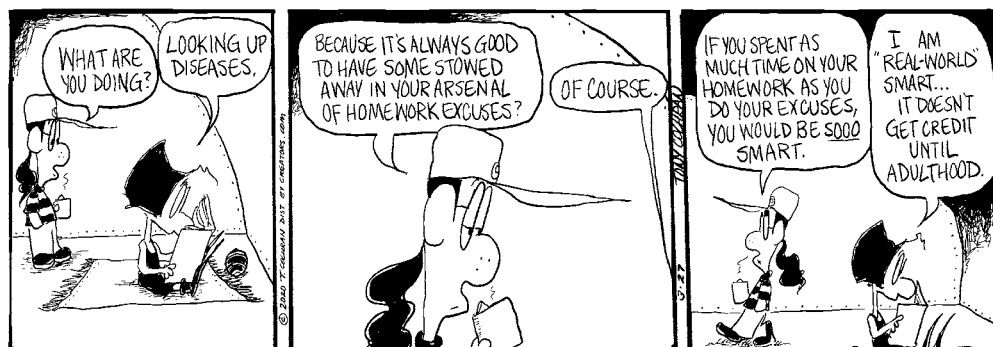
ANSWER:

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Dr. Young	Ready Jet	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Bones	SportsCenter	NBA: The Jump	Horned Double T	Prisoner of Azkaban		Gold Rush
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS	Noticias	News	Creation	Euromaxx	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Bones	SportsCenter	Wimbledon Classic Matches	Mavericks			Gold Rush
6:PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatlón Estados Unidos (SS)	News	M:25	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Burgers	Bones	ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches	Sports			Gold Rush
6:30	Wheel		Big Bang	ET		News	For the		M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Burgers	Bones	ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches	Sports			Gold Rush
7:PM	Shark Tank	Ringo	WWE Friday Night SmackDown	MacGyver		The Blacklist	News	Wash	Andy G.	Charmed		Movie: The Dark Knight Rises, Tom Hardy (DVS)	ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches	The Blitz TMS Pre. Globe			Gold Rush
7:30							Issues4	Hoover	Andy G.			Movie: The Dark Knight Rises, Tom Hardy (DVS)	ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches	The Blitz TMS Pre. Globe			Gold Rush
8:PM	(:01) 20/20	Amor eterno		Hawaii Five-0	La Doña (SS)	Dateline NBC	Light of Southwest	Somewhere South	G. Pyle	Dynasty			ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches	Pregame			Gold Rush
8:30													ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches	Pregame			Gold Rush
9:PM		Sin miedo a la	FOX 24 News at 9	Blue Bloods	Operación Pacífico		Light of Southwest	Little Wash- ington	Heroes	Seinfeld			ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches	To Be An- nounced			Gold Rush
9:30													ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches	To Be An- nounced			Gold Rush
10:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Amanpour- Co	C. Burnett	black-ish			ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches				Gold Rush
10:30	Jimmy Kim- mel Live!	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show- Colbert	(:35) ¡Qué momento!	Tonight Show	Words of Heritage	Wash	Perry Mason	Gold			ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches				Gold Rush
11:PM		Contacto	Mod Fam										ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches				Gold Rush
11:30	Nightline	Deportivo	Funny	James Corden	De'siones	Seth Meyers	Shofar	Hoover	Twi. Zone	Gold			ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches				Gold Rush
12:AM	Extra	Destilando amor	Two Men	Faith	Holly	Late-Lilly	The Is	Light of Southwest	Little Wash- ington	Mannix			ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches				Gold Rush
12:30	Mel Robbins	Como dice el dicho	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Little Wash- ington	Mannix				ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches				Gold Rush
1:AM	Paid Prg.		Pawn	Paid Prg.	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Little Wash- ington	Mannix				ESPN Original Documentaries	Wimbledon Classic Matches				Gold Rush

ANDY CAPP



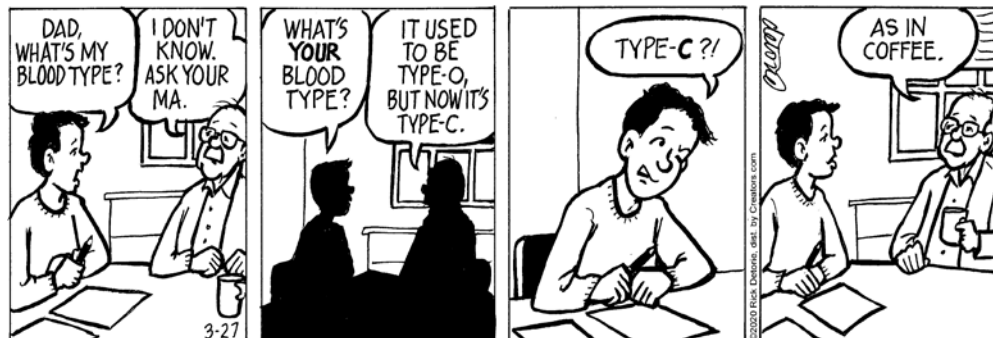
AGNES



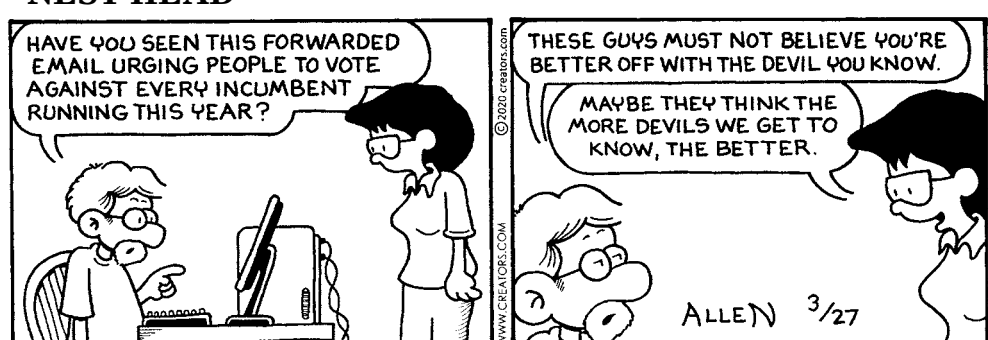
ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Friday, March 27, the 87th day of 2020. There are 279 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On March 27, 2006, Al-Qaida conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui (zak-uh-REE-uhs moo-SOW'-ee) testified at his federal trial that he was supposed to hijack a fifth airplane on Sept. 11, 2001, and fly it into the White House. On this date: In 1513, Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon (hwahn pahns duh LEE'-ohn) sighted present-day Florida. In 1933, Japan officially withdrew from the League of Nations. In 1945, during World War II, General Dwight D. Eisenhower told reporters in Paris that German defenses on the Western Front had been broken. In 1958, Nikita Khrushchev became Soviet premier in addition to First Secretary of the Communist Party. In 1964, Alaska was hit by a magnitude 9.2 earthquake (the strongest on record in North America) and tsunamis that together claimed about 130 lives. In 1968, Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin (gah-GAH'-rhn), the first man to orbit the Earth in 1961, died when his MiG-15 jet crashed during a routine training flight near Moscow; he was 34. In 1973, "The Godfather" won the Academy Award for best picture of 1972, but its star, Marlon Brando, refused to accept his Oscar for best actor. Liza Minnelli won best actress for "Cabaret." In 1975, construction began on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, which was completed two years later. In 1977, in aviation's worst disaster, 583 people were killed when a KLM Boeing 747, attempting to take off in heavy fog, crashed into a Pan Am 747 on an airport runway on the Canary Island of Tenerife (ten-uh-REEF'). In 1980, 123 workers died when a North Sea floating oil field platform, the Alexander Kielland, capsized during a storm. In 1990, the U.S. began test broadcasts of TV Marti

to Cuba, which promptly jammed the signal. In 2005, Pope John Paul II delivered an Easter Sunday blessing to tens of thousands of people in St. Peter's Square, but the ailing pontiff was unable to speak and managed only to greet the saddened crowd with a sign of the cross. In a live Internet interview with the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Michael Jackson declared himself "completely innocent" of child molestation charges, and said he was the victim of a conspiracy. Ten years ago: Lights were switched off across the world from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. local time to mark Earth Hour, an event organized by the World Wildlife Fund to highlight concerns about global warming. President Barack Obama announced he would bypass a vacationing Senate and name 15 people to key administration jobs using recess appointments. Mao Asada of Japan beat Olympic champion Yuna Kim of South Korea to win her second title at the World Figure Skating Championships, held in Turin, Italy. Five years ago: Italy's highest court overturned the murder conviction of Amanda Knox and her ex-boyfriend in the 2007 slaying of Knox's roommate, bringing to a definitive end the high-profile case that had captivated trial-watchers on both sides of the Atlantic. U.S. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., announced he would retire the following year. One year ago: A Wisconsin man, Jake Patterson, pleaded guilty to kidnapping 13-year-old Jayme Closs and killing her parents; the plea spared the girl from the possible trauma of having to testify at his trial. (Patterson was sentenced to life in prison.) Facebook said it was extending its ban on hate speech to prohibit the promotion and support of white nationalism

and white separatism. **Today's Birthdays:** Actor Julian Glover is 85. Actor Jerry Lacy is 84. Hall of Fame racer Cale Yarborough is 81. Actor-director Austin Pendleton is 80. Actor Michael York is 78. Rock musician Tony Banks (Genesis) is 70. Rock musician Andrew Farriss (INXS) is 61. Jazz musician

Dave Koz (kahz) is 57. Movie director Quentin Tarantino is 57. Rock musician Derrick McKenzie (Jamiroquai) is 56. Rock musician Johnny April (Staind) is 55. Actress Talisa Soto is 53. Actor Ben Koldyke is 52. Actress Pauley Perrette is 51. Singer Mariah Carey is 50. Rock musician Brendan Hill (Blues Traveler) is 50. Actress Elizabeth

Mitchell is 50. Actor Nathan Fillion is 49. Hip-hop singer Fergie is 45. Jazz musician Tia Fuller is 44. Actress Emily Ann Lloyd is 36. MLB catcher Buster Posey is 33. Actress Brenda Song is 32. Pop singer-songwriter Kimbra is 30. Actress/Taylor Atelian is 25. Actress/R&B singer Halle Bailey is 20. Classical crossover singer Amira Wil-

lighagen (TV: "Holland's Got Talent") is 16. **Thought for Today:** "Fear grows in darkness; if you think there's a bogeyman around, turn on the light." — Dorothy Thompson, American journalist (1894-1961).

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Overstuff
- 5 Place for seeds
- 9 Send over the moon
- 14 Laughter sampler
- 15 Avenger of Julius
- 16 Hannah or Hall
- 17 Barely at all
- 18 High birth-rate state
- 19 Marble cake pattern
- 20 Smooth out metallic edges
- 22 Orders of business
- 24 OUT IN
- 27 Spanish promenade
- 30 Assembled multitude
- 31 Mingling with
- 35 Half a blackjack
- 36 Traditional bridal shower
- 38 "You bet!"
- 40 OUT IN
- 43 Demonstrator's recommendation
- 44 Scant
- 45 Outskirts of Liverpool
- 46 What "natural" natural gas lacks
- 47 Sponsor of many sports championships
- 49 Not windy
- 51 IN OUT
- 54 Prankster's successes
- 57 Relieved (from)
- 61 Scrimshaw material
- 62 LP designation
- 65 Unreliable one
- 66 Cole Porter rhyme for "knowingly"

DOWN

- 1 Neighbor of Niger
- 2 Mechanical method
- 3 Model for Captain Hook
- 4 Moon lander
- 5 Elfin blue toon
- 6 Rye relative
- 7 Plan for after work
- 8 Teve's toast
- 9 '50s Ford division
- 10 Banned backyard missile
- 11 Parched
- 12 Banks of fashion fame
- 13 Desks with six edges
- 21 Corporate makeovers
- 23 Geothermal energy source
- 25 Rev counter
- 26 Robbins' Shawshank pal
- 27 Literature Nobel
- 28 Sharp of smell
- 29 Ginza-based watchmaker
- 32 Twilight series author
- 33 Focus of fazines
- 34 Extinguish
- 37 Icy biopic of 2017
- 39 Out-of-state levy
- 41 Video gamer's rep, e.g.
- 42 Thing on a string
- 48 Sneezysounding snack
- 50 Hole in embroidery
- 52 Remark of remembrance
- 53 One in a pantheon
- 54 Reagan role as a Rockne rusher
- 55 Type of playing field
- 56 Zodiaco beast
- 58 The other Spanish surrealist
- 59 Low hand
- 60 See 64 Down
- 63 Forest's Oscar role
- 64 With 60 Down, balsam, e.g.

INS AND OUTS by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com





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