

BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY EDITION,
 JULY 15, 2020

Curb-Side Testing
COVID-19
 Coronavirus
 Big Spring Urgent Care
 1700 W. FM 700 (432) 264-1911

VOLUME 115, NUMBER 249

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75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND EDITION



Public hearing on zoning change introduced opportunity for new housing

Covid-19, public hearing, ratification of new BSEDC Director lead Tuesday's meeting

By **NATALIE PERMENTER and AMANDA DUFORAT**

A public hearing regarding a zone change - from a single family dwelling to town home - kicked off Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

A collection of about 14 signatures was gathered in a recent door-to-door canvas from homeowners in the area who are against the zone change, according to Nick Ornelas, a Big Spring resident.

"Some of the things brought up is that the builder is looking to profit and only benefit themselves; it could bring in crime and dangerous traffic, probability of raising taxes, and other issues," Nick Ornelas, Big Spring resident, said.

According to Ornelas there has been increased traffic in that vicinity and on the property along with illegal dump-

ing taking place. A partial owner of the land spoke at the meeting explaining the plans for the property in question.

At this time no money has been invested into the property at this time, but the owners are looking at getting the process started in order to rezone before proceeding with plans. According to Rashee Patel, the plan is to leave the school the way it is for the time being and place a town home on the property. The money invested is going into the town home structure and placing roads by the school for access.

"We don't want to put any money in since the zoning has not been done yet,"

she said. The property was purchased about three years ago by Patel and her father.

After hearing the presentation from Mrs. Patel, Councilman Raul Marquez and Councilman Terry McDaniel, along with Councilwoman Gloria McDonald did express encouragement for Patel and her father to develop the area and to look into possible creation of single family homes that would allow for more stability

in the area. "I am all about development on the northern sector of town ... we should see more development coming back

See **CITY**, Page 3



COVID-19 Update:
Active Cases: 37
Confirmed: 67
Tests performed: 2061
Pending: 32
Negative tests: 1962
Recovered: 29
Deaths: 1

Cars, Stars, Handlebars 2020 has been cancelled.

Howard County is under a burn ban. High fire danger.

Stay hydrated when outdoors with the extreme heat temperatures.

Wash your hands, social distance, wear a mask.

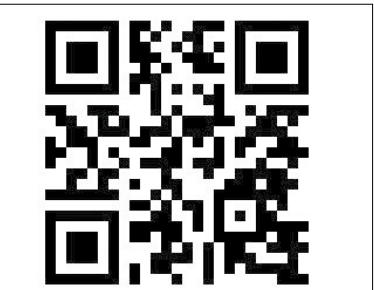


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 Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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Unofficial Democratic Runoff results are in

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

The Democratic Runoff Election took place Tuesday. The Unofficial totals are as follows, as reported by the Howard County Elections office:

Early voting had 77 people cast a ballot which was a .5% turnout. There were 64 in-person votes cast on election day which is a 1.55% turnout and 122 ballots were cast by mail. Ballots by mail accounted for a 69.56% turnout.

In the Democratic Runoff there were a total of 163 ballots cast.

"We had about one-fourth of the voters turnout who had voted a Democratic ballot in March," Jodi Duck, Elections Administrator said. "The ballots cast were split almost in half between in person and by mail."

On the ballot were two positions: Democratic Railroad Commissioner and Democratic Senator. In the Democratic Senator race, Royce West lost to Mary Hegar; Hegar had 51.27% of the vote. In the Railroad Commissioner race Chrysta Casteneda took the win with 72.08% over Roberto R. "Beto" Alonzo.

"Of course we always want a higher turnout, but runoff numbers are always low and with the current events we are happy to have the turnout we received," Duck said.

To contact the Big Spring Herald, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.

BSPD release information on fatality at Comanche Trail Park

Special to the Herald

On July 13, 2020, at approximately 5:35 p.m., Big Spring Police Department officers were sent to the Comanche Trail Park in regards to a major accident.

Upon arrival it was determined that Aaron Rodriguez, a Hispanic male, 40 years of age, had been driving a white 2001 GMC Sierra Pickup southbound on Golf Course Rd. from Belvedere with no other occupants in the vehicle.

The preliminary investigation indicates Rodriguez to have traveled off

See **BSPD**, Page 3



Courtesy photo/KBYG
Big Spring Police Officers investigated a traffic accident at Comanche Trail Park on Monday afternoon.

Thank a Veteran Day

By **KELLI STOLLE**
 WTVAHCS Public Affairs

Each month, Big Spring recognizes the 15th of the month as Thank a Veteran Day. This is an opportunity to raise awareness and remind the community about not only the sacrifices that were made for our freedoms, but highlight those who made those sacrifices.

Each month, the local West Texas VA Medical Center shares a veteran's story with our community in order to highlight the brave men and women who have given so much for our nation. This month, our featured veteran is Manuel Chavarria Jr., who served in the U.S. Army..

Manuel Chavarria Jr., "Sgt. Chevy", is a native to Big Spring, Texas, who enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1968, foregoing his walk across the stage to receive his high school diploma. Encouraged and supported by his wife of 46 years, Karla, Sgt. Chevy walked the stage last year - earning his high school diploma.

Chavarria served in the infantry from 1968 through 1971, serving in Vietnam.

See **VETERAN**, Page 3



Courtesy image/Kelli Stolle
Veteran Howard Armstrong
 U.S. Army
 Korean War
 Combat Engineer -
 Heavy Equipment Operator



Courtesy image/KBest Media

"WHEREAS, the City of Big Spring, in recognition of the courage, honor, devotion and sacrifice of our service men and women, hereby establish the 15th day of every month as "Thank a Veteran Day", and this day shall forever stand as a day to honor those that have selflessly served each citizen of this Great Nation."

The Big Spring Herald stands in support of all Veterans. The above is part of a proclamation presented by the Big Spring City Council in honor of everyone that has served our Country. Please take a moment today to thank a Veteran. This proclamation was presented by Mayor Larry McLellan on behalf of the Big Spring City Council on Tuesday, April 10th, 2018. God Bless our veterans!

If you know a veteran we should recognize, please send the information to editor@bigspringherald.com.

THIS ISN'T OUR FIRST RODEO

You may have met Expedition Royalty Co. for the first time when we sponsored the Big Spring Rodeo or the Howard County Fair this fall. Our commitment to Howard County runs deep. We have made deals for thousands of acres here, and our people have decades of experience serving Permian Basin mineral rights owners. We're proud to be part of the community, sponsoring and participating in big events year-round. But we're even prouder to be your mineral advisor in the Permian every day. Get in touch today for a free evaluation of your property and its mineral rights.



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OUR DOWNTOWN BIG SPRING OFFICE WILL BE OPEN SOON!

Obituaries



Gerald (Jerry) Edward Choate

Gerald (Jerry) Edward Choate, age 86, of Big Spring, Texas passed away Monday, June 29, 2020. He was born Thursday, Aug. 24, 1933 in Phoenix, Arizona to the late Samuel Curtis Clifton and Marie Elizabeth (McElroy) Choate.

Survivors include his daughters: Karen

Choate of Odessa, Cathy Choate of Odessa and Nancy Studzinski of Waynesville, MS; sisters: Dene Sheppard of Big Spring, Texas and Sharon Pearson of Robert Lee, Texas; as well as grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

No services have been scheduled at this time.

Arrangements are with Acres West Funeral Chapel.

Aaron Rodriguez

Aaron Rodriguez, 42, of Big Spring died Monday, July 13, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Take Note

• The Life Center in Big Spring is helping moms and dads with a Diaper Day Giveaway! Call for a five minute phone appointment and a pickup time for free diapers, wipes and formula. 432-606-5041.

• The Big Spring YMCA is now offering an opportunity for the youth to get out and enjoy a little outdoor activity, in the evening hours. Starting Tuesday night, the Big Spring YMCA will be opening the water slides in the evening. The schedule will be as follows: Tuesday through Thursday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday from Noon until 2 p.m. and Sunday from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

• The Senior Supper Club has come out of hibernation to resume its normal Tuesday evening dinners. The Come-One-Come-All group will be meeting on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and orders will be placed around 5:30 p.m. after much socializing from a distance. The Senior Supper Club is an informal group of folks from Howard County who meet at least weekly and sometimes more for Dutch-Treat food at different area restaurants. Sometimes the group also meets for cards, dominoes, or desserts and fellowship. For more information, contact Colonel. Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com.

• St. Vincent de Paul will be open the following dates beginning May 2020. Food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and other assistance will take place the third Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Both distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building.

• Maranatha Baptist Academy located at 903 Johnson Street, in Big Spring, Texas, is currently open and taking applications for enrollment for 20-21 School year. We are a faith-based Christian Academy and use the individualized Accelerated Christian Education Curriculum for Kindergarten through 12th grade, out of Hendersonville, Tennessee. July 20, is our startup date and applications will be accepted year-round. Someone will take your call for information at 432-213-1046. Please leave a message and we will get back with you.

• Isaiah 58 will be open on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. further notice, for the safety of their volunteers and those they serve. Those receiving services are asked to enter the parking lot on 9th Street and exit onto Scurry. Please bring a form of identification with you to pick up food. Masks are required and those receiving food boxes will need to place boxes in their own vehicles until further notice. All these efforts are being put in place to help

slow the spread and ensure the safety of those volunteering and those receiving services.

• Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Economic Development Corporation and Leading EDG understand the serious challenges our country faces as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. In response to this crisis, the Small Business Administration ("SBA") has created new programs geared towards financial relief for affected businesses.

The Economic Injury Disaster Loan ("EIDL"), is currently available, but only by applying directly to the SBA via the online portal: <https://www.sba.gov/disaster/apply-for-disaster-loan/index.html>. It only takes a few minutes to fill out.

Another option, The Paycheck Protection Program, ("PPP"), has been approved by Congress. If you want to apply for the "PPP" loan contact your local lender.

Information changes daily so make sure you are checking the SBA website regularly.

• City of Big Spring announces water office number change. Effective immediately, the temporary phone numbers used to contact the Big Spring Water Office are no longer in effect. Customers can contact the water office at the following phone numbers:

1. Pay online at www.mybigspring.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 305 South Johnson. Staff checks the box daily. Pay over the phone by calling the Water Office directly at the phone numbers listed above. Water Office staff are available to assist customers Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5:00 PM, by phone or in the office located at 305 South Johnson Street.

• 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 432-267-1628, for more information. All City pavilions and playground structures will remain closed until further notice. For any questions or concerns, call 432-264-2401.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1200 block of Mobile. No transport was required.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block of Magnolia. No transport was required.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2000 block of Rickabaugh. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1400 block of Blebird. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. No transport was required.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 800 block of Comanche Trail. No transport was required.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the area of College and S. Monticello. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of State Street. One person was transport-

ed to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

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

• **STRUCTURE FIRE** was reported in the 100 block of NW 8th Street. The fire was contained.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **ROBERT ANTHONY GREGG**, 30, of 1017 Stadium Avenue, was arrested on a charge of hindering officers discharging official duties.

• **THEFT OF FIREARM** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.

• **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 1500 block of Lincoln Avenue; 1400 block S. Johnson Street.

• **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported in the 800 block of Rosemont Street.

• **ASSAULT** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80; in the area of 17th and Owens.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.

• **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the area of Gregg and FM 700.

• **ACCIDENT MAJOR** was reported in the 2700 block of Wasson Road.

• **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1200 block of Mobile; 4000 block of Dixon; 1000 block of N. Main Street.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 88 inmates at the time of this report.

• **MICHAEL HEATH ANDERSON**, 43, was arrested by Glasscock County on a charge of burglary of a building.

• **MICHAEL HEATH ANDERSON**, 43, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of operate unregistered motor vehicle, no drivers license when unlicensed.

• **ROBERT ANTHONY GRIEGO**, 30, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of hindering officers discharging official duties.

• **ALVARO ADEMAR MORALES**, 17, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of evading arrest detention with vehicle.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

• Celebrate Recovery meets at First United Methodist Church Youth Hall, 400 Scurry, from 6-8 p.m. Hurts, habits and hang-ups. Leave message for Joyce Webb at 325-212-860

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

• Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group.

The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane.

For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

HERALD

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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
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Heritage Museum
of
Big Spring
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306459

303011



VETERAN

Continued from Page 1

A private and humble man, Sgt. Chevy works hard in the background to help in this community in any way that he can. You will most likely find him working at the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial cleaning, picking up trash, or mowing to help keep his favorite spot looking its finest.

When asked why he does everything he does for the memorial he says,

"I took the oath to serve my country, it was for the rest of my life. I do this to serve and honor those who lost at war."

If you see him out and about be sure to thank him for his service and for helping us preserve the freedoms we enjoy today.

BSPD

Continued from Page 1

of the main roadway and while his head was out of the driver's side window, struck a tree causing significant head trauma.

Unfortunately, Rodriguez succumbed to the injuries sustained.

Officers requested the assistance of the Department of Public Safety for scaling the accident scene.

This is an ongoing investigation and there is no further information available at this time.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

into Big Spring," Marquez said. "My suggestions would be to look into smaller homes in the area to keep it home owner property."

As the public hearing concluded, no decision was made on the zone change and Councilmembers moved into other items on the agenda.

As part of the City Manager's report, John Medina - acting City Manager - informed the Council of the upcoming Large Item pick up for District 1. Last month marked the conclusion of the first half of Large Item pick up and numbers reflected a successful program thus far.

"We will start at 7 a.m. and hope to conclude by 5 p.m. It has proven to be a successful program and we are happy to continue it," Medina said. "Working this project we are very cautious. We have a survey on our landfill in August and we will see where we are capacity wise. I feel we are in good shape, but that survey will let us know."

According to Medina, if all goes correctly and on track the new landfill will open next summer.

Medina also informed the Council a date for the Reliever Route Grand Opening has been set for Aug. 5 and will be by invitation only. The new Splash Pad, at the Russ McEwen Aquatic Center is set to open today and all are invited to stop by and check it out.

Permission to Apply for the Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant was approved. This grant will reimburse the replacement of 50% of body armor and will also help buy a few more vests. It passed unanimously.

The Council heard the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 6 of the Big Spring Code of Ordinances entitled "Cemeteries, Parks and Recreation," Article 5 "Moss Creek Lake" Sec. 6-111 "Admission Regulation, subsection B 'Admission and Permit Fees' to increase various fees. After a discussion, Council passed with a vote of 7-0.

The Council heard the final reading of the resolution approving a New Infill Development Incentive Program. This program is designed to facilitate private investment toward the construction of single-family housing within the City Limits of Big Spring and encourage economic development that benefits the health, safety, and welfare of the Big Spring Community.

After a lengthy discussion and a few amendments for clarification, the Council passed the

ordinance. This will be directed to new builds and will eliminate remodeling of existing structure.

Council members discussed the possibility of forming a committee to recommend a public art ordinance, with discussion led by Councilman Marquez.

"Sometimes when you have conflict you have good things come out of it," Marquez said. "When we had people here talking about the bridge and what was happening and it got me to thinking what if we had something in place so maybe this doesn't happen again, or why don't we embrace the arts. It was a good idea; good message just things kind of went a different way."

After looking at other communities and how they have addressed similar action the idea of a committee was proposed. The idea would be another avenue to help promote Big Spring.

"I think it's a great thing when you have people coming to Big Spring and we can promote our art projects. It might get people to come back..." Marquez said.

After discussing a few different avenues and possibilities on how to approach the issue, the Council took to a vote to create an arts committee of seven members and application process to create an ordinance that best fits the City of Big Spring.

The Council voted to approve the motion with a 6-1 approval, with Mayor Thomason voting against the motion.

Other items on the agenda approved by the Council included:

- Receipt of City Attorney's Quarterly Report
- City Council minutes of regular meeting of June 23, 2020 special meeting of June 29, 2020
- Planning and Zoning Commission minutes of regular meeting of Feb. 18, 2020
- Vouchers for 06/26/2020, 07/02/2020, and 07/09/2020
- Award bid for Big Spring McMahan-Wrinkle Airpark Runway and Taxiway Lighting to B-C Company Inc. and bid for airpark perimeter road to DPR McHam, LLC
- Granted permission to apply for the Apache Tree Program Grant
- First reading of resolution approving investment policy of the City of Big Spring
- Ratified BSEDC's appointment of Executive Director Mark Willis after retiring into an Executive Session for

discussion. The Council voted unanimously to ratify the appointment.

• Final reading of resolution authorizing auction of surplus property to the highest bidder for cash

• Update on Covid-19 from Medical Advisor Dr. Steve Ahmed. Dr. Ahmed said the number of COVID cases in the state of Texas has gone up.

"We don't have many tools to contend the disease. The only tools we have are strict hand washing, social distancing and the mask," Dr. Ahmed said.

He went on to remind the council that 80% of the people with this virus are asymptomatic, 15% have symptoms of fever, cough, sore throat but are not critical and 5% get very ill and require hospitalization. He responded to an earlier question from Councilman Jim DePauw of why are the number up and the deaths down.

"The medications and technology had improved; we need rapid testing for everyone, a vaccine and working antivirals for things to get back to any kind of normal," Ahmed said.

• The Council heard the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 6 of the Big Spring Code of Ordinances entitled "Cemeteries, Parks and Recreation," Article 5 "Moss Creek Lake" Sec. 6-111 "Admission Regulation, subsection B 'Admission and Permit Fees' to increase various fees. After a discussion, Council passed with a vote of 7-0.

• First reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 12 of the Code of Ordinances entitled Miscellaneous to add new section 12-56 entitled Removal of the Mental State Element for offenses punishable by a \$500 fine or less.

Councilwoman Camila Strande commented that this ordinance would give code enforcement the ability to enforce fines after the warning letters. It passed by unanimous vote after a lengthy discussion.

• Budget and tax setting calendar. Though the city's revenues are down across the board except property tax due to the ongoing crises, the latest sales tax revenue figures were quite surprising.

"Sales tax is a very big and important revenue for us and we were all anxious to see what we received this month,

which will be for most of May and about six days of June, but mostly May," Don Moore, City Finance Director, said. "To our delight, it actually came up from last year. We were 3.55% above last year..." Moore went on to report with the exception of a couple of items that the city was down 4-8% in sales tax revenues compared to Midland which was down 29.5% - this all despite downturns due to COVID-19 and the lower oil prices.

Moore went on to discuss COVID related grants and said the biggest one is the CARES Grant which came to approximately \$1.5 million and the city was prepaid 20% of that.

July 25 is the deadline for the certified value from the tax appraiser and Aug. 11 is the public hearing on the proposed budget and at this time, the City Council may call for a public hearing on the proposed tax rate and adopt a proposed tax rate if they plan to adopt above the NNR.

To contact the Big Spring Herald, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331 to speak to a staff writer.

Subscribe today, call 263-7331

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Ronnie Lester Nunley, 83, died Saturday. Visitation will be at 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Tuesday with Vigil services at 7:00 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with Graveside at 2:00 PM Wednesday at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa.

Edith Baker, 72, died Saturday. Visitation will be from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Coahoma Cemetery.

Jose Hernandez, 102, died Monday. Visitation will be 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Thursday with a Vigil service at 7:00 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Gwen Collins, 77, died Sunday. Visitation will be 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Wednesday. Funeral service will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Aaron Rodriguez, 42, died Monday, July 13, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Weather



Today: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 106. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 77. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east after midnight.

Thursday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 103. North wind 10 to 15 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 76.

Friday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 101.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 75.

Saturday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 100.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 74.

Sunday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 100.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 74.

Monday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 100.

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

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ACE
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Masks for kids? Schools confront the politics of reopening

By JOCELYN GECKER

Associated Press

On one side are parents saying, let kids be kids. They object to masks and social distancing in classrooms this fall — arguing both could hurt their children's well-being — and want schools to reopen full time.

On the other side are parents and teachers who call for safeguards that would have been unimaginable before the coronavirus pandemic: part-time school, face coverings for all or a fully online curriculum.

The impassioned tug-of-wars have put educators in the middle of an increasingly politicized debate on how best to reopen schools this fall, a daunting challenge as infections spike in the U.S.

"Don't tell me my kid has to wear a mask," said Kim Sherman, a mother of three in the central California city of Clovis who describes herself as very conservative and very pro-Trump. "I don't need to be dictated to to tell me how best to raise my kids."

With many districts still finalizing how they may reopen, President Donald Trump has ramped up pressure to get public schools back in business, threatening to withhold federal funding from those that don't resume in-person classes. Without evidence, he's accused Democrats of wanting schools closed because of

politics, not health.

Similar mudslinging is happening at school board meetings, in neighbors' social media clashes and in on-line petitions.

Some parents have threatened to pull their children — and the funding they provide — if masks are required.

Hillary Salway, a mother of three in Orange County, California, is part of a vocal minority calling for schools to fully open with "normal social interaction."

If the district requires masks for her son's kindergarten class, she says, "I don't know if my son will be starting his educational career in the public school system this fall."

She wants him to feel free to hug his teacher and friends and can't imagine sending him to a school where he'll get reprimanded for sharing a toy. She started a petition last month urging her district to "keep facial expressions visually available" and helped organize a protest of over 100 people outside the district office, with signs saying, "No to masks, Yes to recess," and "Let me breathe."

Dozens have echoed her beliefs at Orange County Board of Education meetings, where the five-member elected body is majority Republican and is recommending a full return to school without masks or social distancing. The board makes rec-

ommendations but not policy, and its supporters argue that face coverings are ineffective, give a false sense of security and are potentially detrimental.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says masks may help prevent infected people from spreading the virus to others and urged students and teachers to wear them whenever feasible. Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom has ordered Californians to wear them in public.

Brooke Aston Harper, a liberal parent who attended a particularly spirited board meeting recently, said it was "horrifying" that speakers were "imposing their small worldview on all of us."

"I'm not looking for a fight, I just want us to take precautions," said Harper, whose children are 4 and 6.

She also started a petition, calling on schools to follow state guidelines that include masks for teachers and students, constant social distancing on campuses and other measures.

"For each school board, the question is going to be: What does our community want, and who is the loudest?" she said.

Many parents, educators and doctors agree that the social, educational and emotional costs to children of a long shutdown may outweigh the risk of the virus itself, even if they don't agree on how to reopen safely.

AMAC filler files

It's the naked truth

Social distancing gave way to social nudity in Russia when a group of restaurant workers shed their clothes to show that the country's lockdown has left them desperate for a paycheck, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC]. The owner of the Funky Food restaurant, located in the town of Kazan, sanctioned the discretely photographed demonstration by 20 of his employees. He summed it up with the pithy statement:

"We are naked because we are left with nothing." In view of the COVID crisis, the workers who took part in their photo, which was posted on social media, wore face masks. And, they sported "carefully positioned plates, cups, saucers, bottles, bar stools and napkin holders," according to the Reuters news agency.

The mother of invention

They tell us not to touch our faces when we're out and about to avoid the coronavirus pandemic, but it's easier said than done, says the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC].

It's an instinctive reflex for most of us. And that's what sparked 15-year-old Max Melia of Bristol, England to invent a wristwatch, which he calls the Vybpro, that vibrates and buzzes when you move your hand toward your face. Both of his parents tested positive for COVID-19 and that was his motivation for his gadget.

He's now in the process of raising funds in order to go into production and he is optimistic that the Vybpro can be available in the fall at an estimated price of \$111.

Environmental Protection Agency announces \$6 billion in new funding for water infrastructure projects

Special to the Herald

DALLAS — Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the 2020 notice of funding availability under its Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program, including funding for the new State infrastructure financing authority WIFIA (SWIFIA) program. These funding programs accelerate investment in critical water infrastructure through innovative and flexible financing that can support diverse projects in both large and small communities. This year's funding will provide up to \$6 billion to support \$12 billion in water infrastructure projects while creating more than 35,000 jobs and improving public health and environmental protection in communities across the country.

"EPA's WIFIA loan program has become one of the most effective tools used in President Trump's efforts to upgrade our nation's infrastructure, create jobs and safeguard public health and the environment," said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler. "This new round of \$6 billion in funding comes in time to help communities that are trying to recover from the health and financial stress of the COVID-19 pandemic and, for the first time, includes funding expressly available to states."

To date, EPA has issued 24 WIFIA loans totaling \$5.3 billion in credit assistance to help finance \$11.7 billion for water infrastructure projects while creating 25,000 jobs—including eight WIFIA loans closed and one refinanced from March 2020

through June 2020. These recent loan closings will save ratepayers over \$1 billion compared to typical bond financing while supporting the financial health of vital water systems. This financial support came at a critical time as the federal government, EPA and the water sector worked together to help mitigate the public health and financial impacts of COVID-19.

This announcement marks the fourth round of WIFIA funding. This year's notice of funding availability prioritizes construction-ready projects in three areas: updating aging infrastructure; reducing exposure to lead and addressing emerging contaminants; and water reuse and recycling. The 2020 notice of funding availability builds upon the existing, active pipeline of WIFIA projects, which includes 49 projects in 19 states and D.C. For the first time, the agency will evaluate submitted projects using additional criteria that were developed to help clarify project and federal budgetary considerations. EPA will accept letters of interest from prospective WIFIA borrowers for 90 days after publication in the Federal Register.

EPA is also, for the first time, providing funds under SWIFIA. This new program, which was authorized by Congress as part of the America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018, offers low-interest loans to state water infrastructure programs (e.g., the State Revolving Funds) that then help finance needed water infrastructure projects in local communities. This round of funding will provide SWIFIA borrowers up to \$1 billion to support \$2 bil-

lion in water infrastructure projects. EPA will accept letters of interest from state water infrastructure programs for 60 days after publication in the Federal Register.

Background

Established by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, the WIFIA program is a federal loan and guarantee program at EPA that aims to accelerate investment in the nation's water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects.

WIFIA credit assistance can be used for a wide range of projects, including:

- drinking water treatment and distribution projects;
- wastewater conveyance and treatment projects;
- enhanced energy efficiency projects at drinking water and wastewater facilities;
- desalination, aquifer recharge, alternative water supply, and water recycling projects; and
- drought prevention, reduction, or mitigation projects.

EPA will evaluate proposed projects described in the letters of interest using WIFIA's statutory and regulatory criteria as described in the notice of funding availability. Through this competitive process, EPA will select projects that it intends to fund and invite them to continue the application process.

For more information about WIFIA and this funding announcement, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/wifia>.

Experiencing Big Spring KBYG announces winners

Courtesy photos

KBYG has been doing their part to help support local business and highlight Big Spring. Recently Erin Stone (pictured top photo below) received a one night stay at Hotel Settles along with a gift credit at Settles Grill/Pharmacy Bar; Tina Fitgibbons (pictured bottom photo below) received a \$100 gift card to GAZE Flowers and Gifts. Support local, Support Big Spring.



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Howard coaches react to NJCAA decision to push basketball season back to January



HERALD File Photos

Above left: Former Hawk Klay Brown blocks a shot during last season. Above right: Former Lady Hawk Jazzeem Bethea (13) goes up high for a rebound.

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sports Writer

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) have recently announced their plans to push the start time for all fall sports, including basketball, back to January. The move was expected and after a vote on Monday evening, the decision was finalized.

"Our greatest focus is and has been the best opportunities for our student-athletes," NJCAA President & CEO Dr. Christopher Parker said. "Through a unified effort from our Presidential Advisory Council, the Board of Regents, and leadership staff, our most recent plan of action provides a path that keeps our student-athletes competing at the highest level with proper safety measures in place. As we move forward as an association, we will continue to provide opportunities for our student-athletes, coaches, and all those involved with the NJCAA to be safe and successful."

Basketball season usually tips off in late October with plenty of out-of-conference games and some early-season tournaments. This year, the Howard men's and women's basketball programs will both play a shortened schedule (NJCAA is allowing 22 games) and will also have a lot more practice time with their new players.

The decision creates an increase in practice time for the programs in the fall. Both teams have a large group of new, incoming players that could benefit from the extended practice time. They will not have to worry about an upcoming game or the recovery from a previous night's contest. Instead, each player will be able to focus on building relationships with their teammates on the court and helping turn the overall team into a well-oiled machine.

While the Howard coaches, like many around the country, would prefer a normal season, they also understand that the health of their athletes is paramount and moving the season is the best possible solution for everyone during these uncertain times.

"We got it rained last Thursday that that would be the proposal," Raines said. "When we first got the proposal, I was a little bit surprised, but about two weeks earlier a group of juco coaches had put together a proposal to the NJCAA to move games back to January. And at that time, they seemed very interested. There's a lot of uncertainty going into the next month or two months and January seems like a time where things might be a whole lot clearer."

Lady Hawks assistant coach Meesha Wade added, "I wasn't surprised. I knew that they weren't going to allow us to play in the fall, so it wasn't a big shock to me."

Moving the season back had been rumored for a week or so beforehand and therefore was not a surprising decision.

Repercussions have continued to come down in the aftermath of the decision. Several programs, such as Odessa's women's team, have made the choice to forgo their basketball program for an entire year. Other schools, such as Angelina College, have shut down every sport for the next year and will not return to athletic competition until 2021-22.

The Howard Lady Hawks are directly affected by Odessa's decision because they will now have to find two more out-of-conference games to schedule. Most schedules are so Coach Diddle and Coach Wade will have their work cut out for them. Either way, expectations for the team have not changed and the Lady Hawks are expecting a strong season.

"(This doesn't change expectations) at all," she said. "This just gives us a lot more time to prep and get ready for the season."

Raines also seemed pleased with the practice guidelines that were put in place by the NJCAA. He knows that with the talent he has coming in for this next season, more practice time could mean the Hawks will be that much closer to a Region title and possibly the national tournament.

"Coach Cotten and I have worked really hard and we like our squad," Raines said. "We've got some really good players, some high character people so it's been a good last few months for us."

Raines is still looking to add two more players to his

roster for the next season and the NJCAA's decision has been helping in that regard. Since several schools around the nation have made the tough decision to cancel their entire seasons, there is now a pool of talented players without a team to choose from and talk to.

These are unique times that we are living in and the sports world has continued to be impacted by the surge of the coronavirus throughout the country. While the season has been pushed back and the games will not begin until the next calendar year, the hope is that by that time the country will be returning to normal and the season will be able to proceed as usual.

"I was talking with another coach in our league and we're both kind of excited about it," Raines said. "I think change is good."

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

Preseason High School All-American Football Team (MaxPreps)			
First Team Offense			
Position	Player	School	Committed To
QB	Demetrius Davis Jr.	North Shore (TX)	Auburn
QB	Caleb Williams	Gonzaga (D.C.)	Oklahoma
QB	Kyle McCord	St. Joseph's Prep (PA)	Ohio State
RB	TreVey Henderson	Hopewell (VA)	Ohio State
RB	Will Shipley	Weddington (NC)	Clemson
RB	Thad Franklin	Chaminade-Madonna (FL)	Miami
WR	Beaux Collins	St. John Bosco (CA)	Clemson
WR	Marvin Harrison Jr.	St. Joseph's Prep (PA)	Ohio State
WR	Shadrach Banks	North Shore (TX)	Texas A&M
TE	Brock Bowers	Napa (CA)	Undecided
OL	Landon Tengwall	Good Counsel (MD)	Penn State
OL	JC Latham	IMG Academy (FL)	Alabama
OL	Amarius Mims	Bleckley County (GA)	Undecided
OL	Tommy Brockermeier	All Saints (TX)	Undecided
OL	Kingsley Suamataia	Orem (UT)	Undecided
AP	Emeka Egbuka	Steilacoom (WA)	Undecided
AP	Tyler Buchner	Helix (CA)	Notre Dame
K	Andres Borregales	Chaminade-Madonna (FL)	Miami
First Team Defense			
DL	Korey Foreman	Centennial (CA)	Undecided
DL	J.T. Tuimoloau	Eastside Catholic (WA)	Undecided
DL	Jack Sawyer	Pickerington North (OH)	Ohio State
DL	Maason Smith	Terrebonne (LA)	Undecided
LB	Raesjon Davis	Mater Dei (CA)	LSU
LB	Jeremiah Trotter Jr.	St. Joseph's Prep (PA)	Clemson
LB	Terrence Lewis	Northwestern (FL)	Tennessee
LB	Dallas Turner	St. Thomas Aquinas (FL)	Alabama
DB	James Williams	American Heritage (FL)	Undecided
DB	Jaylin Davies	Mater Dei (CA)	Oregon
DB	Jakailin Johnson	De Smet Jesuit (MO)	Ohio State
DB	Clinton Burton Jr.	St. Frances Academy (MD)	Florida
AP	Billy Doman	Ryan (TX)	Texas
P	Tommy Doman	St. Mary Prep (MI)	Michigan
Second Team Offense			
Position	Player	School	Committed To
QB	J.J. McCarthy	IMG Academy (FL)	Michigan
QB	Tyler Macon	East St. Louis (IL)	Missouri
QB	Sam Huard	Kennedy Catholic (WA)	Washington
QB	Miller Moss	Mater Dei (CA)	USC
RB	Amari Daniels	Central (Miami) (FL)	Undecided
RB	Seven McGee	East (NY)	Oregon
RB	Brandon Campbell	Katy (TX)	USC
RB	Armoni Goodwin	Hewitt-Trussville (AL)	Auburn
WR	Jacorey Brooks	IMG Academy (FL)	Alabama
WR	Dominic Lovett	East St. Louis (IL)	Undecided
WR	Troy Franklin	Menlo-Atherton (CA)	Oregon
TE	Moliki Matavao	Liberty (NV)	Oregon
OL	Bram Walden	Saguaro (AZ)	Oregon
OL	Donovan Jackson	Episcopal (TX)	Ohio State
OL	Laurence Seymore	Central (Miami) (FL)	Miami
OL	Owen Prentice	O'Dea (WA)	Undecided
OL	Tristan Leigh	Robinson (VA)	Undecided
AP	DJ Harvey	Sierra Canyon (CA)	Virginia Tech
AP	Julien Simon	Lincoln (WA)	USC
Second Team Defense			
Position	Player	School	Committed To
DL	Brandon Buckner	Chandler (AZ)	Oregon
DL	Tyreak Sapp	St. Thomas Aquinas (FL)	Florida
DL	Tywone Malone	Bergen Catholic (NJ)	Undecided
DL	Tunmise Adeleye	IMG Academy (FL)	Ohio State
LB	Kendrick Blackshire	Duncanville (TX)	Undecided
LB	Aaron Willis	St. Frances Academy (MD)	Tennessee
LB	Landon Jackson	Pleasant Grove (TX)	LSU
LB	Power Echols	Zebulon B. Vance (NC)	North Carolina
DB	Xavian Sorey	IMG Academy (FL)	Undecided
DB	Ga'Quincy McKinstry	Pinson Valley (AL)	Undecided
DB	Kamren Kinchens	Northwestern (FL)	Miami
DB	Jason Marshall	Palmetto (FL)	Undecided
AP	Ja'Tavion Sanders	Ryan (TX)	Texas

Three Hawks named to All-Academic Team

Over the past week, the National Junior College Athletic Association has put together their All-Academic Teams for the 2019-20 season and three Howard Hawks made the list: Malik Brikat (First Team), Zach Cummings (First Team), and Tsotne Tsartsidze (Third Team).

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We are looking for an ambitious, creative, self-starter, to fill a staff writer role at the Big Spring Herald.

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Indesign and Photoshop are a plus, but will train the right person. We are looking for a creative, outgoing individual familiar with social media. Must be a self-starter, and be able to meet deadlines.

Individual will be responsible for several areas of coverage, from feature stories to hard news. Must have a flexible schedule.

Contact Amanda Duforat 432-263-7331 Ext. 230 for questions or to submit your resume at editor@bigspringherald.com.

Help Wanted

The Business Office at Big Spring Independent School District is looking for an Accountant with an accounting degree and a minimum of 2 years of experience. Please complete the application online at www.bsisd.esc18.net.

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Annie's Mailbox

Father/Son Rift Is Hurting All

Dear Annie: I am beside myself. I am tired and frustrated. I married my husband over 17 years ago. He is 11 years older than me. When we married, he had a teenage son. Shortly after we married, his son, in his senior year, decided to go live with his mother on the other side of the world. He would keep in touch with his dad by phone and visit once a year.

When my husband and I retired, we decided to move closer to his son, but we were still a long drive away. We gave up everything

to move there. My husband is in his 80s. He is not in good health. He can no longer travel the distance to see his son.

His son has a nice family with a couple of children and a good job. When we first moved here, they would come to visit on occasion. But now, it is far fewer visits. I have asked his son on several occasions to just call his dad, maybe once a week. But for some reason, he couldn't do that.

We send them gifts on all of their birthdays and special occasions. We never hear from them if they received

the gifts or if they liked them -- and there's never a thank-you note. Only after I would email them, asking if they received the items, did they respond. My husband has called his son several times and left messages. He never calls back.

I've watched my husband as he has cried several times over this situation. It pains my heart to see how this wears on my husband. When he was raising his son, his son was the world to him. Now, he feels his son hates him. Not a day goes by that he does not go into a tirade about his son's neglect.

He says he doesn't want anything to do with them. When he dies, he doesn't even want me to notify him. He made me promise to take his son out of our will when he dies. We have argued about this on several different occasions. I don't think he really means this. His son is his only living relative. I used to make excuses for his son, but I'm tired. I can't do it anymore. Help. -- At My Wits' End

Dear At My Wits' End: I am so sorry that you and your husband, and your stepson, are all going through this. Your stepson clearly has some animosity toward your husband that

needs to be addressed. Instead of addressing it head-on, and talking through the issues, he is avoiding his father to prevent having a relationship.

It's no wonder that he is doing that because your husband's response to his son's withdrawal was the same reaction. He said to cut him out of the will and to not even tell his son when he dies. Like father, like son.

The only way to stop this cycle is for the two of them to have an open and honest conversation about their feelings. Although it can be painful to talk about hurtful things,

once you do, it feels much better in the long run, and you can begin to understand the other person's point of view.

Encourage your husband to reach out to his son, one on one, and tell him how much not seeing his son has hurt him. Hopefully, they can work things out. To work through his resentment and hurt, your husband could always try therapy. It is easier to face emotions with a trained professional.

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

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By Steve Becker

Let's not be lackadaisical

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

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

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
5 NT	Pass	6 ♥	Pass
7 ♠			

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

There is an enormous difference between making seven spades vulnerable and going down one at that contract — 2,310 points at duplicate scoring, to be exact. So, if you're in seven spades, as in the present case, it stands to reason that you should try very hard to find the best line of play.

Let's first suppose you were lackadaisical about the matter. You'd probably win the club lead with the king and draw two rounds of trump, hoping for a 2-2 split, in which case it would be all over but the shouting. When East showed out on the second round, you'd stop drawing trump and play the A-K of hearts, planning to ruff one or two hearts in dummy and sew up the grand slam.

Sadly, if you played the hand this way, you'd quickly go down one when West ruffed the second heart. Bad luck, you could say, but let's take another look and see if you shouldn't have done better.

The proper line of play makes the contract. It does not depend on finding the trumps divided 2-2 or the hearts divided 3-3 or 4-2. After winning the club lead, ruff a club with the jack of spades, lead the four of spades to the seven, ruff a club with the king, lead the ten of spades to the queen and ruff the nine of clubs with your last trump, the ace.

Now lead a diamond to the king, draw West's last trump with the nine, and your work is done. The 13 tricks you score consist of three club ruffs in your hand, dummy's four trumps and the A-K of hearts, A-K of diamonds and A-K of clubs.

Tomorrow: East dons his thinking cap.
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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



Pluto Opposition to Cancer Sun

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can capitalize on the special connection you have with your fellow fire signs (Aries, Leo and Sagittarius) today, especially in a social or professional sense.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The flip side becomes a real possibility today. Relationships change suits; platonic relationships could turn romantic or professional or something else entirely as a fresh need inspires different behaviors.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The famous Dr. Martin Luther King speech says, "I have a dream." What it didn't say is, "I have money," nor, "I have a plan." Focus on the vision. It's the most important part now.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Because someone was forward enough to ask for the moon, you now get your slice of it. It's time to join the big thinkers and rule breakers again. A better future hangs in the balance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Indecision throttles creativity. When you make up your mind to make up your mind, the result will be change in rapid succession. Life will fuse with imagination.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The theme is: enjoying the ordinary. Chores are pleasant exercise. Errands are a chance to

connect with the people in your neighborhood. All is running

smoothly, something to appreciate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll sense that there's something new on the horizon and won't wait around for others to educate you about it. You'll read up, ask around and figure out what you need to know to get to the next place.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't punish yourself for having strong feelings of affection. They are inconvenient, but in a sense, you depend on your affection. Feeling tenderness and want of another person makes you more alive, more human.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You doubt the judgment of others, even when their judgment is liking you very much -- especially then, actually. Your doubt is ridiculous, but your modesty is better than any other alternative.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When it feels like you're running

against the wind, stop, turn around and put up a sail. It's scary to go where life blows you, and that's only because

you can't see the wonderful place you're going yet. You will love it there.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There are varieties of silence. Some are heavy and some float. There are silences that smile and silences that glow. You can fall in love with a certain kind of silence. Today will bring you a sample platter.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The sacred will call you near. You'll know it by its feeling, which will be hard to miss. The poet Wendell Berry writes, "There are no unsacred places; there are only sacred places and desecrated places."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 15). You think you know your favorite activities, but you'll have a whole new set of them after this year. The next 10 weeks show you adjusting to the world in a way that will bring you closer to your own heart. Your sunny outlook goes well with the environment you find

yourself in charge of as the year turns. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 33, 36, 1, 27 and 41.

ASTRAL OPPOSITION: The astral tug of war is on. Yesterday, it was the sun and Jupiter forming the opposition, and today it's the sun and Pluto. Astrological oppositions happen when two luminaries are 180 mathematical degrees apart from one another in an astrological chart. Astrologers believe that the opposition is among the most powerful astrological aspects after the conjunction.

Think of two children on a seesaw. They're as far apart from each other as they can possibly be, and yet they share a common center. Planets in opposition have contradictory agendas, yet there is still the possibility of finding balance in the middle. We on Earth may experience conflict and confusing push-pull feelings during oppositions. Opposites do attract, though sometimes one needs to call in a mediator to settle disputes. Remember that even as we oppose one another we are using each other as a balance. Without this configuration, no one would get to rise or fall, so there would be no ride. Vive la difference!

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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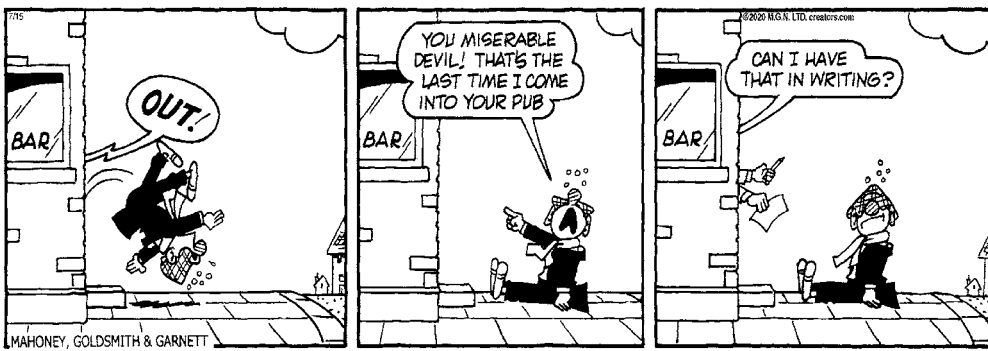
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	KWES15 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery		
5:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	For Such		Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Leonard Ni-moy (DVS)		UFC Live	18 Holes	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Expedition Unknown		
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS	Noticias	News	Freedom		Hap.Days	Burgers	Fam. Guy			UFC Fight Night: Kattar vs. Ige - Prelims	NFL Live	NBA Basket-ball	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
6:PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatlon EE. UU.	News	Cowgirl	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang			USL Soccer: 901 at Legion			WWE NXT	The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
6:30	Wheel		Big Bang	ET		News	Israel		M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang							The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
7:PM	United	Te doy la vida	MasterChef	Tough as Nails	Cennet (SS)	Chicago Med	Spy in the Wild		Andy G.	The 100	Big Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite						The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
7:30	United					Truth	Light of Southwest		Andy G.		Big Bang							The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
8:PM	Connors	Amor eterno	Ultimate Tag	Game On!	100 dias para enam	Chicago Fire	NOVA (DVS)		G. Pyle	Bulletproof	Big Bang							The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
8:30	House								G. Acres		Big Bang							The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
9:PM	S.H.I.E.L.D.	Como tu no hay dos	FOX 24 News at 9	SEAL Team	Enemigo intimo (SS)	Chicago P.D.	Light of Southwest	Secrets of the Dead	Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Movie: Kong: Skull Island, Brie Larson (DVS)	UFC Fight Night: Kattar vs. Ige	Documentar-ies	NBA Basket-ball			Movie: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, Emma Watson (DVS)	The First 48: Miami	Mysteries of Deep
9:30	ABC								Heroes	Seinfeld	Full							The First 48: Miami	Mysteries of Deep	
10:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Amanpour-Co	C. Burnett	black-ish	Conan			NFL Live				The First 48	Mysteries of Deep	
10:30	J. Kimmel	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Noticias	Tonight Show	Words of Dr. Wil	Spy in the Wild	Perry Mason	black-ish	Full							The First 48	Mysteries of Deep	
11:PM	Nightline	Contacto deportivo	Mod Fam	Funny	James Corden	100 dias para enam	Seth Meyers	Issues4	Twi. Zone	Gold	Conan	Movie: Kong: Skull Island, Brie Larson (DVS)	SportsCenter	E60	World Poker			The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
11:30	J. Kimmel																	The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
12:AM	Extra	Inocente de ti	Two Men	Simpsons	Holly	Caso	Late-Lilly	Jesus IS	NOVA (DVS)	Millionaire	Broke Girl		SportsCenter	E60	Tennis Clas-sics			The First 48	Expedition Unknown	
12:30	Mel Robbins	Papá a toda madre	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Secrets of the Dead	Mannix	Outdoor	Broke Girl		SportsCenter	UFC Fight Night: Kattar vs. Ige			Chrisley	The First 48: Miami	Mysteries of Deep	
1:AM	Legs, feet									Stay	Broke Girl		SportsCenter					The First 48: Miami	Mysteries of Deep	

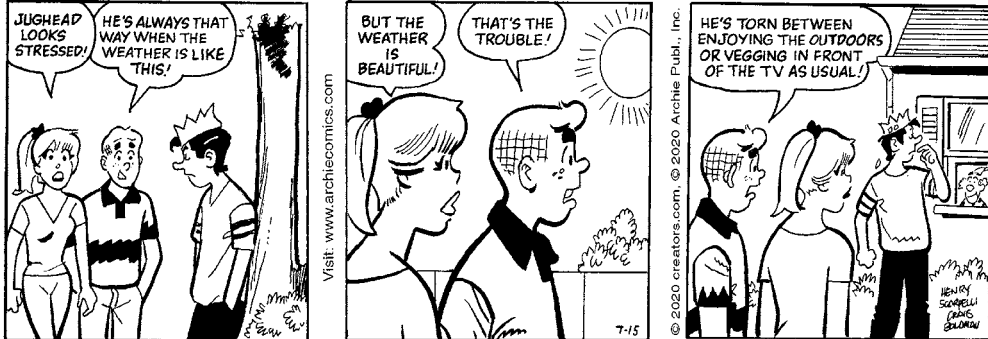
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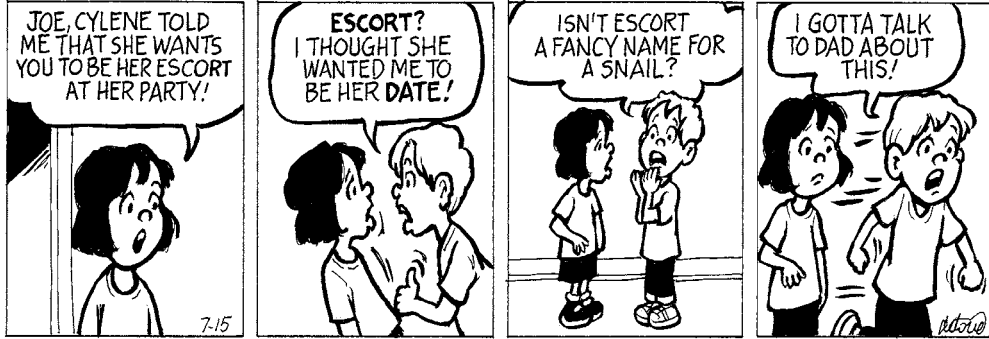
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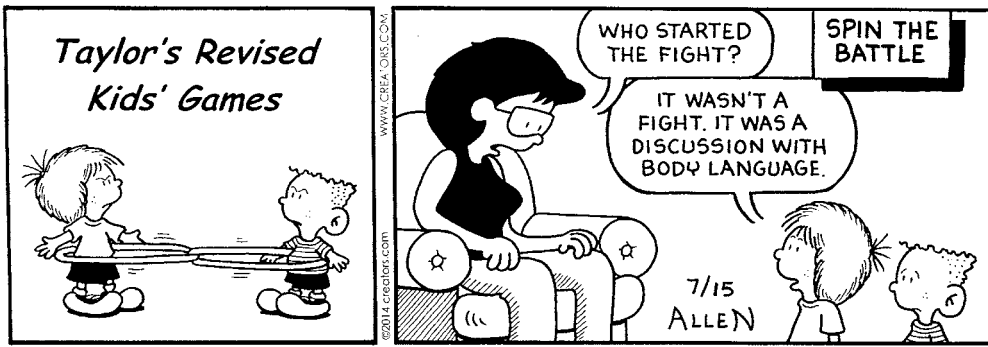
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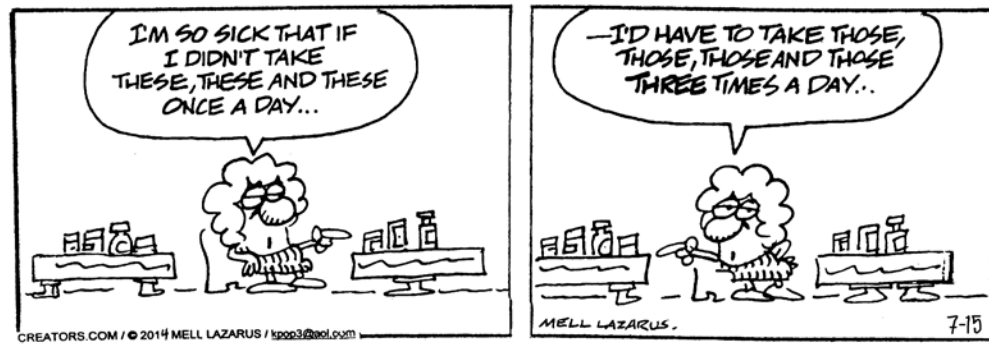
ONE BIG HAPPY



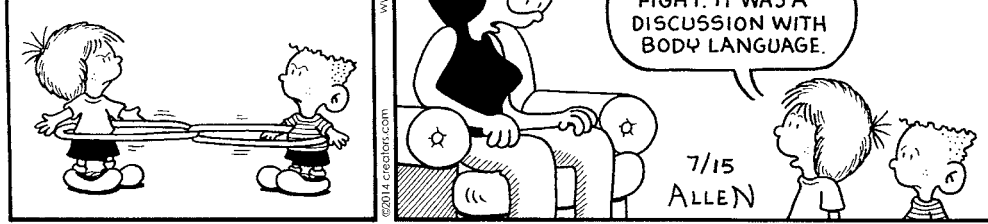
NEST HEAD



MOMMA



Taylor's Revised Kids' Games



This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, July 15, the 197th day of 2020. There are 169 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On July 15, 1799, French soldiers in Egypt discovered the Rosetta Stone, which proved instrumental in deciphering ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs. On this date: In 1834, the Spanish Inquisition was abolished more than 3 1/2 centuries after its creation. In 1870, Georgia became the last Confederate state to be readmitted to the Union. Manitoba entered confederation as the fifth Canadian province. In 1913, Augustus Bacon, D-Ga., became the first person elected to the U.S. Senate under the terms of the recently ratified 17th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, providing for popular election of senators. In 1918, the Second Battle of the Marne, resulting in an Allied victory, began during World War I. In 1975, three American astronauts blasted off aboard an Apollo spaceship hours after two Soviet cosmonauts were launched aboard a Soyuz spacecraft for a mission that included a linkup of the two ships in orbit. In 1976, a 36-hour kidnap ordeal began for 26 school-children and their bus driver as they were abducted near Chowchilla, California, by three gunmen and imprisoned in an underground cell. (The captives escaped unharmed; the kidnapers were caught.) In 1983, eight people were killed when a suitcase bomb planted by Armenian extremists exploded at the Turkish Airlines counter at Orly Airport in Paris. In 1985, a visibly gaunt Rock Hudson appeared at a news conference with actress Doris Day (it was later revealed Hudson was suffering from AIDS). In 1996, MSNBC, a 24-hour all-news network, made its debut on cable and the Internet. In 1997, fashion designer Gianni Versace (ver-SAH'-chay), 50, was shot dead outside his Miami Beach home; suspected gunman Andrew Phillip Cunanan (koo-NAN'-an), 27, was found dead eight days later, a suicide. (Investigators believed Cunanan killed four other

people before Versace in a cross-country rampage that began the previous March.) In 2002, John Walker Lindh, an American who'd fought alongside the Taliban in Afghanistan, pleaded guilty in federal court in Alexandria, Virginia, to two felonies in a deal sparing him life in prison. In 2016, Donald Trump chose Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, an experienced politician with deep Washington connections, as his running mate. Ten years ago: After 85 days, BP stopped the flow of oil into the Gulf of Mexico using a 75-ton cap lowered onto the well earlier in the week. The Securities and Exchange Commission announced that Goldman Sachs & Co. would pay a record \$550 million penalty to settle charges that the Wall Street giant had misled buyers of mortgage investments. Argentina became the first Latin American country to legalize same-sex marriage. Five years ago: Vigorously challenging his critics, President Barack Obama launched an aggressive and detailed defense of a landmark Iranian nuclear accord during a White House press conference, rejecting the idea that the agreement left Tehran on the brink of a bomb and arguing the only alternative to the diplomatic deal was war. One year ago: Avowed white supremacist James Alex Fields Jr. was sentenced to life in prison plus 419 years for killing one and injuring dozens of others when he deliberately drove his car into a crowd of anti-racism protesters during a rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. Despite widespread criticism over a weekend tweet, President Donald Trump renewed his call for four Democratic congresswomen of color to get out of the U.S. "right now." Former Chinese premier Li Peng, a hardliner who imposed martial law during the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests, died at 90. Today's Birthdays: Actor Patrick Wayne is 81. Rhythm-

and-blues singer Millie Jackson is 76. Rock singer-musician Peter Lewis (Moby Grape) is 75. Singer Linda Ronstadt is 74. Rock musician Artimus Pyle is 72. Arianna Huffington, co-founder of The Huffington Post, is 70. Actress Celia Imrie is 68. Actor Terry O'Quinn is 68. Rock singer-musician David Pack is 68. Rock musician Marky Ramone is 68. Rock

musician Joe Satriani is 64. Country singer-songwriter Mac McAnally is 63. Model Kim Alexis is 60. Actor Willie Aames is 60. Actor-director Forest Whitaker is 59. Actress Lolita Davidovich is 59. Actress Shari Headley is 57. Actress Brigitte Nielsen is 57. Rock musician Jason Bonham is 54. Actress Amanda Foreman is 54. Rock musician Phillip Fish-

er is 53. Rhythm-and-blues singer Stokley (Mint Condition) is 53. Actor-comedian Eddie Griffin is 52. Actor Reggie Hayes is 51. Actor-screenwriter Jim Rash is 49. Rock musician John Dolmayan is 48. Actor Scott Foley is 48. Actor Brian Austin Green is 47. Rapper Jim Jones is 44. Actress Diane Kruger is 44. Actress Lana Parrilla (LAH'-nuh pa-REE'-uh) is

43. Rock musician Ray Toro (My Chemical Romance) is 43. Actress Laura Benanti is 41. Actor Travis Fimmel is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Kia Thornton (Divine) is 41. Actor Taylor Kinney is 39. Actor-singer Tristan "Mack" Wilds is 31. Actress Med-alion Rahimi is 28. Actor Iain Armitage (TV: "Big Little Lies" "Young Sheldon") is 12.

Newsday Crossword

CUT IT OUT by Carolyn Stewart Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- ___ for (decides to choose)
- In the distance
- San ___ (city south of Los Angeles)
- 100%, as gold
- Make angry
- Blue part of a globe
- Great Lake near Niagara Falls
- Grasp firmly
- Young ladies
- Plane that sprays stuff
- River near the Sphinx
- Nevertheless
- Taking the most time
- Tried out
- Make a secret plan
- States with certainty
- URL's diagonal divider
- Capital of Peru
- "Potted" windowsill decor
- Wind instrument
- Overpriced eatery
- Extinguish, as a fire
- Office errand runner
- Coming from the brain
- Leading lady of a film
- Feel poorly
- Slightly open
- Well-toned body
- Provides for a while
- Service branch with jets: Abbr.
- On the rocks

DOWN

- Oil cartel acronym
- Sound of a Siamese
- Small band
- Leak slowly
- Had a spat
- At the head of the line
- Landed
- Insect spray, for example
- Kenel dweller
- Frosting on the cake
- Hair-raising
- Makes angry
- Beginning stage
- Changes the color of
- Hen's perch
- Extreme degree
- Soft mineral
- Wicked
- Prefix for final
- Golf hazard
- One way off an island
- Hand-held calculator of yore
- Earth's natural orbiter
- Share a border with
- Activist Parks
- On an even ___
- Indicate the direction
- ___ alai
- Supermarket section with slicers
- Somewhat sore
- Saintly circles
- Remove from a DVD player
- Charged towards
- Make a demand of
- Cause raised eyebrows from
- Brit's exclamation
- Natural ability
- School beside Sunset Blvd.
- Factual
- Upper hand
- Pig's pen

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14				15					16					
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			24				25		26					
27	28	29	30				31							
32							33			34	35	36	37	
38							39					40		
41				42						43				
				44						45				
46	47	48	49						50					
51						52	53				54	55	56	57
58						59					60			61
62											63			64
65											66			67

Answer to previous puzzle
BASH HITCH LAOS
OSLO ARRAY EXPO
WAITAROUND ALAN
EMT LANE REVELS
DISMISS RANGE
OKS SONGBIRD
BRAVE SHOT ERIE
TORE ATOMS HIDE
USAF NAVY RISER
SABOTAGE DEN
ROLE FENDERS
BRAWNY LOBE LEE
LAMA STAYAWHILE
OVER TOILET ATAD
BIEND STIARE SEXY

Puig picks Braves, Glasnow makes strong return to Rays

By CHARLES ODUM

AP Sports Writer

Opening day rosters gained clarity on Tuesday when the Atlanta Braves reached an agreement with Yasiel Puig, and Tampa Bay pitcher Tyler Glasnow provided hopes for teams awaiting players to be cleared following positive tests for the coronavirus.

Puig agreed to a one-year deal pending a physical, a person with knowledge of the agreement told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the agreement is not official until Puig passes the physical.

The 29-year-old Puig, who began his career with the Los Angeles Dodgers, hit a combined .267 with 24 homers and 84 RBIs for Cincinnati and Cleveland in 2019. He also stole 19 bases.

Puig was the last big-name free agent from the off-season who had not signed with a team. He helps the Braves fill a void left when Nick Markakis opted out for the season.

Glasnow rejoined the Rays after missing the first 11 days of summer camp following his positive test. The right-hander immediately jumped into a simulated game at Tropicana Field and threw 49 pitches over 3 1/3 innings.

Glasnow said he felt fine and expects to be ready to begin the 60-game season on time.

Outside of briefly losing his sense of taste and smell, the 26-year-old Glasnow said he didn't experience any noticeable symptoms of COVID-19.

"I had maybe really mild cold symptoms for maybe a day," Glasnow said, wearing a mask during a Zoom call. "If this wasn't going on, I probably wouldn't have known I was sick."

The pitcher said he quarantined for 14 days inside his apartment in St. Petersburg, Florida. After that, he was able to work out alone, throwing into a net when he was able to find an empty park in the area.

"It would always be at a weird time of the day, and it had to be nobody there," Glasnow said. "If there was anybody there, I would just leave."

Glasnow, Charlie Morton and 2018 AL Cy Young Award winner Blake Snell lead a rotation that has the potential to be among the best in baseball. Glasnow was 6-1 with a 1.78 ERA in 12 starts last season.

Mets second baseman Robinson Canó also returned to camp after missing five straight workouts for undisclosed reasons. The 37-year-old Canó was scheduled to participate in practice, but not the intrasquad game at night.

"We'll go day by day. I mean, he looks great. He's in great shape," manager Luis Rojas said.

Mets relief pitchers Brad Brach and Jared Hughes remained absent.

Also returning was Orioles outfielder Anthony Santander, whose late arrival might have been attributed to COVID-19 testing. The team has not provided an explanation.

Santander, who hit 20 home runs last year, is a projected starter. The short-handed outfield is without slugger Trey Mancini, who had colon cancer surgery in March. Dwight Smith Jr. has not yet

reported, for reasons not disclosed by the Orioles.

SPRINGER HELD OUT

Houston outfielder George Springer missed practice because of a delay in receiving his coronavirus test results, the latest in a series of testing snafus for the Astros.

They were forced to cancel their practice on July 6 because the Fourth of July holiday delayed test results. Third baseman Alex Bregman was held out of practice last week because he hadn't received his test results.

Manager Dusty Baker said he understands Major League Baseball is trying to work the kinks out of the new system. Baker said he hopes things get figured out soon so no players are forced to miss games because of testing delays.

INJURY UPDATES

Minnesota Twins center fielder Byron Buxton has a sprained left foot and is day to day. He got hurt chasing a fly ball Monday night.

Texas Rangers catcher Robinson Chirinos could miss the start of the season because of an injured right ankle sustained in an intrasquad game Monday night. Left fielder Willie Calhoun also left that game early, after feeling tightness in his right hip flexor.

"He is still tender today. If you talk to him, he doesn't think he'll be out that long. We believe there is a strain in there," manager Chris Woodward said.

Calhoun suffered a broken jaw when he was hit by a fastball in a spring training game March 8. He has recovered from that.

Seattle placed right-hander Yoshihisa Hirano on the injured list without providing a reason. Hirano, who was 5-5 with one save and a 4.75 ERA in 62 relief appearances for Arizona last season, has not appeared in summer camp.

NATS HITTING COACH RETURNS

Washington Nationals hitting coach Kevin Long was cleared to participate and made his camp debut in an intrasquad game. In the game, the Nationals prepared for the new extra-inning rule by having a runner start out a half-inning on second base.

A LITTLE SCARED

Marlins catcher Francisco Cervelli said "everybody is concerned" about the virus outbreak in South Florida.

"I don't want to have this virus, or anyone on my team," Cervelli said. "We just have to be careful. We don't know what's going to happen. Every day here Miami is getting crazy. I'm a little scared, yes, but we're here to play baseball."

MORE THAN A LITTLE SCARED

White Sox catcher Yasmani Grandal is concerned about being unable to maintain proper social distancing behind the plate.

"I'd be lying to you if I said I wasn't worried about it," Grandal said. "Obviously, this is something you've got to take very serious because it

can spread out as fast as anything. In my case, this is not only for my health and the health of my teammates, but it's also for the health of my family. My wife is pregnant, so I don't want (anything) to happen to her. I don't want (anything) to happen to my kids. So, we're going to take all the precautions we need in order to stay safe and keep ourselves safe."

BRAUN IS TOP PICK

Milwaukee outfielder Avisail Garcia and catcher Omar Narvaez drafted teams for this week's "Blue & Gold World Series" games.

The surprise? Christian Yelich, who won the NL MVP in 2018 and was second in the balloting last year, didn't get picked first. Garcia went with Ryan Braun instead.

"I want to compete against the best," Garcia said explaining why he didn't pick Yelich.

The strategy didn't last long. Garcia's team then traded Braun and shortstop Orlando Arcia for Yelich and infielder Eric Sogard. The trade was necessary because one roster had virtually all right-handed hitters before facing right-hander Brandon Woodruff.

DESHIELDS BAFFLED BY POSITIVE TEST

Indians outfielder Delino DeShields Jr. says he was taking every necessary precaution and still contracted the coronavirus while in Arizona.

"I was doing everything I was supposed to do," he said Tuesday. "We were doing a good job in Good-year of keeping our distance and making sure we were cleaning up after ourselves. So, honestly, I have no idea."

DeShields missed the re-start of Cleveland's camp after he experienced COVID-19 symptoms, including a loss of taste and smell. He said he didn't have an appetite and added: "It wasn't fun at all. ... It was pretty brutal."

SOROKA GETS OPENING DAY START

Manager Brian Snitker has named Mike Soroka, 22, the Braves' youngest opening day starter in the modern era. The Braves open at the New York Mets on July 24.

"It's something that you dream about as a kid," Soroka said.

The right-hander was 13-4 with a 2.68 ERA in 2019.

Max Fried, Mike Foltynewicz and Sean Newcomb are expected to follow Soroka in the rotation as Cole Hamels' recovery from a sore shoulder was slowed by triceps tendinitis.

FAN CUTOUTS AT DODGER STADIUM

The Dodgers are selling fan cutouts with prices ranging from \$149 to \$299. Net proceeds will benefit the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation.

The team may relocate or remove the fan cutouts if able to sell tickets during the season.

Longtime Stars executive Lites moving from CEO to chairman

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Longtime Dallas Stars executive Jim Lites is transitioning from his role as CEO to chairman, a move that will lessen his day-to-day duties with the team.

The Stars announced the move Friday. Brad Alberts, the Stars president since March 2018, will remain in that role while also adding the CEO title and responsibilities.

Lites had two previous stints with the Stars (1993-02 and 2003-07), and was the team president when they won the Stanley Cup in 1999, and went back in the championship series the following season. He returned as a president and CEO in November 2011 after new owner Tom Gaglardi bought the team.

As chairman of the Dallas Stars, Lites will serve as an advisor and provide counsel to Alberts. He will continue to chair the team's ownership advisory group.

"This organization means the world to me and my family. I'm thrilled to remain active in advising the leaders of the Stars, as well as expanding the various business initiatives that the Gaglardi family has outside of the hockey world," Lites said in a statement. "I've had the pleasure to both mentor Brad, as well as partner with him, for over two decades. I know he is ready for this challenge."

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