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FRIDAY EDITION. JULY 24, 2020

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# **BIG SPRING** VOLUME 115. NUMBER 257

*Updates:* 

Howard County Fair has been cancelled for 2020

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#### **COVID-19 Update:**

Active Cases: 45

Confirmed:

105

*Tests performed:* 

2425

Pending:

23

Negative tests:

2297

Recovered:

51

Deaths:

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# **BSISD Board of Trustees discuss** plan for Fall school opening



HERALD photo/Carrie Harvell

Big Spring ISD Board of Trustees met Thursday afternoon to discuss the reopening plan for Big Spring students. The full plan can be found on the Big Spring ISD website or on the school Facebook page.

#### By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

The Big Spring ISD Board of Trustees convened for a special meeting Thursday evening to discuss and finalize the back to school plan for the upcoming year.

"We are in a different situation than we've ever been in moving into a new school year and everybody is coming out with what they call the re-opening plan. This is something the school district works on and I can't even tell you how many hours," Jay McWilliams, BSISD Superintendent, said.

The majority of the plan is guided by the TEA (Texas Education Association) and uses suggestions from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control). On July 7, TEA offered guidance and a few days ago a few changes were issued. UIL issued their schedule on Tuesday, allowing local sports to begin on time with guidelines in place.

"It will be completely different next year, but the main focus is the reopening of school," McWilliams said.

The plan is to reopen Big Spring ISD on Wednesday, Aug. 19. Parents may choose to have their child served through one of the following instructional options:

- Option 1 On Campus Instruction: Students and teachers will attend class in-person five days a week while following public health guidance and safety measures from state, federal, and local health guidelines and recommendations.
- Option 2 Online Learning: Students will participate from home in virtual DAILY asynchronous (independent learning) and limited synchronous (Zoom, Google Meets) learning five days a week with curriculum comparable to that of On-Campus Instruction. This instructional option will look MUCH

See BSISD, Page 3

## **BSISD** announces free school supplies for PK-8th grade students By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

The new school year is quickly approaching and while there may be many questions surrounding the new rules and guidelines, Big Spring ISD families have one less thing to worry about. BSISD Superintendent Jay McWilliams announced Wednesday afternoon that school supplies for all students from students Pre-Kindergarten through 8th Grade would be receiving school supplies this year.

"We were able to use some of our ESSER Funds (COVID Relief), which was a grant given to all schools from the federal government to purchase the school supplies for our kids in Big Spring," Jay McWilliams, BSISD Super-intendent, said. "I have an outstanding team of people who worked hard to get all the quotes needed as well as the paper work filled out in order to make this happen."

According to McWilliams, the efforts of several teachers working on a federal grant process made this big announcement possible. Parents will be responsible for providing a backpack for the student. The supplies will be handed out by the first day of school.

"We hope to be able to do this for two years, and feel like this is something that will help all of our families in Big Spring who have school aged kids. I was very excited when we were able to assure the supplies will be delivered before the first day of school, and our campus staff members will have the school supplies ready to hand out to our kids on the first day of school.'

According to the BSISD Administration, students will need to show up with a backpack for the first day of school, but all other supplies will be provided by this grant.

In addition to the school supply announcement, McWilliams offered a few answers to the many questions that have been asked over the past couple of weeks. A special school board has been called to discuss the re-opening plan for this school year. An announcement will be made on Friday, which falls in line with the release of Forsan and Coahoma's announcements on the new school year.

"We have put a lot of time and effort into this plan, and I feel strongly we have a great plan moving forward in 2020-2021,"McWilliams said.

The first day of school for the new year is set for Aug. 19 and the Meet the Teacher nights will begin Aug. 10. More details will be released as the school year approaches.

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

## Kindred at Home named **Superior Performer in 2019 SHP Patient Satisfaction Ranking**

#### Special to the Herald

Kindred at Home Big Spring is leading provider of home health care services, was recently named a recipient of a Superior Performer award as part of the Strategic Healthcare Programs' (SHP) annual rankings. Only programs in the top 20% of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) HHCAHPS patient satisfaction scores compiled by SHP in 2019 received this honor.



"We are honored to be recognized by Strategic Healthcare Programs for this achievement," said Jill Estes, RN, Branch Director of Kindred at Home of Big Spring ."This award reflects our patients' appreciation for our services and our team's commitment to providing compassionate, high-quality, patient-centered care." Kindred at Home's therapists, nurses and aids provide in-home healthcare

See AWARD, Page 3

## 9 new COVID-19 cases announced in **Howard County**

Special to the Herald

On July 23, 2020, the City of Big Spring and Howard County officials were notified of nine (9) new positive test results for COVID-19. These individuals are isolating at home and are currently exhibiting mild symptoms, such as headache, low-grade fever and a cough. These new cases have been determined to be community spread.

The demographic information of the infected individuals is as follows:

- 77-year-old male
- 26-year-old female • 46-year-old male

See CASES, Page 3



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## **Obituaries**

#### Lily Farrington



Lily Farrington, 74, of Big Spring, passed away Sunday, July 19, 2020. Graveside services will be 10 a.m., Saturday. July 25, 2020, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with her nephew, Rev. Ricky Carstensen, officiating.

She was born May 18, 1946, in Big Spring and married Connie Ray Farrington July 10, 1963, in Stanton.

Lilly and Connie spent the early years of their marriage

in Lenorah working for Tunnel Farms. She worked as a bus driver for Klondike Schools and for Grady Schools. She had a love for competitions and was a great volleyball player. She spent her time with friends in friendly competitions at the school gym. If you didn't find her on the farm or the volleyball court, you could bet you would find her with a fishing pole lake side waiting for the next big catch. She loved anything outdoors and spending time with her family.

In 1993, Connie retired from the farming industry and they moved to Big Spring, Texas. She became a member of the Miracle Revival Center in Big Spring. She loved to sing along and participate in the church services. Lily and Connie created their own Lawn Business which he still operates today, Farrington Lawn & Garden.

Survivors include her husband, Connie Ray Farrington of Big Spring; one son, Tarry Farrington and wife Dyanne of Stanton; one daughter. Rhonda Dugan and husband Danny of Stanton. Four grandsons; Cary Farrington of Midland, Tyler Farrington and wife Rachel of Stanton, DJ Dugan and wife Ashley of Ft. Worth and Cooper Millsap of Midland. Six Granddaughters, Stormie Dugan and Cheyenne of Big Spring, Linsey Dugan of Ft. Worth, Laci Dugan of Stanton, Hailey Thomas and husband Josh of Odessa, Carlee Millsap of Midland and Joeli Huddleston and Husband Heath of Midland, Texas. Two sisters, Myrtle Sparks of Lingleville, Texas, Nellie Vandenbiggelarr of Sanger, Texas; and one brother, Pat Carstensen of Stanton, Texas and 16 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fredrick and Naoma Carstensen; brothers Andy, Tommy, Freddie, Arthur and Kent Carstensen. One sister Ruby McCarty. The family will receive visitors on Friday, July

24 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Nailey-Pickle & Welch funeral home. They suggest memorials be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Paid Obituary

#### John Patrick "Pat" Stanley John Patrick "Pat" Stanley, 72, of Alamogordo, New Mexico, formerly of Big Spring died Tuesday, July

21, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## **Take Note**

- 2020 Virtual Grain Sorghum Program is set for July 22 at 7 a.m. This is a Zoom based meeting and producers in the Howard County area are welcome to sign up for the program. To sign up for the program, contact your local County Extension Office at 432-264-2236.
- 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 oppor-

• The Life Center in Big Spring is helping moms

tunity 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.

# Police, Sheriff/ Fire/EMS reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following ac-

- ALBERT MARTINEZ JR, 41, of 1400 Princeton Avenue, was arrested on a charge of public in-
- AUSTIN MICHAEL HEN-SON, 21, of 1302 Main Street, was arrested on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than one gram.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80; 1500 block of Bluebird Street: 3600 block of W. Hwv 80: 3200 block of Auburn.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1400 block of Princeton Avenue: 100 N. Cottonwood
- BURGLARY OF HABITA-**TION** was reported in the 400 block of Edwards.
- UNWANTED SUBJECT was reported in the 3200 block of Cornell: 1100 block of E. 11th Place.
- THEFT was reported in the 2100 block of W. I-20.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 500 block of S. Lancaster; 500 block of S. Lancaster Street; 1500 block of S. Runnels Street.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1600 block of E. 11th Place;

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

82 inmates at the time of this re-

- AUSTIN MICHAEL HEN-**SON**, 21, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than one gram.
- · ALBERT MARTINEZ JR. 42,, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOSE ALFRED MELEN-**DEZ.** 37. was arrested by BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid (DWLI), driving while license invalid, failure to appear, and driving while intoxicated 3rd or more.
- ABEL JAVIER PADILLA, 55, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than one gram.

Big Spring Fire Department/ EMS reported the following activity:

 TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the area of Hwy 87 and Ranch Road 33. No transport was required.

- MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 700 block of Ohio. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- MEDICAL CALL was report-Note – Officials with the How- ed in the 600 block Caylor. One rd County Jail reported having person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
  - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 800 block of Rosemont. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Cen-
  - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 700 block of Ohio. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
  - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 1900 block of Donley. No transport was required.
  - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Cen-
  - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 1900 block of E. 25th Street. No transport was re-
  - MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 500 block of NW 10th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

**Support Groups** 

- Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Fridays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.
- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY** Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meet-

ing, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7

#### Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from

**MONDAY** 

11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7

#### Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees It, 615

Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. **TUESDAY** Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's Support

Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center

at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month.

This is a group for all Parkinson's Disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.
- Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The meetings are held at the Senior Citizens Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. These meetings are open for any caregiver, whether medical professional or family member. For more information, please call Becky Letz at 267-1628.
- Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 S
- DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts. such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible? There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. The next session beging Sept. 3, 2019. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

#### WEDNESDAY

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

Submit your Support Group information to be included or updated. Email information to editor@Bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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# Texas Sales Tax Holiday is Aug. 7-9

AUSTIN — With the Texas economy slowly awakening from effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds shoppers they can save money on clothes and school supplies during the state's sales tax holiday on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 7-9.

The law exempts sales tax on qualified items such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The date of the sales tax holiday and list of tax-exempt items are set by the Texas Legislature.

"Even though significant uncertainty remains for our public and private schools as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sales tax holiday is a perfect opportunity to save money on school supplies and other tax-free items at a time when many customer during the exemption period; or Texans are carefully monitoring their family finances," Hegar said. "Online shopping is covered, so I encourage all Texans to shop online or practice social distancing when making in-store purchases. We want folks to stay safe while saving money."

Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax-free are listed on the Comptroller's website at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

To promote social distancing, the Comptroller's office wants all taxpayers to know that during the annual sales tax holiday, qualifying items can be purchased online or by telephone, mail, custom order or any other means (including in-store purchases) tax free, when either:

• the item is both delivered to, and paid for by, the

• the customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends.

Texas' sales tax holiday weekend has been an an nual event since 1999, allowing Texans to save millions of dollars in state and local sales taxes each year. Uncertainty surrounding consumer activity in the retail sector coupled with a lack of clarity regarding the timing and nature of schools reopening prevents the agency from producing an estimate for dollars saved by taxpayers during this year's holiday.

Last year's holiday generated an estimated \$102.2 million in savings for Texas taxpayers.





Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 95. East wind 5 to 10 mph. **Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. East wind 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 96. East wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 72.

**Sunday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 8am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 95.

**Sunday Night:** A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 71.

**Monday**: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 95.

Monday Night: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 71.

**Tuesday**: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 94.

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

different than the virtual instruction provided during the recent spring school closure. Daily student participation/assignment submission will be required, grades will be recorded, and structured, suggested schedules will be provided to students.

Parents will be able to take their students to class for the first three days of classes. There will be guidance provided for those who will be walking their students into the school. "My heart goes out to those parents who have

to take their kid to kindergarten class: it really does." Dr. Raemi Thompson said. "Wear a mask. social distance yourself, but after that we are going to lock the doors ... We put that in there to help our parents out, help our community out. I want to keep working with our community; I don't want the community to think they are unwelcome in our school, but I also want them to feel confident and safe in our procedures."

Big Spring ISD chose to prerecord videos so students can access them any time. However, in order to keep with the attendance guidance that was issued by TEA, there will be an assignment posted in Google Classroom titled Attendance and it will be open from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. According to TEA. all students must adhere to the 90% attendance rule whether attending in-person or online. The 90% rule is a provision in the Texas Education Code (TEC) that applies to a student in any grade level from kindergarten through grade 12. Those students in class will have attendance taken by their teacher each day. Students enrolled in Online Learning must log in to their Google Classroom and check in by 10 a.m. each school day that class is in session. Students logging in after the 10 a.m. deadline will be considered absent and subject to the district/state attendance rule.

We are going to have teacher office hours set up so that students can chat with the teachers so they can help them through chat or on Zoom," Dr. Thompson said. "We hope to have a distant learning teacher that will be able to help with this.'

The full plan will be available on the Big Spring ISD website and posted to the Facebook page.

"In order for BSISD to plan for the safest instructional arrangements, it is very important that parents make an instructional selection during the enrollment verification/registration week and adhere to future deadlines throughout the 2020-2021 school year," Dr. Thompson said.

Registration will take place from Monday, July 27 through Friday, July 31. During registration, parents will need to declare the instructional arrangement of choice at the time of enrollment. Those parents who do not register their child or make an instructional commitment will automatically be enrolled in the On-Campus instruction option. Parents will have a chance to re-evaluate their child's learning environment choice at the end of each grading period.

The issue of Wi-fi access was also discussed. While there is Wi-fi access available in the parking lot of Memorial Stadium and Big Spring High School, however, if there are community partners that would like to support offering Wi-fi access to students is encouraged to contact the ISD to let them know you are willing to help.

Other action taken during the special meeting on Thursday included:

- Approval of a Standard Form Owner/Contractor Agreement with Javine West Texas LLC, dba Varitec Solutions, for Contractor Services Relating to the HVAC system upgrades at Moss Elementary, Marcy Elementary, Washington Elementary Goliad Elementary, Big Spring Intermediate, Big Spring Junior High and Big Spring High School and other action related to this item.
- Budget amendments and expenditures over \$150,000 will also be considered with possible action taken by the Board of Trustees.
- A resolution approving the terms and conditions of an Interlocal Agreement with Region 10 Retirement Asset Management Services Cooperative.
- Mr. McWilliams reiterated the good news that was announced on Facebook on Wednesday afternoon, all school supplies will be purchased for students between PK and 8th grade.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big

Spring Herald. To contact e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call

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- 13-year-old female
- 53-year-old female
- 63-year-old female
- 54-year-old male • 8-year-old male

Continued from Page 1

With the recent and rapid increase in the number of positive cases, County and City officials urge community members to take every precaution to protect yourself and your family members. Please continue to practice social distancing, stay home when possible, wash your hands frequently, and wear a mask while in public areas. These are all things you can do to help prevent yourself and vour loved ones from becoming ill from any respiratory illness including COVID-19.

services to individuals recovering from illness or with chronic conditions. Kindred at Home serves patients and families in Howard and surrounding

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Worship: 10:30am **Wednesday Night** 

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

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## **Church News**

#### NazFamily Church

This Sunday - "Christians don't simply learn or study or use Scripture; we assimilate it, take it into our lives in such a way that it gets metabolized into acts of love, cups of cold water, missions into all the world, healing and evangelism and justice in Jesus' name, hands raised in adoration of the Father, feet washed in company with the Son." ~ Eugene Peterson

Each week the NazFamily gathers to not only hear and study the Scriptures, but to learn how to apply the word to our daily lives. Join us this Sunday as we continue to grow and journey together as followers of Je-

Recharge - Do you need a recharge during the week? Do you want to experience the power of prayer? Then join us at NazFamily on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. We have a prayer gathering for adults, along with activities for children and youth.

NazFamily Live - Our ministry staff gathers each Tuesday at Noon for a time of Word, worship, and prayer together. You can join us through Face-Book Live for all of our services. Stay connected!

#### Crestview Baptist Church

At Crestview Baptist church, we believe the most fulfilling pursuit for a body of believers is not entertainment, gimmicks, or programs. The most fulfilling pursuit for a follower of Christ is to know Christ and His Word, so that we may live for Him.

If you believe that, please come and worship the King with us! Sunday School starts at 10 a.m., Worship begins at 11 a.m., and our Sunday and Wednesday night meetings are at 6:30 p.m. We are studying the book of Matthew in Sunday School and on Sunday and Wednesday nights we are studying the book of Acts. Come and be with us at 2305 Gatesville Rd., in Big Spring.

#### College Baptist Church

Have you ever been to a cake auction—virtually? What a trip that was. We did it and it was a great time bidding on Facebook for our traditional VBS fund raiser. We are on track as never before, as we continue to serve

It is so good to be back worshipping God as a body of believers. Men, Ladies, Youth, Children, are together again in Sunday School starting at 9:15 am. Worship services start at 10:45 a.m., but no extended session for nursery age child care through August. Wednesday evening Youth and adults meet for Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at 7 p.m.. Children meet for King's Kids and Kraft time, with Girl's Missions on Sunday at 5

Services for Sunday, July 26, 2020, is in the building at 11th and Birdwell. We have face masks and hand sanitizer available, and we are practicing social distancing. Families are sitting together. Visitors and friends--Come join us—it will be exciting to welcome new faces and old alike. Our

services are lively and worshipful.

Sunday School is open for all ages as we slowly immerge from the pandemic, and we urge you to come and see what God is doing at College Baptist Church as we continue on mission for Him.

Our children division renovations are on track as we will be having a work week soon. Watch and be informed concerning our ongoing ministries, and how we are reconstructing our attempts in ministering to the community, as we know "this too shall pass." We are still "on mission" seeking ways to serve in this time.

We definitely enjoy the worship time as our ministry team lead us in songs of praise, and where our pastor, Bro. Ken McMeans, helps us as we delve into God's Word, inspiring us in living as Jesus lives through us. Keep your spiritual 2020 Vision on and be a part in these summer joyful activities and exciting worship, praising the Mighty God we serve. Please call: 432-267-7429, for more information concerning Men's, Ladies' and youth meetings at this great and friendly church.

#### Alive in Christ Lutheran Church

"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 we are having class each Sunday morning. Our Sunday Service begins at 10:30 a.m. You can catch us on Facebook Live on our Facebook page. 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.

The readings for this Sunday are Deut. 7:6-9, Romans 8:28-39 and Matthew 13:44-52. The psalm is Psalm 125.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study has restarted. A meal is served at 5:30 and our bible study begins at 6:30. We are studying Lutheranism 101. Please come and join us.

Phillip Reid 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.

#### **First United Methodist** Church

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

Worship services are broadcast live each Sunday at 11 a.m. on radio station KBYG-105.5 FM. You can also find the services live streamed on our Facebook page at First United Methodist Church Big Spring.

On Sunday July 19, Pastor Ricky, shared with us his message on "Giving Allegiance to God's Word". We must realize the value of the Bible and recognize its fully divine source of inspiration throughout our daily lives. The idea here is that true fulfillment in life is found seeking God's purposes for our lives and submitting to that truth we find in God's word. So the committed Christian gives allegiance to God's word. We would love to invite you to join us this coming Sunday as Pastor Ricky shares with us "Appropriating the Holy Spirit""

On Wednesday July 29, at 6 p.m. "Celebrate Recovery" is being offered in the Youth Hall for anyone in the community seeking freedom and healing from hurts, habits, and hang-

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

#### **Blessed Hands Deaf** Church

Blessed Hands Deaf Church is currently joining with the First Baptist Church family in the main sanctuary at 10:50 am with interpreters provided. Prayerfully considering the health of everyone, many safety precautions are in place. Worship services through the online options will still be available; these include live streaming through fbcbigspring.org and Facebook live. Details of church activities that have been postponed or rescheduled are accessible at: fbcbigspring.org or contact Blessed Hands Pastor Jim Walterhouse at: jwalterhouse@gmail.com for additional information. First Baptist Church is located at 705 W FM 700.

Please join us in continuing to pray for the quick end of the coronavirus health situation, the restoration of health to all infected, for those whose businesses and employment have been devastated, and for Christ's comfort to surround all those who have lost loved ones during this time. To God be the glory!

First Baptist Church

"Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous; And shout for joy, all

you upright in heart!" Psalm 32:11 Become part of the family of First Baptist Church Sunday morning at 10:50, and join in honoring The Living Word: Jesus Christ. Pastor Mark LIndsey and FBC staff have prayerfully put in place numerous safety measures in consideration of the health of everyone. Music Minister Alan Schantz will lead worshippers in a blend of contemporary praise and worship music and classic hymns of the faith. The worship service will also 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 also available. 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.

Sunday morning small group classes-Sunday School-will not meet in person the remainder of July. Please contact FBC regarding times when classes will be meeting through 'Zoom'.

All Sunday night activities are cancelled until September 2020.

Seeking God's wisdom in the CO-VID climate, FBC will continue to operate within health and safety guidelines. Go to the church website: fbcbigspring.org or call 267-8223 for details of activities postponed or rescheduled. Also, the church calendar is online which has updated informa-

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

#### First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

An exciting new development took place at this week's Wednesday Bible study. Rev. Allen Cross and a few members met this week in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. to study the lectionary for Sunday, but some other members joined in the meeting via Zoom online. Everyone participated in the Bible reading and discussion. The link to join in the Zoom group will be posted on the church website, Faith Notes, and in the Sunday worship bulletin. The lectionary for the next week is printed on the back page of the church bulletin each Sunday.

The Thursday Lunch Bunch, which had formerly met at various local restaurants, met on July 23 in Fellowship Hall as a Brown Bag lunch. Getting a to-go lunch from one of the local restaurants has been suggested to help local businesses during the current economic distress.

The Session met in Fellowship Hall for the July Stated Session Meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 23.

For a laugh or a bit of cowboy wisdom, everyone is invited to tune in to "Tom's Talk Time and Tall Tales" hosted by elder Tom Koger on KBYG Radio at 106.3 FM or 1400 AM at 11:00 a.m. on Friday mornings, sponsored by First Presbyterian Church.

The Children's Sunday School classes will began meeting for a study of The Children's Bible, led by Destiny Hallford and assisted by Buddy Cochrane. There will be room for distancing safely.

The Discovery Class adult Sunday School is to begin meeting again on July 26. Participants will spread out

See CHURCH, Page 6

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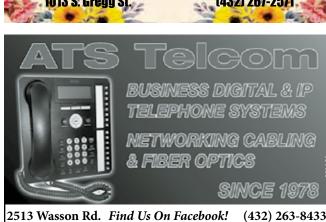
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Galatians 2:20



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(Joel 2:23)

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(Psalm 103:11)



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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



The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer: I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. I will satisfy them with a long life and give them my salvation.

Psalm 91: 14-16



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# Something to think about...

y seven year old daughter, Elise, loves to stand on her head. It is fun to look at the world from a different perspective. I remember often hangng upside down as a child pretending that the sky

SCHNEGERGER

was beneath my feet. When Jesus invites us to enter His Kingdom as little children, I sometimes wonder if he meant for us to "stand on our heads" more often. I certainly believe that He invites us to see the world from a whole new perspec-Spending last week around lots

of children at our Vacation Bible School has impacted my vision. Children make me see the world differently. I was reminded this morning of one of the most influential reflections on Kingdom living that a

I have ever read. I hope it gives you a new perspective this week:

"The compassionate life is the life of downward mobility! In a society in which upward mobility is the norm, downward mobility is not only discouraged but even considered unwise, unhealthy, or downright stupid. Who will freely choose a lowpaying job when a high-paying job is offered? Who will choose poverty when wealth is within reach? Who will choose a hidden place when there is a place in the limelight? Who will choose to be with one person in great need when many people could be helped during the same time? Who will choose to withdraw to a place of solitude and prayer when there are so many urgent demands from all sides? My whole life I have been surrounded by well-

meaning encouragement to go 'higher up,' and the most-used argument was: 'you can do so much good there, for so many people.'

But these voices calling me to upward mobility are completely absent from the Gospel. Jesus says: 'Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life' (John 12:25). He also says: 'Unless you become like little children you will never enter the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 18:3). Finally he says: 'You know that among the gentiles the rulers lord it over them, and great men make their authority felt; among you this is not to happen. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be your slave, just as the Son of Man came, not to be served, but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many' (Matthew 20:25-28).

This is the way of downward mobility, the descending way of Jesus. It is the way toward the poor, the suffering, the marginal, the prisoners, the refugees, the lonely, the hungry, the dying, the tortured, the homeless - toward all who ask for compassion. What do you have to offer? Not success, popularity, or power, but the joy and peace of the children of God." ~ Henri Mouwen

As followers of Jesus, may we walk in His Way in this world and reflect His Kingdom of mercy, grace, and compassion to all!

## I must be about the Father's business

his world has many businesses - Exon-Mobil, General Motors, Microsoft and others. But the greatest business in the world is that of the Lord Jesus Christ. When all other businesses fail, His business will still be going. Nothing you can do is more important than being about the Lord's business.

Why is His business the greatest? His business affects the world more than any other business. When you buy a car, what does it mean? A few years of transportation! A few jobs for a few people! But when a soul is saved by the blood of Christ, it means that a life's destiny is changed. When you serve God, you set influences in motion that will literally last for-

His business pays the biggest dividends. A man invests his money in good sock, and every quarter he receives a dividend. But he who invests in God's business reaps eternal dividends. Whatever you do for Christ paays eternal dividends. Even a cold

drink of water given in His name is rewarded. John was told, "Write, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!" "Yes", says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them" (Rev. 14:13). Jedsus said, "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all of these things shall be added to you" (Matt. 6:33).

His business is the most enduring in the world. Changes have occurred in every city. Businesses which once were strong exist no more. Banks which were a bulwark of safety have closed their doors. But God's business never fails. It has been going on for many years, and it grows stronger all the while. If you will line up on God's business, you will never fail. John said, "...the one who does the will of God abides forever" (Jn. 2:17). Our earthly deeds will perish, but that which we do for God will abide forever. How's your work going?

By Ralph E. Anderson

### The measure of Faith

'v daddv was a man of his word. When he shook on a deal he was making, he kept that word as if it was a law of the land. He taught his children to be honest with deep seated integrity. His name meant something to him and would not tolerate anything that would question that integrity.

Therefore we trusted his word as the law of the household. We felt

security in what he said because he always backed his word up with actions of integrity. In our world today we have a hard time with people in their LILLIAN dishonest ways. It's hard to trust in these changing times. We are suspicious of our neighbours,

family, friends, and especially

our enemies. So what do we do to find peace in the chaotic world in which we are now living?

The Bible, which is God's Word to us, says to have faith in our Father which art in Heaven. His name is Hallowed. If His Son, Jesus is our Saviour, then we have access to His Kingdom on earth as it is in Heaven. He gives us daily bread, and He forgives us our debts as we forgive others. He doesn't lead us into temptation, but instead delivers us from the wiles of the evil in our world. His is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever.

So why are we fretting over anything. He never abdicated His throne to anyone. EVER. I can bank on His Word. It never changes. What He says He will do, He will do. My dad had integrity, but God's Word is truth and security I never felt with my dad. God never changes His mind, never had a better idea, always tells me the truth, and the best thanks I can give Him is to live for Him. The measure of faith to believe this is as small as a grain of mustard seed.

# Delivered from the law

By Tom Sloan "But now we are delivered from

the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter." Romans 7:6 The purpose of what I write here

is to show how great a salvation God has given to us in Christ Jesus. This is not an attempt to say that we do not need the Old Testament writings or that the Law is sin. This is about the fact that God. in Christ Jesus, has delivered us from the curse of the Law.

Being delivered from the Law makes all the difference in the world in the life of the believer because it means that we are in

Christ. Being delivered from the will to obey the Law, but not the Law means that we have been set free from a life of bondage and condemnation. Being delivered from the Law means that – old things are passed away, behold, all things are become new.

Are we, as believers in Christ, somehow responsible to the Law? Do we answer to the Law if we have been delivered from it? Is the Law our master and guide? Not if we are in Christ. Are we irreverent toward God when we seek to be delivered from the Law? Can we walk with God in our inability to obey or follow the Law of Moses? Yes, we can, by the body of Christ. We may have had the desire and

power to do so because what the Law demands the Law forbids. In other words, the Law demands that we be pure and blameless, but the demands of the Law are too high and impossible for us to fulfill because we are natural born sinners. Christ is greater than the Law

because He has more power than it ever did. How did Christ obtain this greatness and power? By His own death, in His own body on the cross. This is what Christ's coming was all about. This is what He was talking about on the cross when He said...

...it is finished.

in the theater room and wear masks. Vicki Miller will lead the class in a six-session DVD study entitled More to Your Story" by Max Lucado. John Ferguson is not re-convening the Covenant Class at this time. Members of this class are welcome to join the Discovery Class in the theater room.

Lectionary passages used for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost are: Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11; Romans 8:26-31; Matthew 13:44-46, 51-52. Rev. Cross has titled his sermon "Things of Value" Rev. Allen Cross will lead the worship service. Organist/music director Gabe Martinez leads the congregation in singing the hymns, as well as accompanying on the organ and piano. The Noisy Offering will be collected and presented during the Children's Moment. Anyone who is attending worship physically may hear the service on KBST 1490 AM at 11 a.m. as usual or online at www.fpcbigspring.com by selecting the SERMONS tab and the correct date. A copy of the liturgy for the service may be downloaded from the website or by receiving a copy by calling the church office. Call the church office at 263-4211 for other information.

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our Life Church friends to the campus this Sunday. In order to meet this Sunday we will continue to follow the guidelines that have been set and provided by the Texas State Attorney General: limited capacity, proper spacing between seats and rows, sanctuary will be cleaned and disinfected, if you or someone in your family have underlying health issues we are encouraging you to watch and participate in the service remotely. Masks are not required but are encouraged to be worn. Wash your hands and use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will be available as you enter the sanctuary.

Service starts at 10:30 a.m!

Ladies, you are invited to join us every Wednesday at noon for our Seek Prayer Group. The Zoom meeting information for Seek can be found on our One Sisterhood Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/onesisterhoodbigspringtx/

Champion Culture Youth will meet on Wednesdays from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. on the Life Church Campus. For more information about Champion Culture and their plans for the summer visit and follow the Champion Culture Facebook page https://www. facebook.com/ChampionCultureLifeChurch/

Life Kids this Sunday: Our Nursery is available for those ages newborn to 2. Our Toddlers class serve those ages 3 & 4. Our Elementary class serves those ages 5-10 Visit and follow the Life Kids Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Life-Kids-Life-Church-Big-Spring-TX-1654730487977488/ for more information.

We have started a new outreach ministry that we are calling Neighbor to Neighbor Outreach. The main focus of this team is to serve our neighbors and build a relationship with those that live around the Life Church Campus. This team goes out on Saturday mornings from 9:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Next Saturday, Aug. 1 at 8:30 a.m., our ONE Brotherhood Men will be meeting for a Men's Breakfast. This will be a time in the Word, Prayer and ministry. We will be meeting in the Life Kids Building.

Pastor Kevin will begin a new series on the book of Revelation on Aug. 9. Plan to join us for a verse by verse study of the last book of the Bible. Study Journals for this series are available for \$5 at the kiosk. For more information about our events or groups please visit our website www.golifechurch.

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# BIG HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

> Page 7 Friday, July 24, 2020

Flashback Friday: Joslin's first win as HC in the 2018 Howard County Bowl





Above left: A group of Coahoma players hoist the trophy after winning the 2018 Howard County Bowl. Above right: A team photo on the field of Memorial Stadium shows the emotion and joy that the Bulldogs were feeling after their 24-14 win.

#### By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sports Writer

If you were to ask any football coach which win in his career means the most to him, he would tell you: Every win matters.

What about the first win as a head coach? Is that game more memorable than others?

Now, you are asking the right questions.

Chris Joslin took over the Athletic Director/Head Football Coach position at Coahoma back in late summer of 2018. He had just finished a two-year tenure at Rockdale High School where he had helped bring a state championship back to the small town about an hour northeast of Austin.

Before he was an offensive assistant coach at Rockdale, Joslin spent almost 10 years as a member of the Big Spring Steers coaching staff under former coach and current principal Mike Ritchey. Joslin had loved living out in West Texas and when Coahoma called looking for a new coach, he jumped at the opportunity.

"I've always loved being around Coahoma and so it was exciting to be able to do that," Joslin said. "When we got here that summer, everyone welcomed us with open arms so it was exciting."

Following the move to Coahoma, Joslin had less than one month with his team before the start of the season. He spent as much time as possible trying to install his system before the start of the season.

It was not enough.

The Bulldogs did not have a full offseason during Joslin's first year and therefore ended up adding more and more to their playbook each week during the season. However, there was still enough talent on the Coahoma roster to do some damage in Year

"Some of the kids came to 7-on-7 stuff and we always knew that they would work hard and were really coachable," Joslin said.

Every high school football season in Howard County begins the same way: the Howard County Bowl. It is the yearly game between the Coahoma Bulldogs and Forsan Buffaloes that kicks off the season at Memorial Stadium in Big Spring.

In 2018, the game was highly anticipated as Co-

ahoma fans were waiting to see how their team looked under the new head coach's leadership. Joslin had been looking forward to his first head coaching job for a while and he was determined to take advantage of it.

Joslin has long been friends with members of the coaching staff at Forsan which made the game slightly less intimidating. After all, this was his first head coaching job and playing against longtime friends can make either a win or a loss feel humbling.

"The first game I got to coach was against my friends over at Forsan. A lot of us have coached together so it was very exciting," Joslin said.

There was some rust for everyone from both teams to knock off at the beginning of the first game but the Bulldogs appeared to be rolling. On their first possession of the game, the Bulldogs went right down the field for an Isaac Murillo rushing touchdown that gave them a 6-0 lead.

Forsan was quick to respond on the ensuing drive when quarterback Kobe Richardson found wide receiver Zane Riffe for a 53-yard touchdown pass. Unlike Coahoma, the Buffs were able to convert their extra point and held an early 7-6 lead at the end of the first quarter.

After a few possession from both teams that stalled out, Forsan was moving the ball down the field once again. They had already held a one-point lead and were trying to extend it before halftime.

Mission accomplished.

Forsan running back Trey Brockman powered his way into the end zone from the goal line for a 2-yard score. The extra point was converted and gave Forsan a 14-6 lead midway through the second

The ensuing kickoff was a huge return from Coahoma wide receiver Braxton Chandler and the Bulldogs found themselves deep within enemy territory. After a few plays, powerful dual threat quarterback Zack Schneider was able to push through the line for a 2-yard score. Without a strong kicker on the roster, Joslin opted to go for two but Schneider was stopped short on that attempt and Forsan held a 14-12 lead at the half.

"The players didn't really know us and we didn't

really know them yet," Joslin said. "We just asked them to believe in what we're doing and it's a testament to those kids for wanting to work (for the win)."

The third quarter was when the game picked up its intensity and it was obvious how badly both teams wanted to start the season with a win.

Following a punt from each team to start the second half, the Bulldogs had the ball inside their own 5-yard line. What followed was one of the most impressive runs of Schneider's career as he weaved through traffic at the line of scrimmage, broke a few tackles, and stampeded his way 55 yards into Forsan territory.

"I knew who Zack was before I got here and the offense that we were going to run was going to be built around him," Joslin said.

Coahoma capitalized on that big play and Schneider was able to score another touchdown. This time it was a 7-yard scamper that put the Bulldogs ahead

18-14 midway through the third quarter. After a Forsan punt on the next drive, the next four drives all ended in turnovers for both teams. First, Forsan recovered a fumble inside the Coahoma 20-yard line and looked to be in good scoring position. Then, an errant pass from Richardson was picked off stalling the Buffs' drive. Schneider quickly gave the ball back to Forsan with his own interception and the third quarter finally ended after Schneider recovered a fumble from his defensive end position.

Coahoma was able to punch in one more score in the fourth when Schneider plunged into the end zone from one yard out. That gave Coahoma a 24-14 lead in the fourth and Joslin was on his way to his first career win.

Bulldog linebacker Avry Burgans was able to recover another Forsan fumble in the fourth and the game ended after the Buffs turned the ball over on

Coahoma had won their second Howard County Bowl in-a-row and Joslin earned his first win as Head Coach of the Coahoma Bulldogs.

See JOSLIN, Page 12

for my money, and I was fortunate enough to get my hands on it."

Chris Johnston of Peterborough, Canada, is in second place with 27-0. Start-

ing his day on a rock point in 30 feet of water inside the St. Lawrence River,

Johnston targeted little sweet spots on the structure and sacked up nearly 22

After his early rally, he transitioned to the lake and fished isolated rockpiles

"I started on that (river) spot because I figured a couple people might find it,

"I didn't want to lean on them too bad out in the lake because I was trying to save some stuff. A big thing was Garmin LiveScope because I could search for

Johnston caught all of his fish on drop shots. He held his cards low on bait

Clark Wendlandt of Leander, Texas, is in third place with 26-3. Committing

and I wanted to get what I could because I knew there were some big ones on

it," Johnston said. "I did some damage there, and I knew I had some fish out in

fish that weren't under the boat. I was looking for fish, and if I saw a fish on the

specifics, but noted that he had a couple of confidence baits that proved vital

his day to Lake Ontario, Wendlandt said he had located bass from 5 to 40 feet

After catching his bass in short order on a drop shot, Wendlandt backed off of

"I really don't know what I have because I mostly only fished one spot," he

said. "I had a big bag fairly fast — I had a limit by 8:30 and had my weight by

9:30 — so I didn't see any point in beating them up for no reason. I just decided

but ended up catching most of his weight in the deeper range.

## Monster Smallmouth Vaults Paul Mueller Into Lead At Bassmaster St. Lawrence Elite

pounds by 8 a.m.

his spot.

and rock breaks in 20 to 24 feet.

the lake if I needed some fillers.

rock, I'd go over and catch it."

#### Special to the Herald

CLAYTON, N.Y. — Tournament wisdom says you can't win on Day 1, and

you can't win with a single bass.

But one giant bass certainly helped Connecticut pro Paul Mueller to a fantastic start Thursday, as he took the opening-round lead at the SiteOne Bassmaster Elite at St. Lawrence River with a 27-pound, 1-ounce limit. His bag was anchored by a massive smallmouth that weighed 7-13.

Seeking to add another 2020 Elite win to his season-opening victory on Florida's St. Johns River, Mueller spent his day in Lake Ontario, where he targeted rock transitions in 15 to 35 feet. His area was thick with gobies - a prime smallmouth forage — but Mueller said his open-minded approach was essen-

"I didn't get locked into a certain depth, even though I caught more fish deeper in practice," Mueller said. "Today, I caught fish shallower and my Garmin LiveScope was the key. It told me if they were there or not.

"That's going to be a big deal for me this week - using that LiveScope to pinpoint these fish daily because these fish move. Smallmouth are here today and gone tomorrow. With good electronics, you're able to stay with them. I'm hoping I can just be consistent."

One of 17 competitors to break the 20-pound mark, Mueller caught all of his bass on a drop shot rigged with a Berkley MaxScent Flat Worm. He alternated between the natural shad and goby colors and used a custom 3/8-ounce Do-it Molds drop-shot weight.

"Where I'm fishing you don't get a lot of bites, but they're good fish," Mueller said. "I feel like there's a better average in the lake vs. the river. That's the key: you just try to get five of those big bites a day.

"Today exceeded my expectations. I thought I could get a 23- to 25-pound bag if everything went right. But when you catch a 7-13, it surely ups your aver-

Mueller's biggest fish bit around 9 a.m. and gave him every inch of the heartracing battle for which giant smallies are known.

ing tournament. I wanted to land that fish because I'd never caught a 7 before. "I said 'Just take your time with this fish,' It bulldogged me, it gave me a run

"That fish fought as big as it was; it didn't give up," Mueller said. "I saw it and immediately knew it (would be) the biggest smallmouth I've ever caught in my life. When it's your personal best, there's more on the line than a fish-

listings for ESPN2 times. The tournament is being hosted by Jefferson County in cooperation with the Village of Clayton and the 1000 Islands Clayton Chamber of Commerce.

I'd go practice." Mueller is in the lead for Phoenix Boats Big Bass honors with his 7-13. Friday's takeoff is scheduled for 6:45 a.m. E.T. at the Clayton Antique Boat Museum, with weigh-ins back at the museum at 3 p.m. The 86-angler field will

Live coverage of the event will be available starting at 8 a.m. on Bassmaster LIVE at Bassmaster.com with simulcasts on ESPN2 and ESPN3. Check local

be trimmed to the Top 40 after Friday's round.

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2

6

5

9

Here's How It Works:

6

9

4

3

2

7

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

9 9 1

8 8 4 6 4 9 7

1 8 3 4 8 8 2

9 4 5 7 3 1 6 2

1 8 9 p 8 L

more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

5 6 9

8

1 4

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#### **Help Wanted**

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#### **Assault Victim's Un**usual Reaction

#### **Dear Annie:** About six months ago,

a friend confided in me that he had been sexually assaulted a year prior by a blind date. After watchind an episode of "ER," we were talking about sexually transmitted infections, and he mentioned needing to get tested, which brought up the revelation of his assault. He was very straightforward about telling me and said that he had dealt with everything already and was ready to move past it. He's also had relationships and casually dated people since the assault, and he said things were completely fine.

I've tried to let him know that I'm here if he wants to talk, but he brushes the concern aside and starts a new topic each time it comes up. He's even joked a few times about hoping it doesn't happen again as he's heading out the door for a date. I'm never sure how to reply to jokes like that. Awkward chuckle? I doubt

meanor is very different from that of my female friends who have also been assaulted, and I don't know how to navigate the conversation without projecting my own emotions -- or emotions that I think should be expected -on him. Annie, do you

Annie's Mailbox ®

dations or resources for helping men who've been sexually assaulted or for their friends and family members? -- At a Loss

have any recommen-

Dear At a Loss: I am so sorry your friend went through that. He's not alone. Approximately 1 in 6 men have experienced sexual assault or abuse.

The fact that he opened up to you about his experience means that he sees your friendship as a safe space in which he can be vulnerable. If you can continue providing that space, you'll have done a lot. Ambivalent and complex emotions will arise at times. Know that it's not necessary to "resolve" those feelings; simply sitting with them and with him is often the best thing you can do,

even when it feels uncomfortable.

Sometimes survivors use humor as a way to cope with trauma, which may be what he's doing with those jokes. But you don't have to iaugn at them. A neutrai reaction is fine.

For more tips on supporting him, visit https://1in6.org; select the "Get Information" tab and then "For Family and Friends." You can also chat with a trained advocate using the 1in6 website, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Dear Annie: Summer is here, and so are summer scams.

Recently, my motherin-law received a call from my daughter's "friend" telling her that her granddaughter had been driving and caused a wreck resulting in serious injuries to a woman in another car. She insisted that my daughter didn't want to tell us about the accident and asked for money that she would pay back soon. She even said she had a lawyer to represent her and gave a number.

My mother-in-law is a trusting woman. Luckily, she felt she had to talk to her son before she did anything, and of course the fish failed to swallow the hook. Please print this letter to let others know not to trust anyone peddling this sort of scam.

People also should know not to open their doors to strangers, no matter what they say. Call the police and stay inside your home. If you are contacted via phone or text, call your provider and ask whether someone working there can trace the call and alert fraud agencies. Don't answer calls from unknown numbers, and never provide information or money to strangers, no matter how convincing their script. -- Now Wiser

#### **Dear Now Wiser:**

Thanks for sharing your wisdom. Scams can also be reported at https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov. Stay safe and savvy.

> Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

Send your questions for

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#### Moon of Industry and Harmony

**ARIES (March** 21-April 19). The middle ground isn't so easily found. You first have to go to two extremes to touch the outlying boundaries. Be patient with yourself. This is a process, and you're making it up now for the first time.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** There's an art to envisioning your projects. Think of outcomes that are just beyond the reasonable, so that you're sure to keep stretching and growing.

**GEMINI (May 21-**June 21). There's not a whole lot of glory in being in charge right now, but someone has to do it. And because of your strong sense of responsibility, you're the best one for the job.

**CANCER** (June **22-July 22).** Things don't have to be hard to correct. "No pain, no gain" is an old way of thinking. Find a painless way and you'll be doing yourself and everyone around you a

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Set a tone of friendliness and compassion. The more inclusive you are, the more people you'll know. The more people you know, the easier it is to find the right person to solve a problem.

VIRGO (Aug. **23-Sept. 22)**. If you distrust yourself, you'll be wise. It's the cocky ones who make mistakes, not you. You'll evade mishaps because you test yourself, double-check your work and question your own answers and motives.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Following the protocol will absolutely work. You will have no need to go outside of the established rules and manners. If your etiquette is on-point, your results will be, too.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Staying humble is the most important aspect of your game plan. The cosmic omens warn against self-satisfaction. Remain focused on what still needs doing.

SAGITTARIUS

#### Tomorrow's Horoscope

By Holiday Mathis  $_{you.}^{interests}$ 22-Dec. 21). This longterm project does have an end, although that is hard for you to see right now. If you

glimpse it, even for a second in your mind's eye, you can and will have it eventually.

can

(Nov.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Avoid shopping as an emotional outlet. Instead of spending money on things and people, spend time on them. The rewards will be so much richer.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Do you feel like you're being asked to navigate the byzantine inner workings of someone's impossible-to-understand psyche? Perhaps you are, but the choice is yours. Only do it if it

**19-March 20).** There really are things that turn out better because you don't know what to expect and are utterly

unprepared. Bias is

usually unavoidable,

but a lack of assump-

tions will work in your

favor.

PI-

**SCES** 

(Feb.

**TODAY'S BIRTH-**DAY (July 24). Your guesses, whims and impulses are so lucky now through mid-August. You've an intuition about who you need to know and you'll confidently put yourself right in the best sorts of social situations and be impressive to the people who can most help you. The best part

of the next 12 months is all the love you exchange. Scorpio and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 13, 22, 15 and 4.

**WEEKEND LOVE** 

FORECAST: ARIES:

Do what makes you

happy, and your chemistry changes in ways that benefit your health. TAURUS: Whatever relationship problem you have, there are millions of people around the world having the same one. Communicate; solutions are at hand. GEMINI: You're not sure how often you want to see someone, and, really, whatever you decide, that's what will happen. CANCER: Shared secrets and stories are the bonding agents of love. LEO: People feel acceptance in different ways. Some get it in verbal validation; others need touch or gifts or something else. VIRGO: The time you spend presenting your best self to the world is an investment that pays. LIBRA: Everything good comes from listening with your full attention. SCOR-PIO: When you don't know what else to do,

you just give and that

works out for you. SAGITTARIUS: To accurately assess a relationship and live in that reality is more loving than indulging in idealistic imaginings. CAP-RICORN: Loved ones expect more from you because you've been known to make miracles happen. AQUAR-IUS: Allow yourself to ride the wave of a relationship and see where it leads before you label it. PISCES: The more people seek validation the less they obtain it.

**COUPLE OF THE** WEEKEND: As the Virgo moon reflects the glory of the Leo sun, the mutual admiration flies between these extremely compatible signs. Leo works hard to seem effortlessly cool and Virgo will make it well worthwhile, bringing out the very best in the cat. Virgo has an uncanny way of elevating and grounding Leo at the same time. These two also make ideal business partners and will have brilliant brainstorms.

> Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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#### PREVENTION



By Steve Becker Bidding quiz

You are the dealer and open One Diamond. Partner responds One Heart. What would you bid now with

each of the following four hands? . **♦** Q97 ♥ 83 ♦ AK74 **♣** AJ98 2. ♠ 10 ♥ K5 ♦ AJ8753 ♣ AKJ4

3. ♦ 62 ♥ AO74 ♦ AKO32 ♣ K3 4. **♦** K8 ♥ 62 **♦** AKQ985 **♣** A95 1. One notrump. The only bids

worth considering are one notrump and two clubs. Because an opening bid of one of a suit may range anywhere from 12 to 21 high-card points and have any kind of distribution, it is best to pinpoint the size and shape of your hand as soon as possible. The one-notrump rebid describes

your hand very adequately. It states that your opening bid is of the minimum class (12 to 14 points) and that the distribution is balanced (4-3-3-3, 4-4-3-2 or 5-3-3-2). A rebid of two clubs would be much less definitive. since it would suggest substantial length in the minors and could be based on many more high-card points. The one notrump rebid simultaneously identifies your limited high-card values and distribution, while a two club bid would create an ambiguity that could lead to your winding up in the wrong contract.

2. Two clubs. This is a far more promising hand than the previous

one, but you should still proceed cautiously, since partner might have only six points.

Two clubs allows the greatest scope for further investigation. If partner passes, game chances are virtually nil. If partner bids again, you plan to take further action in order to show that your opening bid was not of the minimum class. A jump to three diamonds over one heart is not inconceivable, but it would not describe your hand quite as well as the suggested bid of two clubs.

3. Four hearts. You shouldn't settle for less than game, since it's highly unlikely that partner will lose as many as four tricks. The best way of getting to game is by bidding it directly. The leap to four hearts is by no means a closeout bid; on the contrary, it implies great interest in a slam. It would be wrong to bid only

three hearts, which partner can pass. **4. Two notrump.** It is true that the rebid of two notrump in this sequence signifies 18 or 19 high-card points, but in this case, you can afford to relax the usual requirements, considering the likelihood of scoring six diamond tricks.

Point count should always be regarded as a flexible tool, and should take a back seat to simple common

**Tomorrow:** The art of circumvention. ©2020 King Features Syndicate Inc.

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DON'T EAT RAW FOOD, THOROUGHLY COOK MEAT AND EGGS



AVOID TRAVELLING TO AFFECTED AREAS **UNLESS NECESSARY** 



IF YOU BECOME SICK SEEK MEDICAL CARE **IMMEDIATELY** 

# SUN SAFETY WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

## **WORDS**

BRIGHT BURN **CUMULATIVE** DAMAGE **DANGEROUS DERMATOLOGIST EXPOSURE EYES** MELANIN MELANOMA **OUTDOORS PEAK** RADIATION **RASH** RAYS SAFETY SHADY SKIN **SPECTRUM** SUN **SUNGLASSES** SUNSCREEN

> ULTRAVIOLET **VISION**

	KMID 3 Midland	UNI 4 Spanish	KPEJ 5 Odessa	KOSA 7 Odessa	KTLE 8 Telemundo	KWES 9 Midland	KMLM 12 Odessa	KPBT 13 Odessa	KWWT 14 Odessa	KWES2 15 Midland	WTBS 33 Atlanta	TNT 34 Atlanta	ESPN 35 Sports	ESPN2 36 Sports	FSN 38 Sports	USA 55 New York	A&E 58 New York	DISC 60 Discovery
:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Dr. Young	Intimate History	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Bones	IVICIO.	SportsCenter	Globe	Law & Order:	Storage	Bering Sea
5 :30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS	Noticias	News	Creation	riistory	Hap.Days	Burgers	Movie:				Rangers	SVU	Storage	Gold
:PM		Rosa de	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatlón Es-	News	M:25	PBS News-	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Tag, Jer-	Bones	MLB Base-	World	Rangers Pre		Storage	Bering Sea
6 :30	Wheel	Guadalupe	Big Bang		tados Unidos	News	For the	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	emy Renner (DVS)	(DVS)	ball: Milwau-	TeamTennis:		SVU	Storage	Gold
:PM	Shark Tank	Te doy la	WWE	AtHome Vid.	(SS)	The Wall	News	Wash	Andy G.	Masters	( -/	NBA on TNT	kee Brewers at Chicago	Washington Kastles at	MLB Base-			Bering Sea
7 :30		vida	Friday Night				Issues4	Hoover	Andy G.	Masters	Movie:		Cubs.	Chicago	ball: Colo- rado Rockies		Storage	Gold
:PM	(:01) 20/20	Amor eterno	SiliackDowii	Magnum P.I.	Cennet (SS)	Dateline	Light of		- , -	Whose?	Blended, Joel McHale	The Alienist:		Smash.	-4 T	Law & Order.		(:03) Dino
8 :30						NBC	Southwest	mances	G. Acres	Whose?	(DVS)	Angel			Rangers.		Storage	Hunters
:PM		Como tú no		Blue Bloods	Enemigo	i '	Light of		Heroes	Seinfeld	(200)	The Alienist:	MLB Base-	NFL Live		Law & Order:		Bering Sea
9 :30		hay dos	News at 9		íntimo (SS)		Southwest		Heroes	Seinfeld		Angel	ball: Los An-				Storage	Gold
:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7			News		C. Burnett	black-ish	ELEAGUE	(:04) Movie:	geles Angels at Oakland		Postgame		Storage	Mysteries of
10 :30	J. Kimmel	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-		Tonight	Words of	Amanpour-	Perry Mason			Star Wars: The Force	Athletics.	nounced	Globe		Storage	Deep
. :PM		Contacto	Mod Fam	Colbert	maiaree		Heritage	Co		Gold	Movie: Pain	Awakens			Mavericks		Storage	Bering Sea
11 :30	J. Kimmel	deportivo	Funny	James	Cennet (SS)	Seth Meyers	Shofar	Wash	Twi. Zone	Gold	& Gain, Ed Harris (DVS)	(DVS)			Texans		Storage	Gold
:AM	Extra	Inocente	Two Men	Corden			News	Hoover	Alfred Hitch-	Millionaire	Hallis (DVS)	, ,	SportsCenter	UFC Live	ROH Wres-		Storage	(12:03) Dino
12 :30	Mel Robbins	de ti	Faith	- /			Heritage	Great Perfor-	cock Hr.	Millionaire					tling		Storage	Hunters
:AM		Papá a toda	Pawn				Light of	mances	Mannix	Short List		NCIS: New	SportsCenter		MLB Base-		Storage	Bering Sea
1 :30	Paid Prg.	madre	Pawn	Paid Prg.	Programa	Inside Ed.	Southwest			Paid Prg.	(:45) Movie:	Orleans		UFC	ball: Colo-	Chrisley	Storage	Gold
ANDY CAPP AGNES																		

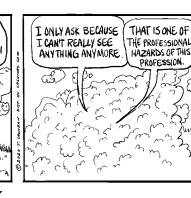
#### ANDY CAPP







#### IS THE MEAT VEP! SMOKED BEING SMOKED HARD AND SMOKED DEEP!





#### ARCHIE







#### ONE BIG HAPPY









#### **NEST HEAD**









## This Date In History

#### Today in History

Today is Friday, July 24, the 206th day of 2020. There are 160 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On July 24, 1974, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that President Richard Nixon had to turn over subpoenaed White House tape recordings to the Watergate special prosecutor.

On this date:

In 1847, Mormon leader Brigham Young and his followers arrived in the Great Salt Lake Valley in present-day Utah. In 1858, Republican senatorial

candidate Abraham Lincoln formally challenged Democrat Stephen A. Douglas to a series of political debates; the result was seven face-to-face encounters.

In 1862, Martin Van Buren, the eighth president of the United States, and the first to have been born a U.S. citizen, died at age 79 in Kinderhook, New York, the town where he was born in

In 1866, Tennessee became the first state to be readmitted to the Union after the Civil War.

In 1911, Yale University history professor Hiram Bingham III found the "Lost City of the Incas," Machu Picchu, in Peru.

In 1915, the SS Eastland, a passenger ship carrying more than 2,500 people, rolled onto its side while docked at the Clark Street Bridge on the Chicago River; an estimated 844 people died in the disaster. In 1937, the state of Alabama

dropped charges against four of the nine young Black men accused of raping two white women in the "Scottsboro Case."

In 1969, the Apollo 11 astronauts — two of whom had been the first men to set foot on the moon — splashed down safely in the Pacific.

In 1975, an Apollo spacecraft splashed down in the Pacific, completing a mission which included the first-ever docking with a Soyuz capsule from the

Soviet Union. In 1980, comedian-actor Peter Sellers died in London at 54.

In 2002, nine coal miners became trapped in a flooded tunnel of the Quecreek (KYOO'kreek) Mine in western Pennsylvania; the story ended happily 77 hours later with the rescue of all nine.

In 2018, the Trump administration said it would provide \$12 billion in emergency relief to farmers hurt by trade disputes with China and other countries. Ivanka Trump announced the shutdown of her fashion line,

which had been targeted by boycotts and prompted concerns about conflicts of interest. Ten years ago: A stampede inside a tunnel crowded with techno music fans left 21 people dead and more than 500 injured at the famed Love Parade festival in western Germany. Fourteen-year-old Jim Liu beat Justin Thomas 4 and 2 to become the youngest U.S. Junior Amateur golf champion at Egypt Valley Country Club in Ada, Michigan.

long sought by a country that than his Democratic predecesof DirecTV.

One year ago: In a day of con-

Five years ago: Fulfilling the

hopes of millions of Kenyans, Barack Obama returned to his father's homeland for the first time as U.S. president, a visit considered him a local son. In a stunning, public attack on his own party leader, Republican Sen. Ted Cruz accused Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of lying, saying he was no better sor, Harry Reid, and couldn't be trusted. Two teenage fishermen, Perry Cohen and Austin Stephanos, went missing off Florida's Atlantic coast; their capsized boat was found two days later. AT&T became the country's biggest traditional TV provider with its \$48.5 billion purchase

gressional testimony, Robert Mueller dismissed President Donald Trump's claim of "total exoneration" in Mueller's probe of Russia's 2016 election interference. Boris Johnson took office as Britain's prime minister, vowing to break the impasse that defeated his predecessor, Theresa May, and lead the country out of the European Union. Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rosselló said he would resign, in the face of a public uproar over an online chat in which the governor and close advisers insulted women and mocked constituents. A Pennsylvania appeals court overturned rapper Meek Mill's conviction in a drug and gun case that had kept the rapper on probation for a decade. Federal regulators announced a settlement under which Facebook was being fined \$5 billion over privacy violations; the company would also face new oversight and restrictions on its

Answer to previous puzzle

Today's Birthdays: Actor John Aniston is 87. Political cartoonist Pat Oliphant is 85. Comedian Ruth Buzzi is 84. Actor Mark Goddard is 84. Actor Dan Hedaya is 80. Actor Chris Sarandon is 78. Comedian Gallagher is 74. Actor Robert Hays is 73. Former Republican national chairman Marc Racicot (RAWS'-koh) is 72. Actor Michael Richards is 71. Actress

Lynda Carter is 69. Movie director Gus Van Sant is 68. Former Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., is 67. Country singer Pam Tillis is 63. Actor Paul Ben-Victor is 58. Basketball Hall of Famer Karl Malone is 57. Retired MLB All-Star Barry Bonds is 56. Actor Kadeem Hardison is 55. Actress-singer Kristin Chenoweth is 52. Actress Laura Leighton is 52. Actor John P. Navin Jr. is 52.

Actress-singer Jennifer Lopez is 51. Basketball player-turnedactor Rick Fox is 51. Director Patty Jenkins ("Wonder Woman") is 49. Actress Jamie Denbo (TV: "Orange is the New Black") is 47. Actor Eric Szmanda is 45. Actress Rose Byrne is 41. Country singer Jerrod Niemann is 41. Actress Summer Glau is 39. Actor Sheaun McKinney is 39. Actress Elisabeth Moss is 38.

Actress Anna Paquin is 38. Actress Sarah Greene is 36. NHL center Patrice Bergeron is 35. Actress Megan Park is 34. Actress Mara Wilson is 33. Actress Sarah Steele is 32. Rock singer Jay McGuiness (The Wanted) is 30. Actress Emily Bett Rickards is 29. Actor Lucas Adams is 27. TV personality Bindi Irwin is

® 2019 The Associated Press.

#### **Newsday Crossword**

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Second son
- tackles
- 9 Simpson the
- 14 Right quick, for
- 15 Cathedral
- conclusions
- 20 Daily crossword
- 21 Large tropical fish'
- 23 Red ink

- **30** Pro racing circuit
- 35 Venerable dolls
- percolation
- bond
- **41** Not fond of
- mixing
- 45 A day in old
- Rome
- 46 They debuted
- as Impalas
- \_ grievance (complain)
- activity\* Internal medicine
- for a while **64** Big mower

maker

- 5 Tampa Bay

- saxophonist 13 Name related to
- Nellie
- short
- - Game you're
  - dyeing to play\*
- **19** Strike smartly
- neighbor
- indication
- 25 Obsessions
- **26** Compresses
- severely
- 34 Chance to play
- **37** Extract by
- 38 Gilt-edged, as a
- **39** See 26 Down
- 42 Meg or Jennifer
- of films 44 Ado
- the same year
- 48 Unleashed
- **52** Sardine cousin **53** Architectural
- concern Was sidelined
- 62 Bride's pride\*

- 65 Farm stand basketful
- **66** Mac
- **67** KGB organizer
- Land pirate 69 Grab some

#### DOWN

- grapples with Moriarty
- Tulsa
- protectant
- Gorbachev's

13

17

64

- (software box phrase)
- 68 Return to Never

- 2 Special guy
- 3 City west of
- grandmother
- CIA organizer 7 Not panicking 8 Papaya-hits-
  - "Closing soon"

#### chips, say

- 1 Where Holmes
- 4 Cosmetics

- pavement sound

#### 12 Sewell who wrote Black

Beauty 16 Place for a

10 Stalemate

11 Browning

direction

fanciful pie 18 Reasons for

bell ringing

22 French diarist

24 Flows (in), (out), or (through) 26 With 39 Across and 33 Down,

what each

answer to each starred clue is 27 Admiral Halsey

syllable of the

in Midway (2019) 56 Fraction of an 28 Doctor Zhivago locale

29 Peevish moods

31 Digital watch pioneer 32 Balming targets **33** See 26 Down

14

18

- TRICKY/CITY QUARTET by S.N.
  - www.stanxwords.com 36 Slopping centers 39 Tree trunk, more

Edited by Stanley Newman

- or less 40 Indie cinema specialist
- 43 Some horseshoe throws 45 Carroll's real
- surname 47 Word on the
- Asian nation list 49 Scandinavian Lawrence 51 Ponies (up)
- 53 Mouse accessory 54 It's used in place
- of "place" **55** Drinks for dart players
- ounce 58 Starter for space 59 Fuzzy surfaces
- **60** Others of that kind
- 63 Certain iron oxide
- 10 11 12 9

66

69

16

7/24/20

15

19

22 20 21 23 25 24 30 27 28 29 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 44 45 43 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 54 53 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63

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65

68

## Cole, Stanton lead Yanks past Nats 4-1 in stormy MLB opener

By HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Sports Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The coronavirus-shortened Major League Baseball season finally started amid the pandemic Thursday night with plenty of unusual elements — zero fans, umpires wearing masks, Washington star Juan Soto sidelined by COVID-19, all Nationals and Yankees kneeling together before the national anthem.

"It's hard to describe. That's 2020 in a nutshell," said Nationals pitcher Sean Doolittle, who was supposed to catch Dr. Anthony Fauci's way-off-the-mark ceremonial first pitch. "Very emotional day. Very, very emotional day."

And there was plenty that actually made it all seem something resembling

normal: Gerrit Cole's five terrific innings, big hits from Giancarlo Stanton and Aaron Judge and a 4-1 storm-halted victory for the big-name Yankees over the defending champion Nationals. ""It was a lot of fun. No one could have envisioned the type of year we're hav-

ing this year, but within those parameters, it exceeded every mark," said Cole, who allowed only Adam Eaton's first-inning homer and joked about recording a complete game. "I just had a blast." Max Scherzer, who struck out 11 but gave up all of New York's runs, chose to

the way I look at it. All the things we can get negative about and cry about, I'm What began as a muggy evening turned into a dark, windy downpour, replete with rumbles of thunder and flashes of lightning, prompting a delay in

look at the bright side, saying: "I'd rather be playing baseball than not. That's

After waiting 1 hour, 58 minutes - 15 minutes more than were played - the

game was called off and goes into the books as a win for New York. Three-time Cy Young Award winner Scherzer (0-1) served up a two-run homer to 2017 NL MVP Stanton that traveled 459 feet  $\,$  in the first, an RBI double to 2017 AL Rookie of the Year Judge in the third, and an RBI single to Stanton in

Cole (1-0) looked every bit the player the Yankees hoped for when they signed him as a free agent to a \$324 million, nine-year contract, the largest deal for a pitcher. He was terrific other than Eaton's drive -- the ball landed on one of the blue advertising tarps now stretching over unused seats at Nationals Park.

This was the official beginning of what is planned as a regular season with just 60 games -- instead of the customary 162 -- with, at least at the outset, no spectators -- instead of the 40,000 or so that usually would be at opening day in D.C. -- and with key rules changes.

Those include Thursday's agreement to expand the playoffs from 10 to 16 teams; using designated hitters in every game, not just at American League

ballparks; and the gimmicky runner-on-second-base to start each half-inning

In these most polarized of times in the United States, there certainly were those pleased, and maybe relieved, that one of the main North American team sports -- the so-called national pastime -- finally was back, playing real games.

"I found it easy to get locked into the game," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "I had a lot of butterflies today coming to the ballpark and sorting through all the different things to get ready

And there also were, to be sure, those wondering whether it's a good idea to play these games as the COVID-19 outbreak grows worse in parts of the coun-

The pregame ceremony included nods to the Nationals' title and the Black

Lives Matter movement -- players from both teams jointly held a long black piece of cloth, then knelt in unison. "There's a lot of injustice in this world and a lot of bad things going on, so we just wanted to show that we're aware of it," Judge said. "Start the conversation.

Start the change." The 266 days between the final game of the World Series -- Scherzer started Game 7 for Washington against Cole's former team, the Houston Astros -- and Thursday marked the longest gap between games since professional baseball leagues started in 1871.

"A long wait," Yankees shortstop Gleyber Torres said.

There all sorts sorts of protocols intended to keep folks safe, including a ban on players spitting, umpires wearing masks, and frequent testing for the new coronavirus -- Soto went on the special injured list for the illness Thursday after his positive result came back.

"It was a really harsh reminder how tenuous this situation is." Doolittle said

Yankees closer Aroldis Chapman already was on that list. Two Nationals players who would have been on the roster — Ryan Zimmerman and Joe Ross opted out of the season because of health-related concerns.

Even if the stadium was closed to the public, some folks did watch from balconies on at least one nearby high-rise building. Meanwhile, fake crowd noise was piped in through the stadium speakers, adding a bizarre element to an eerie atmosphere.

"It felt odd," Judge said. "It definitely felt odd."

After Friday's day off, the series resumes Saturday, with World Series MVP Stephen Strasburg pitching against New York's James Paxton. There is rain in the forecast.

## MLB, players agree to expand playoffs to 16 teams this season

<u>By RONALD BLUM</u>

AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Baseball and the players' union agreed Thursday to expand the playoffs from 10 teams to 16 for the pandemic-delayed season, a decision that makes it likely teams with losing records will reach the postseason.

The agreement was reached hours before the season opener between the New York Yankees and World Series champion Washington Nationals. The deal applied only for 2020 and included a surprise benefiting the Yankees the most: Collection of baseball's luxury tax will be suspended this year, a person familiar with the details told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because no announcement was made.

Sixteen of the 30 teams will advance to a best-of-three first round: the first- and second-place teams in every division and the next two clubs by winning percentage in each league. Those winners move on to the best-offive Division Series, where the usual format resumes. The final four teams are in best-of-seven League Championship Series, and the pennant winners meet in the best-of-seven World

"It's such a unique season, why not try a little something different and make it as exciting as possible," said Colorado shortstop Trevor Story, whose team has never won a World Series title. "I know it's going to be such a sprint with the 60-game season; adding more playoff teams will just add to the fire and the excitement and the fandom around the game. Anything can happen in a 60-game season. I'm all for it."

In each league, the division winners will be seeded 1-3, the second-place teams 4-6 and the teams with the next two-best records 7-8, which means up to four teams in one division could be in the postseason. The first round pairings will be 1 vs. 8, 2-7, 3-6 and 4-5.

"This season will be a sprint to a new format that will allow more fans to experience playoff baseball," baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said in a statement.

The higher seed in the first round will host all games from Sept. 29 to

"For me personally, a little less than ideal that there's not more weight given to the division winners," Gerrit Cole said after winning his Yankees debut, 4-1 at Nationals Park in a game called in the sixth inning because of

Tiebreaker games, which have produced famous home runs by Bobby Thomson and Bucky Dent, are eliminated. Ties would be broken by headto-head record, followed by better record within a team's division and record in the last 20 games within the division. If still tied, the standard would be last 21 games within a division, then 22, etc.

Teams could finish the regular season with differing games played; regular-season postponements would be made up at the discretion of Manfred.

As part of the deal, MLB agreed to guarantee a postseason pool that would be \$50 million: \$20 million if the first round is played and \$10 million for each additional round. The postseason pool usually comprises ticket money from the postseason, but baseball anticipates playing the entire year in empty ballparks due to the coronavirus.

"The opportunity to add playoff games in this already-abbreviated season makes sense for fans, the league and players," union head Tony Clark said in a statement. "We hope it will result in highly competitive pennant races as well as exciting additional playoff games to the benefit of the industry."

ESPN was given rights to seven of eight first-round series and TBS the other for no additional money as a makeup for missed games. ESPN and TBS were to have split the two wildcard games in the original format.

The change means 53% of the 30 teams reach the playoffs. If eight teams qualified for the playoffs in each league from 1995 through 2019, 46 teams at or below .500 would have made it, according to the Elias Sports Bureau, an average of just under two per season. Those teams included 25

There would have been only three seasons in which all playoff teams would have had winning records, Elias said: 2000, 2003 and 2009.

"From a selfish, White Sox standpoint, I'm certainly in favor of it just possibilities that this group's going to get exposed to October baseball," Chicago White Sox general manager Rick Hahn said. "We've talked over the years of this rebuild and into this next stage that learning how to win is part of that. And certainly learning how to win in October is very much part of getting us to our ultimate goals."

## **JOSLIN**

The Coahoma Bulldogs went on to finish that 2018 season with a 4-7 record while they learned the intricacies of Joslin's system. Last season, in Joslin's second year, the Bulldogs added five wins to their previous year's total and completed the year with a 9-3 record. Even with the graduation of Schneider,

so well, the Bulldogs are not backing down from anyone and are ready to take on the 2020 season.

who ran Joslin's offense

"The fun thing about high school sports is that you don't get to pick your players and you don't get to keep them for a long time," Joslin said. "Each team is a different team." Joslin has done a great

job turning around the program since he has arrived. Not every game can be as memorable as your first win as a head coach but they all matter. With Joslin leading the red and white, there

are plenty more wins to

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

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