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WEDNESDAY EDITION,
 APRIL 14, 2021

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Upcoming Events

Health Info Expo
 Downtown
 April 24

Johnson & Johnson vaccination clinic that was scheduled this week has been paused due to a rare blood clotting disorder. The National Guard will be standing down until further guidance. The community vaccine clinics that were scheduled this week will not take place at this time.

Stand Up For Children
 April 15
 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
 SMMC front lawn
 Help raise awareness for child abuse and provide a voice to those who feel like they don't have one

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Big Spring City Council passes 'Second Amendment Stronghold' 4-2

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council addressed several issues in a four-hour meeting Tuesday night, including passage of a resolution declaring Big Spring a "Second Amendment Stronghold."

Big Spring's Michael Cross spoke in favor of the resolution.

"It's become very clear that our Second Amendment is under great attack," Cross said, "and it's an attack that has been provoked by, from what I see, current laws not doing what they need to do, and current legislation that was passed by administrations not doing what they need to do."

City attorney Andrew Hagen said the resolution - which passed 4-2 with council members Nick Ornelas, District 1, and Troy Tompkins, District 5, dissenting - will have little practical effect.

"There's no meaningful legal impact at all," Hagen said.

A similar resolution was passed in 2014, and another resolution failed to

pass in 2019.

In other business, the council passed a zoning change to an 18-acre tract of land north of the Big Spring State Hospital on U.S. Highway 87 in preparation for the creation of short-term housing for visiting workers.

"What we put in, we make an investment for the property to last, although the buildings are modular and could be moved at some time in the future," said Travis Kelly of Target Hospitality, a company headquartered in The Woodlands. "We've put several of these facilities up across the United States, 17 of them actually just here in the Permian Basin region. Some of those facilities have been around for 10 or 12 years in various parts of the country."

Kelly assured the council that the facility, planned to house up to 400 workers, would meet all building codes.

"Everything that we're going to do would be falling under that building code," Kelly said. "Nothing's waived or anything because it's called 'temporary housing.'"

Roshni Patel, a local hotel operator, spoke against the planned project, say-

ing it would take business away from area hotels.

"We, the hotel and motel owners, think that all buildings should have permanent structures and foundations," Patel said. "When we allow man-camps and manufactured homes and all those types of businesses in town, there's less potential to have neighbors and more development in those particular areas. The majority of the cities in Texas do not allow development of man-camps within the city limits."

Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Director Mark Willis said that such a facility would be an economic boom to Big Spring, although residents of such a facility typically have less positive impact on the city than full-time residents.

"If it's an all-encompassing thing where they eat on site and all of that, it's going to be considerably less than 400 people coming in and taking what we'd consider 'regular' jobs in town," Willis said. "So it would be a limited impact."

See **CITY**, Page 3

WTVAHCS fulfills 4th mission during COVID-19 vaccination clinic

By **WILLIAM HATTON**
 Public Affairs Specialist,
 WTVAHCS and U.S. Army Veteran

West Texas VA Health Care System assisted community leaders, Texas National Guard and residents in Big Spring, Texas during a COVID-19 vaccination clinic. The support came as a commitment to the VA's fourth mission, which aims to support national, state, and local emergency management, public health, safety, and homeland security efforts.

The clinic distributed free vaccines to citizens within Howard County, a rural area of West Texas. In support of this effort, WTVAHCS mobilized its mobile incident command unit, to provide the Texas National Guard an ideal platform from which they could manage their vaccination clinic.

"We had the resources and the autho-



Courtesy photo/William Hatton, Public Affairs Specialist, WTVAHCS
Texas National Guard soldiers with Task Force COVAX distribute COVID-19 vaccines to residents in Big Spring, Texas. West Texas VA Health Care System teamed up with local leaders in Big Spring, providing a mobile Incident Command Unit, which was vital in distributing the vaccine.

rization to help, so there wasn't any hesitation on our part to lend a hand," said Jason Cave, Director of WTVAHCS.

Big Spring hosted the drive-thru clinic through a program operated by the

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). With the help of TDEM, Big Spring was able to utilize National Guard support in distributing the vaccine.

"This event is very important for the city," said Craig Ferguson, Big Spring Fire Chief. "We were able to get help from the VA in facilitating a space to distribute the vaccine. The National Guard was able to come in and provide experience and logistical support, which was essential."

To host the drive-thru COVID-19 vaccination clinic, Big Spring leadership had requested support from WTVAHCS. The city hosted the drive-thru clinic in the parking lot of Scenic Mountain Medical Center but needed the mobile incident command unit to round

See **WTV**, Page 3



banner honoring the service of military veterans.

Courtesy photo

From left to right, a member of the All-Veterans Council of Tom Green county Color Guard salutes the flag during the 2020 Howard College — San Angelo Veterans Day observance along with fellow Color Guard member Tony Crosby, as the college's Student Body President Alexis Bourke holds a

Howard College marked as Military Friendly College

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

Howard College welcomes students from all walks of life...and west Texans are proud of our military veterans.

It's not surprising, then, that among Howard's non-traditional students, military veterans are held in high regard. At the college's board of trustees meeting last week, Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks announced that the website militaryfriendly.com has ranked Howard fifth in the nation among small community colleges for military friendliness.

See **COLLEGE**, Page 3

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Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

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

• Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

• GriefShare is a biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support); there is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held three times per year on Thursday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the GriefShare Ministry of TBC Facebook page. You can also call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

FRIDAY

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

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speak-

ers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

MONDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees It, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

TUESDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 81 inmates at the time of this report.

• **JOHNNY CORBET COLEY**, 36, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault causes bodily injury.

• **RANDI JO HAIR**, 48, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• **JOSHUA ALLEN NOBLE**, 34, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of engage in organized criminal activity.

• **LUCAS WAYNE RICE**, 41, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

WTVA

Continued from Page 3

out the logistical support.

"It's important to come out to these smaller rural communities and provide the vaccine," said Sgt. Nicholas McCoy, with Task Force COVAX, a COVID-19 Vaccine operation. "Our mission is a success when people can show up and get vaccinated - leaving with a peace of mind that they got the vaccine."

Editor's Note: The Johnson & Johnson vaccines have been paused by the FDA and CDC. The scheduled vaccination clinics have been cancelled for the time being and will be rescheduled once more direction has been given. At this time there is no timeline as to when the Johnson & Johnson vaccines will be available to the community. Scenic Mountain Medical Center and other providers in the Howard County area and surrounding areas are offering the Pfizur and Moderna vaccines still.

A small prayer by K.Rae

Instead of trusting in earthly things, Lord, may we trust in a sure thing and trust in Your heavenly love. Amen

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **JOHNNY CORBET COLEY JR**, 36, of 81604 Stadium Avenue, was arrested on a warrant for aggravated assault causes bodily injury.

• **JOSHUA ALLEN NOBLE**, 34, of 1801 Hamilton Street, was arrested on a charge of engage in criminal activity F2.

• **RANDI JO HAIR**, 48, of 511 S. Goliad Street, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported in the 1500 block of E. 5th Street.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 3400 block of North CR 25.

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

• **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 7000 block of SSR.

• **ACCIDENT MAJOR** was reported in the 500 block E. FM 700.

• **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 1200 block of Derrick Road.

• **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the 800 block E. 2nd.

• **HIT AND RUN** was reported in the 2600 block of Crestline Road.

• **BURGLARY OF BUILDING** was reported in the 600 block of E. Culp Avenue.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 5000 block of S. Service Road.

• **UNWANTED SUBJECT** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the area of WCR 52 and N CR 15. No transport was required.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 6600 block of Craig Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **PUBLIC SERVICE** was reported in the 600 block of Tulane. No transport was required.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 50 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **PUBLIC SERVICE** was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. No transport was required.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 500 block of FM 700. No transport was required.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Apron Drive. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **PUBLIC SERVICE** was reported in the 1000 block of E. 14th Street. No transport was required.

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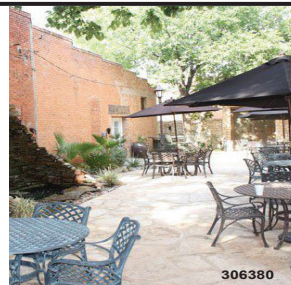
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MEMBER 2021

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

CITY

Continued from Page 1

I'd have to look at it and do an analysis of it. My experience of this is, up further north of here, they're in there for five to seven days on, five to seven days off. So you don't get the same rollover of the dollar as you do with families living here. You take your laundry home. You do everything you possibly can back at your home. There is a positive impact and it does expand infrastructure."

The council voted unanimously to table the issue to give Willis time to study the economic impact of the project and report back to the council.

The council addressed an item that has been tabled for several meetings: Mayor Shannon Thomason's proposal to increase the membership of the

Big Spring Economic Development Corporation's board of directors from five to seven members, allowing each member of the city council to appoint one member to the board.

The council rejected the proposal by a vote of five to one.

The council approved several other issues, including:

- A proposal to allow the Big Spring city manager authority to approve changes needed to bring the city into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act without waiting for a council meeting, when circumstances require;
- A proposal from Police Chief Chad Williams to institute an anti-trespassing program designed for out-of-town property owners to designate police to provide extra attention to their local unoccupied properties;

• An item addressing several equal opportunity and affirmative action policies of the city to bring them more in line with federal and state laws;

• Two grant proposals, one for downtown sidewalks, lighting, roads, and other infrastructure; and the second for water issues in the downtown area;

• A raise for lifeguards at the Russ McEwen aquatic center to \$8.50 an hour, with the head lifeguard receiving a raise to \$9.25 an hour;

• A request from McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark Director Jim Little to pursue Texas Department of Transportation grants for runway repair projects at the airpark; and

• A proposal from Nati Saldivar and Fire Chief Craig Ferguson to apply for grants for improvement of local fire stations.

Take Note

• American Legion Post 506 will be hosting a fish fry on Saturday, April 17 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for delivery; serving from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Plates will be \$10 each and can be picked up at 3202 W. Hwy 80 or call to place an order at 432-263-2084. Everyone is welcome.

• Howard College is offering License to Carry Course with class dates set for April 17 and May 15. There is a maximum of 10 students per class; handgun and ammo not provided. Participants must be 21 years of age and have valid ID. Those taking the class will need 50 rounds of ammo and a handgun. Questions can be answered by contacting Dee Lindsey at 432-264-5641 or by e-mail at dlindsey@howardcollege.edu.

• Howard College is offering Microsoft Excel I and II courses. Excel I classes are set for April 15, 20 and 22. Microsoft Excel II classes are set for April 27, 29, May 4 and 6. Questions can be answered by contacting Dee Lindsey at 432-264-5641 or by e-mail at dlindsey@howardcollege.edu.

• April Mental Health First Aid classes will be taking place: April 16 -

In-person Adult MHFA - Howard College; April 26 - Youth Mental Health First Aid; April 28 - Adult Mental Health First Aid
April 29 - Youth Mental Health First Aid

• Forsan Food Pantry will be open twice a month from 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. Families who are in need can pull up to the front doors of the Junior High/High School and receive a free box of pre-packed meals. If you have any questions or need to pick up a box at a different time, contact Kaci Wash at 432-457-2223 ext 821 or Jenny Sayles at jennysales@yahoo.com.

• Cub Scouts meet Monday from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Naz Family Church, located at 1400 S. Lancaster.

• Howard County Republican Club meets the second Monday of each month in the Cactus Room at Howard College. The next meeting will be held in the newly renovated Cactus Room. Everyone is welcome. The meeting takes place at Noon. For more information call 432-213-7628.

• A new group named Taking Care of Business has started in Howard County. It is made

up of people of all ages and genders who want to be better than they are. The focus of the fledgling organization is to engage in meaningful discussions that promote personal growth. Additionally, the organization will plan and execute worthwhile activities within the community. There is no membership fee and attendance is not taken. The only requirements are that you be positive or want to be more positive than you are, consider yourself to be a good person but want to be better than you are, and that you have a desire to help others be better too. Childcare is available during the discussion time if you let us know. Topics to be avoided include Religion and Politics, though we can dance around them.

Taking Care of Business meets in the Masonic Lodge on the court square. It is not necessary that you have any masonic affiliation to participate in this Growth Group. All Covid-19 safety protocols will be followed as defined by local, state, and federal authorities. At this time refreshments will not be served but you are welcome to bring your own and not share. The meet-

ings take place at 219 South Main Big Spring, Texas. For more information write to Colonel.Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com or just come to the meeting.

• The Howard County Library meeting rooms will be opening up - at limited capacity - on Feb. 1. There will only be five people allowed in the small room and 15 in the large room and can only be used by appointment only by community organizations. No parties or social gatherings will be allowed at this time. For more information, call the Howard County Library.

• 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 group will be meeting March 30 at Cowboys. The Senior Supper Club is an informal group of folks from Howard County who meet at least weekly and sometimes more for Dutch-Treat food at different area restaurants. Sometimes the group also meets for cards, dominoes,

or desserts and fellowship. For more information, contact Colonel.Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com.

• St. Vincent de Paul will be open the following dates beginning November 2020. Food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and other assistance will be suspended at this time, but will resume on Dec. 17. Distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building. In December 2020, the food distribution will continue the 2nd Thursday as scheduled. SVDP will be closed from December 18 through January 7, 2021.

• Permian Basin Multiple Sclerosis Support Group for information, encouragement and support. The group meets monthly on the Second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express at 5321 John Ben Shepard Parkway, Odessa. If you or someone you know has been touched by MS, or if you are just interested in more information please feel to contact Gary Tidwell at garylteagle1987@gmail.com.

• VFW Post 2013

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

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible? There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Bennie Roberts, 69, died Friday. Viewing and visitation will be from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM on Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2:00 PM on Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Mount Olive Cemetery.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

Howard's District Director of Veteran Affairs Mike Hemmeter recently commented on the designation.

"We are a military-friendly school," Hemmeter said. "There are different awards that are given based on what you qualify for. We are a military-friendly school, as well as a military-friendly school for spouses. So we got those two awards."

Hemmeter said the college has applied for the Military Friendly designation in the past.

"We complete the survey for this particular designation each

year. The Military Friendly folks basically take a look at our responses to those, and so, based on retention and transfer rates and graduation and job placement. The number that we serve," he said. "We are a small school, so that kind of determines where you are in terms of that category. So they take a look at those things, and based on those responses, they designate where you are on that spectrum."

According to the Military Friendly website, more than 1,200 schools participated in this year's survey. About 750 earned the "Military Friendly" designation, 162 were selected for "Gold" status in 11 categories.

Hemmeter said veterans are eligible for military benefits to assist with completing their college degree.

"I don't know a percentage, but on our current list of students, we probably have about 175 that are using some type of military benefit," he

said. "That's the veteran themselves, or a spouse, or a dependent. Each year you have to complete a survey, and those numbers kind of move around a bit."

In Texas, 38 schools achieved the program's "Military Friendly" designation. Only four Texas schools ranked in the Top 10 for the various categories, including the University of North Texas in the "Tier 1 Research Institution" category, Texas State University in the "Tier 2 Research Institution" category, and University of North Texas - Health Science Center in the "Graduate School" category. Howard College joined those prestigious institutions as the only Texas Top 10 school in the "Small Community College" category.

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Forsan Buffaloes Baseball team defeats Hamlin 11 to 1 in big district win

By **DUSTIN POPE**
Herald Sports Writer

The Forsan Buffalo Baseball team on The Hamlin Pied Pipers in a district clash this Monday in Forsan. The Buffaloes overpowered Hamlin from the beginning of the game. They went on to win in a blowout 11 to 1 after five innings of play.

Josh Durbin took the mound for the Buffaloes. After allowing a leadoff single, the Buffalo pitcher would shine; he completely shut down Hamlin on the inning. He refused to allow any runs to cross the plate while striking out two. Forsan wasted little time getting down to business in this game. Kevin Kilgore led off the game with a hard-hit single back up the middle. Cayden Morgan followed with a single of his own that would score Kilgore for the first run of the game. Pitcher Josh Durbin was next up when he hit a sacrifice fly to the outfield that was deep enough to score Morgan on the play, making it 2 to 0. Major Stock-

ton and Brandon Valdez had back-to-back singles, giving the Buffs runners at the corners with only one out. Major Stockton scored on an error by the Hamlin right fielder, increasing the lead to 3 to 0. The Hamlin pitcher struggled to find the strike zone as he went on to walk the next three Buffalo batter in a row. All in all, the Buffs kept the momentum moving by putting up two more runs in the inning.

Enjoying a 5 to 0 lead, Durbin went right back to work. The pitcher was impressive once again. He never allowed Hamlin to get much working in the inning, shutting them down and

throwing a goose egg on the board. The second inning started like the first for the Buffs. The bats were on fire, and the team was in a groove. The inning started with a single by Cayden Morgan. After a pop fly out, Major Stockton then earned a walk, giving the Buffs runners at the corners once again with only one out. Brandon Valdez came through for his team when he had a brutal hit that scored two on the play bringing the score to 7 to 0. The Buffaloes would not be done. They knew they had the momentum and took full advantage of it. After a ground out, it brought up Nolan Park. Park was hit by pitch. The Buffs fan had park hit by pitch. Valdez at third. Bradlee Saucedo singled in Valdez to make the lead 9 to 0. The Hamlin pitcher kept struggling

with his command and walked Josh Cervantes. That brings up the Buffaloes leadoff man Kevin Kilgore and the young Buff delivered with a hard-hit fly ball to left field that scores two more runs to bring the total to an impressive 11 to 0. The inning ended with a score of 11 to 0.

Neither team did much in the third and fourth inning, not scoring any runs. Hamlin did put up one run in the top of the fifth, making it 11 to 1, but the game was called after the top of the fifth, giving the Buffaloes a decisive victory on the day.

This win puts the Buffaloes record at 9-10 on the season and giving the Buffs a 3-1 District record. This team is full of young talent, and they are starting to showcase that. Next up for Forsan will face Colorado City on April 16, which will be senior night.

Dustin is the sports writer for the Herald. To contact him e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331



Mize gets 1st win; Tigers beat Astros 6-2 in Hinch's return

By **KRISTIE RIEKEN**
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON - Back in the place where he'd received so many cheers over the years, one more ovation after a long and difficult time away was almost too much for manager A.J. Hinch to take.

Casey Mize tossed seven scoreless innings for his first career win and fellow rookie Akil Baddoo homered again as the Detroit Tigers beat the Astros 6-2 on Monday night in Hinch's first trip to Houston since he was fired for his role in the team's sign-stealing scheme.

Hinch spent five seasons in Houston, winning the 2017 World Series and helping turn around a team that had sunk to embarrassing lows during a rebuild in the years before he arrived. The Astros won more than 100 games in each of his last three seasons, capped by a franchise-best 107 wins in 2019 when they lost to the Washington Nationals in the World Series.

He received a standing ovation when he was introduced before the game and the team played a tribute video to him on the big screen. As the last frame of the video displayed the words: "Thank you A.J.," he stepped onto the field and tipped his cap to the crowd, which roared with approval.

The Astros gave Hinch a heads up before the video was played and it still got to him.

"This place is very special to me," he said. "It's the only time I've ever been uncomfortable in this setting, in this building. I really do appreciate it. It touched me. I wanted to get out and tip my cap and then get back in before I showed too much emotion."

Hinch was suspended by baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred for a year in January 2020 and subsequently fired by owner Jim Crane for his role in the scheme that violated rules by using a video camera to steal catchers' signs during Houston's run to the 2017 title and again during the 2018 season.

Renato Núñez and Grayson Greiner also homered as the Tigers jumped on Zack Greinke (1-1) for six runs to snap a four-game skid.

"We needed a good performance," Hinch said.

"Emotional night for me personally. I think our guys knew that and responded with a great effort across the board."

His sweet up-and-coming stars helped him to a win. Hinch's return as the Tigers handed the Astros their third consecutive loss after a 6-1 start. Mize (1-0), the top overall pick in the 2018 amateur draft who was making his ninth start, yielded four hits and fanned five in the longest start of his big league career.

"The kid was good stuff," Houston manager Dusty Baker said. "Early it looked like he was going to be wild and then he got some runs and he settled down. He kept us off balance with his split finger."

Mize got stronger as the game progressed, retiring nine of the last 10 batters he faced before being replaced by Buck Farmer to start the eighth.

The Tigers didn't score in the first inning, but they taxed Greinke, forcing him to throw 27 pitches to escape a bases loaded jam. His trouble continued in the second when Núñez doubled to start the inning before Greiner's one-out shot to right field made it 2-0.

Núñez and Baddoo hit back-to-back homers with two outs in the third to extend the lead to 4-0.

Baddoo, who homered on his first major league pitch this season, drove a fastball from Greinke 450 feet to the seats in center field for his third career homer.

Big Spring Junior High students bring home the medals



Courtesy photo

Saturday, Andrews hosted a tournament including six different schools. The students who played all brought their A-game, with a few of them placing in the tournament. Kayley Roberts and Liliana Anderson placed 4th in Girls Doubles while Ana Villagrana and Nikki Greene placed 3rd. Annalise Rodriguez and Brianna Landin won the consolation bracket for 7th Grade Girls Doubles, and Caeden Gutierrez won the consolation bracket for Boys Singles while Juakin Arguello won 1st place. All others played incredibly well and had close matches.

Hernandez 2nd Rangers reliever to have Tommy John surgery

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Texas Rangers right-hander Jonathan Hernandez had ligament reconstruction surgery on his right elbow Monday, just less than two weeks after fellow reliever José Leclerc had the same procedure, and their bullpen will also be without hard-throwing Matt Bush until at least July.

Rangers president of baseball operations Jon Daniels said the Tommy John surgery on Hernandez was performed by team physician Dr. Keith Meister and went as expected. Both Hernandez and Leclerc will be sidelined until at least early in the 2022 season. Meister did Leclerc's surgery on March 31.

Bush has a flexor strain in his right

arm and will get an injection Tuesday, then wait six weeks before a follow-up MRI to determine if the right-hander is ready to start throwing again. Daniels said Bush would then need about six weeks — or about the same length of time he is unable to throw — before being able to pitch again in a game.

After missing 2 1/2 seasons because of a pair of elbow operations, Bush was put on the 10-day injured list Friday with elbow inflammation after three appearances.

The 24-year-old Hernandez had a breakout 2020, when he was 5-1 with a 2.90 ERA in 27 appearances in the pandemic-shortened 60-game season. He had 31 strikeouts and eight walks in 31 innings, relying heavily on a sinker that averaged nearly 98 mph.

He was shut down midway through spring training with what the team called a ligament sprain, and he decided to have the Tommy John surgery after a follow-up MRI last week.

"(The MRI) showed some measure of healing. But he was still feeling some discomfort in the joint, which after four weeks, medical staff felt like if it was likely to heal non-surgically, then he wouldn't have felt discomfort at that point," Daniels said. "Ultimately Jonathan's call. The decision was made rather than to invest more time in the rehab side, since he was still having symptoms, to go ahead and have the surgery."

Daniels also provided a series of other injury updates before Texas opened a four-game series at defending American League champion Tampa Bay:

— Right-handed reliever Joely Rodriguez, slowed in spring training because of a left ankle injury during the offseason, is at the team's alternate site in Round Rock, Texas, and will start throwing in games this week.

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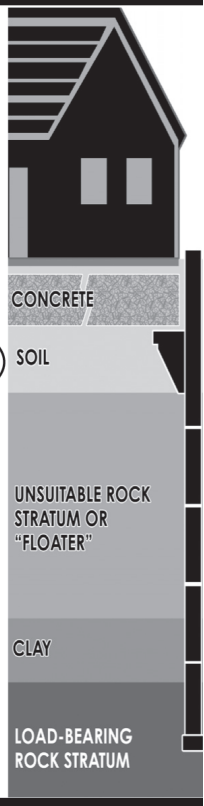
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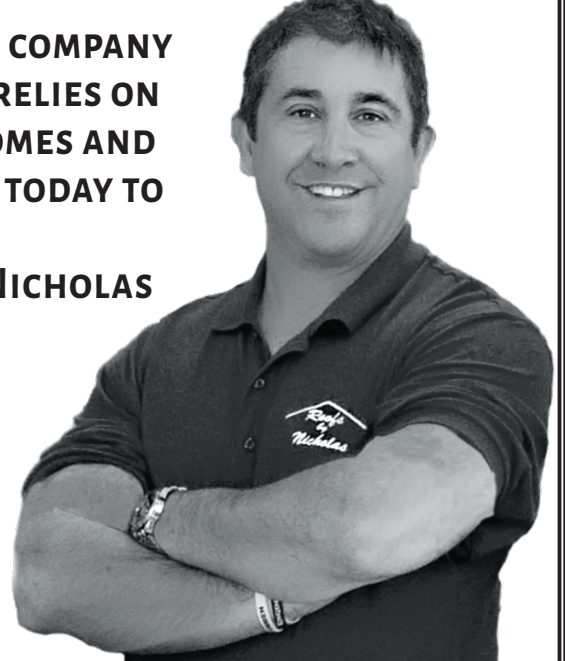
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Alert defense

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ K 6 5 3
♥ K 7 2
♦ A K J 5
♣ K Q
WEST
♠ A 10 8 4 2
♥ J 8 5 4 3
♦ 9
♣ 7 5
EAST
♠ Q
♥ A Q 6
♦ 10 8 4 3
♣ 9 8 6 4 2
SOUTH
♠ J 9 7
♥ 10 9
♦ Q 7 6 2
♣ A J 10 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1NT Pass
3NT
Opening lead — four of spades.

It is a bridge fact of life that a defender can never afford to relax. The nature of the game is such that it demands continuous concentration on the matters at hand.

Take this case where an inattentive West might easily allow declarer to sneak home at three notrump. However, the actual West was fully alert at the critical moment and delivered two successive blows that sank the contract.

West started by leading a low spade. Declarer could have made the contract then and there by putting up the king, but he instead made the

more normal play of following low from dummy. East won with the queen and returned the nine of clubs to dummy's queen.

Declarer crossed to the queen of diamonds and led the nine of spades toward dummy. The moment of truth for West was now at hand.

West had paid careful attention to this point and had come to several conclusions. First, he knew from East's play of the queen of spades at trick one that declarer had the jack. Second, he knew from East's "top-of-nothing" return of the club nine that declarer had the A-J-10 of that suit.

This in turn meant that if West followed low to the spade lead, or covered the nine with the ten, declarer would win with the king and score nine tricks — four diamonds, four clubs and a spade. So West put up the ace at trick four, but his task was not yet complete.

The next problem was to find a way to score three more tricks before South could regain the lead. This was possible only if East had at least the A-Q-x of hearts. But if West shifted to a low heart, declarer could simply play low from dummy to force East to win and thereby assure the contract.

So West made the highly unusual return of the jack of hearts, and declarer was undone. In practice he played low, and East scored the next two tricks with the A-Q for down one.

Tomorrow: It's all in your state of mind.

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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Cosmic Homecoming Queen

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Inventory time. To know what you long for is a blessing that doesn't feel like one. Better to have a specific want than the maddeningly vague sense that something's off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Are you tempted to blurt out what's on your mind or flash a reckless reveal of heart? It's truth you're spilling, but beware: The truth evokes unpredictable responses -- laughter, tears or anger.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). To take responsibility for your life is to realize that even though there is so much that is out of your control, it is also true that you are here because of the choices you've made. You'll celebrate and ponder the matter today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your personal rituals can be as expected or unexpected, regimented or elaborate, as you like. There's a spot in your day that is devoid of vibrance, waiting for an infusion of your personality.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Good news: There's a mutual attraction between you and the subject that fascinates you. You need more of the subject, and the subject needs more of you. Consider taking a class.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You don't need to find a workaround for obtaining what you want. All you have to do is request it. Every time you

ask for what you want, it gets a little bit easier.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What you do is not the same as who you are, and you're wise

not to confuse the two. Offer yourself some softness for the mistakes, and, for balance, temper your response to victories, too. Your efforts are well-intended.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's a strong day for your powers of visualization, and you'll see very clearly where you're headed. The image of who you want to be is as clear to you as the person staring back from the mirror.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You want some sparkle and awe, and there are two ways to go about it: Follow your curiosity deeper and deeper until it leads you to wonderland, or create the marvel you wish to see.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Everything in this world was built by people who had ideas or fleshed out the ideas that were in motion. Those people were not so different from you. You're thinking about what you'll contribute. Don't hold

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS back.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). While some consider being wrong a fate worse than a lightning strike to the skull, you don't mind it at all. In fact, you don't even take yourself seriously enough for wrongness to look bad on you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Ultimately, the answer is to take action while thinking positive. You'll skip the part where you discuss the issue with people who categorically can't do anything about the situation at hand.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 14). You'll set the goal that has you soaring past fear and limitation into an exciting realm of new people and plenty to learn. Though you're not materialistic, prizes will dress your path, symbolizing your arrival to certain goal posts. Validation comes in experiences with those you're able to care for and share with. Pisces and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 4, 39, 29 and 33.

VENUS IN TAURUS:

In the realm of Taurus, the goddess Venus has a home more grand than the French palace of Versailles, the Grand Palace in Bangkok and the Mysore Palace of India combined. So, while she is at home in this realm of the sky, the relaxation is tempered with the responsibilities of upkeep. To keep up such grand residences means the projects are nonstop. There is always something to fix, maintain and update, not to mention show off with as much social fanfare as the times will allow.

This Venus transit will inspire many to do what it takes to bring a sense of luxury and glamor into the environments we occupy. An environment can be as personal as one's body or as abstract as the world at large. How we approach our bodies, clothes, vehicles, homes, travel destinations and carbon footprints are all being subjected to updates from now until May 8.

Luxury is synonymous with extravagance and is, by nature, inessential. And yet, one of the complexities of human nature is that a certain amount of the unnecessary is actually quite necessary. Without some degree of novelty and the symbols and fascinations of aspirational living, we lose energy and become bored, even depressed. Venus in Taurus celebrates the essentialness of nonessentials.

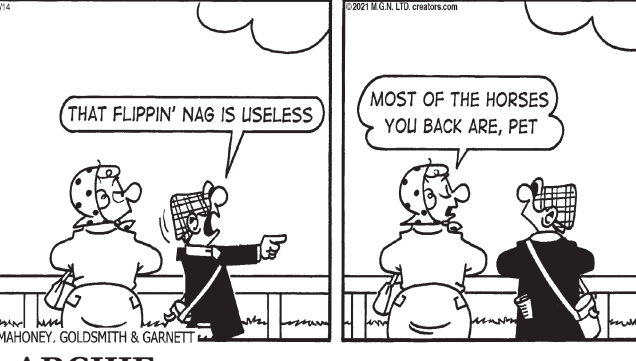
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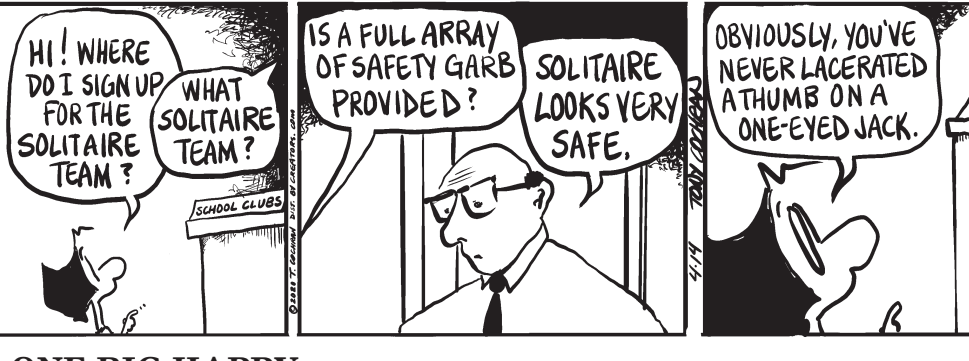
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS 7	Tele	News	For Such	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Movie: Dirty Grandpa, Aubrey Plaza	SportsCenter	Daily Wager	The Blitz Pregame	Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS	Noticias	News	Freedom	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Fam. Guy							
6:PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatlón Estados Unidos (SS)	News	Cowgirl	Xavier	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang		NBA Basketball: Brooklyn Nets at Philadelphia 76ers.	SportsCenter Spec.	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at Tampa Bay Rays.	Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
6:30	Wheel		Big Bang	ET		News	Israel	Molly	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang							
7:PM	Gold	Rosa de Guadalupe	The Masked Singer	Tough as Nails		Chicago Med	News	Hero	Dateline	Kung Fu	Big Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite		30 for 30				
7:30	Home E.						Truth	Odd			Big Bang							
8:PM	Conners	Te acuerdas de mi	Game of Talents	United-AI	La suerte de Loli	Chicago Fire	Light of Southwest	Arthur	Dateline	Nancy Drew	Big Bang							
8:30	Call Your										Big Bang							
9:PM	Million Little	La hija	FOX 24 News at 9	S.W.A.T.	Buscando a Frida	Chicago P.D.	Light of Southwest	Cyber	Mike	Seinfeld	Big Bang	ONE on TNT II						
9:30											Full							
10:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Pink	Friends	Creek	Conan	Movie: Neighbors, Rose Byrne						
10:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Contacto deportivo	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Noticias	Tonight Show	Words of Dr. Wil	Sesame	Friends	Creek	Conan		SportsCenter	NFL Live	World Poker	Law & Order: SVU	Court	Expedition Unknown
11:PM	Nightline	Un gancho al	Funny	James Corden	Caso cerrado (SS)	Seth Meyers	Issues4	Tiger	Jokers	Gold	Conan							
11:30	Conners	Como dice el dicho	Two Men	Sin Senos Si	Late-Lilly	Jesus IS	Nature	Forensic	Steve Wilkos Show	Wipeout	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	NBA Basketball: Mavericks at Grizzlies	Queen of the South	Court	Expedition X	
12:AM	DailyMail		Simpsons	Drew Barrymore	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Wild Kratt	Jerry Springer	Short List Makeup!	Wipeout	NCIS: New Orleans						
1:AM	Paid Prg.		Pawn	Dr. Carras	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Wild Kratt	Jerry Springer	Short List Makeup!	Wipeout	NCIS: New Orleans						

ANDY CAPP



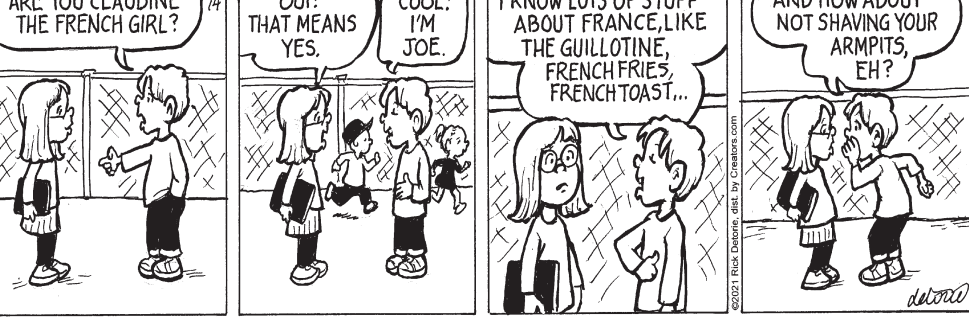
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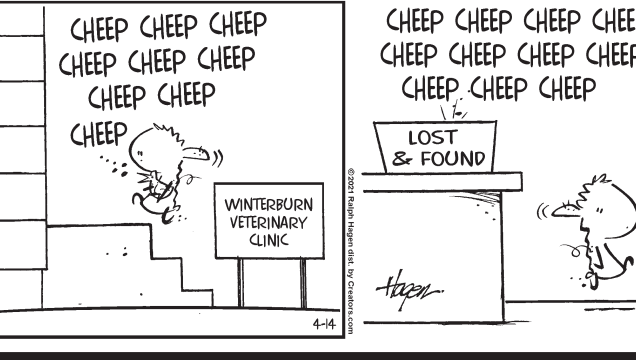
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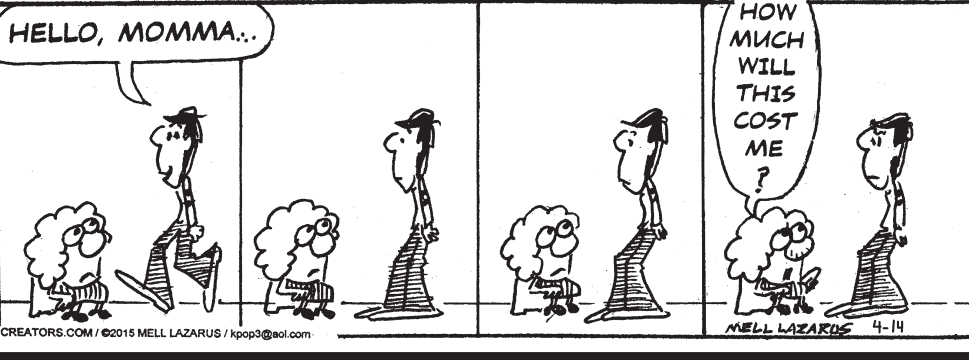
ONE BIG HAPPY



THE BARN



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today in History
Today is Wednesday, April 14, the 104th day of 2021. There are 261 days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:

Carswell.)
In 1981, the first test flight of America's first operational space shuttle, the Columbia, ended successfully with a landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.
In 1994, two U.S. Air Force F-15 warplanes mistakenly shot down two U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopters over northern Iraq, killing 26 people, including 15 Americans.
In 1999, NATO mistakenly bombed a convoy of ethnic Albanian refugees; Yugoslav officials said 75 people were killed.
In 2004, in a historic policy shift, President George W. Bush endorsed Israel's plan to hold on to part of the West Bank in any final peace settlement with the Palestinians; he also ruled out Palestinian refugees returning to Israel, bringing strong criticism from the Palestinians.
Ten years ago: Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi rolled defiantly through the streets of Tripoli the same day NATO air strikes shook the city. North Korean confirmed it was holding an American who was detained in November 2010, reportedly for proselytizing. (Eddie Jun was freed in May 2011.) ABC canceled two of its longtime soap operas, "One Life to Live" and "All My Children."
Five years ago: Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders aggressively challenged each other's judgment during a Democratic debate in Brooklyn, New York, sparring over Wall Street banks, how high to raise the minimum wage and gun control. The first of two strong earthquakes struck southern Japan; the tremors killed at least 50 people.
One year ago: President Donald Trump announced that he was cutting off U.S. payments to the U.N. health agency, the World Health Organization; Trump said it had not done enough to stop the coronavirus from spreading. Louisiana again delayed its presidential primary, rescheduling it for July 11. (The late date made the

primary irrelevant to the selection of the nominees.) NASCAR driver Kyle Larson was fired by the Chip Ganassi Racing team, two days after he used a racial slur on a live stream of a virtual race. Hank Steinbrenner, the oldest son of George Steinbrenner and one of four siblings who owned controlling shares of the New York Yankees, died at 63.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Loretta Lynn is 89. Actor Julie Christie is 81. Retired MLB All-Star Pete Rose is 80. Rock musician Ritchie Blackmore is 76. Actor John Shea is 73. Actor Peter Capaldi is 63. Actor-turned-race car driver Brian Forster is 61. Actor Brad Garrett is 61. Actor Robert Carlyle is 60. Rock singer-musician John

Bell (Widespread Panic) is 59. Actor Robert Clendenin is 57. Actor Catherine Dent is 56. Actor Lloyd Owen is 55. Baseball Hall of Famer Greg Maddux is 55. Rock musician Barrett Martin is 54. Actor Anthony Michael Hall is 53. Actor Adrien Brody is 48. Classical singer David Miller (Il Divo) is 48. Rapper Da Brat is 47. Actor Antwon Tanner is 46. Actor Sarah Michelle Gellar is

44. Actor-producer Robert McElhenney is 44. Roots singer J. McPherson is 44. Rock singer Wilco Butler (Arcade Fire) is 41. Actor Claire Coffee is 41. Actor Christian Alexander is 31. Actor Nick Krause is 29. Actor Vivien Cardone is 28. Actor Graham Phillips is 28. Actor Skyler Samuels is 27. Actor Abigail Breslin is 25.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
1 Crumbs of food
5 Mirror's reflection
10 Brief moment, briefly
13 Burn-soothing plant
14 Emoticon's "eyes"
15 Telephone inventor
16 Picasso's somber phase
18 Cancel out
19 Straddling
20 Gets fresh with
22 In a heap
25 "Now, ___ was I?"
26 Gone on a horse
30 Erase a scoring deficit
32 "Hasta la vista"
33 Prince William's bride
34 Monumental
38 Be a schemer
39 Prescription measures
40 Verdi's Egyptian opera
41 In ___ (harmonized)
42 Sources of metals
43 Hospital prep area
44 Yellowish brown
46 Do some grapplin'
47 Playhouse offering
50 Hearth sweepings
52 Nomads
54 Different now
59 Tech support caller
60 From 1945 on
63 Actress Sorvino
64 French ___ soup
- DOWN**
1 See 7 Down
2 Adversities
3 Promote much
4 Crystal-ball gazer
5 Stranded due to freezing
6 Gourmet mushroom
7 With 1 Down, "Open sesame" sayer
8 Hair gel, for instance
9 Finishes up
10 Sound thinking
11 Firstborn of two
12 Finish up
15 1989-93 and 2001-09
17 Vocal cords, so to speak
21 Hole-punching tool
23 Blackboard accessories
24 Social activities
26 Door knocks
27 Without doing anything
28 Pop singer Céline
29 When E-commerce began
31 ___ Misérables
33 East Asian peninsula
35 Desserts with pecans
36 Admired one
37 Part of a Dracula costume
39 Homer Simpson shout
43 Rice alternative
45 Section of a train
46 Grow lenient
47 Instruments in the back of bands
48 Riveter on WWII posters
49 Keep from happening
51 Rings of light
53 Snooty one
55 Leprechaun land
56 Seldom seen
57 Parts of psyches
58 Canned-food flaw
61 Important "numero"
62 Undercover org.

FOUR TIMES by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

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Answer to previous puzzle
SPAMS IDES ITIN
TITAN TAXI CODE
ASIDO STET KNEW
GATEWAYARCH GAS
DMD TOOBUSY
UNLOADED MOLE
SEA NOTED DITTO
EACH NATAL PIES
STEER LEVIS ESL
PEEP RENTEDTO
SPIDERS GIN
OIL FILETOFSOLE
CALL SEAR LUGIN
KNOB MESA ERRED
SOWS STEP DEEDS
4/14/21

To those on the frontline, we say Thank You!



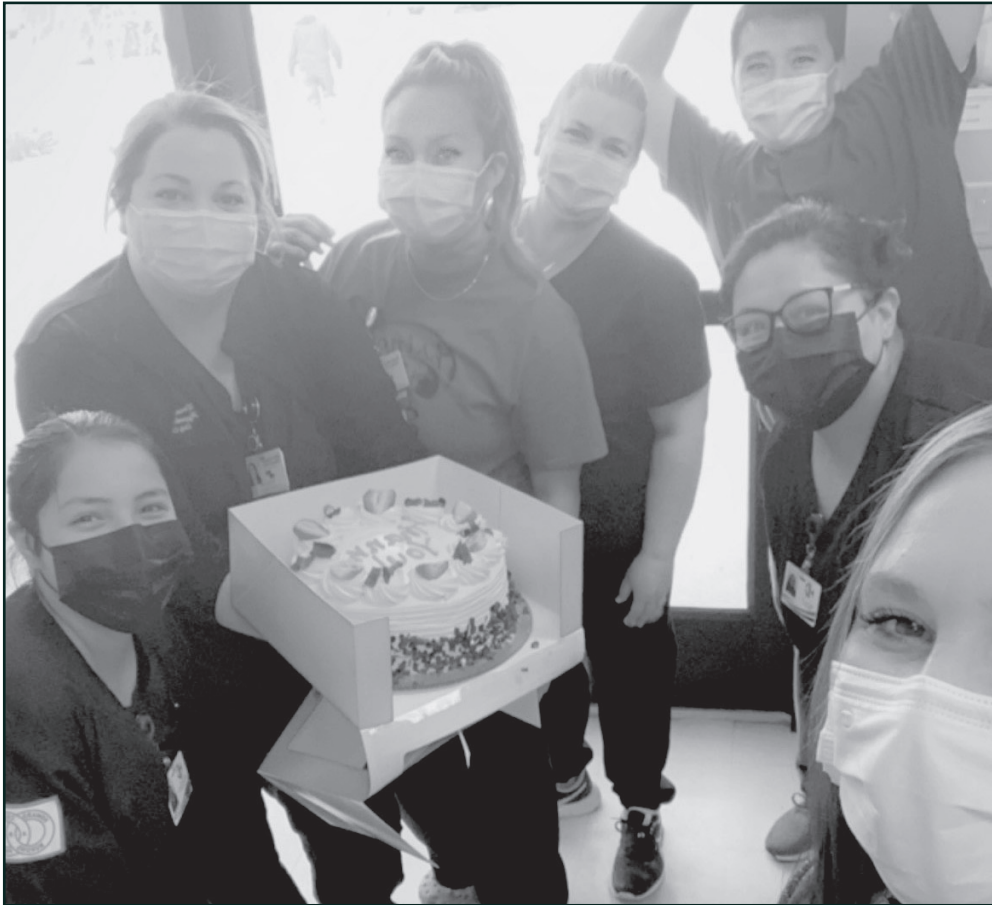
Courtesy photo

Keyv O'Brien recently passed her CEN Advanced Certification. She has been serving on the front lines since before the pandemic and continues to do so.



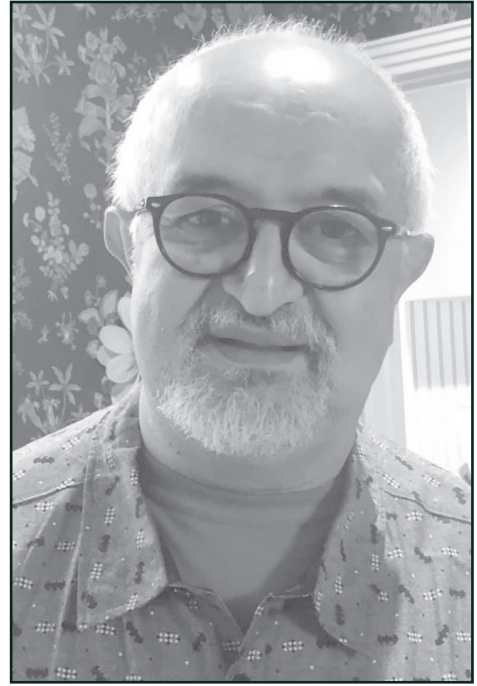
Courtesy photo/BSI

Nurse Nancy Robles is a front line hero at Big Spring Intermediate School. She has been amazing during the pandemic. She has put herself on the line by evaluating students and staff for COVID symptoms even with her chronic asthma, not to mention all the paperwork involved with reporting positive cases and communicating that information to those who need it. In the midst of the crisis she never missed a day, ensuring that everyone was being taken care of. She does an amazing job taking care of the BSI family!



Courtesy photo

Taking care of patients from the inside out and from the outside in is what the Wound Healing Center staff has been doing throughout the pandemic. Keeping patients healthy is important, but on top of that, this group is making sure non-healing wounds are healed and patients are able to get back on their feet and back to living life.



Courtesy photos

Pictured above left is Pros Yanez, who is a frontline hero in our community. Pictured above right: Dr. Joseph Chavez has been serving on the frontlines since before the pandemic. Chavez is a physician in the Big Spring community.

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We appreciate your hard work, dedication and perserverance!**

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Thank you, Frontline Heroes!
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Thank you to all of our local Front Line Heroes!

Red Sox-Twins delayed opener; Phils-Mets play 2

By The Associated Press **undefined**

A look at what's happening around the majors today:

POSTPONED

The Red Sox and Twins were scheduled to begin their series in Minnesota a day late.

Monday's opener of a four-game set at Target Field was postponed because of safety concerns following the fatal police shooting of a Black man in Minnesota and the potential for unrest in the area.

The NBA's Timberwolves and NHL's Wild also postponed their games a day after the shooting of 20-year-old Daunte Wright following a traffic stop in a nearby suburb of Minneapolis.

The Twins said their decision was made in consultation with Major League Baseball and state and local officials.

FINGERS CROSSED

The Chicago Cubs are concerned about a possible COVID-19 outbreak after two coaches tested positive for the virus and three relievers were placed on the COVID-19-related injured list.

The team announced the positive test for bullpen coach Chris Young before its 6-3 loss at Milwaukee. First base coach Craig Driver already was away from the club following his positive test.

Relief pitchers Brandon Workman, Jason Adam and Dan Winkler were placed on the COVID-19 injured list Monday. There was no word on whether their designation was the result of a positive test or contact tracing.

Cubs manager David Ross said the team was being "extra cautious."

"There's always that underlying, 'How big is this?' There's concern, for sure," he said.

Ross said the organization is hoping for the best and planning for the worst.

"We didn't deal with this last year and feel very fortunate in that way," he said. "You're worried about the health and well-being of others and I think it hits home every time my phone rings and it's one of the docs or trainers. Your heart stings. And we're trying to win ballgames, too."

AL CENTRAL ARMS

Cy Young Award winner Shane Bieber pitches for Cleveland against White Sox right-hander Lucas Giolito in a matchup of aces as the division rivals continue their four-game series in Chicago. Bieber is 2-2 with a 2.94 ERA in eight starts against the White Sox, while Giolito is 2-2 with a 2.62 ERA in seven outings versus the Indians.

SNAKES GET A BOOST

Arizona right-hander Zac Gallen returns to the mound against Oakland after missing the first 12 days of the season with a hairline fracture in his right forearm. The 25-year-old Gallen was the Diamondbacks' best pitcher last year, going 3-2 with a 2.75 ERA in 12 starts. He had 82 strikeouts in 72 innings. Gallen was hurt during spring training while taking batting practice, saying he got jammed by an inside pitch.

ALMOST WHOLE

Kyle Schwarber, Josh Bell and Josh Harrison were finally in Washington's starting lineup Monday night after sitting out the first six games due to a coronavirus outbreak that sidelined nine players and postponed four games. Schwarber doubled home a run in his delayed Nationals debut and Washington (2-5) snapped a five-game skid with a 5-2 victory at St. Louis.

"We talked about it before the game: Fresh start for all of us, our guys are back," manager Dave Martinez said. "So let's forget about the first six games."

Five players returned from the COVID-19 injured

list last weekend; the only one still missing is left-hander Jon Lester, who will ramp up at the team's alternate training site before joining the Nationals. Martinez said most of his players were vaccinated at their St. Louis hotel.

DOUBLE DIP

Wet weather took a game away from Marcus Stroman and gave it right back.

Stroman (1-0) will start for the New York Mets against Philadelphia in the finale of a single-admission doubleheader scheduled to make up Monday night's rainout at Citi Field.

Stroman's outing Sunday versus Miami was suspended after nine pitches because of rain and the game was scheduled to resume as part of a doubleheader on Aug. 31. The right-hander tweeted his unhappiness during the delay to have wasted his turn in the rotation.

Mets manager Luis Rojas initially said Monday that Stroman would remain on four days of rest and pitch Friday at Colorado. After the postponement was announced, Rojas reversed course and said Stroman would start the nightcap Tuesday.

Rojas said Stroman had initially wanted to recreate his entire between-start regimen, including a bullpen and workouts, but after playing catch Monday, the pitcher told his manager his arm would be ready Tuesday.

Taijuan Walker starts the opener for the Mets against Chase Anderson, with Aaron Nola going in the nightcap for Philadelphia opposite Stroman. Continuing pandemic special rules, each game will be scheduled for seven innings.

New York has played just five games in the first 12 days of the season due to the COVID-19 outbreak among the Nationals and then bad weather.

DELAYED DEBUT

Jake Odorizzi is set to make his Astros debut at home against the Detroit Tigers, led by former Houston manager A.J. Hinch.

Odorizzi was a free agent and signed a \$23.5 million, three-year contract with the Astros on March 8. He had a 15.75

ERA in two spring training appearances, and Houston optioned him to its alternate training site when the season began. Matthew Boyd (1-1) starts for the Tigers.

BIG BAT MISSING

Angels third baseman Anthony Rendon is on the 10-day injured list because of a strained groin. Rendon was hurt making a throw late in a 15-1 loss to Toronto on Saturday. Los Angeles manager Joe Maddon said Monday he hopes Rendon will be sidelined for the minimum 10 days.

The 30-year-old Rendon is starting his second season with the Angels after signing a \$245 million, seven-year contract. He hit his first home run of the season Saturday and is batting .290 with three RBIs.

Jose Rojas started at the hot corner Monday night and went 0 for 5 in a 10-3 win at Kansas City.

ACES UP

After pitching six scoreless innings in a 2-0 loss to Atlanta that was part of a doubleheader sweep, Washington right-hander Stephen Strasburg (0-0) faces St. Louis ace Jack Flaherty (1-0), coming off a win against Miami in which he allowed one hit over six shutout innings.



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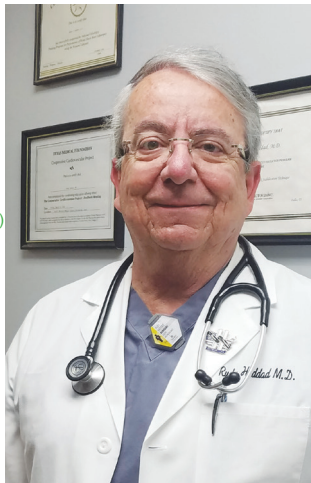
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