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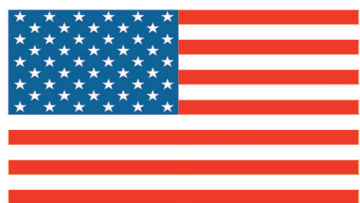
WEDNESDAY EDITION,
 OCTOBER 27, 2021

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VOLUME 117, NUMBER 32

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75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND EDITION



Upcoming Events

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Share your trunk or treat location information with us to be featured the week prior to Halloween.

E-mail to editor@bigspringherald.com, stop by or call the Big Spring Herald.

Woodcarvers Show Casey's Campers Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

A western-style Senior Citizens Dance will be held at 7 p.m. Oct. 29 at the Dora Roberts Community Center

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City presents service certificates at Tuesday evening meeting

By **ROGER CLINE**

Herald Staff Writer

Big Spring Mayor Shannon Thomason and City Manager Todd Darden presented certificates to 17 city employees in recognition of their reaching service milestones with the city during the City Council meeting Tuesday evening.

Thomason read out the names of each employee, along with time of service, presented each with a certificate, and, along with Darden, posed for a photo with each employee.

Recognized for 25 years of service were Senior Accountant Gloria Blackburn, Fire Dept. Lt. Steve Davenport, and Senior Center Coordinator Becky Letz.

Chad Pederson of the Fire Department was recognized for 20 years of service; and Public Works Administrative Assistant Angela Brown, Payroll Coordinator Yolanda Bryant, and Fire Department Deputy Chief Jose Cazares were

each recognized for 15 years of service to the city.

Sanitation/Landfill Supervisor Charles Bryant and Sanitation/Landfill Superintendent John Vega were recognized for 10 years of service; and eight employees were each recognized for five years of service to the city.

After the recognitions, Mayor Thomason read a proclamation declaring Nov. 1-5 "Municipal Court Week" in Big Spring.

During the public comment at the start of the meeting, Big Spring's Deborah Rodriguez and her son addressed the council regarding the foul smell and low pressure of water in their Bell Street home.

"I'm concerned about the water coming out of our homes," she said. "Not only the smell, but also the low flow. I hope something can be done about it. That's my concern."

Mayor asked them to stay until the end of the meeting, when he and Public

Works Director Shane Bowles would speak with them about the issue.

Darden gave his regular City Manager's Report, saying service pins for those honored at the start of the meeting have been ordered, but have not yet arrived. Darden also said nine tons of large trash items were collected in District 4 during the Oct. 20 Large Item Pickup event, and requested that citizens appointed to city boards and committees be asked to fill out information forms for city records.

Councilman Nick Ornelas (District 1) requested that those appointed to boards and committees be provided with a brief summary of the purpose of the board or committee.

The council unanimously approved three items on the meeting's Consent Agenda: Minutes of the Council's Oct. 12 meeting; final reading of a resolution accepting American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery

See **CITY**, Page 3

DAV recognizes three with Quilts of Valor

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

To sacrifice for a friend is noble, to sacrifice for a stranger heroic.

During a recent D.A.V. (Disabled American Veterans) meeting, three veterans were wrapped with love, honor, and appreciation as they became recipients of a Quilt of Valor. Veterans Valerie Gross, Damien Tarpley, and Greg Lindsey are the most recent honorees.

"This quilt is meant to offer comfort to you and to remind you that although your family and friends cannot be with you at all times, you are forever in our thoughts and hearts," Mike Tarpley, Quilt of Valor presenter and Vietnam Veteran, said.

Quilts of Valor was started by a Blue Star mom while her son was deployed in Iraq. Creating the quilts was one of the ways Catherine Roberts found to do something for those serving.

Since the founding of the Quilts of Valor organization, more than 140,000 quilts have been awarded in the United States, Germany, Iraq and Afghanistan. With each quilt the mission to honor service members and veterans is fulfilled - one human-being reaching out and touching another without judgement, reaching out with acceptance and with acknowledgement of service to our nation in very trying circumstances.

The quilts are made up of three layers: the top with its many colors, shapes and fabrics represent the community and the many individuals we are; the batting - filler - is the center of the quilt, its warmth.

"This second layer represents the hope that this quilt will bring warmth, comfort, peace and healing to the individual who receives it," Tarpley said during the presentation.

The backing is the final layer

See **QUILTS**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat

Veterans, pictured left to right, Valerie Gross, Damien Tarpley and Greg Lindsey stand wrapped in Quilts of Valor after being presented with them during a recent D.A.V. meeting.

Merry Christmas tryouts Thursday

By **ROGER CLINE**

Herald Staff Writer

Thanks to the 1946 Frank Capra classic *It's a Wonderful Life*, we all know how angels get their wings.

The Howard College Theatre Department will perform an adaptation of the movie entitled *Merry Christmas, George Bailey* Nov. 30 - Dec. 4, and you're invited to audition for a role.

"What it is, when they would do any of the famous films of the time, they would immediately go in with the original cast, and go to the radio and do a full production of it in a Lux Radio show version for people who didn't live near movie theaters," said Howard College Theater Director April Langehennig. "I guess it was in the late 1990s, early 2000s, they staged this production where you have all the actors with microphones set up across, just like an old radio station. Full Foley sound, all the bells and whistles, and they staged *Merry Christmas, George Bailey*. The original Lux one was still, *It's a Wonderful Life*, so this remake of actually staging it where audiences can see this is called *Merry Christmas, George Bailey*."

Langehennig said the production will include several unique elements.

"It has the whole nine yards of commercial breaks, and

See **PLAY**, Page 3

Big Spring EDC special meeting Thursday

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**

Managing Editor

The Big Spring Economic Development Corporation will convene for a special meeting on Thursday, Oct. 28, at 5:15 p.m. The meeting will take place in the EDC Board Room located at 215 W. Third Street.

The meeting will be called to order, followed by the Invocation and Pledge. Before the board moves into approval and consideration of action items, there will be time allotted for public comment.

The Board will look to approve the minutes of the Sept. 21, 2021 regular meeting along with the September investment report and financials.

The board will consider a resolution recognizing Bobby McDonald for his service on the board.

The annual contract between the EDC and

See **BSEDC**, Page 3



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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity over the past 48 hours:

- **DEE MARIO GARCIA**, 21 of 1316 Stadium was arrested by BSPD on a charge of warrant from another agency.
- **MAIGEN ROSE DAVIDSON**, 30, of 1212 E 17th was arrested by BSPD on a charge of warrant from another agency.
- **MARKQUIN EARL HARRIS**, 35, of 2911 W Hwy 80 # 204 was arrested by BSPD on a charge of warrant from another agency.
- **APRIL LEE CANALES**, 40, of 1703 State St was arrested by BSPD on a charge of Public Intoxication
- **GAGE LEE CLARK BURDELL**, 21 of 9013 E Midway Rd

was arrested by BSPD was arrested on Warrant from another agency.

- **TYRAL JAVON MENE-FIELD**, 27, of 2804 Sherman Road, was arrested on a charge of failed to maintain financial responsibility, failed to display driver license, fail to identify – fugitive from justice, expired registration, operate unregistered motor vehicle.
- **ORALIA MOJICA**, 34, of 627 State Street, was arrested on a warrant from other agency (x2), public nuisance class C, accumulated items/weeds/rubbish, no drivers license when unlicensed.
- **DENIKA DEVON NIETO**, 22, of 1806 Morrison Drive, was arrested on a warrant from other

agency.

- **STEVEN HINOJOSA AGUIRRE**, 45, 2714 Oasis Road, was arrested on a warrant from other agency.
- **JACOB ANDREW ATKINSON**, 19, of 5010 Dawson Road, was arrested on a warrant other agency.
- **THEFT** was reported in the area of Hwy 2230 and CR 52.
- **INTOXICATED SUBJECT** was reported in the 900 block of N. Lamesa Highway.
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 1200 block of Donley Street.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80; 5000 block of Sulfur Draw; 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.



Obituaries

Natividad Zamora Ceballos

Natividad Zamora Ceballos, 43, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2021. She will lie in state at 1501 E. 11 Place, Big Spring, on Tuesday until Thursday. Funeral service will be 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive.

Natividad was born June 13, 1978. Natividad is survived by one son; Brandon Ceballos of Sherman, four daughters; Natalie Ceballos of Nebraska, Delia Ceballos of Big Spring, Jasmine Ceballos of Nebraska, and Brittany Ceballos of Del Rio; her mother; Helena Mora, her father; Victor Zamora, six sisters, one brother, and three grandchildren.

Natividad is preceded in death by one sister and one brother.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Mary F. Green

Mary F. Green, 86, of Big Spring died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department was reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 600 block of S. Main Street. No transport was required.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of Nolan. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1500 block of Tucson. No transport was required.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2600 block of Lynn Drive. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 9000 block of Longshore. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of Circle Drive. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 700 block of I-20. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of Glenna Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3400 block of Airport Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **GRASS FIRE** was reported in the 1000 block of S. Main Street. The fire was contained.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of Donley. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 103 inmates at the time of this report.

- **GAGE LEE CLARK BURDELL**, 21, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces.
- **APRIL LEE CANALES**, 40, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **ROBERT CASTANEDA**, 31, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of theft of property between \$100 and \$750.
- **TYRONE QUINTIN CHILDERS**, 40, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of bondsman off bond/bail jumping and fail to appear (x2).
- **MAIGEN DAVIDSON**, 30, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of bail jumping and fail to appear and evading arrest detention.
- **JODY WAYNE DAWDY**, 57, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of violate bond protective order.
- **VICTOR MANUEL DEHOYOS**, 40, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of manufacture deliver controlled substance between four grams and 200 grams.
- **DEE MARIO GARCIA**, 21, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of speeding 10% or more above posted limit.
- **MARKQUIN EARL HARRIS**, 35, was arrested

by BSPD on a charge of no drivers license (x2), disregard stop sign, fail to maintain financial responsibility, no drivers license when unlicensed, operate motor vehicle without license, violate promise to appear(x5).

- **JOHN AARON BRICE JOSEY**, 23, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of theft of material alum/bronze/copper.
- **CARRIE LYNN OBRIEN**, 46, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of theft of property between \$2,500 and \$30K.
- **CHRISTOPHER DEVANTE REID**, 25, was arrested by DPS on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than one gram.
- **TIMOTHY JOHN RIOS JR.**, 23, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated, possession of marijuana less than two ounces.
- **FRANK RODRIGUEZ**, 45, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of bond forfeiture theft of property.
- **SESA RODRIQUEZ**, 37, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated BAC greater than or equal to 0.1.
- **ANTHONY ISMAEL SANCHEZ**, 20, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of theft of property between \$2,500 and \$30K.

Support Groups

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 present-

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

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Rick Nunez Publisher/Advertising Mgr. Ext. 250
Amanda Duforat Managing Editor..... Ext. 230
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Angela Lance Sr. Advertising Executive.....Ext. 255

The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association and The Associated Press.
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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.
USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
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CITY

Continued from Page 1

Funds (ARPA-CLFRF); and final reading of a resolution adopting several city policies in connection with participation in the ARPA-CLFRF grant.

In the Old Business portion of the meeting, the council discussed a proposed ordinance tabled at the Oct. 12 meeting which would consolidate rules for the makeup of the Convention and Visitors Bureau board into Chapter 2 of city code, as part of the city's ongoing project to standardize rules for city committees and boards, and move them into that chapter.

Ornelas moved to amend the proposed ordinance, disallowing city council members from serving on the board.

"The reason that I wanted to amend this is, when we first came up with redoing the boards and getting equal representation, that was something that was brought up: We were to have seven board members, and each person would appoint a member to the board, and it would be seven board members," Ornelas said. "So I think with us being consistent and transparent, I believe either neither of us be on the board, or all of us serve as the CVB board. When we first decided to do this, it was for equal representation, so I don't think that one board member should be on there and another not be on there. So we take everyone off the board. I make the motion to approve."

Ornelas' motion was approved 6-0, with Councilwoman Gloria McDonald (District 4) abstaining.

In continuing discussion about the ordinance, it was revealed that the CVB Director is authorized to spend up to \$5,000 on unbudgeted items for the CVB without advance notification to the City Council. With CVB board notification, the director is allowed to spend up to \$15,000 on unbudgeted items, but is required to notify the council and wait five days to make the expenditure, giving the council time to call an emergency meeting to discuss and possibly nullify the spending.

Any unbudgeted expenditure over \$15,000 requires council approval. Also, the wording of the ordinance specifies that the board "should" include a member of the local hotel/motel industry, as well as a representative from the Chamber of Commerce.

The council approved the ordinance on first reading, and directed City Attorney Andrew Hagen to make amendments to the ordinance reflecting the council's discussion, and return it to the next council meeting for the council to vote on and approve the amendments.

The Council approved vouchers dated Oct. 15 in the amount of \$347,173.65; and dated Oct. 21 in the amount of \$874,240.31.

In new business, the council acknowledged receipt of the CVB Committee minutes of its regular meeting of April 7, 2021.

The council also voted to assign the role of Parks Master Plan Committee to the current Parks and Recreation Board, to participate in the planned updating of the city's Parks Master Plan.

The council bypassed without discussion an agenda item concerning a proposed action to donate a used generator to the 9-1-1 Communication District.

The council also approved unanimously an item to execute a correction warranty deed with May Jordan Interest LLC, clarifying that May Jordan retains mineral rights on property purchased by the city in 2017.

The Council approved an amendment to an oil and gas lease with HighPeak Energy Assets II LLC, extending the agreement through May 22, 2022, and adding additional city land to the lease.

The Council also unanimously approved a plan by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct an environmental study on land on and near the McMahan-Wrinkle Airpark. According to Project Manager Cynthia Khan with the Corps of Engineers, who joined the meeting via video call, the purpose of the study is to determine the extent of Trichloroethylene (TCE)

contamination in around the old Webb Air Force Base waste lagoon.

According to information provided by Khan, the former lagoon is located on the east side of the airpark, just to the west of the western ends of Walnut Street, Birch Street and Oak Street. Test wells will be drilled on those three streets, and would resemble an 8-inch diameter manhole cover. The wells will be covered, and locked and bolted closed. The wells themselves will be approximately 90 feet deep.

Eight other test wells will be drilled on Airpark property.

In other business, Assistant City Manager John Medina requested that an item on amendments to the City of Big Spring Personnel Policy Manual be withdrawn, with plans to resubmit it at a later Council meeting.

Councilman Ornelas proposed an item to withdraw the city's consent on a Declaration of Public Health Disaster relating to the Coronavirus, originally issued by Mayor Thomason March 18, 2020. After some discussion on the issue, Ornelas withdrew his motion.

Discussion on the item centered around possible state or federal funding or grant money that might be tied to the disaster declaration.

The Council approved the city's investment report for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 2021. Total city investments for the quarter were \$31,678,431.73.

The Council discussed possible reactions to President Joe Biden's executive order that the U.S. Bureau of Prisons will cancel its contracts with privately run penitentiaries as of Dec. 1. Mayor Thomason announced that GEO had approached the city about possibly working with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to use the GEO facilities - which are owned by the city and leased by GEO - to house undocumented detainees.

"The city was approached by GEO regarding possibly entering into an intergovernmental service agreement with DHS Immigrations and Customs Enforcement - ICE - to operate detention facilities there," Thomason said. "Initial negotiations with GEO were unproductive, and council has been briefed on those."

Thomason said the city has been approached by ICE regarding a possible partnership to operate detention facilities without the auspices of GEO.

The council voted unanimously to conduct more fact finding and investigation on the proposal, while indicating to ICE that it is interested in the proposal.

City Manager Darden said the facilities currently run by GEO represent about 600 jobs.

"Do I want to be in the detention business?" Darden said. "I want the city to be in a position where we keep those jobs here, and keep that revenue coming in, and keep our tax rate where it needs to be."

The council also approved by acclamation nominations to the city's Zoning Board of Adjustments including Jeanie Knocke (nominated by Mayor Thomason), Oscar Flores (nominated by Councilman Ornelas) and Louisa Rangel (nominated by Councilwoman Diane Yanez - District 2). The council also approved nomination of Cody Williams (nominated by Ornelas) to the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Board.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Chester Faight, 93, died Saturday. Memorial Service will be Wednesday October 27 at 10 AM at Mt. Olive Chapel.

Delores Cantu, 71, died Tuesday. Funeral Service will be 10 AM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Ackerly Cemetery.

Armando Delgado, 85, died Thursday. Visitation will be 9 AM until 9 PM with vigil service at 7 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be 10 AM Thursday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive

Natividad Ceballos, 41, died Tuesday. Funeral service will be 10 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive.

Emma Lewis, 68, died Saturday. Memorial service will be 2 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Connie Alvarado, 63, died Thursday. Vigil service at 7 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 AM Saturday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Coahoma Cemetery.

Antonia "Toni" Bustamante, 58, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Daniel Ramirez, 63, died Saturday. Visitation from 9 AM until 9 PM with vigil service at 7 PM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will 10 AM Wednesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive

Mary F. Green, 86, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

PLAY

Continued from Page 1

"We'll have Christmas music breaks as well too in it," she said. "Music moments throughout as well. So it is a radio show, live, put on for audiences. We can also hopefully broadcast it on the actual radio."

The production rights we're looking to get have that ability to be broadcast as well."

Auditions for the show are Oct. 28, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre located inside the Hall Center for the Performing Arts at Howard College, Langehennig said.

"There are roles for

young people all the way from kids - there's a few roles for kids in the nine through 12 age - all the way up to grown adults," she said. "Anybody in the community. Especially, I know there are community members who used to be a part of a bigger theater, and we want to give them a place to have a home as well."

Audition materials are available online at <https://bit.ly/3DR6c4O>

"All they have to do is prepare - they do not have to memorize, but prepare - one of the two pieces that are on there, and come and give us a wonderful reading," Langehennig said. "The whole thing

is, with it being a radio show, it's all still very much connected to the reading. It will probably be announced the next day. Everyone will have given us contact information, and that sort of good stuff, and if we have to do any callbacks, we'll set those up individually with people."

Langehennig said the play will be performed at least five times.

"We have five performances," she said. "Also we hope to do it a couple during the day for elementary school students, but that will depend on cast and that sort of stuff."

Those seeking more information about the

production or the audition process are encouraged to contact Theatre Professor April Langehennig at alangehennig@howardcollege.edu.

"I can't wait to meet the community members, and I'm excited, and so are all of our students," said Langehennig.

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QUILTS

Continued from Page 1

er and it represents strength that supports the other layers. It represents the strength of the recipient, the support of his or her family, communities and nation. Each of the stitches holding the layers together represent love, gratitude and sometimes the tears of the maker. Each quilt represents the three-part message from the givers to the recipient.

"We honor you for your service. We

honor you for leaving all you hold dear and to stand in harm's way in a time of crisis, protecting us from the effects of war," Tarpley said. "Next, we know that freedom is not free. The cost of freedom is the dedication of lives of men and women like you, and this quilt is meant to say thank you for your sacrifice."

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

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PART TIME POSITIONS NOW AVAILABLE

BSEDC

Continued from Page 1

Leading EDG will be looked at for approval before hearing the Director's Report from Executive Director Mark Willis.

There will be an opportunity for board comment before the meeting adjourns for the evening.

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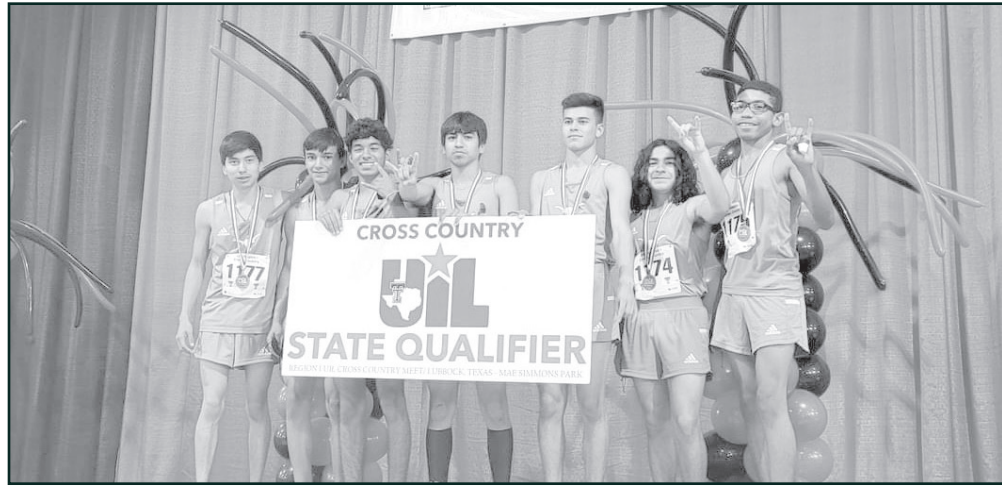
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The Big Spring Steers Cross Country Team going to state first time since 2016



Courtesy Photos

Top Left: Elisabeth Jones shows the Steer horns as she proudly has qualified for the State cross country match. Top Right: The Big Spring Boys Cross Country team holds up their State qualifier sign. Bottom Left: Two Steers competitors compete in a cross country event. Bottom Right: The boy's cross country team celebrated after the meet was over. This has been an excellent year for all of these competitors as they have shown Steer spirit all season long. This group of young athletes now get the chance to represent Big Spring on the biggest stage of them all at the state meet. This will be the first time since 2016 that the Steers have made it this far. Good luck to all of the runners as they represent steer the nation to the best of their ability.

Soler, Braves overcome Morton injury, top Astros in Game 1

By BEN WALKER

AP Baseball Writer

HOUSTON — A healthy swing by Jorge Soler powered the Atlanta Braves to a smashing start in the World Series.

In the lineup for the first time since a positive COVID-19 test, Soler became the first player to begin a World Series with a home run and the Braves, despite the loss of pitcher Charlie Morton to a broken leg, hushed the Houston Astros 6-2 Tuesday night in Game 1.

Boosted by a strong bullpen effort, Adam Duvall's two-run homer and a late sacrifice fly from Freddie Freeman, the Braves coasted in their first Series appearance since Chipper Jones and their Big Three aces ascended in 1999.

"So much happened really quick," Atlanta manager Brian Snitker said.

Every Braves starter wound up getting a hit and more than four hours later, this was the scene in their dugout: outlandish outfielder Joc Pederson sipping a glass of red wine and smoking cigars with closer Will Smith.

That victory party lasted a couple of minutes until a security guard ambled over and told them it was a smoke-free building.

Jose Altuve, Carlos Correa and the Astros, meanwhile, mostly looked lost at the plate. This is their third World Series in five seasons — and first since their 2017 illegal sign-stealing scheme was revealed.

Before the game, Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said there were plenty of sleuths monitoring the dugouts, clubhouses and stands to guard against any possible shenanigans.

"There's a lot more people watching what goes on as a result of the issues that we've had," he said.

Game 2 is Wednesday night, with Braves lefty Max Fried starting against right-hander José Urquidy.

"You've just got to like blow this game off and then come back and realize that tomorrow's — that's the beauty of baseball," 72-year-old Astros manager Dusty Baker said. "Tomorrow's another day, and who knows? That's the way I look at it. Ball's going to bounce our way tomorrow."

Soler's no-doubt jolt into the left-field seats on Framber Valdez's third pitch quickly drained all the juice out of Minute Maid Park, quieting a boisterous, sellout crowd.

"The energy was amazing and electric, especially after we took a 1-0 lead after that home run," Soler said through a translator.

As for his feat?

"I didn't know that was a thing until I was told a little later on in the game," he said.

Fresh off dispatching the defending World Series champion Dodgers in the playoffs, the Braves weren't done, either. Aggressive in every way, they kept teeing off against their former, longtime National League rivals.

Moments later, Ozzie Albies stole a base and Aus-

tin Riley hit an RBI double, taking a rare swing at a 3-0 pitch.

Soler, who missed five playoff games after testing positive for the coronavirus, added an RBI ground-er in the second. And when Duvall launched a two-run homer, it was 5-0 and the Braves had made even more October history — the only team to score in each of the first three innings in a World Series opener.

"I think we obviously swung the bats there early pretty well, and doing that on the road, kind of getting them first at-bat jitters out of the way, it's big," Duvall said.

At that point, Braves batters were far from the only ones making noise. The few Atlanta fans sprinkled in the sea of orange had started their familiar chop chant, too.

Right then, it looked as if everything was going right for the Braves.

But baseball can be a fickle game, and the fates can spin faster than the best curveball.

Because in the bottom of the third, Atlanta absorbed its own big hit.

As he struck out Altuve, Morton suddenly grimaced and took an awkward step. His teammates, Snitker and a trainer soon joined him on the mound, and just like that, Morton was gone.

Turned out a hard comebacker by Yuli Gurriel that ricocheted off Morton's leg to Freeman at first base for an out to begin the second had done more damage than anyone realized.

Morton lingered for another inning, amazingly, before gingerly walking off with a fractured right fibula. The 37-year-old righty, the winning pitcher for the Astros in Game 7 of the 2017 World Series, will be replaced on the roster. He's expected to be OK for spring training.

"God bless him, I hate it for him. Really hate it for him," Snitker said. "He's such a great person, great person and teammate. I do, I really hate it for him because I know he's really looking forward to this run with us." A.J. Minter replaced Morton and got the win, permitting one run in 2

2/3 innings while throwing a career-high 43 pitches. Atlanta relievers Luke Jackson, Tyler Matzek and Smith finished it.

Altuve and the Astros did little all night. The Atlanta second baseman struck out three times — he'd never done that in 73 prior postseason games.

Alex Bregman, Yordan Alvarez and the Astros never seriously threatened in the later innings. Their only runs, in fact, came on shortstop Dansby Swanson's fielding error in the fourth and Correa's groundout in the eighth.

The game wasn't nearly as close as the score indicated. It was more like a romp — during the seventh-inning stretch, as fans did a sing-a-long to "Deep In The Heart of Texas," Braves backstop Travis d'Arnaud and did a little Texas two-step as they switched places warming up Jackson.

STATS AND STUFF

It was the first World Series action with a packed stadium since Game 7 at this very park in 2019, when a sellout crowd silently filed out after watching the Nationals rally past Houston. ... Soler and Duvall became the first teammates both acquired midseason to homer in the same World Series game. ... Soler returned late in the NLCS and went 1 for 2 with a double in a pair of pinch-hit appearances. ... The Astros fell to 0-4 in World Series openers. ... No team has won a World Series game in its own park since the Dodgers beat Boston in 18 innings in Game 3 of 2018. The visiting team won every game in 2019, and last year's Series was played at a neutral site in Arlington, Texas.

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Official Game Rules:

Find this week's games between the merchant's ads on this page. Choose the teams you think will win, and fill in the official entry form on this page with your team choices. Clip the entry form out of the page and drop it in the Pigskin box at one of the listed merchants.

Do not drop your entry form at the Big Spring Herald office.

*The entry with the most correct picks will win \$50!

You must be 18 to enter. *No photo copies accepted.*

*In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will determine the winner.

For the tie breaker, the entry with the correct team will win.

If both entries have guessed the same team, the second tie breaker will be the one closest to the total points.

*Decisions of the judges are final.

*Employees and family of the Big Spring Herald are ineligible.

*All entries must be received at one of the participating merchants by 1pm Friday of the week played.

*Winners will be announced on the next week's Pigskin Contest Page.

Pigskin Picks Entry Form

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on the 1st day of November
2021, at 9 a.m. to receive
public comment on
redistricting of county
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and commissioners court
precincts. After the public
hearing, the Commissioners
Court will take up for
consideration and to take
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Legals

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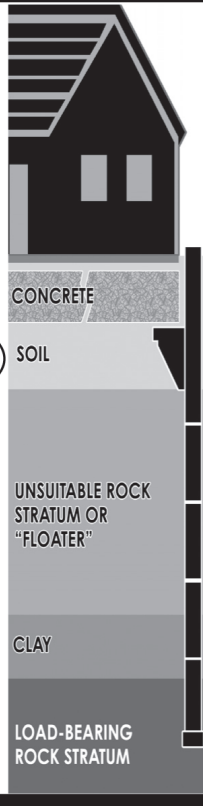
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Grid of TV channels and programs including KMLM 12, KPBT 13, KWWT 14, KOSA2 16, WTBS 33, TNT 34, ESPN 35, ESPN2 36, FSN 38, USA 55, A&E 58, DISC 60.

Contract Bridge advertisement by Steve Becker. Includes title 'Contract Bridge', author 'By Steve Becker', and a detailed card game scenario with North and West hands.

5 Easy Ways To Place Your Ad In The Big Spring Herald Classifieds! Includes contact information for phone, fax, in person, email, and mail.

Annie's Mailbox. Contains two columns of text: 'Was It a Mistake to Call the Cops on My Son?' and 'Dear Annie: I am a 45-year-old single man...'.

CHEESE AND MORE WORD SEARCH. A large grid of letters for a word search puzzle with a list of words to find on the right.

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

Forsan Elementary visits Science Spectrum



Courtesy Photos

On October 1st, 4th grade students visited the science spectrum in Lubbock. Students were able to “see” what they have been learning in class. Students watched a movie about the life of a sea turtle. We are now familiar with the trials that a sea turtle lives through in their lifetime

Texas executions delayed over religious rights claims

By JUAN A. LOZANO

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The unresolved legal debate over whether spiritual advisers can touch inmates and pray aloud as condemned individuals are being put to death has delayed the final two executions scheduled this year in Texas.

The delays come as the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to hear arguments next month in the case of another Texas death row inmate on the role of spiritual advisers in the death chamber.

Judges last week rescheduled the executions of Kosoul Chanthakoummane, who was set to die Nov. 10, and Ramiro Gonzales, who was set for Nov. 17. Gonzales' new execution date is July 13 while Chanthakoummane's new date is Aug. 17.

Both inmates claimed that Texas was violating their religious freedom by not allowing their spiritual advisers to pray aloud and place a hand on their bodies at the time of their deaths.

"Litigation pending in the United States Supreme Court regarding the defendant's right to the free exercise of religion warrants the withdrawal of the present date of execution and the setting of a new date of execution," Medina County prosecutor Edward Shaughnessy wrote in a motion asking a judge to reschedule Gonzales' execution.

In all, six executions that were scheduled this year in Texas were delayed or rescheduled due to religious freedom claims related to spiritual advisers.

Executions in Texas have been sporadic in the last two years, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with just three lethal injections carried out last year, and three executions so far this year. In comparison, Texas carried out 13 executions in 2018 and nine in 2019.

In the case set to be argued on Nov. 9 before the U.S. Supreme Court, attorneys for Texas death row inmate John Henry Ramirez say the state "makes no effort to hide its disrespect for the religious exercise of death-row inmates like (Ramirez) who seek spiritual comfort in their final moments."

Texas prison officials say that direct contact poses a security risk and that prayers said aloud could be disruptive.

Attorneys for the children of Pablo Castro, the 46-year-old convenience store worker Ramirez was convicted of fatally stabbing in 2004, called Ramirez's religious freedom claims part of "nearly decades of undue delays and manipulative, whipsaw litigation tactics."

The Supreme Court has dealt with the presence of spiritual advisers in the death chamber in recent years but has not made a definitive ruling. The inmates are citing the First Amendment of

the U.S. Constitution as well as a 2000 federal law that protects an inmate's religious rights.

The high court's review comes after the Texas prison system in April reversed a two-year ban on spiritual advisers in the death chamber but limited what they can do. Texas instituted the ban after the Supreme Court in 2019 halted the execution of Patrick Murphy, who had argued his religious freedom was being violated because his Buddhist spiritual adviser wasn't allowed to accompany him. Murphy remains on death row.

The ruling in Murphy's case came after the court was criticized for declining to halt the execution of Alabama inmate Domineque Ray over his request to have his Islamic spiritual adviser in the death chamber.

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MARCIE LUSK, DNP, APRN, FNP-C
FAMILY PRACTICE

Marcie received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Lubbock Christian University in Lubbock and earned her Master of Science degree in Nursing from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene. She completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock. She is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners in family practice and emergency care.

Marcie has more than 13 years experience in family practice and patient care. She welcomes existing and new patients to her office located at Shannon Clinic Big Spring, 2503 Gregg Street, Unit C, Big Spring, Texas, 79720.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 432-606-5178.

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