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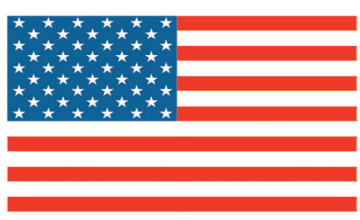
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Upcoming Events

Big Spring Christmas parade will be held on Sat, Dec 4. The parade will begin at 3 p.m. It will start at Scurry Street from 24th, heading north to Fourth Street

The Big Spring Symphony's concert "Home Is Where the Heart Is" will be 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18 at First United Methodist Church, 400 S. Scurry St. Tickets are on sale at www.bigspring-symphony.org and at H-E-B, the Heritage Museum, and Karat Patch.

Howard College Theatre's production of "Merry Christmas, George Bailey!" continues tonight and tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in the Hall Center for the Performing Arts' Black Box Theatre.

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Find us online at:
 www.bigspringherald.com



Woods' sentence: 11 years, \$10,000 fine Jury in vehicular manslaughter case deliberates 3 1/2 hours

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

After deliberating just over three and a half hours Wednesday, a 118th District Court jury presented its sentence for Lindsay Shay Woods, 36, of Big Spring: 11 years in state prison and a \$10,000 fine. Woods trial for the vehicular homicide which left John Lyons, 66, of Big Spring dead began Monday with jury selection, and the attorneys' opening remarks began at about 2:15 that afternoon.

Woods cried quietly in reaction to the verdict.

After reading the jury's verdict, Judge Timothy Yeats remarked on the tragedy.

"There are no winners in a case like this," he said. "It's incredibly hard on



everyone."

Yeats thanked and dismissed the jury, before allowing Lyons' widow, Andrea

Lyons, to make a victim impact statement. Mrs. Lyons was in the couple's car, which was struck along with her husband, who was standing outside. She read her prepared statement from the witness stand.

"The death of my husband has forever impacted me and our family," Lyons – who was said, noting that she has seen multiple doctors and pursued psychological therapy following the wreck. Lyons said she feels very lonely with her husband gone. "I attend church alone, I eat alone," she said.

Mrs. Lyons said she struggled with whether to forgive Woods.

"At the start of the trial, I said I could never forgive you," she said. "Since then, my heart has changed. So yes, I

See **COURT**, Page 3

P.J. the D.J. Pavilion dedicated Wednesday

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer



HERALD photo/Roger Cline

Friends and family of "P.J. the D.J." Dominguez cut a ribbon dedicating a new pavilion in ABC Park in his memory. City Councilman Nick Ornelas, right, helped organize construction of the pavilion.

Friends, family and community members gathered in Big Spring's ABC Park on West Fourth Street Wednesday morning to perform a ribbon-cutting ceremony dedicating a new pavilion in honor of Philip "P.J. The D.J." Dominguez.

Dominguez, a local disc jockey and supporter of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), died in 2018 at the age of 41.

His sister, Monica Martinez, said the new pavilion will serve as a physical reminder of her brother's impact on Big Spring.

"It just means how his presence was felt by everybody," Martinez said. "Just enjoy it. That's what he would have wanted. On Sundays, they would come to this park, him with his club,

See **PAVILION**, Page 3

George Bailey a success at Howard College

HERALD photo/Roger Cline



Howard College Theatre's production of Merry Christmas, George Bailey! brings to life a staged radio play of the classic holiday movie It's a Wonderful Life. Shown at left are cast members (l-r) Susan Overfield, Alex Thomas, David Shyrack, Jackson Bowers, Clint Hobbs, Precious Sheridan, Jonathan Castanon, Tisha Ward, Niall Connell, Orlando Martinez Jr., Andre Wright, Brianna Elliott, Haley Rios, Mason Sedberry and Adrienne Green. Not shown is director April Langehennig, who portrayed the radio announcer in the play. The production was set to continue through Friday in the Black Box Theatre of the Hall Center for the Performing Arts at Howard.

BSISD board to discuss redistricting tonight

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

Redistricting will be the topic of discussion at a special meeting of the Big Spring ISD School Board, scheduled this evening. The meeting, starting at 5:15 p.m., will be held in the board room at Big Spring High School, 707 E. 11th Place.

Following the opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, the board will hear public com-

ments from those in attendance who wish to offer them.

Following the public comments, the board will go into executive session to consult with legal counsel "...to receive advice concerning compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 regarding redistricting of single-member districts," according to the meeting's agenda. Any action to

See **BSISD**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Glenda Hendrickson

Glenda Hendrickson, 72, passed away peacefully on November 28, 2021, in Sedgwick, Kansas.



She was born May 26, 1949, in Wichita, Kansas, the daughter of Glen and Beverly Ann (Brown) Biggerstaff.

On August 17, 1968, Glenda was united in marriage to Darrell Dee Hendrickson in Wichita, Kansas. The two shared 50 years of marriage together before Darrell's death in 2019.

Glenda taught in Kansas and Texas through her career.

Glenda enjoyed spending time with family, attending church, having drinks with friends (pop), and camping.

Glenda is survived by her two sons, Tim Hen-

drickson and wife, Michelle, of Sedgwick, and Dan Hendrickson and wife, Jennisa, of Big Spring, Texas; four grandchildren, Ashton Fussell and husband, Tony, Tristan Hendrickson, Claire Hendrickson, and Logan Hendrickson; one great-grandchild, Camdyn Fussell; stepsister, Sherri Rider; sister-in-law, Janice Heizer; and brother-in-law, Kendall Hendrickson and wife, Donna. She was preceded in death by her husband, Darrell Dee Hendrickson; and parents, Glen Biggerstaff and Beverly Malone.

Following Glenda's wishes, cremation has taken place.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dodge City Cancer Center of Kansas, in care of Petersen Funeral Home.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. on December 18, 2021, at the First Church of God in Dodge City, Kansas, with brother-in-law, Pastor Kendall Hendrickson, presiding. Honorary bearers will be Logan Hendrickson, Lake Tully, and Tony Fussell.

Paid obituary

Linda Hill

Linda Hill, 78, of Big Spring died Saturday, Nov. 27, 2021.



Visitation will be 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive.

Linda was born on April 22, 1943, in Gonzales to Elizabeth and Robert McVea. She married Oscar Hill Feb. 5, 1990, until he passed away on Aug. 29, 1995. She was a lifetime

resident of Big Spring and was a member of New Life Ministries.

Linda worked at Big Spring State Hospital and Mountain View Lodge.

Survivors include four sons, Wayne McVea of Arizona, Ronnie Walker (Vickie Mentor) of Ft. Worth, John McVea of Big Spring and Leonard Hill of Big Spring; four daughters, Laverne McVea of San Angelo, Kay Marshall of Big Spring, Lowanda Stoglin (Willie) of Elgin and Mary Clark of Austin; one sister, Ruby Thompson; 21 grandchildren; and 35 great-grandchildren.

In addition to Linda's parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two sons, Kenneth McVea and Vincent McVea; and one sister, Hester Carter.

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

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 help-

ing 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/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.

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

• 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.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **FREDROCK RUBIO JR.**, 32, of 2208 Lynn Dr was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency x2.

• **KELLY ERIN PITTMAN**, 34, of 705 E 15th was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency, possession of drug paraphernalia, burglary of habitation.

• **APRIL NICOLE TURNER**, 27, of 309 NW 9th St was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency, fail to appear, expired registration.

• **LATASHA QUIVETTE WOODSON**, 42, of 2512 Fairchild was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass habitation/shelter.

• **JUAN SALAZAR**, 50, of 1500 wood St was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency x3.

• **CHRISTOPHER ALLEN WALTER**, 40, of 401 central Ave, Coahoma was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency.

• **RAY MARTIN RODRIGUEZ**, 58, of 103 N 5th St,

Coahoma was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid, warrant from another agency x2.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 2000 block of S Gregg St.

• **ACCIDENT MAJOR** was reported in the 600 block of E 3rd St.

• **FORGERY** was reported in the 600 block of E FM 700.

• **ASSAULT** was reported in the 700 block of E 11th Place.

• **UNATTENDED DEATH** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 4100 block of Muir St.

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Take Note

• Christmas in Coahoma at the Park will be Saturday, Dec. 11, from 3 to 6:30 p.m.

The event will include hayrides and caroling, Christmas art projects for kids, free coffee and hot cocoa, and popcorn and cookies. Sponsored by the Coahoma Lions Club.

• Food distribution at Three Angels Food Pantry is held every third Tuesday of the month at the Big Spring Seventh-Day Adventist Church, located at 4319 Parkway Rd. Food is provided by the West Texas Food Bank.

People will need to bring ID and plastic bags, and answer a few questions to pick up food.

The food pantry also has a Facebook page where they will post any updates. <https://www.facebook.com/healthynuggetsofgold44>.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 93 inmates at the time of this report.

• **CHRISTOPHER WALTER ALLEN**, 40, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of assault causes bodily injury family.

• **AUSTIN MICHAEL HENSON**, 23, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of criminal mischief more than \$100 less than \$750, tamper/fabricate physical evidence with intent, possession of controlled substance less than 1G, evading arrest x2, possession of controlled substance more than 1G less than 4G, resist arrest search or transportation.

• **KELLY PITTMAN**, 34, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia, violate promise to appear, burglary of habitation.

• **RAY MARTIN RODRIGUEZ**, 58, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of operation of vehicle without registration, expired drivers license, driving while license invalid.

• **FREDRICK RUBIO JR.**, 32, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of firearm smuggling 3 or more firearms, burglary of habitation.

• **JUAN MANUEL SALAZAR**, 50, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of speeding 10% above posted limit, no drivers license, violate promise to appear.

• **APRIL NICOLE TURNER**, 27, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of bail jumping and fail to appear, violate promise to appear, expired registration.

• **LATASHA QUIVETTIE WOODSON**, 42, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass/habitat/shelter.

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To Discuss the Coahoma Independent School District's 2021 School FIRST Rating
(Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas)

The Coahoma Independent School District will hold
A public meeting at
6:00 p.m., December 16, 2021
In the Boardroom of Coahoma ISD, at
400 Ramsey Street, Coahoma, Texas.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the
Coahoma ISD's rating on the State's Financial
Accountability System

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MEMBER 2021

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

COURT

Continued from Page 1

forgive you. That doesn't mean I think probation is an appropriate punishment for you."

Lyons said she hopes Woods' time in prison will give her a chance to reflect on the seriousness of her actions and change her lifestyle.

After Mrs. Lyons statement, Woods was allowed to speak with and hug her children and family in the courtroom before being fingerprinted, handcuffed, and led away to be transported to prison.

Prosecuting Attorney Lindsay Wilkerson and Defense Attorney Trey Keith offered their closing statements starting at 9 a.m. Wednesday. Following those presentations, Judge Yeats instructed the jury on their duty, and sent them to deliberate around 10:30 a.m. The jury alerted the court's bailiff that they had reached a verdict about 2 p.m.,

and the Yeats read the verdict at 2:08 p.m.

Speaking after the trial had ended, Wilkerson said potential punishment for the vehicular manslaughter offense ranged between two and 20 years in prison.

"I think the verdict is fair," Wilkerson said.

Although Woods pleaded guilty to the vehicular manslaughter charge, Wilkerson said she still has the option to appeal the verdict.

"Any person convicted of a crime has a right to appeal, unless it's a plea bargain all the way through from guilt or innocence to punishment. Then they lose their right to appeal unless the judge would give them permission to appeal for whatever reason," she said. "In this case, she has the right to appeal, both the sentence and the guilt/innocence."

Wilkerson said the trial went very smoothly.

"It was one of my smoothest," she said. "It played out exactly how I thought it would."

Woods' attorney Trey Keith offered only a brief

statement following the trial.

"In my experience, the juries in Howard County have always been fair and I respect the verdict that they gave in this case," he said.

Testimony in the trial showed that Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper (now promoted to Corporal) Gregory Jordan was parked on the side of FM 700 near Scenic Mountain when Mr. and Mrs. Lyons parked their car behind him and Mr. Lyons exited the vehicle to alert him about an unrelated situation they had witnessed earlier. As Mr. Lyons and Trooper Jordan were talking on the side of the road, Woods – under the influence of pharmaceutical depressants and cocaine – hit both parked vehicles and Mr. Lyons. Trooper Jordan leapt to safety inside his vehicle and was not injured.

At the scene of the accident, Trooper Jeff Morrow administered seven field sobriety tests to Woods, who, according to Morrow's testimony, failed six of the seven. Woods was not injured in the crash.

PAVILION

Continued from Page 1

and they would have picnics. Just gatherings, food, fun, family. That's what he was about."

Martinez said P.J. was a major part of the fabric of life in Big Spring.

"He was amazing," she said. "He played a big part in a lot of people's lives. He was very, very important. We still feel the loss. It was three years today."

He was also important in the local music scene, she added.

"For everything," she said. "He'd gig everywhere, even out of town, all of West Texas, the schools, just for anything and everything. Dances, quinceañeras, any kind of stuff. And LULAC. They did all that kind of stuff, him

and Nati (Saldivar) did so much for the community and tried to help as much as they could. That's what they were there for."

Big Spring City Councilman Nick Ornelas helped organize the construction of the pavilion by Big Spring city workers. Local high school shop students created the metal sign attached to the pavilion.

"P.J. meant a lot to the community. He was very well known in the community. He was a D.J. And he was very well involved with LULAC, the Northside Movement, did a lot with the Easter egg hunt at Lamun-Lusk (The Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez State Veterans Home). He was just very well known in the community. He was a very good friend of mine."

About 50 people gathered for the ribbon-cutting, which was followed with snacks served on the picnic table in the new pavilion.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

be taken as a result of the closed session will be taken when the board resumes open session.

Also on the agenda as a discussion item is a review of the 2020 Redistricting Report provided by the Underwood Law Firm.

In the Action Item portion of the meeting, the school board will consider approval of a resolution adopting principles for

use in the 2021 redistricting process, and of a resolution stating guidelines for persons submitting redistricting plans and comments.

After considering approval of the two resolutions, the meeting will be adjourned.

Take Note (cont.)

• The St. Vincent De Paul Community Project Christmas Bazaar will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 11 at Ryan Hall, 605 N. Main St. The event will feature a drawing with prizes. Proceeds from the bazaar will be used to assist the needy in the community through the Community Project's food pantry and financial assistance programs. Those in the community are invited to sell knickknacks, goods, crafts and delicious food at the event. For more information, call 432-606-5000.

• Senior Citizens Dances are held the third Friday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The next dance is December 17. Music will be Western style. Entry fee is \$5 and includes a snack. For more information call 517-9097.

• The Big Spring Art Association is looking for community businesses to display pieces of their artwork.

In an effort to build awareness for the importance of the arts and highlight local talent, the Big Spring Art Association displays different art pieces across the community. If you would like a piece of art work displayed in your business lobby contact any member of the Big Spring Art Association.

• The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, in the basement of the Howard County Library. Come join us, we would love to have you. For more information, call 432-263-4155; Michelle Worthan at 325-227-3911; Kay Smith at 432-213-1153; or Ruby Bruns at 432-664-1943. The November featured artist/special speaker will be Denise Malm. The next meeting is Nov. 20.

• The Big Spring Symphony is celebrating 40 years. Shows remaining this season include: Dec. 18 "Holiday Spectacular";

Jan. 22: 'The Music of Queen'; Feb. 19 "Winter Wonderland"; and Spring Pops Concert on April 23. The remaining concerts will all take place at the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased in season passes or per concert. For updates and general information, follow The Big Spring Symphony Facebook page or go to www.bigspringsymphony.org.

• The Great Courses history video lecture series is taking place each Wednesday in the Theater Room in the First Presbyterian Church, located at 701 Runnels Street. No charge for the lectures.

• Howard County Community Health Center is offering the Moderna – a two dose and Janseen – a single dose, Covid-19 vaccine to those over the age of 18. Businesses, churches, groups or organizations of 10 members or more who would like the vaccine can schedule a time to have a mobile vaccine clinic. The staff will be to the business, church, or organization to administer the vaccine.

For more information, call 806-894-7842 ext 178 or 124 or e-mail Covid19@sprhs.org

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for new members. If you have a heart for serving people, have at least four hours a week to spare, SMMC Auxiliary might be the fit for you.

Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more.

To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

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Beverly Thompson, 73, died Thursday. Memorial Service will be Thursday at 2 p.m. in Myers & Smith Chapel.

Linda Hill, 78, died Saturday. Funeral Service will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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Howard Hawks mens basketball team drop first conference game of the season



The Howard Hawks opened up Conference play the Wednesday night, Dec 1, in Midland as they took on the Midland Chaps. This was a very close back and forth affair, with the Chaps eventually edging out our Hawks by a final score of 60 to 57. Blaize Sagna led all Hawk scores with 18 points. The Hawks will look to bounce back on Sat, Dec 4, when they have their first home conference game against Western Texas.

MLB owners lock out players, 1st work stoppage since 1995

By RONALD BLUM and STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Baseball Writers

IRVING, Texas — Major League Baseball plunged into its first work stoppage in a quarter-century when the sport's labor bargaining agreement expired Wednesday night and owners immediately locked out players in a move that threatens spring training and opening day.

The strategy, management's equivalent of a strike under federal labor law, ended the sport's labor peace after 9,740 days over 26 1/2 years.

Teams decided to force the long-anticipated confrontation during an offseason rather than risk players walking out during the summer, as they did in 1994. Players and owners had successfully reached four consecutive agreements without a work stoppage, but they have been accelerating toward a clash for more than two years.

"We believe that an offseason lockout is the best mechanism to protect the 2022 season," baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred wrote in a letter to fans. "We hope that the lockout will jumpstart the negotiations and get us to an agreement that will allow the season to start on time. This defensive lockout was necessary because the players' association's request for Major League Baseball would threaten the ability of most teams to be competitive."

Talks that started last spring ended Wednesday after a brief session of mere minutes with the sides far apart on the dozens of key economic issues. Management's negotiators left the union's hotel about nine hours before the deal lapsed at 11:59 p.m. EST.

MLB's 30 controlling owners held a brief digital meeting to reaffirm their lockout decision, and MLB delivered the announcement of its fourth-ever lockout — to go along with five strikes — in an emailed letter to the Major League Baseball Players Association.

"This drastic and unnecessary measure will not affect the players' resolve to reach a fair contract," union head Tony Clark said in a statement. "We remain committed to negotiating a new collective bargaining agreement that enhances competition, improves the product for our fans, and advances the rights and benefits of our membership."

This stoppage began 30 days after Atlanta's World Series win capped a complete season following a pandemic-shortened 2020 played in empty ballparks.

The lockout's immediate impacts were a memo from MLB to clubs freezing signings, the cancellation of next week's annual win-

ter meetings in Orlando, Florida, and banishing players from team workout facilities and weight rooms while perhaps chilling ticket sales for 2022.

The union demanded change following anger over a declining average salary, middle-class players forced out by teams concentrating payroll on the wealthy and veterans jettisoned in favor of lower-paid youth, especially among clubs tearing down their rosters to rebuild.

"As players we see major problems with it," New York Mets pitcher Max Scherzer said of the 2016 agreement. "First and foremost, we see a competition problem and how teams are behaving because of certain rules that are within that, and adjustments have to be made because of that in order to bring out the competition."

Eleven weeks remain until pitchers and catchers are to report for spring training on Feb. 16, leaving about 70 days to reach a deal allowing for an on-time start. Opening day is set for March 31, and a minimum of three weeks of organized workouts have been required in the past.

Management, intent on preserving salary restraints gained in recent decades, rejected the union's requests for what teams regarded as significant alterations to the sport's economic structure, including lowering service time needed for free agency and salary arbitration.

"We offered to establish a minimum payroll for all clubs to meet for the first time in baseball history; to allow the majority of players to reach free agency earlier through an age-based system that would eliminate any claims of service time manipulation; and to increase compensation for all young players," Manfred wrote. "When negotiations lacked momentum, we tried to create some by offering to accept the universal designated hitter, to create a new draft system using a lottery similar to other leagues."

Many clubs scrambled to add players ahead of the lockout, committing to more than \$1.9 billion in new contracts — including a one-day record of more than \$1.4 billion Wednesday.

Two of the eight members of the union's executive subcommittee signed big deals: Texas infielder Marcus Semien (\$175 million) and Scherzer (\$130 million).

"This is actually kind of fun," Scherzer said. "I'm a fan of the game, and to watch everybody sign right now, to actually see teams competing in this kind of timely fashion, it's been refreshing because we've seen freezes for the past several offseasons."

No player remains active from the 232-day strike that cut short the 1994 season, led to the first cancellation of the World Series in 90 years and caused the following season to start late.

The average salary dropped from \$1.17 million before the strike to \$1.11 million but then resumed its seemingly inexorable rise. It peaked at just under \$4.1 million in 2017, the first season of the latest CBA, but likely will fall to about \$3.7 million when this year's final figures are calculated.

That money is concentrated heavily at the top of the salary structure. Among approximately 1,955 players who signed major league contracts at any point going into the regular season's final month, 112 had earned \$10 million or more this year as of Aug. 31, of which 40 made at least \$20 million, including prorated shares of signing bonuses.

There were 1,397 earning under \$1 million, of which 1,271 were at \$600,000 or less and 332 under \$100,000, a group of younger players who shuttle back and forth to the minors.

A union statement claimed the lockout "was specifically calculated to pressure players into relinquishing rights and benefits, and abandoning good-faith bargaining proposals that will benefit not just players, but the game and industry as a whole. ... We have been here before, and players have risen to the occasion time and again — guided by a solidarity that has been forged over generations."

The union has withheld licensing money, as it usually does going into bargaining; cash, U.S. Treasury securities and investments totaled \$178.5 million last Dec. 31, according to a financial disclosure form filed with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Some player agents have speculated that management's credit lines already may be pressured following income deprivation caused by the coronavirus pandemic, but the clubs' finances are more opaque publicly than that of the union, making it difficult to ascertain comparative financial strength to withstand a lengthy work stoppage.

Manfred succeeded Bud Selig as commissioner in 2015 following a quarter-century as an MLB labor negotiator. He was unusually critical publicly of the union's stance.

"They never wavered from collectively the most extreme set of proposals in their history," he said, "including significant cuts to the revenue-sharing system, a weakening of the competitive balance tax, and shortening the period of time that players play for their teams. All of these changes would make our game less competitive."



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Sealed proposals addressed to Audra Hoback, Manager of Business Services of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 400 East 24th Street, PO Box 869, Big Spring, Texas 79721, on Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 3:00 PM for the furnishing

Legals

of the following items:

Request for Proposals for Trash Removal Services for O.H. Ivie Reservoir and E.V. Spence Reservoir

At this time and place, the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

Specifications are on file and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, telephone 432.267.6341. Specifications may also be procured from the District at the above address without charge or by visiting www.crmwd.org.

In case of ambiguity in stating proposal prices, the Colorado River Municipal Water District reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous bid thereof, to reject any or all bids, and to waive formalities.

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Tips for traveling with gifts in tow

"There's no place like home for the holidays." The popular Christmas tune says it best, and millions of people support that notion every year by heading back to their hometowns to spend the holidays with friends and family.

Transportation Statistics points out that the Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Year's holiday periods are some of the busiest times for long-distance travel. Around Thanksgiving, the number of trips to and from a destination 50 miles or more away increases by 54 percent. During the December holiday period, the number rises by 23 percent.

The Bureau of When traveling for

the holidays, suitcases and other baggage tends to be filled with gifts, decorations and other items like food. Packing for travel can become a little more complicated during this time of year. But these suggestions can help ensure holiday items make it there and back relatively easily.

Wrap them there One way to preserve the integrity of holiday gifts and ensure they look attractive rather than crushed or ripped is to wrap items when you arrive. Build extra time into holiday travel so that you arrive a day or two early. Seek out a quiet spot and get your wrapping done.

Ship there or back Depending on your

mode of travel, there may be limited cargo space in the trunk or back of the SUV. Also, if you're taking a long road trip that involves rest stops or even staying over at a hotel, gifts left in a vehicle may attract the attention of thieves. Lugging them into the hotel may not be practical, either. In addition, many airlines charge fees for extra baggage, which can quickly add up with bulky holiday gifts. Instead, ship gifts to their destination, trying to plan accordingly so that someone will be there to receive them when they arrive. Pick a shipping rate that fits your budget.

Make a "small gift" pact
Speak with family

members and agree to a set gift size (and/or dollar value). A theme, such as limiting gifts to gift cards, perfume/cologne or food, can make this more manageable. Try to avoid delicate items which can break during transit. Small gifts are easily stashed in luggage or boxes to bring home, saving everyone a little stress.

Remove packaging and wrapping While they may not look as pristine as carefully wrapped boxes, wrap soft clothing items right in wrapping paper or tissue paper to save on space so gifts will take up less space. On the return trip home, break down clothing boxes and remove toys from their cardboard

and plastic packaging to make them easier to transport.

Bring along an empty piece of luggage Much like on vacation, you'll probably return home with a few more items than you arrived with during the holidays. Plan ahead with an empty piece of luggage for stowing the new gifts. Nest soft or foldable items into other gifts to save on space. Shirts rolled into shoes can save significant space.

Millions of people travel for the holidays. A plan to get gifts to and fro can make trips go smoothly.

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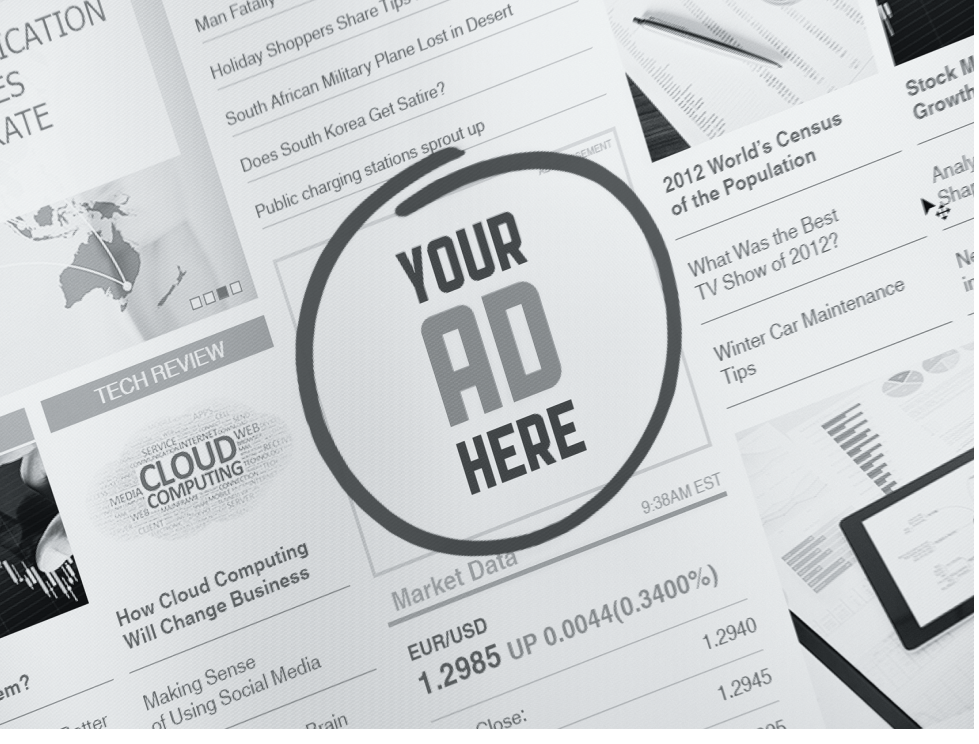
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Advertisement for 'Shop Local, Eat Local, Read Local' featuring the Big Spring Herald. Includes icons for shopping, eating, and reading, and a call to support local businesses.

Advertisement for 'Contract Bridge' by Steve Becker. Features the text 'First things first' and a bidding table with suits and cards listed for North, West, South, and East.

Annie's Mailbox

Left Out of Family Fun

Dear Annie: I am a single mother to my one daughter, who is now 29. She moved from our hometown because that's where she met her husband...

It has been and still is very hard for me being in this new city. I don't know anybody and am still single, having left my companion when I moved down here...

Recently, she signed him up for toddler soccer, and I told her that I wanted to go to see him play. This past Saturday, they went, and she never asked me to join them...

I have been lonely and have been living here for a year now. I'm thinking about moving back to my hometown but I'm torn because of not being able to see my grandson as often.

My question is, do you think I am being unreasonable to feel hurt that she doesn't ask me to attend things when her husband is

going? Should I move back to my hometown, which is two hours away, so I can have a social life? -- Homesick

Dear Homesick: It sounds like freaked-out first-time mom was the one who requested you move to her neighborhood. Now that she's in the groove of her parenting duties, she no longer needs the extra hands...

Move back to your hometown and reconnect with your partner. Sitting by the phone waiting for invites does not make for a fulfilling social life.

Dear Annie: My son's father has recently told me he wants to do everything he can for our son, who is almost 4. However, ever since our son was born,

I have barely had any help. All he did was go to work in the morning and come home to play video games.

Our son used to go to his father to spend time with him only to be pushed away and told "no" because his father was busy playing a game. For that, my son is a mama's boy, which is fine with me.

Now I'm with someone else who sees my worth, and we have a little girl due Dec. 26. We are also engaged.

I'm not sure how I feel about my son's father suddenly wanting to be in our son's life and claiming he will do whatever it takes. You don't choose when you feel like being a parent. Any advice? -- Stressed-Out Mom From NY

Dear Stressed-Out Mom: Yes, his paternal instinct is kicking

in four years late -- but for your son's sake, it's better late than never.

He's already missed out on moments he'll never get back. But don't let your resentment toward him prevent your son from ever getting to know his father. An imperfect parent is better than an absent one.

Start small. Invite your son's father to join your family for dinner once a week. If his commitment to your son is indeed more than just a phase, gradually loosen the reins.

"Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie" is out now! Annie Lane's debut book -- featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette -- is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information.

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

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Advertisement for 'CRYPTO FUN' featuring a grid of symbols and letters A-Z, and a list of symbols used for a word search puzzle.

Puzzle instructions: 'Solve the code to discover words related to being spiritual. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 25 = I)'. Includes four clues: A. 2 26 25 8 25 15 11 21 13; B. 24 16 13 25 16 19 2; C. 15 17 25 4 14 25 4 12; D. 15 5 12 16 15 17 16 8.

Answers: A. spiritual B. beliefs C. thinking D. together

