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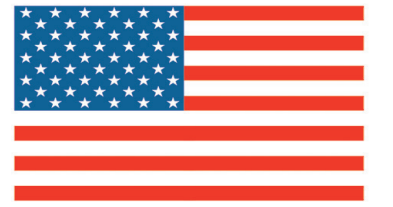
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Upcoming Events

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.

The Holy Trinity Youth will be hosting their annual Warm Up the Community project Saturday, Dec. 4. The event will be held in the Guadalupe Family Center at Holy Trinity Church from 9 a.m to 1 p.m.

Plenty of Christmas fun this weekend in Big Spring

By **DUSTIN POPE**
 Managing Editor

Even though it may not quite feel like it yet with the warm temps we have had lately, Christmas time is certainly right around the corner. And here in Big Spring, we have several things that you can go do to get some Christmas spirit and enjoy time with the family.

One of those annual traditions will be this Saturday, Dec 4. That's right; it's time for the Big Spring Christmas Parade.

The Christmas Parade is a Big Spring annual tradition. This year's theme is "Lights, Christmas, Action - Any Christmas Movie," which should make for an exciting time. Think of all of the holiday classics that can be made into a float. I hope that at least one float is made after the best Christmas movie of all time.... *Die Hard*. Okay, so let us get back to this parade. With the theme being any Christmas movies,



The Dance Lab had a lot of fun on their float during last year's Christmas parade.

Courtesy Photo

There will be judging going on for all the floats that are involved. First-place, second-place, and third-place trophies will be handed down in five categories: School; Non-profit/Civic/Church; Commercial; Car/Club; and a Wild Card. After the parade, all the awards will be presented at the Heart of

See **CHRISTMAS**, Page 3

it should be interesting to see what all the floats will have to offer.

The parade is this Saturday, Dec 4, and will start at 3 p.m. The parade route will begin at 24th and Scurry, and travel north to the Scurry and Fourth intersection. There will be plenty of roadside seating available, and candy will be thrown from some of the floats for the kiddos — and of course, some of the adults too.

Holy Trinity Youth hosting 11th annual warming up the community service project



Courtesy Photos

On Saturday, Dec 4, the Holy Trinity Youth will be hosting their 11th annual Warm Up the Community service project. This fantastic event will be held from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Guadalupe Family Center within Holy Trinity Church, located at 1009 Hearn Street. There will be a variety of coats, blankets, and many more forms of warm attire. The Holy Trinity parishioners have donated all of the warm, comfortable gear, which will be offered free to those in need.

Big Spring school board redistricting plans underway

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

In a special meeting Thursday evening, the Big Spring ISD school board laid the groundwork for realigning its seven single-member districts based on results of the 2020 Census.

The meeting began with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a time for public comment. City Councilman Nick Ornelas tried to address the school board, but was informed that, since Thursday evening's occasion was a special meeting, members of the public could only address the board on topics relating to the meeting's business. Superintendent Jay McWilliams invited Ornelas to return at the next regular meeting to address the board.

Following the public comment section of the meeting, the board adjourned into executive session to meet with attorney Fred Stormer of the Underwood

Law Firm "...to receive advice concerning compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 regarding redistricting of single-member districts," according to the meeting's agenda. The closed session lasted approximately an hour.

Upon returning to open session, the Stormer offered a review of the 2020 Redistricting Report prepared by the Underwood firm.

Stormer reported that, since 2010, Big Spring has grown by about 1,600, from 23,813 to 25,447.

"You've also had an increase in your Hispanic population to 12,385 and a decrease in the Anglo population to 10,668," he said. "What we see here is really about a flip from the 2010 Census. Those percentages between Anglo and Hispanic were really the inverse. We had slightly more Anglos in 2010, and now we have slightly more Hispanics."

Stormer said that populations are shifting in different parts of

See **BSISD**, Page 3

FUMC Christmas pageant this weekend

Special to the Herald

The First United Methodist Church of Big Spring will present its annual Christmas program this Saturday at 8 p.m., and again, Sunday at 6 p.m.

The free program, entitled "Our Savior," is part of a three-part series, designed to be shown over three consecutive years.

The first year's show, "Part 1: Creation" tells the Christian creation story through the birth of Jesus, said FUMC Music Director Dan Kiley.

22 Days Til' Christmas!

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Church News

NazFamily Church

This Sunday: Prepare the Way
Trees are being pulled out of attics everywhere and lights are coming down from closets across the city to be untangled and tested. Stores are full of Christmas displays and familiar music is beginning to play on the radio. These are the sights and sounds of this season. Whether you can believe it or not, Christmas time is upon us. People everywhere are preparing in their own way to celebrate with family and friends. It is a time of preparation, a time of expectation, a time of hopeful anticipation. Join us this Sunday as we discover what it means for us to Prepare the Way for the coming King.

35th Annual Live Nativity

With all the hustle and bustle in this season, we invite you to come, slow down, and be reminded why we celebrate Christmas. NazFamily Live Drive Thru Nativity on Dec. 10, 11, 12 from 6:30pm - 9:30pm.

Kids Christmas Program

There is something significant about hearing the Christmas story from a child's perspective. They remind us of the wonder and mystery of the amazing moment that Almighty God entered this world as a child. Our NazKids Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 12th. New Hope's Preschool Program will be on Wednesday, December 15th and NCA's program will be on Thursday December 16th. Come hear our children share the greatest story ever told.

Christmas Eve

On December 24th @ 6:30pm we will have a special Christmas Eve Service. It will be a simple service of story and song focused on the true reason for the season. We hope you will invite your friends and family to join us as we celebrate together.

College Baptist Church

What a great celebration of Thanksgiving we had with friends and family as we gathered together in an attitude of gratitude toward those who should mean the most in our world. Pastors, veterans, and Jesus especially should be among those for whom we need to be thankful. Our "Gathering" church body, welcomes you as old and new members through salvation and baptism! Come see what God is doing at the corner of 11th and Birdwell Lane. Join us at College Baptist Church--We are open:

*Sunday morning--9:15 for Bible Study for all ages. *Worship time is at 10:45 a.m.

*Girl's Missions meet on Sunday at 5 p.m.

* Wednesday with our praying Youth groups starts at 6 p.m.

Fellowship meal between 6 and 6:45
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at 7 p.m.
Children meet for King's Kids and Krafts.
Nursery and extended care is as needed for all services.

Come join in the fun as we celebrate our winter season, serving our Lord. Services for December 6, 2021, is a great time for families to gather and celebrate our God together. Our services are in the building, I've streaming, and on our Face Book page as well. Catch up on God's perfect plan! Visitors, it was a such a joy to welcome you on Sunday. Come join us again—it is always a joy to welcome new faces. Our services are lively and worshipful.

We definitely enjoy the worship time as our ministry team leads us in songs of praise, and where our pastor, Bro. Ken McMeans, inspires us as we delve into God's Word. Come and study with us as to what it takes to really know God cares for us so much He sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to save us. Focus on growth in Jesus as we continue to the end of this year and into 2022, as our pastor reminds us every Sunday, Jesus is coming SOON! Please call: 432-267-7429, for more information concerning Men's, Ladies' and youth meetings at this great and friendly church. Pray that lives are changed by the power of our Saviour, Jesus Christ our Cornerstone!

Cornerstone Covenant Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church (aka - CCC) is a unified, spirit-led, purpose-driven church, which cultivates an atmosphere of faith so that lives can be transformed by Jesus Christ.

We would love the opportunity to Connect with YOU! You can expect biblical teaching & preaching, genuine loving fellowship and live spirit filled praise & worship on Sunday's (onsite) @9:30AM & (onsite & online) 11:00AM.

Please join us this week at one of the following events:

Saturday, December 4th- Join Men's 41 Prayer Breakfast @ 7AM in the ARC. We strive towards building a community of faithful men who are equipped to lead themselves and their families on a closer walk with God. On our journey, we will learn what it means to be godly servant-leaders and challenge each other to pursue that life. Men of all ages are invited to join us for a great time of food, fun, fellowship and the Word of God.

Sunday, December 5th- Many of you serve as leaders or as vital team members. Maybe, you are business owner, charge nurse, shift supervisor, coach, pastor or perhaps you have recently started a business or a non-profit to benefit your community. But you are in need of building a strong and unified team & you're needing wisdom. Join us Sunday at 9:30am or 11:00am for Worship, Fellowship, Word of God & Prayer as Pastor Willard starts a brand new 3-week series entitled, "BEFORE JERICHO".

Monday, December 6th- Join us for (FAR) Far Above Rubies women's night from 6-8PM in the Youth Sanctuary for our Annual Ornament Exchange. Our desire is to foster an environment and opportunity for women to grow in their relationship with Christ and connect with other women. Bring your favorite dish to share, a wrapped ornament, a friend and your bible as we enjoy a night of fun, food and fellowship together.

Sunday, December 19th --We would like to take a moment to invite you and your family to Experience Christmas @ Cornerstone at either our 9:30am or 11:00am worship service. This is a time for families to celebrate the season of hope, peace, love and joy. Come and enjoy biblical teaching from the word of God as we share a cup of hot chocolate and cookies with the family.

Following 11:00 service we would love for our Community Family of Big

Spring to join us for Operation Zoe' at 1:00pm in the ARC. This will be an exciting time of Christmas giving from CCC to our Community. Come on out and let us participate in the excitement of your child and/or children picking out that special gift.

CCC is located at 706 East 12th Street. For office hours or other questions please contact our Administrative Office at 432-264-0015, email us at info@cccbigspring.org. You can also find us at www.cccbigspring.org if you would like more information.

"Loving God, Loving People, Loving Communities and Changing the world!"
-Pastor Michael Willard

Crestview Baptist Church

At Crestview Baptist Church, we believe the most fulfilling pursuit of believers is not entertainment, gimmicks, or programs.

The most fulfilling pursuit for a follower of Christ is to know Christ and His Word, so that we may live for Him. If you believe that please come and worship with us! Sunday School starts at 10 a.m., Worship begins at 11 a.m., and our Sunday and Wednesday night meetings are at 6:30 p.m. We are studying Biblical Doctrine.

Come and be with us at 2305 Gatesville Rd., Big Spring.

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

First Presbyterian Church had a successful Thanksgiving turkey drive that contributed to Howard County Resource Center. We are now starting another drive for HCRC's Christmas meals program.

Presbyterian Women gathered before Thanksgiving for their annual "Cookie Project" of putting together tubs of cookies for college students and homebound members. PW are also putting together complete Christmas baskets for two families chosen at random by Howard County Resource Center. The baskets will include gifts of clothing, shoes, and toys. The Service Committee will add turkeys, all the trimmings, and a substantial gift card.

Worship services begin at 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary at 8th and Runnels. Sunday December 5th is the second Sunday of Advent. Our Advent Candle lighting scripture will be Luke 3:1-6 and our sermon scripture will be Ezekiel 37:1-14. Rev. Allen Cross will be preaching a sermon entitled: Who's Gonna Prophecy to the Bones Now? Organist/music director Gabe Martinez provides music for the service.

Sunday School begins at 9:45. Rev. Cross teaches the Children's Class. Tom Koger leads the Youth Class. The Discovery Class is starting a new 5 week DVD study by Adam Hamilton called "Not a Silent Night- Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem." Mary considers the life of Jesus from the cross backwards to the nativity. Vicki Miller and Helen Glass are leading the study

Sunday morning Take Ten fellowship is in the parlor between Sunday School and worship. Jessica Kennemur is host for this week.

We invite people of all denominations to take advantage of our digital spiritual resources that are available on our website and on our Facebook page. Last week, we added a new podcast which is a quick commentary on the scriptures for the week. All our digital publications, from the video devotionals to the daily prayer podcast to the new commentary podcast, prepare us for the upcoming Sunday's worship.

WEDNESDAY

The Women's Bible Study meets at 10 a.m.
The History Lectures meets at noon.
The Lectionary Bible Study, meets at 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Everyone is invited to join the Lunch Bunch at 11:30 a.m.

DIGITAL SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Church Calendar
Daily Prayer Podcast (Monday-Saturday)
Scripture Commentary (Tuesdays)
Video Devotional (Wednesdays)
Video Preview of this week's bulletin (Fridays)
Sunday Sermon Podcast & Video

Website: fpcbigspring.com
Facebook Page: FPC of Big Spring
YouTube Channel: FPC of Big Spring

Anyone who is not attending worship physically may hear the service on KBST 1490 AM at 11:00 a.m. as usual or online at www.fpcbigspring.com by selecting the SERMONS tab and the correct date.

Please call the church office at 263-4211 for other information. We would be pleased for you to Like us on Facebook. Although the physical address of First Presbyterian Church is 701 Runnels, the mailing address is P. O. Box 2222, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

See **Church**, page 6



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Defense lifts Dallas to 27-17 victory over

By **BRETT MARTEL**

AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Dallas defensive coordinator Dan Cochran said to step in for Mike McCarthy as acting head coach and enjoyed the sideline view as the unit he normally oversees lifted the Cowboys out of their recent swoon with a slew of big plays.

CeeDee Lamb had 122 yards from scrimmage, Tony Pollard ripped off a 58-yard touchdown run and the Dallas defense produced a drive-stalling sack and three interceptions in the fourth quarter of a 27-17 victory over the New Orleans Saints on Thursday night.

The Cowboys (8-4) intercepted Saints quarterback Taysom Hill four times in all — three times in the final 6:32 of the game, including defensive tackle Carlos Watkins' pick-6 on a screen pass that made it 27-10 with 2:52 left.

"I finally got to see his emotion and expressions down on the sidelines," Dallas rookie outside linebacker Micah Parsons said of Quinn, a former Atlanta head coach who normally calls defensive plays from a booth with Dallas. "It was good to see a smile on his face and it was good to see another win on the board."

McCarthy and five assistants didn't make the trip because of positive COVID-19 tests.

"I love doing hard things with a group of people and this was one of those moments," a gratified Quinn said. "We wanted to make sure Mike and all the guys that we missed, that we got their back. Honestly, that was the only thing I was nervous about. I didn't want to let them down."

The Saints (5-7) gave the dual-threat Hill his first start this season in hopes he could help New Orleans snap a four-game skid. He was effective in spurts, passing for 264 yards and two touchdowns

— and running for 101 yards — while playing through an early injury to the middle finger of his throwing hand.

"He played with a lot of heart, a lot of guts," Saints coach Sean Payton said.

But Hill's turnovers proved too much to overcome as the Saints — winners of the NFC South the previous four seasons — lost a fifth straight game for the first time since 2005, the season before Payton took over in New Orleans.

"It's very frustrating. It's unfamiliar territory for us," Hill said. "This is my fifth year and I haven't experienced anything like this since I've been a Saint."

Dak Prescott passed for 238 yards and a 1-yard touchdown to Michael Gallup.

Prescott was intercepted by Marshon Lattimore in the middle of the fourth quarter, but the Cowboys canceled out that turnover when Jourdan Lewis hit Hill's arm as he released the ball and Dontae Kazeem intercepted.

That was the first of Dallas' three late interceptions. The Saints' next drive stalled on a pick by Trevon Diggs, his league-leading ninth. And Watkins' interception came on the drive after that.

"When the ball was in the air, our guys went and got it," said Parsons, whose 10th sack of the season also ended a Saints threat early in the fourth quarter. "We tried our best to contain them. I mean, he was getting outside the pocket and we were finding ways to slow him down and getting the ball back."

Saints receiver Deonte Harris turned a short pass into a late 70-yard TD for the game's final score.

SLOW STARTS

The Saints have started slowly throughout their skid and this game was no exception as they failed to score in the first quarter for the fifth game in a row.

The Saints' first scoring threat came on their second drive, but Brett Maher's 56-yard field goal attempt drifted wide right.

Dallas broke through on its third possession, highlighted by Prescott's 41-yard pass over the middle to Amari Cooper and a lateral pass to Lamb that went for 33 yards to the New Orleans 1. Prescott then tossed a fade to the right corner, where Gallup made a leaping, twisting catch over cornerback Bradley Roby and narrowly touched both feet in bounds.

The Saints tied it on Lil'Jordan Humphrey's 24-yard TD catch early in the second quarter, but never led.

After Greg Zuerlein's 55-yard field goal put Dallas up 10-7, the Saints threatened late in the second half when they drove to the Dallas 26. But Hill's pass toward the left sideline was tipped by receiver Kenny Stills and intercepted at the 5 by Jayron Kearse, who dove to snag the fluttering ball while dragging his toes on the turf before falling out of bounds.

The game remained close into the third quarter, when Pollard gave Dallas a 20-10 advantage by slipping an arm tackle in the backfield and speeding away from everyone else.

INJURIES

Dallas did not report any injuries during the game.

Saints: Hours before the game, the Saints placed defensive end Tanoh Kpassagnon on injured reserve after he'd missed the previous two games with an ankle injury. ... Juwan Johnson hurt his neck after making a leaping 27-yard catch near the end of the first quarter.

UP NEXT

Cowboys: Visit Washington on Dec. 12.

Saints: Visit the New York Jets on Dec. 12.

Defenses in spotlight for Oklahoma St-Baylor Big 12 matchup

By **CLIFF BRUN**

AP Sports Writer

Often, the chatter heading into the Big 12 championship game focuses on dynamic offenses and a quarterback chasing the Heisman Trophy.

This time, it's more about old-school, hard-nosed defense. Fifth-ranked Oklahoma State (11-1, 8-1 Big 12, No.5 CFP) and ninth-ranked Baylor (10-2, 7-2, No. 9 CFP) take game-changing units into Saturday's title matchup.

Oklahoma State's defense is one of the nation's best. The Cowboys rank third nationally in total defense, fifth in scoring defense, sixth in rushing defense and are the best at limiting third-down conversions. Fourth-year defensive coordinator Jim Knowles is a finalist for the Broyles Award, given to the nation's top assistant coach.

"They all hung with me a few years ago when they might have thought I was being a little bit of a 'not nice guy,' let's put it that way," Knowles said after the Cowboys surrendered just 143 yards in a 55-3 win over Kansas earlier this season. "Not quite the words I used. But they hung in and they believed. And I just think now, you're seeing the fruits of that."

Oklahoma State's defense did not allow a point in the second half of last Saturday's 37-33 win over Oklahoma that ended the Sooners' run of Big 12 titles at six. The only points Oklahoma scored after the break were on a fumble recovery and a safety.

"I felt like we had settled down," Knowles said. "We got the sense that our guys were starting to smell blood in the water, and they were playing fast. They were playing really fast. When you can play fast, you've got a chance to win."

Oklahoma State super senior linebacker Malcolm Rodriguez ranks second in the Big 12 with 8.9 tackles per game and sixth with 13.5 tackles for loss. Defensive end Brock Martin has 10.5 tackles for loss and linebacker Devin Harper and defensive end Tyler Lacy each have 10.0. Safety Kolby Harvell-Peel has three interceptions.

Oklahoma State freshman defensive end Collin Oliver has 12.5 tackles for loss and ranks third in the Big 12 with 9.5 sacks. He got the game-deciding sack against Oklahoma.

Cowboys last week. "Like, they don't have an area where you just point to and say, 'That's just killing them.' They've got good, good playmakers at all levels."

So does Baylor, which ranks 17th nationally in scoring defense, 19th in rushing defense and 12th in third-down conversion defense.

Baylor's Jalen Pitre plays the STAR position, a hybrid of linebacker, safety and cornerback. He leads the Big 12 with 15.5 tackles for loss and three fumbles recovered. He also has forced three fumbles.

He was thrilled when coach Dave Aranda and defensive coordinator Ron Roberts presented the option of moving him from linebacker to a role that better highlights his versatility.

"I understood what the position entailed and what it demanded, and the different things that the position held," Pitre said. "And so I'm thankful that they moved me to the position and it has been a great ride. He lets me, you know, be free. Lets me do a lot of things inside the defense."

Linebacker Terrel Bernard averages 6.9 tackles per game, though he was out with a knee injury when Oklahoma State beat Baylor 24-14 in the regular season.

"I think Terrel is one of those guys that when he's just in the huddle and he's in it, there's just an added confidence that comes with," Aranda said. "Because of his maturity and his resilience and his preparation, you just feel like he's a coach on the field."

Linebacker Dillon Doyle has 8.5 tackles for loss. Defensive lineman Gabe Hall leads the Bears with six sacks and safety JT Woods has three interceptions.

Big 12 title games have averaged just over 56 points the past four years, but the over/under this year is 46.5, according to FanDuel Sportsbook -- a clear nod to those defenses.

Baylor is a slight underdog but expects to perform better than it did in that first game against the Cowboys. Oklahoma State ran for 219 yards that day and might have run away with that game if not for three interceptions.

"We understand that if we stop the run, it can be hard for that offense to get rolling," Pitre said. "With that, we understand that we've got to make plays when the ball is in the air."



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Fill out an application at the Big Spring Herald 710 Scurry St. No phone calls please.

Help Wanted



The Big Spring Herald is currently hiring for a sports writer.

The full-time position includes coverage of high school, local college, and individual athletics.

The sports writer is responsible for developing relationships with coaches, local athletes, and news sources.

He/she will be required, at times, to travel to cover local teams.

Applicants must have reliable transportation with mileage reimbursement and reside or be willing to relocate in Howard County.

Send resumes to Dustin Pope at editor@bigspringherald.com.

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Annie's Mailbox

Testy About Takeout

Dear Annie: Both my adult daughter and her husband are employed. Since they do not cook, when my husband and I visit them, which is approximately four times a year, they send out for food and ask us to pay our share of the bill, or, on occasion, she will use my credit card to pay for the whole bill. When we go out to eat at a restaurant, I always pick up the check, which I feel is almost expected on their part.

Am I asking for too much by wanting them to entertain us when we visit them, as I have done for the past 20 years when they visit us? -- Lunch With a Bill

Dear Lunch With a Bill: When it comes to parents picking up the tab, sometimes old habits die hard. If you've been paying for meals since your adult daughter was a child, she probably doesn't think twice before passing you the check.

Excuses aside, it's bad manners to charge guests for their portion of a meal. Next time she tries to charge you for lunch, just say, "You take care of this one, and I'll treat us all to dinner tonight."

Dear Annie: I have been with my fiance for 15 years. She has two children from a previous relationship.

When I came into their lives, her son was 6 and her daughter had just turned 7. I almost immediately became a father figure to her children, as their father stopped all communication with them after the divorce.

I absolutely loved spending time with them, but I was 23 and had never been a father before. I made many, many mistakes and also developed a dependency on opiates that made me not such a good person at times.

Eventually, the children's father came back into his son's life but said he wanted nothing to do with my wife's daughter as he wasn't her real father. I was thrilled to be her father. I often thought of walking her down the aisle, being a grandpa to her children should she have any, etc.

As she got older, our relationship became strained. She developed new personality traits, and I struggled with addiction and didn't make her feel good about herself most of the time. I thought I was doing the right thing back then.

Eventually, I got sober, and she moved out and became a mother to an amazing little boy. Part of my recovery process is making amends to people I have hurt. I love her more than I can put

into words, and her son is absolutely crazy about me and calls me "Grandpa." I have told her many times how sorry I am, how wrong I was and how proud I am of her for what she has done with her life. I want more than anything to have a relationship with her and be a grandpa to that little boy. She has put up quite a wall, though.

Is there anything I can do, or do I need to

just make peace with having to let her go? Please help. -- Torn Apart in Illinois

Dear Torn Apart: Your stepdaughter probably expects that you'll let her down again or abandon her entirely, like her biological father did many years ago.

The proof is in the pudding. Instead of telling her again how sorry you are for your

mistakes, let your apology shine through your actions. Plant your feet and hang tough. Show her that you've changed and you aren't going anywhere this time.

It might take time for her to come around, but be patient. One of the most important things we can do as parents is show up for our kids. When her wall eventually crumbles, she will realize that

standing on the other side is the good-hearted and loving father she's always had.

"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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FRIDAY TV SCHEDULE TABLE with columns for time, channel, and program name.

Contract Bridge advertisement with a graphic of a hand and cards.

By Steve Becker Bidding quiz

You are the dealer and open One Spade. Partner responds One Notrump. What would you bid now with each of the following five hands?

to rebid two spades over one notrump, you'd run the risk of finding partner with a singleton spade and four or more clubs.

1. Two notrump. Partner's one notrump response shows six to 10 high-card points. As there is no way of knowing whether he is closer to the upper or lower end of this range, the best you can do is to invite him to bid again by raising to two notrump.

3. Three hearts. You should assume there's a game somewhere and therefore jump-shift to three hearts (forcing). It would be extremely pessimistic to bid only two hearts over one notrump, since partner might pass.

2. Two clubs. Despite your own strong preference for spades, you should bid two clubs. If partner passes, indicating a distinct preference for clubs over spades and minimum values for his one-notrump response, you are probably in the best contract.

4. Four spades. Holding nine sure tricks, it is not overly optimistic of you to expect partner to provide at least one more. You should therefore bid game without further ado. It would be wrong to bid only three spades, which would run the risk of partner passing.

5. Three spades. With only seven sure winners, this hand is obviously not as strong as the previous one, so your best move is simply to invite partner to bid again. If partner has minimum values for his notrump response, he'll pass — and you may have trouble making even nine tricks. But if partner has maximum values, he will bid again, and you'll probably wind up making at least ten tricks in four spades. With hands of intermediate strength, you must consult partner and abide by his decision.

Tomorrow: Fancy footwork. ©2021 King Features Syndicate Inc.

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Kids' Corner graphic with a laptop, scissors, and a pencil.

PEOPLE FACT! graphic with silhouettes of people.

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Math Blocks puzzle grid with numbers and instructions.

Solution grid for the Math Blocks puzzle.

Get Scrambled Unscramble the words to determine the phrase. NFAILNACI NPRALEN Answer: Financial planner

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY • 1818: ILLINOIS BECOMES THE 21ST STATE IN THE UNITED STATES. • 1910: MODERN NEON LIGHTING IS FIRST DEMONSTRATED IN PARIS. • 1967: DR. CHRISTIAAN BARNARD PERFORMS THE WORLD'S FIRST SUCCESSFUL HUMAN HEART TRANSPLANT.

New Word CALCULATE determine the amount of something

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GET THE PICTURE? Can you guess what the bigger picture is? ANSWER: CREDIT CARD MACHINE

Howard County Leadership Summit



COORDINATING PLANS TO MOVE THE COMMUNITY FORWARD

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2021
DOROTHY GARRETT COLISEUM
SONIC FLOOR
6:30PM

Special to the Herald

Want to know what the leaders of Howard County have planned for the future? If so, most of those leaders will be on hand for the Howard County Leadership Summit at the Howard College Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Sonic Floor at 6:30, December 6th to discuss their vision for their particular governmental entity and potential opportunities to work together with other governmental

entities to realize those visions.

The start of 2022 will be challenging for all of Howard County and those in a positions of leadership. With the loss of approximately 600 jobs associated with the private prison facilities in Big Spring, the first quarter of the coming year will require cooperation of all the governmental agencies to address the resulting hardships many will face.

Fortunately, the energy sector is in recovery mode and the City is working with partners to potentially secure a contract with U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) that might allow the facilities to reopen as detention centers. However, this is far from certain and additional action will be required regardless of the success of this effort. It is doubtful an ICE contract would result in reestablishing all 600 jobs and there would likely be a substantial gap period to reconfigure the facilities for the new use.

On December 12th Howard College hosted a job fair largely targeted to the employees effected by the closure and there will probably need to be more such events in the future. Beyond that, these events highlight the need for Howard County to further diversify its economic base and some of the steps proposed to do that will be included in the program.

The program will provide each entity with up to 15 minutes to layout their plans and strategies for the coming year and beyond, followed by responses to questions from citizens at the event.

Largely because of the Covid pandemic, communications within and between government entities in Howard County have suffered. Coming out of the pandemic there will be more opportunities for economic growth in our region, but to be successful it will require everyone to work together. Howard County and the City of Big Spring will be competing with the larger and often better resourced communities in the surrounding region.

Big Spring does have certain location and logistical advantages, but to successfully compete will demand cooperation and coordination between everyone. The goal of the summit is to facilitate reestablishment of the lines of communication strained by recent history and promote better partnerships throughout the county, as well as ensuring that citizens are kept in the loop.

Ukraine says Russia amassed over 94,000 troops at border

By YURAS KARMANAU

Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine's defense minister estimated Friday that Russia has amassed more than 94,000 troops near their borders and said there is a probability of a "large-scale escalation" in late January.

Ukrainian and Western officials recently voiced alarm about a Russian troop buildup near Ukraine, saying they feared it could herald an invasion. Moscow has denied planning to invade and accused Ukraine and its Western backers of fabricating claims to cover up their own allegedly aggressive designs.

Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov told lawmakers Friday that the number of Russian troops near Ukraine and in Russia-annexed Crimea is estimated to be 94,300.

"Our intelligence service analyzes all scenarios, including the worst ones. It notes that a prob-

ability of a large-scale escalation on the part of Russia exists. The most probable time when (Russia) will be ready for the escalation is end of January," Reznikov said.

The minister noted an escalation "is a probable scenario, but not certain, and our task is to avert it."

Russia and Ukraine have remained locked in a tense tug-of-war after Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014 and threw its weight behind a separatist insurgency in Ukraine's eastern industrial heartland, known as the Donbas. More than 14,000 people have died in the fighting.

Repeated reports about Russia building up troops near Ukraine this year ignited concerns about the conflict intensifying, with tensions growing in recent weeks.

Russia traded fresh accusations and threats with Ukraine, the Unit-

ed States and its NATO allies this week. The West threatened the Kremlin with the toughest sanctions yet if it launches an invasion of Ukraine.

Russia, seeing new U.S. and European support for Ukraine's military, sternly warned that any presence of NATO troops and weapons on Ukrainian soil represents a "red line."

The Kremlin also expressed concern that Ukraine might use force to reclaim control of the country's rebel east.

Reznikov said Ukraine wouldn't do anything to provoke Russia but is prepared to respond in case of an attack.

"Ukraine is most interested in political and diplomatic resolution," the defense minister said.

Hands of Time

By Joelle Ludington

Special to the Herald

The Hands of time stand still for no man.

Our days are numbered Job 14:5, 7. I've seen in the bible where God gave a man 15 more years, 2Kings 20:5-6

And where He made the sun stop Joshua 20:10, 12. And the Lord will show mercy upon who He chooses to have mercy.

What causes Gods wrath to stop. Prophecy was changed Jonah 3:9.

Who can kill if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce, anger, that are perish not? And Hezekiah wept sore. Was it his fears that turned Gods decision?

King Hezekiah received a sign that the Lord would do the thing he had

spoken. God does not have to prove anything to us. God is not a respecter of person. He does not just do miracles, healing and wonders for certain people only. But as I see it, what he has done is out of love showering us, proving to us what he can and will do for us.

God will extend your days, shake the earth, then back the hands of time, heal us. This is the heart beat of God. The same power that's in God, that raised Jesus from the dead, resides within us.

Prayer; Father I pray the power you have given us overall the power of the enemy that you would teach us how to use it right. For we see now your examples. To use it to express your love to all. Not for self-gain but for your honor and glory. In Jesus name.

REFLECTIONS

Continued from page 6

our world is connected.

Our greatest tribute to the "vanishing generation" would be to heed the admonition found in Scripture, "Today, if you will hear His voice. Do not harden your hearts as at Meribah, as on the day of Massah in the wilderness, ... 'I was disgusted with that generation, and said they are a people who err in their heart, and they do not know My ways.'" (Psalm 95:6). "This will be written for the generation to come, that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord." (Psalm 102:12).

At the end of our days, may we all join Jesus' mother in her confession, "For the Mighty One has done great things for me; and holy is His name. And His mercy is to generation after generation to those who fear Him." (Luke 1:49-50).

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. His latest book, We Beheld His Glory, A Novel is FREE as an eBook on Amazon December 1-5. Go to www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsley-center.com.

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