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TUESDAY EDITION, **DECEMBER 14, 2021**

BIG SPRING

CORNERSTONE COVENANT CHURCH **Operation Zoe** SERVICE TIMES: SUN |9:30AM | 11AM 706 E 12TH

VOLUME 117, NUMBER 73

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Upcoming Events

Big Spring's annual Festival of Lights Christmas lighted display in Comanche Trail Park is open nightly from 6 to 10 p.m. through Dec. 25. Enter at the north entrance on U.S. Highway 87, across from Wal-Mart.

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra's Christmas Concert, "Home is Where the Heart Is," will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, at First United Methodist Church. The event will feature vocal soloists Tara Trowbridge and Lawrence Thibeault. Tickets are on sale at www. bigspringsymphony. org.

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Christmas in Coahoma





This Saturday, Dec 11, Coahoma held its Christmas in the Park event. It was a fun time as Santa showed up; hayrides, kids' projects, Christmas caroling, and holiday snacks. It was a good time enjoyed by all.

HC board approves several gift appreciation resolutions

By ROGER CLINE

Herald Staff Writer

Howard College trustees approved resolutions acknowledging and applauding organizations and individuals for their donations to the local community college.

Among the gifts to the college that received resolutions during the meeting were an \$80,000 donation to Howard College's Big Spring campus from the G.C. Broughton Foundation to purchase new computers for the college's Adult Education program, as well as dental chairs for the dentistry program.

Roy and Michelle Worthy donated \$15,000 to the Big Spring campus, and Fred Krebs made donations to the Big Spring and Lamesa campuses, as well as to the SouthWest College for the Deaf campus.

"He's wanting to give scholarships to every community college in the state of Texas," said Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks. "He's going to the websites and looking at the websites, and looking at the websites. He just has an interest in adding scholarhip opportunity to the people we serve. He lives in Rockport."

Sparks said Krebs donated \$10,000 to endow one scholarship for the Big Spring and Lamesa campuses, and another \$10,000 to endow a second scholarship at SWCD.

The Mcgary Regan Foundation of Wall, Texas, donated \$10,000 to the SWCD campus as well.

"They have had a very strong interest in the college, and in particular, they have had a particular interest in the SouthWest College for the Deaf," Dr. Sparks said.

For the San Angelo campus, the San Angelo Health Foundation and the San Angelo Area Foundation both received resolutions honoring their multiple gifts over the years.

After the invocation and recognition of guests, the board approved routine matters, including: minutes of the board's regular Nov. 15 meeting; a checklist for Nov. 2021; monthly reports of auxiliary services; personnel matters; and the in-

ternal audit report. Dr. Sparks offered an update on the

status of COVID-19 at the college. "We really are seeing, as far as the status of new cases, we are seeing some minimal increase, not so much in Howard County, but through the service area, we have seen some fluctuation,

but not material," she said. COVID at Big Spring's Federal Correctional Institution is impacting the College's efforts to conduct classes there,

"At the prison, we are finding ourselves still challenged with what we are able to do," she said. "Although it is beginning to level out at the FCI, we still are finding ourselves with altered class situations. The contact hours are not up

See COLLEGE, Page 3

County okays participation in sexual assault response team

By ROGER CLINE

Herald Staff Writer

Howard County Commissioners met at 3:30 p.m. Monday afternoon. At the start of the meeting, commissioners heard from Lynn Creswell of Victim Services regarding a multi-county Adult Sexual Assault Response Team.

Several area counties – including Howard – will provide representatives to the team, according to Creswell.

"The reason we're needing one of these is, it seems so many of our sexual assaults - not through Law Enforcement's side, or Victim

See COUNTY, Page 3



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Leta C. Kirby



Leta C. Kirby, 93, of Big Spring, Texas, joined her loving husband in the arms of Christ on Dec 12, 2021. Services will be at 2:00 pm on Dec 15, 2021, at Trinity Memorial Park Cemetery in Big Spring, Texas.

Leta was born on Apr 25, 1928, in Big Spring, Texas, to Nellie and Dilworth "Shorty" Thompson. She married the love of her life, Milton Kirby, on Oct 21, 1947. A lifelong resident of Big Spring, Leta served

in many capacities while worshipping East 4th Baptist Church. She was active in the Lion's Club, served at the election's office, kept children in her home, and provided tax services for over 40 years. She was an avid collector of Santa figures and irons and enjoyed showing them to friends and loved ones. Traveling was also a passion of Leta's, and she kept detailed notes of her trips while married to Milton

Obituaries

Leta is survived by her son, Milton Lynn (Nancy) Kirby and daughter Cathey Ann (Richard) Murray; grandchildren, Marty (Sandra) Kirby, Julia (Eric) Vickery, Sean (Tina) Gaines, Ashlea (Josh Kemper) White, Mark Kirby, and Terri Lynn (Ray) Ortega, and numerous great-grandchildren, greatgreat-grandchildren, nephews and nieces. Leta is preceded in death by her husband, parents, all her brothers and sisters, and great-granddaughter,

The family would like to express their gratitude towards the staff at Star Hospice and Ashton Medical Lodge for their kindness, compassion, care, and reminders to bring peppermints. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to a favorite nonprofit.

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

Paid Obituary

Police blotter

ed the following activity: •ANDRES GABRIEL ENRIQUEZ, 20, of

1405 Mesa was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency. •ISAIAH MICHAEL ONTIVEROS, 22, of

#1 Chevy Chase was arrested on a charge of purchase/furnish alcohol for a minor. •NOAH TYLER ONTIVEROS, 20, of 1

Chevy Chase was arrested on a charge of

consumption of alcohol by a minor. •GLEN ROY DELLENBAUGH, 46, of 3307 Maple St was arrested on a charge of public

intoxication. •MORGAN DION AUSBIE, 27, of 2501 Langley was arrested on a charge of public

intoxication. •KING WAZURI TERRELL, 29, of 1606 E 6th was arrested on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than 1g.

•MELISSA SUE MIZE, 44, of 4029 Vicky St was arrested on a charge of possession of controlled substance less than 1g.

•RICARDO ARTEMYO URANGA JR, 62, of 505 NE 10th St was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency.

•DAMIAN ISMAEL, 34, of 1014 Nolan was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency.

•HUMBERTO BARRETO JR, 22, of 1207 S Benton St. was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency.

•JOSHUA LINZY OWEN, 38, transient, was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass-property/building/aircraft/vehicle, possession of marijuana less than 2oz.

•TARA ANDERSON CARRINGTON, 51, of 3304 W Hwy 80 Apartment 24A was arrest- in the area of Dee and Richie.

ed on a charge of public intoxication. •JUAN ANTONIO CERVANTES, 53, of 3 1600 S Gregg St. Val Verde Rd was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency x2, driving

OF

was

OF

was

MI-

intoxicated,

possession of con-

trolled substance less

•ADRIAN WASH-**INGTON**, 38, of 2522 Langley Dr. was ar-

rested on a charge of

•SUSPICIOUS AC-

TIVITY was reported in the 3300 block of W

•BURGLARY

•BURGLARY

HABITATION

•ACCIDENT

block of S Nolan St.

NOR was reported in

VEHICLE

reported in the 500

block of S Birdwell

public intoxication.

while

than 1g.

Hwy 80.

Ln Suite 2.

The Big Spring Police Department report- THEFT was reported in the 200 block of Colorado Ave.

> •BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 800 block of 14th St.

> •**DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 400 block of Driver Rd.

> •THEFT OF FIREARM was reported in the 1600 block of S Runnels St.

 SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported in the 100 block of S Main St. CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in

the 1500 block of Sycamore St. •IDENTITY THEFT was reported in the

3200 block of E 11th Place. •SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported

in the 1700 block of Wasson Rd. BURGLARY OF HABITATION was re-

ported in the 1600 block of Donley St. •THEFT was reported in the 3700 block of Howard County Airport Rd.

•HIT AND RUN was reported in the 700 block of W 4th.

 ACCIDENT MINOR was reported in the 900 block of N Lamesa Hwy.

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

•HIT AND RUN was reported in the area of South Service Rd and exit 182.

•DISTURBANCE was reported in the 3100 block of S Hwy 87. •HIT AND RUN was reported in the 1000

block of Stadium Ave. •ACCIDENT MINOR was reported in the

1600 block of Stadium Ave. •SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported in the 700 block of Craigmont.

•SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was reported

•ACCIDENT MINOR was reported in the

Debbie Whiteside



Debbie Whiteside, 67, of Big Spring, died Friday, Dec 10, 2021. A memorial service will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Ackerly.

Debbie was born on Aug 2, 1954 in Snyder, TX, to Janie & Garland Brumit. She married Keith Whiteside on Mar 11, 1994, in Big Spring. She had been in Big Spring since

Debbie worked for Girling Home Health.

Debbie is survived by one daughter: Sheila Brown (Fred) of Ackerly; 1 son: Dewayne Teague (Wendy) Keller; 2 granddaughters; her fiancée: Kirby Guthrie of Brady; and several nieces &

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

Julia Johnston



Julia Johnston, 84, of Big Spring died Friday, Dec 10, 2021. No services will be held.

Julia was born on May 4, 1937 in Eastland County, TX to Dorothy & William Owens but grew up in Desdemo. She married Dillard Johnston on March, 28 1954 in Big Spring. She was a member of Church of God.

Julia was a homemaker and retired Nursing Home Administrator.

Julia is survived by 1 son: Curtis Johnston of Big Spring; 2 daughters: Tina Tatum (Don) of Coahoma & Brandee Johnston of Big Spring; 1 brother: George Owens of Angel Fire, NM; 1 sister: Patsy Jones (Wayne) of Stephenville; 8 grandchildren

Julia was preceded in death by her parents: Jack & Oleta Owens; her husband: Dillard Johnston; 1 son: Mark Johnston and 5 brothers.

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

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

•TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the RR Crossing and Birdwell Ln. No transport was required.

•MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

 MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 1600 block of Stadium. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 600 block of Tubb Loop Rd. No transport was required.

•TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the MM 174 of I20. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•MEDICAL CALL was reported in the 3700 block of Wasson Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.





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the 2500 block of Wasson Dr. •THEFT was reported in the 1300 block of

Lexington Ave. •SUSPICIOUS AV-

TIVITY was reported in the area of Harding and Hwy 80. •BURGLARY \mathbf{OF} **HABITATION** was

reported in the 500 block of State St. •ACCIDENT MA-**JOR** was reported in the area of 700 and

Goliad. • I D E N T I T Y

Take Note

- 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.
- 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.
- Drive-through COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics are held every from 3-6 p.m. each Thursday afternoon at Whatley Plaza, located on the northwest part of the Scenic Mountain Medical Center campus, 1601 W. Martin Luther King Boulevard, also known as 1601 W. 11th Place. The vaccination is free. For more information, visit www.scenicmountainmedical.org/vaccine.
- 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" at First United Methodist Church; Jan. 22: 'The Music of Queen' at Big Spring High School; Feb. 19 "Winter Wonderland"; and Spring Pops Concert on April 23. Venues for the February and April concerts will be announced at a later date. 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.
- 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 lec-
- 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 to the business, church, or organization to administer the vaccine. For ore 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

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.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

Services side, or even the District Attorney's side but they seem to not be accounting for us," Creswell said. "The mandate is for us to collectively come together and talk about these cases and find out if the victim wanted to file the report or if something happened where the report was not sent up to the District Attorney's office, was it not indicted, and if it was not indicted, why? If it was indicted, but no penalties were given, we need to say why."

The commissioners unanimously approved parrticipation in the interlocal agreement.

Elections Administrator Jodi Duck asked commissioners to approve a redistricing plan for Commissioners Court precincts. The new district lines move some territory formerly in Precinct 2 into Precinct 4, and some territory formerly in Precinct 4 into Precinct 1, in an attempt to balance populations of Precincts 1 and 2. Additionally, lines for Justice of the Peace districts were redrawn, and the City of Forsan was excluded from Precinct 208. A new precinct, 208c, was created, containing the city of Forsan. The reason given for the separation of the city of Forsan from the unincorporated Precinct 208 is "With the election process getting more complicated, it is best to be able to separate Voting Precinct 208 county and Precinct 208 City, in order to make a proper ballot system."

The commissioners unanimously approved the redistricing changes.

County Treasurer Sharon Adams presented personnel considerations, her monthly payroll report and her treasurer's monthly report.

Additionally, Adams presented a refund check in the amount of \$4,278.57 from Worker's Compensation to the county. County Auditor Jackie Olson presented her fi-

nancial report, invoices, purchase requests and budget amendments. Duck requested purchase of redistricting and

election management mapping software and a printer/plotter/scanner for use with the mapping software. Both items were tabled while the commissioners await more information on the items. Commissioner Craig Bailey (Precinct 2) passed

along a request from Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Chief Mitchell Hooper to extend burning and firework bans. "He's requesting that we extend the burn ban,

and also be sure to include the restriction on sticks and fins - the sale of fireworks with sticks and fins in the county," Bailey said. "The statute says that as long as we do that before Dec. 15 for the Jan. 1

deadline, were alright to do that."

The commissioners approved the ban extensions unanimously.

Next, related to County Road Engineer Brian Klinksiek's portion of the meeting, the commissioners adjourned into closed session where they discussed personnel issues. No action was taken when the commissioners returned to open session.

The county leaders approved low bids on two grant-funded road rehabilitation projects – one on County Road 43, and the other on County Road 10.

The commissioners also approved the purchase of a design software license for Klinksiek's office. County Clerk Brent Zitterkopf presented his monthly report, and brought up the issue of a bad debt reportedly owed by Bexar County to Howard County in the amount of \$1,239, which extends back as far as 2013. Commissioners decided related to legal hearing services provided by Howard for Bexar.

"We no longer do hearings for them because they haven't paid it in so long," Zitterkopf said. "The last time I talked to them, they said they couldn't pay it because it's so old it's no longer in their system." Commissioners decided to direct County Attorney Josh Hamby to write a letter to Bexar County requesting payment.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

to where they were before, so we still are working through all of that." Howard College remains on an moderate "amber" alert level with regards to

COVID-19, Sparks said. After the recognition of donations to the college, Sparks reported on some

Quick Facts" regarding student success at Howard College. Among the facts Sparks highlighted were an increase in District-wide enrollment from 4,030 in Fall 2020 to 4,108 in Fall 2021. Most of the increase was

seen at the San Angelo campus, which expanded from 2,450 students in Fall 2020 to 2,509 in 2021. SWCD saw one additional student, increasing from 49 to 50, while Big Spring declined from 1,402 to 1,396, and Lamesa from 129 to 123. Howard reported 100 percent licensure pass rates for LVN and RN nursing licenses at Big Spring and San Angelo campuses, as well as for Dental Hygiene licenses in Big Spring and Medical Assistant and Radiology Tech in San Angelo. The school's pass rate for Respiratory Tech in San Angelo was 83 percent,

for EMT in San Angelo was 81 percent, for Surgical Tech in San Angelo was 83 percent, for Cosmetology in Big Spring was 88 percent, and for Cosmetology in San Angelo was 85 percent. Tuition and fees at the Big Spring campus for In-District residents is \$95 per hour, or about \$1,144 for tuition and fees for a 12-hour course load. For the 12

hours, Out-of-District Texas residents pay \$1,774, while Out-of-State students pay \$2,358. Qualified deaf Texas residents attend SWCD with free tuition and fees. Non-residents pay an average of \$469 per hour to attend SWCD, or about \$5,626 for a semester. Property taxes for the college increased from about 18.9 cents per \$100 valuation in 2020-21 to 21.6 cents per \$100 in 2021-22, but the increase nets no new income for the district due to decline in property values. For the fiscal year, the college has total revenue of about \$36 million, with total expenses of \$36.7 million. Executive Vice President Amy Burchett reported on changes to the college's

Handbook. "There are not very many students who complete the AAS in Construction

Trades, and we think one reason is because we have a welding certificate, an HVAC certificate, a construction certificate, electrical, and then a wind energy certificate," Burchett said. "We designed this so that any of those will now feed into this. We're hoping we'll encouraging them to complete the associate





of applied science, if that's what they want to do. And they wanted to change

Harrold, who had served as an associate professor of Economics among other roles. The board approved a resolution recognizing her retirement.

The board renewed its lease for the Vietnam Memorial.

In her President's report, Sparks announced that the holiday break will begin at noon on the 17th of December, and the school will reopen Jan. 3, 2022. The Spring semester of 2022 will begin Jan. 18.

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the name to 'Industrial Trades.'" Sparks announced the retirement of 16-year veteran Howard professor Carla

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME

& CHAPEL 24th & Johnson 267-8288

Beatrice Perry, 81, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers Smith Funeral Home.

Deborah Whiteside, 67. died Friday. A memorial service will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Ackerly.

Penny Athas, 64, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Mary Hernandez, 72, died Saturday. Funeral Mass will be Tuesday 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park

Julia Johnston, 84, died Friday.

No services will be Alepholia Velasquez,

69, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith

Funeral Home. Oscar Padilla, family will receive friends Thursday from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. with a memorial service at 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith

Charles Evans, 85, died Thurs. Nov. 25, 2021.

Chapel

Memorial service will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel.



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Email your photo to angela@bigspringherald.com by Friday, December 17th to be included in our Christmas Edition!

Kentucky hardest hit as storms leave dozens dead in 5 states

By BRUCE SCHREINER and JIM SALTER

Associated Press

MAYFIELD, Ky. - A monstrous tornado, carving a track that could rival the longest on record, ripped across the middle of the U.S. in a stormfront that killed dozens and tore apart a candle factory, crushed a nursing home, derailed a train and smashed an Amazon warehouse.

"I pray that there will be another rescue. I pray that there will be another one or two," Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear said, as crews sifted through the wreckage of the candle factory in Mayfield, where 110 people were working overnight Friday when the storm hit. Forty of them were res-

"We had to, at times, crawl over casualties to get to live victims," said Jeremy Creason, the city's fire chief and EMS director.

In Kentucky alone, 22 were confirmed dead by Saturday afternoon, including 11 in and around Bowling Green. But Beshear said upwards of 70 may have been killed when a twister touched down for more than 200 miles (320 kilometers) in his state and that the number of deaths could eventually exceed 100 across 10 or more

The death toll of 36 across five states includes six people in Illinois, where an Amazon facility was hit; four in Tennessee; two in Arkansas, where a nursing home was destroyed; and two

If early reports are confirmed, the twister "will likely go down perhaps as one of the longest track violent tornadoes in United States history," said Victor Gensini, a researcher on extreme weather at Northern Illinois University.

The longest tornado on record, in March 1925, tracked for about 220 miles (355 kilometers) through Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. But

Gensini said this twister may have touched down for nearly 250 miles (400 kilometers). The storm was all the more remarkable because it came in December, when normally colder weather limits tornadoes, he said.

Debris from destroyed buildings and shredded trees covered the ground in Mayfield, a city of about 10,000 in western Kentucky. Twisted metal sheeting, downed power lines and wrecked vehicles lined the streets. Windows and roofs were blown off the buildings that were still standing.

The missing at the candle factory included Janine Denise Johnson Williams, a 50-year-old mother of four whose family members kept vigil at the site Saturday.

"It's Christmastime and she works at a place that's making candles for gifts," her brother, Darryl Williams. said. "To give up the gift of life to make a gift. We haven't heard anything, and I'm not presuming anything. But I'm expecting for the worst." He said Johnson Williams called

her husband overnight to report the weather was getting bad, the last time anyone heard from her. Kyanna Parsons-Perez, an employ-

ee at the factory, was trapped under 5 feet (about 1.5 meters) of debris for at least two hours until rescuers managed to free her. In an interview with NBC's "Today."

she said it was "absolutely the most terrifying" event she had ever experienced. "I did not think I was going to make it at all." Just before the tornado struck, the

building's lights flickered. She felt a gust of wind, her ears started popping and then, "Boom. Everything came down on us." People started screaming, and she heard other workers

Kentucky State Trooper Sarah Burgess said rescue crews were using heavy equipment to move rubble at the candle factory. Coroners were called to the scene and bodies were recovered, but she didn't know how many. She said it could take a day and potentially longer to remove all

Rescue efforts were complicated because Mayfield's main fire station and emergency services hub were also hit by the tornado, Creason said.

After a wall at a nursing home in Mayfield collapsed, Vernon Evans said he rushed to help firefighters pull people out, only to find one resident lying dead in a few inches of water.

'All I could do is sit there and hold their head up," he said. "I never experienced nothing like this." President Joe Biden approved an

Kentucky on Saturday and pledged to support the affected states. "I promise you, whatever is needed — whatever is needed — the federal

emergency disaster declaration for

government is going to find a way to provide it." Biden said. Six people were killed in the col-

lapse of the Amazon warehouse in Edwardsville, Illinois, with another injured worker airlifted to a hospital. fire Chief James Whiteford said.

Investigators searched the rubble throughout the day for additional victims and 45 people survived, Whiteford said. Authorities were uncertain Saturday evening whether anyone was still unaccounted because workers were in the midst of a shift change when it was struck by the tornado about 8:30 p.m. Friday.

"This is a devastating tragedy for our Amazon family and our focus is on supporting our employees and partners," Amazon spokesperson Richard Rocha said in a written state-

The Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, which has been trying to organize workers at an Amazon facility in Alabama, criticized the company for keeping the Illinois site open during a weather emergency. Missouri Gov. Mike Parson's office

said the storms killed at least two people in the state and initial assessments indicate they destroyed or did major damage to hundreds of homes and buildings.

Workers at a National Weather Service office had to take shelter as a tornado passed near their office in Weldon Spring, Missouri, about 30 miles (48 kilometers) west of St. Louis.

"This was an incredible storm that lasted a long time and covered a lot of territory," said Larry Vannozzi, meteorologist in charge of the National Weather Service office covering the Nashville area.

Meteorologists haven't determined whether the storm spawned a single tornado or multiple tornadoes, he In Arkansas, a tornado struck a

and trapping 20 people inside as the building collapsed, Craighead County Judge Marvin Day told The Associ-Another person died when the

nursing home in Monette, killing one

storm hit a Dollar General store in nearby Leachville, Gov. Asa Hutchin-

"Probably the most remarkable thing is that there's not a greater loss of life," Hutchinson said after touring the wreckage of the nursing home. "It is catastrophic. It's a total destruc-

tornado-torn parts of western Tennessee in which four people had been Lee traveled to Tiptonville and

Gov. Bill Lee on Saturday toured

then Dresden, a small town of about 3,000 that saw its downtown corridor ripped to shreds.

"This is about the saddest thing I've ever seen," said Lee, who has had three fatal tornadoes rip through the state during his first term in office. "The whole town, the whole town."

Tornado survivor: 'Not knowing is worse than knowing'

By BRUCE SCHREINER

Associated Press

MAYFIELD, Ky. — Autumn Kirks said she and her boyfriend, Lannis Ward, had been dating for about a year and were saving money to buy a house. They were both working the night shift at the candle factory for extra money when the tornado struck.

Then Ward, described by Kirks as "a big teddy bear," disappeared and all she could do was wait.

"Not knowing is worse than knowing right now," she said early Sunday

as she stood outside His House Ministries, a nondescript prefabricated building on the edge of Mayfield where people have been told to go to wait for word about the missing. Later in the day, she got the terrible news — that Ward had been killed

In the aftermath of the massive tornado that roared through the west-

ern Kentucky darkness early Saturday morning, the chances for good news seem to diminish by the hour. Autumn Kirks brought a photo of her boyfriend to the recovery center and described his tattoo, scars and other features. She said the authori-

ties asked her to bring back a glass or bath sponge or something that might have his DNA on it to potentially help identify him. An unusual mid-December swarm of twisters across the Midwest and the South leveled entire communities and left dozens dead in five states. The death toll is expected to go higher in Kentucky.

In the terrible moments before the storm hit, Kirks had moved to a hallway in the innermost part of the building that housed Mayfield Consumer Products, where employees were working the night shift to crank out Christmas candles.

"They said, 'Duck and cover," she recalled. "I pulled my safety goggles down, jumped under the closest thing, and seconds later I looked to my left and instead of wall there was sky and lightning and just destruction everywhere."

The closest thing was a row of metal stands with nets across the top,

employees moved the buckets and took cover under the stands. She tried to keep an eye on Ward, but she is a team leader and had to make sure other co-workers were safe.

"I remember taking my eyes off of him for a second, and then he was gone," she said.

An eerie silence preceded the storm, Kirks said, "and then all of a sudden you hear just crumbling, and it's like the whole world is just falling down around you."

Kirks said she and three co-workers were trapped under a concrete wall, but that a co-worker lifted the wall to rescue them.

"I still wish I knew who it was that lifted that wall off of us," she said. "He was our superman that night."

Another woman entered the building weeping. To help those struggling to cope, a state trooper came in with teddy bears. A golden retriever was there to offer pet

Autumn Kirks brought a photo of her boyfriend to the recovery center and described his tattoo, scars and other features. She said the authorities asked her to bring back a glass or bath sponge or something that might have his DNA on it to potentially help identify him

therapy.

to look for something that would work.



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> Page 5 Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Big Spring Steer Basketball announces a few time changes for upcoming home games





The Big Spring Independent Scholl District announced a few changes for some upcoming basketball games.

The lady Steers will play at home against Seminole on Friday, Dec 17. The times for each game are as follows: 9th-grade will tip-off at 1:30 p.m., JV will start at 2:30 p.m., and Varsity will take the court at 3:30 p.m.

The boy's Steers teams will have back-to-back games. They will take on Eldorado at home on Monday, Dec 20; the times for these games are as follows:

JV will start it off at 12:30 p.m., and Varsity finishes off the day at 2 p.m. There will be no 9th-grade game. The next day Tuesday, Dec 21, the Steers will again lace up their shoes and take the court, this time facing Denver City. This game, just like the day before, will be on the Steers home court. JV once again will start things off with a 3:30 p.m. tip, and then Varsity will take over with a 5 p.m. tip-off.

Column: Teams cautious as big names land on NFL's virus list

By ARNIE STAPLETON

AP Pro Football Writer

DENVER — Ndamukong Suh, Chris Harris Jr., Aaron Rodgers, Cameron Jordon. Ty Montgomery, Mark Ingram.

No, it's not a Pro Bowl ballot, just a smattering of the big names that have landed on the NFL's ever more crowded reserve/COVID-19 list this season.

De'vondre Campbell, Davonte Adams, Harrison Smith, Amari Cooper, Randy Gregory.

Like any fan setting a fantasy roster, filling out a betting sheet or just cheering on their team, Denver Broncos coach Vic Fangio can't help but raise an eyebrow or two at the relentless stream of stars popping up on the virus list, landing themselves in quarantine and their teams in a conundrum.

"You notice it, obviously, and you know it can happen to you. It's not just, 'Well, that's their problem," Fangio said Monday as three dozen players across the league were being added to the reserve/ COVID-19 list either because they contracted the virus or were close to someone who did.

Chandler Jones, Keenan Allen, T.J. Watt, Mikah Fitzpatrick, Ben Roethlesberger, Nick Chubb, David Njoku.

Among the 36 fresh additions to the list on Monday were Jalen Ramsey and Tyler Higbee, who missed the Los Angeles Rams' 30-23 win at Arizona that tightened the NFC race.

"It could end up being our problem just like last year - if you remember - when we were on the wrong side of New England's problem," Fangio said. "We lost our bye and had our game got postponed. I told the team, 'Hey, it could come our way at some point.'

"It did, as you guys know. Yeah, you notice it."

Last year, the league made the Broncos play a game without a quarterback because all four of theirs were quarantined after one of them came down sick with COVID-19 and the rest were deemed close contacts.

NFL owners breathed a huge sigh of relief when they got through the entire 2020 regular and postseason without a cancellation — and the league was thankful Tom Brady didn't get sick until after he'd won his seventh Super Bowl.

Even with vaccinations available this season, there are more than 100 players who have refused to get jabbed, putting themselves and their teams at risk down the stretch and into the playoffs.

If a vaccinated player gets a breakthrough case of COVID-19, he can return to action as soon as he's asymptomatic and has two negative tests 24 hours apart. Unvaccinated players who get sick have to sit out a minimum of 10 days as Rodgers, the league's reigning MVP, had to do last month.

The league says the vaccination rate among players is over 94.3%, which still leaves about 126 of the 2,208 players on 53-man active rosters and 16-man practice squads unvaccinated and therefore subject to stricter protocols such as daily nasal tests and a prohibition from interacting with teammates in the locker room or even on their own time away from work.

Last summer, more than two dozen Pro Football Hall of Famers teamed up as part of a community outreach and education program to help build CO-VID-19 vaccination confidence in the general pub-

They also had a message for NFL players who didn't want to get vaccinated.

"We're very fortunate to play a sport, a game, and get paid extremely well for it. And here in America the one thing we deem very necessary is our freedom of choice," said Rod Woodson, class of 2009. "And they do get to exercise that freedom by not getting vaccinated.

"But the one thing I love that the NFL did this year was to say, OK, you're exercising your freedom not to get it, well we're going to exercise our freedom as a company. If you cause a game to be canceled, first of all you're going to forfeit that and then we're going to fine you. And nobody gets paid

on either team on top of that."

With nearly 19 of every 20 players fully vaccinated, that looks very unlikely to happen over the final month. Instead, teams and their fan bases have paid the price when their superstars get sick, like when Rodgers had to miss the Packers' showdown at Kansas City last month and understudy Jordan Love stumbled in his first NFL start.

Many teams like Fangio's are taking all the precautions they can as an unprecedented two dozen franchises race toward Christmas with a realistic shot at the playoffs next month.

"The offense is meeting over in the indoor (facility) so they can be spread out. The defense is over here" in the team's main headquarters, Fangio said. "But they're in the big rooms, so they're spread out. We don't have to do that, but we've been doing that for a good bit right now. We'll see where it goes this

next day or two. We may have to do more." The Broncos are among a handful of teams who've had 10 or more players from their 53-man roster land on the reserve/COVID-19 list this season. Others with big numbers include the Cowboys, Vikings, Titans, Browns and Jets.

Among those with the lowest numbers of players on their 53-man roster landing on the virus list are the Seahawks, 49ers, Raiders, Colts and Jaguars.

The NFL announced Monday it is requiring coaches, front-office staff and team personnel to receive a COVID-19 booster by Dec. 27.

The league's requirement extends to all Tier 1 and Tier 2 individuals who have previously received the vaccine. Though players are in the Tier 1 designation along with coaches and trainers, the mandate doesn't apply to players because discussions with the NFL Players Association are ongoing.

Still, it's a stark reminder than this pandemic isn't over yet, and the league remains on high alert to anything that will thwart a champion from being crowned at Super Bowl 56 in Los Angeles two months from now.

Ex-Oklahoma QB Rattler commits to South Carolina, Beamer

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Highly touted quarterback Spencer Rattler will try to restart his college career with South Carolina in a major acquisition for Gamecocks coach Shane Beamer.

Rattler, who threw for 28 touchdowns as a redshirt freshman for Oklahoma in 2020 before losing his starting job with the Sooners this season, tweeted Monday night that he had committed to the Gamecocks. The post showed Rattler in a South Carolina uniform with the Gamecocks' logo in the background with the words, "COMMITTED."

"Excited for the next chapter," Rattler's post said.

South Carolina went 6-6 this year, its first season under Beamer, who spent three years at Oklahoma under former coach Lincoln Riley as assistant head coach for of-

The 6-foot-1 Rattler was considered a candidate for the Heisman Trophy before the

2021 season began. But Caleb Williams supplanted him as the starter, and Rattler said he was leaving the program when the year ended.

Riley left the Sooners, too, taking the coaching job at Southern California.

Rattler played in nine games this season, completing 140 of 187 passes for 1,483 yards, 11 touchdowns and five interceptions. He threw for 3,031 yards in 2020 as the Sooners finished 9-2.







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:PM	mel Live!		Mod Fam	Colbert	Parientes a	Show	Jesus IS	Donkey	CBS 7	black-ish	Sheldon		Sports Center		Sooner		Storage	Bering Sea
11 :30	Nightline		Mod Fam	James	la fuerza	Seth Meyers		Tiger	Minute	black-ish	Sheldon	Inside the		UFC	Spotlight	(:29) Movie:	Storage	Gold
:AM	Extra		Mom		Sin Senos Sí		On the	Almas	Holly	Creek	George	NBA	Sports Center		NHL Hockey:	Peppermint, John Ortiz		Gold Rush
12 :30	DailyMail		Mom	Drew Bar-		News	The	Xavier	Forensic	Creek	George	NBA Basket-		Pardon	Blues at Stars	JOHN OILIZ	Storage	WW
:AM	(:06) Stop	La madrastra		rymore	Programa	Today-Hoda	Light of	Molly	Jerry		George	ball: Warriors at Knicks	Sports Center	NFL Live	Olars		Shipping	(:03) Air-
1 :30	Brain Fog		Broke Girl	Paid Prg.	De'siónes		Southwest	Hero	Springer	Gold	George	at Milono					Shipping	plane Repo
:AM	(:06) ABC		Seinfeld	(:07) CBS	La muerte	Inside Ed.	Light of	Wild Kratt	Minute	Paid Prg.	Jokers		Sports Center		Postgame	Law & Order:		(:04) Air-
2 :30	World News Now		Seinfeld	Overnight News	cruzó el Río Bravo	Blast	Southwest	Wild Kratt	Paid Prg.	Secrets	Jokers		0 . 0	leashed	AVP Pro	SVU	Storage	plane Repo
:AM		El gordo y la flaca	Law & Order: SVU			Minute	A Prom	Odd	Paid Prg.	Paid Prg.	Misery	Bones	Sports Center	UFC Great- est	Beach Vol	Law & Order: SVU		Expedition Unknown
3 :30	1				Noticias	Early Tdy	Gr8	Odd	Paid Prg.	EMERIL!	Misery	D	Cd-Cd-		AVP Pro Beach Vol		Clean air	
:AM	Mamina		Laughs	Manna	Programa	Early Tdy	The Is	Arthur	Paid Prg.	Brain Fog	Matters	Bones	Sports Center	Give Up		Law & Order: SVU	Paid Prg.	Expedition Unknown
4 :30	Moming	Noticiero	Funny	News	Programa	Early Tdy	The Gath	Arthur	Paid Prg.	Emeril's	Matters			aive op	Paid Prg.	070	Prince	CHKIOWII



By Steve Becker

Bid better, play better

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. **NORTH ♦** J 9 4 2

♦ 7 5 3 2 WEST **EAST ★** K 8 5 **♠** 10 7 6

♥ 10 6 2

♦ J 9

♥Q973

♥ J 8 5 4

♦ 10 6 4

♣K Q J 10 3 **♣**752 SOUTH

♣A 984 North East South West Pass Pass Pass

♦ A K Q 8

Opening lead — king of clubs. Among the most descriptive opening bids a player can make are those of one, two or three notrump, by which opener can accurately portray balanced distribution and a specified narrow range of high-

card points, all in one motion. The far more common opening bid of one of a suit is much more ambiguous. The high-card values can range from 12 to 21 points, and the distribution might or might not be evenly balanced.

South's opening three-notrump

anced hand of 25 or 26 high-card points with strength in all four suits. Although North had a clearcut pass in this case, in many other instances his knowledge of South's hand would be extremely valuable and would pave the way for North to arrive at the best game or slam contract.

If declarer plays correctly, he makes three notrump. Assume West starts by leading the K-Q-J of clubs. South wins the third club with the ace and cashes the A-K-Q-8 of diamonds and A-K of hearts, then puts West on lead by playing the nine of clubs. West scores the 10-3 of clubs but must next yield the game-going trick to declarer by leading either a heart to dummy's queen or a spade to South's A-Q.

Note that if declarer, after cashing his A-K-Q-8 of diamonds and A-K of hearts, attempts to score his ninth trick by leading a low spade toward dummy's jack, hoping East has the king, he goes down. West wins and cashes the 10-3 of clubs to set the contract. South should not fall into this trap, however, as the club lead at trick ten, which is almost sure to lose to West, virtually guarantees the contract regardless of which opponent

Tomorrow: Defense is a two-way job. ©2021 King Features Syndicate Inc.

bid in today's deal indicated a balhas the spade king.



Changing Diet Changes Relationship

Dear Annie: Last weekend, I got a text from my dad that said: "I'm going vegan LOL." (Yes, he says "LOL." He's hip like that.) I laughed and brushed it aside, but during dinner last night, he and my stepmom told me they are serious about it. It definitely took me by surprise, but I was supportive and excited about the idea, so much so that I even went with him to Barnes & Noble to pick out an awesome vegan cookbook. But since then, I've been having a strangely emotional reaction to his decision.

We love to eat. That's our "thing." We go out to dinner, try new, unusual cuisines and eat our way through new cities when traveling. He even seriously considered taking a leave from work to audition for a Food

the most sought-after

item of the 1996 holi-

day season, and it was

experienced shortages.

Those shortages

market, with figures

that will undoubtedly

drop some jaws even

now, a quarter centu-

ry after the Tickle Me

led to some surprising

sales on the secondary

Annie's Mailbox ®

MONTHLY

Network show. Some of my best memories involve meals we've shared. And now what? I'll order sashimi, and he'll have ... seaweed? I have no issue with the decision itself; I've done every juice cleanse and 30-day challenge under the sun -- and I love me some seaweed. I actually find the choice quite admirable.

What I realized is that the child in me is afraid that a piece of our relationship will be lost. Through my parents' (nasty) divorce, no matter how things were between them or between us -- no matter when new people came into the picture and old people left -- whenever we sat down at the table, all of the yuckiness melted away. This feels like one more thread of consistency and connection being cut.

Are there any actions you suggest I take to move forward? -- Herbivore Dilemma

Dear Herbivore Dilemma: You are clearly a thoughtful person to have such insight into your emotions and their roots. Perhaps this is the opportunity you've needed to express some long-held feelings. Talking through these concerns will bring you closer than ever. And with time, you'll find out that it was never about the food; it was about sitting down together.

Dear Annie: I have a weird question for you. I live in a Midwestern community that has expensive water and sewer costs. I also exercise every day, and as a result, I drink a lot of water -- and I mean a lot of water. So when my wife is not home, I urinate in the bathroom sink. Then I wash my hands, which rinses the sink basin at the same time. This uses a fraction of the water

that flushing the toilet would use. Multiply that by dozens of times a day and the savings are significant. Urine is sterile; the sink gets washed out afterward; and my hands are clean. What are your thoughts on my actions? -- Sink Secret

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Dear Sink Secret: I think you ought to knock it off. For one, urine isn't sterile; that's just a myth. For another, if you're really bent on saving water, there are plenty of ways to do so -- such as installing a low-flush toilet -- that don't require lying to your wife.

"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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Tickle Me Elmo

The most popular gift 25 years ago

It's easy for adults to experience a little nostalgia when holiday shopping for their children. The holiday season has long been considered a special

time of year, and much of that magic can be traced to the joy kids feel when unwrapping gifts from mom, dad and, of course, Santa Claus.

Many parents who now have youngsters at home grew up in the 1990s. When such moms and dads are shopping for holiday gifts this season, they might wonder what was the must-have item for them back when they anxiously awaited the arrival of Christmas morning? According to Insider.com, who worked in conjunction with the Strong National Museum of Play in Rochester, New York,

1996 was the year of

This ticklish toy was

"Tickle Me Elmo."

data from the U.S.

Analysis indicates that the average price of a new car in 1996 was so popular that retailers \$18,525. And according to Yahoo! Finance, drivers in the market for a used car in 1996 could

Elmo craze erupted. Though the Tickle Me Elmo doll retailed for around \$30 in 1996, some parents intent on getting their youngsters the most in-demand gift that year reportedly spent more than \$1,000 on a single doll.

To put that latter figure into perspective, Bureau of Economic





Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Today in History
Today is Tuesday, Dec. 14, the 348th day of 2021. There are 17 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 14, 2020, the Electoral College decisively confirmed Joe Biden as the nation's next president, ratify-ing his November victory in a state-by-state repudiation of President Donald Trump's refusal to concede he had lost; electors gave Biden 306 votes to Trump's 232. Speaking from Delaware, Biden accused Trump of threatening core principles of democracy, but told Americans that their form of self-government had "pre-vailed." A divided Wisconsin Supreme Court rejected Trump's lawsuit seeking to overturn his loss in the battle-ground state about an hour before the Electoral College cast Wisconsin's 10 votes for Biden.

On this date:

In 1799, the first president of the United States, George Washington, died at his Mount Vernon, Virginia, home at age

In 1819, Alabama joined the Union as the 22nd state.

In 1861, Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria, died at Windsor Castle at age 42.

In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen (ROH'-ahl AH'-mun-suhn) and his team became the first men to reach the South Pole, beating out a British expedition led by Robert F. Scott.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson vetoed an immigration measure aimed at preventing "undesirables" and anyone born in the "Asiatic Barred Zone" from entering the U.S. (Congress overrode Wilson's veto in February 1917.)

expelled from the League of Nations for invading Finland.

In 1961, a school bus was hit by a passenger train at a cross-ing near Greeley, Colorado, killing 20 students.

In 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States, ruled that Congress was within its authority to enforce the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against racial discrimination by private businesses (in this case, a motel that refused to cater to

In 1981, Israel annexed the Golan Heights, which it had seized from Syria in 1967.

In 1985, former New York Yankees outfielder Roger Maris, who'd hit 61 home runs during the 1961 season, died in Houston at age 51.

In 2005, President George W. Bush defended his decision to wage the Iraq war, even as he acknowledged that "much of

the intelligence turned out to be wrong.

In 2012, a gunman with a semi-automatic rifle killed 20 first-graders and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, then took his own life as police arrived; the 20-year-old had also fatally shot his mother at their home before carrying out the attack on the school.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama, visiting Fort Bragg in North Carolina, saluted troops returning from Iraq, asserting that the nearly nine-year conflict was ending honorably.

Five years ago: President-elect Donald Trump convened a summit at Trump Tower for nearly a dozen tech leaders whose industry had largely supported Democrat Hillary Clinton; the CEOs included Apple's Tim Cook, Google's Eric Schmidt, Amazon's Jeff Bezos and Tesla's Elon Musk Trump announced his selection

of former campaign rival Rick Perry to be secretary of energy. Yahoo said it believed hackers had stolen data from more than one billion user accounts in Aug. 2013 (in Oct. 2017, Yahoo raised that figure to 3 billion).

One year ago: The largest vac-cination campaign in U.S. his-tory began with health workers getting shots on the same day the nation's COVID-19 death toll hit 300,000. U.S. govern-ment agencies and private companies rushed to secure computer networks after the disclosure of a sophisticated, long-running cyber-espionage intrusion suspected of being carried out by Russian hackers. The owner of the Cleveland Indians said the team would drop the name it had used since 1915; he said it was "no longer acceptable in our world." (The team would still be known as the Indians in 2021, with the new name, the Guardians, taking effect after that season.)

Today's Birthdays: Singer-

SO I DON'T NEED TO LEARN ANY MORE WORDS.

actor Abbe Lane is 90. Actor Hal Williams is 87. Actorsinger Jane Birkin is 75. Pop singer Joyce Vincent-Wilson (Tony Orlando and Dawn) is 75. Entertainment executive Michael Ovitz is 75. Actor Dee Wallace is 73. R&B singer Ronnie McNeir (The Four Tops) is 72. Rock musician Cliff Williams is 72. Actorcomedian T.K. Carter is 65. Rock singer-musician Mike Scott (The Waterboys) is 63. Singer-musician Peter "Spider" Stacy (The Pogues) is 63. Actor Cynthia Gibb is 58. Actor Nancy Valen is 56. Actor Archie Kao is 52. Actor Natascha McElhone is 52. Actor-comedian Michaela Watkins is 50. Actor-comedian Miranda Hart is 49. R&B singer Brian Dalyrimple (Soul For Real) is 46. Actor KaDee Strickland is 46. Actor Tammy Blanchard is 45. Actor Sophie Monk is 42. Actor-singermusician Jackson Rathbone is 37. Actor Vanessa Hudgens is 33. Rock/R&B singer Tori Kelly is 29.

AGNES





IT, BUT SHE HAS PROBLEMS TELL FOCUSING. SHE WILL





YOU KNOW, RUTHIE, I HAPPEN TO HAVE A MASSIVE VOCABULARY.





REALLY? WHAT ARE YOU INCINERATING?



By Holiday

TUESDAY **DECEMBER 14, 2021**

Appetite Moon

THANK GOODNESS THAT CAPP FELLA ISN'T IN HERE TONIGHT, BERT

The moon moving into the sign of appetite is a reminder of how the end-ofyear stresses have a way of tapping into willpower reserves. It helps to think ahead and ask, "What might make everything easier?" produce the best outcome, pare back, keep it simple and spend more time plan-

ning and organizing. ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're on the right track. In fact, if you had to live yesterday again, you would make the same choices, only with more gusto -- and you'll get the chance to do

iust that today. TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your optimism may cause you to believe the unbelievable or act in foolish faith. By reaching for a slice of heaven, you end up pushing the current reality into a more imaginative and

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You love who and what you love without understanding exactly why. If pressed, you could come up with reasons, but all of them won't equal the sum of your love with mysterious forces still unac-

exciting place.

counted for. **CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You surround yourself with people who radiate good vibes. They can be easy to find but when they seem to be hiding, just radiate the upbeat energy, and they'll come out of the woodwork

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Most people will follow the protocol automatically and without question. But your mind is so curious, you'll run everything through filters of reason. You'll only do the expected thing when it also makes sense. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

The big leaps are cinematic. Baby steps are far less frightening yet every bit as transformational as long as you consistently step in one direction LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

There's a lot to wrap up before you move along, but you can at least start thinking about your next project. What is not in the world that should be in the world? This is the question you ask as you peer into the future. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov.

21). You're still not sure if what you're doing will be successful or popular, but confidence isn't about knowing you'll win; it's about knowing you'll be fine either way. Accept yourself and don't worry about whether the world does SAGITTARIUS (Nov.

22-Dec. 21). Making money doesn't make character. Doing work builds character, and often the work will bring money. These distinctions are important to today's plot. The riches that earn respect won't be gold.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Should you

surprise someone? Consider

your options carefully. Not everyone likes surprises. The same unexpected occurrence that excites and delights one person might frighten and unsettle

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're thankful for problems. They make you better. Just as tackling physical hurdles will help you gain strength, agility and confidence, overcoming mental obstacles will do the same

for your way of thinking. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Getting away with a thing doesn't make it right, and getting in trouble doesn't make it wrong. There's a moral or ethical decision to be made, and while it's not exactly deep, it's complex.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(Dec. 14). This solar year, you will make an important sale, a winning impression on someone you admire. and a home of peace, order and loveliness. Also, debts get settled this solar year. What's owed to you will be repaid with interest, and what you owe will be squared away quicker than you thought possible. Aries and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 40, 33, 38 and 18.

COSMIC QUESTION: "I

went to a fortune-teller and he said that my Mercury was badly aspected. He asked me if I ever had a speech impediment or had trouble taking tests. Then he told me that sometimes I lie and gossip about people and that I should stop. I was offended. I actually paid someone to insult me! My Mercury, by the way, is in Aries. Also, I stuttered as a child, but I haven't stuttered in years. As for gossip and lies, I think I do those things the normal

Your upset is understandable. Most people are hard enough on themselves that they really don't need the extra aggravation of paid insults! I like to think of astrological aspects as luck itself -- who is to say what is "good" or "bad"? Most people who have overcome challenges would credit those hardships as the best events of their lives, as those are the events that gave them superlative character and a skill set they would not otherwise have needed to develop. Some aspects, such as squares, semi-squares and oppositions, indicate a challenge. Trines, sextiles and semisextiles indicate ease. As for Mercury in Aries, it's a strong position, indicating originality and a strong "voice" -- not just your actual voice but your point of view, too.

CELEBRITY PROFILES:

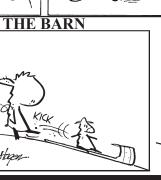
The poet and mystic Nostradamus was born over half a millennium ago in the south of France. Some say he predicted the French Revolution, the rise of Hitler and the nuclear destruction of Hiroshima. Others claim his coded prophesies, involving several languages organized into French

quatrains, are too dependent on interpretation to have genuine predictive power. What do you think?

> Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com. COPYRIGHT 2021 CREATORS.COM







WEAR YOUR FOOD by Sally R. Stein

Edited by Stanley Newman

35 Barnyard

beard

45 Create, as

around

50 Stacks of

49 Get to work

firewood

kidding _

52 What radiators

36 Bought

www.stanxwords.com

beast with a

raised lettering

47 Avoid by going

OH, COME ON, CYLENE. THAT'S RIDICULOUS!



Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- Take it easy
- Sudden outpouring
- 10 Fitness center
- 13 Mediterranean island nation
- 14 France's capital, humorously
- 15 Large vase
- **16** Not illuminated
- 18 Obtain
- 19 Beef cuts 21 Sailor's
- affirmative
- 22 Snaky letter Change for a
- \$5 bill
- 24 Make a mistake 26 Enemy
- 27 Discovers, as a
- clue
- **31** Rude person 34 Encourage to act
- 37 Clinton's vice president
- 38 Song
- 39 Camera closeup attachments
- Way of walking
- 41 Commando
- weapons
- 42 Devoured 43 24-hr. bank
- conveniences 44 Happening first
- 46 Lincoln nickname
- de plume
- 49 Agile 51 Poisonous snake
- 54 Mayo container
- 56 Salad-bar fare 60 Baba (Arabian Nights
- hero)

- 62 Sci-fi being 63 One side of a
- debate 64 Gaze (at)
- 65 Cola and ginger
- ale
- **66** Beer barrel 67 Alphabetizes
- 68 Flower stalk

DOWN

- Corporal and
- captain immigration
- 4 Art on an arm
- outpouring
- Major
- (Big Dipper)
- 2 Historic
- island 3 Agitate
- 5 Sudden
- Tops of heads
- 8 Smell bad

9 China used to

- serve pekoe Make easier to
- swallow
- 11 Hunter's quarry 12 Poker-hand
- starter 13 Artistic
- inspiration 20 Reacts to
- ragweed
- music
- 26 City near
- Sacramento
- 27 Rounded roof
- 28 Catch in a trap
- 29 Quick haircut
- 30 Solidifies 31 Air-conditioner
- 32 Greek liqueur
- measures: Abbr.
- 33 Donut-shaped

burger topper

- give off 53 Vessels for
- frying 54 Tire-changing
 - device
- 55 Burn-soothing plant
- 57 Not fooled by
- 58 Have on

10 11

12

59 Frequently

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 29 30 26 27 28 31 32 33 34 35 | 36 37 39 40 42 43 44 46 47 45 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68

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

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2 1 8 9 1 2 2 9 8 9 8 4 1 9 7 8 7 1 7 7 9 8 9 † 3 6 L 3 6 4 9 Þ 1 2 8 8 3

CROSSWORD

Today's Answers

12/14/21



6

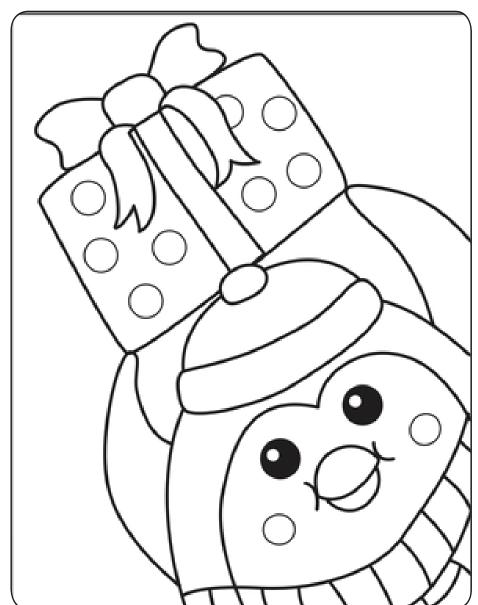
Level: Beginn

38 41

61 Shaquille of basketball

9





Ages 3-6

Name

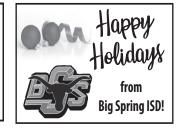
Age_

Phone #

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Ages 7-12

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Age

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COLORING CONTEST RULES

1. Contest open to children ages 3-12

2. Limit one contest submission per person

3. Contest entries may be completed using markers, crayons, or colored pencils.

4. Adults may assist in completing entry form information, but **NOT** in coloring pictures.

5. All entries must be received by the Big Spring Herald by 5 pm on Thursday, December 16, 2021

Prizes Awarded

To Each Age Group

Winners will be published in the Sunday, December 19, 2021 edition.

7. Decision of judges is final.

8. Employees of the Big Spring Herald and contest sponsors are not eligible to win.

9. All submissions become property of the Big Spring Herald and may be published accordingly.



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