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WEDNESDAY EDITION, MAY 25, 2022

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Big Spring

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Weather

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 55. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph becoming southeast after midnight.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 92. South wind 10 to 15 mph.
Thursday Night: Clear, with a low around 64.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 99.
 Source: NWS, via weather.gov

Today in History
On May 25
1787: U.S. Constitutional Convention opens in Philadelphia with President George Washington presiding.
1961: In a famous speech, President John F. Kennedy announces the United States' goal of putting a man on the moon before the end of the 1960s.

Daily Quotes

"Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting."
 — **Ralph Waldo Emerson**
 "Everything is copacetic"
 — **Bill "Bojangles" Robinson**
 "If you are in trouble anywhere in the world, an airplane can fly over and drop flowers, but a helicopter can land and save your life."
 — **Igor Sikorsky**
 "My theory is that all of Scottish cuisine is based on a dare."
 — **Mike Myers**

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Commissioners enact sales tax rule

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

Howard County employees making taxed purchases are now responsible for filing for reimbursement of the sales tax. The item was decided at the County Commissioner's meeting Monday afternoon.

"A county employee that makes a purchase that includes sales tax will be responsible for obtaining the refund of the sales tax within 10 days, or the employee must reimburse the county for the tax," County Auditor Jackie Olson read the proposal, which was approved unanimously by the commissioners.

"By the time it gets to our office, it's pretty difficult to get that sales tax back. It needs to be done up front," Olson told the commissioners.

The meeting began with the pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags, followed by a time for public comment, but no one chose to address the commissioners.

County Treasurer Sharon Adams presented personnel matters and her monthly report for April. Adams also presented an item regarding Time Value Investments, a public entity investment firm, but the item was tabled to give commission-

ers more time to look over documents relating to the matter. County Auditor Jackie Olson presented invoices, purchase requests in the amount of \$36,993.20, and budget amendments, as well as an item transferring \$100,000 from the county's "rainy day" fund to the radio system fund to cover a negative balance of \$75,892. The commissioners approved the items unanimously.

Following Olson's portion of the meeting, commissioners adjourned into closed session. Two items for executive session are listed on the agenda, both regarding personnel matters. No action was taken on the items when the commissioners returned to open session.

County Road Engineer Brian Klinksiek requested permission to purchase a load of emulsion. Commissioner Cline questioned whether the Road and Bridge Department had money for the purchase in its fund, and Klinksiek responded affirmatively. The commissioners approved the purchase unanimously.

Klinksiek also requested permission to purchase an ice machine for the Road and Bridge Department at a cost of about \$5,000; commissioners unanimously approved the item.

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 As of Monday, May 23rd
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BRAND NEW location at 103 W. 11th, Big Spring

No quorum at BSHA board meeting again



Big Spring Housing Authority board members (l-r) Scott Emerson, Danielle Castillo, John Scott, T.J. Stewart and Margaret Cervantes await the start of a board meeting Monday night. The meeting was called off due to lack of a quorum, as six board members - Roy Perkins, Royce Savory, Linda Blankenburg, Patricia Nabors, Willie Rangel and Melinda Stapp - were absent.

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

The continued existence of the Big Spring Housing Authority is in question due to political manipulation aimed at

closing the BSHA office and transferring its duties out of Howard County. "(Former Big Spring Mayor) Shannon Thomason would like to disband the local Housing Authority. It's that simple,"

Moore said. "He would like to do away with it. Have the entire function performed locally here, sent to Abilene. That's what this is all about. It's no great mystery to it, he want's to do away with it. I don't feel like that's in the interest of the citizens of Big Spring, particularly the ones that are serviced locally here by that board."

Last week, a meeting of the BSHA board called by Housing Authority Director Sharon Fritz for Wednesday, May 18, was canceled when the five board members - including Linda Blankenburg, Patricia Nabors, Royce Savory, Willie Rangel and Melinda Stapp - boycotted the proceedings.

Fritz called a new meeting for Monday night. During the interval between the two meetings, Mayor Moore appointed six new board members, extending the size of

See **BSHA**, Page 3

Flores honored at HC board meeting

Marquez sworn in and seated

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

The Howard County Junior College District Board of Trustees said farewell to longtime member Michael Flores during its meeting Monday. Flores has served on the Howard County board for 27 years.

Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks read a resolution and presented Flores a framed copy of the resolution, a medal and his nameplate from his place on the board to him during the meeting. The

resolution praises Flores' "thoughtful insights" and consideration during his years of service.

Sparks also announced that a bench outside the Big Spring campus' Charles O. Warren Center would be named in honor of Flores.

After the honors presented to Flores, incumbent board members Mark Morgan and Marisha Beck, as well as new board member Raul Marquez, took the oath of office and were welcomed to the board.

See **HC**, Page 3



Michael Flores, center, retired from the Howard College board Monday, Shown with Flores are the other board members and College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks.

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Sheriff

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

- Note – Official's with the Howard County Jail reported having 96 inmates at the time of this report
- **COURTNEY FELICIA AUSBIE**, 37, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled more than 1 gram less than 4 grams .
- **AMANDA GARCIA**, 39, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of accident involving damage to a vehicle.
- **TYLER RAE KIRCHOFFER**, 29, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram, unlicensed carrying of a weapon.
- **KEITH PAUL LANCE**, 53, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of theft of property more than \$2500 less than \$30,000.

- **CRYSTAL BROKKE MESLER**, 41, was arrested by BSPD on a charge theft of drivers license/ID/certificate , theft of property more than \$100 less than \$750.
- **JOSH NOBLE**, 35, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of duty on striking structure/fixture/highway landscaping.
- **MATTHEW CASEY O'BRIEN**, 43, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault w/ a deadly weapon.
- **KEVIN LORENZO ONTIVEROS PORRAS**, 23, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **JACKIE DOYLE RICHEY**, 59, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of illegal dumping more than 5 pounds less than 500 pounds, knowingly/intentionally unauthorized disposal lead acid.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block W 18th St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 700 block W I-20. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1400 block N Highway 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block MLK. No person was transported .
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2000

- block N Monticello. No person was transported.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 700 block E 11th Place. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 9600 block Jay Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block S Main St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 1200 block of N FM 700. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block E 15th St. No person was transported.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

- Celebrate Recovery meets at First United Methodist Church Youth Hall, 400 Scurry, from 6-8 p.m. Hurts, habits and hang-ups. Leave message for Joyce Webb at 325-212-8600.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.
- Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.
- GriefShare is a biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support); there is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held three times per year on Thursday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the GriefShare Ministry of TBC Facebook page. You can also call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

FRIDAY

- Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Fridays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.
- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY



These financial institutions will observe the following holiday hours in honor of Memorial Day:

Monday, May 30, 2022

Citizens Federal Credit Union
CLOSED
State National Bank
CLOSED

Take Note

- The Borden County All-School Reunion will be held Saturday, June 11, in Gail, Texas. All former students, faculty, and friends are invited to attend. No fee is charged for attending and visiting. A meal will be served at the Event Center but pre-paid reservations are required. Deadline to order a meal is May 25. An adult meal ticket is \$18 and \$10 for children 8 years and older. Contact Lisa Dennis Mahler at bordenexes@gmail.com for additional information and a reservation form.

- 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 or a box, and answer a few questions - such as how many people live in the household - to pick up food. The food pantry also has a Facebook page where they will post any updates. <https://www.facebook.com/healthynuggetsofgold44>.

- Everyone welcome! Western swing by Michael Leonard.
- New Life mature adult dance at the Dora Roberts Community Center, 100 Whipkey Drive, every month on the third Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Entry fee is \$5. Bring snacks to share. Refreshments are provided. For more information call 432 517-9097.

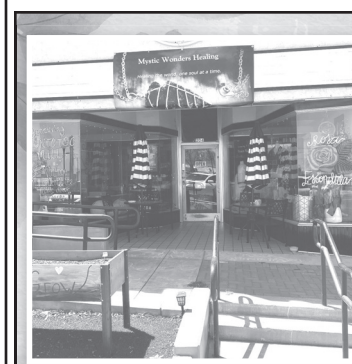
- Ready for Home School or individualized education in school? Maranatha Baptist Academy, located at 903 Johnson Street, in Big Spring, Texas, is currently open and taking applications for enrollment for the 2022-23 School year. We are a faith-based Christian Academy and use the individualized Accelerated Christian Education Curriculum for Kindergarten through 12th grade, published in Hendersonville, Tennessee. July 20 is our startup date, and applications will be accepted year-round. Someone will take your call for information at 432-213-1046. Please leave a message and we will get back with you.

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



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BSHA

Continued from Page 1

the board to 11 members. The newly appointed members include Scott Emerson, Danielle Castillo, John Scott, T.J. Stewart, Margaret Cervantes and Roy Perkins.

"I really thought the board at that time was not being responsive to the best interest of the community. That's the reason I appointed six additional members," Moore said. "All of them had indicated in the past either service on the board or desire to serve on the board, an interest in the Housing Authority and what was best for Big Spring."

Although Moore's new appointees would have constituted a quorum, Perkins was unable to attend. When the commissioners who made up the board prior to Moore's appointments once again boycotted the meeting, it failed once again due to lack of a quorum.

A press release sent out Monday prior to the meeting by Thomason disputes the validity of Moore's new appointments. The release's title reads "Big Spring Housing Authority chair cancels illegally called meeting."

"On May 18, 2022, Mayor Robert Moore appointed six additional members to what has been a five-member board since the Big Spring Housing Authority's inception. We are currently looking into the legality of this action," Thomason quotes Blankenburg as saying in the press release. "In a conversation on Wednesday, May 18, Mayor Moore flatly refused to disclose to me the identities of the additional appointees and referred me to the City Secretary."

In the release, Thomason also quotes Blankenburg disputing Fritz's authority to call meetings of the board.

"Ms. Fritz is not an employee of the Big Spring Housing Authority but is a contractor who was contracted to provide 'Public Housing Authority Administration'. In fact, Paragraph 14 of Ms. Fritz's contract specifically prohibits her from representing the Big Spring Housing Authority in any man-

ner and requires her to disclose to third parties that she does NOT represent the Big Spring Housing Authority," Thomason quotes Blankenburg as saying.

Thomason also quotes Blankenburg as taking exception to new board member T.J. Stewart's signature on the meeting announcement.

"The meeting announcement was signed by one of the supposed new appointees to the board, one T.J. Stewart. The Big Spring Housing Authority has not been made aware of the identities of any new appointees and has no evidence that any of the new appointees had been sworn into office at the time of the meeting posting," Blankenburg said, according to Thomason. "Given the highly questionable and likely illegal tactics taken by Ms. Fritz and Mr. Stewart, I have no choice but to cancel the meeting posted for this evening (Monday) at 6 p.m."

In the press release, Thomason quotes Blankenburg as congratulating him on his hire by the Big Spring Housing Authority.

"Also I'm pleased to announce the hiring of Mr. Shannon Thomason for the position of 'Interim Secretary' to the board. In addition to the statutory duties of Secretary to the board, I have also requested that Mr. Thomason serve as Parliamentarian for the Board. Mr. Thomason's salary as interim Secretary shall be set at \$1 per year," Thomason quotes Blankenburg as saying in the press release.

"Just because Shannon Thomason says something is so doesn't make it so," Moore said. "He has his opinion about things and he's entitled to that, but just because he says a meeting is or isn't illegal doesn't mean that's the final determinate of that."

Items on the agenda for the meeting called Monday night included public comment; recognition of new commissioners; election and approval of a new chairperson and vice chairperson; discussion and action regarding a resolution to move the HCV/Section 8 program from the Big Spring Housing Authority to the Abilene Housing Authority; discussion and action approving a letter of engagement to David A. Boring CPA for an upcoming audit of BSHA activities; discussion and action on relocation of the BSHA office; consideration of add-

ing BSHA commissioner John Scott to the BSHA checking account and deposit assistance account at State National Bank; discussion and action on setting a regular date and time for the BSHA board meetings on the third Tuesday of every month; and an executive session.

Moore said the item regarding transferring BSHA business to the Abilene Housing Authority needs to be discussed thoroughly.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's never really had a fair hearing," he said. "Mr. Thomason has been churning in this for months now. That's really all I have to say about it. That's the bottom line. Whether that's in the best interest of Big Spring is up to debate, but there's never really been any real debate about it. Mr. Thomason has determined that that's what he's going to do, and in an attempt to remain relevant, that's what he's going to continue to try to do."

The five board members prior to Moore's recent appointments - Savory, Blankenburg, Nabors, Rangel and Stapp - have missed two called board meetings. An ordinance in city code indicates commissioners may be removed from office if they miss three consecutive meetings. Also, the ordinance says the Mayor may remove commissioners from office for "...inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct in office."

"Of course the question becomes then, they can say, 'Well, it wasn't a validly called meeting anyway, so no penalty.' This thing gets more and more convoluted and complicated by the day. Every time I think it can't get more complex, it does. They throw a new twist into it," Moore said. "We have questions of Is anybody validly appointed tot he board? Who can call a board meeting? What happens if they don't show up? Who can complain about that? Sorry to say, but it's a mess. The only way it's going to be settled is if cool heads prevail and we sit down and determine if we really want the Hosuing Authority to remain in Big Spring, and if so, what steps need to be taken necessary to that goal, or if we just throw up our ands and say, 'Mr. Thomason wins and we'll no longer have a Housing Authority in Big Spring. It's that simple.'"

HC

Continued from Page 1

At the start of the meeting, the board held a public hearing on a tax abatement agreement with Recover Howard LLC. No one spoke during the public hearing.

The board approved routine matters, including minutes of its April 25 meeting, financials for April, monthly reports of auxiliary services, personnel matters and the internal audit report.

The board approved the tax abatement agreement with Recover Howard LLC. The agreement will cover a period of 10 years, and will provide tax abatement of 100 percent for the first two years, then reduce by 20 percent each additional two years; 80 percent for years three and four, 60 percent for years 5 and 6, 40 percent for years seven and eight, and 20 percent for years nine and 10. Recover Howard LLC is an oilfield waste disposal company.

Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Director Mark Willis said the incentive was a good deal for the area.

"The more I've got to know about the process, the more enthusiastic I am about this project," Willis said. "This really makes oilfield waste easier to manage, recovers material that previously has not been recovered. It's a really good project."

The resolution for Flores and swearing in of Morgan, Beck and Marquez came next on the agenda, followed by election of board officers. The board voted to maintain its current officers, including Dr. John E. Freeman, chairman; Maxwell Barr, Vice Chairman; and Adrian Calvio, secretary.

The board appointed board members to campus foundations. The board voted to leave board members on the foundations they've been serving on, with Marquez taking the place of Flores, along with Ben Zeichick, on the Southwest College for the Deaf Foundation. Board members Maxwell Barr and Mark Morgan serve on the Big Spring Campus Foundation, Marisha Beck and Adrian Calvio serve on the San Angelo Campus Foundation.

Dr. Sparks presented the college's regular COVID-19 status report. Sparks reported that the college is still operating under a "yellow" status with regard to the disease.

Howard's Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Amy Burchett noted that contact hours at the college remain down for Quarter 2 due to COVID-19 and the additional reduction due to the closing of GEO's federal prisons in Big Spring, which ended the college's prisoner education programs in those facilities.

Director of Student Support Bryan Stokes presented the quarterly investment report and results of the Survey of Entering Student Engagement (SEnSE). Stokes noted that Howard College has made progress in some areas, and fell back in others.

"We've done really well in 'Early Connections' and 'Clear Academic Plan,'" he said. "Again, the 'Engaged Learning' seems to be an area we can focus on. We see that Engaged Learning seems to be a trouble issue. We again saw that in the SEnSE report that we presented earlier this year."

Sparks reported that the college's concealed carry policy has been reviewed and updated for the handbook and catalog.

The board approved memoranda of understanding with the various College Foundations.

Howard College's Special Projects Officer Terry Hansen and Chief Operations and Safety Security Officer Fabian Serrano reported that roofing projects at the Big Spring campus is nearing completion, and the cleanup of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum - at a cost of about \$800,000 - is complete.

Renovation at the Big Spring campus' Library and Music Building are proceeding well, and asbestos abatement at several SWCD buildings, as well as demolition of one building at the college, should be completed over the course of about eight days this summer.

Take Note (cont.)

- 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 you.

Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more. To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

- St. Vincent de Paul food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and other assistance will take place the third Thursday of each month from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Both distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building.

- Interim HealthCare is looking for volunteers. Those who would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer can call 432-263-5999.

- VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out more

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon the first Monday of every month at Howard College in the Cactus Room. Our vision is that every Big Spring citizen will take individual responsibility for making Big Spring the most beautiful city in Texas. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call Tammy at 432-935-0057.

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Coahoma Youth Baseball League announces its 2022 All-Star teams

League set to host its first All-Star tournament June 11th

By PATRICK GONZALES

Herald Sports Writer

The Coahoma Youth Baseball League will wrap up its regular season schedule this week, but have announced its 2022 All-Star teams for the 8U, 10U, and 12U divisions. The Coahoma Youth Baseball League is also set to hosts its first ever Small Town Classic All-Star Tournament which is set for June 11th and 12th. The three All-Star teams along with surrounding area towns will play in the tournament. Here are the All-Star teams for their respective divisions. Congratulations to all the kids that made the team!

8U All-Stars: Lincoln Wells, Rhett Froman, Noah Gonzales, Brantley Montley, Kynglsey Montez, Paxtyn Acosta, Jordan Mendoza, Maddox Nolan, Brooks Stewart, Kalan Kilpatrick, Grayson Rubio, Justin Forshiee.

10U All-Stars: Dax Rye, Cade Born, Riley Long, Korbin Ditto, Anthony Aguilar, Drezdyn Molina, Read Berry, Landon Leggett, Nico Bose, Everett Stevenson, Ayden Villanueva, Kynzler Grant.

12U All-Stars: Masen Pierce, Myles Pierce, Owen Crawford, Kelton Froman, Mikey Garcia, Noah Garcia, Kaden Bratcher, Bear Nichols, Ryan Dunlap, Austin Molina, Josh Dials, Ricky Rico.

Ramírez homers, McKenzie sharp as Cleveland downs Astros 6-1

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — After Triston McKenzie stymied Houston's powerful offense Monday night, Cleveland manager Terry Francona lauded the young pitcher for his splendid outing.

"Their lineup is potent and they're dangerous and he really pitched well," Francona said. "He really did. He was aggressive with his fastball, good off-speed, basically really pitched."

José Ramírez homered with four RBIs and McKenzie pitched seven sharp innings to help the Guardians to a 6-1 win over the Astros.

It was the fourth consecutive quality start for the 24-year-old who has a 2.07 ERA with 20 strikeouts in that span.

"We just stuck with the plan," McKenzie said. "I really just trusted myself and trusted (catcher Luke) Maile back there and just executed my pitches. Using the fastball early and then kind of just mixing in some curveballs later and just trying to keep them off balance."

Ramírez had two hits, highlighted by a two-run shot in the fifth inning that pushed the lead to 4-0.

McKenzie (3-3) allowed just three hits as he pitched a season-high seven innings for his second straight start. The only run he allowed came on a solo homer by Alex Bregman to start the seventh.

Houston starter Luis Garcia (3-3) allowed five hits and four runs, two of which were earned, but the other two came because of his throwing error in the third.

There was one out in the third when Maile and Myles Straw hit consecutive singles. Amed Rosario then reached on a fielder's choice on a grounder hit to Garcia. The pitcher

badly overthrew second base for an error that allowed Maile to score and the two other runners to advance a base.

A groundout by Ramírez scored Straw to make it 2-0 before Garcia struck out Owen Miller to end the inning.

Maile walked to start the fifth before Ramírez smacked his homer to the bullpen in right center. José Siri tracked it to the wall and leaped to try and catch it, but it sailed just out of his reach.

It was the 10th homer this season for Ramírez. "This kid's one the best players in the game," Francona said. "He just does it every day. He's a joy to watch."

McKenzie walked Yordan Alvarez with no outs in the second but didn't allow a hit until Martín Maldonado singled with one out in the third. Jose Altuve grounded into a double play to end the third and McKenzie retired the next eight batters after that.

He got some help on the first out of the sixth when shortstop Andrés Giménez snagged a grounder hit by Siri and spun around to make a nifty throw that beat the speedy outfielder to first.

Houston couldn't get much going offensively aside from Bregman's homer. They had just four hits and went 0 for 6 with runners in scoring position.

"Sometimes you get beat and get outplayed," Bregman said. "They played really well tonight."

Altuve doubled off the wall in center field with two outs in the sixth before Michael Brantley hit a fly out to end the inning.

The Guardians tacked on two runs in the seventh inning with the help of some more sloppy defense by the Astros. Maile singled with no

outs and took second on a wild pitch by Bryan Abreu. Straw walked before a single by Rosario loaded the bases.

Ramírez then grounded into a force out that left Rosario out at second. But rookie shortstop Jeremy Peña overthrew first for an error on the play and two runs scored to make it 6-0.

"We gave them three runs today," Houston manager Dusty Baker said. "We were operating with low energy."

WELCOME BACK

Straw, who spent 3½ seasons in Houston before being traded to Cleveland last July, was honored with a video tribute before the game. Manager Dusty Baker raved about Straw's contributions to the team and many Astros visited with the outfielder Monday during batting practice.

UP NEXT

Houston's Framber Valdez (3-2, 2.68 ERA) opposes Zach Plesac (1-3, 4.42) when the series continues Tuesday night.

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Game 2: Sat. 5/28 @ 2pm
Game 3: Sat. 5/28 @ 4pm
if needed

Today in Sports History

May 25

1948 — Ben Hogan wins the PGA championship, beating Mike Turnesa in the final round, 7 and 6.

1965 — Muhammad Ali knocks out Sonny Liston a minute into the first round in the controversial rematch for Ali's heavyweight title. Listed as the fastest knockout in a heavyweight title bout, Liston goes down on a short right-hand punch.

1975 — The Golden State Warriors become the third team to sweep the NBA finals, beating the Washington Bullets 96-95 on Butch Beard's foul shot with 9 seconds remaining.

1978 — The Montreal Canadiens defeat the Boston Bruins 4-1 in Game 6 for their third straight Stanley Cup.

1980 — Johnny Rutherford wins his third Indianapolis 500 in seven years and becomes the first driver to win twice from the pole position.

1987 — Herve Filion becomes the first harness racing driver to win 10,000 races. Filion reaches the milestone driving Commander Bond to victory in the third race at Yonkers Raceway.

1991 — The Pittsburgh Penguins, led by Mario Lemieux, win the Stanley Cup for the first time with an 8-0 rout of the Minnesota North Stars.

1998 — Princeton punctuates its claim as one of college lacrosse's great programs by beating Maryland 15-5 for its third straight NCAA Division I title and fifth in seven years.

2002 — Boston sets an NBA record, overcoming a 21-point fourth-quarter deficit in a 94-90 win over New Jersey. The Celtics outscore the Nets 41-16 in the quarter.

2003 — Juli Inkster shoots a 10-under 62 — tying the lowest final-round score by a winner in LPGA Tour history — to beat Lorie Kane by four strokes in the LPGA Corning Classic.

2007 — Bjarne Riis is the first Tour de France winner to admit using performance-enhancing drugs to win the sport's premier race, further eroding cycling's credibility after a series of doping confessions. His admission means the top three finishers in the

1996 Tour are linked to doping — with two admitting to cheating.

2008 — Seven crashes and spin-outs mar the first Indianapolis

500 since the two warring open-wheel series (CART and IRL) came together under the IndyCar banner. Scott Dixon stays ahead of the trouble to win the race.

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Legals

CAUSE NO. 55354

CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS, Plaintiff,

vs.

GEORGE WILMAS NEILL, III, RALPH JAMES NEILL, JR., THEDA JOANNE NEILL, TERRY DEAN NEILL, WILLIAM REID WHEELER, MARY LYNN CAYLOR, BRYAN ALLEN WHEELER, KRISTINA JOY NEILL SHUGART, AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WITH AN INTEREST OR CLAIM AGAINST THE

Legals

SUBJECT PROPERTY IN THIS PROCEEDING, Defendants.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS 118TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF HEARING BEFORE SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS FOR PUBLICATION

Pursuant to Rule 21.016(d)(3), Texas Property Code, the Special Commissioners hereby issue this Notice of Hearing in connection with their Order Setting Hearing entered this same day.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

TO: THEDA JOANNE NEILL, AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WITH AN INTEREST OR CLAIM AGAINST THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IN THIS PROCEEDING, to be served by publication pursuant to § 21.016(d)(3) of the Texas Property Code and

You are hereby notified that on the 29th day of June, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the Grand Jury Room of the Howard County Courthouse, located at 312 Scurry Street Big Spring, Texas, 79720 the undersigned Special Commissioners appointed by the Judge of the 118th District Court of Howard County, Texas, will convene a hearing to assess the damages occasioned by the condemnation by the City of Big Spring, as Condemnor, to acquire the

Legals

subject property described below in fee simple for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a sewer lift station to be installed, operated, and maintained upon and across the property identified as a 1.417 acre tract of land, out of the Northeast Quarter of Section 44, Block 32, T-1-N, T. & P. Railroad Company Surveys, Abstract No. 631, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, and being out of a tract of land described in a deed from J.G. Amett et ux to G.W. Neill, dated January 28, 1924, and recorded in Volume 54, Page 215, Deed Records of Howard County, Texas, said tract having a municipal address of 1505 East 2nd Street Big Spring, Texas 79720.

These are proceedings in eminent domain in a case styled: CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS v. GEORGE WILMAS NEILL, III, RALPH JAMES NEILL, JR., THEDA JOANNE NEILL, TERRY DEAN NEILL, WILLIAM REID WHEELER, MARY LYNN CAYLOR, BRYAN ALLEN WHEELER, KRISTINA JOY NEILL SHUGART, AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WITH AN INTEREST OR CLAIM AGAINST THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IN THIS PROCEEDING, Cause Number 55354, filed in the 118th District Court of Howard County, Texas. The undersigned, having heretofore duly selected such time and place for hearing as required by law, will proceed to hear said parties and receive evidence on damages and to act thereon in the manner directed by law.

Legals

ted by law.

The preceding Notice to be served via publication has been APPROVED and ISSUED the 22 day of April, 2022.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS: /s/ Stefanie Wilkerson /s/ Jim Lasater

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATIONARY COMMERCIAL SOLID AND OIL GAS WASTE RECYCLING FACILITY PERMIT

On May 17, 2022, Recover Howard, LLC, 900. 645 - 7th Ave SW Calgary AB, T2P 4G8 filed an application with the Railroad Commission of Texas for a Stationary Commercial Solid and Oil Gas Waste Recycling Facility Permit to store and recycle oil based drilling fluids and oil based drill cuttings for reuse in oil and gas well exploration and completions.

The proposed recycling site is located 12 miles southwest of Big Spring, Texas in the Section 7, Block 34, T-1-N, Texas and Pacific Railroad Company Survey, Abstract No. 532, Howard County, Texas. The proposed recycling facility is located on the real property owned by Waste Management Energy Services Holdings, LLC.

Affected persons may protest this application. Protests must be in writing and must be received by the 15th day after that last date of the publication.

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Search for Supreme Court leaker falls to former Army colonel

WASHINGTON (AP) — When Gail Curley began her job as Marshal of the U.S. Supreme Court less than a year ago, she would have expected to work mostly behind the scenes: overseeing the court's police force and the operations of the marble-columned building where the justices work.

Her most public role was supposed to be in the courtroom, where the Marshal bangs a gavel and announces the entrance of the court's nine justices. Her brief script includes "Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!" — meaning "hear ye" — and concludes, "God save the United States and this Honorable Court."

Earlier this month, however, Curley was handed a bombshell of an assignment, overseeing an unprecedented breach of Supreme Court secrecy, the leak of a draft opinion and apparent votes in a major abortion case. Leaks to Politico suggest that the court seems ready to overturn Roe v. Wade, the 1973 decision that women have a constitutional right to abortion. That has sparked protests and round-the-clock security at justices' homes, demonstrations at the court and concerns about violence following the court's ultimate decision.

People who know Curley, 53, described the former Army colonel and military lawyer as possessing the right temperament for a highly charged leak investigation: smart, private, apolitical and unlikely to be intimidated.

"I'm confident that if the truth can be found out here, she'll find it out and present it in an unbiased manner," said retired Army Brig. Gen. Patrick Huston, her direct supervisor at the Pentagon in her last military job before the Supreme Court. Huston said he was incredibly impressed by Curley and that she had a tremendous reputation as a leader, but even as her boss of two years he didn't know if she had a spouse or children.

Through a court spokeswoman, Curley declined an interview request. She is the court's 11th Marshal and the second woman to hold the post. She is also in some ways constrained in her investigation by her position, which was created just after the Civil War, in 1867. Experts say leaking the draft opinion likely wasn't a crime, and Curley's investigative tools are limited. She could theoretically hire an outside law firm to assist, and in other judicial records cases the

FBI has been called in. But it isn't clear if she or others have the power to issue subpoenas to get material from journalists or the fewer than 100 people in the court — including justices — with access to a draft opinion.

The investigation doesn't appear to have any real precedent. In 1973 the outcome in the Roe case leaked several hours ahead of its announcement. The chief justice at the time was furious and threatened lie detector tests, but the leaker quickly came forward and explained it had been an accident.

Even if the circumstances are different, overseeing an investigation isn't new to Curley. In her military career she routinely oversaw a dozen or more criminal and administrative investigations and supervised large numbers of attorneys and paralegals, Huston said. She was an authority on international law and laws surrounding armed conflict, but the investigations she oversaw throughout her career could range broadly, from criminal matters involving service members to contract issues. Huston described her as "not the sort of person who would ever be intimidated by anything."

Curley began her military career at West Point, where just under 10% of her 1991 graduating class was women. Lisa Freidel, a member of the same 25-member company as Curley, remembered her as kind and studious but also a "pretty serious person."

"She didn't like the tomfoolery of some of the boys, some of the guys, in our company. They were young men. They do stupid stuff. She did not like that," Freidel remembered, adding Curley "wanted to be surrounded with intellectuals, people that were smart to challenge her."

Curley was dubbed "Swirlin' Curl" in West Point's yearbook, which listed her hometown as Baltimore. She was something of an introvert, Freidel said, adding that she never met Curley's parents, just an aunt and uncle, and couldn't remember her talking about siblings.

In school, Curley was interested in American politics and government, an interest that coincided with one West Point requirement: being knowledgeable about current affairs. The New York Times was delivered every morning and cadets were supposed to be able to talk about four articles in the paper every day, Freidel re-

membered.

"You had to make sure your shoes were shined, your belt buckles were all shined and everything before formation and try to memorize the paper," she said.

Still, Curley found time for extracurricular activities. A domestic affairs club she was a member of took a trip her senior year to Washington that included a meeting with Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. "See you in the White House someday!" her yearbook entry reads.

After graduating, she joined the Army's Signal Corps, which is responsible for setting up communication systems in the field.

"I've been very fortunate in my career," Curley said of that time according to a 2017 news article. "As a young Army signal officer I was able to lead a large platoon in Europe during my first assignment ... that was at a time when women were not allowed to serve as platoon leaders in certain jobs."

She eventually went on to earn a law degree from the University of Illinois College of Law and become an Army lawyer. Her career took her around the United States but also to Afghanistan for a year. Later, she spent three years in Germany as the chief legal adviser to the commander of U.S. Army Europe, first Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, who is now retired, and then Lt. Gen. Christopher Cavoli. Cavoli, now a four-star general, was nominated earlier this month to serve as the Supreme Allied Commander for NATO.

In Germany, Curley was the senior Army attorney overseeing some 300 legal officials throughout Europe. She also provided "legal review and advice on the millions of things we were doing," Hodges said in an interview.

"I don't know if I've ever met anybody more with more integrity," Hodges said, adding that Curley also had a sense of humor and "a real dose of humility."

The three-star general said because he liked and respected her so much, he would sometimes tease her. She had no problem holding her own, he said.

"She had the confidence of knowing that her IQ was about 40 points higher than mine," he said. "And so she could afford to be self-confident."

Ukraine: 200 bodies found in basement in Mariupol's ruins

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Workers digging through the rubble of an apartment building in Mariupol found 200 bodies in the basement, Ukrainian authorities said Tuesday, as more horrors come to light in the ruined city that has seen some of the worst suffering of the 3-month-old war.

The bodies were decomposing and the stench hung over the neighborhood, said Petro Andryushchenko, an adviser to the mayor. He did not when they were discovered, but the sheer number of victims makes it one of the deadliest known attacks of the war.

Heavy fighting, meanwhile, continued in the Donbas, the eastern industrial region that Moscow's forces are intent on seizing. Russian troops intensified their efforts to encircle and capture Sievierodonetsk and neighboring cities.

Mariupol was relentlessly pounded during a nearly three-month siege that ended last week after some 2,500 Ukrainian fighters abandoned a steel plant where they had made their stand. Russian forces already held the rest of the city, where an estimated 100,000 people remain out a prewar population of 450,000, many of them trapped during the siege with little food, water, heat or electricity.

At least 21,000 people were killed in the siege, according to Ukrainian authorities, who have accused Russia of trying to cover up the horrors by bringing in mobile cremation equipment and by burying the dead in mass graves.

During the assault on Mariupol, Russian airstrikes hit a maternity hospital and a theater where civilians were taking shelter. An Associated Press investigation found that close to 600 people died in the theater attack, double the figure estimated by Ukrainian authorities.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy accused the Russians of waging "total war" and seeking to inflict as much death and destruction as possible on his country.

"Indeed, there has not been such a war on the European continent for 77 years," Zelensky said, referring to end of World War II.

Moscow-backed separatists have fought Ukrainian forces in the Donbas for eight years and hold large swaths of territory. Sievierodonetsk and neighboring cities are the only part of the Donbas' Luhansk region still under Ukrainian government control.

Russian forces have achieved "some localized successes" despite strong Ukrainian resistance along dug-in positions, British military authorities said.

Moscow's troops also took over the town of Svitlodarsk and raised the

Russian flag there, Ukrainian media reported. Svitlodarsk is about 50 kilometers (31 miles) southeast of the strategically important city of Kramatorsk.

Two top Russian officials appeared to acknowledge that Moscow's advance has been slower than expected, though they vowed the offensive would achieve its goals.

Nikolai Patrushev, secretary of Russia's Security Council, said the Russian government "is not chasing deadlines." And Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu told a meeting of a Russia-led security alliance of former Soviet states that Moscow is deliberately slowing down its offensive to allow residents of encircled cities to evacuate — though forces have repeatedly hit civilian targets.

As Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, recovers from weeks of weeks of relentless bombardment, residents form long lines to receive rations of flour, pasta, sugar and others staples this week. Moscow's forces withdrew from around Kharkiv earlier this month, pulling back toward the Russian border.

Galina Kolembed, the aid distribution center coordinator, said that more and more people are returning to the city. Kolembed said the center is providing food to over 1,000 people every day, a number that keeps growing.

"Many of them have small kids, and they spend their money on the kids, so they need some support with food," she said.



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people killed
by distracted
driving in
2019.

(NHTSA)

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reports that cell
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driving leads to
1.6 million
crashes each year.

(NSC)

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driving is
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more likely to
cause an accident
than drinking and
driving.

(arrivealivetour.com)

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1 in 5
of the people
who died in
crashes involving
a distracted driver
in 2018 were not in
vehicles—they were
walking, riding
bikes or outside of
a vehicle.

(CDC.gov)

9% of fatal
crashes,
15% of injury
crashes and
15% of all
police-reported
traffic crashes in
2019 were due to
distracted driving.

(NHTSA)

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390,000
injuries occur each
year from accidents
caused by texting
while driving.

(NHTSA)

In 2019,
there were
424,000
people injured
in motor vehicle
crashes involving
distracted drivers

(NHTSA)

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9
people will
die from the
results of
distracted
driving, while
texting &
driving is the
main culprit.

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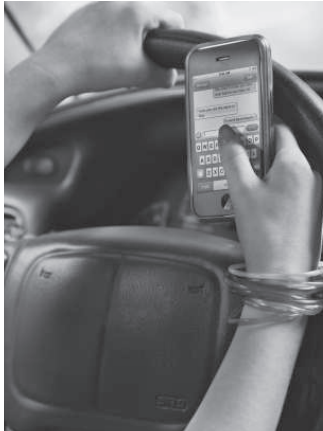
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