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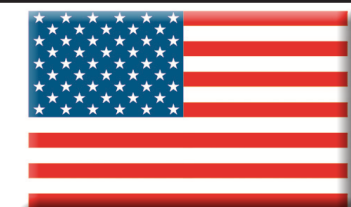
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BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 117, NUMBER 295

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Weather

20% to 40% chance of rain Saturday through Sunday

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1pm. Mostly sunny, with a high near 89. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east in the afternoon.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1am. Partly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 86.

Source: NWS, via weather.gov

Bikes Across Big Spring set Sept. 24

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Contributing Writer

The weather is nice, the cause is good; there's no better time than the 4th annual Bikes Across Big Spring to load up on the bike and head out on the open road. Bikes Across Big Spring - 4th annual bike run - is presented by Star CDJR in an effort to raise awareness and promote safety when it comes to motorcycles. Registration this year will take place from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. at Hangar 25 Air Museum, on Sept. 24. Those taking part will have four hours to complete the course, from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. This year the proceeds from the event will be benefiting the DAV Chapter 47 in Big Spring.

"Motorcycle safety is an area that we want to bring focus to. There seem to be more and more motorcycle

accidents resulting in lives lost and severe injuries. Star Dodge wants to raise awareness across the area in an effort to educate drivers and help them to be more aware about their surroundings, whether you are driving a vehicle with four wheels or two wheels underneath you; it's important to be vigilant for other drivers and exert caution every time you hit the open road," Tabitha Clark, Public Relations Director for Star CDJR and Star Ford, said.

Those wanting to take part in the fourth annual bike run have two hours to get registered and at 2 p.m. riders and drivers will head out, make seven stops and gather their cards to see who comes out on top and gath-



HERALD file photo

During last year's Bikes Across Big Spring event, bikers continue their bike run after stopping at Big Spring's Vietnam Memorial at the intersection of Rackley and Swords. This year, the Fourth Annual Bikes Across Big Spring is scheduled Sept. 24.

ers the best hand. Riders will have until 6 p.m. to gather their cards and reconvene at Crossroads.

"Motorcycle safety isn't something that just affects

those riding a motorcycle. This is an issue we as a community need to come together on. Being aware of

See **BIKES**, Page 3

Today in History On September 2

1666: The Great Fire of London breaks out and burns for three days, destroying 10,000 buildings, including Old St Paul's Cathedral.

1912: Arthur Rose Eldred is awarded the first Eagle Scout award of the Boy Scouts of America.

Daily Quotes

"Behold not with anger the sins of man, but forgive and cleanse."

— **Lili'uokalani**

"The integrity of the game is everything."

— **Peter Ueberroth**

"When I'm 60, maybe, I'll look at my pile of papers and wonder, What really happened that year?"

— **Christa McAuliffe**

"Life is tough; and if you have the ability to laugh at it, you have the ability to enjoy it."

— **Salma Hayek**

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 www.bigspringherald.com



Pink the Basin donates \$25K to SMMC



Courtesy Photo

Pink the Basin, a non-profit organization to help women with breast cancer screening costs, presented Scenic Mountain Medical Center with a

By **ANDREIA MEDLIN**
 Staff Writer

Statistically, most women (4 out of 5) don't get a mammogram for a variety of rea-

sons. Some personal, but usually because it's cost prohibitive even if there is

See **PINK**, Page 3

AAA Texas: Gas prices dropping ahead of busy Labor Day holiday weekend

Special to the Herald

The statewide gas price average in Texas is \$3.34 for a gallon of regular unleaded fuel, according to the AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch. That price is seven cents less than on this day last week and is 54 cents more per gallon compared to this day last year. Of the major metropolitan areas surveyed in Texas, drivers in El Paso are paying the most on average at \$3.61 per gallon while drivers in the Brownsville, Harlingen and McAllen areas are paying the least at \$3.20 per gallon. The national average price for a gallon of regular unleaded is \$3.83, which is five cents less when compared to this day last week and 66 cents more than the price per gallon at this same time last year.

The Texas statewide gas price average fell for the 11th week in a row as the price of crude is impacted by competing headlines. Putting downward pressure on the cost of oil and gas are continued concerns for an economic slowdown in the face of inflation and rising interest rates. On the other hand, energy prices remain elevated with the war in Ukraine still ongoing. Market watchers will also have their eyes on the Atlantic and the Gulf with hurricane activity becoming recently more active. Prices at the pump may also fluctuate as the latest travel survey released by AAA Texas shows 32% of Americans plan to take a trip to enjoy the last, long weekend of the summer driving season.

"The cost for fuel is at its lowest point in six months as

See **GAS**, Page 3

TxDOT, DPS offer safety advice for Labor Day holiday

Special to the Herald

TXDoT and TxDPS have both issued safety tips reminding drivers to follow traffic laws and remain focused during the upcoming Labor Day holiday to prevent unthinkable tragedy on the road, as pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities continue to rise.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, in 2021 in Texas, 841 people died in pedestrian-related traffic crashes, an increase of 15% from 2020. Crashes involving bicyclists claimed the lives of 92 people. Pedestrian and bicyclist deaths accounted for 20% of the 4,490 fatalities on Texas roadways last year.

"Year after year, we're seeing fatali-

ties from traffic crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists climb," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams.

"Each of us has a shared responsibility to help reverse this trend. Whether you're behind the wheel, on foot or riding a bicycle, we're asking all Texans to be safe and smart, and that starts with obeying traffic laws."

TxDOT's "Be Safe. Drive Smart." campaign urges all Texans to know and follow the laws for safe driving, walking and biking. Those life-saving laws include the Lisa Torrey Smith Act, which went into effect in 2021. Named after a Texas mom who was struck and killed in a crosswalk while walking her six-year-old son to school, the law requires that drivers stop and yield the right of way to people in crosswalks. Motorists who fail to stop

and yield and cause serious injury to someone in a crosswalk can face criminal penalties.

Texas law states if you're driving:

- Stop and yield for pedestrians, bicyclists and other vulnerable road users in crosswalks.

- When turning, yield the right of way to pedestrians and bicyclists.

- Pass bikes at a safe distance and give bicyclists room to ride.

- If you're walking:

- Cross the street only at intersections and crosswalks.

- Obey all traffic and crosswalk signals.

- Use sidewalks. If there's no sidewalk, walk on the left side of the road, facing oncoming traffic.

- If you're riding a bike:

- Always stop at red lights and stop signs.

- Ride in the same direction as traffic

See **TRAFFIC**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Annabelle Maske Britz

Annabelle Maske Britz, 91, of Big Spring, died Monday, August 29, 2022.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

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



Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 100 block of S. 5th St. One person transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported at Hwy 846 and N. CR 43. No transport.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 300 block of N. Ave. No transport.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 400 block of W. 5th St. One person transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 4200 block of Muir. One person transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported 25 miles on N. Hwy 87. No transport.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 1700 block of S. Gregg. One person transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 400 block of E. 6th St. One person transported to SMMC.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **ROBERT EARL JONES JR.**, 26, of 4315 Thomason Dr., Midland, was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **ABEL PADILLA MENCHACA**, 68, of 225 Davis Rd., was arrested on charges of public intoxication, resist arrest search or transport.
- **MARISSA NICOLE LOYA**, 38, of 1006 E. 12th St., was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **BRANDON JOE ROBINSON**, 36, of 413 S. Adams St., was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **SCOTTY MURL CASSELMAN**, 62, of 1511 Tucson St., was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

- **ANDREA DELGADO**, 29, of 1203 N. FM 700, was arrested on a charge of possess of a controlled substance and on a warrant from another agency.
- **SHANNA MARIE PIERCEFIELD**, 42, of 2206 S. Monticello, was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **CASSIE LYNN HARRIS**, 59, of 203 Providence Rd., was arrested on a charge of continuous violence against the family.
- **THEFT** was reported at the 100 block of Broadway.
- **THEFT** was reported at the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.
- **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported at the 2900 block of Sword Dr.
- **WELFARE CONCERN** was reported at the 200 block of Providence Rd.

Sheriff

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

Note - Official's with the Howard County Jail reported having 101 inmates at the time of this report.

- **SCOTTY MURL CASSELMAN**, 62, of 1185 N. Birdwell Ln., was arrested on charges of fraudulent use/possession of identification and possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.
- **ANDREA DELGADO**, 29, of 2206 Monticello, was arrested on warrants for fail to appear/theft of material aluminum/bronze/copper and possession of controlled substance greater than or equal to 1 gram but less than 4 grams.

• **CASSIE LYNN HARRIS**, 59, of 203 Providence Rd., as arrested on a charge of continuous violence against the family.

• **ROBERT EARL JONES**, 26, of 4315 Thomason Dr., Midland, was arrested on a warrant for possession of marijuana less than 2 oz.

• **MARISSA LOYA**, 38, of 1614 Lark, was arrested on a warrant for motion to revoke probation and possession of a dangerous drug.

• **ABEL PADILLA MENCHACA**, 68, of 225 Davis Rd., was arrested by HCSO on charges of public intoxication, resisting arrest and assaulting a peace officer.

Oath Keepers' lawyer arrested in connection with Jan. 6

By **ALANNA DURKIN RICHER**

Associated Press

A lawyer for the far-right Oath Keepers extremist group has been charged with conspiracy in connection with the Jan. 6, 2021, attack at the U.S. Capitol, authorities said Thursday.

Kellye SoRelle — general counsel for the antigovernment group — was arrested in Texas on charges including conspiracy to obstruct the certification of President Joe Biden's electoral college victory, the Justice Department said.

SoRelle, 43, is a close associate of Stewart Rhodes, the Oath Keepers' leader who is heading to trial later this month alongside other extremists on seditious conspiracy charges.

After Rhodes' arrest in January, SoRelle told media outlets she was acting as the president of the Oath Keepers while he's behind bars.

Prosecutors have accused Rhodes and his militia group of plotting for weeks to stop the transfer of power and keep former President Donald

Trump in office, purchasing weapons, organizing military-style trainings and setting up battle plans.

SoRelle told The Associated Press last year — when FBI agents seized her phone as part of the Jan. 6. investigation — that she had no knowledge of or involvement in the Capitol breach. She called the seizure of her phone “unethical” and the investigation “a witch hunt.”

She is expected to make an initial appearance in federal court in Austin, Texas, later Thursday and it wasn't immediately clear if she has an attorney to speak on her behalf.

SoRelle was photographed with Rhodes outside the Capitol on Jan. 6 and was present at an underground garage meeting the night before the riot that's been a focus for investigators.

The meeting included Rhodes and Enrique Tarrio, the former chairman of the Proud Boys, who is charged separately with seditious conspiracy alongside other members of the extremist group that describes

themselves as a politically incorrect men's club for “Western chauvinists.”

Publicly released video of the meeting doesn't reveal much about their discussion and prosecutors have said only that one of the meeting's participants “referenced the Capitol.”

SoRelle was also on a call with Rhodes and other Oath Keepers days after the 2020 election during which Rhodes rallied his followers to prepare for violence, according to a transcript made public in court.

SoRelle is also charged with obstruction of an official proceeding, obstruction of justice for tampering with documents and a misdemeanor charge for entering Capitol grounds. The indictment says she persuaded others to destroy and conceal records sought by investigators.

SoRelle told the AP last September that agents seized her phone and provided her a search warrant that said it was related to an investigation into seditious conspiracy, among other crimes. The indictment against

SoRelle made public Thursday does not include a charge of seditious conspiracy.

Rhodes and four co-defendants scheduled to go on trial starting Sept. 26 have said there was no plot to attack the Capitol and that their communications in the run up to Jan. 6 were about providing security for right-wing figures such as Roger Stone or preparing for attacks from left-wing antifa activists.

Rhodes, a former U.S. Army paratrooper, founded the Oath Keepers in 2009. The group recruits current and former military, police and first responders and pledges to “fulfill the oath all military and police take to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic.”

A slew of its members have been charged in connection with Jan. 6. Three Oath Keepers have already pleaded guilty to seditious conspiracy, a rare Civil War-era charge that's historically been hard to prove. They are also cooperating with the Justice Department.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Fridays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

MONDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees It, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

TUESDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. •

Is reconciliation possible? There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

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BIKES

Continued from Page 1

motorcycles around you on the road is important, it's important to the riders, to their families and to you and your family," Clark said. "The community has come together the last three years, with an amazing turnout of more than 150 riders last year, and we are hoping to do it again in hopes of raising awareness for an issue that too often goes overlooked, while raising funds to support our local veterans."

The bike run will take participants across Howard County, highlight local businesses and local tourist attractions and historical aspects of the community. Through generous donations from local business owners, a couple of the destination spots will include Hangar 25 Air Museum, the Vietnam Memorial and the Historic Spring inside Comanche Trail Park. A few local eateries and drinkeries— Dickey's Barbecue Pit, Apt. 9 Saloon, The Train Car and Crossroads Saloon - have also jumped on board and are supporting the cause to raise awareness. The seven stops will be outlined

on the map provided at registration the day of the event. The ride will begin at Hangar 25 and conclude at Crossroads Saloon.

"We understand not everyone who wants to take part and join this effort rides a motorcycle, but that doesn't mean they can't help support the cause," Clark said. "We will be accepting donations for those not wanting to ride, with all proceeds benefiting our local veterans. Not only is this a great reason to ride, but it's a ride that's worthwhile for a good cause. It allows an opportunity to give back to those who allow for the freedom to get out on our bikes and ride for fun. In the process you even have an opportunity to visit with America's heroes, our local veterans."

Those who want to support the cause, but are not able to take part in the ride can support the D.A.V. by attending the gathering at Crossroads at 6 p.m. There will be several fundraising opportunities available throughout the evening, including t-shirt sales, along with several opportunities to take some great items home.

The local DAV Chapter 47 offers support services to local veterans in the form of rent assistance, utility assistance, holiday meals for veterans in the

domiciliary and other support services. The local chapter also hosts the September 11 Memorial at the Plaza for the last 16 years, as well as the Dove Hunt weekend and closing ceremony for the past nine years. One of the annual fundraisers – Forget Me Nots – has not been able to take place the past few years since the pandemic.

"Not only can the community come together and enjoy a nice ride through Howard County, play a little game, but they can also enjoy being part of a bigger contribution and helping to raise awareness," she said.

Participants will have four hours to hit all seven locations, and upon registration will have an opportunity to purchase a wild card to help their hand. All riders will need to be back in at Crossroads Saloon by 6 p.m. in order to turn in their collected cards. Prizes will be awarded for First through Third Place.

"This is the fourth year for this event and we are expecting even bigger and better than last year, and we already have plans to make this event even bigger next year. We hope the community will come out and join us and find out how they can help out and raise awareness," Clark said.

PINK

Continued from Page 1

insurance.

However, there is help. Pink the Basin Executive Director Carolina Keith wants women of the Permian Basin to know that the non-profit will go the extra mile to help women with out-of-pocket expenses.

At an event hosted by Scenic Mountain Medical Center the organization presented the newly partnering hospital with a check for \$25,000 to help women in need.

"We want to let everyone know that we are here to help," said Keith and added that funds are available for mammograms, ultrasounds, biopsies and diagnostic services.

Money raised is distributed to partnering hospitals throughout the Basin.

One of the goals is to help women who may not qualify for other programs. "Sometimes they may find that they make too much money or too little money," said Keith. For those who meet certain criteria there may be funding available.

Keith said she is grateful for the donations and help from the community. "We've been blessed with the incoming of donations to help provide funds for the uninsured," said Keith.

For more information about Pink the Basin call 432-940-PINK or visit their website at www.pinkthebasin.com

GAS

Continued from Page 1

millions of drivers prepare to hit the road for the last weekend of summer driving season," said AAA Texas spokesperson

Daniel Armbruster. "However, crude oil prices remain sensitive to any supply or demand news with the ongoing war in Ukraine. Crude makes up approximately 60 percent of the cost of a gallon of retail gasoline."

Drivers in Texas are paying the second

lowest gas price average in the country, according to gasprices.aaa.com. Meanwhile drivers in Hawaii are paying the most at \$5.30 on average for a gallon over regular unleaded.

TRAFFIC

Continued from Page 1

and use bike lanes or ride as near as possible to the right-hand curb.

- Use hand signals when turning or stopping.
- At night, make sure your bike has a white light on the front and a red light or reflector on the back.

Raising awareness of these rules of the road is an important part of TxDOT's efforts to encourage Texans to do their part to prevent pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities and injuries.

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) encourages everyone to drive safely as they celebrate the unofficial end of summer over the Labor Day weekend. In an effort to reduce crashes, the Texas Highway Patrol will be increasing enforcement from Sept. 2 through Sept. 5, looking for people not wearing their seat belts, speeders, people driving while intoxicated and drivers who fail to follow the state's Move Over, Slow Down law, among other traffic violations.

"Safety must always come first," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "That is especially true when more people are out on the roads, like Labor Day weekend. Please remember to do your part by paying attention, buckling up and

obeying all traffic laws."

During the 2021 Labor Day holiday, Troopers issued 52,227 citations and warnings. This included 4,397 citations for speeding; 882 seat belt and child safety restraint citations; 929 citations for no insurance; and 245 warnings and citations for Move Over, Slow Down violations. DPS also had 222 DWI arrests, 229 felony arrests and 116 fugitive arrests.

Drivers are asked to keep the below tips in mind during the Labor Day holiday:

- Don't drink and drive. Make alternate plans if you're consuming alcohol.
- Move Over or Slow Down for police, fire, EMS, TxDOT vehicles and tow trucks stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated. Show the same courtesy to fellow drivers who are stopped on the side of the road.
- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle — it's the law.
- Slow down, especially in bad weather, heavy traffic, unfamiliar areas or construction zones.
- Eliminate distractions while driving, including the use of mobile devices. Texas law prohibits the use of portable wireless devices to read, write or send an electronic message unless the vehicle is stopped. If you're using a navigation device or app, have a passenger operate it so you can keep your eyes on the road.

• Drive defensively, as holiday travel can present additional challenges.

- Know your route before beginning your trip.
- Don't drive fatigued. Allow plenty of time to reach your destination.
- Keep the Texas Roadside Assistance number stored in your phone. Dial 1-800-525-5555 for any type of assistance. The number can also be found on the back of a Texas Driver License.
- On multi-lane roads, use the left lane for passing only. Not only is it courteous driving and avoids impeding traffic, Texas law requires slower traffic to keep to the right and to use the left lane for passing only (when posted).
- If you can Steer It, Clear It: If you are involved in a non-injury crash and your vehicle can be moved, clear the traffic lanes to minimize traffic impact. Leaving vehicles in a traffic lane increases traffic congestion and leaves those involved with an increased risk of harm of a secondary wreck. On some highways, if you don't move your vehicle when it's safe to do so, you're violating the law.
- Don't cut in front of large trucks, and try not to brake quickly in front of them, if possible. They can't maneuver as easily as passenger vehicles and pickup trucks.
- Check your vehicle to make

sure it's properly maintained and always ensure your cargo is secure.

- Report road hazards or anything suspicious to the nearest law enforcement agency.
- Monitor weather and road conditions wherever you're traveling. For road conditions and closures in Texas, visit Drive Texas.

Operation CARE (Crash Awareness and Reduction Effort) will run simultaneously. Operation CARE is an initiative among police agencies across the country, including the Texas Highway Patrol. It increases enforcement efforts during designated periods throughout the year, including holidays like Labor Day.

DPS would also like to remind Texans about the iWatchTexas program. This is a critical resource for reporting suspicious activity within the community in order to help prevent dangerous attacks. Everyone is urged to download the free iOS or Android mobile app. Tips can be reported via the website, the mobile app or by calling 844-643-2251. All reports are confidential.

For information on how to use iWatchTexas, you can view this how-to video. Remember, iWatchTexas is not for emergencies. If there is an emergency, call 911 immediately.

Take Note

• Ward Family Dental, 1500 Scurry, will hold its "Smile for Freedom" event from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 4. During the event, Ward Family Dental will offer free dental work for military veterans, active military members, and emergency responders. Military or Responder identification is required. Dr. Ward asks those seeking to take advantage of the event to contact the office for a pre-screening prior to the event date. Call 432-267-1677 for more information.

• Great Courses Lecture Series of the American West: History, Myth and Legacy meets every Wednesday at First Presbyterian Church, 701 Rannels, in the Theater Room. Each 30-minute lecture is followed by an in-class group discussion. There is no charge.

• 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>.

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

THE CHALET
The Chalet is a non-profit thrift store benefiting patients at the Big Spring State Hospital, sponsored by the Volunteer Services Council.
The Chalet accepts donations of adult and children's clothing, housewares, furniture, and books.

We Need Volunteers!!
For more information contact the BSSH Community Relation's department at **432-268-7535**

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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Axel Perez Chavez, 87, died Thursday. Visitation 9 AM until 6 PM Friday at La Fe Baptist Church. Prayer service 7 PM Friday at First Baptist Church. Funeral Service 10 AM Saturday at First Baptist Church with burial at Garden in the Desert Cemetery.

San Juanita Esparza, 72, died Monday. Services are pending a Myers & Smith Funeral Home. A fund has been set up at Myers & Smith Funeral Home to assist the family with expenses.

Lisa Weatherby, 59, died Friday. Visitation will be 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Service will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Gilbert Silva, 35, died Saturday. Vigil Service will be at 7:00 PM Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM Tuesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

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Praise & Worship Guide

We invite you to visit the featured church this week, or find a new church home in the listings below.

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Church News

Cornerstone Covenant Church

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

We would love the opportunity to connect with you. You can expect biblical teaching and preaching, genuine loving fellowship and live spirit-filled praise and worship on Sunday's at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Wednesday at 7.

You can find us live online at facebook.com/CCCBigSpring or at Cornerstone Covenant Church Live on YouTube (look for the CCC logo).

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

Children's church is divided into two locations with age specific classes: Kovantville (first and second grade)(third and fourth grade)(fifth and sixth grade)Tiny Land (Newborn-23 months) (2 and 3 year-old)(4 year-old-Kindergarten).

Friday, Sept. 9 - Complete Singles will meet from p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the ARC for a 10 week course on: Prayer the Great Adventure.

Here is how you can sign up: Call 432-264-0015, text 432-218-2610 then text Complete Singles, visit www.cccbigspring.org or sign up onsite at the kiosk.

Sunday, Sept. 11- Are you and your family looking for a church? Are you looking to connect? Join us in the ARC at 12:30 for your "Next Step"-Growth Track 101.

This is a great opportunity for you and your family to fellowship, ask questions and become better acquainted with the vision of CCC.

We ask that all attendees RSVP for this course. Here is how you can sign up: Call 432-264-0015, text 432-218-2610 text your name and word GT101RSVP, visit www.cccbigspring.org or sign up onsite @ kiosk. Lunch and Childcare are provided.

Tuesday, Sept. 13 - Marriage Enrichment will meet 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the ARC for our Ice Breaker gathering.

Marriage Enrichment is a 10 week course that will encourage, inform, challenge, enrich and strengthen your marriage.

If you are married or looking to get married this course is for you. Here is how you can sign up: Call 432-264-0015, text 432-218-2610 then text Marriage Enrichment. Childcare is Provided.

Save the Date: Mark your calendars for our 15th Church Anniversary weekend October 22 and 23. Get ready for a fun and exciting weekend.

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

would like more information.

First Church of the Nazarene

NazFamily Meal

Our MidWeek meal is Wednesday at 6 p.m. Invite someone to join us and stick around for all of our Mid-Week gatherings. We have something for all ages.

Alpha - Got questions? Life is full of questions. Some are relatively trivial: What should we have for dinner? What are we going to do this weekend? What should we watch? But then there are the deeper questions of life: Why are we here? Why do bad things happen to good people? What happens when we die? The Alpha Series is a 12 week study designed to help us explore the deeper questions of life and faith and is Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you there.

Scout Me In - Since 1910, Scouting has enriched countless families and communities. Through Scouting young people develop invaluable life and leadership skills.

NazFamily Church hosts Boy Scout Troop 5, Cub Pack 305, and Girl Scout Troop 33918.

If you are interested in signing up your child or would like more information, contact us at church@Naz-Family.org

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

St. Mary's Episcopal Church welcomes all to participate in our services.

We are located North of the High School on Goliad Street (1001 S. Goliad), and would love to have you visit. Sunday services begin at 10:30 a.m. followed by brunch in the Parish Hall.

On Wednesday's we have Bible study and coffee in the morning at 10:30 a.m. and evening we have Evening prayer and book study starting at 5:30 p.m.

What a great opportunity to have meaningful fellowship and develop relationships with people who have a common interest, following the steps of Christ.

Please come and join us for a time of worship and fellowship in a place that welcomes all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

First Presbyterian Church

Worship services are at 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary at 8th and Runnels. The Reverend Allen Cross will be preaching a sermon entitled: Believe In Jesus. Believe Jesus. Scripture readings for this Sunday are: Psalm 1; Luke 14:25-27, 33; Philemon 1:1-21. We will be celebrating Holy Communion

this Sunday.

Sunday School is on summer break until Labor Day however, Take Ten fellowship will continue in our parlor at 10:20 on Sunday mornings.

Two popular weekly events have returned and are in full swing. The Women's Bible Study resumed August 3.

The video history series resumed August 17 and is about the history of the American West. These weekly events are open to all the community so be sure to put them on your calendar.

Members and non-members alike are invited to take advantage of the spiritual resources available on our website and Facebook page.

They include a six day each week prayer podcast, a weekly scripture reading and commentary, a weekly devotional, a Sunday worship preview, and a video release of each Sunday's sermon. All these tools and resources prepare us for the coming Sunday worship.

Digital Spiritual Resources

Church Calendar: Daily Prayer Podcast (Monday-Saturday), Scripture Commentary (Tuesdays), Video Devotional (Thursdays), Video Preview of this week's bulletin (Fridays), Sunday Sermon Video (Sundays), Website: fpcbigspring.com, Facebook Page: FPC of Big Spring, YouTube Channel: FPC of Big Spring.

The following weekly events are open to the community:

Wednesday: The Women's Bible Study meets at 10 a.m.; The history seminar series meets at 1 p.m.; The Lctionary Bible Study meets at 5 p.m.

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

All our worship services can be heard live on KBST 1490 AM and 95.7 FM at 11 a.m. as usual or seen recorded online at www.fpcbigspring.com by selecting the sermons tab and the correct date.

College Baptist Church

Autumn has arrived with cooler weather. Come see what God is doing on SONday at the corner of 11th and Birdwell Lane. Join us as we study about Jesus and what we really believe at College Baptist Church.

Times on the Sign:

- Sunday:
 - 9:15 a.m.: Bible Study for all ages.
 - 10:45 a.m.: Worship time
 - 5 p.m.: Girls' Missions meet on Sunday
 - 6 p.m.: Sunday Evening Service
- Wednesday:
 - 7 p.m.: Bible Study and Prayer Meeting, children meet for King's Kids and Krafts.

Nursery and extended care is as needed for all services.

Come join in the fun as we celebrate during this summer season, serving our Lord. Service for September 4, 2022, is a great time for families to gather. Let's celebrate our God together. Our services are in the building, livestreaming, and on our Facebook page as well.

Visitors, it was a such a joy to welcome you on Sunday. Come join us again as we gather in exciting and worshipful services. Come and find out about our great love for the youth of our community.

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

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

"Celebrating and Sharing God's Love and Grace in our lives".

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood neighborhood in Big Spring. If you would like to reach Pastor Kohl, Vicar Roever or the church office, please call 432-264-7818, or email us at aliveinchristx@gmail.com.

Bible Study and Sunday School begin at 9:30 a.m. and we are having class each Sunday morning. Our Sunday Service begins at 10:30 a.m. You can catch us on Facebook Live on our Facebook page. If you are new to the area or haven't been to church before or in a while, please accept this as an invitation to join us this Sunday. Please come and join us.

The readings for this Sunday are Deut. 30:15-20, Philemon 1-21, and Luke 14:25-35. The psalm is Psalm 1.

Shyrlee Reid will present the scripture readings this week.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study is continuing. A meal is served at 5:30 and our bible study begins at 6 p.m. Please come and join us.

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 each morning for these wonderful devotions: "Morning Meditation Thoughts". Also tune in every Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. to listen to the Lutheran Hour.

Good Reputation or Godly Testimony

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Revelation 12:10-11

There is a vast difference between a good reputation and a godly testimony.

A good reputation (image) is something we build by the sheer force of our own willpower, stamina and physical might, and can be quite useful in this present world.

On the other hand, a godly testimony is that which only God, in His love, mercy and grace, can give to the chiefest of sinners.

Is it possible to have a train wreck of a reputation, while at the same time, being in possession of a godly testimony?

I believe it is. Consider king David, who committed sufficient mistakes and sins to completely and permanently ruin his own reputation many times over.

However, David had an indestructible testimony, in that God called him a man after His own heart.

In Christ Jesus, God offers us a shatterproof,

impeccable, eternal testimony, and this testimony is our salvation, sanctification and blessing by grace through faith by the power of the gospel of Christ.

You see, a good reputation can be demolished in a matter of seconds, but a testimony can never, ever be destroyed, because a good reputation is the work we do, but a godly testimony is God's work in, for and through us.

No one ever overcame the accuser (Satan) by the power of the deeds of the Law or a reputation of good, moral, clean living (consider the trials of Job).

Not a single piece of the whole armour of God (Ephesians 6:11-18) has anything to do with a good reputation, and everything to do with Christ's finished work on the cross.

The Word of God says that they overcame him (the accuser) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony.

The blood of the Lamb is the word of our testimony because Romans 5:9 says: "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."



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Church representatives, submit Church News items to editor@bigspringherald.com by Wednesday for Friday's paper.



We invite you to join our Worship Service this Sunday! Or us join virtually at

AliveinChrist Facebook Page

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30am
Worship: 10:30am

Wednesday Night Supper: 5:30pm
Bible Study: 6:30pm

2805 Lynn Dr. • (432) 264-7818

Jesus Speaks to his Disciples

In Luke 19:13, it talks about the Christian of the last days to "...Occupy till I come." Jesus is speaking to His disciples about a man who went into a far country and left his servants in charge of his business. When he returned, his servants were called into account as to how they treated his messengers. His own son was killed at their hands. He killed these servants and replaced them with others he could trust.

Jesus also said, "...by their fruits ye shall know them." Matthew 7:20. You might think the surrounding community would get a clue about these wicked servants after the first killings. But the servants were occupied with taking care of the Master's business. Makes you wonder about our churches today.

Are we occupied with lining our own pockets with the gold and silver of our occupation? Or are we really about the Master's business? Can we say without any reservation that we are truly working for the Master? Or are we still trying to kill His Son?



DR. LILLIAN
BOHANNAN

Fruits of the Spirit will occupy our lives when we live for the Master. Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Gentleness, and any other virtue we see in Jesus should be the makeup of our character.

The churches in the book of Revelation were called into account because they had "...left (their) first love." Needed to "...be faithful unto death." Needed to "...

repent..." Needed to kick "...Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess..." out of their church. Their works were not perfect before their God. Philadelphia was the only one that measured up to God's expectations because of their love.

The lukewarm church bombed out completely because they didn't stand for Jesus in any of their teachings.

Where are we occupying today? Are we witnessing, loving, helping our fellow man.

We are as homeless as the vet who can't seem to get it together. Why are we trying to occupy a world that hates us?

We need to be about the Master, King Jesus, and what He desires for us. Live for Him Who died for us. Occupy till He comes.

Something to think about...

I have not been to Alaska, but I would love to visit some day.

I have a friend who lived there for several years and he would often tell me how amazing and beautiful it is there.

He also mentioned one day they only have two seasons that far north - winter and July. During their short "warm" season the back roads get pretty muddy.

Travelers on those roads cut deep ruts in the mud that then freeze and

stay hard the rest of the year.

There are actually signs on some of those back roads that warn travelers, "choose your ruts carefully because you will be in them for the next 20 miles."

This world creates deep ruts.

It is easy to get stuck in a rut in our thinking, our attitudes, our actions, and our habits. Those ruts can ultimately determine our direction in life. The call to re-

pentance is a call to get out of the rut and change our direction. It is a call to total transformation in our thinking, being, attitude, actions, and habits. As Paul reminds us in Romans 12:1-2:

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

What ruts are you stuck in? You

don't have to resign to a fatalism that says it will never change. You don't have to stay in that rut. Fatalism is the attitude that makes us live as passive victims of exterior circumstances beyond our control. Faith is the opposite of fatalism. Faith is a deep trust that God's love is stronger and can truly transform our lives. May we live with faith that we might experience hope and express God's love in this world. I pray that we would get out of the rut this week so that we can fully follow the Way who guides us in the Truth that leads to everlasting life

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'Crushed' by 2 papacies, John Paul I's death eclipsed life

By FRANCES D'EMILIO
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The moment that the black wall telephone rang early on the morning of Sept. 29, 1978, in Stefania Falasca's Rome apartment is imprinted in her mind. Then 15, Falasca remembers her father answering and hearing the voice of her uncle, a priest who worked at the Vatican, coming through the receiver: "The pope is dead!"

"But he's already dead!" Falasca recalled her bewildered father exclaiming.

Like countless others around the globe, her father struggled to comprehend how 65-year-old John Paul I, elected as pontiff barely a month earlier — on Aug. 26, 1978 — could be dead, and confusedly first thought of Pope Paul VI, who had died in early August at age 80.

John Paul I, born Albino Luciani, is widely remembered more for his sudden, mystery-dogged death than for his life. Falasca, an Italian journalist for a Catholic publication, has toiled for more than a decade to change that and to convince the Vatican that he deserves to be a saint for how he lived his faith, as a priest, bishop, cardinal and, so briefly, as pontiff.

On Sunday, Pope Francis will beatify John Paul I, the last formal step before possible sainthood.

Formal efforts aimed at beatification can begin five

years after a pontiff dies. For John Paul II, that rule was waived a few weeks after his death in 2005, in response to cries of "sainthood immediately!" rising up from the faithful during his funeral.

But it took 25 years for the beatification process for John Paul I to begin.

John Paul I "was a figure crushed between two pontificates," Falasca said, speaking down the block from St. Peter's Square. She was referring to his successor, John Paul II, one of history's longest-reigning popes, and his predecessor, Paul VI, whose 15-year papacy saw him preside over Vatican Council II with its modernizing reforms. Both have been made saints.

In Luciani's case, "no historian was interested in the pope. Like he was passing briefly through time, forgotten," Falasca said.

But writers seeing a best-selling who-done-it were interested.

The abrupt demise of Luciani, whose body was found in his bedroom of the Apostolic Palace and who was dubbed the "smiling pope" for his cheerful countenance, spawned instant suspicions.

In the first hours after his death, the Vatican offered differing versions, first saying that a male secretary found him, then admitting that the pontiff was found lifeless by the nuns who bring his morning coffee.

"They could have immedi-

ately said that it was the nuns and it wouldn't have sparked any doubts, on the contrary, it would have given more guarantees," Falasca said. One nun, Sister Vincenza, was well known to Luciani's family.

The nuns later recounted they were told by the Vatican not to say they found him out of concerns it would seem improper for a woman to enter the pope's bedroom.

At the same time, a monster financial scandal was growing involving an Italian bank that had links to the Vatican's own bank. There were murky ties between a U.S. born prelate, now deceased, who was chairman of the Vatican bank and an Italian financier, dubbed "God's Banker," whose body in 1982 was found hanging under a London bridge in what was ruled a homicide.

Was Luciani about to crack down on officials linked to the Holy See's secretive finances? Was he planning to root out corruption in Vatican bureaucracy?

"In God's Name: An Investigation into the Murder of Pope John Paul I," a 1984 book by David A. Yallop, sold millions of copies. The Vatican concluded that Luciani was felled by a heart attack, after suffering chest pains he played down just before going to bed his last night. But Yallop, noting that no autopsy was performed, concluded he was poisoned by plotters connected to a secret Masonic

lodge with links to the Vatican and its bank.

In 1987, another British journalist, John Cornwell, came to the Vatican to research claims of apparitions of the Virgin Mary in what was then Yugoslavia. Instead, a Vatican bishop asked him to write the "truth" of John Paul I's death and promised him access to the pope's doctor, his embalmers and others.

Writing his own best-seller, "A Thief in the Night," Cornwell concluded that Luciani had "died of neglect."

"In the very heart of the Vatican, this was neglect that was psychological," Cornwell said in a phone interview from the English countryside. "They put too much work on him without proper help. They didn't look properly after his health."

"In other words, they had no respect for him, they thought he was a derisory pope, they said he was like Peter Sellers," Cornwell said, referring to the English comic actor who often played bumbling roles.

Cornwell said some people were disappointed he found no evidence of murder, including one bishop. "I came across people inside the Vatican who were convinced" there was a conspiracy to eliminate Luciani.

Falasca says John Paul I "is not being beatified because he was pope."

"He lived with exemplary method, faith, hope, charity,"

she said. "He's a model for everyone, precisely because he had borne witness to the essential virtues."

John Paul I also broke molds, referring to himself as "I" in papal speeches, instead of the more impersonal traditional "we."

"He was like a light breeze sweeping away centuries" of formalities, Falasca said. "His choice of being colloquial was a theological choice."

She marveled that among his most cherished books was secular literature — by Mark Twain, Willa Cather and G.K. Chesterton, a British author famed for his character of a sleuthing priest.

For a Catholic to be beatified, the pope must approve a miracle attributed to prayerful intercession. In Luciani's case, that miracle was the medically unexplained recovery in 2011 of an 11-year-old girl hospitalized in Buenos Aires with brain inflammation and septic shock.

Her parents pleaded with a priest from a nearby parish to come. As he rushed to her bedside, the Rev. Juan Jose Dabusti wondered to whom he should pray for her to live. Inspiration struck. He prayed to John Paul I.

But why invoke the name of a largely forgotten pontiff? Falasca said Dabusti told her that when he was 15, he heard the newly elected John Paul I speak and decided to become a priest himself, because Luciani was "very simple and very happy."

Not for one moment have you forsaken me

Not for one moment have you forsaken me. What does it mean to be a Christian? To be a Christian is to be a follower of Christ. 2 Cor. 2:2



JOELLE
LUDINGTON

"For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

Being a Christian does not mean that you are perfect. But I can say that the God we serve is perfect.

And that He who has begun a good work in us will finish it. For one day we shall see Him and be just like Him.

But if for one minute I slip and people see that you are not perfect, human I am condemned and judged hard.

Bug you say you love God. But don't confess to be a Christian makes it acceptable to say that and act as if you don't.

Well my friend where I stand I am complete in Him. He is all my righteousness.

I have and advocate with the Father and you don't. And He is just and faithful to forgive me when we sin. And so can you when you receive Jesus Christ as your Savior.

We Christians will tremble at no other name. Surrender to no other reign.

Not perfect, but forgiven.

Burkina Faso bishop says American nun freed by captors

By ARSENE KABORE

Associated Press

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso (AP) — An 83-year-old American nun kidnapped from her bed in Burkina Faso earlier this year has been released by her captors unharmed, Catholic church officials in the West African nation said Wednesday.

Sister Suellen Tennyson had been abducted by 10 gunmen without her blood pressure medication. The church statement about her release, though, said she was still in good health after nearly five months in captivity.

"For the moment we have no information on the conditions of her release but we express our profound gratitude to those who worked toward it," Kaya Bishop Theophile Nare said.

Gunmen kidnapped Tennyson from her home in Yalgo, about 100 kilometers (62 miles) northeast of Kaya, back in April. Two other nuns — one from Canada and one from Burkina Faso — and two young Burkinabe women who were living in the same house, were not taken.

The once peaceful West African nation has seen a great deal of violence

linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State group over the past six years. In Kaya, the mounting insecurity weighs heavily on people's minds.

Kouka Ouedraogo, a priest in Kaya who has worked with Tennyson, called her release "a great joy for all our parish."

"We are still concerned about the security situation and kidnapping in the region," he said. "We are even more concerned as the situation keeps on deteriorating in the zone with many displaced people fleeing into Kaya."

Tennyson has been a missionary in Burkina Faso since 2014 and previously worked in the New Orleans archdiocese for many years.

Jihadi groups linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State in the Sahel, the vast expanse south of the Sahara Desert, have long taken foreign hostages for ransom to fund operations.



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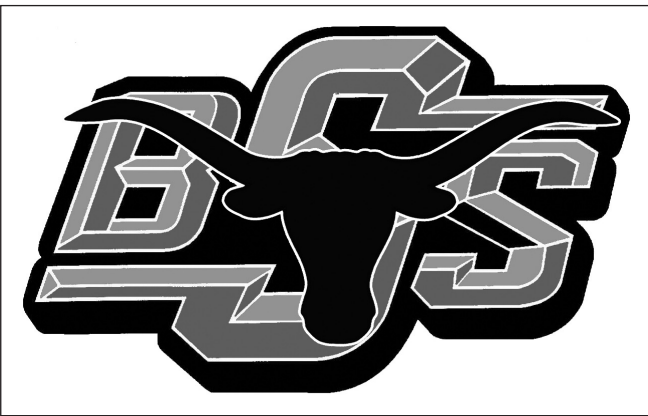
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Big Spring Fall tennis teams open district play with win over Snyder

Special to the Herald



The Steer Tennis team took on the Snyder Tigers Tuesday for their district opener, and it was a fierce battle won by the Steers 11-8. Senior Itzel Garcia-Marquez won the 10th match sealing the victory for the team 6-2, 6-0 in straight sets.

Highlights

Boys Doubles

Eric L. & Juaquin A. won 4-6, 6-1, 10-2
Mathew S. & Ethan U. won 4-6, 6-3, 10-6
Mason P. & Gavin C. lost 4-6, 5-7

Girls Doubles

Lexie R. & Itzel GM. won 7-5, 6-4
Ananya L. & Allison H. won 6-3, 6-2
Ana V. & Taylor R. lost 6-4, 3-6, 5-10

Mix Doubles

Kaiden R. & Brianna L. lost 6-4, 7-5, 8-10

Boy Singles

Eric L. - won 6-4, 6-3
Matthew S. won 6-2, 1-6, 11-9
Ethan U. lost 6-3, 6-7, 9-11
Juaquin A. lost 6-1, 5-7, 5-10
Mason P. lost 6-3, 0-6, 9-11
Kaiden R. won 6-7, 6-2, 10-1
Gavin C. won 8-2
Alfredo L. lost 4-8
A.J. James won 8-4

Girls Singles

Ananya L. won 6-4, 6-1
Lexi R. lost 1-6, 4-6
Itzel GM. won 6-2, 6-0
Allison H. won 7-6, 6-1
Brianna L. lost 1-6, 3-6
Ana V. won 4-6, 6-0, 10-8
Spencer P. won 9-8

No. 6 Texas A&M kicks off season against Sam Houston

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M coach Jimbo Fisher has been coaching for more than 30 years and this is his 13th season as a head coach.

Despite those decades of experience, Fisher admitted this week as the sixth-ranked Aggies prepare to open the season against Sam Houston on Saturday that he still gets nervous.

"There's butterflies for every game," Fisher said. "Butterflies mean you care."

The Aggies begin a season where they hope to contend with top-ranked Alabama for the SEC title with what's expected to be an easy opener.

"First game of the season is always going to set the tone for the rest of the season," Texas A&M receiver Ainius Smith said. "We are trying to be great."

The Bearkats, who won the FCS national title in 2020, are playing their last season in the FCS as they transition to FBS next year. Sam Houston is playing an abbreviated nine-game schedule this year as it transitions and is not eligible for the FCS playoffs as the team prepares to make the jump to college football's top division.

Despite playing a lower division team, Fisher said his team can't take Sam Houston lightly considering its domination at the FCS level where the team has lost just one game in the last two seasons.

"They are an excellent football team that is coached very well, and we're going to have to play a heck of a football game," Fisher said.

Fisher is looking forward to seeing how his new players perform

and the ways his veterans have grown since last season.

"To me, that's one of the most exciting times, to watch them evolve into the team and the players, individually and collectively, that they can become," he said. "And that's one of the great joys to me as a coach that you can have, watching that happen. And so, I'm very excited for that."

The Bearkats know that no one is giving them a chance Saturday, but they are hoping their performance illustrates that they're ready to make the jump to FBS.

"To show that we can compete at the same level as anybody else in the FBS," defensive lineman Markel Perry said. "Because a lot of people see us coming from FCS (and) they underestimate our abilities because of that."

Sam Houston coach K.C. Keeler doesn't expect his team to back down from the challenge of facing one of the nation's top teams.

"We know how good those guys are, but it's a great opportunity for our guys to say, let's go play, let's go test ourselves," Keeler said. "We're trying to win this ball game... we're a very proud program we don't talk about trying to keep it close or moral victories."

QUARTERBACK QUESTIONS

Fisher announced Monday that Haynes King would start at quarterback in the opener after beating out Max Johnson and Conner Weigman for the job during camp.

"We felt Haynes had a great camp and puts us in a great spot to be successful going in right now," Fisher said. "That's what we believe. There's no one thing. It's a multitude of things on a dai-

ly basis."

Keegan Shoemaker and Jordan Yates were competing for the starting job for Sam Houston. Yates appeared in eight games last season and Shoemaker joined the team as a graduate transfer after playing 14 games with six starts for Georgia Tech last season.

Keeler said he has no interest in the two sharing the job and that he'll decide before Saturday who will get the nod for the season.

"We've got to just figure which one is going to not out there," he said. "But I'm more interested in trying to play two quarterbacks. Whoever we decide to go with, it's their job. I don't want them looking over their shoulder."

SCORING THREATS

Texas A&M returns two of its top three scorers from last season in Smith and running back Devon Achane. The speedy Achane led the team in 2021 with 11 touchdowns and Smith had seven scores.

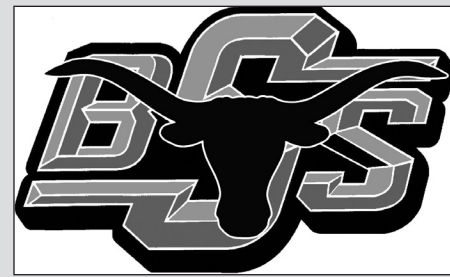
DEFENSIVE LEADER

Junior defensive back Antonio Johnson is ready to step into the role of A&M's defensive leader after a strong 2021 season where he was second on the team with 79 tackles and had one interception and five pass breakups.

He's working to make sure the team stays focused each week despite who Texas A&M is playing.

"That's what we've just been preaching to each other — no matter who, our opponents are faceless," he said. "No matter who we play... every team will get our best and we've just got to rise to the occasion each week."

AREA SPORTS SCHEDULE 09/02 - 09/03



Big Spring

09/02: Big Spring Steers vs Lubbock High Westerners @ 7 p.m. Memorial Stadium – Big Spring

09/03: Big Spring High School Steers, Lady Steers, & BS Junior High XC – Eric Stinson Invitational @ 9 a.m. Comanche Trail Park – Big Spring

09/03: Big Spring High School Tennis vs San Angelo Lakeview TBD – Big Spring



Coahoma

09/02: Coahoma Bulldogs vs Sonora Broncos @ 7 p.m. Bill Easterling Memorial Stadium – Coahoma (Senior Night)

09/03: Coahoma Bulldogs, Bulldogettes, & Junior High XC – Eric Stinson Invitational @ 10 a.m. Comanche Trail Park – Big Spring

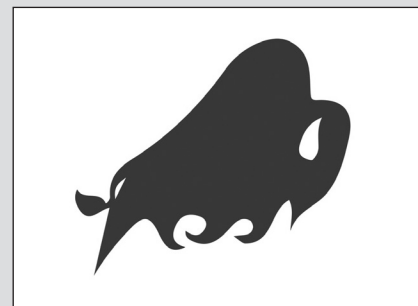


Forsan

09/02: Forsan Buffaloes vs Post Antelopes @ 7 p.m. Buffalo Stadium – Forsan

09/02: Forsan Lady Buffaloes (volleyball) vs Post Lady Antelopes – Forsan Gym JV @ 4 p.m. & Varsity @ 5p.m.

09/03: Forsan Buffaloes, Lady Buffs, & FJH XC – Crane Invitational @ 9 a.m. Crane Golf Course – Crane



Stanton

09/02: Stanton Buffaloes vs Merkel Badgers @ 7 p.m. Badger Stadium – Merkel

09/03: Stanton Buffaloes, Lady Buffs, Stanton Junior High XC – Eric Stinson Invitational @ 10 a.m. Comanche Trail Park – Big Spring

Track's world indoors in China postponed again to 2025

MONACO (AP) — The world indoor track championships in China were postponed for a third time Thursday, pushing the event first scheduled for 2020 back to 2025.

World Athletics cited "ongoing pandemic conditions" in China for postponing the March 2023 world indoors in Nanjing by two years.

China is pursuing a strict "zero COVID" policy that also saw its hosting of soccer's 2023 Asian Cup canceled in May.

Since the COVID-19 coronavirus spread from Wuhan in late-2019, the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing has been the only significant international sports event held in China. It was held under strict lockdown conditions with no fans at most events.

Nanjing was scheduled to host the world indoors

in March 2020, then 2021, 2023 and now 2025.

World Athletics president Sebastian Coe said the early decision was "to give certainty to athletes and member federations preparing for the 2023 competition season."

"Unfortunately, the time frame will prevent us from relocating the 2023 event," Coe said, "but the indoor championships will return in 2024 in Glasgow."

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stories to hard news.

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Public Notice
RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37 Case No. 0336458
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Aug 18, 2022
Status/Permit No. 882941
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Sep 8, 2022
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SM ENERGY COM-
PANY, [RRC Operator No. 788997] has made application for
a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad
Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code sec-
tion 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line dis-
tance requirement because the Applicant is less than the re-
quired Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-
pooled interest within the subject unit. Applicant also seeks
exception to the LEASE LINE requirement because the loca-
tion is less than the required Rule 37 distance to an external
lease line for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 7, Bk. 31 T2N,
T&P RR CO Survey, A-180, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field,
HOWARD County, being 18.9 miles NW direction from
BIG SPRING, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules
and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A
HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within
the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this ap-
plication. Affected persons include owners of record and the
operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts
nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spac-
ing distance. If you have questions which are specific to the
Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please
contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at (512)463-
6751. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to
prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be pre-
pared to establish standing as an affected person, and to ap-
pear at the hearing either in person or by qualified represent-
ative and protest the application with cross-examination or
presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are ap-
plicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding
the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's
Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848.

**IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS AP-
PLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST
BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN
OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-
MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Sep 8, 2022 at 5:00
p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME,
YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE
REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED
ADMINISTRATIVELY.**

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name : JENNY MIRACLE MAX B
Lease/Unit Well No. : 0723LS
Lease/Unit Acres : 1125.78
Nearest Lease Line (ft) : null
Nearest Well on Lease (ft) : 365.0

Lease Lines : 340.0 F N L, 1508.0 F E L
Survey Lines : 2308.0 F S L, 1508.0 F E L

Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal

Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines: 50.0 F N L
716.0 F W L

Terminus Location
BH County: HOWARD
Section: 26 Block: 31 T2N Abstract: 1061
Survey: T&P RR CO/MANION, R K
Lease Lines: 50.0 F S L
719.0 F W L
Survey Lines: 50.0 F S L
1920.0 F E L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as fol-
lows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 330/0, 80.0
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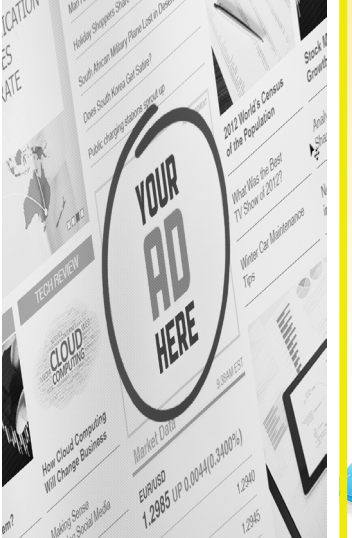
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FRIDAY

SEP. 2

Table with 30 columns (time slots from 5:00 AM to 4:30 PM) and 30 rows (stations from KMID to KZLW). Each cell contains station call letters, program name, and time.



By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

West North East South
1♦ 4♥ 1♥ ?

What would you bid with each of the following four hands?

- 1. ♠ A93 ♥ Q6 ♦ QJ84 ♣ Q1093
2. ♠ K985 ♥ KJ872 ♦ 6 ♣ Q74
3. ♠ QJ7643 ♥ 9 ♦ A72 ♣ QJ5
4. ♠ 97543 ♥ 5 ♦ 1086 ♣ AJ72

1. Two notrump. In general, your partner's double of an opening bid indicates that he also has an opening bid plus support for the unbid suits. So in responding to his take-out double, it is up to you to show how weak or strong you are when making your response.

East's heart bid relieves you of the obligation to bid, and with a poor hand you'd pass. Any bid you make voluntarily in this situation shows at least moderate strength, and if you have an unusually promising hand for game, you can show it by making a jump-response.

Thus, you would bid one notrump here if your queen of clubs were the deuce. But with the given hand, you should jump to two notrump, indicating that you have 11 or 12 points instead of the seven to 10 you would show by bidding one notrump. The lack of a heart stopper should not bother you, since partner must have some heart

strength for his double.

2. Double. Something is rotten in the state of Denmark. East's heart bid is decidedly suspect, and the best way of telling your partner that East might be fooling around is by doubling one heart for penalties. If the bidding takes a new turn, you can then bid spades. Partner will thus be informed that you have heart and spade length as well as the necessary high-card values for such a sequence.

3. Four spades. Once partner has made a takeout double, you become a strong favorite to make four spades, so you should bid it straightaway. Your six-card spade suit, singleton heart and 10 high-card points all make it extremely unlikely that the opponents can take four tricks.

Some players might bid only two or three spades (invitational) over one heart, but partner shouldn't be given any opportunity to pass. The one response you absolutely can't make is a mere one spade, which would not come anywhere close to reflecting the potential of your hand.

4. One spade. You have just about enough strength to justify a voluntary bid of one spade. The suit itself is nothing to write home about, but remember that your partner should have adequate support for spades.

Tomorrow: Hidden asset. ©2022 King Features Syndicate Inc.



Today in History: September 2, Japan surrenders

Today is Friday, Sept. 2, the 245th day of 2022. There are 120 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 2, 1945, Japan formally surrendered in ceremonies aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay, ending World War II.

On this date:

In 1789, the United States Treasury Department was established.

In 1864, during the Civil War, Union Gen. William T. Sherman's forces occupied Atlanta.

In 1935, a Labor Day hurricane slammed into the Florida Keys, claiming more than 400 lives.

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the National

Defense Education Act, which provided aid to public and private education to promote learning in such fields as math and science.

In 1963, Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace prevented the integration of Tuskegee High School by encircling the building with state troopers.

In 1964, one of America's most decorated military heroes of World War I, Medal of Honor recipient Alvin C. York, died in Nashville at age 76.

In 1969, in what some regard as the birth of the Internet, two connected computers at the University of California, Los Angeles, passed test data through a 15-foot cable.

In 1998, a Swissair MD-11 jetliner crashed off Nova Scotia, killing all 229 people aboard.

In 2005, a National Guard convoy packed

with food, water and medicine rolled into New Orleans four days after Hurricane Katrina.

In 2008, Republicans assailed Barack Obama as the most liberal, least experienced White House nominee in history at their convention in St. Paul, Minnesota, and enthusiastically extolled their own man, John McCain, as ready to lead the nation.

In 2018, Sen. John McCain was laid to rest on a grassy hill at the U.S. Naval Academy, after a horse-drawn caisson carrying the senator's casket led a procession of mourners from the academy's chapel to its cemetery.

In 2019, a fire swept a boat carrying recreational scuba divers that was anchored near an island off the Southern California coast; the captain and four other crew members were able to escape the flames, but 34 people who were trapped be-

low died.

Ten years ago: Campaigning his way toward the Democratic National Convention, President Barack Obama slapped a "Romney doesn't care" label on his rival's health-care views and said Republicans wanted to repeal new protections for millions without offering a plan of their own.

Five years ago: President Donald Trump visited with survivors of Hurricane Harvey, touring a Houston shelter housing hundreds of displaced people and meeting with emergency responders in Lake Charles, Louisiana; it was Trump's second visit to the region in the wake of the storm. Astronaut Peggy Whitson returned to Earth after 288 days on the International Space Station; the trip gave Whitson a total of 665 days in space, a record for any American and any woman worldwide.



The best pumpkins for pie (and other desserts)

Beginning in early fall, pumpkins begin to arrive at farmer's markets, supermarkets, nurseries, and fall harvest festivals. Pumpkins are versatile in that they make colorful fall home decorations, but also can be utilized in all sorts of recipes. In fact, pumpkins are a type of winter squash.

While some people may be quick to think that the larger the pumpkin the better it is for baking up delicious treats, that's actually not the case. According to the gardening resource Gardener's Path, although most pumpkin cultivars are edible, the big pumpkins carved into jack-o-lanterns for Halloween tend to be pretty bland, watery and stringy. They've

been hybridized to produce a large Halloween-friendly shape, not for flavor. Those traits are not ideal for a delicious pumpkin pie or pumpkin chocolate chip oatmeal cookies. The best pumpkins for purees used in recipes are those that were specially cultivated for cooking. When shopping for pumpkins for your next recipe (if you're opting for fresh, rather than canned puree), select one of the following:
• Cinderella
• Baby Bear
• Early Sweet Sugar Pie
• Dickinson
• Jarrahdale
• Galeux d'Elsines
• Orange Smoothie
• Small Sugar, among others
Once you've selected

your perfect cooking pumpkins, it's time to whip up a pumpkin pie. Enjoy this recipe, courtesy of McCormick, which can be served anytime from Halloween through Christmas.
Classical Pumpkin Pie
Serves 8
Pastry for 9-inch pie crust
2 eggs, well beaten
1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
2 teaspoons McCormick® Pumpkin Pie Spice
1 tablespoon flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin (or equivalent in fresh puree)
1 teaspoon McCormick® All Natural Pure Vanilla Extract

1 can (12 ounces) evaporated milk
Preheat oven to 425 F. Line 9-inch pie plate with pie crust. Mix eggs, brown sugar, pumpkin pie spice, flour, and salt in medium bowl until smooth. Stir in pumpkin and vanilla. Gradually add evaporated milk, mixing well. Pour into pie crust. Bake 15 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 350 F. Bake 40 minutes longer or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Serve warm or cold. Garnish with whipped cream and sprinkle with additional pumpkin pie spice, if desired. Store covered in refrigerator.



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FEATURES

Horoscopes By Holiday

FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 2, 2022
Mercury Opposes
Jupiter

run on the hard drive of your consciousness. It may seem harmless enough. But until it is repaired, it will lie dormant, waiting for the right moment to erupt. This is a good time to start working through it.

son. Let that information factor into your decision.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're not getting enough pleasure, relaxation and attention. It can feel strange to ask for these things or go out of your way to make them happen. On the bright side, simple adjustments may be all you need to restore balance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You may feel unsure of your place. It's not important that you fit in completely, just that you have a sense of getting along in your give-and-take. Focus on how well your contribution serves the needs of others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Action creates energy. But if you think without making a move, those thoughts will use energy without making more. So even if an action is a little hard or tiring, it will ultimately energize you more than if you did nothing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What costs more isn't necessarily worth more. You'll investigate and appraise to make sure you're making a sound deal. Thoroughness will matter. There's a temptation to make a snap decision, but this would be a mistake.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Where there are groups of people, there are cultures. Neighborhoods, families, companies, classrooms -- all come with customs and rules to learn, use, break or ignore. You'll navigate a new culture very carefully today.

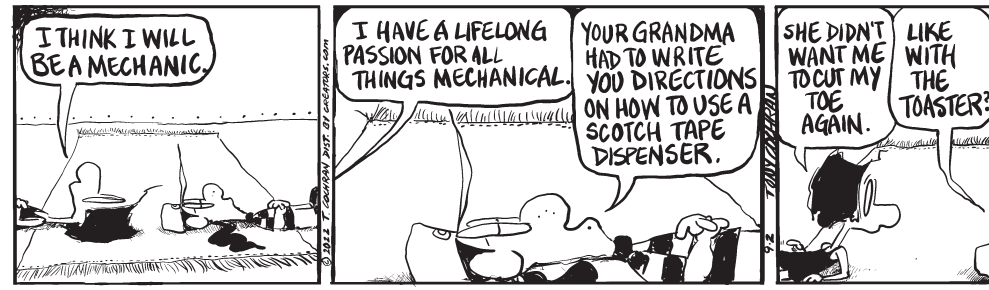
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Playing together can build bonds, though working relationships are even better for this. The structure and rules around work make it a natural environment for getting to know people and building trust.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Love sends you on a mission. Your heart carries a question and your mind finds a way to answer it. Take care of yourself along the way because this journey takes work and you'll be stretching and growing to get it done.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 2). Your life is growing in an adventurous direction. You'll wish widely and wildly, then narrow your options to one very meaningful purpose and work toward it for most of the year. Though you don't focus on the financial aspect of a job, it flourishes anyway, a natural byproduct of changing people's lives for the better. Libra and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 1, 11, 38 and 8.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When new people are around, you feel new too. When you're deciding who to add to your world, consider the version of yourself you tend to be around that per-

AGNES



ANDY CAPP



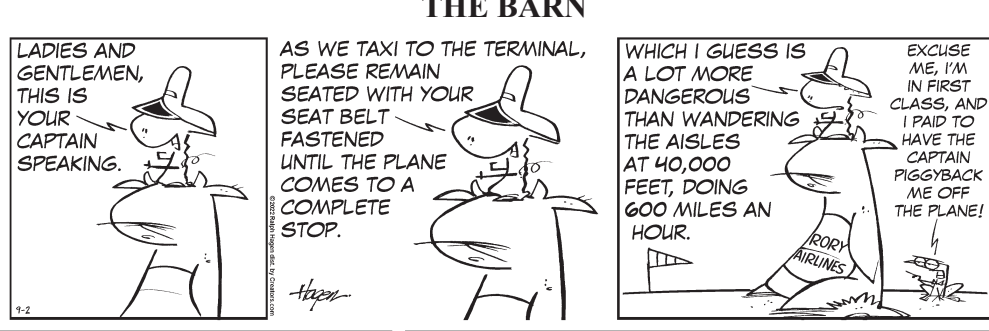
ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



THE BARN



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 California reds, familiarly
- 5 Audio debuts of 2001
- 10 Continuous change
- 14 Measured dose
- 15 Platinum Jubilee Barbie headgear
- 16 Anecdotal history
- 17 Homer Simpson's mom
- 18 Resolved to do
- 19 Word sung on January 1
- 20 Comment offering correction
- 23 Close behind
- 24 Unheard of
- 25 It means "green"
- 28 Hangs on a rack, perhaps
- 31 Nature personified
- 33 Noisy quarrel
- 36 Certain rank order
- 38 Not too bad
- 40 Chapel facility
- 41 Crux
- 42 Fall for
- 47 Federal audit agcy.
- 48 "No worries"
- 49 Glass sipper
- 51 Japanese drama
- 52 Something charged
- 54 Bird at bat
- 58 Be successful at a track
- 62 Mule's musing
- 64 Brownish gray
- 65 Greenish blue
- 66 Vocal number
- 67 Star in Orion

- 68 Long periods
- 69 Amalgamates
- 70 Spiny-leaved houseplants
- 71 Household accumulation
- DOWN
- 1 Cardio/dance exercise
- 2 Two-way, as a door
- 3 Standard sudoku section
- 4 Explicit
- 5 Strong denial
- 6 Modern artist Mondrian
- 7 Stable supply
- 8 Overwhelm
- 9 Italian Riviera resort
- 10 Custardy dessert
- 11 12-year teammate of Babe Ruth
- 12 Bookmarked page
- 13 Struck (out)
- 21 Soup seasoning
- 22 "That hurts!"
- 26 Jai alai basket
- 27 "Straight" starter
- 29 Beach volleyball ailer
- 30 Simmers slowly
- 32 Apex
- 33 Spring singer
- 34 Vermont ski resort
- 35 Strap for your arm
- 37 Poke fun at
- 39 NBA great Ming
- 43 Catholic service org.
- 44 Jennifer Garner's Marvel character
- 45 Cement smoothers
- 46 Mata ___
- 50 Expressed distress
- 53 Net sales
- 55 "Not my fault"
- 56 Slightly favors, with "toward"
- 57 Physicist Mach
- 59 Group of supporters
- 60 Dumas *père* contemporary
- 61 Olympian's weapon
- 62 Theme of the puzzle
- 63 Remorseful feeling

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21							22			
23								24				25	26	27
			28			29	30		31		32			
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42				43	44				45	46		47		
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		58	59				60	61						
62	63					64					65			
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

INCIDENTALLY by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

SUDOKU

		3		7	5			
		8					4	2
		2						
		6		8		7	1	4
7								
	3			5				
	8				9		6	
	4		1					
				4		9		5

Level: Advanced
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!

CROSSWORD Today's Answers

T	S	D	I	S	E	A	L	S	D	S	W
S	N	O	E	L	R	I	G	E	N	N	T
N	A	V	A	N	C	A	T	A	P	E	B
L	E	E	R	A	N	I	N	E	R	A	C
O	L	E	E	F	E	E	H	O	N		
O	A	O									
G	A	O									
H											
P	I	T	H								

Today's Answers

5	7	6	2	4	8	1	9	3
8	3	2	7	9	1	5	4	6
1	9	4	6	3	5	7	8	2
6	2	9	1	5	7	4	3	8
3	5	8	4	2	9	6	1	7
1	4	7	1	7	3	8	6	9
7	6	3	8	1	4	2	5	9
2	4	5	9	6	3	8	7	1
6	1	8	5	7	2	3	9	4

Ex-NYPD officer gets 10 years in prison for Jan. 6 attack

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A retired New York Police Department officer was sentenced on Thursday to a record-setting 10 years in prison for attacking the U.S. Capitol and using a metal flagpole to assault one of the police officers trying to hold off a mob of Donald Trump supporters.

Thomas Webster's prison sentence is the longest so far among roughly 250 people who have been punished for their conduct during the riot on Jan. 6, 2021. The previous longest was shared by two other rioters, who were sentenced separately to seven years and three months in prison.

Webster, a 20-year NYPD veteran, was the first Capitol riot defendant to be tried on an assault charge and the first to present a self-defense argument. A jury rejected Webster's claim that he was defending himself when he tackled Metropolitan Police Department officer Noah Rathbun and grabbed his gas mask outside the Capitol on Jan. 6.

U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta sentenced Webster, 56, to 10 years in prison plus three years of supervised release. He allowed Webster to report to prison at a date to be determined instead of immediately ordering him into custody.

"Mr. Webster, I don't think you're a bad person," the judge said. "I think you were caught up in a moment. But as you know, even getting caught up in a moment has consequences."

Webster turned to apologize to Rathbun, who was in the courtroom but didn't address the judge. Webster said he wishes he had never come to Washington, D.C.

"I wish the horrible events of that day had never happened," he told the judge.

The judge said Rathbun wasn't Webster's only victim on Jan. 6.

"The other victim was democracy, and that is not something that can be taken lightly," Mehta added.

Federal prosecutors had recommended a prison sentence of 17 years and six months. The court's probation department had recommended a 10-year prison sentence. Mehta wasn't bound by the recommendations.

In a court filing, prosecutors accused Webster of "disgracing a democracy that he once fought honorably to protect and serve." Webster led the charge against police barricades at the Capitol's Lower West Plaza, prosecutors said. They compared the attack to a medieval battle, with rioters pelting officers with makeshift projectiles and engaging in hand-to-hand combat.

"Nothing can explain or justify Mr. Webster's rage. Nothing can explain or justify his violence," Assistant U.S. Attorney Hava Mirell said Thursday.

Defense attorney James Monroe said in a court filing that the mob was "guided by unscrupulous politicians" and others promoting the lie that the 2020 presidential election was stolen from the Republican incumbent. He questioned why prosecutors argued that Webster didn't deserve leniency for his 25 years of service to his country and New York City.

"That is not how we measure justice. That is revenge," Monroe said.

In May, jurors deliberated for less than three hours before they convicted Webster of all six counts in his indictment, including a charge that he assaulted Rathbun with a dangerous weapon, the flagpole.

Also Thursday, a New Jersey man pleaded guilty to using pepper spray on police officers, including one who later died. Officer Brian Sicknick suffered a stroke the day after the riot and died of natural causes. He and other officers were standing guard behind metal bicycle racks as the mob of pro-Trump supporters stormed the Capitol.

Julian Khater, 33, pleaded guilty to two counts of assaulting or impeding of officers with a dangerous weapon. He could face up to 20 years in prison, though will likely face a sentence ranging from about 6 1/2 to 8 years at a hearing set for December.

The case against Khater and a second man have been among the more notable brought by the Justice Department. George Pierre Tanios brought the pepper spray in a backpack. Tanios previously pleaded guilty and is also set to be sentenced in December.

Webster had testified at trial that he was trying to protect himself from a "rogue cop" who punched him in the face. He also accused Rathbun of instigating the confrontation.

Rathbun testified that he didn't punch or pick a fight with Webster. Rathbun said he was trying to move Webster back from a security perimeter that he and other officers were struggling to maintain.

Rathbun's body camera captured Webster shouting profanities and insults before they made any physical contact. The video shows that Webster slammed one of the bike racks at Rathbun before the officer reached out with an open left hand and struck the right side of Webster's face.

After Rathbun struck his face, Webster swung a metal flag pole at the officer in a downward chopping motion, striking a bike rack. Rathbun grabbed the broken pole from Webster, who charged at the officer, tackled him to the ground and grabbed his gas mask, choking him by the chin strap.

Webster drove alone to Washington, D.C., from his home near Goshen, New York, on the eve of the Jan. 6 "Stop the Steal" rally, where Trump addressed thousands of supporters. Webster was wearing a bulletproof vest and carrying a Marine Corps flag on a metal pole when he joined the mob that stormed the Capitol.

Webster said he went to the Capitol to "petition" lawmakers to "relook" at the results of the 2020 presidential election. But he testified that he didn't intend to interfere with Congress' joint session to certify President Joe Biden's victory.

Webster retired from the NYPD in 2011 after 20 years of service, which included a stint on then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg's private security detail. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1985 to 1989 before joining the NYPD in 1991.

Judge: Jury can see swastikas school shooter drew in class

By TERRY SPENCER

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — In a failed attempt to bar the admission into evidence several swastikas Florida school shooter Nikolas Cruz drew on assignments, his attorneys made an unusual argument Thursday at his penalty trial: he was an equal opportunity killer who shot his victims without regard to race or religion.

The attorneys told Circuit Judge Elizabeth Scherer outside the jury's presence that the Nazi symbol creates such strong anger and revulsion that allowing the panel to see those drawings violates his right to a fair trial because there is no evidence that his 2018 murder of 17 people at Parkland's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High was driven by bigotry. Those killed and the 17 wounded included white, Black, Hispanic and Asian people, Christians and Jews.

They also listed the numerous times they asked Scherer before jury selection to rule on whether the swastikas would be admitted, saying her failure affected the questions they asked prospective jurors and their trial strategy. They asked for a mistrial, which Scherer angrily rejected, calling their argument "disingenuous."

She and prosecutors pointed out that the defense was not against admitting drawings Cruz made that included a gross slur used against Black people, which they said is equally offensive. The 12 jurors and 10 alternates include people who are white, Black, Asian and Hispanic.

Cruz, 23, pleaded guilty in October; the trial will only determine whether he is sentenced to death or life without parole. The jury must be unanimous to impose a death sentence.

His public defenders are in their second week of presenting testimony about Cruz's troubled life — from his birth to a crack-addicted, hard-drinking prostitute who put him up for adoption to a childhood filled with emotional and psychological problems that witnesses said were never adequately addressed.

Their strategy is aimed at counteracting the emotional, gruesome and graphic evidence and testimony the prosecution presented over three weeks as it laid out the killings and how Cruz planned the attack.

The swastikas were drawn on English assignments presented by the defense — they wanted the symbols blacked out while maintaining other troubling drawings they contained. After Scherer rejected the lawyers' attempt to redact the swastikas, they still presented the assignments. The jury saw the swastikas, but neither side singled them out.

The assignments were given by Carrie Yon, who taught Cruz in eighth grade at Westglades Middle School four years before the shooting. Cruz had been in special education classes for his behavior problems, but was now being allowed into some mainstream classes like Yon's.

Yon testified Thursday she usually returned a student's material, but kept Cruz's because she wanted to document his behavior thinking it might be needed at some point. She also made contemporaneous notes. She turned the material over to the lawyers after the shootings.

On assignments shown in court Thursday, Cruz wrote obscenities and gay slurs and drew photos of stick figures shooting each other and having sex. He once wrote to Yon, "I hate you. I hate America."

She said Cruz would yell in class, flash his middle fingers, throw objects and make threats. He once told her "You better give me a good grade on this assignment" and another time lunged at her and then laughed. He hit other children during one fire drill and ran into the street in another, almost getting struck by a car.

She tried working with Cruz by giving him candy and compliments when he behaved. One time, she

praised him for doing his assignment, telling him she knew he could be a good student. He replied, "I'm a bad kid. I want to kill."

On one assessment, Yon wrote, "I strongly feel Nikolas is a danger to the students and faculty at this school. He does not understand the difference between his violent feelings and reality."

She said she originally thought Cruz wanted attention from teachers and other students, but eventually believed he wanted to get kicked out of Westglades because he had no friends and couldn't do the work.

She frequently complained about Cruz to administrators and showed them his assignments, but some were not helpful. She said one told her,

"He has a right to an education. He has a right to be here like any other kid."

A special education teacher told Yon she was too fearful of Cruz, that she needed to "get in his face" and tell him, "Hit me, go ahead and hit me." She refused to do that.

When asked if in her 12 years as a teacher if she ever had another student who acted like Cruz, she had a simple response.

"No."

John Vesey, the then-Westglades principal, said in 35 years in education he also never had another student like Cruz.

"He was a much more needy kid than any kid I had ever seen," Vesey said.

Before the end of eighth grade, Cruz was sent to a school, Cross Creek, that is for students with emotional and disciplinary problems. Cruz did relatively well there, which allowed him to eventually attend Stoneman Douglas. He was expelled from there a year before the shooting.

Vesey said success at Cross Creek is not necessarily predictive that a student like Cruz will succeed at a school like Stoneman Douglas with more than 3,000 students.

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