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VOLUME 118, NUMBER 77

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Weather

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 27. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming northwest after midnight.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 48. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south in the afternoon.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31.
Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 53.
 Source: NWS, via weather.gov

Upcoming Local Events

Dec. 16: Paint and Sip at Ryan Hall, 6:30 p.m. Contact VVictim Services for information.
Dec. 17: Breakfast With Santa at 10 a.m. at the Courtyard, 117 S. Main St.
Dec. 17: The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra will present its Holiday Spectacular Concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School Auditorium. The event will feature soloists Nadia Kiley and Lawrence Thibeault, as well as an audience sing-along. Tickets are on sale now at bigspringsymphony.org as well as H-E-B, the Heritage Museum and the Karat Patch.

Daily Quotes

“The best of a book is not the thought which it contains, but the thought which it suggests; just as the charm of music dwells not in the tones but in the echoes of our hearts.”
 — John Greenleaf Whittier

“We are all so afraid, we are all so alone, we all so need from the outside the assurance of our own worthiness to exist.”
 — Ford Madox Ford

“The right to do something does not mean that doing it is right.”
 — William Safire

“I thought that being popular in school was just so pathetic. I knew I had a future over and beyond the horizon of that school.”
 — Milla Jovovich

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Find us online at:
 www.bigspringherald.com

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Man arrested Wednesday after police stand-off

Special to the Herald

The Big Spring Police Department issued the following press release Wednesday evening:
 “On the 14th of December 2022 at approximately 2:04 p.m., Big Spring Police Department officers were dispatched to the 300 block of S. Main in reference to harassment.
 “Officers spoke with a subject who informed that a Jacob Galan, Hispanic/Male, 32 years of age, was currently at 1607 S. Main and had made threats he was going to kill another resident. Officers responded to 1607 S. Main and



GALAN

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Holiday closures reported

By ROGER CLINE
 Managing Editor

The holidays are definitely here, and local school kids will soon be enjoying a much-deserved break. Not only that, local banks, grocery stores, and government institutions have announced their holiday hours.
 Big Spring ISD will have early release on Tuesday, Dec. 20. Big Spring High School, Big Spring Junior High, and Big Spring Intermediate will release at 12:30 p.m. on that day; Goliad at 12:15 p.m.; Washington at 12:10 p.m.; Marcy and Moss at noon; and Kentwood at 11:30 a.m., with no afternoon services. Staff will return to work on Jan. 5, while students will enjoy the holiday freedom until they return on Jan. 9.
 In Coahoma ISD, school is out at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 21. Students and

teachers will return on Jan. 9.
 Schools in Forsan ISD will release today, Friday, Dec. 16, at noon. Students and teachers will return on Jan. 3.
 Maranatha Baptist Academy students will mirror Forsan’s schedule, releasing at noon today, Friday, Dec. 16, and returning to classes on Jan. 3.
 Rannels Academy students will have off Dec. 23 through Jan. 9.
 Students at Nazarene Christian Academy will be off Dec. 22 at 12:30 p.m., returning Dec. 27; and then will leave at 12:30 p.m. again on Dec. 30, returning on Jan. 3.
 The City of Big Spring will close its offices on Friday, Dec. 23, and on Monday, Dec. 26, in observance of the holiday. Offices will also be closed Jan. 2. There will

contacted Galan, who had barricaded himself inside the residence.
 “Galan informed officers he would not come out, and threatened to shoot the officers if they entered the residence. Officers had information of Galan already being wanted for a Motion to Adjudicate on an Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon charge.
 “The Big Spring Police Department and Howard County Sheriff’s Office SWAT team was activated along with the BSPD/HCSO Negotiators. Negotiators and SWAT arrived on scene at approximately 5 p.m. After repeated attempts to speak with Galan and his refusal, chemical munitions were introduced into the residence. Galan exited peacefully at approximately 6:45 p.m. and was arrested on the warrant. There is no further information available at this time.”

be no sanitation pickup on Monday, Dec. 26, or Monday, Jan. 2. Monday’s trash will be picked up on Tuesday, and Tuesday’s trash will be picked up on Wednesday.
 The City Landfill will be open Friday, Dec. 23, during its normal business hours. The landfill will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 24, and Monday, Dec. 26, as well as Monday, Jan. 2. All city offices and the landfill will reopen on Tuesday, Dec. 27, and again on Tuesday, Jan. 3.
 Emergency services – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services – will continue normal operations during the holiday. The Emergency Utilities Department will also be available and can be reached by calling 432-264-2392.
 Howard County will close all offices on Friday, Dec. 23, and will remain closed through Monday, Dec. 26. Offices will again close on Monday, Jan. 2. Sheriff’s administrative offices will be closed, but law enforcement services will operate as normal.
 For domestic service excluding Alaska and Hawaii, the United States Postal Service recommends that you ship by

CJHS earns honors for updated “War of the Worlds”



Pictured are the cast and crew of the Coahoma Junior High School One-Act Play. Front row from left are Kolbi Wright, Iris Gaitan, Areyanna Loe, Brailee Bennett, Landri Phernetton, Zylee Lozano, Carlie Melton, Alexandria Daves, back row left, Sydney Frech, Kylee Diffee, Koalven Martinez, Lillian Orosco, Lacie Dugan, Katie Valencia (director). Not pictured is Allie Hipp.

Special to the Herald

BALLINGER — Four Coahoma Junior High School students were tapped for special honors at the UIL District 6-3A One-Act Play contest in Ballinger recently.
 Brailee Bennett and Areyanna Loe were named to the

All-Star Cast while Iris Gaitan made the All-Star Crew list, and Landri Phernetton was selected for the Honorable Mention Cast.
 Overall, the CJHS One-Act cast and crew received a Good Rating for their performance of “H.G. Wells’ The War of the Worlds: A Totally

Teen Online Theatrical Performance,” by Flip Kobler & Cindy Marcus.
 “I was blown away by our performance at the competition. The cast worked hard to make such smooth transitions from an ordinary day to a would be world-wide disaster, all while keeping the energy constantly flowing,” said Katie Valencia, CJHS One-Act Play director and sponsor. “Our judge told us after our performance, it felt like the actors were having a conversation, not just simply waiting for the next person to say their line, but actually listening to each other. The crew added to the show through their use of light and sound effects. They never missed a beat, and it really added to the dynamic of the show and the show’s message.”
 The play is inspired by legendary Hollywood director Orson Wells’ 1938 radio broadcast of the classic novel. It begins at Grover’s Mill High School somewhere in the USA during morning video announcements, which are interrupted after a UFO crashes onto the school’s football field.
 With a world-wide internet and phone service outage, the characters rely on the school’s closed network to tell the story of the Martian invasion through a series of Zoom calls.
 Amanda, played by Bennett, is described by the script as “an overly curious seeker of truth.” She is the first to report the UFO crash

Obituaries

Billie "Jonel" Camp

Billie "Jonel" Camp, 90 of Big Spring, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2022. She will lie in state Friday, Dec. 16, from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

"Jonel" was born in Big Spring Jan. 28, 1932, to Byron and Freeda Neel. She graduated from Big Spring High School in 1949 and attended Howard College and was a member of the First Baptist Church in Big Spring. T.A. Camp and Jonel were married June 30, 1953, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Feb. 14, 2005. Jonel worked at the State National Bank for 44 years.

She was also preceded in death by her father and mother.

In honor of her wishes, there will not be any services. Her request was for her friends and family to say "I Love You" to someone and remember happy times together.

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

Paid Obituary

Mary H. Perez

Mary H. Perez, 68, of Big Spring, passed away Wednesday, December 14, 2022. Funeral services are pending at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Juan Manual Ramirez

Juan Manual Ramirez, 79, died Wednesday. Visitation will be 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. with vigil service at 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be 9 a.m. Saturday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

Jacob Bustamante

Jacob Bustamante, 51, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

AP Breakthrough Entertainer: Iman Vellani

DETROIT (AP) — With countless auditions, constant rejection and a calendar that's often in flux, acting professionally can be anxiety-inducing. Once success comes, there can then be added pressure to keep the momentum going, book more jobs, be seen in the right places, and strike while the iron is hot. Iman Vellani, who had her big break earlier this year as the star of "Ms. Marvel" on Disney+, and will next appear in "The Marvels" movie alongside Brie Larson and Teyonah Parris, is pacing herself and not concerned with the Hollywood rat race.

"I am taking a bit of a break right now," said the actor over Zoom. "The Marvels" was extremely stressful on my body, physically and mentally, and it was a lot. I was away from home for like two years and I was only 17 when I left. I am spending time with my family right now and living the nice, calm Ontario life." Vellani's maturity, enthusiasm and acting skills have led to her becoming one of The Associated Press' Breakthrough Entertainers of 2022, alongside stars including Sadie Sink, Simone Ashley, Daryl McCormack and fellow Marvel standout Tenoch Huerta. Now 20, Vellani could attribute some of her Zen perspective to wise words from Samuel L. Jackson while filming "The Marvels." "I remember when Sam Jackson was on set, I had this whole laundry list of questions for him. And I was asking him like, 'What are the best characteristics of an actor?' And he was like, 'Patience.' I was like, 'Yes, Sam, you're right, patience.' After that, I never complained, ever. If anything took longer than 5 minutes or 10 minutes or coming to set and not even working, you know, it's all part of the job. You have to understand, there's so many moving parts." While she wants to continue with showbiz beyond Marvel, Vellani remains open to possibilities and has two criteria: "I just want to meet cool people and do cool things." "I have so much to learn ... I feel Marvel Studios compared to the rest of Hollywood is such a different world. I want to experience what's out there. I'm in a very lucky position where I'm able to do that, and I've built so many incredible connections at this point. So yeah, I don't know where life is going to take me, but I'm excited and obviously I will work for Marvel until the day I die. I'm loyal." She's not kidding about being a Marvel fan. Vellani read the comics and watched the films before the opportunity to act in "Ms. Marvel" was even on her radar. Because of her own fandom, she's especially encouraging and open to those who recognize her and want to chat. "I've lost my anonymity now. I don't really mind," said Vellani. "Yes, it's annoying to kind of lose the ability to have a first impression, but it means so much when people tell me how much the show meant to them. I've had so many great conversations with people. I just like to picture them watching the show."

Vellani says she had "a two-year countdown" to prepare her for fame. "I got cast during the pandemic. How rare is that that someone actually gets to mentally prepare for two years to know how their life is going to change? Because I've seen it happen to like the Tom Hollands and the Chris Hemsworths of the world, I kind of knew what to expect."

Police/Sheriff blotter

The Howard County Detention Center reported the following activity:

- **REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK**, 39, of 509 Johnson, was arrested on a charge of theft of property greater than or equal to \$100 but less than \$750.
- **JACOB ALEXANDER GALAN**, 32, of 1607 S. Main St., was arrested on a charge of MTA/aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- **ARYAN JAMES HOLMES**, 19, of 1606 Settles, was arrested on charges of operation of a vehicle with expired registration and no driver license when unlicensed.
- **TOMI JO MCPHERSON**, 25, of 505 Union Dr., was arrested on a charge of criminal mischief greater than or equal to \$100 but less than \$750.
- **ERIC LEE OLIVAS**, 19, of 2001 N. Salem Rd., was arrested on charges of bail jumping and fail to appear.
- **COLTON SPECK**, 30, of 3704 Hamilton, was arrested on a charge of duty on striking fixture/highway landscape.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 200 block of Hacks Valley Rd. One person transported to scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 3200 block of Auburn. No transport.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 3600 block of W. Highway 80. One person transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 400 block of Scurry. One person transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 700 block of Wyoming. One person transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 4300 block of E. County Rd. 48, was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 3700 block of Hamilton. No transport.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the 500 block of W. 17th St. No transport.

Support Groups

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.
- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.
- Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The meetings are held at the Senior Citizens Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. These meetings are open for any caregiver, whether medical professional or family member. For more information, please call Becky Letz at 267-1628.
- Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.
- Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The

purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

GriefShare is a biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support); there is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held three times per year on Thursday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the GriefShare Ministry of TBC Facebook page. You can also call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

- 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.

Do you have a favorite holiday memory? The Herald is seeking stories from our readers about their most memorable Christmases in their own words. Send mailed submissions to Big Spring Herald P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring TX, 79720 or by email to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com or editor@bigspringherald.com

Contact the Herald at 263-7331 or newsdesk@bigspringherald.com



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

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HOLIDAYS

Continued from Page 1

Dec. 17 for USPS Retail Ground service or First-Class Mail service; by Dec. 19 for Priority Mail service, or by Dec. 23 for Priority Mail Express service.

Since Christmas Day and New Year's Day are both on Sundays this year, USPS will be on holiday and won't deliver Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Local financial institutions will generally see some alteration to their schedules for both Christmas and New Year's. Citizens Federal Credit Union, Cosden Federal Credit Union, Western Bank will be closed Dec. 24-26, and Jan. 2. Cosden will also be

closed on Dec. 31.

Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union will be closed Dec. 23-26 and Jan. 2.

State National Bank will close at noon on Dec. 23, and reopen Dec. 27. They will also be closed on Jan. 2.

PNC Bank will close at 1 p.m. Dec. 23, reopening on Dec. 27, and closed on Jan. 2.

Lone Star State Bank will close at 2 p.m. Dec. 23, reopening on Dec. 27, and closed on Jan. 2.

Several institutions, including Electric Utilities Credit Union, Prosperity Bank, and Wells Fargo Bank will simply be closed on Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Woodforest Bank, the bank inside Wal-Mart in Big Spring, will be open 10-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24, reopening at the normal time on Monday, Dec.

26; they will also be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, reopening at the normal time on Monday, Jan. 2.

As for local large grocery stores, Wal-Mart and Porter's will both close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24, and remain closed on Christmas Day. They will reopen as normal on Monday, Dec. 26.

H-E-B will close at 8 p.m. Saturday and reopen at the normal time on Monday. All three stores will observe regular business hours throughout the New Year's holiday.

The Big Spring Herald offices will be closed both on Monday, Dec. 26, and Monday, Jan. 2. No papers will be printed or delivered those days.

PLAY

Continued from Page 1

to the morning announcement crew via Zoom and becomes the central character as the play progresses.

Carly, played by Loe, is the school's standout student news reporter. Not to be outscouted, Carly takes charge only to discover the incident is more serious than she bargained for when she reaches the football field.

As the aliens begin to advance, the Grover's Mills High ROTC comes on to the scene as Corporal Lansing, played by Phernetton, announces the area is

being placed under martial law.

In addition to earning an overall Good Rating, the CJHS One-Act Play received Excellent Ratings for projection, articulation, costume and make-up. from the UIL judge, who "loved the vocal energy of the actors, strong projection and overall good pacing."

Also appearing in the play were: Kolbi Wright as Dawn, Alexandria Daves as Bean, Zylee Lozano as Chester, Allie Hipp as Pierson, and Carlie Melton as Robbins.

Crew members were: Alyssa Gaitan, Sydney Frech, Koalven Martinez, and Kylee Diffe. Lillian Orosco and Lacie Dugan served as alternates.

Texas officer convicted of manslaughter in window shooting

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A former Texas police officer was convicted of manslaughter Thursday for fatally shooting a Black woman through a rear window of her home in 2019, a rare conviction of an officer for killing someone also armed with a gun.

Jurors were also considering a murder charge against Aaron Dean but instead convicted him of manslaughter in the death of Atatiana Jefferson. The conviction comes more than three years after the white Fort Worth officer shot the 28-year-old woman while responding to a call about an open front door.

Dean, 38, faces up to 20 years in prison on the manslaughter conviction. He had faced up to life in prison if convicted of murder. The judge told jurors Wednesday that they could also consider a manslaughter charge.

The Tarrant County jury returned the verdict after more than 13 hours of deliberation over two days. That followed six days of testimony and arguments in which the primary dispute was whether Dean knew Jefferson was armed when he shot her. Dean testified that he saw her weapon; prosecutors alleged the evidence showed otherwise.

The case was unusual for the relative

speed with which, amid public outrage, the Fort Worth Police Department released video of the Oct. 12, 2019, shooting and arrested Dean. He'd completed the police academy the year before and quit the force without speaking to investigators.

Since then, the case had been repeatedly postponed amid lawyerly wrangling, the terminal illness of Dean's lead attorney and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dean shot Jefferson after a neighbor called a nonemergency police line to report that the front door to Jefferson's home was open. She had been playing video games that night with her nephew and it emerged at trial that they left the doors open to vent smoke from hamburgers the boy burned.

Police body camera footage showed that Dean and a second officer who responded to the call didn't identify themselves as police at the house. Dean and Officer Carol Darch testified that they thought the house might have been burglarized and quietly moved into the fenced-off backyard looking for signs of forced entry.

There, Dean, whose gun was drawn, fired a single shot through the window a split-second after shouting at Jefferson, who was inside, to show her hands.

Dean testified that he had no choice but

to shoot when he saw Jefferson pointing the barrel of a gun directly at him. But under questioning from prosecutors he acknowledged numerous errors, again and again conceding that actions he took before and after the shooting were "more bad police work."

Darch's back was to the window when Dean shot, but she testified that he never mentioned seeing a gun before he pulled the trigger and didn't say anything about the weapon as they rushed in to search the house.

Dean acknowledged on the witness stand that he only said something about the gun after seeing it on the floor inside the house and that he never gave Jefferson first aid.

Jefferson's 8-year-old nephew Zion Carr was in the room with his aunt when she was shot. Zion testified that Jefferson took out her gun believing there was an intruder in the backyard, but he offered contradictory accounts of whether she pointed the pistol out the window.

On the trial's opening day, the now 11-year-old Zion testified that Jefferson always had the gun pointed down, but in an interview that was recorded soon after the shooting and played in court, he said she had pointed the weapon at the window.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Emily Joan Blackburn, 91, died Tuesday. Visitation will be Friday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Mount Olive Cemetery.

Juan Manuel Ramirez, 79, died Wednesday. Visitation will be 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Friday with vigil service at 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be 9 a.m. Saturday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

Jacob Bustamante, 51, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Brandon Eugene Ceballos, 19, died Saturday. Burial will be Friday at 2 p.m. at Mount Olive Cemetery with his mother. A fund has been established at Myers & Smith Funeral Home to help assist the family with funeral expenses.

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Take Note

• Everyone welcome! Western Swing by Michael Leonard. New Life mature adult dance at Dora Roberts Community Center 100 Whiskey Dr. Every third Friday 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Entry fee \$5. Bring snacks to share. Refreshments provided. For more information call 432-517-9097.

• Mystic Wonders Healing, located at 204 S. Main St., presents: Full Moon Markets. Every month on the 8th join us from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and learn about the full moon, how to make moon water, take advantage of sales in the store and meet a variety of vendors.

• History Nerds - Great Courses Lecture Series of the American West: History, Myth and Legacy meets every Wednesday at 12 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 701 Runnels, in the Theater Room. Each 30-minute lecture is followed by an in-class group discussion. There is no charge.

• Starting in October, we will be switching food distribution to the fourth Friday of every month. Oct. 28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will not be distributing food in November or if there is inclement weather, i.e., snow or heavy rain. Distribution will take place at the Big Spring Seventh-Day Adventist Church, located at 4319 Parkway Rd. Our food is provided by the West Texas Food Bank. People will need to bring a plastic bag or box and let us

know how many are in their household to pick up food. We will post any updates on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/healthynuggetsofgold44>

• The BSAA meets the third Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to noon, in the basement of the Howard County Library. Come join us, we would love to have you. For more information, call 432-263-4155; Michelle Worthan at 325-227-3911; Kay Smith at 432-213-1153.

• Howard County Community Health Center is offering the Moderna - a two dose and Janseen - a single dose, Covid-19 vaccine to those over the age of 18. Businesses, churches, groups or organizations of 10 members or more who would like the vaccine can schedule a time to have a mobile vaccine clinic. The staff will to the business, church, or organization to administer the vaccine. For ore information, call 806-894-7842 ext 178 or 124 or e-mail Covid19@sprhs.org

• O'Neal-Kunkle, Chapter #47 of the Disabled American Vets (D.A.V.), meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at 2204 Runnels Street. For more information, please contact Mike Tarpley at 432-556-2227.

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MEMBER
2022

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Praise & Worship Guide

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There Is None Righteous

“As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: there is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.” Romans 3:10-11

If there is such a thing as free human will, in which we have the ability to choose, why then, by nature, do we not choose God? Anytime, anyone does any good anywhere, rest assured that God is at work. I say this because without God, we are completely incapable of doing any good. To say that we, as human beings, are capable of doing



TOM SLOAN

that which is good and right of our own volition, is to contradict the Word of God when it says that there is none righteous. This contradiction proves that there is none righteous, no, not one. There is none righteous, no, not one. When, where and how did this happen? Romans 5:12 says: “Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned”.

Is there no hope for us? Is there no relief from the heavy burden of our sinful, human nature? Psalm 4:6 says: “There be many that say, who will show us any good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us”. Yes, there is hope and relief for us in the goodness of God. God is good, because in Jesus, He has lifted up the light

of His countenance (face) upon us. Romans 5:1 says: “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”. In these dying bodies of corruptible flesh, we will never attain to the heights of sinless perfection. However, there is something which far surpasses sinless perfection, and that is peace with God. We will always be sinful, but in Jesus, we have peace with God. The best part of this is that God Himself chose this peace for us; it was His idea. 2 Corinthians 5:19 says that God was in Christ, reconciling the world (us) unto Himself, by not imputing our sins unto us. I could not choose God, because there is none that seeketh after Him. As the song says: “when I could not go to where He was, He came to me.”

Club News

• Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

• The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.

• Howard County Republicans meet the second Monday of each month. Club members meet in the Cactus Room at Howard College at 11:30 a.m., with Dutch treat lunch and meeting at noon.

• The Howard County Democrats meet every Monday at 5:30 p.m. at the Cactus Room at Howard College in the Student Union Building. For more information, e-mail howardcountytxdems@gmail.com.

• O’Neal-Kunkle, Chapter #47 of the Disabled American Vets (D.A.V.), meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at 2204 Runnels Street. For more information, please contact Mike Tarpley at 432-556-2227.

• Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon the first Monday of every month at Howard College in the Cactus Room. Our vision is that every Big Spring citizen will take individual responsibility for making Big Spring the most beautiful city in

Texas. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call Tammy at 432-935-0057.

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

• The BSAA meets the third Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to noon, in the basement of the Howard County Library. Come join us, we would love to have you. For more information, call 432-263-4155; Michelle Worthan at 325-227-3911; Kay Smith at 432-213-1153.

Church News

First Presbyterian Church

Worship services Dec.18, will begin at 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary at 8th and Runnels. We are getting ready for Christmas on this fourth Sunday of Advent. Organist/Music Director Gabe Martinez will be leading music this week. The Rev. Allen Cross will be preaching a sermon entitled: Reading the Signs Scripture readings for this Sunday are Psalm 80:1-7,17-19; Isaiah 1:110-17; Romans 1:1-6. There will be a brief congregational meeting this Sunday immediately following worship.

First Presbyterian will be having a Christmas Eve service on Saturday Dec. 24, and a Sunday service on Christmas day. We will even welcome worshippers on the 24th if they are still in their pajamas. (Depending on the particular pajamas.)

Adult Sunday School occurs each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. On Oct. 23, the Discovery Class began looking at “Mysteries of the Messiah” by Rabbi Jason Sobel. Rabbi Sobel is adept at blending the Old and New Testaments. Take Ten fellowship follows Sunday School. Lectinary Bible Study of the upcoming scriptures for Sunday’s worship meets in the library at 5 p.m., also on Wednesdays.

Two popular weekly events are in full swing every Wednesday. The Women’s Bible Study meets in the church library at 10 a.m. and the video history series about the American West meets in the theater room at noon. These weekly events are open to all the community so be sure to put them on your calendar.

We are grateful for all those members who helped out with the Christmas turkey drive benefitting Howard County Resources and everyone who participated in the Salvation Army Angel Tree project.

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. The sermon is also available in podcast form. 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/Fridays); Video Preview of this week’s bulletin (Fridays); Sunday Sermon Video (Sundays); Sunday Sermon Podcast (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 12 p.m.; The Lectinary 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. The website also has a tab that shows ways you can connect to our church community.

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

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church

“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 e-mail us at aliveinchristtx@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. This coming Wednesday at 7 p.m. we will have our third Advent Service. It is titled “Absalom, The Son of David. Please come and join us.

The readings for this Sunday are Isaiah 7:10-17, Romans 1:1-7, and Matthew 1:18-25. The psalm is Psalm 24.

Bobby Roever will present the scripture readings this week.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study is continuing. A meal is served at 5:30 p.m. 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 p.m. and 6:50 p.m. 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.

First Church of the Nazarene

Have you found the real joy of Christmas? Where is your focus this year? On your mess or His manger, your situation or our Savior, your expectations or our Emmanuel? Today hear the angels’ message again: “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you.” If we will choose to put Him in the center of everything, I believe that He will restore our joy!

This Sunday Have you ever been weary? Tired. Exhausted. Empty. The dictionary tells us that the word “weary” means “to have ones strength or energy expelled from them.” We live in a weary world that has a way of depleting our

reserves. We are drained daily. Where do we go to refill, revive, and restore? Where do we go to renew our hope, joy, and peace? Join us this Sunday at NazFamily Church as we begin a new series together - The Weary World Rejoices and discover He knows our need.

Annual Ornament Exchange-December 17th is our NazLadies Annual Ornament Exchange at 6 p.m. It will be a great time of food, fun, and fellowship. Don’t miss it!

MidWeek Gatherings-We will be taking a break from our other Mid-Week meals and gatherings until the new year. Wednesday Services will resume on Jan. 11.

Dessert Auction-We will have a dessert auction after the service on Sunday, Dec. 18. Come get some goodies to share at your holiday family gatherings. All of the proceeds will go to support our NazFamily Children’s Ministry. Contact Gloria Jimenez for more information: gloria@nazfamily.org

Christmas Eve Service-On Dec. 24 at 6:30 p.m. we will have a special Christmas Eve Service. It will be a simple service of story and song focused on the true reason for the season. The service culminates with a beautiful time of lighting candles and singing together. We hope you will invite your friends and family to join us as we celebrate together.

Christmas Day Service-Join us for a special time of cocoa, cookies, carols and communion as we celebrate Christ’s birth together. Kids are welcome to come in the pajamas as we remember the greatest gift ever given. There won’t be any morning Life Groups on Christmas Day, just a special time of family worship and communion.

Cornerstone Covenant Church

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

We would love the opportunity to Connect with YOU! You can expect biblical teaching and preaching, genuine loving fellowship and live spirit filled praise and worship on Sunday’s (onsite) at 9 a.m. (onsite and online) at 11 a.m. Wednesday’s (onsite and online) at 7 p.m.

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: Sunday, Dec.18-We are so excited and would love for you to be apart of what is happening at CCC. We

believe that experiencing purpose, hope and joy is possible in Christ Jesus. Whether it’s your first time or you’ve fellowshiped with us before, our desire every Sunday is for you to feel sense and embrace the presence of the Lord.

Sunday, Dec. 18-Join us as we celebrate Operation Zoe immediately following 11 a.m. service. Operation Zoe is a community event where our church family pours back into the community with gifts for ages: New Born to College age as well as our Senior Citizens. We would love to have our church and community family join us on this day.

Monday, Dec. 19-Women come out for an Ornament Exchange from 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Sanctuary. Bring a favorite dish to share and an ornament to exchange. Come on out and enjoy food, fun and fellowship.

Sunday, Dec. 25-Mark your calendar as we Celebrate Christmas at Cornerstone Worship Service 2022. This is a great time to join us for our Annual Christmas Celebration Experience. On this special day we are asking our CCC Family, C3 Nation, and our special Christmas Service Guests to make minor adjustments to your regular scheduled service time and meet us as we come together at 10 a.m. as One church-One Place-One Time-One Special Service.

Wednesday, Jan. 4-Join us for our MDWK service. We offer classes for all ages at 7 p.m. Adults meet in the Main Sanctuary. Youth: High School age meet in ARC and Junior High age meet in youth sanctuary. Children’s church is divided into two locations with age specific classes: Kovantville (1st and 2nd grade)(3rd and 4th grade)(5th and 6th grade)Tiny Land (Newborn- 23 months) (2 and 3 y.o.)(4 y.o.- Kindergarten).

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@cccbigspring.org. You can also find us at www.cccbigspring.org if you would like more information.

Alive in Christ
Lutheran Church - LCMS
Celebrating & sharing God's love & grace in our lives!

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

AliveinChrist Facebook Page

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30am Worship: 10:30am	Wednesday Night Supper: 5:30pm Bible Study: 6:30pm
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2805 Lynn Dr. • (432) 264-7818

The wrong shall fail, the right prevail

Most people have read or at least heard of a man named Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882). He was a literary giant in his lifetime and is still known today in many circles as "The Children's Poet" and several schools around our nation are named in his honor. You may remember some of

His original works which include, Paul Revere's Ride, The Song Of Hiawatha, and Evangeline, and was the first American to completely translate Dante Alighieri's Comedy. As one of the fireside writers from New England, he is regarded as the most popular poet of the nineteenth century.

On July 9, 1861, tragedy struck the Longfellow home. His wife, Fanny, was near an open window placing locks of her daughter's hair in a packet, using hot sealing wax to secure it. It was never known whether a spark from a match or the sealing wax was the cause, but suddenly her dress caught fire and she was engulfed in flames. Henry was sleeping and was suddenly awakened by her screams for help. He ran into the room and immediately tried to smother the flames as best he could, first with a rug and then his own body, but the damage from the burns was very severe. She died the next morning.

Henry's burns were so extensive on his face and hands that he was unable to attend his wife's funeral. The scars on his face made shaving nearly impossible, so he allowed his beard to grow which became associated with his image. The anguish within his soul was beyond what anyone could fathom. His family could see his suffering in his eyes, and they observed his long periods of silence. At times he feared that he would be sent to an asylum on account of his sorrow.

A couple of years later in 1863, there was another crisis when his son Charles Longfellow without telling his family, boarded a train headed for Washington, D.C. to join President Lincoln's Union army to fight in the Civil War. On the first day of that December, Henry was dining alone at his home when a telegram arrived with the news that



DR. WILLIAM
F. HOLLAND

Charley had been shot and was being transferred to the Rapidan River. Henry immediately set out to search for his son and arrived by train on December fifth. He was alarmed when informed by the army surgeon that his son's wound was very serious and that Charles would most likely be paralyzed. Longfellow, as a 57-year-old widowed father of six children, was not only witnessing his country fight a war against itself, but his oldest son had been struck down on the battlefield.

Although he was admired for a gift for communicating the human experience, Longfellow still needed divine peace that only God can give. On that Christmas Day in 1863, he heard the Christmas bells ringing in Cambridge and the singing of "Peace On Earth" but he considered the strife and division going on around him was in direct contradiction with a joyous holiday. He sat down and desperately tried to reflect on the joys of knowing that God is not dead or sleeping and that He is the only one who can heal, save, and give hope to the soul. He was never considered a hymn writer, however, the poem he wrote on that day expresses the agony about the condition of a nation, and was later set to music by Englishman John Calkin. The result is one of our most popular Christmas carols, "I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day."

There is a theme of passion and desperation within the poem, eventually leading to an attitude of confidence and trust even in the midst of bleak despair. The Civil War was in full swing and the devastation from the battle of Gettysburg still gripped the nation in a state of trauma. He must have asked himself how can we have peace on Earth and goodwill toward men in this war-torn land, where brother fights against brother and father against son? Yes, the days were dark, but he includes in one of the stanzas, "The wrong shall fail, the right prevail!" Within these words, we sense a man crying out in prayer to God, just like many of us are today, to please stop the hatred and the violence, and unify the hearts of all people with God's love. This carol reminds us that eternal peace and harmony shall one day be established when the Prince of Peace shall reign forever.

Read more about the Christian life at billyhollandministries.com

What time is it?

It's that time again! Time to stop worrying and let go and let God take over. Start by praying and leave it in God's hands. We underestimate the power of prayer. Prayer shouldn't be our last resort, but our first priority. In the morning, throughout the day.

Especially when giving grace take your time and acknowledge God in His generosity how great is our God. You should look forward to this day because all He said that His plans for us are good and not to harm us but give us hope and a future. And this



JOELLE
LUDINGTON

is the day the Lord has made rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! And be glad, glad glad in it! Matt 6:4 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:27 NIV Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

Prayer-Heavenly Father help to cast all our cares upon you because you care for us. And bear one another's burdens because this is your will. And recall your promises. For all your promises are yea and amen and not one word, no not one word has failed of any of your promises, restore brokenness, dreams, hope, strengthen our faith. We fully depend on your love. In name above all names Jesus Christ!

Why We Celebrate

Growing up in my hometown in a mountain-valley community, there were so many special days, it's hard to pick just one. We celebrated when babies were born, when birthdays came around, when it was Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter, just to name a few.

Every day we celebrated was a big deal. Mother and Dad were big on birthdays and Christmas. I think they must have saved all year long for those events. As children we got new shoes, new clothes, new games, and something sweet to eat. That meant I got a new pair of shoes on my birthday and at Christmas. (They were white saddle oxfords.) Since there were six children, we got new shoes twice a year. I never could figure out when my mom and dad got their new shoes.

Now in my later years I try to help others close to me have a good birthday and a great Christmas. Mother told me in third grade that Santa was the spirit of giving. So I tried to follow that with my own family.

But Christmas and Easter and even



DR. LILLIAN
BOHANNAN

birthdays took on a brand new meaning of celebration when at age 24, I met Jesus Christ as my Saviour. He gave me a different birthday, Jan. 28, 1969. I was born again to His Spiritual Family. I get a place in Heaven, sins forgiven, and peace on earth while I wait for His Return. That's something to celebrate!

Christmas not just the spirit of giving, but is now a celebration of His birth when He became "...flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth..." That's something to celebrate!

Easter is not about bunnies, egg hunts, and new Easter bonnets, but to me it is the celebration of His death on the cross and resurrection from the dead. It's about my penalty for my sin being taken care of, so that I can be made whole and fit for Heaven. That's something to celebrate.

The biggest celebration of all hasn't happened yet. We will get new robes, white and clean, a street of pure gold to walk on, and a crown of righteousness to lay at His blessed feet. That will be worth more than all the celebrations, heartaches, and pain, and tears of this life. That's something to celebrate!!!

Christmas Is For Everyone

Reflections

Several years ago, my wife and I spent the summer in Nuremberg, Germany serving an English-speaking church. We were surrounded with history, culture and beauty. The church was composed of young adults from Germany, Ireland, England, Romania, Ukraine, China, Cameroon, India, Sweden, Austria and others. Many were starting their careers in Nuremberg.

The church reminded me that Jesus Christ was sent for all people of every nation in every age. When God called Abraham, He promised to make him a blessing to all the nations. Isaiah said, "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations." (Isa. 42:1) And again, "The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God." (Isa. 52:10). Those promises are fulfilled in Jesus.

The visit of the Magi after the birth of Jesus reflected God's intention to send the Messiah for all the world. Magi in the first century served as advisers to kings and rulers. They often were students of the stars, searching for signs that would indicate significant historical events. In this case, they discerned the birth of a new king in Judea. They set out from the region of modern Iran or Iraq, searching for the new king. From Herod's advisers they were directed toward Bethlehem. A low-lying light led them to the place where Mary and Joseph resided with their infant son. God used extraordinary



BILL
TINSLEY

means to include these men who represented all nations.

When John saw the vision that he recorded in Revelation, he declared, "After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

Clearly, God wants people from every nation to experience His salvation in Jesus Christ. To accomplish this purpose, God is moving people all around the world and exposing them to opportunities to hear the gospel. According to a recent study, the fastest growth of Christianity is in Asia and Eastern Europe. We are living in one of the most exciting eras of human history, when more people are discovering faith in Christ from all over the world than ever before.

A few years ago our daughter went on a mission trip to Andhra Pradesh in India. At the same time I visited Lubbock, Texas. When I checked into the hotel, the clerk who greeted me was from Andhra Pradesh.

Whether we are in Dallas, Houston, Lubbock or Nuremberg, Germany, every believer needs to reach out to international visitors around them, to welcome them, to love them, and to share with them the life-changing difference Jesus Christ makes in our lives.

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. Download his book, We Beheld His Glory, for Christmas. A free eBook on Amazon Dec. 12-15. For more info visit www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com.



Join us in celebrating the special keepsake edition of
"BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS."

Want to see your precious little one in this special keepsake feature? Send in your pictures today for our Christmas Edition! It's absolutely FREE to enter!

Deadline to Submit Photos: **FRIDAY 12/16**

HERALD
(432) 263-7331

Email your photo to angela@bigspringherald.com by **Friday, December 16th** to be included in our Christmas Edition!

Christmas Blanket Drive

Donate a new blanket & be
entered to a drawing for a
Tates Place Cooler

Deadline is December 16th.

Bring your blanket donations to the
Big Spring Herald office at 710 Scurry
Now - December 16th • Monday - Friday • 8am-5pm

Howard Co. Area Sports Schedule

Dec. 16: Big Spring Steers Basketball (Freshmen, JV, and Varsity), non-district matchup against Brownfield at Big Spring. Games start at 5 p.m. (Freshmen), 6:15 p.m. (JV), and 7:30 p.m. (Varsity).

Dec. 16: Coahoma Bulldogettes Basketball (JV & Varsity) district matchup against Clyde at Clyde. Games start at 5 p.m. (JV) and 6:30 p.m. (Varsity).

Dec. 15-17: Coahoma Bulldogs Basketball (Varsity) at Buena Vista ISD Tournament in Imperial. Game times TBA.

Dec. 16-17: Forsan Buffaloes Basketball (JV & Varsity) at Sands Hoopapalooza in Ackerly. Game times TBA.

Dec. 16: Forsan Lady Buffaloes Basketball (JV & Varsity) district matchup against Christoval. Games start at 4 p.m. (JV) and 6:15 p.m. (Varsity)

Dec. 19: Big Spring Lady Steers Basketball (Freshmen, JV, & Varsity) non-district matchup against Andrews at Big Spring. Games start at 4:30 p.m. (Freshmen & JV) and 6 p.m. (Varsity)

Dec. 20: Big Spring Steers Basketball (JV & Varsity) non-district matchup against Idalou at Big Spring. Games start at 5 p.m. (JV) and 6:30 p.m. (Varsity)

Dec. 20: Big Spring Lady Steers Basketball (JV & Varsity) non-district matchup against Midland Classical at Big Spring. Games start at 12 p.m. (JV) and 1:30 p.m. (Varsity)

Dec. 20: Coahoma Bulldogs & Bulldogettes Basketball (JV & Varsity) district matchup against Ballinger at Coahoma. Games start at 4 p.m. (JV Girls), 5:15 p.m. (JV Boys), 6:30 p.m. (Varsity Girls), and 8 p.m. (Varsity Boys)

Dec. 20: Forsan Buffaloes Basketball (JV & Varsity) district matchup against Sterling City at Forsan. Games start at 5 p.m. (JV) and 7:30 p.m. (Varsity)

Dec. 20: Forsan Lady Buffaloes Basketball (JV & Varsity) district matchup against Sterling City at Forsan. Games start at 4 p.m. (JV) and 6:15 p.m. (Varsity)

Dec. 28-30: Big Spring Steers Basketball (Varsity) at Brownwood Tournament in Brownwood. Game times TBA

Dec. 27-29: Big Spring Lady Steers Basketball (Varsity) at Monahans Tournament in Monahans. Game times TBA

Dec. 28-29: Coahoma Bulldogs and Bulldogettes Basketball (Varsity) at Jayton Tournament in Jayton. Game times TBA

Westbrook captures second state title after a dominating 69-24 win over Abbott

Benjamin Mustangs ride to a 68-20 win to end Loraine's title run

By PATRICK GONZALES

Herald Sports Writer

On Wednesday the Westbrook Wildcats and the Loraine Bulldogs played in the Class 1A UIL State Football Championships at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

For Westbrook, the Wildcats were looking to defend and capture its second state title. For Loraine, the Bulldogs were looking to capture its first state title in school history.

The Westbrook Wildcats, ranked No. 2 in the state, were set to face No. 1 Abbott in the Class 1A Division I state title game. On the other side, the Loraine Bulldogs, ranked No. 6 in the state, were set to face No. 1 Benjamin in the Class 1A Division II state title game.

Westbrook would go on to capture its second state title after beating the Abbott Panthers 69-24 while the Loraine Bulldogs would fall to Benjamin 68-20 to end their amazing run.

BENJAMIN MUSTANGS 68 LORAIN BULLDOGS 20

ARLINGTON – The matchup between the Loraine Bulldogs and the Benjamin Mustangs marked the second time these two teams have met each other this season with the Mustangs coming away with 61-30 win over the Bulldogs back in week six of the season.

Looking to be on the winning side this time around, the Bulldogs were looking to contain the Mustangs in hopes of capturing their first state title in school history.

However, the result would be the same as the first time. Benjamin's Grayson Rigdon accounted for seven touchdowns to help lead the Mustangs to their first state title in school history.

Rigdon ran for 255 yards on 10 carries, 7 touchdowns and threw for 88 yards on 2 pass attempts and one touchdown pass. Benjamin's offense was too much for the Bulldogs the entire game,

but the Mustangs defense was the difference in the game as they made key stops and turnovers when it mattered.

Loraine jumped out to an early lead in the first quarter going up 14-8 thanks to a pair of rushing touchdowns by AJ Williams, but Rigdon and the Mustangs dominated from that point on.

The Mustangs would end the game in the third quarter on a 45-point mercy rule in six-man football. Rigdon scored two rushing touchdowns to start the third quarter but sealed the win for Benjamin when he connected with John Wollfarth on a 49-yard touchdown pass to end the game.

WESTBROOK WILDCATS 69 ABBOTT PANTHERS 24

ARLINGTON – Last year, the Westbrook Wildcats played a hard-fought tight game against the May Tigers to secure its first ever state title. This time around the Wildcats left no doubt who the best 1A team in Division I is.

On Wednesday afternoon, Westbrook dominated from start to finish to repeat as state champions as the Wildcats cruised to a 69-24 win over the Abbott Panthers at AT&T Stadium.

Westbrook's offense was relentless, but the defensive effort by the Wildcats is what helped them secured their second state title. The Wildcats defense held the Panthers to 125 yards of total offense.

Westbrook's Cedric Ware scored five touchdowns to help lead the Wildcats to its second football state championship. On offense, Ware rushed for 142 yards on 14 carries, four touchdowns and had a 34-yard TD pass as a receiver.

Cedric Ware also led Westbrook's defense as he finished the game with eight tackles and a tackle for loss on defense. The Wildcats mercy ruled the Panthers in the fourth quarter thanks to a 13-yard touchdown run by Ware with a little over 8 minutes left in the game.

Big Spring Little League to host board meeting Tuesday

Special to the Herald

Big Spring Little League will have a board meeting Tuesday Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. at Pizza Inn. The meeting will look to elect new officers for the board. If you are wanting to become a member of the Big Spring Little League Board then please feel free to show up to the meeting.

Mitchell leads Cavs to 105-90 win over 2022 playoff foe Mavs

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Donovan Mitchell said he was thankful, in a strange way, for the playoff loss to Dallas last season because it helped send him to Cleveland.

The smile said there might have been a bit more adrenaline flowing for the first meeting since then.

Mitchell scored 34 points facing Luka Doncic and the Mavericks for the first time since his final game with Utah last April, and the Cavaliers rolled to a 105-90 victory Wednesday night.

The Jazz lost to Dallas 98-96 at home in Game 6 of the first round in the Western Conference, then Mitchell switched to the East as the centerpiece of a blockbuster offseason trade that vaulted the Cavaliers into the conversation of title contenders.

"It could have been anybody," Mitchell said. "I think for me it's just understanding at the end of the day, they're kind of the reason I'm in Cleveland. So I'm thankful I'm here. I'm glad to be here."

Cleveland had slipped a bit after a strong start, thanks in part to eight losses in the past nine road games, including a surprising defeat at San Antonio to start a two-game Texas swing.

The Cavs found a fix with a 17-0 run in the first half, and now gear up for a season-high six in a row at home, where they are 12-2, starting with Indiana before seeing Dallas again Saturday.

"What we do, when we do it right, travels," Cleveland coach J.B. Bickerstaff said. "Defense goes everywhere. With us, our defense sets the tone for everything else we do."

Doncic scored 30 points and had the Mavericks within nine late in the third quarter and midway through the fourth.

Mitchell answered Dallas' fourth-quarter surge with a 3-pointer, and the Cavs led by at least 10 the rest of the way.

Mitchell was 13 of 20 overall and 6 of 9 from 3 as the Cavs shot 53%.

Lamar Stevens scored 18 points and was part of a strong defensive half that limited Doncic to 4-of-13 shooting as Dallas shot 35% and trailed by 19 before the break against one of the NBA's best defenses.

"You could look at the subs. You could look at a lot of things," Dallas coach Jason Kidd said. "I just think that we just couldn't get in sync. We just couldn't put the ball in the basket."

Cleveland big men Jarrett Allen and Evan Mobley had 14 points apiece and limited Doncic's ability to get to the rim, a key facet for the NBA's scoring leader.

"They have a pretty big team," said Doncic, who finished 9 of 23 and was held below his averages with five rebounds and six assists. "And a great team."

Christian Wood scored 20 points for Dallas.

COUNT TO FIVE

Darius Garland, who scored 12 points, finished the third quarter with three free throws to get Cleveland's lead back to 15. The third freebie was a technical because Dallas had four players on the court coming out of a timeout used for an unsuccessful challenge on Doncic's foul of Garland.

TIP-INS

Cavaliers: Cleveland had four consecutive road wins as part of an 8-1 start. Five straight road losses followed. ... Caris LeVert scored 11 of the Cavs' 13 bench points as Cleveland went just eight deep before emptying the bench in the final two minutes. ... Mobley had seven rebounds and six assists.

Mavericks: G Josh Green missed a third consecutive game with a right elbow sprain, and F Maxi Kleber was out for the second time in three games. Kleber had a sprained right knee this time after right foot soreness kept him out Saturday at Chicago. ... Doncic set a franchise record with a 35th consecutive game with at least 20 points.

NFL kicks off Inspire Change weeks with 5 new grants

NEW YORK (AP) — The NFL has awarded through its Inspire Change social justice initiative five new national grants to organizations focused on police and community relations.

The recipients were announced Thursday as the league will highlight its commitment to social justice over the next two weeks with each team participating in game-day stadium activations and awareness.

The five new national grant partners are: Atlanta Policing Alternatives & Diversion Initiative (PAD), Chicago's Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement (CARE) Co-Responder Program, Choose 180, Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services Community Assistance and Life Liaison Program (CALL), and Peace for DC.

"Focusing on building police and community relations is where real change and impact will be created community by community," said former NFL linebacker Takeo Spikes, a Players Coalition Advocate and Executive Task Force Member.

The NFL has provided more than \$244 million to more than 40 national grant partners and more than 600 grassroots organizations across the country since 2017.

The league is already approaching its 10-year, \$250 million commitment to social justice efforts.

The five new national grant partners received a total of \$950,000. They were recently approved by the Social Justice Working Group, comprised of three active players, three former players and five team owners.

"It's awesome because everybody who sits in that room or everybody who has a seat at the table, we all have vested interest," Spikes said.

"And that vested interest is making sure not only that the communities are being serviced the way that they're supposed to, because we understand that we all have seats in these communities, but more than anything, it's our way of being able to give back and do something that's going to be monumental by having diverse people at the table that come from different backgrounds, different ethnicities."

"But we have one common goal, and that is to make sure that people are treated properly and to provide resources."

The league this year also introduced the Inspire Change Changemaker Award, given to 32 individuals, one from each team, who are making a difference in their communities through social justice work, either individually or as part of a nonprofit organization.

Each Changemaker will be announced or recognized during Weeks 15 and 16 by their respective club.

"The significance is huge," Spikes said. "By being able to get this award implemented now, people across the nation will see that guys care about so much outside of the game and they're making their investment back into the game, into the community."

All 32 recipients will receive a \$10,000 donation, courtesy of the NFL Foundation, to the social justice nonprofit organization of their choice.

Submit local sports scores, stories, and photos to sports@bigspringherald.com

HOLIDAY COLORING CONTEST



Ages 3-6

Name _____

Age _____

Phone # _____



Ages 7-12

Name _____

Age _____

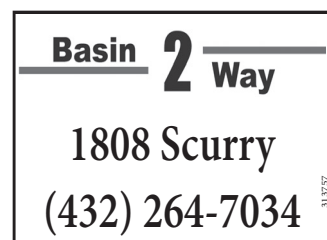
Phone # _____



COLORING CONTEST RULES

1. Contest open to children ages 3-12
2. Limit one contest submission per person
3. Contest entries may be completed using markers, crayons, or colored pencils.
4. Adults may assist in completing entry form information, but NOT in coloring pictures.
5. All entries must be received by the Big Spring Herald by 9 am on Monday, December 19, 2022. Winners will be published in the Wednesday, December 21, 2022 edition.
7. Decision of judges is final.
8. Employees of the Big Spring Herald and contest sponsors are not eligible to win.
9. All submissions become property of the Big Spring Herald and may be published accordingly.

**Prizes Awarded
To Each Age Group**



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This entry form must be received by Monday, December 19th at 5 p.m. Drop off your form at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. The winner will be the one who correctly matches the most Santas to his business/workshop. Gift certificates will be given away to use at the participating businesses. Winners will be announced in the Wednesday, December 21st Edition of the Big Spring Herald!

All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald

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Homemade for the Holidays

A Keepsake Recipe Collection

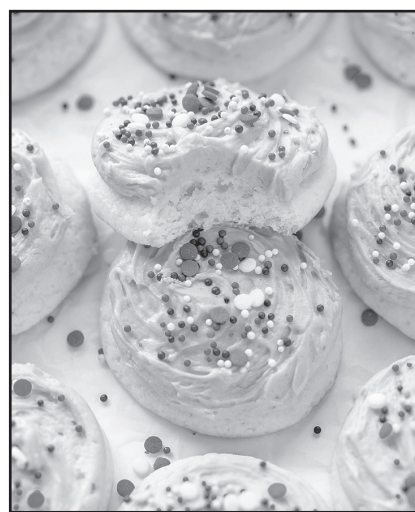
Recipe Corner

Bake up a sweet holiday treat

Entertaining is a big part of
the holiday season. Calendars
are packed this time of year with
gatherings with friends, family and
professional colleagues.

Entertaining requires keeping
plenty of refreshments on hand to
ensure guests maintain their holiday
spirit. Dessert is no stranger to the
season, with office break rooms,
dining tables and buffet stations
brimming with sweet treats to
tempt celebrants' palates. Everyone
should have a go-to dessert to bring
along to a holiday party or to offer
guests when hosting their own fêtes.
Cookies are a standard due to their
versatility and portability.

Festive "Sour Cream Cookies"
provide all of the holiday feels and
can be customized in color to reflect
celebrations of Christmas, Chanu-
kah, Kwanzaa, or New Year's. Bake
up a batch, courtesy of "Live Well
Bake Cookies" (Rock Point) by
Danielle Rye.



**Sour Cream Cookies
Makes 22 cookies**

1/2 cups all-purpose flour, spooned
and leveled
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter,
softened
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1 large egg, at room temperature
1/2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
1/2 cup sour cream, at room tempera-
ture

Vanilla Buttercream Frosting

1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter,
softened
1/2 cups powdered sugar
1 tablespoon heavy whipping cream
or milk
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
Gel food coloring (optional)

1. To make the cookies: Preheat the
oven to 350 F. Line two large bak-
ing sheets with parchment paper or
silicone baking mats and set aside.

2. In a large mixing bowl, whisk
together the flour, baking powder and
salt until well combined. Set aside.

3. In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted
with the paddle attachment or in a
large mixing bowl using a handheld
mixer, beat the butter and granulated
sugar together for 1 to 2 minutes, or
until well combined.

4. Mix in the egg and vanilla extract
until fully combined, making sure to
stop and scrape down the sides of the
bowl as needed.

5. Mix in the dry ingredients in two
additions, alternating with the sour
cream. Make sure to mix in each addi-
tion until just combined, and be careful
not to overmix the batter.

6. Using a 1/2-tablespoon cookie
scoop, scoop the cookie dough onto
the prepared baking sheets, making
sure to leave a little room between
each one.

7. Bake for 14 to 16 minutes, or until
the tops of the cookies are set and
spring back when touched lightly. Re-
move from the oven, and allow to cool
on the baking sheets for 10 minutes,
then carefully transfer the cookies to a
wire rack to cool completely.

8. To make the vanilla buttercream
frosting: In the bowl of a stand mixer
fitted with the whisk attachment or in
a large mixing bowl using a handheld
mixer, beat the butter for 1 to 2 min-
utes, or until smooth. Add the pow-
dered sugar, 1/2 cup at a time, mixing
in each addition until well combined.

9. Add the heavy whipping cream,
vanilla extract, and gel food coloring (if
using), and continue mixing until fully
combined.

10. Once the cookies have cooled
completely, spread the frosting on top
of the cookies.

11. Store the cookies in an airtight
container at room temperature or in
the refrigerator for up to 4 days.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

With a little bit of luck

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ J 7 3 2
♥ A Q 10
♦ J 8
♣ A K 7 2

WEST

♠ 9
♥ K 7 6 4 2
♦ 9 4 3
♣ J 10 5 4

EAST

♠ A 6 5
♥ J 8
♦ Q 10 7 6 5 2
♣ 8 6

SOUTH

♠ K Q 10 8 4
♥ 9 5 3
♦ A K
♣ Q 9 3

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 NT	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	5 ♠

Opening lead — four of hearts.

Skill is not the only factor that
pays off in bridge. There is also the
luck factor, and there are times
when the wrong bid or play pays a
handsome dividend, while the right
bid or play proves disastrous.

For example, take this deal from
the 1975 U.S.-Italy match. Bob
Hamman and Bobby Wolff were
North-South for the U.S. at the
first table and reached five spades
as shown, avoiding a slam that had
about a 30 percent chance of suc-

cess.

At the second table, the Italian
North-South pair reached six
spades on this sequence:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 NT	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	6 ♠

The opening lead at each table
was a low heart, and both declarers
successfully finessed the queen.
They then led a low trump to the
queen, followed by a low trump to
the jack. East took the ace and
returned the jack of hearts to dum-
my's ace.

The rest of the play at both tables
was pretty much the same. Each
declarer played two more rounds of
trump and cashed the K-A of dia-
monds, producing this position:

North	West	East
♥ 10	♥ K	Immaterial
♣ A K 7 2	♣ J 10 5 4	
	South	
	♠ 8	
	♥ 9	
	♣ Q 9 3	

When South next led the spade
eight, West was squeezed. So at
both tables declarer made six, but
the U.S. scored 480 points while
Italy scored 980. In bridge, virtue
does not always triumph.



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SATURDAY

DEC. 17

Table with 30 columns (channel numbers) and 24 rows (time slots from 5:30 AM to 4:30 AM). Each cell contains program details including channel, time, program name, and notes.



Today in History...

Today is Friday, Dec. 16, the 350th day of 2022. There are 15 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 16, 1944, the World War II Battle of the Bulge began as German forces launched a surprise attack against Allied forces through the Ardennes Forest in Belgium and Luxembourg (the Allies were eventually able to turn the Germans back).

On this date:

In 1653, Oliver Cromwell became lord protector of England, Scotland and Ireland.

In 1773, the Boston Tea Party took place as American colonists boarded a British ship and dumped more than 300 chests of tea into Boston Harbor to protest tea taxes.

In 1907, 16 U.S. Navy battleships, which came to be known as the "Great White Fleet," set sail on a 14-month round-the-world voyage to demonstrate American sea power.

In 1950, President Harry S. Truman proclaimed a national state of emergency in order to fight "world conquest by Communist imperialism."

In 1960, 134 people were killed when a United Air Lines DC-8 and a TWA Super Constellation collided over New York City.

In 1991, the U.N. General Assembly rescinded its 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism by a vote of 111-25.

In 2000, President-elect George W. Bush selected Colin Powell to become the first African-American secretary of state.

In 2001, after nine weeks of fighting, Afghan militia leaders claimed control of the last mountain

bastion of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida fighters, but bin Laden himself was nowhere to be seen.

In 2011, in San Francisco, eight years of being investigated for steroid allegations ended for home run king Barry Bonds with a 30-day sentence to be served at home. (Bonds never served the sentence; his conviction for obstruction of justice was overturned.)

In 2014, Taliban gunmen stormed a military-run school in the northwestern Pakistan city of Peshawar, killing at least 148 people, mostly children.

In 2019, House Democrats laid out their first impeachment case against President Donald Trump; a sweeping report from the House Judiciary Committee said Trump had "betrayed the Nation by abusing his high office to enlist a foreign power in corrupting democratic elections."

In 2020, the first COVID-19 vaccinations were underway at U.S. nursing homes, where the virus had killed 110,000 people. Tyson Foods said it had fired seven top managers at its largest pork plant after an investigation confirmed allegations that they had wagered on how many workers at the plant in Iowa would test positive for the coronavirus. (An outbreak centered around the plant infected more than 1,000 employees, at least six of whom died.)

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama visited Newtown, Connecticut, the scene of the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre; after meeting privately with victims' families, the president told an evening vigil he would use "whatever power" he had to prevent future shootings. A 23-year-old woman was brutally raped and beaten on a bus in New Delhi, a crime that triggered widespread protests in India. (The woman died 13 days later.)

Five years ago: Two female couples tied the knot in Australia's first same-sex weddings under new

legislation allowing gay marriages.

One year ago: U.S. health officials said most Americans should get the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines instead of the Johnson & Johnson shot; the decision came after government advisers reviewed new safety data about rare but potentially life-threatening blood clots linked to J&J's shot. A federal judge rejected OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma's sweeping deal to settle thousands of lawsuits over the toll of opioids; the judge found flaws in the way the bankruptcy settlement protected members of the Sackler family who owned the company from lawsuits. The last 12 hostages from a U.S.-based missionary group who were kidnapped and held for ransom in Haiti were freed and were flown out of the country following a two-month ordeal; five others had been released earlier. Urban Meyer's tumultuous NFL tenure ended after just 13 games — and two victories — when the Jacksonville Jaguars fired him because of an accumulation of missteps.

Today's Birthdays: Civil rights attorney and co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center Morris Dees is 86. Actor Joyce Bulifant is 85. Actor Liv Ullmann is 84. CBS news correspondent Lesley Stahl is 81. Pop musician Tony Hicks (The Hollies) is 77. Pop singer Benny Andersson (ABBA) is 76. Rock singer-musician Billy Gibbons (ZZ Top) is 73. Rock musician Bill Bateman (The Blasters) is 71. Actor Xander Berkeley is 67. Actor Alison LaPlaca is 63. Actor Sam Robards is 61. Actor Jon Tenney is 61. Actor Benjamin Bratt is 59. Actor-comedian JB Smoove is 57. Actor Miranda Otto is 55. Actor Daniel Cosgrove is 52. R&B singer Michael McCary is 51. Actor Jonathan Scarfe is 47. Actor Krysten Ritter is 41. Actor Zoe Jarman is 40. Country musician Chris Scruggs is 40. Actor Theo James is 38. Actor Amanda Setton is 37. Rock musician Dave Rublin (American Authors) is 36. Actor Hallee Hirsh is 35. Actor Anna Popplewell is 34. Actor Stephan James is 29.

Horoscopes By Holiday

FRIDAY
DECEMBER 16, 2022

Venus Power Play

As Venus catches her stride in Capricorn, we are becoming increasingly attracted to the very things that will bring us more agency over our lives. Our eyes will be opened to points of leverage, needs and wants of others, and the grand interplay of social mechanics. There is always a way to get what you want if you are willing to do what it takes.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You've been in those positions where it was important to look busy, but you much prefer to actually (SET ITAL) be (END ITAL) busy instead. Doing nothing is a good look for you too. If you need an excuse, tell everyone you're pausing for perspective.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It may happen that a friend's well-meant but terrible advice leaves you wondering why you bother to share. That same friend has been known to come through for you though... so don't put too much importance on any one act.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Fun and productivity sometimes go hand-in-hand, but not always. The thing is to focus. You could laugh and have a good time while making sure that everyone has a common goal that everyone keeps it in mind.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). What is actionable? Where are the points of leverage? Instead of shy-

ing away from it you should be chasing it. Follow the beams to see where they lead. You have nothing to fear now: your aim is true.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Every decision has consequences. And though the effects of a choice may be slight indeed, you're paying attention today and you'll pick up on the little things that could add up to a big difference in the end.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You trust humanity and believe better angels will prevail. Even if you get burned walking on the sunny side, you'd rather be an optimistic fool than an accurate cynic any day of the week.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Much of your time is spent making sure everything runs smoothly for those around you. Take a step back and ask yourself where you fit in. Assess how you feel and how happy you are with everything that is going on.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll sync up to those around you, physically matching their pacing and movements. They relax and open up to you. You'll also be a key part of some amazing teamwork.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You like to have company, but only when you're in control of the schedule and flow. Stretches of solitude will let you concentrate on what you need to accomplish. Your solo work will be satisfying and lucrative.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-

Jan. 19). This is no time to deflect attention out of modesty or spread around the credit that rightly belongs to you. Show that you're confident now because if you don't you might receive less opportunity and money than you deserve.

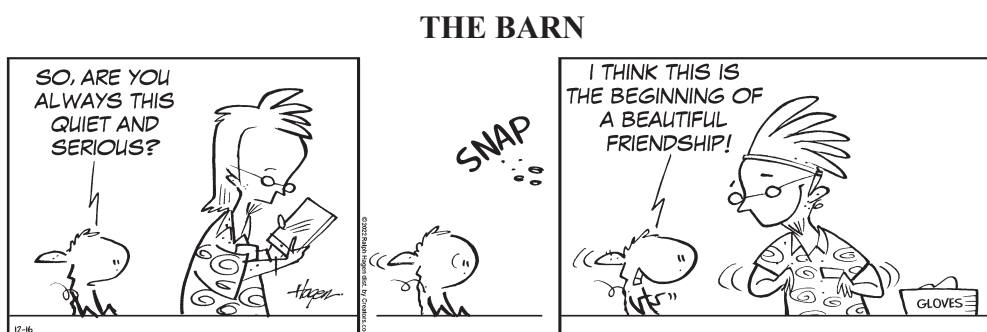
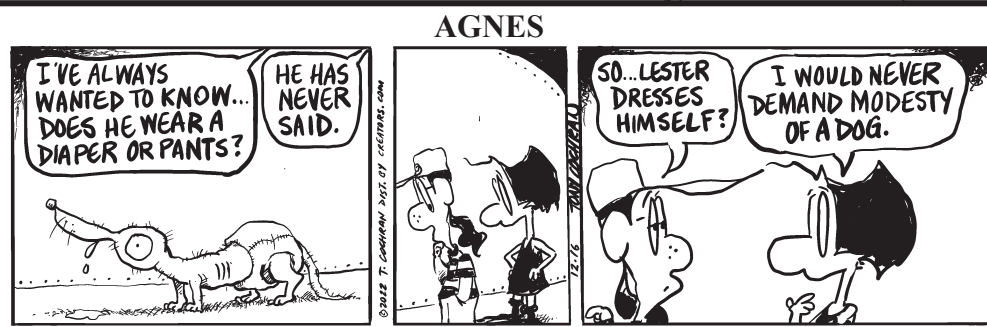
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Some habits are so much a part of daily life that you don't even think of them as behaviors; rather, they are just "you doing you." But you're changing. You might decide that a certain habit is unnecessary and do away with it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you can't communicate with others, working and/or creating with them will be a joyless process. So, you commit to learning about the various people in your mix so you can build a rapport and thrive together.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 16). Your studies get more specific, and you'll delight in a niche expertise. You'll attract attention for all the right reasons, and it will feel good to be applauded. More excitement: An adventure with a loved one and a new chapter in your personal life and a creative development that leads to a financial breakthrough. Cancer and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 34, 1, 22 and 13.

Write Holiday Mathis at
HolidayMathis.com.

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Newsday Crossword

NOTABLES by Chris Gross
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 *New Today* cohost in 2018
 - 5 Shortened form, for short
 - 9 Something tendered
 - 14 Texter's intro
 - 15 Liz Truss, for one
 - 16 Actress Watts
 - 17 Gaming novice
 - 18 Pronounced
 - 19 Evenly matched
 - 20 English horns and bassoons
 - 23 Tell it like it isn't
 - 24 Designation for all gasoline since '96
 - 25 Underhanded
 - 26 Yakked at length
 - 29 LDS HQ
 - 31 Former airline to Kona
 - 32 Dairies
 - 38 Lodge letters
 - 39 Explorers' org.
 - 40 Glittery mineral
 - 41 Weather-dependent illumination
 - 44 Are fluent in
 - 45 Capital of Delaware
 - 46 Some babysitters
 - 47 USMC rank
 - 50 Certain leathers
 - 55 Poor Richard's preposition
 - 56 Counting backward
 - 60 Former First Daughter
 - 62 Ex of Julia
 - 63 "Understood"
 - 64 At the ready
 - 65 Each

- 66 Periodical for women
 - 67 What the four longest Across answers each have two parts of
 - 68 Subject to analysis
 - 69 Didn't keep a secret
- DOWN**
- 1 Benevolent
 - 2 Melville novel
 - 3 Grand, for short
 - 4 Ballpark souvenir
 - 5 Mystified
 - 6 Advisory group
 - 7 Short-winded
 - 8 U-Haul rival
 - 9 What it's usually best to be
 - 10 URL with answers
 - 11 Hoops infractions
 - 12 Net notes
 - 13 "The Hoosier Poet"
 - 21 Mother of Castor and Pollux
 - 22 Spot for a blotter
 - 26 Verbal criticism
 - 27 Purina sister brand
 - 28 Australian export
 - 30 Freshman fare
 - 32 Typical hedge fund hire
 - 33 Ideology ender
 - 34 Once around
 - 35 Nothing, in Nice
 - 36 Exam with many biology questions
 - 37 Upscale retail chain
 - 42 Impediment to progress
 - 43 Fifth-century pope
 - 44 Sent out a tweet
 - 47 *Dinero* for *ocho* countries
 - 48 A euro predecessor
 - 49 Sporting ball basket
 - 51 Ceremonial splendor
 - 52 Webcam app
 - 53 Tonne fractions
 - 54 Feckless
 - 57 Third-northernmost national capital
 - 58 All right
 - 59 It might be pressing
 - 61 Falstaff pal

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	33	34			35	36	37
38						39				40		
41				42	43					44		
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47	48	49		50		51	52	53	54			
55				56						57	58	59
60			61			62				63		
64						65				66		
67						68				69		

SUDOKU

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

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

D	T	O	L	E	S	T	E	S	C	A	L	E					
L	T	E	P	O	P	A	R	I	N	O							
E	E	L	S	E	A	H	A	L	E								
N	O	W	N	E	R	E	T	I	C	K	I	N	G	D	O	W	N
P	F	C	D	O	E	S	K	I	N	S							
S	I	N	A	U	N	T	S										
K	A	S	P	E	A	K											
A	M	I	C	A													
S	A	R	M	S													
J	A	M	E	D													
L	A	S	L	C													
L	E	A	D	F	R	E											
L	I	E															
L	D	O	B	L	E	R	E	S									
L	E	Q	U	A	L												
I	M	O	A	O	M	I											
F	E	R	O	F	F	E											

Today's Answers

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

The Two Sides of Christmas

Something to think about...

There are two sides to Christmas. It is a season of light and laughter, food and fellowship, friends and family, celebration and joy.

But, it can also be a time of frustration and difficulty, separation and sadness, a time of loss and mourning for so many. I'm not trying to be a downer, but not everyone looks forward to this time of year. Some are just trying to get through it. And not every child is excited about meeting Santa, either. I mean, we tell our kids to never talk to strangers, and then we take them some strange place and tell them to sit on the lap of a weird guy with a white beard wearing red pajamas who supposedly wants to give them some presents and candy. I would probably be a little uneasy about the whole scenario too! (I'm not against Santa, it is just funny if you stop to



RICHARD SCHNEBERGER

really think about it.) There really are two sides to the Christmas season.

Many are dealing with more than a little frustration and grumpiness, but they truly encounter darkness, depression, and despair this time of year.

Have you ever been depressed at Christmas? You're not alone. The National Institute of Health reports that this time of year is one of the highest for reports of depression, attempted suicide and suicide.

One survey reported that nearly 50 percent of people actually dread the holidays.

In the light of those idealistic images that are so prevalent this time of year, it only seems to heighten the sense of our own inadequacies, loss, brokenness, and unfulfilled expectations.

There is a sadness that many experience in this season of joy.

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone

around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid.'

I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'" ~ Luke 2:8-12

How do we receive, recover, and retain real joy as we journey through this dark and difficult world?

I think we need to realize that the enemy is after our joy.

He is going to put joy suckers in your life to try and suck you dry. There will also be obstacles and frustrations in your way each day.

We will all face some deep, dark valleys in this life and the enemy will whisper in our ear, "You're all alone."

No one cares about you. You are unloved and abandoned."

He will do everything to try to get your focus off of Christ and onto that crisis. He will magnify problems in your life to minimize your praise.

When we understand satan's schemes, we don't have to so easily get sucked into the black hole of negativity. Instead, we can redirect our focus.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" ~ Philippians 4:4

We intentionally choose joy!

It is a choice to rejoice. When we choose to praise Him and focus on Him, I believe He restores our joy.

Look at the word itself. Joy in Hebrew is Samach, which means to rejoice, be joyful, be glad.

We choose to rejoice, to worship, to praise God, why? Because we recognize that the Lord is near.

The enemy is a liar. We don't have to face that situation alone.

We're not defeated. We are victorious. We are more than conquerors in Christ, so we chose to focus on Him and rejoice.

"Joy is the settled assurance that God is in control, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything is going to be alright, and the determined choice to praise God in every situation." ~ Kay Warren

Bethlehem welcomes Christmas tourists

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (AP) — Business is bouncing back in Bethlehem after two years in the doldrums during the coronavirus pandemic, lifting spirits in the traditional birthplace of Jesus ahead of the Christmas holiday.

Streets are bustling with tour groups. Hotels are fully booked, and months of deadly Israeli-Palestinian fighting appears to be having little effect on the vital tourism industry.

Elias Arja, head of the Bethlehem hotel association, said that tourists are hungry to visit the Holy Land's religious sites after suffering through lockdowns and travel restrictions in recent years. He expects the rebound to continue into next year.

"We expect that 2023 will be booming and business will be excellent because the whole world, and Christian religious tourists especially, they all want to return to the Holy Land," said Arja, who owns the Bethlehem Hotel.

On a recent day, dozens of groups from virtually every continent posed for selfies in front of the Church of the Nativity, built on the grotto where Christians believe Jesus was born. A giant Christmas tree sparkled in the adjacent Manger Square, and tourists packed into shops to buy olive wood crosses and other souvenirs.

Christmas is normally peak season for tourism in Bethlehem, located in the Israeli-occupied West Bank just a few miles southeast of Jerusalem. In pre-pandemic times, thousands of pilgrims and tourists from around the world came to celebrate.

But those numbers plummeted during the pandemic. Although tourism hasn't fully recovered, the hordes of visitors are a welcome improvement and encouraging sign.

"The city became a city of ghosts," said Saliba Nisan, standing next to a manger scene about 1.3 meters (4 feet) wide inside the Bethlehem New Store, the olive wood factory he co-owns with his brother. The shop was filled with Americans on a bus tour.

Since the Palestinians don't have their own airport, most international visitors come via Israel. The Israeli Tourism Ministry is expecting some 120,000 Christian tourists during the week of Christmas.

That compares to its all-time high of about 150,000 visitors in 2019, but is far better than last year, when the country's skies were closed to most international visitors. As it has done in the past, the ministry plans to offer special shuttle buses between Jerusalem and Bethlehem on Christmas Eve to help visitors go back and forth.

"God willing, we will go back this year to where things were before the coronavirus, and be even better," said Bethlehem's mayor, Hanna Hanania.

He said about 15,000 people attended the recent lighting of Bethlehem's Christmas tree, and that international delegations, artists and singers are all expected to participate in celebrations this year.

"Recovery has begun significantly," he said, though he said the recent violence, and Israel's ongoing occupation of the West Bank, always have some influence on tourism.

Israel captured the West Bank in the 1967 Mideast war. The internationally recognized Palestinian Authority has limited autonomy in parts of the territory, including Bethlehem.

The Christmas season comes at the end of a bloody year in the Holy Land. Some 150 Palestinians and 31 Israelis have been killed in Israeli-Palestinian fighting in the West Bank and east Jerusalem this year, according to official figures, making 2022 the deadliest year since 2006. Israel says most of the Palestinians killed were militants, but stone-throwing youths and some people not involved in the violence have also been killed.

The fighting, largely concentrated in the northern West Bank, reached the Bethlehem area earlier this month, when the Israeli army killed a teenager in the nearby Deheishe refugee camp. Palestinians held a one-day strike across Bethlehem to protest the killing.

Residents, however, seem determined not to allow the fighting to put a damper on the Christmas cheer.

Bassem Giacaman, the third-generation owner of the Blessing Gift Shop, founded in 1925 by his grandfather, said the pandemic was far more devastating to his business than violence and political tensions.

Covered in sawdust from carving olive-wood figurines, jewelry and religious symbols, he said it will take him years to recover. He once had 10 people working for him. Today, he employs half that number, sometimes less, depending on demand.

"The political (situation) does affect, but nothing major," Giacaman said. "We've had it for 60-70 years, and it goes on for a month, then it stops, and tourists come back again."

Cast Minute Gift Guide



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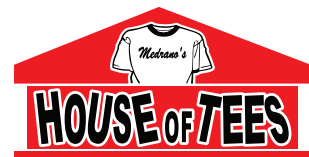
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