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# BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY EDITION,  
 JANUARY 22, 2021

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VOLUME 116, NUMBER 106 COPYRIGHT 2021 75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND EDITION



## BSPD investigated alleged kidnapping, and a reported shooting Thursday

**Editor's Note:**  
 The Big Spring Police Department issued a series of press releases Thursday afternoon. All of the press release are printed below. It is important to note the suspected kidnapping investigation resulted in the missing party being located and was found not to be a kidnapping. The BSPD issued the release announcing Abilene Mojica has been found and not kidnapped around 3 p.m. Thursday. You can read the press releases below:

Hispanic Female 38 years of age, had been forcefully kidnapped by Angel Hinojosa Hispanic male 23 years of age. Witnesses stated that Mojica was forced into a black in color, Cadillac sedan with the first three letters of the license plate possibly "KNP". If anyone observes this vehicle, we are asking them to not approach the vehicle or anyone around it, but to immediately call the Big Spring Police Department at 432-264-2550 or their nearest law enforcement agency.  
 A CLEAR alert is currently being sought through Department of Public Safety.  
 Abilene Mojica is described

as a Hispanic female 38 years of age ,5'4" 130 pounds, last seen wearing black sweat pants and a white sweat shirt with black sleeves.  
 The Big Spring Police Department Criminal Investigations Division is seeking an arrest warrant for Angel Hinojosa for kidnapping.  
 This incident is still being investigated by the Big Spring Police Department Criminal Investigations Division and no further information is available at this time.  
 At around 3 p.m. Thursday, the BSPD issued a follow up to the original press release stating the alleged kidnap victim had been found. The press release read as follows:  
 Abilene Mojica has been located. Detectives met with Mojica and she has assured

she was not kidnapped. The missing/endangered status on Mojica is being removed. The Big Spring Police Department thanks our citizens for their assistance.  
 In addition, the Big Spring Police Department issued a press release regarding a shooting at Barcelona Apartments on Thursday. The press release reads as follows:  
 On Jan. 21, 2021, at approximately 9:30 a.m., Big Spring Police Department officers and Big Spring Fire/EMS were dispatched to Barcelona Apartments (538 Westover) in reference to a gunshot victim.  
 Upon arrival officers were able to secure the scene finding Terrance Ali Young, a black male, 32 years of age, with a gunshot wound to the abdomen. Big Spring Fire/

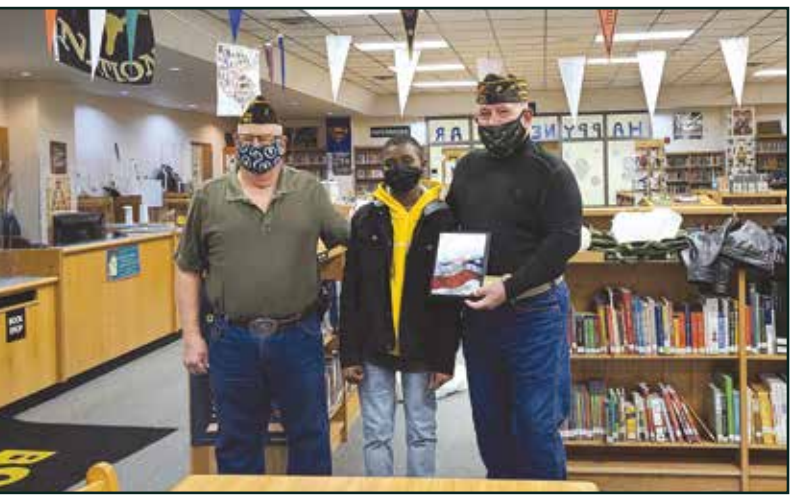


**Special to the Herald**  
 BSPD  
 On Jan. 21 2021 at approximately 7 a.m., Big Spring Police Department officers were dispatched to the 1400 block of Mesa in reference to a domestic disturbance.  
 Upon arrival, officers were advised that Abilene Mojica

- Upcoming Events**
- Silver Wings Ball**  
 The Club at Silver Hills  
 Jan. 30  
 5:30 p.m. cocktails  
 6:45 p.m. Dinner
  - Big Spring Chamber Banquet and Business Expo**  
 Feb. 11  
 1:30 p.m.  
 Virtual event
  - E-waste Recycling event**  
 Saturday  
 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
 or until truck fills

## Richards, Morales announced as Patriot Pen Contest winners

VFW Post 2013 hosts the contest on an annual basis - winners advance to district competition



HERALD photos/Amanda Duforat  
 Pictured above is Second Place winner Jace Richards and pictured below is First Place Winner Kaitlyn Morales.



**By AMANDA DUFORAT**  
 Managing Editor  
 What Patriotism means to me?  
 That was the theme for the most recent Patriot Pen Contest, which is hosted by VFW Post 2013 in Big Spring. Recently, the Post awarded the First and Second Place winners to Big Spring Junior High students. The 2020 Second Place winner was Jace Richards and the First Place winner was Kaitlyn Morales.  
 "Your attention to detail was very impressive, and it was a tough choice. All of the essays were outstanding," David Leonard, with VFW Post 2013, said.  
 Big Spring Junior High students have been

taking part in this essay contest for many years now. The partnership between the VFW and the BSJH is one of importance in helping the youth keep appreciation for the contributions veterans have made and continue to make.  
 "We continue to have our students take part in these contests because we want them to know how important it is, and instill appreciation for what they have done for us," Becky Otto, Big Spring Junior High Principal, said.  
 The applications were distributed to the area youth last August with this year's theme announced. According to Leonard, Big Spring Junior High is the only school who had submissions to the contest. The Seventh Grade students at the junior high took part in the contest as part of their history classes. More than 250 students submitted an essay.  
 "We are proud of the students and you should be proud of the students and your school," Leonard said during the award presentation at the junior high. "I am proud of all of you."  
 During the presentation, Richards and Morales both had their essays read to the small group of students and faculty who attended the presentation. Each essay focused on the sacrifice veterans make for their country and the pride that is displayed for their country. The importance of patriotism was well reflected in each of the essays.  
 The two essays will be submitted to the next level of competition, with winners to be announced at a later date.

## BSPD makes arrest in vehicle pursuit



**Roberto Dutchover Perez Jr.**  
**Special to the Herald**  
 On Jan. 20, 2021 at approximately 5 p.m., a Big Spring Police Department Police Officer attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a Black Pontiac G6 passenger car in the 100 block of E. 4th. The driver of the vehicle refused to stop for the officer and accelerated in an attempt to evade the officer.  
 The vehicle continued eastbound to Birdwell then northbound on N. Birdwell, then turning westbound on the south service road of IH 20. Officers continued to pursue the driver on the north side of town which came to a stop in the 100 block of NW 9th.  
 The driver, Roberto Dutchover Perez Jr. Hispanic Male, 34 years of age, was immediately arrested for Evading a Vehicle. Perez was also found to be in possession of Marijuana less than two ounces and found to have a warrant for his arrest for Motion to Revoke Probation original charge was Possession of a Controlled Substance.

Wash your hands, wear a mask, social distance when possible - help slow the spread.  
 Share your story ideas, suggestions, community events and more with us at editor@bigspringherald.com

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## Obituaries



### Chon Garcia Jr.

Chon Garcia, Jr., 52, of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 18, 2021. Memorial grave side services at will be held at a later date at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Chon was born Aug. 6, 1968, in Big Spring.

He is survived by one sister: Rosie Garcia Hurt of Kingsland, GA; two nephews; one niece; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Rosa Ortega Garcia and Chon Yanez Garcia, Sr.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

### Viola Norman

Viola Norman, 78, of Big Spring, died Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Take Note

• The City of Big Spring will reopen all indoor rentable facilities as of Monday, February 1, 2021 for normal operations. We still request that individuals holding events and persons attending events adhere to the following: Please wear a mask when not eating or drinking anything; Make sure to wash and/or sanitize your hands regularly; If you are not feeling well, running a fever, or have been exposed please do not attend events.

• All City of Big Spring offices have reopened to the public effective January 19, 2021.

We ask citizens to act responsibly and follow all health precautions and sanitizing guidelines. We strongly recommend that citizens continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, stay home if you're sick, and wear a mask when in public areas.

• West Texas Centers will be hosting the January 2021 Mental Health First Aid training classes twice in January. The classes will be held on Jan. 26, 2021 for Adult Mental Health First Aid, and Jan. 28, 2021 for Youth Mental Health First Aid; adult mental health virtual class will take place Feb. 17 from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.; in-person adult mental health first aid class will take place Feb. 23, at 3205 Hwy 87 from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.; and the final class in the series will take place Feb. 25 from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. virtually.

• A GoFund me page for Ed Flores, who recently tested positive for coronavirus and was recently transferred to Lubbock. Donations are requested to help with medical bills and travel expenses so his wife can be close with him. Ed worked with Shroyer for about 25 years and 87 Auto Sale as a mechanic; he has always been willing to help out people even when they didn't have enough money to pay him. Donations can be made at GoFundMe by Monica Medina. For more information on how to help, e-mail [jessemonica1234@gmail.com](mailto:jessemonica1234@gmail.com) or call 432-517-7675.

• The Howard County Courthouse will only be open by appointment. All doors except the handicapped entrance located on the west side of the building will be locked. All who enter will be screened following Covid guidelines. Face masks are required for all who enter.

• Forsan Food Pantry will be open twice a month from 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. Families who are in need can pull up to the front doors of the Junior High/High School and receive a free box of pre-packed meals. If you have any questions or need to pick up a box at a different time, contact Kaci Wash at 432-457-2223 ext 821 or Jenny Sayles at [jennysales@yahoo.com](mailto:jennysales@yahoo.com).

• Cub Scouts meet Monday from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Naz Family Church, located at 1400 S. Lancaster.

• Howard County Republican Club meets the second Monday of

each month in the Cactus Room at Howard College. The next meeting is Jan. 20 and will be held in the newly renovated Cactus Room. Everyone is welcome. The meeting takes place at Noon. For more information call 432-213-7628.

• A new group named Taking Care of Business has started in Howard County. It is made up of people of all ages and genders who want to be better than they are. The focus of the fledgling organization is to engage in meaningful discussions that promote personal growth. Additionally, the organization will plan and execute worthwhile activities within the community. There is no membership fee and attendance is not taken. The only requirements are that you be positive or want to be more positive than you are, consider yourself to be a good person but want to be better than you are, and that you have a desire to help others be better too. Child-care is available during the discussion time if you let us know. Topics to be avoided include Religion and Politics, though we can dance around them.

Taking Care of Business is being sponsored by the local Masons and it meets in the Masonic Lodge on the court square. It is not necessary that you have any masonic affiliation to participate in this Growth Group. All Covid-19 safety protocols will be followed as defined by local, state, and federal authorities. At this time refreshments will not be served but you are welcome to bring your own and not share. The meetings take place at 219 South Main Big Spring, Texas. For more information write to Colonel.Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com or just come to the meeting.

• The Life Center in Big Spring is helping moms and dads with a Diaper Day Giveaway! Call for a five minute phone appointment and a pickup time for free diapers, wipes and formula. 432-606-5041.

• The Senior Supper Club has come out of hibernation to resume its normal Tuesday evening dinners. The Come-One-Come-All group will be meeting on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and orders will be placed around 5:30 p.m. after much socializing from a distance. The group will be meeting at Dragon China. The Senior Supper Club is an informal group of folks from Howard County who meet at least weekly and sometimes more for Dutch-Treat food at different area restaurants. Sometimes the group also meets for cards, dominoes, or desserts and fellowship. For more information, contact Colonel.Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com.

• St. Vincent de Paul will be open the following dates beginning November 2020. Food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and other assistance will be suspended at this time, but will resume on Dec. 17. Distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building. In December 2020, the food distribution will continue the 2nd Thursday as scheduled. SVDP

will be closed from December 18 through January 7, 2021.

• Permian Basin Multiple Sclerosis Support Group for information, encouragement and support. The group meets monthly on the Second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express at 5321 John Ben Sheppard Parkway, Odessa. If you or someone you know has been touched by MS, or if you are just interested in more information please feel to contact Gary Tidwell at [garylteagle1987@gmail.com](mailto:garylteagle1987@gmail.com).

• 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.

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible? There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

• 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 Norman Witcher at 432-413-6663.

• Home Hospice is looking for volunteers (18+) and junior volunteers (9-16 years old). Applications can be picked up at the Home Hospice office, located at 111 E. Seventh Street, Suite A between 8 a.m and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Adult volunteers will need to complete a training and must be able to pass a background check. Volunteer duties will include home visits; junior volunteers will be helping with office work, community events and holiday activities. More information can be obtained by calling 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

• Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon the first Monday of every month. We meet 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.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **DRAKUS DE'MON ARMSTEAD**, 33, of 538 Westover Road, was arrested on a warrant from other agency, possession of controlled substance between four grams and 200 grams (x4); theft of property greater than or equal to \$100 and less than \$750.

• **ROBERTO DUTCHOVER PEREZ, JR.**, 34, of 201 NE Sixth Street, was arrested on a charge of evading arrest/detention with vehicle or watercraft.

• **RAFAEL TARIN**, 47, of 741 Gibson Lane of Taylor, was arrested on a charge of unauthorized use of motor vehicle.

• **ASSAULT** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd; 700 block of E. 11th Place.

• **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the 500 block of S. Main Street.

• **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 900 block of W. Third.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700.

## Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 88 inmates at the time of this report.

• **DRAKUS DE'MON ARMSTEAD**, 33, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of theft of property between \$100 and \$750; parole violation from manufacture/delivery of controlled substance; possession of controlled substance between 4 grams and 200 grams (3).

• **CHAD AUSTIN DARBY**, 42, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated third or more offense.

• **ROBERTO DUTCHOVER PEREZ JR.**, 34, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of evading arrest detention with vehicle; possession of marijuana less than two ounces; parole violation/possession of controlled substance.

• **RAFAEL TARIN**, 47, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of unauthorized use of vehicle.

## Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and EMS reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of NW 12th St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **PUBLIC SERVICE** was reported in the 600 block of Brian Road. No transport was required.

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

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

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

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported 1200 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

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# Free Residential Electronic Recycling scheduled for Saturday

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

An E-waste recycling program is coming back to Big Spring this Saturday. The Big Spring Free Residential Electronic Recycling will be held at the Big Spring Landfill, located at 4100 E. FM 700, on Saturday, Jan. 23 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. or until the truck fills up.

"It has been a few years since we have been able to have an E-waste program for our citizens. Over the years, the cost of holding one of these recycling events has increased making it harder to bring one to the community; Big Spring is lucky to have one of these programs to help residents get rid of their

electronic waste," Tammy DePauw with Keep Big Spring Beautiful, said.

Residents will be able to take and dispose of the following items, for free: computer and electronic waste, CPU, computers, laptops, power supplies, external and hard drives, chargers, cords and cabling, mouse other misc., computer accessories, keyboards, web cams, televisions, CRT monitors, flat screen monitors; printers, copiers, fax machines – stand alone large floor model copy machines, printers, and scanners; networking and computer data center equipment including servers and cabling, racks, trays and cages, UPS systems, cabling; Electronics and Gaming and Entertainment including cell phones and PDAs, TVs, VCRs,

DVDs, stereos, PlayStation, XBOX, Nintendo, Sega, cameras and digital cameras, chargers, cords and accessories, memory and gaming boards, game boys and electronic games, sound systems, radios.

While electronics will be accepted until the trailer is full, there will not be any paint, light bulbs, alkaline batteries, gasoline, oils or freon items accepted during this collection.

Anyone with questions can reach out to Joan Meeks at 817-300-6958.

*Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.*

## Weather



**Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 58. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming east in the afternoon.

**Tonight:** Patchy fog after 4am. Otherwise, partly cloudy, with a low around 42. East wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Saturday:** Patchy fog before 8am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 67. South wind 5 to 15 mph.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 50.

**Sunday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 71.

**Sunday Night:** A chance of showers, mainly before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 42.

*(Weather courtesy National Weather Service via forecast.weather.gov)*

## Support Groups

each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

### SUNDAY

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

### MONDAY

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

### TUESDAY

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

• 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.

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible? There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings.++ from 6

### 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

## District wide crack seal maintenance set to begin late January

*Contractors set to clean and seal joints on major corridors throughout the district*

ABILENE- On Monday, Jan. 25, 2021, contractors for the Texas Department of Transportation will begin a district-wide crack seal project that spans the entire 13 county district.

D&M Contractors of Van, TX, which was awarded the project for \$ 544,430, will clean and fill cracks along major corridors throughout the district. The entire project is expected to be completed in late February.

The traveling public can expect various lane closures while the work is completed. Signage will be placed in the area to notify drivers of the work zone. A flagger and pilot car will be present to help navigate the traveling public through the work zone. For current roadway conditions, visit drivetexas.org. Know before you go.

## BSPD

Continued from Page 1

EMS immediately entered the scene, but unfortunately, Young had died as a result of his injuries.

The Big Spring Police Department Criminal Investigations Division responded on

scene. The preliminary investigation has found Young had been issued a Criminal Trespass Warning for the apartment earlier in the morning on the 21st and had returned to the apartment where the Criminal Trespass Warning was issued. Young continued to bang on the door at which time a neighbor exited and asked him to leave. An altercation between Young and the neighbor ensued and Young was sub-

sequently shot by the neighbor.

The suspect in this incident has cooperated with detectives, was interviewed and released pending additional investigation. The Department of Public Safety Texas Rangers Division is assisting the Big Spring Police Department. This is an ongoing criminal investigation and no further information is available at this time.

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**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
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Helen Alexander, 93, of Big Spring, died Monday. Graveside services will be held at Greenleaf Cemetery in Brownwood on Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 2:00 PM with Shane Blackshear officiating.

Chon Garcia, Jr., 52, of Big Spring, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Viola Norman, 78, of Big Spring, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

**Alive in Christ**  
Lutheran Church - LCMS

We invite you to join our live streamed Worship Service this Sunday!  
AliveInChrist Facebook Page

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

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

2805 Lynn Dr. (432) 264-7818

## VFW

Continued from Page 1

The VFW Post 2013 will be reaching out to Howard County schools once again in August 2021 with the new essay theme and application process.

*Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.*

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Phone 432-268-VETS (8387)  
Big Spring, Texas 79720-0793  
Fax: 432-268-1987  
managed by Senior Dimensions, Inc., a Member of Sears Methodist Retirement System, Inc.

**God's Work Our Hands**

You began your life in Christ by the Spirit. Now you are trying to make it complete by your own power? That is foolish. (Galatians 3:3)

**Faith**

Love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of judgment, and this shows that his love has not been perfected in us. 1 John 4:18

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF PRAYER

Jesus traveled throughout Galilee teaching in the synagogues, preaching everywhere the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed people who had every kind of sickness and disease. Matthew 4:23

**PATIENCE**

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. I will satisfy them with a long life and give them my salvation. Psalm 91: 14-16

Count Your Blessings

**CHURCH Service DIRECTORY**

This Devotional and Directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

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If you aren't convinced of God's love, how can you love others?

LET LOVE SHINE

As a glove responds to the strength of the hand, so you will respond to the leading of Christ to the point where you say, "I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me." Galatians 2:20

PROVERBS 23:7

Rejoice, you people of Jerusalem! Rejoice in the Lord your God! For the rains he sends are an expression of his grace. Once more the autumn rains will come, as well as the rains of spring. (Joel 2:23)

Pray for our Nation

God's love supply is never empty. "For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth." (Psalm 103:11)

HOLY BIBLE

Thankful GRATEFUL Blessed

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BAPTIST TEMPLE  
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1512 Birdwell Lane 267-7157  
CALVARY BAPTIST  
1200 W. 4th. 263-4242  
CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
5108 Nichols Rd., Big Spring, TX  
432-890-5489

(Elbow Community)  
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201 E. 18th Pl. 267-8204  
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SPRING OF LIFE CHURCH  
Johnnie Harvey, Pastor  
401 E. 5th 267-8558  
Worship at 10:00  
Anderson & Green St.  
432-563-6668

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Rev. Floyd Green, Jr., Pastor  
Mrs. Gordon Green, Assistant Pastor  
200 W. 6th • (432) 263-8888 • District 104, TX  
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Big Spring, TX  
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Spring Town Plaza 2681 E. FM 700

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Billy Guy, Pastor  
billyguy@hsmcmail.com

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205 N. 1st Coahoma

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107 Wurtzle 268-6768

**Midway Baptist Church**

6200 N. Service Rd. (432)263-6274



# Church News

## Cornerstone Covenant Church

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

We would love the opportunity to Connect with YOU! You can expect biblical teaching & preaching, genuine loving fellowship and live spirit filled praise & worship.

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

Sunday, Jan. 24 – Join us this Sunday at 11 a.m. for our onsite and online worship service. You can find our CCC Live Worship Experience online at [facebook.com/CCCBigSpring](https://www.facebook.com/CCCBigSpring) or at Cornerstone Covenant Church Live on YouTube (look for the CCC logo).

Wednesday, Jan. 27 – Join us ONSITE & ON-LINE this Wednesday at our 7 p.m. worship/bible study service. We love seeing what happens in people's lives when they discover God through the study of His Word. Let us explore the Bible together and see what it tells us about the God who has woven His story through history and is present with us now.

Transportation Ministry – You need a ride to church? CCC offers pick-up services on Sundays for our 11:00AM worship service. If you are needing a ride for Sunday please contact the church office.

Cornerstone Covenant Church (CCC) is a unified, spirit-led, purpose-driven church, which cultivates an atmosphere of faith so that lives can be transformed by Jesus Christ. Please join us every Sunday at 9 a.m. (onsite) 11 a.m. (onsite & online) and Wednesday at 7 p.m. (onsite) for worship services.

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

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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

We are located North of the High School on Goliad Street (1001 S. Goliad), and would love to have you visit. Sunday services begin at 10:30 a.m. followed by social gathering outside the church in the Courtyard & Bennett Garden. On Wednesday's we have Bible study and coffee in the morning at 10:30 a.m. and evening we have Evening prayer and book study starting at 5:30 p.m. What a great opportunity to have meaningful fellowship and develop relationships with people who have a common interest, following the steps of Christ. Please come and join us for a time of worship and fellowship in a place that welcomes all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Facebook – Live Streaming

Every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., St. Mary's will be Live Streaming their service on Facebook, website – [www.facebook.com/StMarysBigSpring/](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysBigSpring/). What a great way to listen OR participate in the service at the comforts of your home or wherever you may be at that time of day.

Ash Wednesday – Feb. 17

On Wednesday, Feb. 17 we start the Lenten journey with Ash Wednesday service. We have a service on Wednesday at 6 p.m. From that day until Easter we will be into 40 days of Lent.

This service is open to everybody in the community and we hope and pray you will join us as we begin the Lenten Journey.

## College Baptist Church

Start your New Year right. Go to Church. What an opportunity to serve Him! Just praising God at College Baptist Church, as we welcome new members through salvation and baptism! Come see what God is doing at the corner of 11th and Birdwell Lane. We are open on Sunday morning at 9:15 for Bible Study for all ages. Worship time is at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Youth activities start at 6 p.m. and meal between 6-6:45 with families. We meet for Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at 7 p.m. with children meeting for King's Kids and Crafts. Girl's Missions meet on Sunday at 5 p.m. Come join in the fun as we are celebrating a New Year in serving our Lord.

Services for Jan. 24, 2021, are in the building. We are live streaming and on our Face Book page as well. Catch up on God's perfect plan! We have face masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer available, and we are practicing social distancing. Families are sitting together. Visitors, it was a joy to welcome you on Sunday. Come join us again—it will be exciting to welcome new faces and old alike. Our services are lively and worshipful.

College Baptist Church has almost reached our Lottie Moon Christmas offering goal. This goal is a challenging one where every dollar given will reach to the foreign mission field as we continue on mission for our Lord.

We definitely enjoy the worship time as our ministry team leads us in songs of praise, and where our pastor, Bro. Ken McMeans, inspires us as we delve into God's Word, leading us as Jesus lives through us.

Come study what it takes to “Cast your burdens on the Lord,” knowing He cares for us so much He sent His only begotten Son to save us. Keep your spiritual vision on Jesus as we enter into the New Year, as our pastor reminds us every Sunday, Jesus is coming SOON!

Take a part in these joyful activities, and exciting worship, praising the Mighty God we serve. Please call: 432-267-7429, for more information concerning Men's, Ladies' and youth meetings at this great and friendly church.

## NazFamily Church

This Sunday

“My account has been hacked! Don't accept a request from me.” There are so many fraudulent Facebook accounts, it is difficult to determine who is truly behind that other screen, or if it is a real person at all. Identity theft is a serious issue these days. Entire companies have emerged simply to protect one's personal information. It is a real issue that affects real lives in real ways. I'm convinced that identity theft is also a spiritual issue. Too often, we allow the world to shape our identity rather than the Word. Other influences rob us of who we are in Christ. You won't want to miss our worship gathering this Sunday as we go back to the Scriptures to restore our real identity and First John reminds us Who We Are.

Rekindled - Do you want to rekindle your faith? Rekindle your relationship? Rekindle your love? You won't want to miss our upcoming Rekindled Retreat on Feb. 12 & 13 with special speakers Cal & Ceresa Callender and music by Amanda Kleeb. Contact Howard Callendar for more information or to sign up: [howard@callenderinc.com](mailto:howard@callenderinc.com) or 661-549-6801.

Fireside - Our next Fireside Worship will be on, Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 6:30 p.m. Bring out your lawn chairs and blankets and join us for a time of worship and prayer around the fire pit. Following worship will be a time of fellowship with hotdogs, s'mores, and hot chocolate.

Men's Breakfast - “Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love.” (1 Corinthians 16:13-14) Our Men's Ministry will have a special Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, February 6th @ 9:00am. We will meet at Howard Callender's property for a time of food, fellowship, and faith building. We have several “manly” activities planned for those who would like to stick around after breakfast.

Food Boxes - Every Tuesday & Thursday we make food boxes available in our church office from 10am - 12pm for anyone in need. If you know someone who needs an extra blessing they can come by the office at that time or contact us at (432) 267-7015.

Connect - If you would like to begin a vibrant relationship with God as a follower of Jesus, or if you would like to learn more about how you can get involved at NazFamily Church, one of our pastors would love to talk to you. Please contact us at [church@nazfamily.org](mailto:church@nazfamily.org).

## Crestview Baptist Church

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

The most fulfilling pursuit for a follower of Christ is to know Christ and His Word, so that we may live for Him. If you believe that, please come and worship the King with us!

Sunday School starts at 10 a.m., Worship begins at 11 a.m., and our Sunday and Wednesday night meetings are at 6:30 p.m. We are studying Doctrine of The Bible.

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

## First Christian Church

First Christian Church is located at 911 Goliad. To contact Pastor Brian Michaelz or the church office at 432-517-4821.

This coming Sunday... Pastor Michaelz sermon will be: “What are You Waiting On” Romans 8:25

Are you looking for a comfortable place to explore your faith? Want to be connected to the needs of the community with a servants heart and genuine compassion for ALL people? Would you like to study and hear the word of God within the Theological, Social, Cultural, Literary and Historical contexts in which they were written and read? Do you need a place that will lift up, embrace and empower the gifts you have to share with the world?

While we are not a perfect place of worship we strive to be genuine in our calling to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and how that manifests itself in and through our lives. Sometimes this means agreeing to disagree in love and grace, while always remembering that it is not about us!

Join us at First Christian Church or To find out more information about First Christian Church or to see the online service join Facebook Group at [www.facebook.com/group/fccbigspring](https://www.facebook.com/group/fccbigspring)

If you or someone you know would like to be placed on the FCC prayer list, please contact the church office or tell one of the members.

We invite you to come as you are to give thanks for everything in a fresh way. If that sounds good to you, we would enjoy meeting you.

Sunday morning Social Time - pre-Worship Service - starts approximately 9:30 a.m in the Sitting Room by the office. Donuts, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Hot Tea and Bottled Water.

Worship Service starts at 10:50 a.m. Hope to see you there!!

## First United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church is located just off Gregg Street at the corner of Fourth and Scurry in downtown Big Spring. Our Sunday morning schedule includes the 9 a.m. Traditions service featuring the pipe organ, choir, trumpet and hymns. At 11 a.m., The Bridge service featuring contemporary music led by a wonderful praise team.

Worship services are broadcast live each Sunday at 11 a.m. on radio station KBYG-105.5 FM. You can also find the services live streamed on our Facebook page at First United Methodist Church Big Spring.

On Sunday, January 17, Pastor Ricky began a new sermon series entitled “Kingdom Living”, he shared from Matthew 6:9-13, about Kingdom Prayers. He shared that the Kingdom of God refers to God's reign and rule and the church exist to demonstrate what life is like under the reign and rule of God. Jesus answered the disciple's question of “Lord, teach us to pray”.

In this passage we see to whom we are to pray, Our Heavenly Father, the purpose of prayer, thy Kingdom come, and the power of prayer. Come join us this next Sunday as Pastor Ricky continues his series on Kingdom Living. We look forward to seeing you.

Wednesday, Jan. 27, “Celebrate Recovery” will meet in youth Hall at 6 p.m.

Wednesday night Youth activities begin at 5:30 in the Partee Building

The Bridge rehearsal on Wednesday beginning at 6 p.m.

The Choir rehearsal is at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday

Ladies Bible study, Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 6 p.m.

For more information on any activity, please visit the web site at [www.fumcbs.com](http://www.fumcbs.com) or phone the church office at 432-267-6394.

## First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

This Sunday First Presbyterian Church in Big Spring will ordain and install the 2024 Class of Elders, who are Jim Little, Vicki Miller, and Ken Schaedel. The rite will occur during the worship service.

Last Sunday Gabe Martinez, Church Music Director, blessed the congregation with a piano solo of “Largo” by G.F.Handel as the offertory.

First Presbyterian Church now has a two iTunes podcasts: The Daily Prayer Podcast and The Sermon Podcast. The sermon from last week may be found at [www.fpcbigspring.com/Sermons](http://www.fpcbigspring.com/Sermons).

For anyone wishing to join in a daily prayer, one may go to [www.fpcbigspring.com](http://www.fpcbigspring.com) and select Daily Prayers. Rev. Allen Cross also posts a Weekly Devotional each Wednesday at that website, which may provide food for thought or help during time of stress or feelings of isolation. He often broadcasts from various sites around the church or around West Texas.

Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study meets at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Anyone wishing to join in the study by Zoom can find the link to the meeting in Faith Notes or online at the First Presbyterian Fellowship group or on the Calendar on the church website on Facebook.

The Thursday Lunch Bunch meets in Fellowship Hall at 11:30.

The Communications Committee met on Monday, January 18, to discuss ways to do a live broadcast of Sunday services.

The Fellowship Committee met last week to work on ways of reaching out to people who may be shut in, but cannot be visited during the virus.

Presbyterian Women will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26 for a business meeting and Bible study. The study will be Lessons 4 and 5 from the book Into the Light: Hope through Prayers of Lamentation by P. Lynn Miller.

The Discovery Class begins a study by Margaret Feinburg entitled Taste and See, a culinary exploration that puts scripture in terms of everyday activities. Vicki Miller is leading this class.

The Youth Bible Study, led by Tom Koger, meets in the Youth Room.

The Children's Class continues with lessons from the Children's Bible. Nancy Koger is teaching this class.

The Sunday morning Take Ten fellowship in the parlor between Sunday School and worship has resumed. Ellen Austin is host for this week.

Lectionary passages for the Third Sunday in Epiphany are: Psalm 62:1-2, 11-12; Jonah 3:1-5; Mark 1: 14-15.: Rev. Allen Cross will lead the worship service. The sermon topic is “The Power of a Bad Sermon”. Organist/music director Gabe Martinez leads the music on the organ and piano.

Anyone who is not attending worship physically may hear the service on KBST 1490 AM at 11:00 a.m. as usual or online at [www.fpcbigspring.com](http://www.fpcbigspring.com) by selecting the SERMONS tab and the correct date. A copy of the liturgy for the service may be downloaded from the website or by receiving a copy by calling the church office

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.

## Life Church

We are excited to open our doors and welcome our Life Church friends to the campus this Sunday. In order to meet this Sunday we will continue to follow the guidelines that have been set and provided by the Texas State Attorney General: limited capacity, proper spacing between seats and rows, sanctuary will be cleaned and disinfected, if you or someone in your family have underlying health issues we are encouraging you to watch and participate in the service remotely. Masks are encouraged to be worn. Wash your hands and use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will be available as you enter the sanctuary.

Join us in the Life Church Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. for an experience in the Word and in Worship.

We have kicked off the new year with our Annual 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting which will end on Jan. 31.

See **CHURCH**, Page 6



# Something to think about...

“This is my command: Love each other.” ~ John 15:17

This week we remembered a man who had a dream – a dream that we might live into one of our Nation’s founding principles: that all are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. I believe that this dream is so captivating because it is rooted in God’s dream that we might see the eternal value of all people regardless of race, background, or social status and all would experience genuine freedom. In many ways that is what we mean when we pray, “Lord, Your kingdom come, and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

I am thankful that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. helped us see that dream more clearly and inspired us to grand vision living. He didn’t allow us to settle for the status quo, but called us to something better.



RICHARD SCHNEGERGER

And it is my prayer that the church genuinely embodies the dream. May our faith fellowship be a place where all people discover their true identity in Christ as sons and daughters of the King and as brothers and sisters in God’s family. May we experience a unity in fellowship that the world might know we are citizens of heaven.

I pray that God would use us as a light to drive out the darkness and a love that would dispel all hate. Amen.

“The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy, instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the liar, but you cannot murder the lie, nor establish the truth. Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate.

Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Grace for Grace

“And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.” John

1:16

Our minds are a wilderness of doubt and confusion. In this wilderness, it is sometimes hard to process all the information that comes to us via legalistic religious systems. We find that of all the things that we are and have, our minds are the most vulnerable because our emotions get in the way. And the emotion that is most promoted and preyed upon by religion is fear.

God knows this, so, in Christ, we have received grace for grace. Our

minds and emotions demand that we reject grace, but God’s Spirit bears witness with our spirit as He gives us grace for grace. Once you have been born of the grace of God, it is impossible to outsmart grace because we have received of the fulness of Christ, and grace for grace.

If we do not have the power to keep the Law, then, neither do we have the power to receive the grace of God without His grace because His grace is much greater than the Law.

It is so easy for us to believe and accept a God that kicks the world to pieces. It is easy for us to believe in a God who is ready to punish us for all the sin in our lives. It is easy for us to believe in a God who is happy with

us when we do good and angry with us when we do bad stuff. But what about the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort? Why is it so hard for us to believe and accept this God?

Why do we prefer an angry God over a loving Father?

In our books, in our economy, bad deserves punishment and good deserves reward. In our weak humanity, it is easy to believe in an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, and this makes it impossible to accept the grace of God without His grace. Grace for grace simply means that God comes to us and says – its ok for you to believe that I love you unconditionally.

Grace for grace means that Jesus’ yoke is truly easy and His burden light because they come from His meek and lowly heart.



TOM SLOAN

## Where do we go from here?

When I was a young girl growing up in Northern Nevada, I knew exactly where I was going. Our town was small compared to the other cities I have lived in since that time. Now we have all kinds of devices to tell us where we need to go. GPS is prevalent in almost every car we drive. It’s on our cell phones, computers, tablets and even smart watches.

Every time I get into a new vehicle, I am amazed at the ways and means it has to get me where I am going. On my GPS on my smart phone all I have to do is push an app. Punch in work and I will be on my way to my son’s house clear across the state. When I make the return trip, I punch in home, and I arrive safely back at my house. Amazing! I never even have to ask for directions.

One time my granddaughter told me she would program my hand held GPS for me. She was 14 and pretty tech smart, so I let her do it. I made

it to the freeway following the directions on my device. Then it told me to get off at one exit. I thought it strange. But I followed its direction.

I got back on the same freeway and off again three times before I realized what was happening.

My Granddaughter had programmed the GPS to take me the shortest route. Every time the freeway curved a different direction, the GPS told me to exit.

It was set for the shortest route, not the fastest route. The laugh was on me. I threw it the GPS device in the seat beside me and stayed on the freeway toward home.

How many times in life do we get lost following the wrong direction? Where do we go from here? Good questions. The answer can only and best be found in the best GPS there is on our planet. It’s God’s Positioning System.

Position yourself in His Word. Find His plan for your life. Jesus is the only way you will find yourself on the right path toward Home. Then when you get there through Jesus Christ, you won’t ever have to ask again, “Where do I go from here?”



LILLIAN BOHANNAN

## CHURCH

Continued from Page 5

Life Alive will begin on the Life Church campus Wednesday, Jan. 27. from 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. we will have Free Indeed, an Adult Bible Study, Youth Ministries, and Children’s Ministries.

Ladies, you are invited to join us every Wednesday at noon for our Seek Prayer Group. The Zoom meeting information for Seek can be found on our One Sisterhood Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/onesisterhoodbigspringtx/>

Champion Culture Youth will meet on Wednesdays from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. on the Life Church Campus. For more information about Champion Culture and their plans for the summer visit and follow the Champion Culture Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ChampionCultureLifeChurch/>

Life Kids will have their classes this Sunday. Our Nursery is available for those ages newborn to 2. Our Toddlers class serve those ages 3 & 4. Our Elementary class serves those ages 5-10 Visit and follow the Life Kids Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Life-Kids-Life-Church-Big-Spring-TX-1654730487977488/> for more information.

For more information about our events or groups please visit our website [www.golifechurch.net](http://www.golifechurch.net)

## Reflections

### The Young Generation

I came across comments from a prominent preacher regarding the deplorable condition of young people. He complained that they were characterized by “inexperience, indiscretion, immature judgment, uncurbed curiosity, undisciplined appetites and misunderstood passion.” He went on to say that they despised revered traditions and engaged in “vulgar dances, shameful parties, suggestive songs and obsession with sex.” Their motto is “try anything once.”

I found these statements in a book of sermons my wife brought home from one of her excursions to garage sales. The book was published in 1923.

The youth about whom he spoke later survived the Great Depression and led our nation through World War II. The youth of his day are gone, buried in the graves that populate our cemeteries. A 16-year-old in 1923 would be 115 today. They lived out their life-span, as we all shall do, and generations of youth have come and gone since.

Sociologists have tried to categorize generations by their common historical context. Most start with the “Lost Generation,” those born between 1890 and 1915.

They were born as the industrial revolution revved up. They drove the first automobiles and flew the first airplanes. “The Greatest Generation” (1910 – 1925) stormed Normandy, launched the space race and landed a man on the moon. “The Silent Generation” (1925-1945) left their mark with Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, Che Guevara, Robert Kennedy, Elvis Presley, Clint Eastwood and Bernie Sanders.

“Baby Boomers” (1946-1964) got their name from the “boom” that followed WW II.

They were the Hippy generation who later developed PCs that connected the world. Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Donald Trump were all born in 1946. Steve Jobs and Bill Gates are also members of this generation.

“Generation X” (1965-1980), often dismissed in their youth, earned a reputation for entrepreneurship. In 2002 three out of four companies were started by Gen Xers. Elon Musk, CEO of SpaceX and Tesla and the founders of Google are Gen Xers.

“Millennials” (1981-1996) are the first to grow up with computers and cell phones. Mark Zuckerberg is a Millennial. “Generation Z” (1997-2012) is the first generation to have no experience of life before the internet.

They are the youngest, largest and most ethnically diverse population in history. It is too early to characterize the “Alpha Generation, (2013-2021), the first to be born entirely in the 21st century.

In the next few years, we will witness a generational transfer of power. Joe Biden is 78. Mitch McConnell is 79. Nancy Pelosi is 80. Every generation must pass the baton. Every new generation must run their race.

Years ago, I adopted a life goal: “to encourage the younger generation to do greater things than I ever dreamed or imagined.” Many are already doing that. One of the most important things we can do is encourage those who are younger.

When Moses knew he was dying and would never enter the promised land, the Lord said to him, “Charge Joshua and encourage him and strengthen him, for he shall go across at the head of this people” (Deuteronomy 3:28).

The Apostle Paul wrote to young Timothy, “Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity show yourself an example of those who believe” (1 Timothy 4:12).

*Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. Visit [www.tinsleycenter.com](http://www.tinsleycenter.com) to view Tinsley’ books. Email [bill@tinsleycenter.com](mailto:bill@tinsleycenter.com)*



BILL TINSLEY



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## Howard College Basketball Ready to Soar into 2021

By SAM YOUNG

Herald Contributing Writer

Unprecedented. Chaotic. Unpredictable. All of those words have become descriptors for a "new normal" since last March. As sports has paused, stopped, resumed and sputtered through the pandemic, coaches and players have dealt with those some uncertainties. Howard College basketball specifically, and the WJCAC conference generally, are no exceptions.

The upcoming season will be unlike anything that the Hawks, the conference, and the NJCAA as a whole have seen before. The NJCAA, junior college athletic's governing body, only recently lifted a moratorium on the stoppage of all JuCo sports. That moratorium lasted nearly eight months, from April of last year to New Year's Day of 2021. In a normal season, Howard's basketball teams would be well into conference play, and over way through their seasons.

Instead, in 2021, everything will happen in much more condensed time frame. Rather than an early December start to conference basketball games, WJCAC play will begin the first week of February in this for shortened season. That leaves both the Lady Hawks and Hawks only a couple of weeks, and a handful of non-conference games, to polish their product. No small task when you've gone just over ten months without competitive games.

In some ways though, that is only the tip of the iceberg. Both Howard hoops teams, per NJCAA regulations, will be limited to 22-games this season. Filling those slots is easier said than done, however. The conference will be going through numerous adjustments from last season. For example, with New Mexico's governmental stipulations, New Mexico Junior College will not be playing pretty much across any sport across the board. The women's basketball team is still trying to figure out a way to play, but that remains uncertain. New Mexico Military, which only competes in men's basketball, will circumvent the state's regulations by playing all of its games outside of New Mexico. That alone creates a tough atmosphere, on top of an already difficult season.

Then there is the case of Odessa College women's basketball — which falls into a pair of categories. The Lady Wranglers lost long-time head coach Ara Baten to rival South Plains last off-season after he moved over to replace the Lady Texans outgoing

Cayla Petree. Unable to find a quick solution to the vacancy, and already facing a tough recruiting during the height of the pandemic, Odessa College announced it was canceling its 2021 season. That means the women's conference, which usually has eight-members, is planning to only have six for the upcoming season. To adjust, each women's team will play the other five conference foes three times, instead of the usual two. Welcome to that "new nor-



mal", right?

The coaching change at Odessa highlights another crucial change for the conference for the upcoming season — coaching changes. The biggest one, locally, was the announcement over the summer of long-time Howard women's head coach Earl Diddle. Coach Diddle decided to blow the final whistle on his legendary career after nearly 20 seasons at the helm of the Lady Hawks, and four-and-a-half decades in all. Assistant coach Meesha Wade will remain with the program, and Howard swiftly moved to hire John Ishee III. Ishee comes to Howard from Pratt CC in Kansas, with over 30-years of coaching experience on his resume. He was also a finalist for the 2020 Women's Basketball Coaches Association 2-year college Coach of the Year.

Beyond Howard, and the coaching change at Odessa, New Mexico women's basketball is also undergoing a change. Drew Sanders brought an end to his Hall of Fame caliber coaching career over the summer, only adding to a topsy-turvy list of changes for the Lady Thunderbirds. Clarendon, the surprising conference champion of last season, has also seen their head coach, Isaac Fontenot-Amedee, move to an assistant's role at UL-Monroe. Under normal circumstances you expect coaching changes, but with the challenging and unknown nature of the last nine months, even routine changes have become noteworthy shifts. The good news for Howard? Long time head coach Scott Raines, and his assistant Junsie Cotton, will continue to guide Howard's men's program.

Finally, there's the teams themselves. JuCo basketball already produces a high level of turnover due to its two-year nature. However, with waivers given to players for an extra year of eligibility, and the struggles of recruiting during a pandemic, that too has been far from "normal". Both Howard teams will have two returners from last season. The men see the return of Darrell Green and Mo Musa, while the women have standout freshman Tatym Barnes back along with Anais Bonnemaison. In all, that's 23 new Lady Hawks and Hawks who will be debuting in February.

While there have been months of practices, relations being built and notions of form, no denying the first games of the season will provide both coaching staffs with valuable information on how best to approach this most unusual season ahead. If there's one thing we can count on though, it's that the basketball we see from the beginning of February to the end of March will be what the WJCAC always produces: Marchely unprecedented, enjoyingly chaotic, and always unpredictable.

Share your athletic photos with us at editor@bigspringherald.com

## Gilgeous-Alexander helping young Thunder defy odds again

By CLIFF BRUNT

AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Some Thunder fans believe tanking to get higher draft picks is the way back to contention.

Apparently, the team disagrees.

Oklahoma City was expected by experts to be one of the NBA's worst teams this season -- just like last season, when they shocked the league and made the playoffs.

Once again, the Thunder are defying the odds. Oklahoma City is off to a 6-7 start, despite five of its top seven scorers having been in the league three years or fewer and 35-year-old Mark Daigneault taking on his first NBA head coaching assignment.

Last year, the Thunder had veterans Chris Paul, Dennis Schroder, Steven Adams and Danilo Gallinari to help them through the tough times. This year, young holdovers Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, Lu Dort, Darius Bazley and Hamidou Diallo carry more of the load.

And they clearly are out to win, even with losses offering a potentially greater return on the slew of draft picks general manager Sam Presti has collected through trades in recent years.

"We're not trying to build a resilient culture, we're trying to continue a resilient culture," Daigneault said. "Resilient culture has existed here for a long period of time, ever since the team came here."

Gilgeous-Alexander is the budding star who leads the way. He averages 21.0 points, 6.2 assists and 5.3 rebounds per game. He hit a game-winner in the season opener against Charlotte.

"He's taking on a different level of responsibility," Daigneault said. "He's playing a different role on this team than he has so far in his career, and he's not shying away from that."

That approach was clear after he had four turnovers in a loss to Denver on January 19.

"For me, personally, I got a little careless with the ball at times," Gilgeous-Alexander said. "They are a really good, active defensive team. They are always in the gaps, playing with length to get deflections and stuff like that. I just think I have to clean that up a little bit."

Even with that rough outing, there have been plenty of reasons for hope. The Thunder already have wins over Brooklyn and New Orleans and are 5-2 on the road. They rallied from 22 down to beat former coach Billy Donovan and the Chicago Bulls in overtime.

The Thunder have some rough losses, including a 29-point home loss to the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers. But the young core appears ready to dig in and compete.

Dort went undrafted in 2019, but his defense got him into the starting lineup by the end of the season. This year, the guard ranks second on the team with 13.4 points per game and he's shooting 43.7% from 3-point range. Diallo, the main man off the bench, averages 11.1 points per contest. Bazley, an explosive second-year forward, averages 10.5 points and a team-leading 7.2 rebounds.

Other young players have stepped up, too. Isaiah Roby, a second-year center out of Nebraska, has been an adequate fill-in for Al Horford when needed. He averages 9 points and 5 rebounds in 19 minutes per game. First-round pick Aleksej Pokusevski, a 7-footer from Serbia, is playing 17 minutes per game. Second-rounder Theo Maledon, a 19-year-old guard from France, is playing 20.

Even the youngest players already have taken on the Thunder mentality -- the one Daigneault picked up in his days as a Thunder assistant last season and as coach of the Thunder's G-League affiliate before that.

"When I look at our logo, that's kind of what I think about is that spirit," he said. "The relentless competitive spirit of the teams were really good teams here. We've got a lot of new players and a lot of young players, and that's the type of mentality that we try and nurture."

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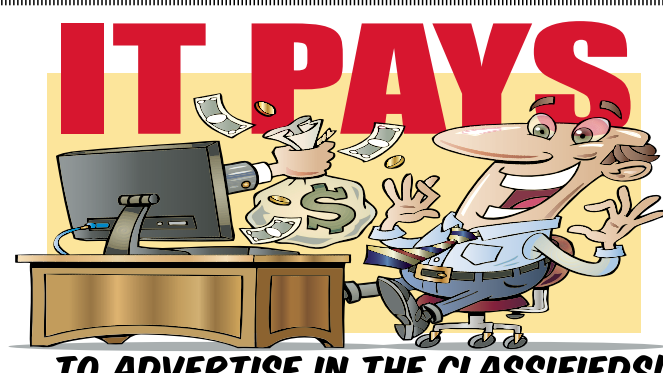
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## Annie's Mailbox

Daughter Driving  
Drives Mom Crazy

**Dear Annie:** My  
daughter, "Emily," has  
been dating "Ben" for  
almost two years. Ben  
is a great guy, aside  
from one issue that's  
been bugging me: He  
refuses to drive any-  
where and instead has  
my daughter drive him.  
He says it's because a  
few years ago he was  
in a car accident and  
has been scared to  
drive since. (He was  
not hurt in the acci-  
dent.) He has Emily  
drive him to and from  
work every day. Emily  
never complains about  
it, but it drives me  
insane because Emily  
and her kids were also  
in a car accident a few  
years ago and suffer

PTSD from that acci-  
dent. Ben is aware of  
this, but doesn't seem  
to get it. He thinks it's  
no big deal for Emily to  
get over her fear while  
avoiding getting over  
his fear. I want to say  
something to him so  
badly, but I haven't. And  
every time I say some-  
thing to my daughter,  
she gets upset with me.  
How can I approach the  
situation without mak-  
ing it worse? -- Miffed  
Mom

**Dear Miffed:** Your  
intentions are good,  
and your irritation is un-  
derstandable. But Emily  
is the one behind the  
wheel, figuratively and  
literally. When she's  
tired of driving him, she  
can stop. Meanwhile,  
you can earn interest

by keeping your two  
cents in the bank: If you  
avoid offering advice  
when your daughter  
hasn't asked, she'll be  
more likely to ask you  
for advice.

**Dear Annie:** I  
agree with "What Did  
You Say" that mood  
music in TV shows  
often makes it hard to  
hear the dialogue. I  
would add that back-  
ground noises meant  
to create "realism" also  
frequently drown out  
what the actors are  
saying. Isn't the dia-  
logue important enough  
to make it audible?  
Because the problem  
is in the show itself, it  
doesn't help much to  
turn up the volume. If  
I turn it up enough to  
make out the dialogue,

then the music and am-  
bient noise are so loud  
that it is annoying.

My wife and I always  
watch shows with the  
closed captions on. We  
find that we even enjoy  
movies more at home  
than at the movie the-  
ater because we can  
have the captions on at  
home. It also helps a lot  
with BBC shows where  
the accents and British  
slang can make it hard  
to catch what is said.  
But it would be even  
better if the shows'  
directors and editors  
highlighted the dialogue  
and turned down the  
sound effects. -- Not  
Ready for the Ear Horn  
in Lafayette, Indiana

Dear Not Ready  
for the Ear Horn:

You're not alone. A  
2017 survey found that  
98% of people use  
closed captioning at  
least some of the time.  
While closed captions  
can certainly be helpful,  
some have pointed out  
that they're far from  
perfect and, during  
some live broadcasts,  
the captions lag behind  
the visuals. The follow-  
ing letter writer offers  
another tip to try.

**Dear Annie:** With  
regard to the letter  
about TV dialogue:  
Very often the problem  
is that people have  
their TV set for "sur-  
round sound" audio  
as if they have mul-  
tiple speakers when  
they only have the TV

speakers. This causes  
the "background" track  
to be louder because  
the "voice track" is ex-  
pected to be broadcast  
from its own speaker.  
-- Kate H.

**Dear Kate:** This  
is another possible  
contributing factor to  
the problem. The exact  
troubleshooting instruc-  
tions will depend on  
the TV manufacturer.  
For anyone unable to  
easily find these audio  
options in their TV set-  
tings menu, it's worth  
reaching out to the  
manufacturer's custom-  
er service line.

Send your questions for  
Annie Lane to  
[dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com).

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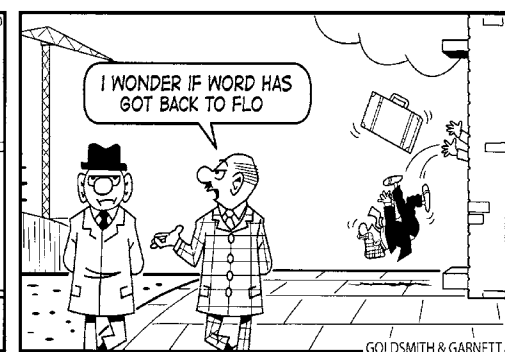
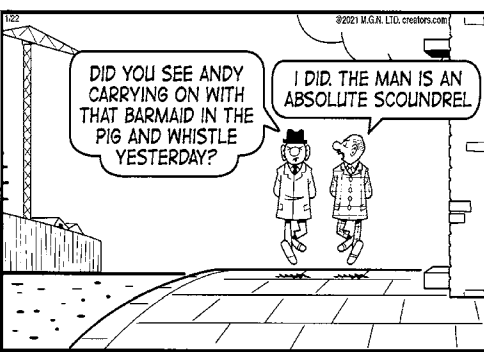






	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5 :PM	Big 2	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS 7	Tele	News	Dr. Young	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Bones	SportsCenter	Daily Wager	OU Football	Chicago P.D.	The First 48	Gold Rush
5 :30	ABC	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS	Noticias	News	Creation	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Bones	NBA	Women's Soccer: International Friendly	Inside Mavericks	Chicago P.D.	The First 48	Gold Rush: Pay Dirt
6 :PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	El domo del dinero (SS)	News	M:25	Odd	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Burgers	Bones	NBA Basketball: Boston Celtics at Philadelphia 76ers.	College Basketball	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	The First 48	Gold Rush
6 :30	Wheel	Te doy la vida	WWE Friday Night SmackDown	MacGyver	The Blacklist	News	Issues4	Odd	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Burgers	Bones	NBA Basketball: Denver Nuggets at Phoenix Suns.	College Basketball	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	The First 48	Gold Rush
7 :30	Shark Tank	Amor eterno	FOX 24 News at 9	Blue Bloods	Falsa identidad (SS)	Dateline NBC	Light of Southwest	WordGirl	Penn & Teller	Whose? Rampage (DVS)	Movie: Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back (DVS)	Movie: Star Wars: Re-venge of the Sith (DVS)	SportsCenter	Spotlight	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	First 48: Shocking	Gold Rush
8 :30	(:01) 20/20	Como tú no hay dos	FOX 24 News at 9	Blue Bloods	Falsa identidad (SS)	Dateline NBC	Light of Southwest	WordGirl	Penn & Teller	Whose? Rampage (DVS)	Movie: Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back (DVS)	Movie: Star Wars: Re-venge of the Sith (DVS)	SportsCenter	Spotlight	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	First 48: Shocking	Gold Rush
9 :30	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Pink	Friends	Creek	Movie: Money Talks	Movie: (9:47) Star Wars: Re-venge of the Sith (DVS)	SportsCenter	Spotlight	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	First 48: Shocking	Gold Rush
10 :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Noticias	Tonight Show	Words of Heritage	Sesame	CBS 7	Gold	ELEAGUE	Movie: Star Wars: Re-venge of the Sith (DVS)	SportsCenter	Spotlight	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	First 48: Shocking	Gold Rush
11 :30	Nightline	Noticiero	Mod Fam	James Corden	Caso cerrado (SS)	Seth Meyers	Shofar	Tiger	Jokers	Gold	Movie: Star Wars: Re-venge of the Sith (DVS)	Movie: Star Wars: Re-venge of the Sith (DVS)	SportsCenter	Spotlight	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	First 48: Shocking	Gold Rush
:AM	Extra	Inocente de ti	Two Men	Drew Barrymore	Sin Senos Si	Late-Lilly	Heritage	Nature	Forensic	Short List	Movie: Rampage (DVS)	Movie: Rampage (DVS)	SportsCenter	Spotlight	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	First 48: Shocking	Gold Rush
12 :AM	DailyMail	Papá a toda madre	Pawn	Pawn	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Wild Kratt	Jerry Springer	Short List	Movie: Rampage (DVS)	Movie: Rampage (DVS)	SportsCenter	Spotlight	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	First 48: Shocking	Gold Rush
1 :30	Paid Prg.	Papá a toda madre	Pawn	Pawn	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Wild Kratt	Jerry Springer	Short List	Movie: Rampage (DVS)	Movie: Rampage (DVS)	SportsCenter	Spotlight	NBA Basketball: Mavs Pre. Mavs Pre.	Chicago P.D.	First 48: Shocking	Gold Rush

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AGNES



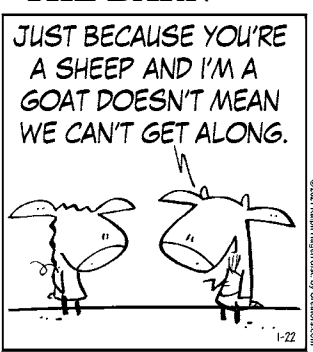
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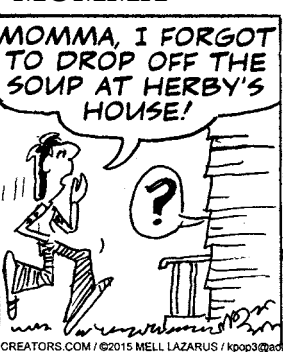
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This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Friday, Jan. 22, the 22nd day of 2021. There are 343 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Jan. 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court, in its Roe v. Wade decision, declared a nationwide constitutional right to abortion. Former President Lyndon B. Johnson died at his Texas ranch at age 64.

On this date:

In 1901, Britain's Queen Victoria died at age 81 after a reign of 63 years; she was succeeded by her eldest son, Edward VII.

In 1907, the Richard Strauss opera "Salome" made its American debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York; its racy content sparked outrage and forced cancellation of additional performances.

In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces began landing at Anzio, Italy.

In 1970, the first regularly scheduled commercial flight of the Boeing 747 began in New York and ended in London some 6 1/2 hours later.

In 1973, George Foreman upset reigning heavyweight champion Joe Frazier with a second round TKO in their match in Kingston, Jamaica.

In 1987, Pennsylvania treasurer R. Budd Dwyer, convicted of defrauding the state, proclaimed his innocence at a news conference before pulling out a gun, placing the barrel in his mouth and shooting himself to death in front of horrified onlookers.

In 1995, Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy died at the Kennedy compound at Hyannis Port, Mass., at age 104.

In 1997, the Senate confirmed Madeleine Albright as the nation's first female secretary of state.

In 1998, Theodore Kaczynski (kah-ZIHN'-skee) pleaded guilty in Sacramento, California, to being the Unabomber responsible for three deaths and 29 injuries in return for a sentence of life in prison without parole.

In 2006, Kobe Bryant scored 81 points, the second-highest

in NBA history, in the Los Angeles Lakers' 122-104 victory over the Toronto Raptors.

In 2007, a double car bombing of a predominantly Shiite commercial area in Baghdad killed 88 people. Iran announced it had barred 38 nuclear inspectors on a United Nations list from entering the country in apparent retaliation for U.N. sanctions imposed the previous month.

In 2009, President Barack Obama signed an executive order to close the Guantanamo Bay prison camp within a year. (The facility remained in operation as lawmakers blocked efforts to transfer terror suspects to the United States; President Donald Trump later issued an order to keep the jail open and allow the Pentagon to bring new prisoners there.)

Ten years ago: Drawing inspiration from a revolt in Tunisia, thousands of Yemenis demanded the ouster of President Ali Abdullah Saleh (AH'-lee abh-DUH'-luh sah-LEH') in a noisy demonstration that appeared to be the first large-scale public challenge to the strongman. (He stepped down as president in 2012.)

Five years ago: North Korea said it had detained Otto Warmbier, a university student from Ohio, for what the authoritarian nation called a "hostile act." (Warmbier was later sentenced to 15 years in prison with hard labor; he'd said he had tried to steal a propaganda banner as a trophy for an acquaintance. Warmbier died in 2017, shortly after he returned to the U.S. in a coma and showing apparent signs of torture while in custody.) California Gov. Jerry Brown rejected parole for a third time for Bruce Davis, a follower of cult leader Charles Manson.

One year ago: Chinese health authorities urged people in the city of Wuhan to avoid crowds and public gatherings after warning that a new viral illness that had infected hundreds of people and caused at least nine deaths could spread further. Health officials in Washington state said they were actively monitoring 16 people who'd come in close contact with a

traveler to China, the first U.S. resident known to be infected with the virus. In opening arguments at President Donald Trump's impeachment trial, House Democrats appealed to skeptical Republican senators to oust Trump from office to "protect our democracy." In an NBA debut that had been delayed three months by knee surgery, Zion Williamson, the league's top draft pick, scored

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Choir part
  - 5 Food for thought
  - 9 Oz. fractions
  - 13 Through, time-wise
  - 15 Flag, verb-wise
  - 16 To \_\_\_ (just right)
  - 17 Spare quarters
  - 20 Covered up
  - 21 Considers
  - 22 Apple Books user
  - 23 Calculator/keyboard company
  - 24 Handled the music (literally and figuratively)
  - 25 Move carefully
  - 28 Instrument that may double as a tip jar
  - 32 Special-purpose
  - 34 Mysterious vibe
  - 35 It's nothing
  - 36 Seals with a knot
  - 39 Hummed on the job
  - 41 Originally called
  - 42 Faith-ful act
  - 44 Certain walkway
  - 45 Effusive flow
  - 49 Ad Council TV spots
  - 50 Fix, as one's fencer
  - 51 Eleanor, to Teddy
  - 53 Held intro word in an ... Oz song
  - 54 Steel rod in concrete
  - 55 Smartphone forerunner
  - 58 RAF's "finest hour"
  - 61 \_\_\_ route (prescription specification)
- DOWN**
- 1 Remote Aussie area
  - 2 Toxin remedy prefix
  - 3 Ear adomment
  - 4 "Science Kid" cartoon
  - 5 Milano's nation
  - 6 Evidence of education
  - 7 Recognized periods
  - 8 Atmospheric opening
  - 9 Fiddle (with)
  - 10 Total consistency
  - 11 Await a decision
  - 12 Unlikely to change
  - 14 Short Western Hemisphere capital
  - 18 Drive off
  - 19 Largest Baja city
  - 23 Corp. heads
  - 24 Name related to Teddy
  - 25 "His wife could \_\_\_ lean"
  - 26 Parting word
  - 27 Truck body material
  - 29 Case that may stick to a sock
  - 30 Nabisco brand
  - 31 Those *femmes*
  - 33 Eagle wearer
  - 37 Clannish quarrel
  - 38 Quite a ways
  - 40 Dust with a cloth
  - 43 Sorely miss
  - 46 In a sprightly manner
  - 47 Preliminary show of interest
  - 48 Trekker's burden
  - 52 Spot with a mobile and a mattress
  - 53 Put on notice
  - 54 Veggie category
  - 55 \_\_\_ Alto, CA
  - 56 Chanel contemporary
  - 57 Old-time adverb
  - 58 Display displeasure
  - 59 It sounds like you
  - 60 Ink-and-needle art

22 points for the New Orleans Pelicans, but the Pelicans lost 121-117 to the San Antonio Spurs.

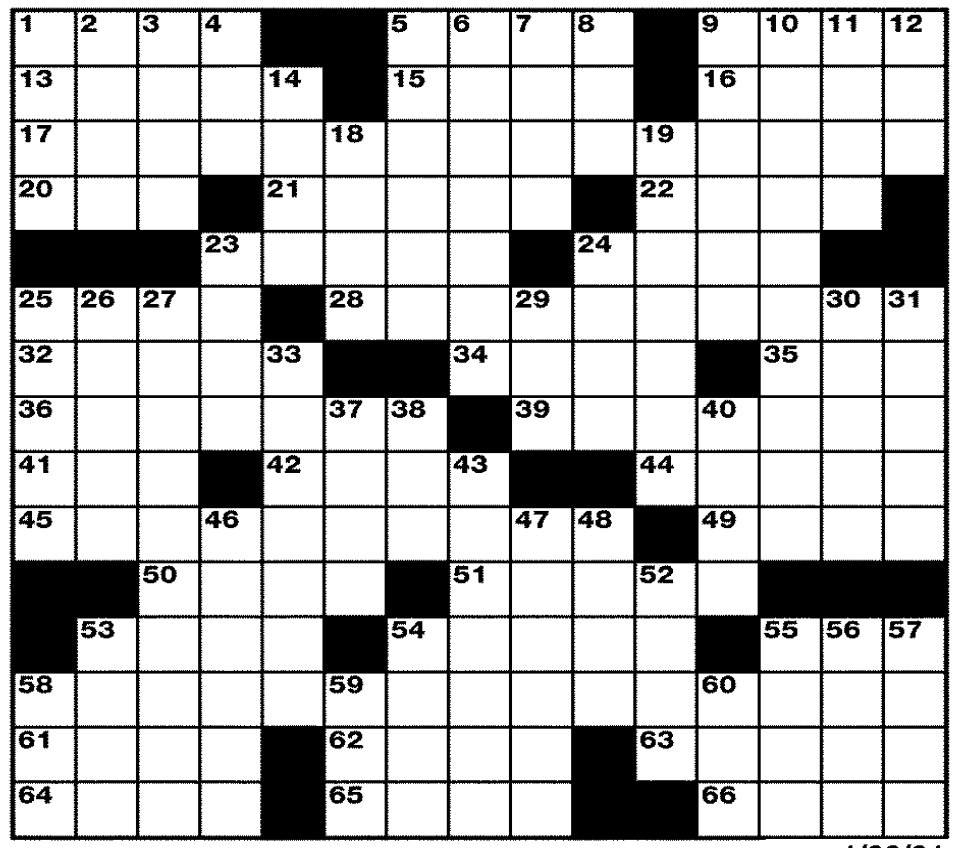
Today's Birthdays: Actor Piper Laurie is 89. Celebrity chef Graham Kerr (TV: "The Galloping Gourmet") is 87. Author Joseph Wambaugh is 84. Singer Steve Perry is 72. Country singer-musician Teddy Gentry (Alabama) is 69.

Movie director Jim Jarmusch is 68. Actor John Wesley Shipp is 66. Hockey Hall of Famer Mike Bossy is 64. Actor Linda Blair is 62. Actor Diane Lane is 56. Actor and rap DJ Jazzy Jeff is 56. Celebrity chef Guy Fieri is 53. Actor Olivia d'Abo is 52. Actor Katie Finneran is 50. Actor Gabriel Macht is 49. Actor Balthazar Getty is 46. Actor Christopher Kennedy Masterson is 41. Jazz singer

Lizz Wright is 41. Pop singer Willa Ford is 40. Actor Beverley Mitchell is 40. Rock singer-musician Ben Moody is 40. Actor Kevin Sheridan is 39. Actor-singer Phoebe Strole is 38. Rapper Logic is 31. Tennis player Alizé Cornet (uh-LEEZ'-kohr-NAY') is 31. Actor Sami Gayle is 25.

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SEE 66 ACROSS by Mark McClain Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com





# Zebra Mussels Eradicated from Lake Waco in Central Texas

AUSTIN— The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has determined that invasive zebra mussels have been successfully eradicated from Lake Waco in Central Texas, preventing property damage, protecting water supply infrastructure and avoiding harm to the aquatic ecosystem. The department emphasized the vital importance of continued help from boaters, marina operators and others to Clean, Drain and Dry boats before moving them and remain vigilant to stop the spread.

Fisheries biologists cautioned that eradication of the invasive mussels is extremely rare and was made possible only by very early detection and a multi-agency rapid response effort. Zebra mussels were discovered at Lake Waco in late 2014, but quick action at the time killed many of the mussels and helped prevent further spread, which eventually led to the eradication.

In September 2014, City of Waco employees found zebra mussels at a single boat ramp on Lake Waco, which were later confirmed by TPWD. Additional surveys in the area found approximately 75 more adult mussels as well as a few zebra mussel larvae, but all were in a localized area around the ramp and adjacent marina.

Additionally, an infested barge believed to be the source of the invasive mussels was identified in the adjacent marina and removed from the lake two days after the mussels were detected. The owner was cited for illegally introducing prohibited zebra mussels. At that time, the lake was designated as 'positive' for zebra mussels, but the invasion had not reached fully established, 'infested' levels.

The introduction of zebra mussels into Lake Waco presented a unique opportunity for action due to the highly localized nature of the introduction and how quickly the mussels were detected. In October 2014, partner agencies worked together on a rapid response effort to install nearly an acre of plastic sheeting over the shoreline and lake bottom in the affected area and weighted it down with sandbags. This method was used in an attempt to kill the mussels by blocking oxygen, impede their reproduction, and prevent them from becoming established in the lake.

"This was a very substantial undertaking that took a lot of creative thinking and required many staff from the City of Waco, US Army Corps of Engi-

neers and Texas Parks and Wildlife to accomplish, not to mention the heavy equipment, boats and commercial divers," said Brian Van Zee, TPWD Inland Fisheries Regional Director. "However, it was the late Tom Conry with the City of Waco who deserves credit for being the driving force behind the project. Our goal was simple—smother as many zebra mussels as possible in an effort to prevent them from being able to reproduce and get a foothold in the lake."

The plastic was removed in March 2015 after nearly five months of being in place. While one potentially live mussel was found and eliminated after the plastic was removed, evidence indicated the effort was successful in creating extremely low oxygen conditions not conducive to zebra mussel survival over much of the area.

Since 2015, TPWD and the City of Waco have continued to monitor the lake intensively, and no zebra mussel larvae, settled adults, or their DNA have been detected in the lake since. The results confirm that the eradication effort was an unprecedented success and Lake Waco will now be downgraded to 'undetected/negative' status.

"The Lake Waco eradication is a unique success story for Texas – this is one of very few invasive mussel eradications in the U.S. and, to our knowledge, the first successful use of this method," said Monica McGarrity, TPWD Senior Scientist for Aquatic Invasive Species Management. "However, it is now more important than ever for boaters to take action to protect the lake, as it could only take one boat or barge to reintroduce these mussels. TPWD will continue to carefully monitor the lake for early detection."

"Boaters can take three simple steps and help stop the spread of zebra mussels," said Van Zee. "Clean, drain and dry your boat when leaving any body of water. Zebra mussels can hide in crevices or residual water and so, even if you don't see them, you could accidentally take them to a new lake. If a boat is stored in the water on a lake with zebra mussels and then taken off the water to be transported to another lake, it will need to be carefully inspected, decontaminated to remove and kill mussels, and then allowed to dry completely. We recommend that the vessel be cleaned by someone who is familiar with all the components of the boat, as all

livewells, bilges, motors and any other receptacles or water-intake systems coming into contact with public waters must be cleaned and TPWD will provide specifications for proper decontamination."

If you have stored your boat in the water at a lake with zebra mussels, it is likely infested with zebra mussels and poses an extremely high risk for moving this invasive species to a new lake. Before moving your boat to another lake, call TPWD at (512) 389-4848 for guidance on decontamination. The transport of aquatic invasive species can result in legal trouble for boaters or transporters. Transporting prohibited invasive species in Texas is illegal and punishable with a fine of up to \$500 per violation. Boaters are also required to drain all water from their boat and onboard receptacles, including bait buckets, before leaving or approaching a body of fresh water.

A status map showing all lakes where zebra mussels have been found in Texas is online at [tpwd.texas.gov/zebramussels](http://tpwd.texas.gov/zebramussels). For more information on how to properly clean, drain and dry boats and equipment, visit the TPWD YouTube channel for a short instructional video. TPWD and partners monitor for zebra mussels in Texas lakes, but anyone who finds them in lakes where they haven't been found before should report them by emailing photos and location information to [aquaticinvasives@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:aquaticinvasives@tpwd.texas.gov) to help identify new introductions. Anyone who spots them on boats, trailers or equipment that is being moved should immediately report the sighting to TPWD at (512) 389-4848.

## Cowboys add 2 defensive assistants, promote strength coach

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys have named Joe Whitt Jr. secondary and passing game coordinator and Aden Durde defensive line coach while promoting Harold Nash Jr. to strength and conditioning coordinator.

The moves announced Thursday help round out the staff under Mike McCarthy, who is going into his second season after a 6-10 debut with the Cowboys.

Whitt and Durde come with new defensive coordinator Dan Quinn from Atlanta. Quinn was fired

as coach of the Falcons after starting 0-5. Quinn replaced Mike Nolan, who was fired after one season.

Whitt had the same role in the defensive passing game on Quinn's staff, and served under McCarthy in Green Bay. Durde filled multiple roles on Atlanta's defensive staff the past three seasons. He was outside linebackers coach in 2020.

Nash is stepping into the lead role on the strength staff after the sudden death of Markus Paul during the season. Nash just finished his first season with the Cowboys after four years in Detroit.

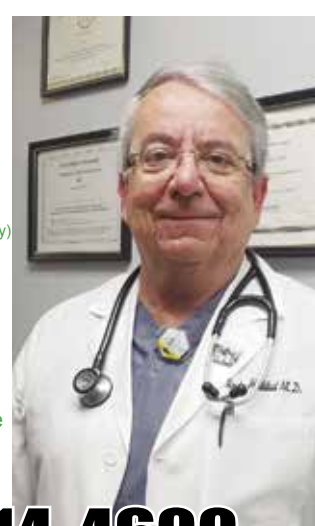
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