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 MARCH 11, 2021

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Upcoming Events

Alive After 5
 hosted by
C. Larson
 March 11

5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Food Truck Lunch
 March 21

Noon - 2 p.m.

First Baptist Church

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District 6 receives new representation, Tompkins sworn in at recent City Council meeting

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Contributing Writer

At its regular meeting Tuesday evening, the Big Spring City Council oversaw the administration of the oath of office and seated one of its newest members, Troy Tompkins, as councilman for District 5. Newly-elected councilman Maury Smith in District 6 was not present at the meeting.

Tompkins replaces former District 5 councilwoman Camilla Strande, while Smith will replace former District 6 councilman Jim DePauw. Strande and DePauw were voted out of office in a recall election Nov. 3, 2020.

Tompkins and Smith were elected in a special election March 6. Tompkins defeated the opposing candidate, Daniel Moreno; while Smith prevailed over candidate Casey Pledger.

Big Spring Municipal Judge Timothy Green administered the oath of office to Tompkins during Tuesday's meeting. During their closing remarks, each city council member congratulated Tompkins on the new position.

Tompkins congratulated District 5 citizens on the turnout for the special election, and urged Moreno to contin-

ue to pursue public service.

"Typical turnout for a special election is 5 percent. I want to thank District 5; there was a 10 percent turnout," he said. "We obviously want to see more turnout on all elections, but that doubles the typical turnout for a special election, so thank you to all those in District 5 who came out and voted on a Saturday. Special thanks to Daniel Moreno who ran an amazing race. Daniel, if you're listening, the city needs your youth. The city needs your energy. Please stay engaged."

The council also voted to cancel the scheduled May 1 general election for City Council District 6, as no one has filed to oppose Smith for the seat in the election.

"The following candidate, who is unopposed, is officially declared as elected. City Council District 6: Maury Smith," reads the resolution approved by the council.

In other business, the council voted to extend the disaster declaration stemming from the recent winter storm, originally instituted by Mayor Shannon Thomason for seven days, for an additional 60 days.

"While the effects of the winter storm are past us, the need to coordinate with the Texas Department of Emer-

gency Management and (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) for recovery efforts and reimbursements for those recovery efforts are still ongoing," Thomason said. "So this resolution would extend the disaster declaration for 60 days."

Councilman Nick Ornelas (District 1) questioned the need for a 60-day extension, asking if, instead, the declaration could be extended for 15 days and then renewed as needed at subsequent city council meetings. City staff including Fire Chief Craig Ferguson and City Manager Todd Darden expressed a preference for the 60-day extension, adding that the extension could be cut short at a future council meeting if the disaster status was no longer needed.

The council approved the 60-day extension unanimously.

In another item, the council voted to officially request the Texas Department of Transportation to install a traffic light at the intersection of FM 700 and East 11th Place.

"Luckily we haven't had any fatal accidents at FM 700 and East 11th Place, but there have been a fair number of accidents there, and at citizens' request, they would like us to be a bit proactive

See **CITY**, Page 3

Big Spring Police Department working murder investigation, seeking information from community

Editor's Note: The Big Spring Police Department issued the following press release on Tuesday in regards to a fatal shooting that occurred on March 8. This is an ongoing investigation. The media release read as follows:

Special to the Herald

BSPD

On the 8th of March 2021 at approximately 9:10 p.m., Big Spring Police Department officers were dispatched to the area of 18th and Austin in reference to a gunshot victim.

Upon arrival Casey Brackett, a white male, 29 years of age, was found to be in the driver's seat of a White 2007 Ford Focus which was pulled over and stopped on the side of the road.

Officers observed Brackett had suffered an apparent

gunshot wound.

Big Spring Fire/EMS arrived on scene and immediately began treating Brackett. Brackett was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center with life threatening injuries. Unfortunately Brackett succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased.

The Big Spring Police Department Criminal Investigations Division is actively working this as a Murder. This is an ongoing investigation and no further information is available at this time.

The Big Spring Police Department urges anyone with information relating to this incident to call CrimeStoppers at (432) 263-TIPS (8477) or use the P3tips.com software to submit your tip online.

Remember no caller ID is ever used and all tips are anonymous.

Howard County schools announce mask mandate changes; address moving forward procedures

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

As the State of Texas launches back into 100% re-opening of businesses and the cancellation of the mask mandate kicks in, area schools - along with many local businesses - look at how to move forward. This past week the three area schools made announcements regarding how they will move forward regarding wearing of masks on school campuses.

Governor Greg Abbott announced on March 2, 2021 the statewide wearing of masks and face coverings was rescinded. The Executive Order (GA-34) lifted the statewide mandate and was announced to begin March 10. After the announcement came, the TEA (Texas Education Agency) announced that an announcement would be made soon and area schools and schools

boards began discussing how to move forward.

Three days ago, Coahoma ISD made the announcement on their Facebook page, stating that in response to Governor Greg Abbott's order, CISD would no longer mandate students or staff to wear a mask beginning March 10, 2021. However, students and staff who prefer to continue to wear a mask may certainly do so, but it is no longer required.

Forsan ISD made their announcement two days ago, stating that beginning March 10 masks are encouraged, but no longer required in all areas of the school district. However, students who ride the bus will need to wear a mask while on the bus.

The TEA issued the response on March 3 stating that masks are still required in public schools, but local school boards can vote to make them

optional. Under the updated guidance, the TEA states schools have full authority to determine their local mask policy and the mask requirements may continue unchanged.

Big Spring ISD also made an announcement regarding the changes to the mask mandate, on their Facebook page. Their update stated that while the mandate had been lifted TEA has made it very clear in their guidance that the mask mandate for kids and adults shall remain in place in all public school settings, unless the local school board votes to modify or change the mask mandate policy.

Since the Board of Trustees for BSISD had not convened yet - the meeting will take place this evening - the district will still require masks for the time being. The mask topic will be discussed

See **MASK**, Page 3

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Support Groups

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.

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 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. The next session begins Sept. 3, 2019. 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.

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 325-212-860

Submit your Support Group information to be included or updated. Email information to editor@BigSpringHerald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Take Note

• Cornhole Tournament benefitting the DAV (Disabled American Veterans) will be taking place at Star Doge on March 27. Registration is from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Food vendors will be on site.

• Back in Motion and West Texas Injury Prevention is hosting a St. Patrick Day Wounded Warrior fundraiser on March 17. There will be brisket plates for sale between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. The meals will be served at 1113 S. Scurry Street.

• AARP Foundation Tax-Aide will offer free income tax preparation every Monday through Monday, April 5, 2021, from 8 a.m. until Noon at the Big Spring Senior Citizen's Center. The Senior Center is located at 100 Whipkey Drive, Big Spring, Texas. The service is available to all taxpayers with moderate to low income. Covid protocols will be observed: masks required, appointments required and no children allowed. Taxpayers need to bring: a photo ID, social security card for every person on tax return; last year's tax return and W-2s and all other proof of income received in 2020. Free electronic e-filing will be available for faster refunds.

• The City of Big Spring has reopened 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 2021 Mental Health First Aid training classes in February. 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.

• 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.

Sheriff Report

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 80 inmates at the time of this report.

• **ANDREW JACOB ESTRACA**, 21, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of evading arrest detention.

• **TERESA LORENE LANG**, 38, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Obituaries

Billy "Jack" Cauble

Billy "Jack" Cauble passed away on Feb. 24, 2021 at his home in Brady, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his wife Gean Cauble and a daughter. He is survived by two daughters, three granddaughters and seven great grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held March 27, 2021 at 11 a.m. at the McCulloch County Resource Center 906 East 11th, Brady, Texas.

Casey Ray Brackett

Casey Ray Brackett, 29, of Big Spring, died Monday, March 8, 2021. Visitation will be 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Casey was born Oct. 23, 1991 in Odessa.

Casey is survived by his parents: Rea and Russell Raymond of Big Spring; two sisters: Briana Walton of Big Spring and Kshell Raymond of Odessa; one brother: Darrion Moore of Abilene; grandparents: Henrietta Chapman of Big Spring, Johnny Brackett of Lugoff, SC, and Barbara Bryant of Dumas; five children; and several aunts, uncles, cousins.

He was preceded in death by one brother: Russell Chance Raymond; and one sister: Shaylee Deann Raymond.

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

John Wayne Anderson

John Wayne Anderson, 83, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, March 10, 2021. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., Saturday, March 13, 2021 at the 14th & Main Church of Christ.

John was born Jan. 1, 1938 in Coleman, Texas to Johnnie and Lela Anderson.

John is survived by his wife Linda, son Mike, daughter Donna, one grandson, one sister, two brothers and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, one brother.

Arrangements are by Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Police Report

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **LANG TERESA LORENE**, 38, of 2912 Cherokee., was arrested on a charge of Public Intoxication.

• **ESTRACA ANDREW JACOB**, 21, of 105 N. 5th St., was arrested on a Warrant - Other Agency.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80; and 400 block of NW 11th St.; and 1000 block of N. Bell.

• **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 1600 block of State St.; and 4700 N. Hwy 87.

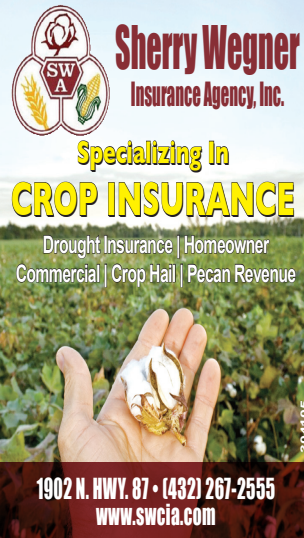
• **FOUND PROPERTY** was reported in the 700 block of W. I 20

• **FORGERY** was reported in the 100 block of E. 2nd St.

• **FOLLOW-UP REPORT** was reported in the 600 block of E. 18th St.; and 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 1500 block of E. Cherokee St.

• **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported in the 300 block of Tullane.



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**MEMBER
2021**

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Take Note cont.

• 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 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. Childcare 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 Howard County Library meeting rooms will be opening up – at limited capacity – on Feb. 1. There will only be five people allowed in the small room and 15 in the large room and can only be used by appointment only by community organizations. No parties or social gatherings will be allowed at this time. For more information, call the Howard County Library.

• 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 Dickey's this week; March 9 at Al's; March 16 at Denny's; March 23 at Spanish Inn; and March 30 at Cowboys.

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.

• 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.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

about it and request that TXDoT place a traffic signal there," Thomason said.

Several local citizens spoke in favor of the request for a traffic signal, citing several near-accidents involving school buses from the nearby Big Spring ISD Bus Barn.

City Council members voted unanimously to request the traffic light from TXDoT.

The council also approved measures designed to pursue grants for city projects. The first measure involves an interlocal cooperation agreement with the South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG) to pursue the Texas Capital Fund's Downtown Revitalization Program.

"Basically, they assist us with the grant. We've got one active one, and the next item is part of that. This particular one is for downtown," said Assistant City Manager John Medina. "This is another agreement with SPAG, and it's due in May, so we're a little bit in crunch time, but SPAG will help us through this. It's availability of \$350,000 in order to spend downtown on infrastructure which could include anything from water lines, sewer lines, sidewalks, things of that nature.

Medina said in order to qualify for the grant, the city will have to match 15 percent of the total, or \$52,500, and reported that SPAG would receive 10 percent of the grant, or \$35,000.

The council unanimously approved the agreement.

The other grant addressed by the council at the meeting involved engaging an engineering firm as part of the application process for a Texas Community Development Block Grant. The grant, which

will be used for infrastructure including water and sewer lines and roads and sidewalks. The engineering firm selected by city staff is Jacob and Martin LLC of Abilene. No amount for the grant was discussed during the meeting.

The council unanimously approved the measure.

The city council also approved a measure to draft a "Letter of No Interest" for a road proposed in 1963 on county land never annexed by the city and never built. The old road proposal stands in the way of construction in the Kentwood (Unit No. 3) addition.

McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark Director Jim Little reported that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had requested permission to work on assessing and remediating an old chemical dump on the Airpark, left over from the 1970s when Webb Air Force Base closed down. Little reported that the Army engineers have monitored the dump through the years since the base's closure, and have recently discovered that it may be leaking into the water table.

"This last year, they did find an item that was of concern to them," Little said. "They're asking for 36 months access for entry to the airport, and that gives them access to the airport, but it doesn't necessarily give them access to all over the airport, because the item that they're looking at is just inside the airport entrance. On the left hand side, you'll see some big mounds out there, and that's where the site is.

Little said the engineers' work shouldn't interfere with any of the normal airport operations. The council approved the request unanimously.

The council also approved emergency authorization to contract for sludge removal at the city's Water Treatment Plant. The excess sludge resulted from an emergency procedure by the Colorado River Municipal Water District during the recent freezing weather.

"During the freezing weather we recently endured, CRMWD had to reverse flow in their lines to back feed water to the City of Big Spring," said Big Spring Public Works Director Shane Bowles in a memo to the council. "This, combined with the excessive flow during the month of February, resulted in a large increase in sludge levels. Three basins are so full of sludge that the basins are reaching a critical level. This level of sludge is also contributing to higher turbidity levels in both our raw water and end water product."

Bowles said he has received an estimate on the project of \$165,000.

"I believe it will be less than that, I don't believe we'll come close to that," Bowles said. "But until we get the sludge out of that, because he charges on the tonnage of sludge, I won't know exactly what that number is."

Bowles said emergency relief money from FEMA could potentially help pay for the sludge removal.

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Ashley Melton, 36, died Friday. Service will be Thursday, 2:00 PM, at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Clinton A. Treadway, 79, of Big Spring, died Monday, March 8, 2021. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Casey Ray Brackett, 29, of Big Spring, died Monday, March 8, 2021. Visitation will be 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM Thursday. Funeral service will be at 2:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

MASK

Continued from Page 1

during the regular meeting.

Once the board discusses the mask mandate and approves any changes the information will be relayed to Steer Nation families and faculty. The new guidelines, according to the information released, will be put out for everyone to view. The statement read:

"Thank you for your continued support, and rest assured we will work together to make the best decision moving forward for our kids, staff and community ..."

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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Jury selection resumes as Chauvin faces possible new charge; third-degree murder

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Potential jurors in Derek Chauvin's murder trial return Thursday to continue a selection process moving more quickly than expected. Meanwhile, the former policeman charged in George Floyd's death faced the prospect of an additional third-degree murder charge.

Five jurors have been seated after just two days of screening by attorneys and Judge Peter Cahill, who had set aside at least three weeks to fill the panel.

Cahill was expected to start Thursday's proceeding by discussing next steps in the state's effort to add a third-degree murder charge. Cahill rejected the charge twice before an appellate ruling in an unrelated case provided new grounds for it right before the trial began. On Wednesday, the state's Supreme Court rejected Chauvin's effort to block the charge.

Attorneys have given considerable attention to the jury pool's attitudes toward police in the first two days of questioning, trying to determine whether they're more inclined to believe testimony from law enforcement over evidence from other witnesses to the fatal confrontation.

The first juror picked Wednesday, a man who works in sales management and grew up in a mostly white part of central Minnesota, acknowledged saying on his written questionnaire that he had a "very favorable" opinion of the Black Lives Matter movement and a "somewhat unfavorable" impression of the Blue Lives Matter countermovement in favor of police, yet "somewhat agreed" that police don't get the respect they deserve. He said he agrees that there are bad police officers.

"Are there good ones? Yes. So I don't think it's right to completely blame the entire organization," he told the court under questioning from prosecutor Steve Schleicher.

He also said he would be more inclined to believe an officer over the word of another witness. But he said he could set aside any ideas about the inherent honesty of an officer and evaluate each witness on their own.

The second, a man who works in information technology security, marked "strongly agree" on a question about whether he believes police in his community make him feel safe. His community wasn't specified — jurors are being drawn from all over Hennepin County, which includes Minneapolis and many of its suburbs.

"In my community, I think when there is suspicious activity the police will stop by, they will ask a question," he said. "I think that sense of community is all we want right? We want to live in a community where we feel safe regardless of race, color and gender."

Schleicher noted that the man also stated in his questionnaire that he strongly disagreed with the concept of "defunding" the police, which has become a political flashpoint locally and across the country in the wake of Floyd's death.

"While I necessarily might not agree with the police action in some situation, I believe that in order for police to make my community safe they have to have the money," he replied.

The questionnaire explores potential jurors' familiarity with the case and their own contacts with police.

Their answers have not been made public, and the jurors' identities are being kept secret. Their racial backgrounds often aren't disclosed in open court.

Floyd was declared dead on May 25 after Chauvin, who is white, pressed his knee against the Black man's neck for about nine minutes. Floyd's death

sparked sometimes violent protests in Minneapolis and beyond, leading to a nationwide reckoning on race.

Chauvin and three other officers were fired. The others face an August trial on aiding and abetting charges. The defense hasn't said whether Chauvin will testify in his own defense.

Schleicher used a peremptory challenge Wednesday to remove from the panel a woman who has a nephew who's a sheriff's deputy in western Minnesota. She said she was dismayed by the violence that followed Floyd's death.

"I personally didn't see any usefulness to it," she said. "I didn't see anything accomplished by it, except I suppose bring attention to the frustrations of the people involved. But did I see anything useful coming out of the burning of Lake Street and that sort of thing? I did not."

The dispute over the third-degree murder charge in Chauvin's case revolves around the conviction of another former Minneapolis police officer in the unrelated killing of an Australian woman. The appeals court affirmed Mohamed Noor's third-degree murder conviction in the 2017 shooting death of Justice Rusczyk Damond.

The state argued that the Noor affirmation established precedent for the third-degree murder charge under the circumstances of Floyd's death. If the Minnesota Supreme Court had taken up Chauvin's appeal, it might have meant months of delay in his trial. After their ruling, the Court of Appeals rejected as moot the state's request to pause the trial pending the appeal.

Legal experts said adding the charge would give prosecutors an additional option as they seek to gain a conviction.

Murder warrant issued for Texas officer in fatal shooting

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A murder warrant was issued Wednesday for the arrest of a Texas police officer involved in shooting an unarmed drug suspect.

Austin police Officer Christopher Taylor is accused in the warrant of murder in the April 24 shooting death of Michael Ramos.

Taylor, who wasn't immediately in custody, has been on leave from the Austin Police Department since the shooting and has not faced a disciplinary hearing.

At the time of the shooting, Police Chief Brian Manley said officers were investigating reports of people in a car, including an armed man, doing drugs when they encountered Ramos in an apartment complex parking lot in southeast Austin.

Manley said officers went to an apartment complex parking lot. Ramos got out of the car with his hands up and his shirt raised as if to show he had no gun in his waistband, but

then ignored officers' orders to remain outside the car and was shot first with a beanbag. When Ramos got back into the car and started to drive away, Taylor shot him with a rifle.

A search of the car failed to turn up a gun, police said later. The entire episode was captured on police video.

Black and Hispanic community activists reacted to the shooting with outrage, protest demonstrations and calls for Manley to resign.

Demonstrators in Austin invoked

Ramos' name when they took to the streets to protest the May killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

Austin Mayor Steve Adler called the shooting "disturbing" after viewing a video captured by a bystander. Adler said Ramos did not appear to pose a threat to police.

At the time of the incident, Taylor had been with the department for five years.

COVID bill gives states a pathway to reduce maternal deaths

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Labor and delivery are thought of as the riskiest times for new mothers, but many women die in the weeks and months after giving birth. Now a provision in the COVID-19 relief bill could help change that.

The legislation gives states the option of extending Medicaid coverage to women with low to modest incomes for a full year after childbirth. States are currently required to provide 60 days of coverage, but medical experts point to research showing that women can die from pregnancy-related conditions up to a year after giving birth, and that 3 in 5 of all such deaths are preventable.

The maternal health provisions would make it easier for states to cover new mothers for a full year by cutting the time and paperwork needed to obtain approval from Washington under Medicaid, as well as the Children's Health Insurance Program. Maternal health advisory groups in 19 states, from Texas to Massachusetts, and Washington to Tennessee, have recommended such an extension. Last year a bipartisan bill to do so cleared the House but failed to advance in the Senate.

The legislation has been shepherded by Rep. Robin Kelly, D-Ill., who serves on the House committee that oversees Medicaid, the federal-state program covering about 1 in 5 Americans, from many newborns, to low-income adults and frail nursing home residents. Kelly explained that a constituent brought the problem to her attention several years ago.

"I never realized that maternal mortality was such a big issue in this country," said Kelly, who represents Chicago.

It's particularly serious for Black women, whose pregnancy-related death rate is three times that of white women. "For Black women, it cuts across socio-economic levels," said Kelly, who is Black. "It's a health equity issue."

A congressional commission known as MACPAC, which advises lawmakers on Medicaid policy, is recommending that Congress go beyond what's in the legislation. The commission recently voted to urge lawmakers that a full year of coverage be standard in every state, and that the federal government pay the entire cost.

Medicaid is able to play a key role because the program already pays for about 4 out of 10 births, said Hannah Katch of the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.

But American women are now far more likely to die from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth than women in 10 other economically ad-

vanced countries, according to a recent Commonwealth Fund study. Countries compared included Canada, Germany, Australia and the United Kingdom. Lack of post-partum care in the U.S. was seen as a part of the problem.

About 700 U.S. women die annually because of pregnancy-related problems, and a little over half of those deaths happen sometime after the woman has given birth, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Nearly 12% of maternal deaths occur 43 to 365 days after delivery. Surprisingly, heart conditions are responsible for more than one-third of the deaths.

"There are many issues that don't necessarily show up immediately, either during pregnancy or childbirth," said Dr. Veronica Pimentel, a Hartford, Connecticut, obstetrician who specializes in caring for high-risk patients. "It has to do with underlying conditions that women may have, including obesity and older age." A full year of Medicaid coverage would promote continuity of care, allowing new mothers to keep seeing the doctors who guided them through pregnancy, she added.

Medical groups are hoping to see a strong response from states.

"This new pathway is much less burdensome for states," said Emily Eckert, a health policy expert with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. "Some of the hurdles we've been hearing about from advocates on the ground are going to be washed away."

The extension provided by the COVID-19 bill would be available starting next year. But then it would expire after five years unless Congress reapproves it or makes it permanent.

Some Republicans who disdain the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package say they would like to see the maternal health provisions made permanent.

"We must strive to improve maternal health outcomes and reduce maternal mortality," said Rep. Michael Burgess, R-Texas, who cosponsored legislation with Kelly, the Chicago Democrat, in the last Congress. "If you're going to spend all this money, spend it on the right policies."

Kelly says she has no problem with that. "So many of these deaths are preventable, so we need to do all the things that we can do," she said.

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Lady Steers have four Powerlifters Qualify for State



Courtesy Photos

The Lady Steers Powerlifting Team traveled to Monahans this past weekend Mar. 5-6, to compete in Regionals. Big Spring had four ladies make it all the way to lift at State in Corpus Cristi on March 19.

By DUSTIN POPE

Herald Sports Writer

The Big Spring Steer Girls Powerlifting team competed at Regionals this past weekend Mar. 5-6, in Monahans. The team had four lady Steers, Jha'Niah Johnson, Jocelyn Gonzales, Gissele Holguin, and Ashlin Calvio, all qualified for the opportunity to lift at State in Corpus Christi on March 19.

Big Spring had six participants that qualified to compete at the Regionals. Valerie Hernandez had

a 560 pound total to finish in 12th place on the day. Rebecca Rodriguez finished in fifth place with a total of 805 pounds. Ashlin Calvio had a 550 pound total to earn fourth-place and a shot to lift in State. Gissele Holguin took fifth place with a 650 pound total, also punching a ticket to State. She was followed by fellow Lady Steer Jha'Niah Johnson, who finished in second place with an amazing total of 930 Pounds on the day. Johnson also qualified for a shot to compete at State. Jocelyn Gonzales blew away the competition, finishing in first place with

a whopping 945 pound total that included a new deadlift record of 401 pounds. She would be the fourth and final Lady Steer to qualify for State.

Congratulations to all the Lady Steers who competed this past weekend on a job well done, and let us all wish the young women who Qualified for State Good Luck!

Dustin is the Sports Writer for the Big Spring Herald. To contact him e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com, or call 432-263-7331

The NBA returns: 10 things to know entering the second half

By TIM REYNOLDS AP
Basketball Writer

The All-Star break, such as it was, is over.

The NBA returns Wednesday with a pair of games: Washington at Memphis and San Antonio at Dallas. Another 21 teams start their second-half slates on Thursday, and the five remaining teams get back on the court Friday.

Here's 10 things to know about what's happening, what might happen and what to watch the rest of the way:

NO MORE ADVANTAGE

Home teams have gone 285-248 this season, a .535 winning percentage. It's on pace to be the lowest in NBA history.

The record in that department is .551, set last season — and it was trending that way even before the pandemic. The bubble and playing the final 88 regular-season games without fans had nothing to do with that change; in fact, "home" teams in the bubble won 56% of their games at Walt Disney World.

But this year, teams believe the lack of fans factors into home-court advantage not meaning much. Plus, road teams are getting more rest than usual — they're often in one city for multiple days to play a pair of games and typically can't leave their hotels for anything other than basketball.

HEAVY CROWN

Utah has the best record at the All-Star break, which obviously suggests the Jazz are a title contender.

Recent history says otherwise.

In the previous 11 seasons, nine teams that had the best record at the break didn't win the championship. The only exceptions: Miami in 2012 (the Heat were tied with NBA Finals runner-up Oklahoma City that season at 27-7 during the break), and Golden State in both 2015 and 2017.

3'S STILL WILD

Even with shortened schedules — teams playing 72 games instead of the usual 82 — there is a chance the record for 3-pointers made league-wide in a season gets broken.

NBA teams are on pace to make 27,731 3-pointers this season. That would be just 224 shy of the record, which is 27,955 set in 2018-19.

Teams are averaging 12.8 made 3's per game, so the league is on pace to break that record for the ninth consecutive season. They're also averaging 34.9 attempts from 3-point range per game, which will be a record for a 10th consecutive season — and nearly double the rate from a decade ago.

EAST BEASTS

Washington's Bradley Beal leads the NBA in scoring at 32.7 points per game, and Philadelphia's Joel Embiid is second at 30.2 per contest.

The Eastern Conference having the leaders in this category is a new twist.

No player from an East team has won a scoring title since Carmelo Anthony did for New York in 2012-13. And the last time the East had the league's two leading scorers for a full season was 2008-09 — when Miami's Dwyane Wade won the title, and Cleveland's LeBron James was second.

SECOND-HALF SPURS

There are four teams with active streaks of at least five consecutive seasons with winning records after the All-Star break.

Toronto has five, Portland seven and Houston eight. And they're all light years away from San Antonio.

The Spurs have a winning post-All-Star record in 22 consecutive seasons — a streak so long that it predates the last time the league didn't have an All-Star Game. The Spurs went 22-12 after the break in 1997-98, there was no game because of the shortened season in 1998-99, and the San Antonio streak has kept going every year since.

The Spurs are 449-192 in the last 22 post-All-Star stretches, a 70% winning clip.

HECTIC TIME

The first half was hectic. There were 533 games in the season's first 72 days (excluding Christmas Eve, always an off day for the NBA), for an average of 7.4 games per day.

The second half could be busier.

If every remaining game gets played — in fairness, that's a very big 'if' — the league would have 547 games over 68 days in the second half, or an average of just over eight games per day.

RISING SUNS

Phoenix hit the All-Star break with the league's second-best record at 24-11.

It is a major turnaround.

The Suns' records at the last five All-Star breaks were awful: 22-33 last season, preceded by a league-worst 11-48 in 2018-19, 18-41 (tied for worst in the league) in 2017-18, 18-39 (29th out of 30 teams) in 2016-17 and 14-40 (tied for third-worst) in 2015-16.

The last time the Suns were over .500 at the break had been 2014-15, when they were 29-25. And the last time they were this good by the break was 2007-08, when they were 37-16 — with current Brooklyn assistant Mike D'Antoni coaching, current Golden State coach Steve Kerr running the front office and current Nets head coach Steve Nash playing point guard.

CP3 NEARS 10,000

Another note on Phoenix: Chris Paul remains elite.

He's 47 assists away from 10,000 in his career, a milestone only five other players — John Stockton, Jason Kidd, Steve Nash, Mark Jackson and Magic Johnson — have reached.

This is Paul's 16th season. The New Orleans/Oklahoma City Hornets had a losing record in the games that he played over his first two seasons, a difficult time for that franchise following

the relocation caused by Hurricane Katrina.

His teams have done nothing but win big since.

This will be the 14th consecutive season in which Paul's team has a winning record when he plays; the Suns are 23-11 with him in the lineup this season.

All five of Paul's teams over those past 14 seasons — the Hornets, the Los Angeles Clippers, Houston, Oklahoma City and now Phoenix — have at least a .600 winning percentage in his regular-season appearances. Combined, his teams over those 14 years have won 66.4% of their games when he plays.

WORST BEST

It's not an easy season for any team, with the games coming very quickly, not a lot of practice time and rosters tending to be in flux because of virus-related matters.

Perhaps that's why no team has some sort of super-gaudy record at the break.

Utah's 27-9 mark after the first half is the league's "worst best" mark since Sacramento was 37-13 to lead the league going into the 2004 All-Star Game.

JIMMY'S ART

Miami's Jimmy Butler is one of the league's few players who thrive in the mid-range game.

That includes the unguarded 15-foot-er.

Butler might do something the league hasn't seen in 12 years. The last time someone averaged at least 20 points per game and got at least 35% of those points at the foul line was 2008-09 when Sacramento's Kevin Martin did it — averaging 24.6 points, getting 36.4% of them at the stripe.

Butler is averaging 20.5 points this season, 35% of that from free throws.

Last season, Butler came close, with 37.9% of his points from the foul line. But he averaged 19.9 points, only three points shy of averaging exactly 20.0.

MLB Rangers in line to be first team back to full capacity

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)

The Texas Rangers could have a full house for their home opener next month after debuting their new 40,518-seat stadium without fans in the stands for their games last season.

If that happens, the Rangers could be the first team in Major League Baseball or any major U.S.-based sports league to have a full-capacity crowd since the coronavirus pandemic started rapidly shutting down sports a year ago this week.

On the same day that Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's order took effect allowing businesses in the state to operate at 100% capacity, Rangers president of business operations and CEO Neil Leibman said the team hopes to be at that for the April 5 opener against the Toronto Blue Jays.

Local officials would be able to impose "mitigation strategies" such as reduced capacity if virus hospitalizations exceed 15% of all hospital capacity in their region over certain periods.

Even with his order, Abbott has encouraged the public to continue practicing social distancing measures and wearing masks, though they are no longer mandated.

The Rangers will still require fans to wear masks for games, unless they are actively eating and drinking at their seats, as was the case for postseason MLB games played at their stadium last October.

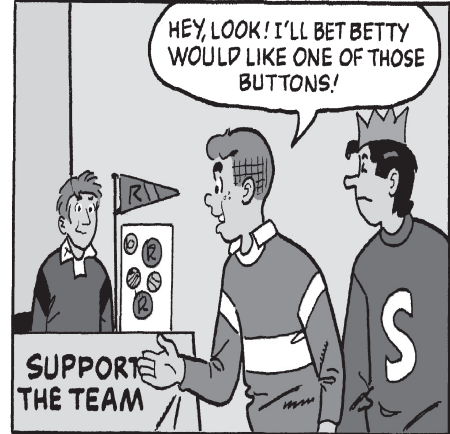
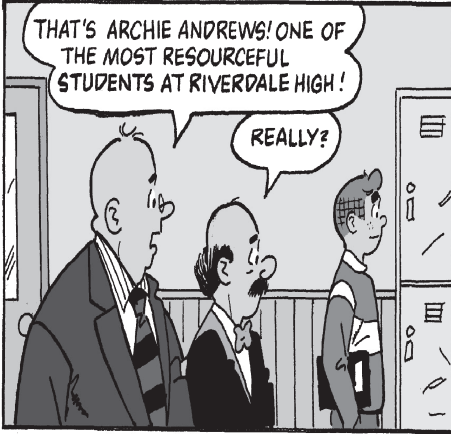
After the Rangers played all 30 of their home games during the shortened 2020 season without fans, MLB allowed about 28% capacity at the retractable-roof stadium for the National League Championship Series and World Series that were played there exclusively. Abbott was on hand for the World Series opener, where he got to deliver the "Play Ball!" message before a crowd of 11,388.

SUNDAY COMICS

HERALD

Weekend Edition, March 13 & 14, 2021

Archie



MOMMA

BY MELL LAZARUS

FRANCIS' TO-DO LIST FOR MOMMA'S RETIREMENT:

- VISIT AUNT SOPHIE.
- TRAVEL TO PARIS.
- LEARN A LANGUAGE.

MOMMA'S TO-DO LIST FOR HER RETIREMENT:

- SPEND MUCH MORE TIME WITH MY CHILDREN.



3-14 LAZARUS

Agnes

by TONY COCHRAN

TODAY, WE DO THAT "DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME" THING AGAIN.

DO WE ADD AN HOUR OR SUBTRACT AN HOUR?

UM... GOOD QUESTION. LET'S SEE... "SPRING AROUND, FALL OVER." I THINK THAT'S THE SAYING.

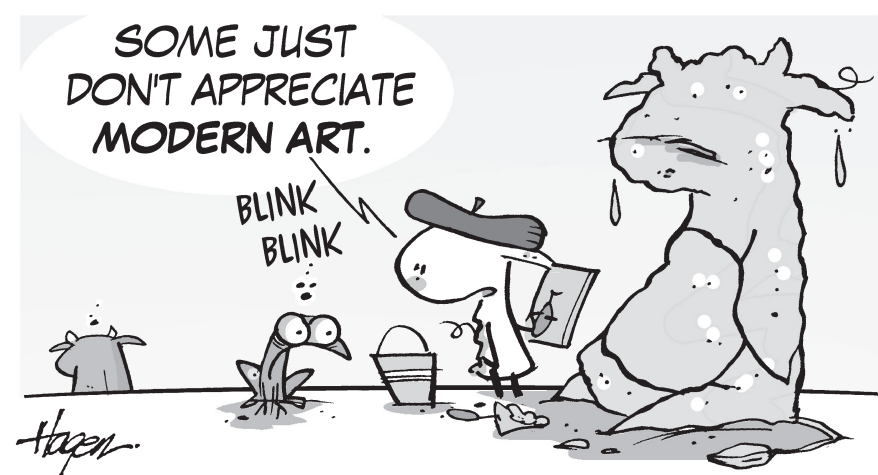
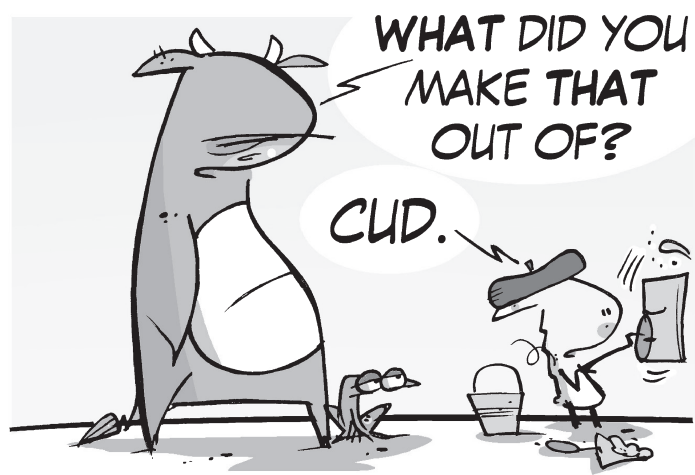
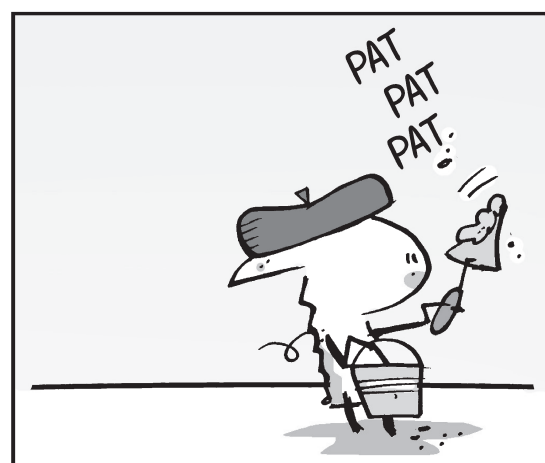
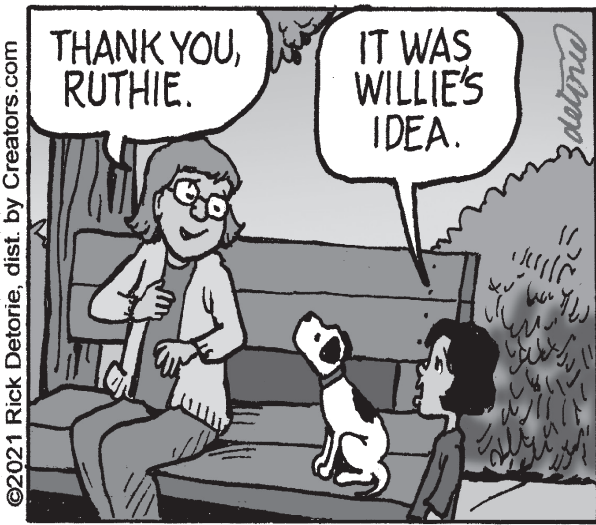
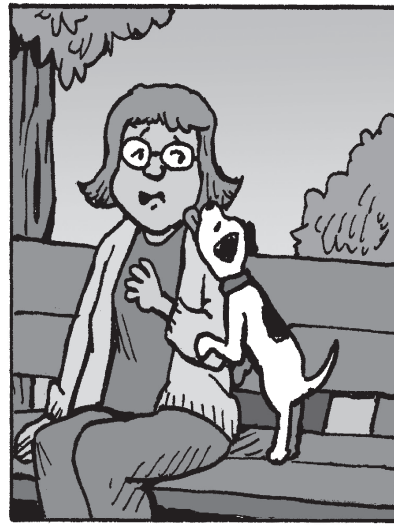
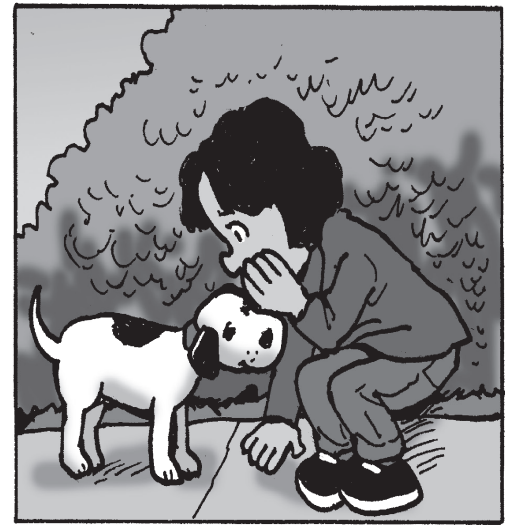
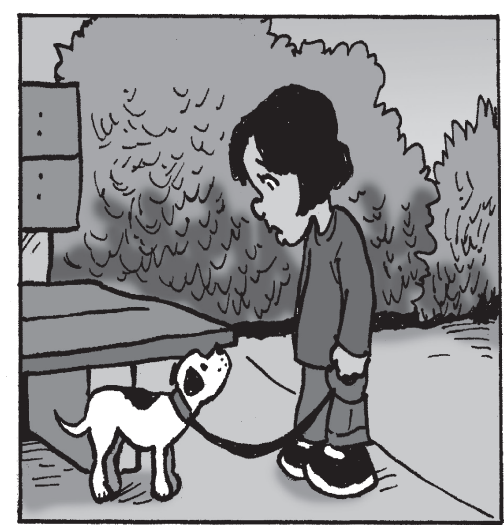
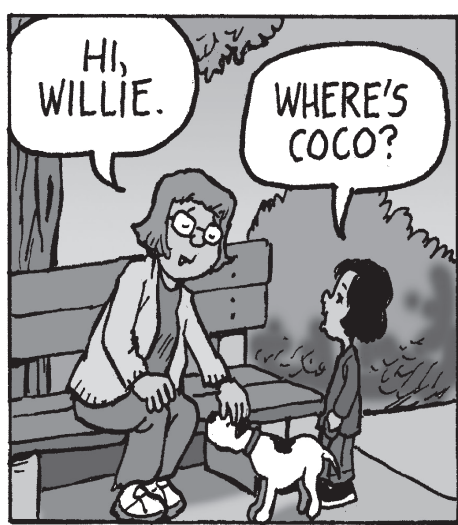
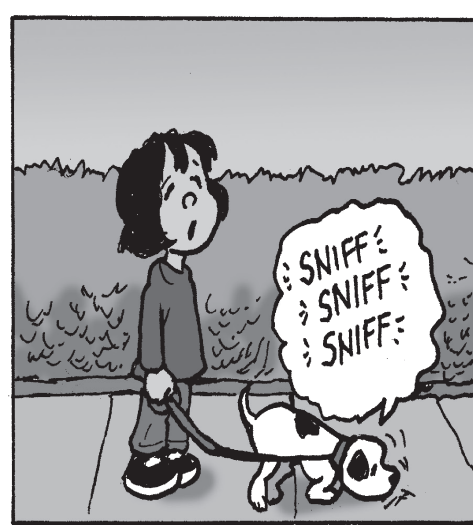
THAT MAKES NO SENSE.

YOU'RE RIGHT. HEY! IT'S ALSO PIE DAY!

NOW THAT MAKES SENSE!



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ANDY CAPP

by Smythe



Annie's Mailbox

Not Really Invited

Dear Annie: This has bothered me for a while, and I just can't get over it. My brother got divorced when his children were very small. His ex, "Susie," always said that we, "the family," were the cause of their divorce, even though Susie cheated on him. I have dealt with it over the years and decided it is not my problem or my fault, and I'm over that part of my life. My brother and Susie did a fine job of co-parenting their children, who have now grown into decent adults.

Here is the problem. Five years ago, my niece was getting married. The wedding day was on my 50th birthday. When we received the invitation for the wedding, it was addressed to my husband. And in an afterthought, "and guess" -- yes, they misspelled "guest" -- was scrawled beneath his name on the envelope.

I know that Susie was the one who addressed the envelope, and she was intentionally snubbing me. I was hurt that they couldn't even put my name on the invitation, or at least have addressed it to "Mr. and

Mrs." followed by our last name. We have been married for 15 years. And besides, I'm the one more closely related to my niece. My husband is only related through our marriage.

I was sure that a confrontation would have happened between Susie and me if I'd gone. I didn't want to do that to my niece on her big day.

Because of that, and because I wasn't really invited, I decided to skip the wedding and celebrate my 50th birthday instead. Well, it bothered my brother -- a lot. And in the five

years since, he's hardly spoken to me.

Since our dad passed away earlier this year, I've called my brother several times. He doesn't answer the phone. A couple times, I've called my mom's house, and he's answered. But he's quick to hand off the phone to her and hardly says a word. So now I've stopped calling or texting. Obviously, it still bothers him that I didn't go. Now I'm an outcast to the family. My mom is the only one that speaks to me. I love my brother. I never expected him to get this mad. What I'm wondering is

this: Should I have just bit the bullet and put my feelings aside and went to the wedding? What can I do now? -- Not Really Invited

Dear Not Really Invited: The invitation was sent by your ex-sister-in-law, but the wedding was your niece's. I don't think it was fair to effectively punish her (and your brother) for a slight they had nothing to do with it. But there's no use dwelling on wouldas, couldas or shouldas. Your second question -- what to do now -- is the one that really counts. And my advice on that front is to swallow your

pride, let go of your anger and apologize to your brother. Let him know that your dad's death has made you realize how short life is and how precious family is. Ask that you put aside your differences and open up a dialogue again. Send the letter via email and regular mail, so that he has a better chance of reading it. If he still shuts you out, you can find serenity in knowing that you've done what you can. The rest is out of your hands.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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By Steve Becker

A necessary assumption

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 5
♥ AK 10 8 3
♦ AK 8 5 2
♣ A
WEST
♠ K J 3
♥ J 9 7 6
♦ Q 9 3
♣ 9 7 2
EAST
♠ A 9 8 4 2
♥ Q 5 4
♦ J 10 6
♣ J 10
SOUTH
♠ Q 10 6
♥ 2
♦ 7 4
♣ K Q 8 6 5 4 3

The bidding:
South West North East
3♣ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♣ Pass 4♦ Pass
5♣
Opening lead — three of spades.

There are many instances where a defender has to hope that a certain lie of the cards exists without any assurance that it actually does. In these cases, the defender simply adopts the stoic philosophy that if the situation he's hoping for does not exist, nothing else could be done to alter the outcome.

Consider West's predicament early in the play of today's deal, where South reached five clubs on the bidding shown. The opening spade lead was taken by East's ace, and his four-of-spades return was

covered by the ten and jack, putting West on lead at trick three.

It was obvious to West that if South's presumed seven-card club suit was headed by the K-Q-J or K-Q-10, the contract could not be defeated, since declarer would inevitably score seven club tricks plus the A-K of hearts and A-K of diamonds. He therefore had to hope South's clubs were not solid.

West reasoned further that if his partner had the K-x of clubs, the contract would fail no matter what he did next. But if East held either the Q-x or J-10 of clubs, it was essential to force dummy to ruff a spade at this point.

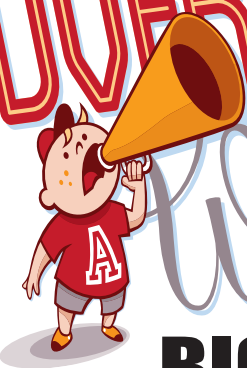
Accordingly, West returned the king of spades at trick three. Declarer ruffed with dummy's ace, but later had to lose a club to West's nine for down one.

Although West had no choice but to lead a third round of spades under the circumstances, it is important to note that after winning the jack of spades at trick two, West knew for sure that South had at least one more spade. Declarer's spade holding was revealed by East's return of the four — his original fourth-best spade — on the second trick.

With only one lower spade — the deuce — unaccounted for at that point, East could not have started with more than five spades, marking declarer with at least three cards in the suit.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Moon of the Beyond

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Ever since the Big Bang, this plane of existence has been made up of contrasts, curves and cycles. You wouldn't want it all one way. Embrace how it is now. It's about to change.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll fill this day with as much affection, warmth and laughter as you can muster, in full-knowledge that people are attractive people. You're in the mood to be improvisational and turn things into a game whenever possible.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It really doesn't matter how good a person is at formulating answers if all of the questions are pointless. This is why you examine your questions with the aim of up-leveling before you ask them.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your water-sign instincts lend an innate understanding of the significance of paddling in the same direction as the others in the boat. Today's rowers will be all over the place until you take charge.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have an extremely generous attitude with your friends and only need to point that inward to get fantastic results today. What is it that would make you smile? Get it, do it, be it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You will travel through the magic of

media and

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



dreams. Your own fantasies provide the sweetest escapes but much more is possible. Learning to guide your imagination is a skill that will bring good fortune to hand.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be working your mind like it's your job -- because it is. While feeding your brain the facts and figures that will be necessary, also throw in the unnecessary stuff that makes it all go down a little sweeter.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Though you're not a spy or a member of a secret society, and you're not doing much today that you shouldn't be doing, you still want privacy and appreciate most those who respect yours the best.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have that caring vibe now, which is why someone in need of comfort, protection and nurturing will be drawn to you. You don't have to know the right way to help -- willingness is enough.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Managing relationships is the most important business of the

day. Is it on the task list? It belongs there, as caring for relationships takes time and specificity beyond what many other "to-do" items require.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Communicating well will require careful articulation, patience and a level of attention emotional attunement that is, quite frankly, work. Nonetheless, everything good comes through good communication.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Love will feel like a kind of completion. Matters of the heart have great potential to resolve well, allowing you to trust and give more freely and with greater integration of different parts of yourself.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 11). Perhaps improving sleep, fitness and nutrition is not included on your list of ambitious and glamorous goals. And yet, self-discipline in this regard will be cosmically the birthday gift you'll most cherish, as all you desire will

be served on the shiny platter of good habits. An excellent rating gets you promoted in June. Aries and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 10, 33, 36 and 41.

COSMIC QUESTION: "I'm a Leo and my hair never seems to work out. Why is that? I thought my sign was about having a thick mane of beautiful hair. My hair is a betrayal. I keep thinking that the right stylist will change my life, but it never happens. What should I do?"

Not every Leo is born with a lustrous mane, but I've yet to find a Leo who doesn't care a great deal about their crowning tresses. Your hair reflects your mood, attitudes and place in life. Consider that your limitations may very well be your strengths. Beauty is not about having perfect features and stellar physical appearance on all levels but about what you do with the package you have. I'm a Leo, too, and consider myself to be among the "folically challenged." In its natural state, my hair is high on frizz, low on volume. Well, that's what makes the multibillion-dollar world of hair products spin round! Why not try it all? Cuts, volumizers, wigs, mousses, pins and hats... have fun with it. The quest to top that beautiful brain of yours with a hairstyle to match is just another one of the many extensions of your vibrant personality.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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SUDOKU

9x9 grid with numbers and empty cells for a Sudoku puzzle.

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

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!

9x9 grid with the solution to the Sudoku puzzle.

ANSWER:

	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWWT (14)	KWES2 (15)	WTBS (33)	TNT (34)	ESPN (35)	ESPN2 (36)	FSN (38)	USA (55)	A&E (58)	DISC (60)
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Midland	Atlanta	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Sports	New York	New York	Discovery
5:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS 7	Tele	News	The	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Big Bang	Bones	SportCtr		Sports	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	BattleBots
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS	Noticias	News	Behind	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Big Bang		College Basketball	College Basketball	Fish	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	BattleBots
6:PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatión Unidos (SS)	News	HaYesod	Xavier	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Foodies			Inside	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	BattleBots
6:30	Wheel		Big Bang	ET		News	House	Molly	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	NBA Basketball: Boston Celtics at Brooklyn Nets.			Spotlight			
7:PM	Station 19	Te doy la vida	Hell's Kitchen	Sheldon B Positive		Super	Master	Hero	Dateline	Walker	Big Bang		Basket	Basketball	The Blitz	Chrisley	The First 48	BattleBots
7:30	Grey's Anatomy	Amor eterno	Kat	(01) Mom	La suerte de Loli	Law & Order: SVU	Light of Southwest	Arthur	WordGirl	Law Order: CI	Legacies	Go-Big Show	College Basketball	College Basketball	Mavs Pre.	Chrisley		
8:PM	Million Little	Como tú no hay dos	FOX 24 News at 9	Clarice	Buscando a Frida	Dateline NBC	Light of Southwest	Cyber	Mike	Seinfeld	(02) Wipeout	NBA Basketball: Warriors at Clippers			NBA Basketball: Mavericks at Thunder	Chrisley	(01) Night-watch	BattleBots
8:30	ABC	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Noticias	News	Zion	Pink	Friends	Creek	Conan		College Basketball	College Basketball	The Rev	Boss	(04) The First 48	
9:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show: Colbert	Noticias	Tonight Show	Words of	Elinor	Friends	Creek	Go-Big Show		Basket	SportCtr	Mavs	Chrisley	(03) The First 48	BattleBots
9:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Contacto deportivo	Funny	James Corden	Caso cerrado (SS)	Seth Meyers	Freedom	Tiger	Jokers	Gold	Conan	Inside the NBA	College Basketball	SportsCenter	Focused	Fish	Chrisley	(04) The First 48
10:PM	Nightline	Extra	Inocente de ti	Simpsons	Drew Barrymore	Late-Lilly	Behind	Nature	Forensic	Short List	(02) Wipeout	NBA Basketball: Celtics at Brooklyn	SportsCenter	E60	Mavericks at Thunder	The Rev	(04) Night-watch	BattleBots
10:30	AM	Paid Prg. Healthy	Papá a toda madre	Pawn	Paid Prg.	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Wild Kratt	Jerry Springer	Short List Unlimited	(02) Wipeout	SportsCenter	UFC Fight Night: Dos Anjos vs...				

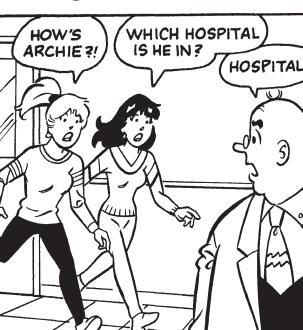
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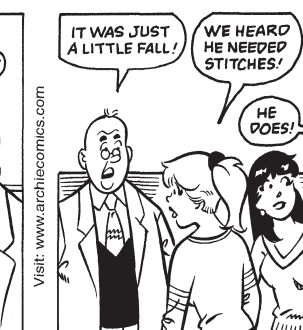
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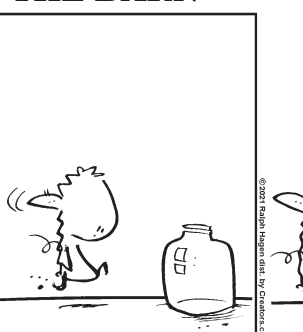
ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



THE BARN



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Thursday, March 11, the 70th day of 2021. There are 295 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 11, 1918, what were believed to be the first confirmed U.S. cases of a deadly global flu pandemic were reported among U.S. Army soldiers stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas; 46 would die. (The worldwide outbreak of influenza claimed an estimated 20 to 40 million lives.)

On this date:

In 1862, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln removed Gen. George B. McClellan as general-in-chief of the Union armies, leaving him in command of the Army of the Potomac, a post McClellan also ended up losing.

In 1935, the Bank of Canada began operations, issuing its first series of bank notes.

In 1942, as Japanese forces continued to advance in the Pacific during World War II, U.S. Army Gen. Douglas MacArthur left the Philippines for Australia, where he vowed on March 20, "I shall return" — a promise he kept more than 2½ years later.

In 1954, the U.S. Army charged that Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis., and his subcommittee's chief counsel, Roy Cohn, had exerted pressure to obtain favored treatment for Pvt. G. David Schine, a former consultant to the subcommittee. (The confrontation culminated in the famous Senate Army-McCarthy hearings.)

In 1955, Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin, died in London at age 73.

In 1959, the Lorraine Hansberry drama "A Raisin in the Sun" opened at New York's Ethel Barrymore Theater.

In 1977, more than 130 hostages held in Washington, D.C., by Hanafi Muslims were freed after ambassadors from three Islamic nations joined the negotiations.

In 1985, Mikhail S. Gorbachev was chosen to succeed the late Konstantin U. Chernenko as general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.

In 1986, the state of Georgia pardoned Leo Frank, a Jewish businessman lynched in 1915

for the murder of 13-year-old Mary Phagan.

In 2004, ten bombs exploded in quick succession across the computer rail network in Madrid, Spain, killing 191 people in an attack linked to al-Qaida-inspired militants.

In 2006, former Serb leader Slobodan Milosevic (sloh-BOH'-dahn mee-LOH'-shuh-veech) was found dead of a heart attack in his prison cell in the Netherlands, abruptly ending his four-year U.N. war crimes trial; he was 64.

Ten years ago: A magnitude-9.0 earthquake and resulting tsunami struck Japan's northeastern coast, killing nearly 20,000 people and severely damaging the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power station. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker signed a measure to eliminate most union rights for public employees, a proposal that had provoked three weeks of loud, relentless protests. NFL owners and players broke off labor negotiations hours before their contract expired; the league imposed a lockout that lasted 4½ months. Songwriter Hugh Martin, whose works included "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "The Trolley Song," died in Encinitas, California, at age 96.

Five years ago: Nancy Reagan's life was celebrated by 1,000 invited guests gathered at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California, to pay final tribute to the former first lady who had died five days earlier at the age of 94. Keith Emerson, 71, founder and keyboardist of the progressive-rock band Emerson, Lake and Palmer, took his own life in Santa Monica, California; he was 71.

One year ago: With infection clusters expanding in the United States and Europe, the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic. In an Oval Office address to the nation, President Donald Trump said he was sharply restricting travel from Europe to the U.S. The NBA suspended its season "until further notice" after a Utah Jazz player tested positive for the coronavirus. Actor Tom Hanks said that he and his wife, Rita Wilson, had tested positive in Australia; they were isolated in stable condition in a hospital. Former Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein was sentenced to 23 years in prison for rape and sexual

abuse after delivering a rambling plea for mercy in a New York courtroom. Russian lawmakers approved constitutional reforms that would let President Vladimir Putin stay in power until 2036. Three service members, including two Americans, were killed when a barrage of rockets was fired at a military base in Iraq.

Today's Birthdays: Media mogul Rupert Murdoch is 90. Former ABC News correspon-

dent Sam Donaldson is 87. Musician Flaco Jimenez (FLAH'-koh hee-MEH'-nez) is 82. Actor Tricia O'Neil is 76. Actor Mark Metcalf is 75. Rock singer-musician Mark Stein (Vanilla Fudge) is 74. Singer Bobby McFerrin is 71. Movie director Jerry Zucker is 71. Singer Cheryl Lynn is 70. Actor Susan Richardson is 69. Recording executive Jimmy Iovine (eye-VEEN') is 68. Singer Nina Hagen is 66. Country singer Jimmy Fortune

(The Statler Brothers) is 66. Actor Elias Koteas (ee-LY'-uhs koh-TAY'-uhs) is 60. Actor-director Peter Berg is 59. Singer Mary Gauthier (GOH'-shay) is 59. Actor Jeffrey Nordling is 59. Actor Alex Kingston is 58. Actor Wallace Langham is 56. Former U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., D-Ill., is 56. Actor John Barrowman is 54. Singer Lisa Loeb is 53. Neo-soul musician Al Gamble (St. Paul & the Broken Bones) is 52. Singer Pete Droge is 52. Actor

Terrence Howard is 52. Rock musician Rami Jaffee is 52. Actor Johnny Knoxville is 50. Rock singer-musicians Benji and Joel Madden (Good Charlotte; The Madden Brothers) are 42. Actor David Anders is 40. Singer LeToya Luckett is 40. Actor Thor Birch is 39. TV personality Melissa Rycroft is 38. Actor Rob Brown is 37. Actor Jodie Comer is 28.

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Newsday Crossword

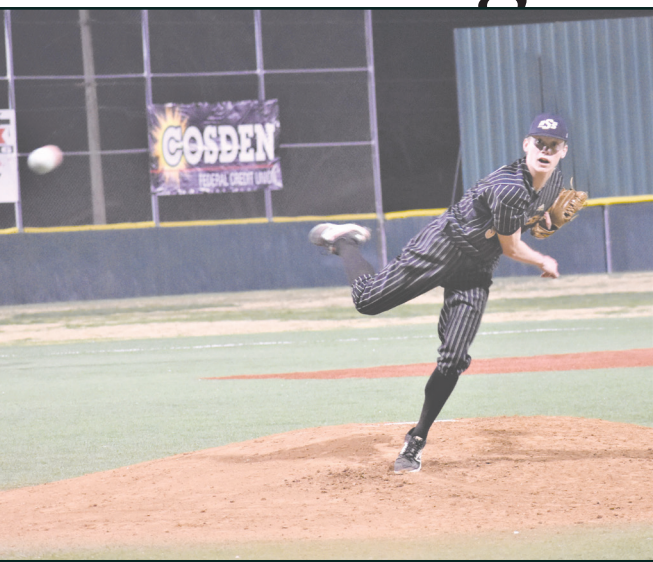
NOT FOR YOUR TOAST by Gary M. Larson Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tour conveyance
 - 4 Role models
 - 9 Unable to sit still
 - 14 Roughneck
 - 15 Solitaire measure
 - 16 Noncom's superior
 - 17 Minnesota medicine men
 - 20 Subatomic particle
 - 21 Dynamic starter
 - 22 ___ Republic of Egypt
 - 23 Improvisational playing
 - 29 Just released
 - 30 Smears on
 - 31 Connection point
 - 32 Highly assertive
 - 33 Gentleman caller
 - 35 With 38 Across, Clue suspect
 - 38 See 35 Across
 - 39 Comes up
 - 40 Has feelings (for)
 - 41 Slurpee alternative
 - 42 Performs perfectly
 - 43 Cartography sample
 - 46 Rust remover
 - 49 Call from the cradle
 - 50 One for the road
 - 51 Distortions
 - 52 Protected habitats
 - 58 Brownish green
 - 59 Made public
 - 60 Homophone of 59 Across' present tense

- 61 Landscaping tool
 - 62 Irish poet
 - 63 Fronted a band
- DOWN**
- 1 Cowled crimefighter
 - 2 "Psst!" follower, perhaps
 - 3 Keep changing one's mind
 - 4 Optimist's assertion
 - 5 Downtime for Dracula
 - 6 Gold: Sp.
 - 7 Ritchie Valens tune
 - 8 Play up
 - 9 Chorus contingent
 - 10 Japanese drama genre
 - 11 Low digit
 - 12 Corporal's address to a 16 Across
 - 13 "That's what I'm talkin' about!"
 - 18 Wild bunch
 - 19 Vein contents
 - 23 Wisecracks
 - 24 The Clan of the Cave Bear author
 - 25 Stormy states
 - 26 Slightest amount
 - 27 Neon's lack
 - 28 Obsessive fan
 - 30 Measure of force
 - 32 Where mariners go
 - 33 Ill-tempered
 - 34 Finds a place for
 - 35 Principal in a sibling rivalry story
 - 36 Black-and-white swimmer
 - 37 Actor Schreiber
 - 38 Send off
 - 40 Dietary measure
 - 42 Salary check figure
 - 43 "Universe" of superhero films
 - 44 French current researcher
 - 45 Overtook
 - 47 Cutter with light
 - 48 Stick (out)
 - 49 Scuff up, say
 - 51 Combines
 - 52 No pal of yours
 - 53 Out-of-date
 - 54 Make unfair
 - 55 Festive night
 - 56 Prominent period
 - 57 No longer changeable

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Steers Baseball shines in Senior night beating the Fort Stockton Panthers



Herald Photo/Dustin Pope

Top Left: Kyle Seymore delivers a pitch against the Fort Stockton Panthers, Seymore had 4 strikeouts on the night. **Top Center:** Jose Cantu smashes a base hit. **Top Right:** Ricky Escovedo look in at the catcher getting ready to pitch. The Steers would win 6 to 0 against the Fort Stockton Panthers.

By **DUSTIN POPE**

Herald Sports Writer

This Tuesday night Mar. 9, the Big Spring Steers Baseball team celebrated Senior day at Steers Park. Four Seniors were honored at the start of the game. Kyle Seymore, Jose Cantu, Marc Prieto, and Isaiah Solis all got the recognition they deserve.

The Steers took on the Fort Stockton Panthers on a windy Tuesday night under the lights. The Steers proved to be too much for the Panthers, winning a good game 6 to 0, improving their record to 8-3-1 on the season.

Senior Kyle Seymore took the mound in a tune-up game before the Steers open up district play next Tuesday. The senior would shine in the game, shutting down the Panthers in his three innings of work, giving up 0 runs, and striking out 4 in his limited time on the mound.

The game remained knotted at 0 to 0 until the Big Spring Steers broke through in the bottom of the fourth inning when they put up three runs to take a 3-0 lead. Isaiah Diaz got the ball rolling to start the bottom of the fourth with a hard hit double. Ricky Escovedo then followed up with a double of his own. Pablito Dehoyos kept the hit train moving in the inning, and all three came across to score in the inning.

Kyle Seymore, Isaiah Solis, Ricky Escovedo, and Gabriel Baeza combined to pitch a shut out, shutting the Panthers down all game long. Freshman Catcher Marcos Paredes showed maturity behind the plate calling a great game. Also, he showed off his arm by throwing out two would-be base-runners on the night.

The Steers put up three more insurance runs in the bottom of the sixth, when Maverick Yanez, Joshua Miramontes, and Jose Cantu all scored

runs in the inning. Increasing the lead to 6 to 0, a lead they would not relinquish as they went on to win by that score.

Big Spring is set to play co-host with Midland Greenwood in the West Texas Classic tournament this Thursday, Mar. 11- Saturday, Mar. 13. The Steers will play five games over the three days. They open up Thursday night at home at 6:01, followed by another home game Friday afternoon at 12:35, before moving to Midland playing at the Midland Rockhounds Ballpark Friday night at 6:01. Then playing in the same Rockhounds stadium Saturday afternoon at 12:31, Ending the slew of games back at home Saturday night at 6:01. This tournament will serve as the last bit of tune-up games before the Steers open up District play next week when they take on Lubbock Estacado next Tuesday, Mar. 16.

Bulldog Powerlifters compete in Regionals have Two Qualify For State



Courtesy Photos

Top Right: Christian Everett, left, and Serena Dobbs qualified for the THSWPA's state competition on Saturday at regional contest held in Kermit. **Top Left:** Coahoma High School Powerlifters pose for a photo following the THSWPA's regional meet held in Kermit on Saturday. Pictured are Zoie Joslin, left, Christian Everett, 2021 state qualifier; Serena Dobbs, 2021 state qualifier; and Cailey Glover.

Special to the Herald

Serena Dobbs and Christian Everett punched their tickets to the Texas High School's Women's Powerlifting Association's (THSWPA) state meet after qualifying at regional contest held on Saturday.

"I'm proud of all my powerlifters, and I am very lucky to get to coach them," said CHS powerlifting coach Coley Dobbs.

After recovering from an injury that occurred last year, Serena Dobbs performed personal bests on all three events — squat, bench, and deadlift — to earn fourth place out of 14 competitors in her weight class and a berth at state competition. The CHS sophomore squatted 240, benched 120 and hoisted 240 on deadlift for a total of 600 pounds of iron.

Everett qualified after finishing third in her weight class. She pumped a total of 550 pounds of iron at the meet. She lifted 195 on squat, benched 115 and hoisted 240 on deadlift. Everett was a 2020 state qualifier, but the meet was canceled because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"I am very proud of Christian," C. Dobbs said.

"Getting a state qualifying total is no easy feat."

Two-time state qualifier and three-time regional qualifier Cailey Glover ended her high school powerlifting career with a strong showing at the meet.

"She competed until the end and just missed her deadlift," C. Dobbs said. "She has always been a leader and one to rely on. She will be greatly missed."

Glover squatted 325, benched 175 and hoisted 285 on deadlift for a total 785 pounds. She finished in seventh place in her weight class.

Rounding out the Coahoma powerlifting athletes was Zoie Joslin who placed 12th in her weight class. The first-year powerlifter squat 175, benched 80, and pumped 190 on deadlift for a total 445 pounds of iron.

"Zoie did great for her first year of powerlifting and qualified for regionals her first year of trying the sport," Dobbs said.

The state THSWPA competition will be held on March 19-20 in Corpus Christi. This year's coaches for the Coahoma powerlifting team are C. Dobbs,

Pierce, Cooper, Bosh lead finalists for 2021 Hoop Hall class

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)

Boston Celtics star Paul Pierce, "Showtime" Los Angeles Lakers star Michael Cooper and 11-time NBA All-Star Chris Bosh lead a list of 14 finalists for the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2021.

The list announced Tuesday features six other first-time finalists: former NBA coach Rick Adelman, two-time NCAA champion

and Villanova coach Jay Wright, two-time Olympic gold medalist Yolanda Griffith, three-time WNBA MVP Lauren Jackson and former WNBA coach of the year Marianne Stanley, plus Hall of Famer Bill Russell for inclusion as a coach.

Russell, who won 11 NBA titles while playing for the Celtics, became the NBA's first Black head coach in 1966 while he was still a player. He led Boston to back-to-

back NBA titles in 1967-68 and 1968-69 and was inducted into the Hall of Fame as a player in 1975.

Rounding out the list of finalists are Leta Andrews, the all-time winningest high school coach, male or female; Michigan "Fab Five" member Chris Webber; 2000 Olympic gold medalist Tim Hardaway; five-time NBA All-Star Marques Johnson and four-time NBA defensive player of the year Ben

Wallace.

The Class of 2021 will be announced on May 16. The enshrinement ceremony is scheduled for September in Springfield. The exact date has not been released.

The Class of 2020 ceremony, headlined by the late Lakers star Kobe Bryant, was postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic and has been rescheduled for May 14-16 in Uncasville, Connecticut.

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