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WEDNESDAY EDITION,
 JANUARY 13, 2021

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VOLUME 116, NUMBER 98 COPYRIGHT 2021 75 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND EDITION



Recognitions for years of service top City Council agenda Tuesday

By IRIS RANGEL
 Herald Staff Writer



HERALD photo/Iris Rangel
City Council recognized several city employees for their 25 years of service. In addition, Robert Diaz's family was recognized for his years of service.

City council convened Tuesday afternoon to discuss multiple updates and presentations in regards to COVID-19, Large Item Pickup, and the upcoming General Election for Council member seats Two, Four, and Six.

After taking a moment for public comment, the council moved into a presentation for Robert Diaz's family. Diaz's family was recognized for his service to the community and the city. A commemorative plaque was also given in his honor.

"He will be forever remembered by the city and its citizens for the job he

did. This is our way of appreciating him for his years of service," City Manager Todd Darden said.

Another presentation was held for city employees with 25 years of service. Mayor Shannon Thomason presented the awards to Deputy Chief Steve Badell, Lieutenant Ron Phillips, Fire Marshall Daniel Hendrickson, Lieutenant Brian Gorman, and Michael Coffman in recognition of their 25 years of

hard work for the City of Big Spring. "This is one of the greatest things that we get to do... is show our appreciation to those that have put in years of service with the city of Big Spring," Mayor Thomason said.

In the City Manager's Report, Darden mentioned the Large Item Pickup program that recently completed its first year of services to district residents. Darden also made note that there will be a direct mailing notice sent out for Large Item Pickup to residents with a water bill. According to Public Works Director Shane Bowles, from all districts, a total of 518,940 pounds of trash has been collected. This would equate to saving citizens \$11,935.62 in tipping fees from the city landfill. The new 2021

See CITY, Page 3

- Upcoming Events**
- Large Item Pick Up Jan. 20; last day to schedule Jan. 19
 - Silver Wings Ball Jan. 30
 - The Club at Silver Hills 5:30 p.m. cocktails 6:45 p.m. dinner
 - SMMC Virtual Hiring Event Jan. 19-20
 - Howard County Area Honor Rolls will be featured Jan. 14
 - Big Spring Area Chamber Banquet Feb. 11 at 1:30 p.m.

Hundreds brave frigid temperatures to receive COVID-19 vaccination

West Texas VA Health Care System hold first drive-thru vaccination clinic



Courtesy photo/Michael Cole, Public Affairs Officer, West Texas VA Health Care System, and U.S. Navy Veteran

U.S. Army Veteran Randy Ferguson is among the first to receive the COVID-19 vaccination at West Texas VA Health Care System's first drive-thru vaccination clinic held Jan. 9, 2021 at the George H. O'Brien Jr, VA Medical Center in Big Spring, TX. Ferguson, a U.S. Army retiree, made the nearly 100-mile trek from San Angelo, TX to Big Spring, TX to receive the vac-

ination. Veterans can schedule their vaccination by calling the WTVAHCS COVID-19 Vaccination Hot Line at 432-268-2564.

Special to the Herald
 West Texas VAMC

U.S. Army Veteran Randy Ferguson was among the first in line at West Texas VA Health Care System's first COVID-19 drive-thru vaccination clinic. Braving 28-degree temperatures and heavy fog, Ferguson and about 100 WTVAHCS staff broached the ear-

ly morning hours of Saturday Jan. 9, 2021 to begin the first offensive actions in putting the COVID-19 virus in the rearview mirror.

First in line Veterans, scheduled to receive some of the first Moderna vaccinations available in the health care system, began lining up shortly

See WTVA, Page 3

COVID-19 Updates

SMMC will not be hosting a 1B community vaccination clinic this week. Only 100 doses were received this week and more 1a workers have chosen to be vaccinated. The weekly allocation is now focused on the second dose vaccines for those who have already received the first dose.

Outpatient COVID testing in Big Spring

Gregg Street Clinic
 2301 South Gregg St
 Big Spring, Texas 79720
 Clinic Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

910 S. Main St.
 Big Spring, TX 79720
 Clinic Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

West Texas Medical Plaza
 1501 W 11th Place
 Big Spring, Texas 79720
 Clinic Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

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BSISD Board agenda to include HB3 Goals, Trustee Election, and Annual Delinquent Tax Report

By AMANDA DUFORAT
 Managing Editor

The Big Spring ISD Board of Trustees will convene for the January regular meeting on Thursday at 5:15 p.m. in the High School Board Room.

The meeting will open with prayer and the pledge before opening the floor for public comments. Once the public comments have concluded, the Board will hear report items including annual delinquent tax report, upcoming election dates and report on Cooperative Fees paid by Big Spring ISD.

As part of the Consent Agenda, the Board members will look to approve minutes from the Dec. 10, 2020 board meeting along with the financial reports.

For discussion items, the Trustees will hear information pertaining to HB3 Goals before moving into Action Items. First item of action is the consideration of adopting HB3 Goals as discussed. A resolution to enter into a joint election agreement with the City of Big Spring and a contract with Howard County Election Administrator to conduct School Trustee Election for May 1, 2021 will

be presented.

Moving on, the Trustees will look to accept and approve donations, approval of employment recommendations and personnel issues including: employment, resignations, reassignment, duties, performance, problems and evaluations. This discussion could turn to a closed session under Texas Government Code 551.074.

As part of the Superintendent's Report, Jay McWilliams will present resignations and retirements, as well as Enrollment numbers. The Board Training requirements will also be discussed

before McWilliams presents the Covid-19 update and other district updates.

The Trustees will also discuss the Superintendent Evaluation before recognition takes place for the Big Spring ISD Board of Trustees.

The community is welcome to attend the meetings and address the Trustees during public comment.

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

Find us online at:
 www.bigspringherald.com

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You may have met Expedition Royalty Co. for the first time when we sponsored the Big Spring Rodeo or the Howard County Fair this fall. Our commitment to Howard County runs deep. We have made deals for thousands of acres here, and our people have decades of experience serving Permian Basin mineral rights owners. We're proud to be part of the community, sponsoring and participating in big events year-round. But we're even prouder to be your mineral advisor in the Permian every day. Get in touch today for a free evaluation of your property and its mineral rights.

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Obituaries

Raymond Lee Straub

Raymond Lee Straub, the "pater familias" to the West Texas Straub Family, a third generation, lifelong resident of Stanton, Texas, passed away after fighting a short illness just 15 days before his 89th birthday on Monday, Jan. 11, 2021.

He peacefully slipped his earthly bonds to join the Lord and his sons: Charles Lee Straub, Baby Straub, and Martin Ray Straub at his home surrounded by his family whom he loved.

Raymond was born on Jan. 26, 1932 in Stanton, Texas to the Alsatian Catholic Family of Albert Charles Straub and Beatrice Ursula Ridings Straub. He grew up in Stanton as the youngest of six Straub children: Margret Beatrice Straub, Willie Mae Straub, Albert Charles Straub Jr., Bobby Jo Straub, and Claude Wallace Straub. All of which have preceded him in death.

He attended the Sisters of Mercy Catholic School and Stanton High School in Stanton and Saint Edwards Military Institute in Austin. He was drafted and served shortly in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict then returned home to Stanton where he made his life.

Raymond was a successful businessman who started his business in 1957 trucking and selling agricultural products to the local farmers. Raymond married Wanda Jean Anderson of Odessa, Texas on Oct. 27, 1959. Shortly after, Wanda started helping him in what would become their enterprises. Throughout the 1960's and 1970's they had RL Straub Chemical

Victor Yanez Garcia

Victor Yanez Garcia, age 90, of Arlington, went to be with his heavenly Father on Dec. 29, 2020. He was born May 7, 1930, in Big Spring, Texas, the son of Victor D. Garcia and Maria Inez Yanez. Victor married Maria Celia Doperto and they celebrated 62 years of marriage together.

Victor grew up in Big Spring and spent many years between there and his grandfather's ranch where he tended livestock, horses and trapping. He was drafted into the Army 82nd Airborne Division. Victor excelled in many jobs including plumbing, construction, and as a dietician. Victor enjoyed playing baseball as a kid and later coached girls' softball. In his spare time, he enjoyed playing cards, shooting pool, gambling,

and Grain. With the decline of grain in West Texas, they started RL Straub Enterprises, which performed water well drilling, pump, and dirt contracting services for the remainder of the 1970's, 80's, and 90's. They also created Raymond Straub Inc in the 1980's as a farming, ranching, trucking, and water marketing enterprise which is still in operation today.

In 1998, the Straub family incorporated most of their enterprises to create Straub Corporation with their two remaining sons, Martin Ray Straub and Raymond Lee Straub, Jr. Straub Corporation in the last 22 years has evolved from a water well drilling and pump company to an environmental drilling firm to a Texas Register Geoscience Consulting Firm with Groundwater Resources, Drilling, and Land & Mineral divisions.

Raymond was an avid adventurer, some of which used to be of local notoriety. He lived life to the fullest. He became a pilot at a young age with many tales of flying adventures. He once landed an airplane on the back of a pickup truck while it was going down the road. He would often say: "if you don't believe me, just ask the Woody Brothers." Raymond flew his beloved red and white Mooney Super 21 until his mid-80s.

He was also an avid motorcycle adventurer. He visited every State in the Union, Canada, and Mexico on his motorcycles. He would travel to the cool green mountains of the US and Canada in the summer and the sunny beaches of Acapulco, Mexico in the winter.

Raymond and Wanda had four children: Charles Lee, Baby Straub, Martin Ray, and Raymond Lee Jr. Charles Lee died in an auto accident in 1986, Baby Straub died at birth, Martin Ray died at home in Stanton in 2020, and Raymond Lee Straub Jr. still re-

collecting hats, guns, and knives, but most of all spending time with his beloved family. Victor was a cowboy and horse lover at heart and he never lost that love even after moving to the city.

Victor was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Maria, brothers Inez, Vidal, Vicente, Vilosio, Dolores, Velen, and Vito, and his sister Christina.

Victor is survived by his children Gloria Garcia Meyer (Paul), Victor D. Garcia (Peggy Sue), Rose-Marie Gomez (Bobby), Jose V. Garcia (DeAnna), Christine Garcia (Loy Rodriguez), Cynthia D. Ramos (Marcos), and Alicia G. Carbarry (Rowell); 27 grandchildren; 33 great grandchildren; sisters Velia and Berlinda; and brothers Vadelio and Benjamin.

A Rosary to be recited beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021, at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church. A funeral mass will begin at 11 a.m. at the Church.

Paid Obituary

Patsy Morton Sharpnack

Patsy Morton Sharpnack, 86, of Big Spring, passed away on Monday, Jan. 11, 2021 at Scenic Mountain Hospital. Patsy was born on June 5, 1934, in Wichita Falls, Texas to R.B. Morton and Lunie May Blackwell. She moved to Big Spring in 1951 and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1952.

Patsy was a wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother who loved her family, friends and her cats. Patsy's personality was bigger than life and she enjoyed driving around in her bright red convertible (with a license plate that said her name, in case you already didn't know who she was) and playing golfing. Her zest for life was infectious and her smile lit up the room.

When she turned 4, her sisters introduced her to roller skating and she took to it right away. She began performing on roller skates at age 5 in Lubbock and continued until she was in her twenties. After she graduated from high school, she remained single until 1958 and had several positions as a stenographer. She had a brief marriage to Jim Wade and had two children (Kirk and Kim).

In 1974, Patsy met Joe Sharpnack at the VA Medical Center Hospital, where they both worked. Joe joined the V.A. bowling league that Patsy was on and they became really good friends. She married Joe in Coahoma, Texas on December 17, 1977 and they were married for 43 years and resided in Big

Spring. Joe and Patsy had a great marriage and enjoyed golfing, dancing and bowling together.

Patsy worked at the VA Hospital for 34 years and retired in 2004. Over the years she moonlighted, selling Tupperware, jewelry and worked at a bowling alley at night and also worked at the YMCA after her retirement.

Patsy is survived by her husband, Joe Sharpnack; son, Kirk Wade (Theresa Rodriguez); step-son, Rockie Sharpnack (Anita); grandsons, Kelly Wade (TJ), Tyler Wade; granddaughters, Shay Wasson (Chase), Kenzie Rogers, Jeslie Rodriguez; great grandsons, Rylan Wade, Cal Wasson, Cash Wasson; great granddaughters; Reese Wade. Also left nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Kim Wade; her brothers, Sonny Morton, Jimmy Morton, Donald Morton Bobbie Morton; sisters, Johnnie Bledsoe, Susie Morton and Janie Morton.

The family wished to express their deepest gratitude to the medical staff at Scenic Mountain Hospital, especially those in the ICU Unit. We are eternally grateful for the kindness and compassion you showed Patsy.

Friends may pay their respects anytime between 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Big Spring, Texas. Funeral service will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, Jan. 15, 2021, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland, Texas.

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

Paid Obituary

Mary Ann Fincher-Gunn

Mary Ann Fincher-Gunn, 88 years old, a longtime resident of Mitchell County passed away Jan. 9, 2021 after a short battle with Covid pneumonia. Grave-side Services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 at the Colorado City Cemetery.

She was born March 16, 1932 to Peter G. and Minnia Harms in Ryegate, Montana. Mary Ann married Nolan "Pedro" Fincher on Feb. 14, 1956, and later had two sons, Pete and Brad Fincher.

Mary Ann is survived by two sons, Pete Fincher and wife Karen and Brand Fincher and wife Deb, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren

who provided many hours of enjoyment. MaryAnn is also survived by a very special friend and companion, Raymond Phillips.

In 1979, Mary Ann was preceded in death by Nolan "Pedro" Fincher. Also preceding her in death were her parents, along with eight siblings, Charlie, Arthur, Peter C., Jurgen, Isabel, Margaret, Gert and Minnie. In 1981, Mary Ann met and married James A. Gunn of Big Spring, Texas. He also preceded her in death January 15, 2009.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to either West Texas Rehab of Abilene or the Sherwood & Myrtle Foster Home for children located in Stephenville, Texas.

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

Paid Obituary

sides in Stanton, Texas.

Raymond is survived by his wife Wanda Jean Straub of Stanton, whom he often called her his beautiful wife and the mother of his children. He is also survived by his youngest son, Raymond Lee Straub Jr., daughter-in-law Lana McGee Straub, and grandson, Raymond Lee Straub III, of Stanton. Additional survivors include Martin's widow, Kala Jo Straub and his grandsons Christopher Charles Straub and Tyler Ray Straub as well as Charles' widow Colonel Tyra Swanson.

The family will receive friends at Gilbreath Funeral Home on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021 at 7 p.m. for a rosary. On Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021, an indoor service will be family only and held at Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Stanton, Texas. A graveside service will follow at Saint Joseph Catholic Cemetery where friends may gather for his final journey home. Face coverings are required for attendance at all services.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Martin County Senior Citizen Center. The family would like to express their gratitude towards Hospice, the hospital staff at Midland Memorial Hospital and Martin County Hospital, especially Meagan Chandler.

Raymond was a strong, proud, vibrant, and honorable man, a loving husband, and caring father. He will always be remembered as someone who would reach out a helping hand to those in need.

PaPa, you will always be the Straub Family's "Magnetic North". You may be gone, but you will never be forgotten!

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid Obituary

Erma Geraldine (Lashbrook) Dunne

Erma Geraldine (Lashbrook) Dunne was born May 30, 1926, in Beardstown Illinois. She passed away Jan. 4, 2021.

Erma was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and four sisters. She is survived by her sons: James J. Dunne and Jerry Dunne; grandchildren; great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her nephew and niece and numerous great and great-great nieces and nephews.

Family and friends may pay their respects Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Private family services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021 and will be live on the First Christian Church Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/RowlettFCC>

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

Patricia Ann Clayton

Patricia Ann Clayton, 67, of Big Spring went to be with the Lord on Jan. 10, 2021. A Memorial Service to be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

She was born Aug. 23, 1953, in Sweetwater Texas and graduated from Sweetwater High School. She later attended the University of Texas Permian Basin and studied accounting. She was employed by Toniya Grigg, with Spring City Security.

Pat leaves behind one son, Brad Willis and wife Chandra, one daughter, Raye Anne and husband Gabe Nieto. She is also survived by 10 grandchildren, Roy, Mary, Gabi, Nick, Mateo, Kody, Bryson, Alexis, Corbin, and Reagan and two great grandchildren, Zayden and Zander. She was preceded in death by her father, Radford E. Clayton, mother Mary L. Clayton and 3 siblings, Dwight Clayton, Steve Clayton, and MJ Drummond.

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

Paid Obituary

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association and The Associated Press.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$14.00 monthly; \$149.00 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$17.00 monthly Howard; \$20.00 elsewhere.

Maria Soliz

Maria Soliz, 65, of Big Spring, died Monday, Jan. 11, 2021. Viewing and visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. with a vigil at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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CITY

Continued from Page 1

schedule for Large Item Pickup begins next week with District 1 scheduled for Jan. 20. The last day to schedule your pickup is Jan. 19. To schedule, call 432-264-2501.

Darden also provided an e-waste update in regards to a new form of trash pickup. On Saturday, Jan. 23 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. or until the truck is full, residents can take part in a free residential electronic recycling event being held at the Big Spring Landfill. Accepted items include a variety of computers, printers, copiers, fax machines, networking and computer data center equipment, and entertainment electronics.

"This is an opportunity for folks to get rid of those electronic devices that they maybe didn't know what to do with," Darden said.

The Big Spring Landfill is located at 4100 E. FM 700. Social distancing will take place and this event is a no touch service. Individuals will remain in their car and staff will unload your vehicle. For questions, call 817-300-6958.

There was also discussion between city officials concerning a CARES update. According to Assistant City Manager John Medina, the City of Big Spring has spent \$598,506.84 worth of expenditures in regards to the CARES grant with \$376,422.13 reimbursements to date.

"Hopefully we will be on the list to get reimbursed. The state is under that control of funds," Darden said.

Darden also spoke on the FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act) during the report. The FFCRA required employers to provide up to 80 hours of paid sick leave and expanded family medical leave for employees who were quarantined or diagnosed with COVID-19. The act expired on Dec. 31, 2020. According to Medina, the city has taken steps to allow employees to use leave from the sick pool in the event an employee does not have sufficient leave to cover time off work due to being diagnosed with COVID-19 or quarantined.

"We will continue to be responsible for our own as long as we have the money available and we're using our sick pool to do that. We haven't had any employee not get paid as a result of COVID, so we should be proud of that," Darden said.

A 911 Address update was given during the report where Darden spoke on the need for more residential homes to have proper markings of legal addresses including the postage of street numbers.

The proper postage of street numbers can help emergency vehicles, utility trucks, and postal and delivery trucks better find your homes and businesses.

"We want our citizens to know... please... have your residence and businesses marked with these numbers so that it makes it easier for our first responders to be able to find your establishment in a timely manner," Darden said.

Recognition was also given to the Big Spring Convention and Visitors Bureau for receiving one of the Annual Convention South Readers Choice Awards. Over 3,000 meeting destinations were nominated and only 390 destinations were chosen as winners.

Darden also provided a report on the number of vaccinations given in Howard County which totaled 1,600 vaccinations dispersed to date. The second batch of disbursements is projected to begin next week. Medical Advisor Dr. Steve Ahmed also gave a report regarding COVID-19 stating that while the vaccine is currently being distributed across the nation, there is still an issue with how many vaccines are being provided per city as vaccination disbursement is decided based on the size of the city. Big Spring Fire Department Chief Craig Ferguson also noted that the individuals qualifying for the next vaccine distributions will be for those who are over the age of 65 and are high risk.

Before the ending of the City Manager's Report, Darden notified the public that the city will be taking a holiday on Jan. 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Offices will be closed that day, to reopen again at regular time on Jan. 19.

During the meeting, a motion was made by Council member Gloria McDonald to approve the consent agenda and was seconded by Council member Nick Ornelas. The motion passed and included the following items:

- * City Council Minutes of the regular meeting of Dec. 8, 2020 and of the special meeting of Dec. 15, 2020.
- * A final reading of an ordinance amending ordinance 029-2020 to increase the General Fund Budget to be sued for professional services contract
- * A final reading of an ordinance amending ordinance 029-2020 to increase the General Fund Budget by accepting a donation to be used for additional equipment for the EMS Department
- * A final reading of an ordinance amending ordinance 029-2020 to re-appropriate budget funds left over within the General Fund Budget
- * Acknowledgment for a receipt of the Big Spring

McMahon-Wrinkle Airport Development Board Minutes

The approval of four vouchers were also discussed with a motion made by Council member Doug Hartman and a second by Council member Cody Hughes. The vouchers approved read as follows:

* Approval for vouchers for 12/10/2020 in the amount of \$852,396.32, 12/17/2020 in the amount of \$1,027,295.85, 12/30/2020 in the amount of \$462,797.00, and 01/07/2021 in the amount of \$218,757.65.

There was also discussion in regards to the acceptance of a gift to the City of Big Spring Fire Department from Pioneer Natural Resources and Gunsight Mountain. Pioneer Natural Resources gifted the city \$1,000 in efforts towards purchasing bottled water for the Big Spring Fire Department's fire trucks and ambulances to be used during the summer time. Gunsight Mountain also gifted the city \$1,500 in efforts towards BSFD's use of EMS equipment.

Each gift amount was approved and passed in a unanimous vote to go towards the Big Spring Fire Department.

Mayor Thomason then began to discuss the consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign a letter on behalf of the city of Big Spring in support of the nomination for the Petroleum Building with the National Register of Historic Places. According to Thomason, the National Register of Historic Places was looking to add the Petroleum Building on 2nd Street to the national register.

Mayor Thomason motioned to approve the authorization and was seconded by Council member Ornelas. The motion passed unanimously.

Afterwards, Medina initiated conversation regarding the consideration of a request for proposal for the sale of property for residential development located at the SW corner of Parkway and

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Mauricio "Morris" Hernandez, Sr., 66, died Thursday, December 17, 2020. Viewing and visitation will be at Myers & Smith Funeral Home on Wednesday from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM with a vigil at 7:00 PM. Services will be at Myers & Smith Chapel on Thursday at 10:00 AM. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Esequiel P. Flores, Sr., 65, died Wednesday. Funeral service will be at Myers & Smith Chapel on Wednesday 11:00 AM.

Maria Soliz, 65, died Monday. Viewing and visitation will be from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM with a vigil at 7:00 PM on Thursday, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 10:00 AM Friday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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WTVA

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after 6 a.m. eager to receive the vaccination.

"I talked to my doctor," said U.S. Army retired Veteran Randy Ferguson. "He answered all my questions, and just like getting the flu shot every year, he recommended I get this vaccination."

Ferguson was one of the first in line at the WTVAHCS first drive-thru vaccination clinic, having schedule his appointment days ahead of time. Driving to Big Spring, TX from San Angelo, TX to be among the first, Ferguson expressed his thanks to all the VA staff, not only for the ease and speed of the drive-thru clinic, but for the care he receives from the VA.

"Dr. Torres is the best doctor I've ever had," said Ferguson. "I'm grateful for all that the VA does for me, and this clinic - I thank you for making it so easy."

Projecting ahead
In total WTVAHCS scheduled more than 300 Veterans for this clinic and is schedul-

ing future clinics through their COVID-19 vaccination hot line - 432-268-2465. Following CDC and VA guidelines, WTVAHCS has scheduled more than 1,000 appointments for Veterans - based on the projected allocations they expect to receive.

"Our goal is to vaccinate every Veteran who wants it," said WTVAHCS Director Jason Cave. "As fast as we receive our allotments of the vaccination, we will be scheduling appointments."

A team effort
WTVAHCS Pharmacy, nursing, health administration staff and others led the planning process for the drive-thru clinic, holding more than half a dozen drills to practice and refine the process over the preceding weeks. More than 100 staff members in all participated in the drive-thru clinic, directing traffic, pre-screening and checking Veterans in, giving the vaccination, documenting records, and even providing hot coffee - and the Veterans never exited their vehicles.

"We practiced every contingency we could think of," said Chief of Pharmacy Dr. Larry Thompson. "We knew we had a big task ahead of us, and we owe it to our Veterans to make this as efficient and convenient as circumstances allow."

Initial estimates for the drive-thru clinic showed that Veterans spent less than 20 minutes on the health care system campus to receive the vaccination, including the 15-minute observation period following receiving their shot.

WTVAHCS is one of 113 VA Medical Centers across the country to receive the first limited supply of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Sites were identified based on need for the vaccine according to CDC's

1Aprioritization and capacity to store the vaccine at -20 C.

Stay informed

The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine was 94 percent effective in clinical trials in preventing COVID-19 disease. The vaccine is administered in two doses, 28 days apart. The side effects appear similar to those of other vaccines and are short-lived.

Veterans can get up-to-date information on VA's VA COVID-19 vaccine webpage, which launched on December 11, 2020, and sign up to receive regular updates on the vaccine on the VA's Stay Informed page.

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In Service to His Memory on MLK Day

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CHS powerlifting team flexes muscles at Big Spring meet

Special to the Herald

Last year's state qualifiers Christian Everett and Cailey Glover started the 2021 high school powerlifting season with a strong showing at the Big Spring Steer Invitational on Saturday.

Everett, a sophomore, brought home the gold when she pumped a total of 470 pounds — 175 on squat, 90 on bench, and 205 on deadlift. Two-time state qualifier Glover hoisted a total of 715 pounds for a bronze medal. She had a 300 squat, benched 165, and pulled 250 on deadlift.

Kobe Cervantes led the boys team by bringing home a silver. The CHS senior had a three-lift total of 1,280 pounds of iron— 515 on squat, 305 on bench, and 460 on deadlift.

Overall, Coahoma had eight lifters medal in their first meet of the season. Medalists included Serena Dobbs, Jasmine Ortiz, Reagan Chapman, Zoie Joslin, and Sean Striegler.

Dobbs and Ortiz both placed third in their individual weight classes. Dobbs squatted 200, benched 105, and pulled 195 on deadlift for a total of 500 pounds. Ortiz lifted 425 pounds of iron. She had 175 on squat, 75 on bench, and 175 on deadlift.

Chapman placed fourth in his weight class with a total of 480 pounds. Joslin and Striegler finished fifth in their individual classes with totals of 425 pounds and 920 pounds respectively.

The rest of the powerlifting crew fared well and helped both the boys and girls teams to six place finishes. For the girls team, Marianna Glover placed ninth in her weight class with 535 total pounds lifted, Delia Rawls was sixth with 555, Maci Green came in seventh with 535, Cayhill Lewis was eighth

with 510, and Savannah Meacham finished 12th with 395.

On the boys team, Grant Glidewell placed ninth with a three-lift total of 610 pounds. Isisah Eleda was 7th with 915, Nick Tuttle came in 10th with 605, and Braidon Boaz finished 13 with a total of 645 pounds of iron pumped.

Next: Coahoma heads east on Saturday for the Colorado City Invitational.

Results (Coahoma only)

Results are listed by class, standing, competitor, squat, bench, deadlift, and total weight lifted.

Girls

- 97— 1. Christian Everett, 175 - 90 - 205 -- 470
- 105 — 3. Serena Dobbs, 200 - 105 - 195 -- 500;
- 5. Zoie Joslin, 170 - 70 - 185 -- 425.
- 132 — 3. Jasmine Ortiz, 175 - 75 - 175 -- 425.
- 148 — 3. Cailey Glover, 300 - 165 - 250 -- 715;
- 9. Marianna Glover, 200 - 95 - 240 -- 535
- 181 — 6. Delia Rawls, 205 - 135 - 215 -- 555; 7. Maci Green, 205 - 125 - 205 -- 535; 8. Cayhill Lewis, 190 - 120 - 200 -- 510; 12. Savannah Meacham, 150 - 80 - 165 -- 395

Team Standings: 1. Eldorado, 41 points; 2. Big Spring, 33 points; 3. San Angelo Lake View, 27 points; 4. Snyder, 26 points; 5. Big Lake Reagan County, 23 points; 6. Coahoma, 17 points; 7. Anderson, 15 points; and 8. Midland Greenwood, 8 points.



Courtesy photo

Christian Everett pulls 205 pounds during the deadlift portion of the Big Spring Invitational held on Saturday. Everett placed first in her weight class.

Boys

- 123 — 4. Reagan Chapman, 185 - 105 - 190 -- 480.
- 148 — 9. Grant Glidewell, 240 - 145 - 225 -- 610; 10. Nick Tuttle, 240 - 135 - 230 -- 605.
- 165 — 5. Sean Striegler, 330 - 265 - 325 -- 920; 7. Isisah Eleda, 360 - 195 - 360 -- 915.
- 181 — 13. Braidon Boaz, 240 - 175 - 230 -- 645.
- 275 — 2. Kobe Cervantes, 515 - 305 - 460 -- 1280.

Team Standings: 1. Big Spring, 45 points; 2. Anderson, 43 points; 3. Midland Greenwood, 27 points; 4. Snyder, 14 points; 5. Big Lake Reagan County, 10

Big Spring results from Steer Powerlifting Invitational

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Managing Editor

The Big Spring Steer Powerlifting Invitational resulted in the Boys Team finishing as Team Champions and the Lady Steers team coming in a close 2nd, following the Eldorado team.

The Powerlifting coaches expressed extreme pride in their teams, "Coach Baughman, Coach Hargrove and myself, were extremely proud of our

lifters this past weekend. They represented Big Spring with class and competed well against stiff competition," Coach Sawyer Roberts said.

Boys Results

- Mattox Evans - 1st in the 123s
- Kenny Richardson - 2nd in the 132s
- Conner Andrae - 3rd in the 132s
- Josh Lopez - 1st in the 132s
- Joseph Murrillo - 6th

- in the 148s
- Evan Medrano - 8th in the 148s
- Shawn Mendoza - 1st in the 165s
- Isaiah Holloway - 4th in the 181s
- Anthony Gonzales - 10th in the 181s
- Isaiah Johnson - 2nd in the 181s
- Raleigh Eddington - 4th in the 242s
- Isaiah Rodriguez - 1st in the 275s

Girls Results

- Ashlin Calvio - 2nd in

- the 105s
- Giselle Holguin - 8th in the 148s
- Natalia Lopez - 13th in the 148s
- Melanie Aguilar - 16th in the 148s
- Alandra Juarez - 15th in the 148s
- April Caldwell - 2nd in the 165s
- Adali Hernandez - 5th in the 165s
- Amayia Hernandez - 8th in the 165s
- Xilanae Walker - 1st in the 198s
- Jocelyn Gonzales - 1st in the 220s

- Jhaniah Johnson - 1st in the 259s
- Rebecca Rodriguez - 5 in the 259s

takes an army to run a meet and every comment I got about the meet was top notch."

The Steers and Lady Steers will be back in action at Coahoma next weekend Jan. 23.

"My staff and I would like to thank everyone who helped run the meet, Buff Superintendents, table workers, judges, spotter/loaders, and concession stand workers," he said. "It



Courtesy photo/Irene Richardson

The Big Spring Steer and Lady Steers show off their hardware after the recent Steer Powerlifting Invitational. At the end of the competition, the Steers took the Team Champion title with the Lady Steers coming in 2nd overall.

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velope "tower bid"

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Wriggling out of the trap

West dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 6 2
♥ 10 8 6 3
♦ A K Q 9
♣ 8 3

EAST
♠ Q 9 4
♥ 7
♦ J 10 5 3
♣ J 9 7 4 2

SOUTH
♠ J 5
♥ A J 9 5 4 2
♦ 6
♣ A Q 10 6

The bidding:
West North East South
1♠ Pass 2♣ 3♥
3♣ 4♥

Opening lead — king of spades.
It is one thing for declarer to master the art of executing an endplay, but quite another matter to learn how to avoid one as a defender. Today's deal provides an example of the type of collaboration sometimes needed between defenders to thwart an impending endplay.

South reaches four hearts as shown, and West leads the king of spades. Let's first say that West continues with the ace and another spade, ruffed by declarer. The ace of hearts

is cashed, after which South plays the A-K-Q of diamonds, discarding two clubs. He then ruffs the nine of diamonds in his hand.

By this time, the defense may just as well fold its tents. Declarer next leads a heart, forcing West into the lead. West must then either return a club into South's A-Q or lead a spade, handing declarer a ruff-and-discard. Either way, the contract is made.

This unfortunate outcome can be avoided if the defenders cooperate with one another to get West off the hook. To begin with, East must signal with the nine of spades at trick one to show possession of the queen. West must then see the wisdom of having his partner rather than himself on lead at trick three.

Accordingly, he underleads his ace at trick two, East winning with the queen. East then asks himself why West has gone out of his way to put him on lead.

East should conclude that West would like him to shift to another suit, one that West cannot safely lead himself. That suit is obviously not diamonds, so East returns a club. Against this defense, South is helpless, and he eventually loses the king of clubs as well as a heart to go down one.

Tomorrow: There's nothing at all to it.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

VIRGO BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

GO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

Check in with those people who like to figure things out on their own. It may be the case that they are too humble to ask for the help that would be so easy for you to give.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The software update never comes at a convenient time. That's because routine maintenance isn't exciting enough to be a priority. You make sure that when it's time for people to interact with you, they're in for a treat.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is someone you want to be in the future. Thinking about it won't make it so. Acting on it every day certainly will. It doesn't matter much how successful or unsuccessful the action is, only how consistent.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Powerful outcomes will be delayed. This is why it's important to have faith. Faith will keep you stepping forward when it seems futile to do so. Faith can fuel you until the actual results kick in.

Power of the New Moon

ARIES (March 21-April 19). This is no time to limit your scope. Success can come from many different avenues. If you're counting on one person, that's too much pressure for both of you. Go out and find three more to bet on.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You really don't need to make any earth-shattering advances to land where you want to go. This will be about doing small things consistently a little better. The only two steps you need: improve, repeat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll wonder if you're doing better or if you've just gotten comfortable with how you were doing before. Either way, that stress is over, so it's time to create some fresh stress in a flavor you love.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You enjoy your things, but you don't let them define you, not in your mind and not in the mind of others. That second part requires that you use discretion, cherish modesty and enact privacy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Magic comes in many forms, and today's might be the most spectacular one of all -- evidence of love from your unconditional fan. A person who wants to see you smile is worth more than their weight in gold.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

You know loving people who hold you dear from afar. Today you'll get more

from the ones who demonstrate their care, actively pursue what you're offering, and let you know when they miss you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If there's no right answer, no guarantee and no clear mark of value beyond a feeling, you just might be dealing in the realm of art. Art solves problems in mysterious ways.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be serving a communal function. It will be most fulfilling to know that people need what you're doing. In fact, it is an integral part of what they are doing.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 13). Your life has been segmented into different arenas. Before it felt weird when worlds would overlap. This year is different. Those overlaps bring fascinating and favorable results. The relationship between concepts and environments will cross-pollinate, creating

chemical reactions and transformations. Sagittarius and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 33, 27 and 18.

MOTIVATIONAL TIPS FROM THE NEW MOON IN CAPRICORN: In astrology, the new moon represents a clean slate. That the first new moon of the year is in Capricorn is always fitting because Capricorn is the sign of leadership, plans and ambitions. As we seek admirable outside influence, it is also clear that the leader within is the one to develop, promote and follow. Whether inwardly or externally focused, when our journey through the calendar begins under proper leadership, we get all the benefit that a strong opening move can provide.

Make the cosmic push of the lunar reset count by positioning yourself well. For instance, get into a purpose that has wheels, and then go to the top of the hill. From there, you could go miles and miles from one shove. Ask yourself, "Where can I start so that natural forces like gravity can work with other factors, like a reduction of friction, or the assistance of slope, to reduce the amount of work involved in my travels?" Or, if you want to get even more effective, just ask, "How can I make this easier?"

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Annie's Mailbox

The Other Women

Dear Annie: I am an attractive and well-educated divorced woman. Recently, a man whom I dated several years ago contacted me. We are both 70. Our reunion was great. We have been getting along very well and communicating daily ever since. We live across the country from each other. He invited me to his home, where I was his guest for three weeks. When we were alone, we had a wonderful time. We have great chemistry and enjoy each other's company, sense of humor and personality. He tells me that he loves me. I love him, too.

My problem is that during my visit, it became apparent that he has numerous female "friends" (most single, some married) who are neighbors. He talked to them many times a day. They called constantly, and he took the calls privately. He even stopped in the middle of our being intimate to take calls from these women. He confides everything to them and refuses to say "no" to them.

On my last night with him, we had a romantic evening for just the two

of us planned at home. He told his "harem" (as he calls his female friends) about our plans, and the women immediately told him they were coming over because they wanted to say goodbye to me. Instantly, his mob of postmenopausal women showed up. A married woman whose husband was out of town kissed my boyfriend on the lips several times, and he kissed her back, in front of me. This was very disrespectful, and it makes me wonder what they do when they are alone with each other, which they sometimes are. None of the women said "goodbye" to me, which was their excuse for monopolizing our evening. Actually, I'm pretty sure it was just a power play on the woman's part, to keep my boyfriend and me from having a romantic last evening together.

After they left, I calmly complained to my boyfriend about how he and the married woman had kissed. He said that it was a "Southern thing" and that he was tired of our "discussions." He said the married woman is a "wonderful Southern girl" and said I'd better get along with her because I'll be seeing a lot of her. He berated

me because I wanted to spend my last night alone with him and not drinking with the neighbor women.

I love my boyfriend and don't want to lose him, but his female friends are his first priority, and it makes me feel as though my feelings and opinions mean nothing to him. This is the only thing we disagree on. How should I handle this situation? -- Cock of the Walk's Chick

Dear Cock of the Walk's Chick: I don't see this proud peacock putting down his plumes any time soon. He seems to love strutting his stuff, lavished with female attention 24/7. More troubling than the flirtatious behavior is the way he reacted when you expressed your concern and frustration. Such dismissiveness shows a fundamental lack of respect for your feelings. If he's not willing to hear you out and do what he can to make you more comfortable with his heavily female flock, then it's time for you to fly the coop.

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

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SUDOKU

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

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:

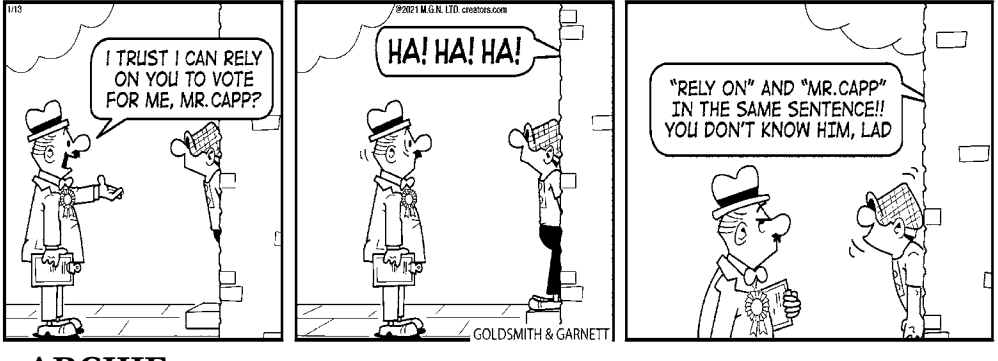
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

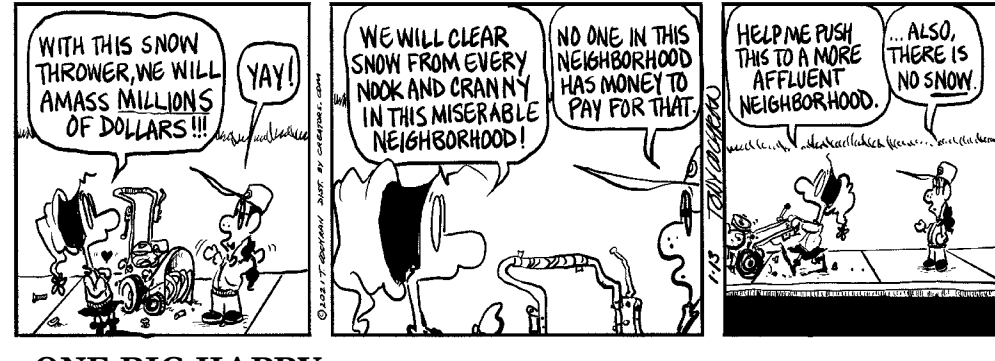
ANSWER:

Table with 20 columns (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, KWES, WTBS, TNT, ESPN, ESPN2, FSN, USA, A&E, DISC) and 24 rows of program listings.

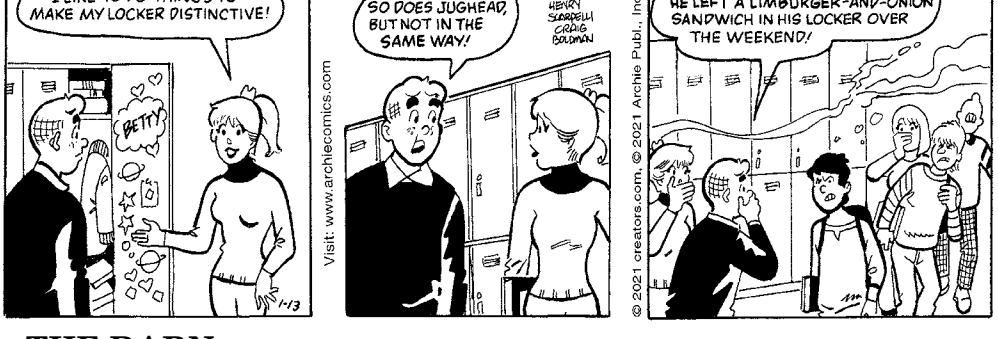
ANDY CAPP



AGNES



ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



THE BARN



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today in History
Today is Wednesday, Jan. 13, the 13th day of 2021. There are 352 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Jan. 13, 1982, an Air Florida 737 crashed into Washington, D.C.'s 14th Street Bridge and fell into the Potomac River while trying to take off during a snowstorm, killing a total of 78 people, including four motorists on the bridge, four passengers and a flight attendant survived.

On this date:
In 1733, James Oglethorpe and some 120 English colonists arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, while en route to settle in present-day Georgia.

In 1794, President George Washington approved a measure adding two stars and two stripes to the American flag, following the admission of Vermont and Kentucky to the Union. (The number of stripes was later reduced to the original 13.)

In 1898, Emile Zola's famous defense of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, "J'accuse," (zhah-KOOZ') was published in Paris.

In 1941, a new law went into effect granting Puerto Ricans U.S. birthright citizenship. Novelist and poet James Joyce died in Zurich, Switzerland, less than a month before his 59th birthday.

In 1964, Roman Catholic Bishop Karol Wojtyla (voy-TEE-wah) (the future Pope John Paul II) was appointed Archbishop of Krakow, Poland, by Pope Paul VI.

In 1967, the Rolling Stones' double-A sided single "Let's Spend the Night Together" and "Ruby Tuesday" was released in the United Kingdom by Decca Records. (It was released the following day in the United States on the London label.)

In 1992, Japan apologized for forcing tens of thousands of Korean women to serve as sex slaves for its soldiers during World War II, citing newly uncovered documents that showed the Japanese army had had a role in abducting the so-called "comfort women."

In 2001, an earthquake estimated by the U.S. Geological Survey at magnitude 7.7 struck El Salvador; more than 840 people were killed.

In 2005, Major League Baseball adopted a tougher steroid-testing program that would suspend first-time offenders for 10 days and randomly test players year-round.

In 2010, Haitians piled bodies along the devastated streets of their capital a day after a powerful earthquake, while in Washington, President Barack Obama pledged an all-out rescue and relief effort. R&B singer Teddy Pendergrass died in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, at age 59.

In 2012, the Italian luxury liner Costa Concordia ran aground off the Tuscan island of Giglio and flipped onto its side; 32 people were killed.

In 2018, a false alarm that warned of a ballistic missile headed for Hawaii sent the islands into a panic, with people abandoning cars on a highway and preparing to flee their homes; officials apologized and said the alert was sent when someone hit the wrong button during a shift change.

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Ten years ago: Vice President Joe Biden became the first top U.S. official to visit Iraq since the country approved a new Cabinet; Biden emphasized to Iraqi leaders that the U.S. wanted nothing more than for Iraq to be free and democratic. A funeral was held in Tucson, Arizona, for 9-year-old Christina Taylor Green, the youngest victim of a mass shooting that also claimed five other lives and critically wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

Five years ago: Less than a day after 10 U.S. Navy sailors were detained in Iran when their boats drifted into Iranian waters, they and their vessels were back safely with the American fleet. Defense Secretary Ash Carter laid out broad plans to defeat Islamic State militants and retake the group's key power centers in Iraq and Syria. The Al Jazeera America cable news network said it was shutting down two and a half years after its launch. Three winning tickets split a world-record \$1.6 billion Powerball jackpot.

One year ago: Anger swelled in Iran over the accidental shoot-down of a Ukrainian jetliner and the government's effort to conceal its role; videos appeared to show security forces firing live ammunition and tear gas to disperse protests. New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker dropped out of the Democratic presidential race after failing to qualify for a December debate. At a royal family summit

in eastern England, Queen Elizabeth II brokered a deal to secure the future of the monarchy; it would allow Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, to live part-time in Canada. The Houston Astros fired manager AJ Hinch and general manager Jeff Luhnow after the pair had been suspended by Major League Baseball for a sign-stealing scheme. "Joker" led the way with 11 Oscar nominations. Joe Burrow threw five touchdown

passes and ran for another score, leading top-ranked LSU to a 42-25 win over No. 3 Clemson to capture the national championship.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Frances Sternhagen is 91. TV personality Nick Clooney is 87. Comedian Charlie Brill is 83. Actor Billy Gray is 83. Actor Richard Moll is 78. Rock musician Trevor Rabin is 67. Rhythm-and-

blues musician Fred White is 66. Rock musician James Lomenzo (Megadeth) is 62. Actor Kevin Anderson is 61. Actor Julia Louis-Dreyfus is 60. Rock singer Graham "Suggs" McPherson (Madness) is 60. Country singer Trace Adkins is 59. Actor Penelope Ann Miller is 57. Actor Patrick Dempsey is 55. Actor Suzanne Cryer is 54. Actor Traci Bingham is 53. Actor Keith Coogan is 51. TV producer-writer Shonda

Rhimes is 51. Actor Nicole Eggert is 49. Actor Ross McCall is 45. Actor Michael Pena is 45. Actor Orlando Bloom is 44. Meteorologist Ginger Zee (TV: "Good Morning America") is 40. Actor Ruth Wilson is 39. Actor Julian Morris is 38. Actor Beau Mirchoff is 32. Actor Liam Hemsworth is 31. NHL center Connor McDavid is 24.

Newsday Crossword

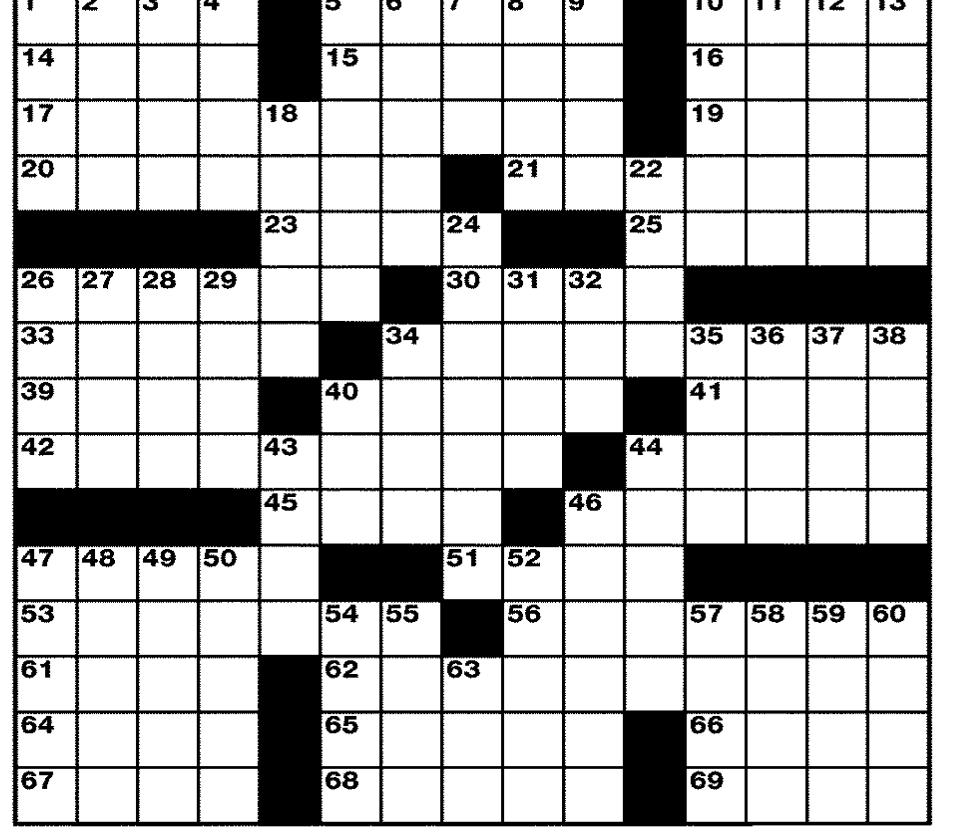
IN PURSUIT by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
1 Lofty
5 Video game pioneer
10 What email filters block
14 Rights advocacy org.
15 Glossy gown material
16 Help for a detective
17 Usual sitcom audio
19 Dustcloths
20 Money worth about \$1.20 in Barcelona
21 Posh properties
23 Actor ___ Damon
25 Manicurist's abrasive
26 Of the backbone
30 Spot of land in a sea
33 Elizabeth of cosmetics
34 As Good as It Gets Oscar actress
39 Brewery grain
40 Added to the staff
41 Cleveland's lake
42 Colorful cosmetic
44 ___ cum laude
45 Found a purpose for
46 Cash in
47 Save for later
51 Agenda, in brief
53 Tropical fruits
56 Paperless boarding pass
61 Topped, as cupcakes
62 Washington suburb
64 Infamous Roman emperor

- 65 Bloom from a bulb
66 European mountain range
67 Lee of comic book fame
68 R.L. of scary kid lit
69 Lease payment
DOWN
1 Sainly light
2 "___ hardly wait!"
3 Scrapbooker's adhesive
4 Enormous
5 Of the stars
6 Fortune-teller's deck
7 ___ loss for words
8 Grain in sushi
9 Cartoonist's liquids
10 "Take a hike!"

- 11 Dish holding a dinner
12 Hole-making tool
13 Needing straightening up
18 Earthling, in sci-fi
22 Adolescent
24 Steering system linkages
26 Identical
27 Say grace, for example
28 Not doing anything
29 Receives after taxes
31 Whole bunch
32 Was winning
34 Stay out of sight
35 Spheroid of lettuce
36 Strongly recommend
37 WXYZ on cell phones

- 38 Group of collaborators
40 Contains
43 Donald Duck nephew
44 Battlefield healer
46 Key in again
47 Twirls around
48 Musical "don't play" notation
49 Drama with singers
50 Heaviest inert gas
52 Costner of films
54 49 Down segments
55 Closed securely
57 Blacken on a grill
58 Green-chips veggie
59 Ainer of NFL games
60 Lab trial
63 Yale student



Answer to previous puzzle
ODDS SECT BEETS PERT HARE ULTRA ALAI ASIA RECUT LIBRARY BRANCHES FDA TET DIGITS BRAD LEE AROSE DIAL EELS MATERNITY LEAVES ETTE EVES ARENA SEA SPAS ATPLAY ALA ABE BARRELOF MONKEYS LOOSE ALMA IDOL ONTOP REAR SIRI TEENY SEND STEP

Trump takes no responsibility for riot, visits Texas

By JILL COLVIN and ZEKE MILLER

Associated Press

President Donald Trump on Tuesday took no responsibility for his part in fomenting a violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol last week, despite his comments encouraging supporters to march on the Capitol and praise for them while they were still carrying out the assault.

"People thought that what I said was totally appropriate," Trump said.

He made the comments during his first appearance in public since the Capitol siege, which came as lawmakers were tallying Electoral College votes affirming President-elect Joe Biden's victory. Trump arrived in Texas on Tuesday to trumpet his campaign against illegal immigration in an attempt to burnish his legacy with eight days remaining in his term, as lawmakers in Congress appeared set to impeach him this week for the second time.

In Alamo, Texas, a city in the Rio Grande Valley near the U.S.-Mexican border — the site of the 450th mile of the border wall his administration is building, Trump brushed off Democratic calls on his Cabinet to declare him unfit from office and remove him from power using the 25th Amendment.

"The 25th Amendment is of zero risk to me, but will come back to haunt Joe Biden and the Biden administration," Trump said. "As the expression goes, be careful of what you wish for."

The rampage through the halls of Congress sent lawmakers of both parties and Trump's own vice president into hiding, as crowds called for Mike Pence's lynching for his role overseeing the vote count. The scene also undermined the hallmark of the republic — the peaceful transition of power. At least five people died, including one Capitol Police officer.

"It's time for peace and for calm," Trump said Tuesday, less than a week after egging on the mob that descended on the Capitol. He added, "Respect for law enforcement is the foundation of the MAGA agenda," referencing his campaign slogan, "Make America Great Again."

In the days leading up to the Jan. 6 certification vote, Trump encouraged his supporters to descend on Washington, D.C., promising a "wild" rally in support of his baseless claims of election fraud, despite his own administration's findings to the contrary. Speaking for more than an hour to a crowd on the Ellipse, Trump encouraged supporters to "fight like hell" and suggested that Republican lawmakers would need "more courage not to step up" and overturn the will of voters to grant him another term in office. He also suggested he would join them in marching on the Capitol.

As Trump wrapped up, thousands of his supporters were already heading to the Capitol, where lawmakers convened to count the electoral votes. As rioters were still in the building and lawmakers sheltered in secure locations, Trump, at the urging of aides who were shocked by the violence, released a video seemingly excusing the events, saying of the rioters: "We love you. You're very special. Go home."

Speaking Tuesday, Trump said the "real problem" was not his rhetoric, but the rhetoric that Democrats used to describe Black Lives Matter protests and violence in Seattle and Portland this summer.

"Everybody to the 't' thought it was totally appropriate," Trump said of his own comments.

Trump angrily lashed out at lawmakers' push for his second impeachment this week, claiming, "It's causing tremendous anger and division and pain far greater than most people will ever understand, which is very dangerous for the USA, especially at

this very tender time."

Alamo is named after the San Antonio mission where a small group of Texan independence-fighters fended off Mexican forces during a 13-day siege. Most of them died, but the mission became a symbol of resistance for Texans, who eventually defeated the Mexican army.

Trump's visit there — no doubt a symbol of the president's defiance — comes as he spends the final days of his presidency isolated, aggrieved and staring down the prospect of a second impeachment.

While Trump was traveling, Pence assured the nation's governors that outgoing administration is working "diligently" with President-elect Joe Biden's team. He thanked the governors for their leadership on the coronavirus and promised them a "seamless transition."

Trump aides have been urging the president to spend his remaining days in office highlighting what they see as the chief accomplishments of his presidency: a massive tax cut, his efforts to roll back federal regulations and the transformation of federal courts with the appointment of conservative judges. But Trump has been consumed by baseless allegations of voter fraud and conspiracies.

In Texas, he delivered remarks highlighting his administration's efforts to curb illegal immigration and the progress made on his signature 2016 campaign promise: building a "big, beautiful wall" across the length of the southern border — an imposing structure made of concrete and reinforced steel. But over time, Trump demanded modifications that have been largely rejected: He wanted it painted black to burn the hands of those who touched it; he wanted it adorned with deadly spikes; he even wanted to surround it with an alligator-filled moat. While he promised that it would be funded by Mexico, U.S. taxpayers ended up footing the bill.

In the end, his administration has overseen the construction of roughly 450 miles of border wall construction — likely reaching 475 miles by Inauguration Day. The vast majority of that wall replaces smaller barriers that had already existed, though the new wall is considerably more difficult to bypass.

Over the last four years, Trump and his administration have taken extreme — and often unlawful — action to try to curb both illegal and legal immigration. Their efforts were aided in his final year by the coronavirus pandemic, which ground international travel to a halt. But the number of people stopped trying to cross the southern border illegally has been creeping back up in recent months. Figures from December show nearly 74,000 encounters at the southwest border, up 3% from November and up 81% from a year earlier.

A few dozen Trump supporters rallied hours before his visit to the Rio Grande Valley near the Harlingen, Texas, airport, where he was scheduled to land. They planned to stage a caravan of vehicles flying flags that support the president and far-right causes like the QAnon conspiracy theory.

Trump warned that a reversal of his policies by Biden would bring about a "tidal wave of illegal immigration." He added, "To terminate those policies is knowingly to put America in really serious danger."

Biden has said he'd halt construction of the border wall and take executive action where possible to reverse some of Trump's restrictions on legal immigration and asylum seekers. But Biden and his aides have acknowledged the possibility of a new crisis at the border if they act too quickly.

Obituaries

Patsy Maria Scott

Patsy Maria Scott was born Jan. 23, 1933, in Sonora, Texas.

Patsy was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two sons; two sisters; and two brothers.

She is survived by her daughter, Debbie Newell of Big Spring; and three sons: Bill of Big Spring, David of Aledo, and Jamie of Big Spring; and one daughter-in-law, Helen Scott of Big Spring. She is also survived by two sisters: Mary and Becky; and two brothers, Bobby and Tommy. Patsy is also survived by many grand and great-grand kids as well as numerous nieces, great nieces, nephews and great nephews.

Patsy will lie in state from 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 at Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 at Baptist Temple Church with graveside services to follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

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

Mauricio "Morris" Hernandez Sr.

Mauricio "Morris" Hernandez, Sr., 66, of Lawton, OK, formerly of Big Spring, died Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020. Viewing and visitation will be at Myers & Smith Funeral Home on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. with a vigil at 7 p.m. Services will be at Myers & Smith Chapel on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021, at 10 a.m. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Mauricio was born March 5, 1954, in Big Spring. He grew up in Big Spring. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He served in Korea, Germany and Ft. Sill, OK as military police. He returned to Big Spring for a few years and worked at the VAMC and Howard College. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by one son: Mauricio Hernandez, Jr. of Big Spring; two brothers: Pete Hernandez and wife Martha of Big Spring and Steve Hernandez of Big Spring; three sisters: Olivia Trevino and husband Junior of Big Spring, Margie Martinez of Big Spring, and Lupe Chavez and husband Dr. Joseph Chavez of Big Spring; seven grandchildren: Sebastian Hernandez, Marissa Hernandez, April Riveria, Gabriella Hernandez, Elvira Hernandez, Aubrey Hernandez, and Elianna Hernandez; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Elvira and Deciderio Hernandez; one brother: Deciderio Hernandez, Jr.; and two sisters: Juanita Viera and Mary DeLeon.

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

Paid Obituary

CITY2

Continued from Page 3

Willard Street in Howard County consisting of approximately 40 acres.

Medina noted that, in previous years, the city did make attempts to sell the same property acreage in a proposal that later fell through. The acreage in the RFP would need to be used for residential development purposes and/or sub-development purposes.

Discussion was held between council members and officials on whether the proposed RFP should entail verbiage to allow for interested developers to purchase sections or parts of the acreage instead of the entire 40 acres, however some city officials mentioned that the larger portion of land is a selling point for potential developers. An appraisal was also given on the property 14 months ago where it was noted that the acreage equated to \$10,000 per acre. However, with this appraisal taking place before the downturn of the economy, that number could have changed.

Towards the end of the discussion, it was decided upon to appraise the land at a minimum bid of \$8,500 per acre in order to keep the city in good financial standing.

A motion was made by Mayor Thomason to approve the RFP at an \$8,500 per acre appraisal. A second was also made by Council member Cody Hughes. The motion passed in a 5 to 0 vote.

Nearing the end of the meeting, city officials began to discuss the General Election to be held on May 1, 2021 for the purpose of electing city council members for Districts Two, Four, and Six all of whom shall be elected by majority vote of the qualified voters in

the respective districts.

Interim Finance Director Adam Czajkowski stated that the item was simply mandatory for election purposes and is for the upcoming expired terms for Districts Two, Four, and Six.

A motion was made by Council member McDonald to approve the first reading and was seconded by Council member Ornelas. The motion passed in a unanimous vote.

During the Council Input section of the meeting, various council members made remarks on the numerous potholes around the city and the need for more action to be taken on them. From Council member Nick Ornelas, there was a comment made in regards to creating several 60-day goals for City Manager Todd Darden, to allow for the council to see what changes and improvements have been made in his recent return.

Mayor Thomason also made note that the city of Big Spring is back on track in regards to its hospitalization rate allowing for city offices to return to normal hours and no longer needing an appointment beginning Jan. 19. Also with that, city facilities will open back up for public use starting Feb. 1.

The Big Spring Social Security office has also completed its move to 501 Birdwell.

With the last item on the agenda, council members adjourned into an hour executive session to discuss litigation matters.

Before adjourning for the evening, council members reconvened to take action regarding the litigation matters where Council member Cody Hughes stated, "I move that the outside council negotiate a settlement as directed by the City Council for the case involving city of Big

Spring versus GEOGroup." The motion was seconded by Council member Gloria McDonald to pass unanimously.

Other agenda items approved/discussed during last night's meeting entailed:

* Awarding the bid for a lease financing package to Key Government Finance, Inc.

* Awarding the bid for a Risk and Resilience Study for America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) to Freese and Nichols

* Acknowledgement for a receipt of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors Minutes of the regular meeting of Nov. 17, 2020

* Approval for an amendment to City Council Minutes of the special meeting of June 29, 2020

* Acknowledgement for a receipt of the City Attorney's written Quarterly Report on litigation and claims against the city

* Approval for a first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Big Spring City Code in order to correct inconsistencies in the ordinance and to clarify the nature of the Airpark Safety Subcommittee

* Approval of an interlocal agreement with South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG)

* Approval of an amendment to the agreement with Parkhill, Smith and Cooper, Inc. for engineering services for the Birdwell Lift Station Project

* Approval to delegate authority to the mayor to negotiate, conclude, and execute a pipeline right-of-way agreement with Occidental Petroleum Corporation.

Iris Rangel is a Staff Writer at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, email reporter@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Weather



Today: Sunny, with a high near 57. Southwest wind 5 to 15 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 34. Southwest wind around 10 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 57. West wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north 15 to 20 mph in the morning. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 30. North wind 5 to 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 51.

Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 30.

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

TAHC Receives Radio Frequency Identification Tags for Distribution to Accredited Veterinarians & Cattle Producers

AUSTIN – The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has received a limited number of no-cost Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) ear tags from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to distribute to Texas accredited veterinarians and cattle producers for use in replacement breeding cattle.

“The TAHC is pleased to have received these RFID tags through the USDA’s no-cost program,” said Dr. Andy Schwartz, TAHC Executive Director and State Veterinarian. “We believe this program will help offset the costs of switching to this type of tag, while also helping our state respond to potential disease events more quickly and efficiently.”

The complimentary RFID tags are to be used as an alternative to silver metal Brite tags and orange metal Official Calhoo Vaccination (OCV) tags. Though the metal clip tags have served a valuable purpose in disease control and eradication programs, RFID devices provide state animal health officials and the cattle industries increased ability to accurately and quickly trace animals exposed to

or infected with potentially devastating diseases before they can do substantial damage to the U.S. livestock and consumer markets.

Texas accredited veterinarians and cattle producers interested in ordering RFID tags at no-cost may submit their request to the TAHC Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) Department beginning Monday, January 11, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

Only Texas accredited veterinarians and cattle producers may order the free RFID tags from the Texas allocation.

- These RFID tags are only intended for use in replacement stock.

- Two types of tags are available to order: white “840” button tags and orange “840” calhoo vaccination (OCV) button tags. Both RFID tags are low frequency tags. Veterinarians may receive both white and orange tags, while cattle producers may only receive white tags.

- Currently, no ultra-high frequency tags are available through this program.

- Tags are ordered in bags of 100 and will be made

available for pick up at a TAHC region offices.

- RFID tag inventory may include more than one brand of tag. A specific brand cannot be requested.

To place your order, contact the TAHC ADT Department by phone, 512-719-0733, or email, animal_id@tahc.texas.gov. TAHC staff will process your request in the order it is received. In the event of high call volume, please leave a voicemail and our staff will return your call in the order it is received.

Once the Texas tag allotment is depleted, there is currently no indication additional tags will be provided to the state. The TAHC will provide the most current information on availability and distribution of tags on the agency website, <https://www.tahc.texas.gov/ad/>.

For more information about this program visit https://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/brochures/TAHCBrochure_RFID840FreeTagGuidance.pdf. Producers can also purchase RFID tags for their animals by contacting any of the companies approved to manufacture official identification RFID tags.

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 to 8 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.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 2000 block of Marcy. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1100 block of E. 5th Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. (x2)

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 8600 block of N. Service Road. No transport was required.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1600 block of Oriole. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1400 block of Grafa. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of N. College. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of E. Robinson. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block of E. 15th Street.

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

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of S. Scurry Street. No transport was required.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson Road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of E. 3rd Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of E. 9th Street. No transport was required.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell. No transport was required.

Police Report

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **KEITH PAUL LANCE**, 52, of 901 W. 3rd Street, was arrested on a charge of assault family violence threat or offensive touch.

- **MANUEL REY CHAVARRIA**, 38, of 801 W. Marcy Drive, was arrested on charges of warrant – other agency (x4).

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 700 block of Ohio Street.

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 2500 block of Gunter Circle.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 900 block of W. 3rd Street.

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 1300 block of Tucson Street.

- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 900 block of W. 3rd Street.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 700 block of E. I-20.

- **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.

- **MIGUEL RAFAEL CASILLAS**, 34, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of aggravated assault against public servant.

- **MANUEL CHAVARRIA**, 38, was arrested by BSPD on charges of parent contributing to non-attendance (x2), failure to appear, and bailsman off bond/credit card or debit card abuse.

- **DARRIN JAY CROOKS**, 61, was arrested by BSPD on charges of possession of controlled substance penalty group one (less than one gram) and possession of marijuana (less than two ounces).

- **BILLY JOE EDMONDSON**, 40, was arrested by HCSO on charges of evading arrest detention with vehicle or aircraft and parole violation/DWI 3rd or more.

- **ANDREW RAY FAZ**, 19, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of sexual assault of child.

- **VALERIE MIRAMONTES GARCIA**, 35, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of manufacture delivery of controlled substance penalty group one (greater than or equal to one gram less than four grams).

- **ALEJANDRO JOSE GUZMAN**, 24, was arrested by BSPD on charges of failure to appear/credit card or debit card abuse (x2) and unlawful possession of firearm by felon if at trial.

- **GILBERTO RAY HINOJOS**, 28, was arrested by BSPD on charges of probation violation – sexual exploitation and evading arrest detention.

- **KEITH PAUL LANCE**, 52, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of assault class C.

- **JORDAN ALLEN MCLEOD**, 34, was arrested by BSPD on charges of operate unregistered motor vehicle, evading arrest detention, and parole violation.

- **KENNETH ORSBURN**, 43, was arrested by

HCSO on a charge of assault causes bodily injury family member.

- **JOSEPH ANGELO ORTEGA**, 25, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of habitation intend other felony.

- **JUSTIN M. RAMIREZ**, 33, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- **SHAMIAYA RIDGE**, 28, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **JOSHUA MATTHEW SALAZAR**, 18, was arrested by BSPD on charges of assault causes bodily injury family member and possession of controlled substance penalty group one (less than one gram).

- **DOUGLAS L. WHITE JR.**, 41, was arrested by BSPD on charge of possession of controlled substance penalty group one (greater than or equal to one gram less than four grams), possession of controlled substance penalty group one (greater than or equal to four grams less than 200 grams), and possession of marijuana (less than two ounces).

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