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H BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018



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Lone finalist for CISD superintendent position announced

Special to the Herald

Brad Cox, assistant superintendent for Coahoma ISD, was named the lone finalist for the CISD Superintendent position by the board of trustees Tuesday night during a special meeting.

"We are excited to have Mr. Cox step into this position and look forward to the direction he has for our district," said Mr. Michael Brooks, CISD Board president.

Cox joined the district in 2014 as the assistant superintendent and has 17 years in

education. He is a 2002 graduate of the University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and earned his masters degree from UTPB in 2009.

Following a state-mandated 21-day waiting period, the CISD

Board of Trustees will take formal action on the hiring in early January 2019. Cox is set to replace the current Superintendent Dr. Amy Jacobs who announced in October she would be leaving to work in the non-profit industry in the fall of 2019.

Once a decision to hire is made, Jacobs will work in an advisory position to help with the transition.

Coahoma ISD is a 3A district in rural west Texas located in east Howard County serving 1,100 students in grades pre kindergarten through 12th grade.



Brad Cox

Never stop believing



Courtesy photos

Residents and staff members of Parkview Skilled Care and Rehabilitation Center held their Christmas party on Tuesday, Dec. 18, with special guests Jody Nix and Santa Claus who made surprise visits to everyone within the facility. Residents Evelyn Carter (right) and Luis Flores (left) were taken by surprise when they received a special visit from Saint Nick himself.

By **AMBER MANSFIELD**
 Staff Writer

As everyone knows, Christmas is a special time of year that most people have celebrated their entire lives. This especially applies to those who have retired, as they have seen their fair share of holiday seasons. Because a retired person may reside in a nursing home is no reason why Christmas time can't still be a time of celebration and cheer. The belief and Christmas spirit at Parkview Skilled Care and Rehabilitation is alive

and well, and is something they strive to bring every year to their residents.

Christmas came early for the residents at Parkview Skilled Care, located on 3200 Parkway Rd., as the entire facility held their Parkview Christmas Party on Tuesday, Dec. 18.

"During the Christmas party, we had two special guests who came to visit the residents," said Laurie Martinez, Activities Director at Parkview. "We had Santa Claus and Jody Nix drop by and surprise everyone, plus everyone received a gift."

Martinez stated that

Heath, a local employee at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, did an amazing job at playing Santa Claus, and the residents couldn't have been more excited to see the big jolly guy himself.

"When Santa walked in the rooms of the residents, they were like little kids all over again," said Martinez. "It was so amazing. One lady screamed, 'Santa I love you!'"

When people move from the family home into an assisted living center or a nursing home, they still

See **SANTA**, Page 3

SA Angel Tree distribution this Saturday



HERALD file photo

A volunteer distributes presents to a family at 2016's Salvation Army Angel Tree distribution day. This year's distribution will be Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Salvation Army Headquarters, 811 W. Fifth St.

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

A bunch of kids and some local senior citizens are about to have their Christmas brightened with a little community love.

For several weeks now, Salvation Army Angel Trees have been up at various locations around

town bearing ornaments listing the Christmas wishes of local children and seniors. Area residents have played Santa, picking an ornament or two and purchasing gifts to fulfill those wishes, and now the time has come to deliver.

Distribution day for this year's Salvation Army Angel Tree Program will be Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the group's headquarters, 811 W. Fifth St. in Big Spring.

"This has been our best year ever," said Salvation Army Captain Rachel McKain. "We've

had several community toy drives that have donated to us, and we've been able to collect a lot more than usual."

McKain credits the toy drives held by the Big Spring Area

See **TREE**, Page 3

Marcy Elementary thanks local heroes



HERALD photo/Anna Gutierrez

Students and faculty members of Marcy Elementary held a Christmas Walk at 8:30 this morning to honor and thank our many local heroes such as police, firemen, nurses, doctor, military and teachers, during this Christmas season. The program included a poem reading and special song performance put on by the second graders at Marcy Elementary. A breakfast and reception immediately followed for all attendees inside the cafeteria.

MVPN holds first-ever social event



HERALD photo/Anna Gutierrez

Pictured above are local veterans enjoying food, fun and fellowship at the first-ever West Texas Centers Military Veteran Peer Network (MVPN) social event, which was open to all veterans and their family members. "Veterans helping veterans, that's our creed. Our mission is to link service members, veterans, and their families with one another to provide them with access to local, state and federal resources," Veteran Liaison Officer and MVPN Coordinator, Fransisco Garza (center) said. MVPN hopes this is the first of many events that allows veterans to network, share experiences and to access information to obtain services available to veterans and their families. If you would like more information on the organization or how to volunteer, please call Garza at 432-268-3003.

Big Spring Herald's
Christmas Countdown



Aidyn says
 "Only 5 Days
 'til Christmas!"
 (Aidyn Nunez, Grandson
 of Rick Nunez)


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Obituaries

Laverne Wegman Barr



Laverne Wegman Barr, 93, of Midland, died Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018, at her residence. Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, 2018, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Pastor Don Rosentreter officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born April 26, 1925, in Martin County, Texas, to J. R. and Elizabeth Walker Marshall, and married Ted Wegman April 15, 1949. He preceded her in death in March 1961.

Laverne graduated from Big Spring High School. She worked for Sears, retiring after 25 years of service. She was an avid reader, enjoyed working crossword puzzles and going to water aerobics.

She was a longtime member of Bellview Baptist

Church in Midland.

Survivors include three children, Terry Wegman and wife, Debbie of Big Spring, Cindy Stevenson and husband, Mark of Katy, and Tim Wegman of Midland; one step-daughter, Theodora Rocke and husband, Ken of Cypress, California; four grandchildren, Colby Wegman and wife, Courtney, Drew Wegman and wife, Britt, Ryan Wegman and wife, Denielle, and Peyton Stevenson; six great-grandsons; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and a brother, Jimmy N. Marshall.

The family suggests memorials to Bellview Baptist Church, 1710 N. Big Spring St., Midland, Texas, 79701 or to a favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Nease Crosby

Nease Crosby, 59, died Wednesday, December 19, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Laura "Pat" Nichols



Laura "Pat" Nichols, 81, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2018, at her residence. Private services are planned at a later date.

She was born Feb. 21, 1937, in Big Spring.

Survivors include four children, Kathy Blackman, Jimmy Trawick, Dewayne Trawick and Darrell Trawick; two sisters Brenda Rolo and Donnie Mints

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

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of Johnson. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the on 4th and Douglas. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported on Lamesa Hwy and N W 12th St. No one was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of W 3rd St. No one was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported on 6th and Douglas. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1200 block of E 16th St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

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

Police, Sheriff reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **DALTON WILL WHITE**, 41, of 410 Davis Rd., was arrested on charges of assault family violence, and resist arrest search or transport.

- **BRANDON SCOTT HAYMAN**, 30, of 7206 S Service Rd., was arrested on a warrant of burglary of a vehicle.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 400 block of David Rd.

- **FOLLOW UP REPORT** was reported in the 400 block of Davis

Rd.

- **ACCIDENT MAJOR** was reported on N Lamesa NW and 12th St.

- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 700 block of E I 20.

- **BURGLARY OF BUILDING** was reported in the 3300 block of E I 20.

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 70 inmates at the time of this report.

- **LANE WESTON BAGGETT**, 23, was arrested by DPS on a warrant of evading arrest detention with vehicle.

- **FRANKLIN KYLE CASEY**, 57, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **JOHNNY RAY PAYNE JR.**, 39, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of bail jumping and failure to appear.

- **DALTON WILL WHITE**, 41, was arrested by HCSO on charges of assault family violence, resist arrest search or transport.

Take Note

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help.

- If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

- Maranatha Baptist Academy, 903 Johnson Big Spring, Texas 432-213-1046, Call today for educational needs. In School, High School graduation, Tutoring, homeschool. We are qualified to help you with your child's education, kindergarten through twelfth grade. Come by or give us a call. Open enrollment.

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for new members. If you have a heart for serving people, have at least four hours a week to spare, SMMC Auxiliary might be the fit for you.

Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more.

To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Mira-

montes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

- The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop mortgage foreclosure and are need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

- The Howard County Democrats will meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Howard County Democratic Headquarters, 1408 Scurry, behind Prosperity Bank.

- The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training pro-

gram and dedication of one day per week for emergency callouts. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

- Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St.

For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716.

- Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

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Happy New Year!*

290948

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. t 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

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Locals brighten holiday season for BSSH



Courtesy photo of Delek US employees



Courtesy photo of Naz Christian Academy students

Special to the Herald

Big Spring State Hospital has had lots of elves helping this year wrapping gifts and bringing Christmas cheer to the patients. Delek US was on campus on Thursday, December 6th to wrap hooded jackets that the patients will receive on Christmas morning. Delek US staff also created hand written cards and put vouchers in each card for the patients to receive \$10 that was deposited in their trust fund accounts.

On December 10th, The Big Spring Tardy Bells performed for the patients in the Activity Therapy Department for the patients. The performance always brings such a great spirit of the season, and the patients truly enjoy hearing the beautiful melodies the tardy bells provide.

Then, on Wednesday, December 19, the kids from the Nazarene Christian Academy stuffed stockings filled with word finds, crossword puzzles, candy, and stress

balls. It was great to see the kids volunteering their time for the hospital and patients. One child even said "This is the best thing I have done all Christmas."

The Big Spring State Hospital thanks all of our volunteer groups for all that they have done to make this Christmas merry and bright.

For more information on volunteer opportunities at the Big Spring State Hospital, please contact Dee Lindsey at (432) 268-7535.

Petroleum Hall of Fame 2019 Inductees Announced

Special to the Herald

MIDLAND, TEXAS - The Petroleum Hall of Fame is dedicated to those who cherished the freedom to dare, and whose work and service helped build the Permian Basin. The Petroleum Museum's Hall of Fame Committee is pleased to announce the 2019 Petroleum Hall of Fame inductees:

- Robert C. Bledsoe
- Arlen L. Edgar
- George P. Mitchell
- L.D. "Buddy" Sipes, Jr.

The Petroleum Hall of Fame is composed of 145 members including some of the most influential men and women in the history of the petroleum industry such as former Presidents George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush, Erle P. Halliburton, and former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans. Industry leaders of today's Permian Basin inducted into the Hall of Fame include State Rep. Tom Cradick, Tim Leach, Scott Sheffield, and Jim Henry.

The Petroleum Hall of Fame was instituted in October 1967 by the authority of the charter of the

Permian Basin Petroleum Museum "to honor those persons and firms who have made outstanding contributions to the development of the petroleum industry or have served as worthy examples to those in the petroleum industry, and thereby to record such examples of service, strength of character and achievement for the inspiration and education of present and future generations."

Each of the 2019 inductees have distinguished themselves with their accomplishments and their leadership. They have served as worthy examples to those in both their community and the petroleum industry.

The Induction Ceremony and Dinner will be held on Thursday, May 2, 2019 at The Petroleum Club of Midland. To learn more about the inductees, go to pbpetro.org. For more information about the event, contact Luanne Thornton at lthornton@petroleum-museum.org or 432-683-4403.

"Induction into the Petroleum Hall of Fame is a great honor. It was no small task for the Hall of Fame Committee to review many worthy candidates. We believe that this year's class of inductees are men that have contributed greatly to the Permian Basin petroleum industry," said John L. Kennedy, Hall of Fame Committee Chairman.

TREE

Continued from Page 1

Chamber of Commerce and by BAD Events and Big Spring Ford for significant donations, as well as others.

About 260 children and 120 senior citizens submitted angels for this year's program. McKain said all of them have been taken and should be fulfilled this weekend.

The Salvation Army still needs volunteers to help out with the distribution day, as well as materials to wrap the gifts.

"We need wrapping supplies so that after we check the gifts and make sure they're appropriate, we can help out those parents by wrapping the gifts," said McKain. "People can bring wrapping paper, tape, gift tags, all that kind of thing."

In addition to the Angel Tree gifts, the Salvation Army will be distributing a holiday food box to every family who takes part in the program, McKain said.

"This year, in addition to the regular meal, we're going to have some homemade baked goods from area churches," said McKain. "Well, they can be either homemade or bakery-made. Cakes, pies, that kind of thing. Those will go in the boxes while supplies last. We may not have enough for everyone."

Families and seniors receiving gifts should have received an appointment time when they initially registered for the program. For more information contact the Salvation Army at 432-267-8239.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@big-springherald.com.

SANTA

Continued from Page 1

need to feel like they are at home. This feeling of "home" is often highlighted during the holidays, when tradition commonly comes into play.

According to Martinez, Parkview Skilled Care's main goal is to create a true home environment where quality service is provided to reach the individual needs of every resident; a place where compassionate care is given, and where services are tailored to individual needs. Having a small Christmas Party is just one of the many ways Parkview continues to achieve their goal.

"The residents that don't come out of their rooms, their faces lit up like Christmas lights when they saw Santa," said Martinez. "If they ever stopped believing, you wouldn't know it when they saw him. It was a very special moment to witness."

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. COULD AFGHANISTAN BE NEXT AFTER SYRIA PULLOUT?

The abruptness with which President Trump turned the page on Syria raises questions about whether combat partners like Iraq and Afghanistan should feel confident that he will not pull the plug on them, too.

2. WHY TRUMP IS ON VERGE OF GIVING UP BEST CHANCE FOR WALL FUNDING

President Donald Trump appears likely to give up his last, best chance to secure money from Congress for the "beautiful" wall he's long promised to construct, as he backs away from his threat to partially shut down the government on Friday.

3. NO NUKES FOR PYONGYANG IN DOUBT

North Korea bluntly states it won't unilaterally give up its nuclear weapons unless the United States removes its nuclear threat first.

4. THE MISSING: DEADLIEST LOSS OF MIGRANTS AT SEA

Investigation to name migrants killed in 2015 shipwreck yields clues to an even greater tragedy, the AP finds.

5. IRAN'S PERSIAN RUG-MAKERS SUFFER AS US UNRAVELS NUCLEAR DEAL

As the Trump administration works to unravel Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, the producers of the country's famed Persian carpets fear they will lose vital markets.

6. HOW MCCONNELL WAS SOLD ON SENTENCING REFORM

Advocates who embarked on the campaign to sway Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell recognized his support as crucial to unlocking a historic overhaul of federal sentencing laws.

7. COURT DENIES EXTENDED DETENTION OF FORMER NISSAN CHAIRMAN

A Japanese court denied prosecutors' request to extend the detention of former Nissan chairman Carlos Ghosn, who has been charged with under-reporting his pay.

8. JUDGE TO RULE ON FATE OF WEINSTEIN'S CRIMINAL CASE

Harvey Weinstein is due in court in New York as a judge decides on the future of his sexual assault case, which has been clouded by allegations police acted improperly in the investigation.

9. WHAT MAKES FOR A HAPPY CHICKEN

A researcher says the animal welfare world has moved beyond looking at how to minimize suffering to exploring whether animals can also enjoy their lives.

10. MLB, UNION AND CUBA REACH DEAL FOR PLAYERS TO SIGN

Major League Baseball, its players' association and the Cuban Baseball Federation reached an agreement allowing players from the island nation to sign big league contracts without defecting.

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Delmar Leland "Del" Hartin, 83, died Sunday. Funeral service was at 10 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Felipe "Israel" O'Guin, 20, passed away Saturday. Memorial Services will be at 5 p.m. Saturday, December 22, 2018, at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Nease Crosby, 59, died Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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OUR DOWNTOWN BIG SPRING OFFICE WILL BE OPEN SOON!

With Senate passage, bill to prevent shutdown goes to House

By LISA MASCARO, MATTHEW DALY and CATHERINE LUCEY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate approved legislation to temporarily fund the government, a key step toward averting a federal shutdown after President Donald Trump backed off his demand for money for a border wall with Mexico.

Senators passed the measure, which would keep government running to Feb. 8, by voice vote without a roll call Wednesday night. The House is expected to vote before Friday's deadline, when funding for a portion of the government expires. Without resolution, more than 800,000 federal workers would face furloughs or be forced to work without pay, disrupting government operations days before Christmas.

While the White House indicated Trump was open to reviewing whatever Congress could pass, the president did not immediately weigh in on the short-term plan.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said the Sen-



The U.S. Capitol is seen as Congress and President Donald Trump move closer to a deadline to fund parts of the government, in Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018.

ate will remain in session Thursday. "We have to see what the House does," he said.

Many of Trump's supporters were frustrated that he appeared to retreat on his shutdown threats after promising a fight over the wall, which had been central to his presidential campaign. Just last week Trump said he would be "proud" to shut down the government over his demand for \$5 billion for the wall. Some allies described the move as caving on his pledge, expressing concern

that it could hurt Trump's 2020 prospects.

Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., a leader of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, said Trump's political base "will just go crazy" if he signs a bill without wall funding. He warned it will be tougher to win the money next year when Democrats control the House. He said supporters of the president "believe it's a promise that he's been telling them that

See BILL, Page 5

USDA moves to tighten restrictions on food stamps

By JULIET LINDERMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is setting out to do what this year's farm bill didn't: tighten work requirements for millions of Americans who receive federal food assistance.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture on Thursday is proposing a rule that would restrict the ability of states to exempt work-eligible adults from having to obtain steady employment to receive food stamps.

The move comes just weeks after lawmakers passed a \$400 billion farm bill that reauthorized agriculture and conservation programs while leaving the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which serves roughly 40 million Americans, virtually untouched.

Passage of the farm bill followed months of tense negotiations over House efforts to significantly tighten work requirements and the Senate's refusal to accept the provisions.

Currently, able-bodied adults ages 18-49 without children are required to work 20 hours a week to maintain their SNAP benefits. The House bill would have raised the age of recipients subject to work requirements from 49 to 59 and required parents with children older than 6 to work or participate in job training. The House measure also sought to limit circumstances under which families that qualify for other poverty programs can automatically be eligible for SNAP.

None of those measures made it into the final farm bill despite being endorsed



Sonny Purdue


by President Donald Trump. Now the administration is using regulatory rulemaking to try to scale back the SNAP program.

Work-eligible able-bodied adults without dependents, known as ABAWDs, can currently receive only three months of SNAP benefits in a three-year period if they don't meet the 20-hour work requirement. But states with an unemployment rate of 10 percent or higher or a demonstrable lack of sufficient jobs can waive those limitations.

States are also allowed to grant benefit extensions for 15 percent of their work-eligible adult population without a waiver. If a state doesn't use its 15 percent, it can bank the exemptions to distribute later, creating what Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue referred to as a "stockpile."

The USDA's proposed rule would strip states' ability to issue waivers unless a city or county has an unemployment rate of 7 percent or higher. The waivers would be good for one year and would require the governor to support the request. States would no longer be able to bank their 15 percent exemptions. The new rule also would forbid states from granting waivers for geographic areas larger

See USDA, Page 5



ITEM OF THE WEEK
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US ally in Syria says pullout will aid IS, cause instability



In this Nov. 7, 2018, photo released by the U.S. Army, U.S. soldiers gather for a brief during a combined joint patrol rehearsal in Manbij, Syria.

By ZEINA KARAM and SARAH EL DEEB

Associated Press

BEIRUT — The United States' main ally in Syria on Thursday rejected President Donald Trump's claim that Islamic State militants have been defeated and warned that the withdrawal of American troops would lead to a resurgence of the extremist group.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces said in a statement that a premature U.S. pullout would have dangerous repercussions and a destabilizing effect on the entire region.

"The war against terrorism has not ended and (the Islamic State group) has not been defeated," the statement said, adding that the fight against IS was at a "decisive" stage that requires even more support from the U.S.-led coalition. It was the first official comment by the group on Trump's surprise announcement.

Trump's decision to withdraw troops from Syria has rattled Washington's Kurdish allies, who are its most reliable partner in the country and among the most effective ground forces battling IS. With U.S. air support, the Kurds drove IS from much of northern and eastern Syria in a costly four-year campaign.

The announcement of a pullout is widely seen as an abandonment of a loyal ally.

"The decision to pull out under these circumstances will lead to a state of instability and create a political and military void in the region and leave its people between the claws of enemy forces," the SDF statement said.

Kurdish officials and commanders met into the night, discussing

See SYRIA, Page 5



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BILL

Continued from page 4

he will keep."
On Twitter, Trump appeared to respond to criticism by insisting that "one way or the other, we will win on the Wall!"

Trump vented at Democrats on Twitter on Thursday, saying they were "putting politics over country." He did not directly address whether he would sign the short-term measure.

The president seemed to issue a threat to Democrats going into next year, saying: "I will not sign any of their legislation, including infrastructure, unless it has perfect Border Security." And he sought to defend his efforts on the border so far, arguing that "people are losing sight of the great job being done on our Southern Border by Border Patrol, ICE and our great Military."

Trump counselor Kellyanne Conway faced tough questioning Wednesday on "Fox & Friends," the morning show known to be one of Trump's favorites. Host Brian Kilmeade said that Trump has "no leverage," while Ainsley Earhardt asked why Trump was "softening" his position.

"The president is not softening his stance," Conway said. "He has a responsibility to keep the government moving forward, and he has a responsibility to get border security."

McConnell, though, portrayed the short-term spending measure as a "simple" bill that would show that Republicans, who control Congress now, will finish the year by not prolonging a potential crisis.

"Republicans will continue to fill our duty to govern," he said.

Voting was delayed until late Wednesday as a bipartisan group of lawmakers, mostly from the West, pushed a package that would reauthorize a popular Land and Water Conservation Fund, which expired Sept. 30, and add other measures addressing public lands. Unable to reach agreement, they postponed action as talks continued.

At one point late in the late evening, senators broke out in a round of Christmas carols from a corner of the chamber. A few moments later, retiring Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., gavelled a procedural vote closed by suggesting "Rudolph" had voted present.

It was unclear how many House members would return to Wash-

ington for votes after Republicans lost the majority in the midterm election. Some 70 members missed Wednesday's session, almost as many Democrats as Republicans.

With many House Republicans sour on the spending package, passage could depend on Democrats.

Democratic House leader Nancy Pelosi, who is on track to become speaker when Democrats take control Jan. 3, signaled support for ensuring funding.

Should the legislation become law, the border money fight would drag into the next Congress, which could prove even more difficult for Trump.

Pelosi will probably be able to quickly win approval of a longer-term measure to keep government running in 2019.

"Democrats will be ready to fully, responsibly fund our government in January," Pelosi said in a statement.

As some Republicans grumbled that Trump caved, McConnell lashed out at Democrats for failing to give Trump any of the \$5 billion that he wanted for the wall.

The bill keeps funding at current levels, \$1.3 billion, for border security and fencing, but not for the wall.

"This seems to be the reality of our political moment," McConnell said. "It seems like political spite for the president may be winning out over sensible policy."

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York said Democrats oppose Trump's border demands because the wall is "inefficient" and because Trump, as a candidate, promised that Mexico would pay for it, which Mexico has refused to do.

"We want smart, effective border security," Schumer said. "That's not a wall."

But the White House showed its willingness to budge as it became apparent the president did not have support in Congress for paying for the wall.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders indicated earlier this week that Trump did not want to shut down the government. She said the administration was looking at ways to find the money elsewhere, though that was uncertain because it would also likely need congressional approval.

Congress did pass legislation to fund much of the government through the current budget year, until next

Oct. 1.

At issue is money for nine of 15 Cabinet-level departments and dozens of agencies, including the departments of Homeland Security, Transportation, Interior, Agriculture, State and Justice, as well as national parks and forests.

The stopgap measure would approve government funding at existing levels for those departments, without a boost for the border. It would include a temporary extension of a national flood insurance program, the Violence Against Women Act and other measures.

Several lawmakers have complained that the appropriations process continues to be tangled in partisan politics. Top appropriators had tried to improve the process this year by passing bipartisan bills that would have funded those agencies, as they hoped to stem the cycle of shutdown crises. They lamented having to abandon those efforts for the temporary measure.

Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., the chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said they "worked a long time" on the bills, but hope "evaporated" as the shutdown risk deepened.

SYRIA

Continued from page 4

their responses to the decision, local residents said Thursday. A war monitor said among the options seriously discussed was releasing thousands of Islamic State militants and their families from various nationalities who are being detained in SDF-run prisons and camps. It was not clear whether any decision was immediately taken, and SDF commanders were not immediately available for comment.

Arin Sheikmos, a Kurdish journalist and commentator, said "we have every right to be afraid."

"If the Americans pull out and leave us to the Turks or the (Syrian) regime our destiny will be like the Kurds of Iraqi Kurdistan in 1991 — million of refugees, there will be massacres. Neither the regime, not Iran nor Turkey, will accept our presence here," he told the AP.

The U.S. announcement came at a particularly tense moment in northern Syria. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has repeatedly threatened to launch a new offensive against the Kurds but in recent days had stepped up the rhetoric, threatening an assault could begin "at any moment."

Turkey views the People's Protection Units, or YPG, the main component of the Syrian Democratic Forces, as a terrorist group and an extension of the insurgency within its borders. U.S. support for the group has strained ties between the two NATO allies.

In northeastern Syria, Kurdish fighters have been digging trenches and defensive tunnels, preparing for the threatened offensive. Turkish tanks and armored vehicles are deployed on the border, with thousands of allied Arab Syrian fighters mobilized to join

in the attack.

The threat from Turkey could drive the Kurds into the arms of Syrian President Bashar Assad, and by extension Iran and Russia.

"This is expected," Ebrahim Ebrahim, a Syrian Kurd based in Europe, said of the pullout. "But it is not just treason to the Kurds or the people of Syria but to democracy, to morals, if this is true. Yes, true, we fought for ourselves, but we also fought for democracies all over the world," he added.

Russian President Vladimir Putin welcomed the U.S. decision to withdraw its forces from Syria, saying he agreed with Trump that the defeat of the Islamic State group removes the need for the U.S. military presence. Russia has long held that the U.S. presence in Syria is illegitimate because it hasn't been vetted by the U.N. Security Council or approved by the Syrian government.

Russia is a key ally of Assad, and its military intervention, beginning in 2015, turned the tide of the war in his favor.

A Syrian member of parliament, Peter Marjana, said Thursday that a U.S. pullout would be a "recognition that Syria has won."

Trump's contention that IS has been defeated contradicted his own experts' assessments and shocked his party's lawmakers, who called his decision rash and dangerous.

Earlier this month, Kurdish fighters entered Hajin, the last IS enclave in Syria, but battles continues. Government forces and allied Iranian militiamen are present on the other side of the Euphrates River.

The U.S. began airstrikes against IS in Syria in 2014 and later sent in ground troops to aid Kurdish forces. Trump abruptly declared their mission accomplished in a tweet Wednesday.

USDA

Continued from page 4

than a specific jurisdiction.

Perdue said the proposed rule is a tradeoff for Trump's support of the farm bill. He is expected to sign it on Thursday.

"The president has directed me to propose regulatory reforms to ensure those who are able to work do so in exchange for their benefits," Perdue said during a media call Wednesday. "We would much rather have Congress enact these important reforms for the SNAP program. However, these regulatory changes by the USDA will save hardworking taxpayers \$15 billion over 10 years and give President Trump comfort enough to support a farm bill he might otherwise have opposed."

The USDA in February solicited public comment on ways to reform SNAP, and Perdue has repeatedly voiced support for scaling back the program.

The Trump administration's effort, while celebrated by some conservatives, has been met with criticism from advocates who say tightening restrictions will result in more vulnerable Americans, including children, going hungry.

A Brookings Institute study published this summer said more stringent work requirements are likely to hurt those who are

already part of the workforce but whose employment is sporadic.

House Agriculture Chairman Michael Conaway, R-Texas, was the primary champion for tighter SNAP work requirements in the House farm bill. He praised the proposed rule for "creating a roadmap for states to more effectively engage ABAWDs in this booming economy."

The top Democrat on the Senate Agriculture Committee, Debbie Stabenow, of Michigan, who along with its Republican chair-

man, Sen. Pat Roberts, of Kansas, crafted the bipartisan Senate bill without any changes to SNAP, blasted the Trump administration for its attempt to restrict the program.

"This regulation blatantly ignores the bipartisan farm bill that the president is signing today and disregards over 20 years of history giving states flexibility to request waivers based on local job conditions," Stabenow said. "I expect the rule will face significant opposition and legal challenges."

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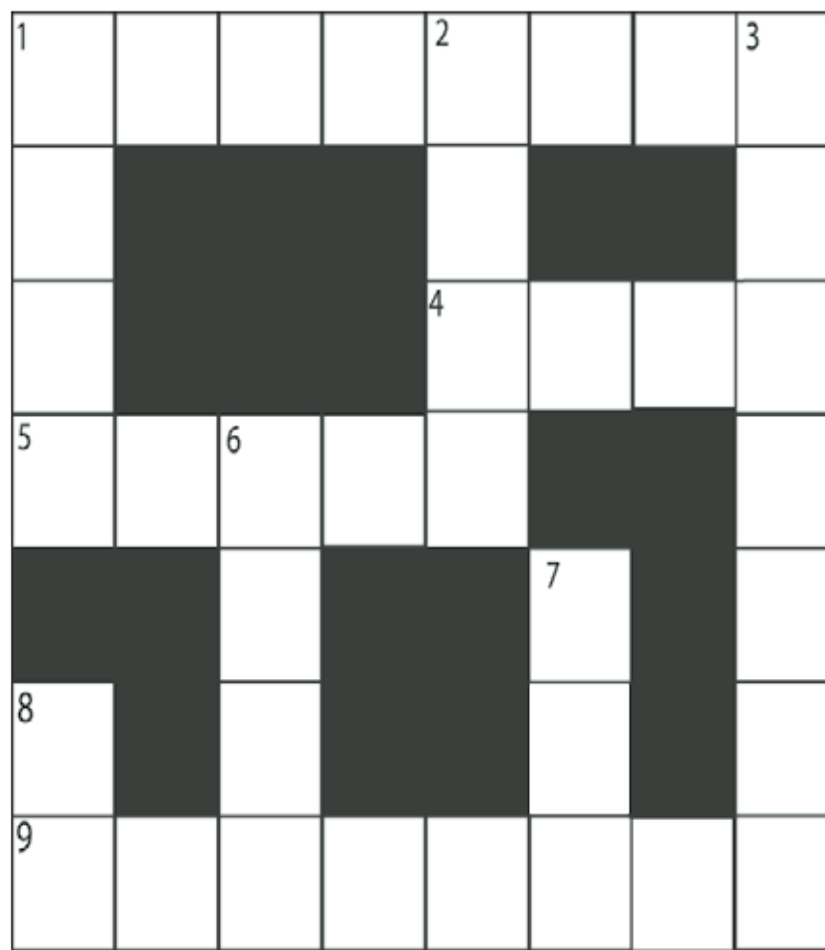
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- 1. Special occasions
- 4. Sports group
- 5. Have fun
- 9. Gifts

DOWN

- 1. Place to live
- 2. Task or job
- 3. Small parts to try
- 6. Gets a laugh
- 7. Move fast
- 8. Not down

Answers:
ACROSS
1. Holidays 4. Team 5. Enjoy 9. Presents
DOWN
1. Home 2. Duty 3. Samples 6. Joke
7. Run 8. Up

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ANSWER: PRESENT

Rockets set NBA record with 26 3s in 136-118 win



Houston Rockets guard Chris Paul, right, passes the ball over Washington Wizards forward Trevor Ariza (1) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018, in Houston.

By **KRISTIE RIEKEN**
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets were on the cusp of NBA history, just one 3-pointer away from setting the league record for most 3s in a game. The crowd chanted: "Three, Three, Three," every time Houston got the ball and let out a collective moan after each of four

straight misses as the clock ran down on Wednesday night against the Washington Wizards. Then, with just 31.1 seconds remaining, Michael Carter-Williams, who had missed two of those four, set his feet and shot his way into the record books, making Houston's 26th 3 of the night to set the mark and help Houston to a 136-118 win.

"All I was hearing were my teammates saying: 'shoot it, shoot it,'" Carter-Williams said. "So we were just out there trying to make the last one. I had a good, clean look so I just tried to knock it down."

James Harden scored 35 points as the Rockets won their fifth straight game. He made six 3s, Chris Paul added 5 and Gerald Green and Eric Gordon made 4 each on a night Houston attempted 55.

"We knew going into the game they were going to take a lot of them," Washington coach Scott Brooks said. "They were hot and they've been hot for a while now. They have a couple of hot players and there's not much you can do when they're making contested 3s."

Carter-Williams joked that the reserves who were on the floor at the end of the game would never have heard the end of it if they hadn't at least tried to set the record.

Harden believes they would have had a tougher time dealing with the fans.

"Not even us. The crowd — the crowd would have attacked them," he said with a laugh. "Credit to those guys, they made shots to close out the game."

A 3 by Gary Clark tied the record with 2:42 left before Carter-Williams made the record-setter. The previous record was held by the Cleveland Cavaliers, who made 25 against Atlanta on March 3, 2017.

Paul was happy to help Houston set the record, but didn't realize what was going on until he heard the crowd.

"I had no clue that we had that many until the fans started chanting: 'three,' every time we

See **ROCKETS**, Page 13

Mekowulu, Mahan score 20; Texas A&M cruises past Valpo 71-49

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M is leaning more and more on a couple of transfers to lead the way in a season of transition. Christian Mekowulu and Brandon Mahan each scored 20 points as A&M defeated Valparaiso 71-49 on Wednesday night.

The Aggies (5-4) held a 16-point lead at halftime and the Crusaders (6-6) trailed by double digits the rest of the way, in an anticlimactic second half. Bakari Evelyn led Valpo with 10 points, the lone Crusader to score in double figures.

Mekowulu is a senior transfer from Tennessee State and Mahan is a sophomore transfer from Chi-pola College.

"I've just been working all week in practice," Mekowulu said. "And my shot was falling tonight."

Added Mahan: "I've been in the gym, working on my shot consistently."

The Aggies led 34-18 at the break, getting 14 first-half points from Mekowulu and holding a 25-15 rebounding advantage in that span.

Mahan and Mekowulu made a combined 15 of 19 from the field, including 8 of 9 by Mekowulu, mostly from in the paint. Mahan was 4-of-7 from 3-point range, while Valpo finished 3 of 22 from behind the arc.

"Their athleticism bothered us," Valpo coach Matt Lottich said. "From their first guy to their last guy, they were more athletic across the board. They took us out of a lot of our action, and we just didn't make our shots."

A&M starting guard TJ Starks played 13 minutes in the first half and four in the second, and Aggies coach Billy Kennedy said afterward Starks had a subpar shootaround and wasn't impactful early in the game, leading to his reduced playing time.

Mekowulu and Mahan each recorded A&M career highs in scoring in their abbreviated stints with the Aggies.

"Mahan showed what he's capable of doing, and it's good to see him be aggressive offensively," Kennedy said.

BIG PICTURE

A&M: Senior guard Admon Gilder remains sidelined with an undisclosed health issue, but the Aggies are on a roll without their leader, who might not return this season. Guards Wendell Mitchell, Starks and Mahan are picking up the slack, and Mekowulu is providing some surprising offensive pop inside.

VALPO: The Crusaders earned some valuable experience for Missouri Valley Conference play in taking on a Southeastern Conference foe on the road, despite a sparse setting during the holidays, but getting so far down early can't be good for their confidence moving forward. Fortunately for Valpo it faces Division II Purdue Northwest at home prior to cranking up league play.

HIGHLIGHT REEL

The small crowd had long gone quiet in the lopsided game when Mekowulu skied for a dunk on a fast break following a pin-point pass from Mitchell. For at least one more moment, A&M fans had reason to cheer in a mostly empty arena.

STAT OF THE NIGHT

The Aggies collected five blocks, including three by Josh Nebo and two by Mekowulu. A&M doesn't have nearly the size it possessed last year, when big men Robert Williams and Tyler Davis ruled the inside, but the Aggies entered the game ranked eighth nationally with 6.3 blocks per game.

HE SAID IT

"I would say all of it." Mahan when asked how much the Aggies' defense was responsible for the Crusaders' poor outside shooting.

UP NEXT

A&M plays host to Marshall on Saturday in trying to win five consecutive games for the first time since November of last year.

Valpo takes a break for Christmas and then plays host to Purdue Northwest on Dec. 29.

Garth scores 36 points, Lamar beats Texas Southern

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — Nick Garth exploded for 36 points to lead Lamar to an 80-72 victory over Texas Southern on Wednesday night.

Garth, who averages 12.4 points per game, made 8 of 9 3-pointers and all six of his free throws for the Cardinals (4-6). Josh Nzeakor had 19 points and 13 rebounds and Jordan Hunter scored 17 points.

For Texas Southern (4-7), Jalynd Patterson scored 21 points and Trayvon Reed had 15 points, nine rebounds and five blocks.

A 9-2 run late in the first half helped Lamar to a 41-32 halftime lead. A 9-0 run late in the second half put the Cardinals up by 14 with four minutes remaining.

Texas Southern cut its deficit to 76-72 with 56 seconds remaining before Garth closed it out with four free throws while Texas Southern missed a couple of 3-pointers.

Michael Brantley, Astros finalize \$32M, 2-year contract



In this Sept. 19, 2018 file photo Cleveland Indians' Michael Brantley runs to first base on a passed ball in the third inning of a baseball game against the Chicago White Sox in Cleveland. A person familiar with the negotiations tells The Associated Press the Houston Astros have agreed to a two-year deal with free agent outfielder Michael Brantley. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity Monday, Dec. 17, 2018 because the club has not yet announced the move.

By **KRISTIE RIEKEN**
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros have long admired Michael Brantley's game from afar.

They're ready to appreciate it up close.

The Astros finalized a \$32 million, two-year contract Wednesday with the free agent outfielder and introduced him in Houston.

"We like everything about Michael's game, and we've been watching him for years," general manager Jeff Luhnow said. "To be able to add a bat like Michael Brantley at this point in our progression, it gives us a lot better chance to continue to do damage the next two years. So we're excited."

Brantley joins a team that lost to the Boston Red Sox in the ALCS a year after winning its first World Series. The 31-year-old gives the Astros an upgrade in left field and adds a left-handed bat to a predominantly right-handed lineup.

Manager A.J. Hinch has thought about where he'll put Brantley in the batting order, but he

wouldn't divulge those thoughts publicly Wednesday. He did, however, rave about the team's new addition.

"He can do anything. We could ask him to do anything and he's going to be able to do it," Hinch said. "He gets on base. He gets hits. He can drive in runs. He's a tough out. He doesn't swing and miss. Those skills translate throughout the whole lineup."

He gets a \$2 million signing bonus payable on March 15 and annual salaries of \$15 million.

Brantley is a career .295 hitter and adds more punch to an outfield anchored by center fielder George Springer. After spending his entire 10-year career with the Cleveland Indians, Brantley said he was both excited and nervous about the move.

"It's a little bit of both," he said. "I'm excited to start a new journey, new chapter. And I'm really excited that I'm coming here with a great group of guys, great coaching staff that I kind of already know just with past experience with and competing with for a long period of time."

The three-time All-Star hit .309 with 17 homers, 36 doubles and 76 RBIs in 143 games last season, making 134 starts in left field. He had a \$12 million base salary and earned \$100,000 in bonuses. His best season came in 2014, when he finished third in AL MVP voting after hitting 20 homers with 97 RBIs — both career highs.

Brantley can earn award bonuses for finishing top five in AL MVP voting, making the All-Star team or winning the World Series, League Championship Series MVP, a Gold Glove or a Silver Slugger award.

Several of Houston's position players welcomed Brantley via social media. Hinch said the team's pitching staff was also thrilled to have him.

"I think our pitching staff is as happy as can be that we signed him," Hinch said. "We would shift him, he would hit against the shift. We would unshift him, he would pull the ball in the hole. He's what they call a professional hitter for a reason."

Luhnow said adding a player like Brantley was

See **BRANTLEY**, Page 13

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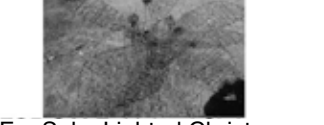
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[RRC Operator No. 124828] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the AMENDED NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 22, Bk. 32 T1N, T&P RR CO / HENDERSON, M E Survey, A-1667, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, HOWARD County, being 5.69 miles NE direction from BIG SPRING, Texas. PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512)463-6751. **IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 8, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.**

Public Notice

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION The location and identity of the well is as shown below:
FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name : PANTHER EAST UNIT
Lease/Unit Well No. : 1AH
Lease/Unit Acres : 632.45
Nearest Lease Line (ft) : 1.0
Lease Lines : 220.0 F North L, 394.0 F East L
Survey Lines : 220.0 F North L, 394.0 F East L
Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal
Rule 37 Case No. 0316653 (Dist. 08) Page 1 Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location Lease Lines: 220.0 F NORTH L
394.0 F EAST L
Terminus Location BH County: HOWARD
Section: 27 Block: 32 T1N
Abstract: 141
Survey: T&P RR CO
Lease Lines: 100.0 F SOUTH L
330.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines: 100.0 F SOUTH L
330.0 F EAST L
Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:
SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 330/0, 80.0 acres.
This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 8000 feet.
If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Ryan Emery, at (281)5895200.

#10009 Dec. 6, 13, 20,& 27, 2018

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Legals

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission by Local's Deli, LLC for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit and Food and Beverage Certificate located at 1600 Wasson Road, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas 79720. The Managing Member of said entity is Kelley Owens.

#10027 Dec.19 & 20, 2018

Annie's Mailbox ®

Hey, Man, Slow Down

Dear Annie: I hope you will publish this, as the holiday season is upon us and people will be rushing to the mall and the grocery to shop for Christmas gifts and supplies for festivities. Please take some extra time and slow down -- and not just on the road. The store parking lot is not the place for Indy 500 time trials. There is no reason for people to be zipping through parking lots at 20, sometimes even 30, miles per hour. Also, please remember that some people do not drive pickup trucks or SUVs. When you see me slowly backing my Toyota Corolla out from between vehicles, remember that until half of my car is past those vehicles, I can't see

you. So please stop and let me pull out (and perhaps get yourself a good space). Just keep in mind that if you still feel the need to speed and hit my car, you will be spending an extra hour or so in the parking lot dealing with police and an accident report. You've got better things to do, and so do I. -- Take It Easy

Dear Take It Easy: Your car is not the only thing that these speed demons could hit. Pedestrians are especially at risk this time of year. The National Safety Council reports that "tens of thousands of crashes occur in parking lots and garage structures annually, resulting in hundreds of deaths and thousands of injuries," and "around the holidays, parking lots

become even more dangerous." A scraped-up car is inconvenient, but a lost life is irreversible. So let's all please slow down this holiday season. Nothing is so urgent that it's worth sacrificing others' safety for.

Dear Annie: I was a nurse for 43 years in many capacities. I saw love, happiness, despair and sorrow. I found that I loved all my patients, whether young or old, happy or angry, hopeful or just giving up. I read the letter from "Grieving Mom," who was upset that the recipient of her son's heart wrote to thank her for making it possible for her (the recipient) to see her son get married. "Grieving Mom" felt that the recipient forgot the fact that her son died

so she could live. Often when we had patients who could not be saved, we asked the family members whether they wanted to donate their loved ones' organs, and we passed no judgment when they refused. Members of one family I spoke to willingly offered to donate their son's organs. "If we refuse, our son will be buried and his useful organs will be buried, as well," they said. "If we donate them, our son will still die, but he will live on in others, whether it's his heart, kidney, eyes or any other useful organs." These family members wished they could meet the recipients of their son's organs, because in them, a part of their son would live on. The woman who wrote a note to "Grieving Mom" sincere-

ly wanted to thank that mother for saving her life. She may have thought it would give her joy. Her son's heart was still beating; part of him was alive, and that part gave someone else a chance to live. What a beautiful gift he gave in death. People who donate their organs do so because it is an act of love. -- Patricia in The Villages, Fla.

Dear Patricia: Thank you for your beautiful letter and for your years of helping others as a nurse.

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

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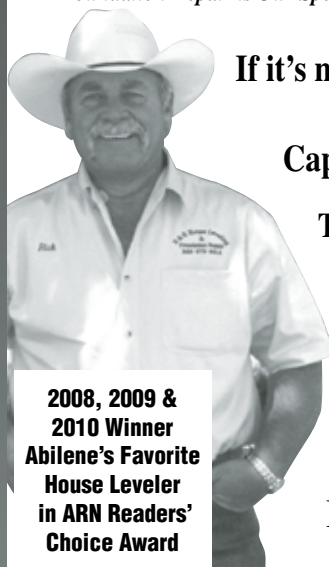
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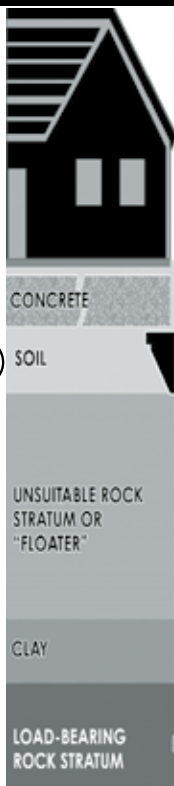
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The guess that went to school

South dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 9 8 7 3
♥ A 4 2
♦ 10 7
♣ Q J 8 4

WEST

♠ Q 6
♥ K Q J 10 8
♦ Q J 9 5 2
♣ 7

EAST

♠ A 4
♥ 7
♦ 8 6 4 3
♣ 10 9 6 5 3 2

SOUTH

♠ K J 10 5 2
♥ 9 6 5 3
♦ A K
♣ A K

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠			

Opening lead — king of hearts.

Some of the guesses encountered in the play can be solved by making necessary assumptions dictated by the specific circumstances of that particular deal.

Take this case where South reaches four spades on the bidding shown. Declarer wins West's heart lead in dummy and returns the nine of spades, on which East follows low. Should South play low, or should he

put up the king?

It can be seen that in the actual deal, playing the king makes the contract, while playing low loses it. The question is whether South can reasonably be expected to play East, who did not bid, for the ace, rather than West, who did bid.

The answer is that the king is the proper play — and there is a very good reason for it. The fact is that South has no chance to make the contract if East has the queen of spades and West has the ace. This is because if West wins the nine with the ace, he will surely continue with the Q-J-10 of hearts, allowing East to overruff dummy with the queen to score the setting trick.

Declarer should therefore assume, out of necessity, that West has the queen and East the ace. Accordingly, he should rise with the king at trick two and, when it wins the trick, play another trump to make the contract.

The principle that applies is that it is incorrect to make an assumption that is certain to lead to defeat. In the present case, it is far better to assume that East has the ace and West the queen, because if that assumption proves correct, the contract is assured.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Solar Punctuation Mark

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

you once thought of as insidious now seems like a really fascinating study in how things develop with their own inner logic and wisdom to try to solve the issues they face.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's you, and then there's your role. You never want to confuse the two or invest your ego in the role instead of in you -- because roles come and go, shifting and fading around an eternal part of you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Matters of right and wrong will be quite complicated. Potentially, you could waste many hours arguing over it. Look instead at the spirit of the rules, the tone of things and the overall feeling of an experience.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). An interaction that seems out of joint needs but one quick reset -- a powerful snap -- to set everything right. Go on and do it. Otherwise, you'll continue, everything rubbing the wrong way, uncomfortable and annoying.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 20). The next three months feature unparalleled liveliness. After that, things settle. The repetition of healthy habits relaxes you into a deep groove. Other highlights include more intense love than you thought your heart was capable of, a special piece of creative work and a string of interviews. Capricorn and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 3, 33, 38 and 14.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com.
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Though there may be very good reasons you've landed in your current position, it's silly to dwell on what they may be. No matter how hard you tried, you couldn't possibly re-create the actions that got you here. So just relax and enjoy these last moments of the Sagittarian solar journey. The sun and Uranus will punctuate the experience with a treat.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Each and every effort you make is a brick in the monument of your reputation. You don't feel pressured by this (because by now the people around you know you pretty well), but you do take the responsibility seriously.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Things may not be what they seem, but there are certain widely accepted measures of proof that would be hard for reasonable people to deny. This is the stuff you'll be gathering today to make your case.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There are those who were never taught good manners, and then there are those who were taught them but, for whatever reason, never learned. Either way, it's a blessing. It gives everyone a chance to practice the virtue of tolerance.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). We run our lives on hypothesis, acting in accordance with our theories about how the world is and should be. When the world doesn't agree, that's when things get really exciting.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There are many communication skills worthy of mastering, but none will have such wide-ranging terrific effects as the skill of choosing the topic of conversation well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're not usually inclined to think of yourself first, but go on; do it. You'll be amazed at whom else you can make smile while following through with what you believe are purely selfish motives.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You refuse to stay home, and you'll never be smugly satisfied that you already know enough -- because your understanding of reality keeps changing as you meet new people, learn different new topics and have new experiences.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The mature mind is like a dual processing computer. It can function while running two programs at the same time. Sure, sometimes there's a clash that hangs things up, but you'll be fixing bugs as you go today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The problem

SUDOKU

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

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

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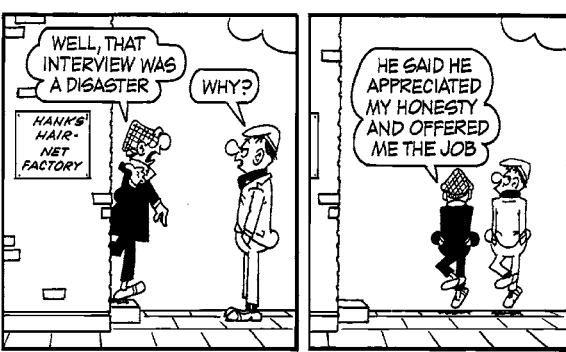
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	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Midland	Atlanta	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Sports	New York	New York	Discovery
5:PM	Big 2	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Lasting	Mind	Mama's	American	Fam. Guy	Bones	SportsCenter	Around		NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Last Frontier
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS	Noticias	News	HaYesod	Business	Jeff'sons	American	Fam. Guy			Pardon				
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cer-	News	Way of	PBS News-	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	College	Cowboys	NCIS (DVS)	Live PD	Last Frontier
6:30	Wheel	Guadalupe	Big Bang	ET	rado	News	M.25	Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld			Basketball:	Stars In.	Live PD		
7:PM	Charlie	Jesús	A Christmas	Big Bang	(:05) La	Timeless	News	Nigella: At	Griffith	4th Annual	Seinfeld	NBA Basket-	College	Texas Tech	Stars Pre.	NCIS (DVS)	Live PD	Alaska: The
7:30	Brown		Story Live!	Sheldon	sultana (SS)			My Table	Griffith	Howie Man-	Seinfeld	ball: Houston	Football: Bad	Duke.	Stars	Live PD		Last Frontier
8:PM	The Great	Mi marido	(DVS)	Big Bang	Falsa identi-	Light of	Truth	Christmas at	G. Pyle	Mavericks at	Big Bang	Rockets at	Boy Mowers	Dominant 20	NHL Hockey:	WWE Mon-	Live PD	
8:30	American			Murphy	dad (SS)	Southwest	Light of	St. Olaf	WKRP	Miami Heat.	Big Bang	Rockets at	Gasparilla	Countdown	Chicago	day Night	Live PD	
9:PM	Baking Show	Amar a	FOX 24	S.W.A.T.	Sañoa	Ellen's Game	Light of	Candlelight	Heroes	Page Six	Big Bang		Bowl		Blackhawks	RAW	Live PD	
9:30		muerte	News at 9		Acero (SS)	Southwest	Southwest		Heroes	Gold	Big Bang	NBA			at Dallas	Stars.	PD Cam	
10:PM	Big 2	Impacto	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	Israel	Amanpour-	C. Burnett	Gold	Full	Basketball:	SportCtr	Postgame	Miz & Mrs	Live PD	Last Frontier	
10:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-	Titulares	Tonight	Our Mess	Co	Perry Mason	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Mavericks at	Games	C'boys	Miz & Mrs	Live PD		
11:PM	Jimmy Kim-	Contacto	Mod Fam	Colbert	Falsa identi-	Show	Families	Lidia Cel-		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Clippers	SportsCenter	World Poker	Miz & Mrs	Live PD	Alaska: The	
11:30	Mel Live	Deportivo	Funny	James	dad (SS)	Seth Meyers	Shofar	ebrales					W/Van Pelt		Miz & Mrs	Live PD	Last Frontier	
12:AM	Nightline	Cachito de	Two Men	Corden	Señoa	Being	(Off Air)		Twi. Zone	Rules	Brooklyn	Inside the	SportsCenter	First Take	Miz & Mrs	Live PD		
12:30	Extra	Cachito de	Simpsons	Access	Acero (SS)	Daly	Behind		Hitchcock	King	Brooklyn	NBA	First Take	NHL Hockey:	Miz & Mrs	Live PD		
1:AM	Paid Prg.	En tierras	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of		Mannix	Top 30	Brooklyn	NBA Basket-	SportsCenter	Stars	Chicago P.D.	PD Cam		
1:30	Paid Prg.	salvajes	Pawn	Paid Prg.	Programa	Inside Ed.	Southwest			Paid Prg.	Broke Girl	Rockets at				PD Cam		

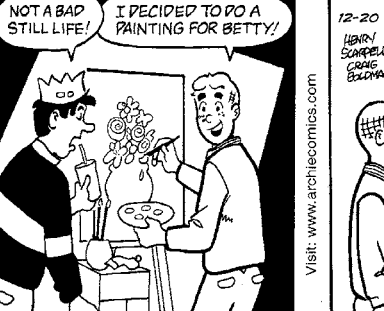
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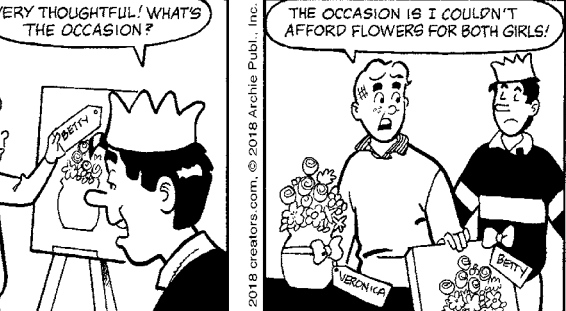
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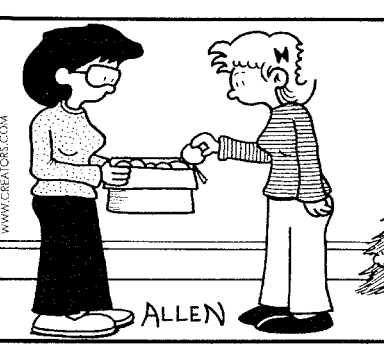
ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 20, the 354th day of 2018. There are 11 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 20, 1989, the United States launched Operation Just Cause, sending troops into Panama to topple the government of Gen. Manuel Noriega.

On this date: In 1803, the Louisiana Purchase was completed as ownership of the territory was formally transferred from France to the United States.

In 1860, South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union as all 169 delegates to a special convention in Charleston voted in favor of separation.

In 1864, Confederate forces evacuated Savannah, Georgia, as Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman nearly completed his "March to the Sea."

In 1924, Adolf Hitler was released from prison after serving nine months for his role in the Beer Hall Putsch.

In 1963, the Berlin Wall was opened for the first time to West Berliners, who were allowed one-day visits to relatives in the Eastern sector for the holidays.

In 1968, author John Steinbeck died in New York at age 66.

In 1987, more than 4,300 people were killed when the Dona Paz, a Philippine passenger ship, collided with the tanker Vector off Mindoro island.

In 1995, an American Airlines Boeing 757 en route to Cali, Colombia, slammed into a mountain, killing all but four of the 163 people aboard. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, NATO began its peacekeeping mission, taking over from the United Nations.

In 1996, Astronomer Carl Sagan died in Seattle at age 62.

In 1999, the Vermont Supreme Court ruled that homosexual couples were entitled to the same benefits and protections as wedded couples of the opposite sex.

In 2001, the U.N. Security Council authorized a multinational force for Afghanistan.

In 2005, a federal judge ruled that "intelligent design" could not be mentioned in biology classes in a Pennsylvania public school district, delivering a stinging attack on the Dover Area School Board.

Ten years ago: A Continental Airlines Boeing 737-500 taking off from Denver veered off the runway into a ravine, injuring 37 people. Olga Lepeshinskaya, the Bolshoi Ballet's prima ballerina for three decades during

Soviet times, died in Moscow at age 92. Movie director Robert Mulligan ("To Kill a Mockingbird") died in Lyme, Conn. at age 83.

Five years ago: Russian President Vladimir Putin pardoned jailed tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky (mih-hah-EEL' khoh-dohr-KAHV'-skee), who had spent 10 years in prison on charges of tax evasion and embezzlement. A federal judge struck down Utah's ban on same-sex marriage.

One year ago: The House gave final congressional approval to a \$1.5 trillion tax overhaul, the biggest package of tax changes in a generation and the first major legislative achievement of President Donald Trump and House and Senate Republicans; some Republicans warned of a potential backlash against an overhaul that offered corporations and wealthy taxpayers the biggest benefits. Cardinal Bernard Law, the disgraced former archbishop of Boston, died in Rome at the age of 86; his failure to stop child molesters in the priesthood had triggered a crisis in American Catholicism.

Today's Birthdays: Original Mouseketeer Tommy Cole (TV: "The Mickey Mouse Club") is 77. Rhythm and blues singer-musician Walter "Wolfman" Washington is 75. Rock musician-music producer Bobby Colomby is 74. Rock musician Peter Criss is 73. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue is 72. Psychic/illusionist Uri Geller is 72. Producer Dick Wolf ("Law & Order") is 72. Rock musician Alan Parsons is 70. Actress Jenny Agutter is 66. Actor Michael Badalucco is 64. Actress Blanche Baker is 62. Rock singer Billy Bragg is 61.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Auditioned, perhaps
 - 5 Wharton sch.
 - 10 Bar supply
 - 14 Melville novel
 - 15 French city, humorously
 - 16 Small strings
 - 17 Kindergarten, for many
 - 19 Casablanca host
 - 20 Parting word
 - 21 Hi-fi systems
 - 23 Frozen queen
 - 26 Sense of self
 - 27 Will Smith biopic
 - 30 Futile quiz-show answer
 - 36 ___ de guerre
 - 37 Ghana's capital
 - 38 Slow mover
 - 39 Spaces
 - 41 Get ___ of (ditch)
 - 42 Connery's breakthrough film
 - 43 Tough to climb
 - 45 Pull together
 - 48 Bit of body art
 - 49 Doctorate, often
 - 51 "___ Latest Flame" (Elvis tune)
 - 52 Husker's handful
 - 53 Ecclesiastical spinoff
 - 55 Deny
 - 59 Fast-food deal
 - 63 Car from Bavaria
 - 64 "Check for yourself," in this puzzle
 - 68 Gentle gait
 - 69 Most common blood group
- DOWN**
- 70 Nivea rival
 - 71 A snap
 - 72 Well-lathered
 - 73 Underworld river
 - 12 Art ___ (architectural style)
 - 13 Invites
 - 18 Sooner State metropolis
 - 22 Fried rice ingredients
 - 24 Wine specification
 - 25 Grow gradually
 - 27 Uneasy feeling
 - 28 Very reluctant
 - 29 Hancock Tower architect
 - 31 Faucet insert
 - 32 Low points
 - 33 Where we are
 - 34 Asian area of Egypt
 - 35 Casino array
 - 40 Peaceful feeling
 - 44 Smartphone predecessors
 - 46 Professional charge
 - 47 "Feh!"
 - 50 Unwanted breezes
 - 54 Uproars
 - 55 Parking garage entrance
 - 56 Intangible quality
 - 57 Solemn vows
 - 58 Fluctuate much
 - 60 Shed feathers
 - 61 NYC street televised on 12/31
 - 62 Figurine mineral
 - 65 ___ tree (stumped)
 - 66 Single gym crunch
 - 67 Type of dog, or purchase for a dog

FIGURATIVELY by Mark McClain Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
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71					72								73

Thought for Today:

"Experience teaches you that the man who looks you straight in the eye, particularly if he adds a firm handshake, is hiding something."

Clifton Fadiman American author, editor and radio personality (1904-1999)

© 2018 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

S	E	A	S	M	E	D	A	L	A	R	A	B		
T	A	R	T	E	X	I	L	E	M	E	S	A		
A	G	R	A	T	E	N	T	S	O	N	L	Y		
F	L	A	B	B	E	R	G	A	S	T	E	D		
F	E	Y	R	O	T	O	R	I	B	I	D			
A	I	R		H	E	A	T	E	R					
S	O	C	K	S	O	N	C	E		I	C	E		
K	N	O	C	K	E	D	F	O	R	A	L	O	O	
I	T	S		R	E	L	Y	T	O	N	Y	S		
D	O	M	A	I	N		P	I	P					
P	E	S	O	I	M	P	E	L	G	A	S			
T	H	U	N	D	E	R	S	T	R	U	C	K		
E	V	I	L	E	A	T		O	A	H				
R	I	C	E		S	H	A	D	E		O	V	E	N
E	A	S		S	O	L	A	R		M	A	S	K	

Bears, Texans give last-place teams hope for 2019

By ROB MAADDI

AP Pro Football Writer

There's hope in 2019 for the Jaguars, Raiders, Giants and other teams who will finish last in the division this year.

The Chicago Bears (10-4) already won the NFC North to complete a worst-to-first turnaround, and the Houston Texans (10-4) are on the verge of securing the AFC South to become the second team to do it this season.

At least one team has finished in first place in its division the year after finishing last or tied for last place in 15 of the past 16 seasons. Since the playoff format was expanded to 12 teams in 1990, at least four teams have reached the postseason each year after not qualifying the previous season.

In 2017, the Philadelphia Eagles went from last place to winning a Super Bowl title. The Bears and Texans are hoping to duplicate that feat this year.

Here's a look inside more numbers enter-

ing Week 16:

COUNTDOWN TO 50: Patrick Mahomes needs five touchdown passes to become the third quarterback to throw for 50 in a season. Peyton Manning had 55 in 2013, breaking Tom Brady's mark of 50 set in 2007. Manning also threw 49 TDs in 2004, Dan Marino had 48 in 1984 and Drew Brees tossed 46 in 2011.

RUNNING RAVENS: Led by quarterback Lamar Jackson and rookie running back Gus Edwards, the Ravens have rushed for at least 190 yards in five consecutive games. Baltimore is the first team since the 1976 Steelers to do so five straight games.

MACK ATTACK: Indianapolis Colts running back Marlon Mack joined Eric Dickerson and Edgerrin James as the only players in franchise history with multiple games of at least 125 yards rushing yards and two TDs rushing in a season.

JULIO'S WAY: Julio Jones of the Atlanta Falcons is the fifth player with at least three seasons of at least 1,500 yards receiving. Jerry Rice had four. Marvin Harrison, Antonio Brown and Andre Johnson also did it three times.

DUAL THREAT: Carolina's Christian McCaffrey needs nine receptions to break Matt Forte's (102) record for most catches by a running back in a season.



AP photo

In this Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018 file photo, Houston Texans wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins (10) celebrates his touchdown catch with wide receiver Demaryius Thomas (87) during the first half of an NFL football game, in East Rutherford, N.J. The Chicago Bears (10-4) already won the NFC North to complete a worst-to-first turnaround and the Houston Texans (10-4) are on the verge of securing the AFC South to become the second team to do it this season.

ROCKETS

Continued from Page 7

got the ball," he said. "So it's cool to do it together as a team."

The winning streak ties their longest of the season and comes after the Rockets lost their previous three games.

Houston had a comfortable lead throughout most of this one and seven straight points, capped by a dunk from Clint Capela, made it 111-94 with about nine minutes left.

Tomas Satoransky and Bradley Beal made back-to-back 3-pointers for Washington after that, but Harden ended the run with a 3 that left Houston ahead 114-100.

The Rockets then used a 12-3 run, with all their points coming on 3s, to make it 123-103 with about five minutes left. Harden and Gordon both made one in that span and Green capped the spurt with two, and coach Mike D'Antoni cleared the bench soon after.

Beal had 28 points to lead the Wizards, who lost for the sixth time in seven games.

Houston led by 12 at halftime and a basket by Paul left the Rockets up 80-64 with about nine minutes left in the third quarter. The Wizards used a 6-3 run, with four points from Wall, after that to cut the lead to 83-70.

The Rockets made four quick points later in the quarter, highlighted by a nifty reverse layup by Gordon, to leave them up 91-76 with about 3½ minutes left in the quarter.

Washington got within 11 late in the third quarter, but Harden scored the next five points, capped by a 3-pointer, to make it 101-85.

The Wizards scored the last five points of the quarter, with three free throws, to cut the lead to 101-90 entering the fourth.

The victory comes after the Wizards won the first meeting against Houston this season 135-131 in overtime on Nov. 26, despite a season-high 54 points from Harden.

The Wizards often double-teamed Harden in the first half, leaving others open, which led to easy baskets in the lane and a 70-58 lead by the Rockets at halftime.

TIP-INS

Wizards: Made 10 of 30 3-pointers. ... John Wall added 18 points with 12 assists. ... Trevor Ariza had 15 points in his second game since a trade from Phoenix.

Rockets: Gordon added 18 points. ... James Ennis missed his fourth straight game with a strained right hamstring. ... Houston had 15 turnovers.

WELCOME BACK

The Rockets played a tribute video for Ariza during a timeout in the first quarter after he spent the last four years with the team before signing with the Suns in the offseason. Ariza, who was traded to the Wizards last week, smiled and waved to the crowd as fans gave him a hearty ovation after the video.

UP NEXT

Wizards: Host Phoenix on Saturday night.
Rockets: Visit Miami on Thursday night.

BRANTLEY

Continued from Page 7

one of the Astros' highest priorities for this off-season, but they will continue looking for opportunities to improve both the offense and their rotation.

Hinch loves that Houston's front office is so committed to improving the team despite already having a strong roster.

"We like the feeling of winning," he said. "We've won four years in a row, having a winning record. We've won the division a couple of years in the row. We've won a World Series, got to the ALCS. That's a lot of success and a high standard and a high bar. ... We've got a really good thing going and in order to keep that going we need moves like this when the opportunity presents itself."

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THE LASSO

BSHS's weekly update



Courtesy photo

The Big Spring High School Student Council hosted a canned food drive to benefit the Salvation Army. Big Spring High students worked tirelessly and accumulated a grand total of about 3,900 cans! Congratulations to the staff, students and parents for making the canned food drive a huge success!

The Buffalo Bulletin

The annual Christmas Free Throw-a-thon is back!

By MALLORY EZELL

FISD Journalist

Over the past few years, the Forsan Lady Buffs have held a fund raiser where community members and local businesses donate a flat donation, or a certain dollar amount per free throw made out of one hundred shots.

During practice players will shoot one hundred free throws and the people who pledged a certain dollar amount will then find out how much is owed to the Christmas fundraiser.

This is a tradition that Coach Vedder, head varsity girls basketball coach, has brought to Forsan. This year the boys basketball team has also joined in on the fun of getting to give back.

With the money that is collected, the varsity team will shop for members of the community that might be strug-

gling to provide anything special for Christmas with their family.

This Thursday, the teams will go out and buy gifts, and then they will wrap and deliver to those in need. This event isn't just for raising money for children's Christmas gifts, but it is also for anyone who might be down on their luck - young and the old.

This is a special activity that teaches the student athletes to learn the value of giving back to their community, and teach them to provide and care for the people who so readily support them. It enables them to understand that this season isn't about making long lists of wants, but it is about helping other's gain their necessities so that they can enjoy their loved ones.

This is a wonderful tradition that will hopefully continue on in Forsan for a very long time.



Mallory Ezell

Little Buffs



Special to the Herald

Mrs. Davis' first grade class has been busy understanding the concept of "giving" as Christmas approaches. They started their lesson last week by discussing the story elements in the book "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein. The kids also contrib-

The children then were asked to do a week's worth of homework where they must complete an act of kindness without the recipient knowing. Each day, the children wrote a complete sentence about what they did and presented it to the class. Mrs. Davis' class would like to wish the community a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

uted to the school's food drive as well, and have been busy making a present for some of the most hard working and deserving people we know... their parents!

Mrs. Davis' class would like to wish the community a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

THE BULLDOG REPORT

By LYNDEL MOODY

CISD Media Specialist

The Coahoma High School theater department held a production of "Humbug High: A Contemporary Christmas Carol," Monday.

Based on the classic story by Charles Dickens, the cold-hearted Eddie Scrooge, played by Dylan Thompson, hates his parents and his classmates. The 17-year-old thinks only about making money and leaving everyone behind after high school until he meets the ghost of lunch lady Madge, played by Maliyah Martinez, and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future (Julia Cox, Kaden Season, and Madison White).

The one-hour play combined live acting along with pre-recorded video performances.

Cast members were Jaydn Barns as Debbie; Emajin Braxton as Mrs. Farnsworth; Vada Cortez as Lynn; Brianna Coskey as Suzanne, Julia Cox as the Ghost of Christmas Past;

Brooklyn East as the Narrator; Cayley Glover as Grace; Hailey Grant as Suit 1; Aubrey Green as Bonnie; Katelyn Johnson as Tina/Maid; and Bryson Cline as Lelan.

Joe Manning as Jonathon/Suit 3; Kathryn Manning as Benita; Maliyah Martinez as Madge; Alexandra Montelongo as Worker 2; Vance Ott as Suit 2; Pedro Paixao as Suit 4; Khayman Rawls as Pawnbroker; Kaden Season as the Ghost of Christmas Present; Maria Serrano Flores as Worker 1; and Hartlie Smithie as Cindy.

Dylan Thompson as Eddie Scrooge; Leon Waldmann as Nathan; Hunter White as Young Eddie/Robber; Madison White as the Ghost of Christmas to Come; and Naomi White as Landlord.

Crew members were: Aubrey Best, Paula Hagins, computer technicians; Robert Grant, light technician; Kaylee Kernick, backstage manager; Hunter Newton, sound technician; and Kaitlyn Seals, props manager.



AP photo

The cast and crew of "Humbug High" along with their sponsor Kristen Joslin pose for a photo following their performance Monday, Dec. 17, 2018.

CJHS WINS UIL MEET

The Coahoma Junior High School academic team won the UIL academic meet held last week in Coahoma.

Results from the meet are as follows: (Coahoma only)

Art

Sixth Grade: Kierstyn Beeman, 2nd; Kiera Lopez, 3rd; Kylee Key, 4th; Brynlea Gordon, 5th; Abriana Leija, 6th. Sixth grade art team, 1st.

Seventh Grade: Cayhill Lewis, 1st; Isabella Cox, 2nd; McCray Jacobs, 3rd; Barrett Howe, 4th; Ryan Shiflett, 5th. Seventh grade art team, 1st.

Eighth Grade: Rance Redden, Christopher Thurman, 3rd; Audrey Turnbough, 4th. Eighth grade art team, 1st.

Calculator Apps

Sixth Grade: Caden Latimer, 2nd; Savannah Cantu, 3rd; Emalyn Olivas, 4.

Seventh Grade: Braiden Boaz, 1st; Barrett Howe, 2nd; Kenna Best, 4th.

Eighth Grade: Rance Redden, 1st; Katie McDonald, 2nd; Braden Maxwell, 6th.

Chess Puzzle

Sixth Grade: Charlie Mashburn, 1st; Case Custer, 2nd; Skyler Marsch, 4th.

Seventh Grade: Tucker Wegner, 1st; Laina Garrett, 2nd; McKaylee Metcalf, 5th.

Eighth Grade: Matthew Coskey, 2nd; Conner Wisenhand, 6th.

Dictionary Skills

Sixth Grade: Peyton Beck, 2nd; Merick Alvarez, 3rd (tie).

Eighth Grade: Jocelyn Young, 6th.

Editorial Writing

Sixth Grade: Payton Locke, 2nd.

Seventh Grade: Nyssa Tran, 4th.

Eighth Grade: Zoie Joslin, 1st; Jocelyn Young, 3rd; Makayla Chavez, 5th.

Impromptu Speaking

Sixth Grade: Savannah Cantu, 2nd; Addi Arguello, 4th.

Seventh Grade: Leah Grantom, 1st; Netalie Roberts, 3rd; Cayhill Lewis, 5th.

Eighth Grade: Jessica Hamby, 1st; Nyssa Tran, 2nd; Neely Key, 3rd.

Listening Skills

Sixth Grade: Abri Leija, 1st; Gracie Moore, 2nd; Peyton Beck, 4th.

Seventh Grade: Reagan Chapman, 2nd; Victoria Hernandez, 4th.

Eighth Grade: Neely Key, 1st; Serena Dobbs, 5th.

Maps, Charts & Graphs

Sixth Grade: Gavin Rochelle, 4th;

Kyler Bennett, 6th

Seventh Grade: McCray Jacobs, 2nd; Reagan Chapman, 3rd.

Eighth Grade: Austin Herrod, 1st; Braden Maxwell, 4th; Codi Edens, 6th.

Mathematics

Sixth Grade: Avery Rodriguez, 6th.

Seventh Grade: Reagan Chapman, 5th; Sophie Biddison, 6th.

Eighth Grade: Katie McDonald, 2nd; Macartney Fitzhugh, 3rd.

Modern Oratory

Sixth Grade: Emma Alaman, 1st; Kierstan Beeman, 3rd.

Seventh Grade: Macie Olivas, 4th; Karleigh Burt, 5th; Maddie Cervantes, 6th.

Eighth Grade: Neely Key, 1st; Rowdy Atkins, 5th.

Music Memory

Sixth Grade: Liliana Anderson, 1st; Gavin Rochelle, 2nd.

Number Sense

Sixth Grade: Jaidyn Vineyard, 2nd; Levi Arista, 5.

Seventh Grade: Braiden Boaz, 2nd; Sophie Biddison, 5th; Barrett Howe, 6th.

Eighth Grade: Austin Herrod, 1st; Alexcia Munoz, 3rd; Macartney Fitzhugh, 4th.

Oral Reading

Sixth Grade: Savannah Cantu, 6th.

Seventh Grade: Isabella Cox, 5th.

Eighth Grade: Jocelyn Young, 4th.

Ready Writing

Sixth Grade: Kenzi Emerson, 1st;

Jordan Brinlee, 5th.

Seventh Grade: Cassidy Walker, 3rd.

Eighth Grade: McKenna Webster, 1st; Zoie Joslin, 3rd.

Science

Seventh Grade: Cassidy Walker, 1st; Keiston Harrison, 3rd; Braiden Boaz, 5th.

Eighth Grade: Austin Herrod, 2nd; Matthew Coskey, 5th.

Spelling

Sixth Grade: Jake Denton, 5th.

Seventh Grade: Nyssa Tran, 2nd; Branden Bitner, 3rd; Lexi King, 4th.

Eighth Grade: Blake Guerra, 5th.

Social Studies

Sixth Grade: Gavin Rochelle, 1st; Ava Baccari, 2nd; Kyler Bennett, 3rd.

Seventh Grade: Keiston Harrison, 3rd; Braiden Boaz, 5th.

Eighth Grade: Braden Maxwell, 3rd; Jonathan Franklin-Chavez, 5th; Christian Everett, 6th.