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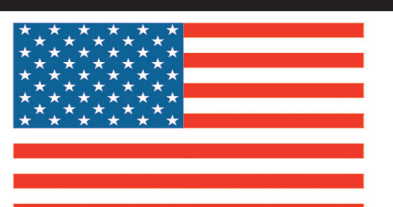
WEDNESDAY EDITION,
 APRIL 27, 2022

The Law Offices Of
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VOLUME 117, NUMBER 188

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Weather



Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62. South wind around 20 mph.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 93. South wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Thursday Night: Clear, with a low around 64.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 94.
 Source: NWS, via weather.gov

Today in History

On April 27:

1959: Mao Zedong resigns as Chairman of the People's Republic of China.
1965: RC Duncan patents Pampers disposable diaper.
1981: Xerox releases the first computer mouse.
1982: Trial of John Hinckley begins for the attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan.
1983: Nolan Ryan earns the title "Strikeout King" with 3,509 career strikeouts, surpassing the previous record held by Walter Johnson.

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY CHANGE:

THE BIG SPRING HERALD WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR LOYAL SUBSCRIBERS FOR THEIR YEARS OF CONTINUED SUPPORT. AS YOU HAVE NOTICED, OUR NEWSPAPER IS NOW BEING DELIVERED WITH YOUR DAILY MAIL. WE HOPE THIS ALLOWS FOR MORE TIMELY AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY, AND LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU FOR THE YEARS TO COME.

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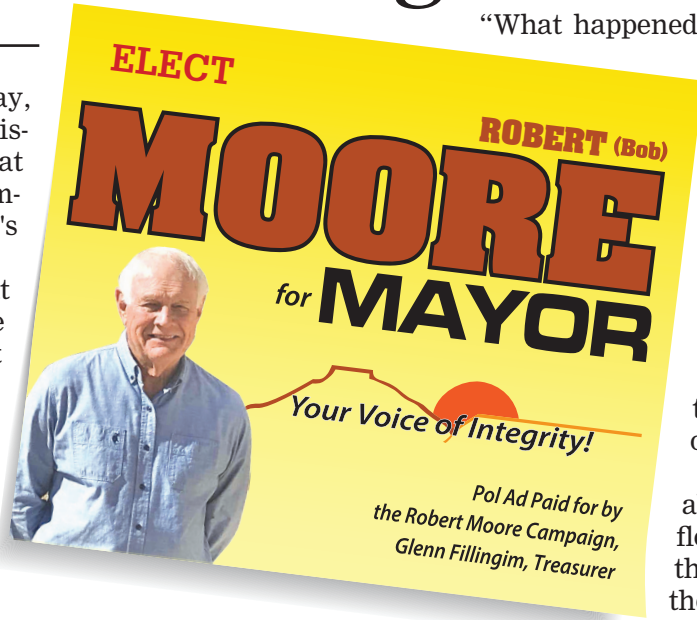
Howard College Board discusses weekend flooding Monday

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

During their meeting Monday, Howard County Junior College District trustees discussed flooding at Howard College's Big Spring campus caused by Sunday morning's thunderstorm with hail.

"On Sunday morning when that storm hit, it obviously must have been more intense on this part of town, so the college campus, we did experience a lot of rain," said Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks. "The buildings that were most affected were the Coliseum, the McKinney Center, and the Horace Garrett Center. Now, the other buildings, we had some leaks or some water issues, whatever you want to call it."

Sparks said flooding from the storm forced open the large service door on the east side of Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, allowing the pooled water to flood the Coliseum floor.



Pol Ad Paid for by the Robert Moore Campaign, Glenn Fillingim, Treasurer

"What happened, in the Coliseum there's that ramp on the east side," Sparks said. "The amount of water that was coming down, it started going down that ramp. Eventually, what ended up happening, we have that door that we had pulled down. We do have a drain there, but because of the debris, the water started building up, and then eventually what it did was, it bowed the door. That water then went into the Coliseum, and went all the way back to the dressing rooms on the west side."

Sparks said water was standing about three inches deep across the floor of the Coliseum. Sump pumps in the Coliseum were unable to handle the volume of water.

Dr. Sparks said calls about flooding started coming in from the school's dormitories about 3 a.m. Sunday morning.

See **HC**, Page 3

Early voting is now underway at the Howard County Courthouse

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

Early voting got underway Monday on State constitutional amendments, as well as the Big Spring Mayoral race and Big Spring school board race.

Locally, incumbent Big Spring Mayor Shannon Thomason faces a challenge from former 118th District Court Judge Robert H. Moore for the city's top elected position; while Bryan Stokes and Krystal Borggren are both seeking the District 6 school board seat.

In Coahoma, challenger Jackie Mulkey and incumbents Kenni Kay Wright and Brandon Atkins are vying for two seats on the Coahoma ISD school board.

Early voting will run the rest of this week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, as well as May 2 and 3 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Howard County Courthouse.

Election day is Saturday, May 7, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. On election day, local voters may vote at any of the county's four polling places, regardless of where they live in the county:

- Ryan Hall/St. Thomas Church, 605 N. Main St.
- First Baptist Church, 705 W. FM 700
- Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, 1001 Birdwell Lane
- Coahoma Community Center, 306 North Ave. in Coahoma.



Alternatively, voters may present one of the following types of ID, and fill out a brief "Reasonable Impediment Declaration" form: copy or original of a government document that shows the voter's name and address, including a voter registration certificate; copy or original of a current utility bill; copy or original of a bank statement; copy or original of a government check; copy or original of a paycheck; or copy or original of a certified domestic birth certificate from a U.S. state or territory or a document confirming birth admissible in a court of law which establishes the voter's identity (which may include a foreign birth certificate).

For further questions, contact the Howard County Elections Office at 432-264-2273.

Commissioners approve courthouse chiller warranty

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Herald Staff Writer

Howard County Commissioners approved several items during its meeting Monday afternoon.

At the start of the meeting, County Judge Kathryn Wiseman had commissioners sign a document related to tax abatement in the county that was approved at the previous meeting, but needed signatures.

County Treasurer Sharon Adams presented personnel considerations, as well as her Quarterly and Monthly treasurer's reports, all of which were approved unanimously.

County Auditor Jackie Olson presented invoices as well as \$19,408 in purchase requests. Commissioners approved both items. Olson also presented her monthly financial report, and an item regarding the warranty on the courthouse HVAC chiller, which will be installed in the near future.

The commissioners approved a warranty which includes two maintenance visits annually from the Baltimore-based company. The cost of the option is a total of \$25,971.

In other business, the commissioners heard a roadway maintenance update from Road Engineer Brian Klinksiek.

Klinksiek answered questions related to storms and flooding over the weekend, saying the portion of the county outside Big Spring did not see major damage.

"We did not," he said. "TXDoT lost part of the South Service Road just west of Moss Lake Road. We had some flooding out in the county, that was about it. We did have parking lot damage at the Library. We had a piece of that washed out this morning. We picked up the debris and patched it, and it's open as we speak."

Klinksiek also said a large tree limb fell in front of the north Courthouse entrance, and his crew removed it. The storm tracked along Interstate 20, so damage was fairly tightly limited to about one mile either side of the highway. He noted that rain gauge measurements indicated some parts of the county received seven inches of rain in about two hours.

County Clerk Brent Zitterkopf requested approval of a change to the county's merchant processing agreement with Merrick Bank to use a different credit card for charges, which won't cost the county any extra fees.

The commissioners met in brief executive session at the end of the meeting, but did not conduct any business when they returned to open session.

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Obituaries

Terry Gayle (Thorn) Lowther



Terry Gayle (Thorn) Lowther was born May 12, 1939, in Junction, Texas, to Walter and Katherine Thorn. She graduated from Christoval High School in Christoval, Texas, in 1957. After graduation, she met R.A. Lowther Jr. and the two were married in Sanderson, Texas, on December 21, 1957.

Our Gee was an incredibly sweet soul. She was a friend to all—and constantly reminded that she had never met a stranger. Anyone who crossed paths with her, even for a moment, were able to feel the love and genuine kindness she had in her heart. The impression she left on each person who knew her will never be forgotten.

When she knew her time on this Earth was ending, she rejoiced in knowing she would be reunited with all of those she loved who went before her: her husband; her parents; her parents-in-law, Robert Sr. and Ethel (Friedl) Lowther; brother-in-law, Frank Donald Lowther; her sister, Petreta Cooke; as well as aunts and uncles and a number of cousins and friends who she considered family.

Among all of the joys she had in her life, her biggest was her family. She and her husband were blessed to celebrate 54 years of marriage before he passed away in 2011. Their relationship was one she cherished and one that produced many great memories—of which she fondly reminisced in the

years following his passing. She always said she was put on this Earth to be a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. It was not a job that she took lightly, giving all of herself to that family that she treasured so much. The mark she left on each of them was special and unique; each having their own special moments and memories to hold on to as they learn to exist in a world without her in it.

Left behind to cherish her memory and forever carry on her legacy are her children, Bobby Lowther and Danae Purvis of Brock, Texas, Cathy and Butch Allaire of Midland, Texas, and Becky Thomas and Dennis Burns of Big Spring; her grandchildren, Corey Thiel, Whitney Lowther, Ashley Mehan and Eric Olivas, Shelby and Dan Bauman, Dusty and Renee Thomas, Denielle and Ryan Wegman, and Kourtney Lowther and Sully Thompson; and her great-grandchildren, Lexy Mehan, Cameron Bauman, Cameron Thiel, Logan and Wade Thomas, Oliver and Everett Wegman, and Everly Olivas; and her sister-in-law, Elizabeth Steen. In 2018, she adopted her "baby dog" Jax, who filled her life with so much joy. He was her constant companion and he will undoubtedly miss her for the rest of his life. She also leaves behind a number of nieces and nephews, and dear friends that had a special place in her heart.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital in her name.

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

Paid obituary

Barbara Gay Welch



Barbara Gay Welch, 73, of Big Spring passed away April 24, 2022, in Odessa. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday, April 28, 2022, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Barbara was born February 4, 1949, in Stanton, Texas, to Geraldine and JC Jackson. She loved scrapbooking, art, shopping and her animals. She loved going to the mountains in Ruidoso. She retired from the Big Spring State Hospital after 17 years of service. She had worked in many capacities within the state before retiring. She married Adron Welch on July 5, 1991, in Cloudcroft, New Mexico. Barbara was a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

She is survived by her husband, Adron Welch; daughter, Tiffanie Welch; grandson, Corey Welch; step-children, Bryan Welch and Lisa Welch Malone; a sister, Carol Lloyd; and grandchildren, Morgan Welch, Jordan Malone and Austin Malone.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents; and a sister, Peggy Williams.

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

Paid obituary

Amanda Elaine Mathis

Amanda Elaine Mathis, 52, died Sunday, April 24, 2022.

Visitation will be 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside service will be 2 p.m. at Trinity Memorial Park.

Amanda was born on October 30, 1969, in Big Spring to Joe W. Mathis and Mebla Mathis.

Amanda is survived by three brothers, Joe Mathis, Steve Mathis, and Ronald Mathis; and two cousins.

Amanda was preceded in death by her parents, Joe W. Mathis and Melba Mathis; and one brother, James Mathis.

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

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 87 inmates at the time of this report.

• **DONALD GLEEN PATTERSON**, 56, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of fail to maintain financial responsibility, driving while license invalid, failure to appear.

• **ANDREW SLOAN ROBINSON**, 26, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of possession of controlled substance more than 4g less than 200g, unlawful

possession of firearm by felon x5, theft of firearm, possession of marijuana less than 2oz.

• **GARY WAYNE BRITO**, 29, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of possession of controlled substance more than 4g less than 200g, possession of marijuana less than 2oz.

• **ERNEST SAIZ JR**, 60, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of miscellaneous class C- Display expired registration, fail to maintain financial responsibility, driving while license invalid, bail jumping and fail to appear.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 6100 block of N Service Rd. No transport was required.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of W 5th St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of Nolan St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1500 block of Mesquite. No transport was required.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 800 block of W FM 700. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **PUBLIC SERVICE** was reported in the 1400 block of S Runnels. No transport was required.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

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

• A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

• Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The meetings are held at the Senior Citizens Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. These meetings are open for any caregiver, whether medical professional or family member. For more information, please call Becky Letz at 267-1628.

• Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

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

WEDNESDAY

• Celebrate Recovery meets at First United Methodist Church Youth Hall, 400 Scurry, from 6-8 p.m.

Hurts, habits and hang-ups. Leave message for Joyce Webb at 325-212-8600.

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

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

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

Take Note

• Food distribution at Three Angels Food Pantry is held every third Tuesday of the month at the Big Spring Seventh-Day Adventist Church, located at 4319 Parkway Rd. Food is provided by the West Texas Food Bank. People will need to bring ID and plastic bags or a box, and answer a few questions - such as how many people live in the household - to pick up food. This month's distribution is scheduled April 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The food pantry also has a Facebook page where they will post any updates. <https://www.facebook.com/healthynuggetsofgold44>.

• New Life senior/mature adult dances are held the third Friday of every month from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center, 100 Whipkey Drive.

Music is Western swing style. Entry fee is \$5 and refreshments are provided. For more information call 517-9097.

• The Big Spring Art Association is looking for community businesses to display pieces of their artwork.

In an effort to build awareness for the importance of the arts and highlight local talent, the Big Spring Art Association displays different art pieces across the community.

If you would like a piece of art work displayed in your business lobby contact any member of the Big Spring Art Association.

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BIG SPRING STATE HOSPITAL

THE CHALET

The Chalet is a non-profit thrift store benefiting patients at the Big Spring State Hospital, sponsored by the Volunteer Services Council.

The Chalet accepts donations of adult and children's clothing, housewares, furniture, and books.

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

(432) 263-0528 • 115 E 2nd St

HC

Continued from Page 1

“The dorms, they’re part of what’s actively being roofed right now. Those were the first calls,” she said. “So what happened then, our security people started walking all those buildings. They started finding out where all of our issues were. So by 8 o’clock, we knew that we had issues a lot of places.”

Sparks said repairs of the storm damage should be largely covered by insurance, although the cost will be split between the college’s insurance and the insurance of the construction company currently working on roofing projects at the school.

“The roofing company’s insurance is going to be covering the issues relating to the roofing project, anything that is a result of a problem related to that,” Sparks said. “Issues that don’t have anything to do with the roofing project will be covered by the college’s insurance.”

Sparks said the damage will cause some classes and faculty offices to be temporarily relocated.

The coliseum should be dried out and repaired in time for graduation to continue as planned in the facility, she added.

In other business, the College Board approved a tuition increase for out-of-district and non-resident students. Students who are Howard County residents will not see a tuition hike.

Costs for students who are Texas residents but

not residents of Howard County, and for students who are attending the college from outside of Texas will pay \$10 more per semester hour – a hike of \$30 for a typical three-hour class, or an increase of \$150 for a 15-hour class load.

SouthWest College for the Deaf students who are Texas residents and deaf or hard-of-hearing attend SWCD tuition-free. Hearing students attending SWCD from outside of Howard County but within Texas will pay the \$10-per-hour increase.

“When it gets to non-residents at SWCD, we have to follow what the state designates for universities that non-resident, out-of-state tuition will be,” Sparks said. “So our out-of-staters at SWCD, whether deaf, hard-of-hearing or hearing, will pay the out-of-state rate for university tuition, which is significantly more than what we charge.”

Although SWCD isn’t a university, it follows that price structure for out-of-state students, Sparks explained.

The increase will be used to fund pay increases for Howard College’s full-time faculty, Sparks said.

“We are addressing our base faculty pay. We compared our base faculty pay with other colleges, looked at the state average, peer colleges, and this is something we’ve wanted to address for quite some time,” Sparks said. “So we’ve been working toward this, and in order to move forward with that goal, we need to increase the revenue.”

The college board also approved retaining the colleges’ current food service provider: Great Western

Dining. Although the provider will be the same, the board has selected a different option with the company which should provide students with

“There are some changes,” Sparks said. “We were trying to increase the quality of food, and we were interested in seeing what they would do with, obviously, charging, but also what they would do in the way of summer, what they would provide for students. We don’t have the full cafeteria delivery in summer, so we were interested in seeing what the different proposals would be. With the changes that Great Western will be providing, of course we have the normal time the cafeteria is open for full service, but they’re also going to offer in-between meals, basically snacks, that students have to come by to take advantage of.”

Sparks said the price of food plans at the colleges will increase due to the change, reflecting the increasing price of food.

The college board also renewed its approval of its tax abatement guidelines and procedures and set a hearing for May 11 to discuss a proposed tax abatement, as well as a meeting for May 23 to vote on the measure.

The company under consideration for a tax abatement is DuCharme, McMillen and Associates Inc., doing business locally as Recover Howard LLC.

Sparks said the company plans to recover and treat oil and gas well-related waste products locally.

BSISD teacher arrested on suspicion of misconduct with student

Editor’s Note: This story originally ran on Page 1 of Monday’s edition of the *Herald*. As posted, the story indicated it would be continued on Page 3; however, the portion of the story to be included on Page 3 was inadvertently omitted. The entire story, including press releases from the Big Spring Police Department and Big Spring ISD, is reprinted here.

Special to the Herald

The *Big Spring Herald* received the following press release from the Big Spring Police Department shortly following press time Thursday morning:

On Sunday the 17th of April 2022 the Big Spring Police Department was made aware of allegations of Improper Relationship between Educator and Student involving a Big Spring Independent School District High School Teacher and a student. A report of the allegation was generated and forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division. The Big Spring Police Department reached out to BSISD Administrative staff on the alleged allegations. The Detectives Division investigated the allegations made and subsequently submitted a probable cause affidavit for arrest on Matthew Yanez Hispanic/Male 25 years of age. On the 21st of April 2022 an Arrest Warrant was issued for Yanez for the offense of Improper Relationship between Educator and Student a Felony 2 offense. Yanez was subsequently arrested and transported to the Howard County Jail.

This is an ongoing investigation, and no further information is available at this time.

In addition, the *Big Spring Herald* received the following press release from Big Spring ISD shortly following press time Thursday morning:

Big Spring ISD Press Release
DATE: April 21, 2022
FROM: Jay McWilliams, Big Spring ISD Superintendent
As the designated spokesperson and superintendent for the Big

Spring Independent School District, I am issuing the following statement:

On Sunday, April 17, 2022, the Big Spring Police Department reported to the Big Spring ISD Administration that a District employee may have engaged in educator misconduct, specifically improper communications and an improper relationship with a Big Spring High School student. The Administration has now learned that this educator was taken into custody by the Big Spring Police Department.

Upon learning of these events, the District placed the employee on administrative leave, reported this educator’s alleged misconduct to the State Board for Educator Certification, and other authorities as required by law and District policies. The school administration is grateful for the cooperation we received from local law enforcement so that interim corrective actions could be immediately implemented with the employee while investigations are pending. The District will continue to cooperate with these agencies to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Student safety and proper professional relationships between staff and students are top priorities to Big Spring ISD. Romantic relationships between District employees and students are never tolerated. The District strictly enforces its student anti-harassment policies. Employees receive regular training regarding proper professional relationships, communications, and boundaries with students. The administration encourages anyone with concerns of a suspected improper relationship between a staff member and a student to immediately contact the Superintendent’s office or the Big Spring Police Department.

State and federal law prohibit the District from disclosing personally identifiable student information, as well as confidential personnel information. Therefore, the District cannot comment further on this matter. Any further inquiries should be directed to the Big Spring Police Department. Please be assured that the District has taken steps to keep Big Spring ISD students safe, and we are grateful for the prompt assistance of the Big Spring Police Department.

Thank you for your continued support of the District and our students.

432-263-7331

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson
267-8288

Lula Mae Hughes, 88, died Thursday. Visitation 9 AM until 9 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service 10 AM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial at 4 PM Saturday at Bullock Cemetery in Ranger, TX.

Glenn Marlin Pierce, 83, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Sandra “Sandy” Tonn Wegman, 71, died Saturday. No formal services will be held.

Amanda Mathis, 52, died Sunday. Visitation 9 AM until 9 PM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside service 2 PM Thursday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Take Note (cont.)

• Drive-through COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics are held from 3-6 p.m. each Thursday afternoon at Whatley Plaza, located on the northwest part of the Scenic Mountain Medical Center campus, 1601 W. Martin Luther King Boulevard, also known as 1601 W. 11th Place. The vaccination is free. For more information, visit www.scenicmountainmedical.org/vaccine.

• The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, in the basement of the Howard County Library.

Come join us, we would love to have you. For more information, call 432-263-4155; Michelle Worthan at 325-227-3911; Kay Smith at 432-213-1153; or Ruby Bruns at 432-664-1943.

• The Great Courses history video lecture series is taking place each Wednesday in the Theater Room in the First Presbyterian Church, located at 701 Runnels Street. No charge for the lectures.

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

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MEMBER
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Lady Buffs clinch District title 15-5 vs Tahoka



Courtesy photo

Several Forsan softball players hit homeruns in Saturday's District Championship game versus the Tahoka Lady Bulldogs. Shown (l-r) are Lindsey Morin, Aubrie Smith, Reagan Phillips and Kelcey Zubiata.

By AMANDA DUFORAT

Contributing Writer

The Forsan Lady Buffs clinched the District Champion title, after facing off against the Tahoka Lady Bulldogs on Saturday afternoon with a final score of 15-5. The Lady Buffs stepped onto the field early Saturday afternoon looking for a win and through their determination and teamwork, that W was theirs.

The Tahoka Lady Bulldogs were the first ones to put points on the board, but they wouldn't remain in control for long. When the third inning swept in, the Lady Buffs took the momentum and ran with it. Emma Buske singled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring one run. Noelani Rodriguez induced Hailey Beall to hit into a fielder's choice, but one run scored, K'Leigh Williams singled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring one run, and Lindsey Morin homered on a 0-2 count, scoring three runs. At the end of the third inning, the Lady Buffs had put six runs on the board.

The Lady Buffs had Aubrie Smith in the pitcher's circle. For the day, Smith surrendered eight hits, but Tahoka only gained five runs in the seven innings, with a total of nine striking out and one walk.

In addition to the victory, there were several Lady Buffs who were able to celebrate a home run. Aubrie Smith not only played an important role on the pitcher's mound, but also in the batting box as she hit two deep, one in the second and the other in the fourth inning. Kelcey Zubiata claimed her homer in the seventh inning; Lindsey Morin claimed hers in the third inning; Reagan Phillips had a four bagger in the seventh inning.

Lady Buffs' teamwork paid off and was reflected in the 16 hits that were racked up in the game: Buske, Lybertee Rodriguez, Smith, Zubiata, and Williams all managed multiple hits for the Lady Buffs. Smith, Rodriguez, and Buske each managed three hits to lead Lady Buffs, according to information provided on Game Changer.

Doncic scores 33, Mavs rout Jazz 102-77 for 3-2 series lead

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Luka Doncic delighted the crowd in his first home playoff game coming off a calf injury.

Frustrated the Utah Jazz will.

The young Dallas superstar had 33 points and 13 rebounds while also being thrown to the court on a hard foul that led to Hassan Whiteside's ejection as the Mavericks routed the Jazz 102-77 on Monday night for a 3-2 lead in their first-round series.

Doncic made his series debut in Game 4 at Utah, when the Jazz scored the last five points in the final 31 seconds for a one-point win that evened the series. He never let Game 5 get close.

"For his second game, it looks like he's been playing this whole series," coach Jason Kidd said. "His conditioning, his effort on the defensive end. As we talk about rebounding, he's one of the best for us and he did that tonight."

After the first four games were decided by eight points or less, Utah never had a chance after a nearly six-minute scoreless drought in the second quarter that fueled a 22-4 Dallas run on the way to a 52-36 halftime lead.

Game 6 is Thursday night in Salt Lake City, with the Jazz regaining their formidable home-court edge, but facing the long odds of just 18% of teams winning a series after dropping the fifth game when the teams split the first four.

The Mavericks haven't advanced in the postseason since winning the 2011 championship. Utah is in the playoffs for the sixth consecutive year, but has yet to get past the second round in that stretch.

Jordan Clarkson scored 20 points and Rudy Gobert added 17 points and 11 rebounds in the lowest-scoring game for the Jazz since they lost by 50 at Dallas (118-68) on Nov. 14, 2018. They were 3 of 30 from 3-point range (10%) and shot 38% overall.

two playoff years. "It's a lot to continuously run teams off the line, and they've done a good job of it. They've made us uncomfortable."

Doncic had already matched Utah's entire output in the third quarter with 19 points when he returned midway through the fourth. Whiteside challenged an attempted dunk and flung Doncic to the court after they got tangled up.

Whiteside was assessed two technical fouls after shoving Dorian Finney-Smith and going nose-to-nose with Reggie Bullock as coaches from both sides frantically tried to keep players separated. Finney-Smith and Bullock also got technicals, and Bullock was ejected because it was his second of the game.

"It was nothing," Doncic said. "It's playoffs, man. There's going to be always attention, but it was nothing. I tried to dunk it. Wasn't successful. These things happen in the playoffs."

Jalen Brunson, who carried most of the offensive load for Dallas when Doncic was sidelined, scored 24 points. Finney-Smith added 13, and Dwight Powell got the crowd going early with all eight of his points on 4-of-4 shooting in the first.

Doncic, his left calf covered in a black wrap under white leggings, kept a raucous crowd rolling with several nifty moves and high-arcing 3-pointers.

The first highlight came late in the first half when Doncic drove all the way to the rim with Gobert guarding him, stopped and faked the 7-foot-1 center several times before turning his back to the basket and spinning a reverse layup off the glass and in as Gobert fouled him.

The glamor and in as Gobert fouled him. The second one went in. The 23-year-old sensation swished another 3 for a 79-46 lead right after blocking Clarkson's shot from deep.

DEJA VU ALL OVER AGAIN

It's the second year in a row for the Mavericks to have a 3-2 lead in the first round. They couldn't finish off the Los Angeles Clippers at home in Game 6 last season, losing the series in Game 7 at LA.

"I don't even remember that," Finney-Smith said before smiling. "I don't even remember last year. Nah, but we put ourselves in a great spot. We've just got to handle our business in Utah."

TIP-INS

Jazz: After dominating the boards in the first two games, Utah has slowly surrendered its edge as the series has progressed. The Mavs outrebounded them 49-40. ... Bojan Bogdanovic, who scored 26 and 25 points in the first two games in Dallas, was 0 of 9 from the field and scored just three points.

Mavericks: The 77 points were the first allowed by Dallas this season. ... G-Frank Ntilikina was available for the first time in the series after being out with a non-COVID-19 illness. He didn't play.

Steer Ultimate wins semi-finals



Courtesy photo

The Steer Ultimate e-sports team, masters of the video game Super Smash Brothers Ultimate, will compete in the semi-final round of competition tonight. According to Coach Amber Griffith, all four teams competing in the semis are undefeated. Shown (l-r) are Morgan Griffith, Tristan LeBarre and Toby Phillips.

Donovan Mitchell, who averaged 30 points in the first four games, scored just nine and missed all seven of his 3-pointers before leaving with a left hamstring injury in the fourth quarter. He will get an MRI on Tuesday.

"They've scrambled extremely hard," said Mitchell, who is shooting 20% from 3-point range after being well over 40% the past

Semien, Seager RBI singles for Texas in 6-2 win over Astros

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Baseball Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Corey Seager feels like things are starting to come together for the Texas Rangers, who have won four of their last five games.

Marcus Semien and Seager, the two big offseason additions, had RBI singles in the decisive seventh inning, last season's top rookie Adolis Garcia had a bases-clearing double in the eighth and the Rangers beat the Houston Astros 6-2 in the opener of a four-game series Monday night.

"Everything's kind of clicking on both sides, the chemistry is getting better," Seager said. "There's a lot of new faces, and a lot of new parts that we're coming together ... and are starting to figure themselves out."

Along with the timely hitting late, Matt Moore (1-0) and three other relievers combined for 3 1/3 scoreless innings. Young right-handed starter Dane Dunning struck out five and allowed two runs in 5 2/3 innings.

Pinch-hitter Willie Calhoun opened the Texas seventh with a double off just-in reliever Phil Maton (0-1), who after getting his only out allowed Semien's single through the left side of the drawn-in infield that tied the game at 2-2. After a single by Garcia, another pitching change and a wild pitch, Semien

came home with the go-ahead run on Seager's sharp single to right.

"For Willie to come off the bench right there, it's not an easy thing to do," Texas manager Chris Woodward said. "A huge hit there to start that inning, and we end up getting the lead. And Semien had a really

See ASTROS, Page 5

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Wild finish for teams still trying to get into NHL playoffs

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Things got wild in a matter of seconds for Western Conference teams still trying to get into the NHL playoffs — for those on the ice and those watching at home.

“Interesting. It’s why you play the full 65 minutes,” Dallas Stars coach Rick Bowness said Monday, a day after playoff-contending teams Vegas and Nashville both gave up last-second goals to lose home games after regulation.

Dallas, which didn’t play Sunday, can now clinch one of the two wild-card spots with a win in regulation at home Tuesday night against the Golden Knights, something Bowness said he realized “right away” after those two strange finishes Sunday night.

“It’s obviously what you want as a player and a team is to not rely on somebody else to do your job,” Stars captain Jamie Benn said.

Vegas, which as an expansion team in 2017-18 went to the Stanley Cup Final, is now in danger of missing the playoffs for the first time in its brief history. The Golden Knights will be without starting goaltender Robin Lehner after the team said

Monday he will have season-ending shoulder surgery.

Vegas blew a 4-2 lead in the final 2:06 Sunday night against San Jose, which forced overtime on Timo Meier’s goal with 0.9 seconds left in regulation. The Sharks won 5-4 in a shootout.

That was after Nashville lost 5-4 at home to Minnesota when Dmitry Kulikov scored with 1.3 seconds remaining in overtime.

“A tough one obviously,” Predators defenseman Dante Fabbro said. “But you have to look at some bright sides. We got one point out of it, kind of just got to wipe the slate clean here and focus on Calgary. ... It was definitely a playoff game out there.”

The Stanley Cup playoffs start next Monday. All eight playoff teams for the Eastern Conference are set and things are getting closer in the West.

If Dallas beats Vegas, Nashville could wrap up the other wild-card spot with a win at home against Calgary.

Going into Tuesday night when each team plays the first of three games over four nights to wrap up the regular season, Nashville sits at 94 points, Dallas 93, Vegas 90 and Vancouver 87. The Stars-Golden Knights game on Tuesday is the only head-to-head matchup remaining among that quartet.

The Canucks still have a slim chance to make the playoffs. They would have to win their remaining three games, and Dallas would have to lose its last three in regulation. Vegas, which would have to beat Dallas in that scenario, would then have to lose its final two games at Chicago and St. Louis in regulation.

Dallas is coming off a 3-2 win at home Saturday night over Seattle, a welcome result for the Stars after an 0-3 road trip that included a 6-2 loss at Vancouver and ended with a long, miserable trip home because of extended travel issues.

The Stars practiced for only about 15 minutes Monday, and didn’t plan to have a morning skate before the potential clinching game against the Golden Knights, who are 2-0 against Dallas this season. Bowness, who wants his players to be able to rest as much as possible, likened it to trying to close out a playoff series.

“The toughest win in any playoff series is getting that fourth win. And that’s what we’re facing tomorrow,” Bowness said. “These guys know if they lose to us in regulation, they’re out, and it’s the same as in a playoff series. ... The way they lost (Sunday) night, you know, they’re going to be coming at us very, very hard.”

Cabrera could be the last for a while to reach 3,000 hits

By **NOAH TRISTER**

AP Baseball Writer

Miguel Cabrera reached the 3,000-hit mark on a weekend afternoon in front of an adoring crowd at his home ballpark in Detroit. It was a moment worthy of the milestone.

It could also be the last time it happens for a while.

In an era of high strikeout totals and low batting averages, there aren’t any other players who seem likely to reach 3,000 hits any time soon. In fact, the first few weeks of this season are a reminder of how current trends in baseball could affect which milestones remain in reach for the game’s top players.

Among active players, the next man on the career hits list is Robinson Canó with 2,631. Canó had a good season for the New York Mets in the shortened 2020 campaign, but he missed the whole 2021 season serving a drug suspension. Canó turns 40 in October.

Among players closer to their primes, 31-year-old Jose Altuve (1,783 hits) could have a shot, but the Houston Astros star hasn’t even reached 170 in a season since 2017. That was also the last time he played more than 146 games, and Altuve just went on the injured list with a hamstring problem.

Part of what helped Cabrera to the milestone was that he reached the big leagues at age 20. The same was true of Tampa Bay star Wander Franco last year. He has 103 hits in his first 85 games, but even if Franco goes on to have a Hall of Fame career, it’ll obviously be a while before has a chance to threaten a milestone like 3,000 hits.

The outlook is a little better for a power mark like 500 homers. Nelson Cruz has 451, and although he’s off to a slow start this year, don’t write off the 41-year-old Washington Nationals slugger. When the 2008 season ended, Cruz was 28 and had only 22 home runs in his career, so the fact that he’s this close to 500 shows how well he has kept hitting them at an advanced age.

For pitchers, the 300-win plateau feels like a pipe dream these days, and even strikeout milestones are no sure thing, since the top starters don’t throw as many innings as in the past. Max Scherzer of the Mets and Justin Verlander of the Astros, however, have already surpassed 3,000 strikeouts. Scherzer, 37, is the younger of those two. He struck out 236 last year for the Dodgers, and he’s now at 3,043 for his career.

It may be a lot to ask for Scherzer to get to 4,000 — which only four pitchers have ever done — but 3,500 could be realistic, and that would put him in the top 10 all-time.

TRIVIA TIME

Who are the four pitchers who have reached 4,000 strikeouts?

LINE OF THE WEEK

Ty France of the Seattle Mariners had five hits, including a three-run homer, in a 13-7 rout of Kansas City on Saturday night. France, who drove in five runs, had the first five-hit game for a Mariners player since 2018.

COMEBACK OF THE WEEK

The Rays and Red Sox went through some wild swings of emotion Saturday night. Tampa Bay no-hit Boston for nine innings, but the game remained scoreless into the 10th, when Bobby Dalbec led off with an RBI triple for the Red Sox and scored on a sacrifice fly. After two straight strikeouts by the Rays to start the bottom of the inning, Trevor Story’s throwing error gave Tampa Bay a run and kept the game going. Kevin Kiermaier followed with a two-run homer to give the Rays a 3-2 win.

TRIVIA ANSWER

Nolan Ryan, Randy Johnson, Roger Clemens and Steve Carlton.

SEC proving to be a preferred destination for transfers

By **JOHN ZENOR**

AP Sports Writer

Quarterback Jaxson Dart didn’t know exactly where he wanted to go upon deciding to leave USC, just that the Southeastern Conference was a preferred destination.

Dart wound up landing at Mississippi and in the SEC, along with a number of other top players in the transfer portal. In some cases, such as Alabama, the rich got richer. Other teams may have picked up a new starting quarterback, runner, pass rusher or receiver.

“I knew when I was going into the portal, I wanted to go to the SEC,” Dart said earlier this spring. “So those were some of my main schools.”

“Because it gets you developed to play in the NFL. I feel like if you can be successful in the SEC, then it’s an easier transition to the NFL.”

First, the SEC swept the top three spots in the recruiting rankings, according to 247Sports. Then, the league that had Georgia and Alabama in the

national championship game added to those prospects with a number of transfer portal pickups who could have huge impacts this fall.

Dart was one of 14 transfers for Ole Miss, which had 247Sports’ top portal class. LSU also nabbed 14 additions from other schools to rank third. The web site ranked Alabama’s transfer class fifth, South Carolina’s seventh and Arkansas’s ninth.

Dart is among at least seven transfer quarterbacks at six SEC programs, including former Oklahoma starter Spencer Rattler at South Carolina, Arizona State’s Jayden Daniels at LSU and former LSU starter Max Johnson at Texas A&M.

Auburn signed both Zach Calzada (Texas A&M) and Robby Ashford (Oregon) to compete with T.J. Finley, who arrived from LSU last spring.

Ole Miss and LSU appeared to be two of the big winners nationally in the portal lottery, while national champion Georgia may not have needed much additional reinforcements and

didn’t sign a transfer.

Other SEC teams weren’t quite so well-stocked across the board.

— Lane Kiffin and the Rebels mined the portal for a potential starting backfield, edge rushers and players such as ex-USC tight end and Dart’s close friend Michael Trigg. “He texted me right away and was like, ‘Hey bro, I’m going where you’re going,’” Dart said.

Dart is a former Gatorade National player of the year who played in six games as a Trojans freshman after suffering a knee injury in his debut. He and Luke Altmyer are competing to replace potential NFL first-round pick Matt Corral.

Tailbacks Zach Evans (TCU) and Ulysses Bentley (SMU) could be key for a team replacing its top three running backs.

— Alabama landed potential starters at running back (Jahmyr Gibbs, Georgia Tech), cornerback (Eli Ricks LSU), wide receiver (Jermaine Burton, Georgia; Tyler Harrell, Louis-

ville) and on the offensive line (Tyler Steen, Vanderbilt). The Tide hit the jackpot last season with receiver Jameson Williams and linebacker Henry To’oTo’o.

— Rattler appears to be the favorite to start at quarterback for South Carolina, but he’s not alone in potential impact transfers. The Gamecocks are also banking on help from Wake Forest leading rusher Christian Beal-Smith, former Sooners tight end Austin Stogner, James Madison record-setting receiver Antwane Wells Jr. and North Carolina State defensive end Terrell Dawkins.

Said Rattler: “I’ve definitely learned the majority of the offense. Still settling into a few things with it being a brand new system, but for me, I’m really comfortable right now. I’m more comfortable under center with the passing game.”

— Arkansas built on the momentum of a 9-4 season with a strong group of transfers.

ASTROS

Continued from Page 4

good at-bat before Adolis. Those are the hits we’re going to need.”

Garcia hit his bases-loaded double with two outs in the eighth for the Rangers, who were 2-9 before their recent surge. They won for only the second time in their seven home games this season.

Yordan Alvarez hit his fourth homer for the Astros, who have lost five of six. Kyle Tucker drove in a run with a two-out single in the sixth on which he initially slammed his bat to the ground in disgust thinking he had popped out to shallow left.

Houston starter Framber Valdez allowed only an unearned run over six innings, striking out five, walking two and hitting a batter. The lefty departed after throwing 60 of his 97 pitches for strikes.

“He did pitch good. He got out of some tough jams, made some pitches when he had to,” Astros manager Dusty Baker said. “He got up close to 100 pitches, what we hoped for, and he hoped for too.”

Valdez seemed OK after Nathaniel Lowe’s bat shattered in the fourth and helicoptered into the pitcher’s upper back. That happened when Lowe,

who had two hits to raise his batting average to .381, grounded into an inning-ending double play.

“We knew it hit him, but we didn’t know where, but he said it hit him in the muscle and he said it didn’t hurt. ... he’s going to be sore tomorrow,” said Baker, who called the play scary. “I’ve seen that stick in a couple of guys.”

SOLID HURLING

Texas pitchers have allowed two or fewer runs in four consecutive games, the team’s longest such stretch since April 2017.

“It really is an execution thing, but I think to execute, there’s just a little bit more of a calmness to them,” Woodward said of the pitchers. “They’re uber-competitive bunch, but I just think that they’re on their feet, are on solid ground a little bit more. ... Not as much anxiousness.”

SHORT HOPS

The Rangers scored four runs in the top of the first inning of their season opener April 8 at Toronto. In their 15 games since, they have been scoreless in their first innings while hitting .167 (9 for 54). The retractable roof at Globe Life Field was

open for the sixth time in the Rangers’ seven home games this season. The roof was open for only 11 of the team’s 81 home games last season.

TRAINER’S ROOM

Astros: Alvarez fouled a pitch off his right shin while batting in the third inning. He immediately jumped away from the plate in pain and dropped to both knees with his head bowed toward the ground. He eventually got up and stayed in the game, then hit an inning-ending comebacker to Dunning.

Rangers: Woodward said RHP Spencer Patton’s right oblique issue isn’t thought to be serious even though the right-hander was put on the 10-day injured list Sunday. Woodward said before Monday’s game that Patton had been pitching through some soreness.

UP NEXT

Jake Odorizzi (0-2, 9.00 ERA), who didn’t make it out of the first inning in his last start, is scheduled to take the mound for the Astros. Rangers lefty-hander Taylor Hearn (0-1, 7.59) is 2-0 in seven career appearances against Houston, the only team he has multiple victories against.

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Legals

DECEASED

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF BILLY G. KING, DECEASED

VIRGINIA KING, Applicant, filed in the COUNTY COURT of HOWARD County, Texas, COMBINED APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND DEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION on 04/01/2022 in Cause No. P-15318, styled, ESTATE OF BILLY G. KING, DECEASED which is now pending on the probate docket of said Court.

Said application and any opposition will be heard and acted upon by said Court after 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the COUNTY COURT, 300 S MAIN ST, BIG SPRING, TX 79720 in HOWARD County, Texas.

You are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable

Legals

Court by filing a written contest or answer to the Application before the above stated time and date should you desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, any objection, intervention, or response must be filed in writing with the County Clerk of HOWARD County, Texas, on or before the above-noted date and time.

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in BIG SPRING, Texas, on 04/01/2022.

BRENT ZITTERKOPF, COUNTY CLERK HOWARD County, Texas 300 S MAIN ST, ROOM 104 BIG SPRING, TX 79720 (SEAL)

By: Trent Powell TRENT POWELL, Deputy

Plaintiff(s) Attorney: COLE J. BRYAN 306 W. WALL, SUITE 5003 MIDLAND, TX 79701



Today is Wednesday, April 27, the 117th day of 2022. There are 248 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 27, 1994, former President Richard M. Nixon was remembered at an outdoor funeral service attended by all five of his successors at the Nixon presidential library in Yorba Linda, California.

On this date:

In 1521, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan was killed by natives in the Philippines.

In 1810, Ludwig van Beethoven wrote one of his most famous piano compositions, the Bagatelle in A-minor.

In 1813, the Battle of York took place in Upper Canada during the War of 1812 as a U.S. force defeated the British garrison in present-day Toronto before withdrawing.

In 1865, the steamer Sultana, carrying freed Union prisoners of war, exploded on the Mississippi River near Memphis, Tennessee; death toll estimates vary from 1,500 to 2,000.

In 1941, German forces occupied Athens during World War II.

In 1973, acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray resigned after it was revealed that he'd de-

stroyed files removed from the safe of Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt.

In 1978, 51 construction workers plunged to their deaths when a scaffold inside a cooling tower at the Pleasants Power Station site in West Virginia fell 168 feet to the ground.

In 1992, Russia and 12 other former Soviet republics won entry into the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

In 2010, former Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega was extradited from the United States to France, where he was later convicted of laundering drug money and received a seven-year sentence.

In 2011, powerful and deadly tornadoes raked the South and Midwest; more than 60 tornadoes crossed parts of Alabama, leaving about 250 people dead and thousands of others injured in the state.

In 2015, rioters plunged part of Baltimore into chaos, torching a pharmacy, setting police cars ablaze and throwing bricks at officers hours after thousands attended a funeral for Freddie Gray, a Black man who died from a severe spinal injury he'd suffered in police custody; the Baltimore Orioles' home game against the Chicago White Sox was postponed because of

safety concerns.

In 2019, a gunman opened fire inside a synagogue near San Diego as worshippers celebrated the last day of Passover, killing a woman and wounding the rabbi and two others. (John Earnest, a white supremacist, has been sentenced to both federal and state life prison terms.)

Ten years ago: The space shuttle Enterprise, mounted atop a jumbo jet, sailed over the New York City skyline on its final flight before becoming a museum piece aboard the USS Intrepid.

Five years ago: David Dao, the airline passenger who was violently dragged off a flight after refusing to give up his seat, settled with United for an undisclosed sum; cellphone video of the April 9 confrontation aboard a jetliner at Chicago's O'Hare Airport had sparked widespread public outrage over the way Dao was treated. About 20 hours after he fatally shot a state trooper, a Delaware man was shot to death following an overnight standoff with police. Texas A&M defensive end Myles Garrett was picked first overall by the Cleveland Browns in the NFL Draft.

One year ago: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention eased its guidelines on the wearing of masks outdoors, saying fully vaccinated Americans didn't need to cover their faces anymore unless they were in a

big crowd of strangers; those who were unvaccinated could also go outside without masks in some situations. President Joe Biden signed an executive order to increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour for federal contractors, providing a pay bump to hundreds of thousands of workers.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Anouk Aimee is 90. Rock musician Jim Keltner is 80. Rock singer Kate Pierson (The B-52's) is 74. R&B singer Herb Murrell (The Stylistics) is 73. Actor Douglas Sheehan is 73. Rock musician Ace Frehley is 71. West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice is 71. Pop singer Sheena Easton is 63. Actor James Le Gros (groh) is 60. Rock musician Rob Squires (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 57. Singer Mica (MEE'-shah) Paris is 53. Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., is 53. Actor David Lascher is 50. Actor Maura West is 50. Actor Sally Hawkins is 46. Rock singer Jim James (My Morning Jacket) is 44. Rock musician Patrick Hallahan (My Morning Jacket) is 44. Rock singer-musician Travis Meeks (Days of the New) is 43. Country musician John Osborne (Brothers Osborne) is 40. Actor Francis Capra is 39. Actor Ari Graynor is 39. Rock singer-musician Patrick Stump (Fall Out Boy) is 38. Actor Sheila Vand is 37. Actor Jenna Coleman is 36. Actor William Moseley is 35. Singer Lizzo is 33. Singer Allison Iraheta is 30.



By Steve Becker Play it again, Sam

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

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

The bidding: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♣ Pass 2 ♠ Pass 6 ♣

Opening lead — two of hearts. There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip, and this is especially true in the play of a slam contract. This deal occurred in a match between Great Britain and Norway. When the Norwegians held the North-South cards, they reached six clubs with minimum fanfare as shown. Certainly, the contract was not bad; in fact, it was rather good. The slam depends at worst on a heart finesse, and without a heart lead, South can make 12 tricks if the

opposing spades are divided 3-3. But West did lead a heart, nullifying the possibility of establishing dummy's fourth spade. With declarer immediately confronted by the heart situation, he finessed the queen, lost to the king and later lost a spade trick to go down one. No one will ever know whether South would have made the slam had he played differently, but there is no doubt that he misplayed the hand. He erred when he played the queen from dummy on the opening lead. Instead, he should have played the eight! To appreciate the advantage of this play, imagine you're East and the eight is played from dummy. What would you do? Remember, you see only the lead, dummy's cards and your own. It might not be so easy to play the nine instead of the king. South could have the jack — especially in view of his failure to finesse the queen. And if you do decide to play the king, South then has 12 ironclad tricks. Declarer loses nothing by trying the eight. If West has the king, the finesse can be taken just as advantageously later on. Playing the eight gives East a chance to go wrong and therefore is the right play. There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip!"

Tomorrow: The secret of good defense. ©2022 King Features Syndicate Inc.

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WEDNESDAY

APR. 27

Table with 20 columns (KMID 3, UNI 4, KPEJ 5, KOSA 7, KTLT 8, KWES 9, KMLM 12, KPBT 13, KWWT 14, KOSA2 16, WTBS 33, TNT 34, ESPN 35, ESPN2 36, BSN 38, USA 55, A&E 58, DISC 60) and rows for time slots from 5:00 AM to 4:00 AM.

FEATURES

Horoscopes By Holiday

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 27, 2022

Visions of Venus

As Venus and Neptune come together, so will the dreams of visionaries who take action. Being in the right place is key. What would it take to go where the major players are? These are the days to pick up firsthand knowledge wherever you can get it. There's no substitute; you can't get life experience in a book.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). "Sell the sizzle, not the steak" may be the con artist's creed -- then again, not every meal needs the steak. A good sizzle can be applied to myriad options. You'll bring your unique seasoning to the table today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The day's success comes from a simple effort to show up and try to do the right thing. Simple isn't always easy, though. For instance, today, the right thing may seem to take a herculean effort.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Ancient history and old acquaintances will play a role. You can remember the less than ideal scenario from the past and still keep your mood and energy flowing bright. It's all how you decide to see it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The deadline just ahead doesn't scare you in the least; in fact, it seems to be pulling you forward. You'll work faster than ever and with great clarity of thought.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Everyone has their own definition of the good life, and it changes with different ages and stages. What do you really want these days? Your appetites and curiosities will point the way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're growing in efficiency and your efforts will bring plentiful results. The point of diminishing returns will come someday, but it's not something you have to worry about now. Ride the big wave and enjoy yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll find comfort in the predictable behavior of others. Because you've seen someone show up consistently in a certain way, you'll be ready to make the most of the interaction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). What you are looking for will be found within. It's a hard place to look for things. You need the flashlight of objectivity to help you see the way. A trusted friend will hold it up for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your mind keeps wandering, a sign that maybe what you're doing isn't all that interesting to you right now. Consider changing things up to accommodate your novel cravings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Fear will try to take over the bus you're driving. Don't let it! Take its ticket to ride but don't give it the wheel. At best, fear belongs in the back seat, where it can inform you without interfering too much.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You strive to bring out

the best in people. Hold this intention and you're halfway there. Expectations find a way to fulfill themselves. Capricorn and fellow Aquarians figure into the plan.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Times have changed. New rules are not only necessary but they will be essential to an orderly existence. You're in a position to influence the new order.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 27). The solar return casts a dreamy light on your personal life. Idealistic views will be made real; fond wishes granted. In short, relationships become very fun. Creative work comes your way. You just don't feel quite like yourself unless you're putting something new into the world! Summer brings financial solutions and domestic ease. Gemini and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 5, 22, 18 and 47.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: With a collection of awards including three Grammys, Lizzo's rise in entertainment has seemed to outsiders to be meteoric. However, the Taurus singer knows better. Born under the sun of tenacity and determination, Lizzo's stardom is actually the culmination of effortful years. Taurus also rules the voice, and Lizzo uses hers to sing, rap and act. Three Capricorn planets suggest unstoppable power.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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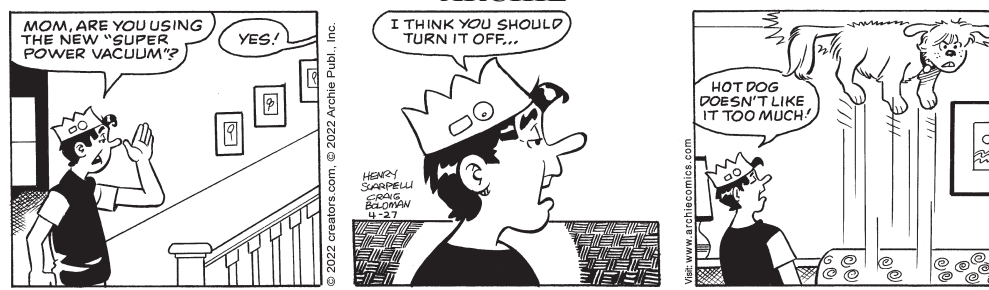
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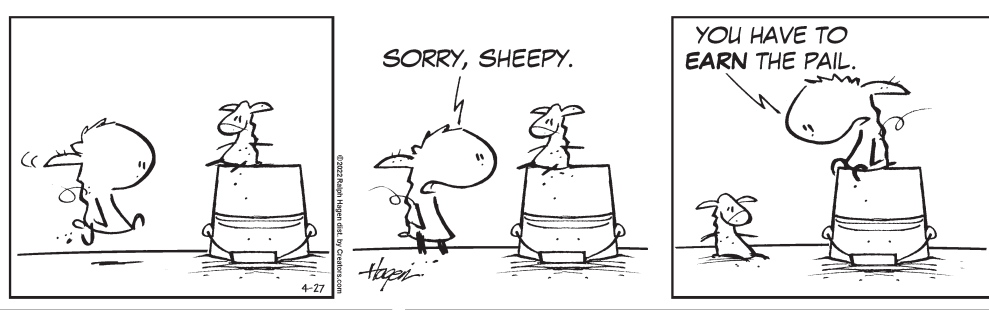
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ONE BIG HAPPY



THE BARN



Newsday Crossword

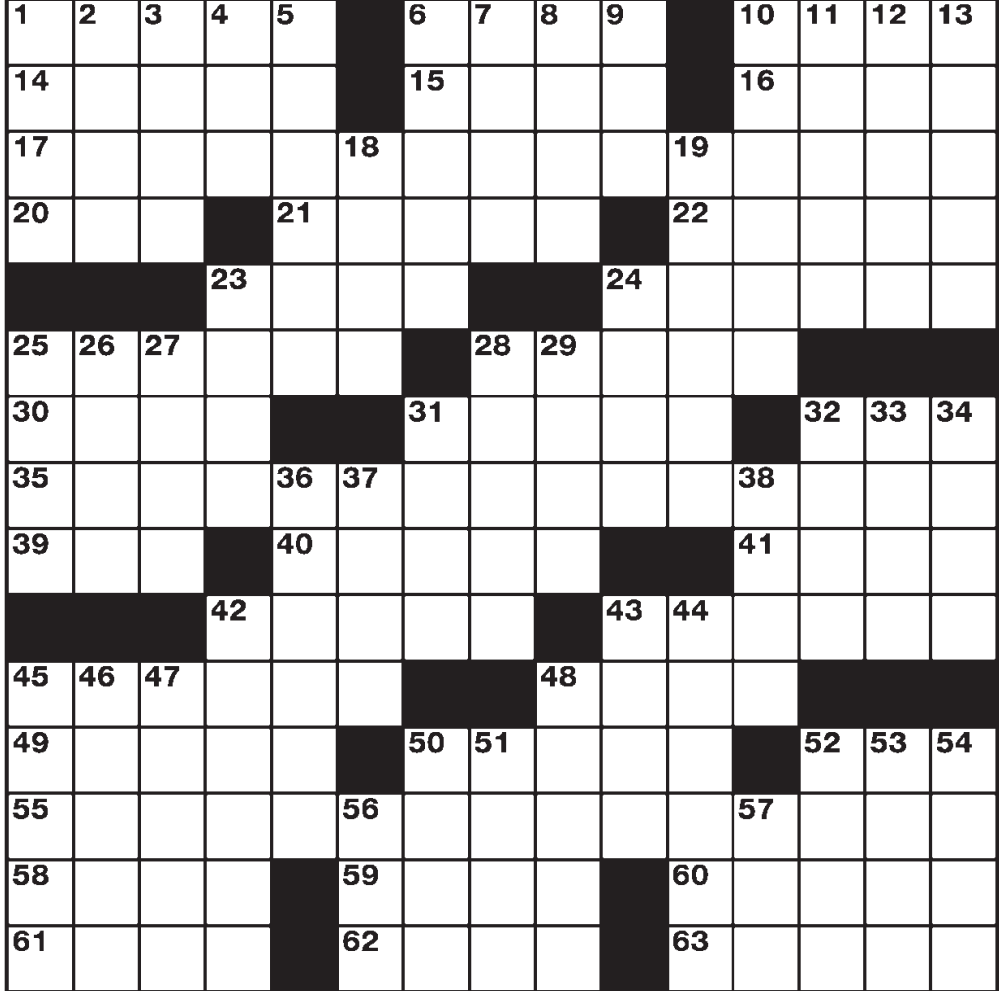
QUICK THINKING by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 New __, India
- 6 Seek divine assistance
- 10 Cost to ride a cab
- 14 Sci-fi being
- 15 Speed contest
- 16 Diva's solo
- 17 Without a wait to get in
- 20 Absorb, with "up"
- 21 Phased out
- 22 Actress Zellweger
- 23 Make over, as a room
- 24 Mythical giants
- 25 Ready to nap
- 28 Copier room packages
- 30 Cups of pekoe
- 31 Smooth change
- 32 Place for a mud bath
- 35 Side dish ready in about three minutes
- 39 Become inedible
- 40 Barbecue briquettes
- 41 Prefix for freeze
- 42 Newspaper article
- 43 Botanical fences
- 45 Apply hastily, as paint
- 48 Family rooms
- 49 Short, easy putt
- 50 Televised
- 52 Unopened blossom
- 55 Overnight package service
- 58 *Vogue* rival
- 59 Sunflower products
- 60 Brink

- 61 Some seeded loaves
 - 62 Mentions
 - 63 Encouraged, with "on"
- DOWN**
- 1 Banquet platform
 - 2 Ticklish red Muppet
 - 3 Walk unsteadily
 - 4 __-haw (donkey sound)
 - 5 Up to one's neck
 - 6 Madrid museum
 - 7 Evaluate
 - 8 Got a perfect score on
 - 9 Affirmative vote
 - 10 Diamond surfaces
 - 11 Wrestling match venue
 - 12 Out of bed

- 13 Makes more endurable
- 18 500-mile
- 15 Across, informally
- 19 Black Sea peninsula
- 23 Remainder
- 24 Stretched tightly
- 25 Blend, as batter
- 26 Former *Tonight Show* host
- 27 Toward Portugal
- 28 Email button
- 29 Parts of psyches
- 31 Celestial sight
- 32 Karaoke performance
- 33 Tampa-St. __
- 34 Auction sale condition
- 36 Overture follower
- 37 When shadows are shortest

- 38 Minimal amounts
- 42 Church toppers
- 43 Part of a shoe or foot
- 44 Salad green
- 45 Make a left or right
- 46 In a careless manner
- 47 Orchard sample
- 48 Get ready for work
- 50 Where Israel is
- 51 With nothing to do
- 52 Hazard on northern seas
- 53 Advocate strongly
- 54 Not naturally colored
- 56 Maritime "Help!" signal
- 57 Laze, with "out"



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SUDOKU

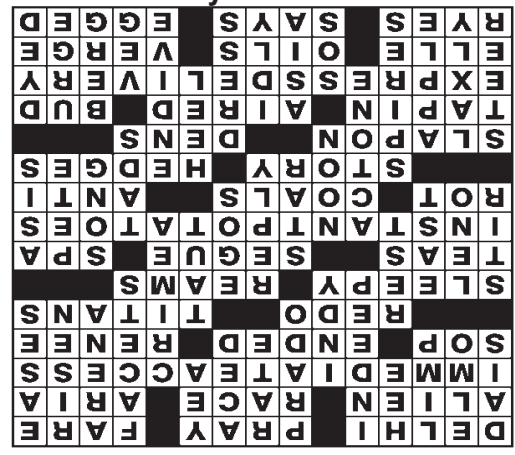
8	2			7		9
9	6					
		1		8		2
				5	1	3
3	1		2	7	6	9
6	5		4	3	2	
2			7		8	5

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!

CROSSWORD Today's Answers



Today's Answers

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

Why was death row inmate Melissa Lucio's execution delayed?

By **JUAN A. LOZANO**

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — The execution of Melissa Lucio is off. At least for now. Lucio, 52, had been set to be executed by lethal injection Wednesday for the death of her 2-year-old daughter Mariah in Harlingen, a city of about 75,000 in Texas' southern tip.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals intervened Monday, granting Lucio's lawyers' request for a stay of execution so a lower court can review claims that new evidence would show Mariah's injuries, including a blow to the head, were caused by a fall down a steep staircase.

Nearly half of the jurors who sentenced her to die for the 2007 death of one of her 14 children had called for her execution to be halted and for her to get a new trial. Many lawmakers and celebrities such as Kim Kardashian, an advocate for criminal justice reform, and Amanda Knox — an American whose murder conviction in the death of a British student in Italy was overturned — have rallied to Lucio's cause. Prosecutors, though, maintain that the girl was the victim of child abuse.

Lucio's lawyers had filed various legal appeals seeking to stop her execution. She also had a clemency application before the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles, which had been set to consider her case Monday. Republican Gov. Greg Abbott could have also played a role this week in deciding Lucio's fate. If ultimately put to death, Lucio would be the first Latina executed by Texas since 1863, and the first woman the state has put to death since 2014.

Here's what to know about the case:

WHAT ISSUES ARE BEING DEBATED?

Lucio's attorneys say her capital murder conviction was based on an unreliable and coerced confession that was the result of relentless questioning and her long history of sexual, physical and emotional abuse. They say Lucio wasn't allowed to present evidence questioning the validity of her confession.

Her lawyers also contend that unscientific and false evidence misled jurors into believing Mariah's injuries only could have been caused by physical abuse and not by medical complications from a severe fall.

"I knew that what I was accused of doing was not true. My children have always been my world and although my choices in life were not good I would have never hurt any of my children in such a way," Lucio wrote in a letter to Texas lawmakers.

Cameron County District Attorney Luis Saenz, whose office prosecuted the case, has said he disagrees with Lucio's lawyers' claims that new evidence would exonerate her. Prosecutors say Lucio had a history of drug abuse and at times had lost custody of some of her 14 children.

During a sometimes contentious Texas House committee hearing on Lucio's case this month, Saenz initially pushed back on requests to use his power to stop the execution, before later saying he would intervene if the courts didn't act.

"I don't disagree with all the scrutiny this case is getting. I welcome that," Saenz said.

Armando Villalobos was the county's district attorney when Lucio was convicted in 2008, and Lucio's lawyers allege that he pushed for a conviction to help his reelection bid. In 2014, Villalobos was sentenced to 13 years in federal prison for a bribery scheme related to offering favorable prosecutorial deci-

sions.

WHO IS CALLING FOR LUCIO'S EXECUTION TO BE STOPPED?

More than half the members of the Texas Legislature have asked that her execution be halted. A bipartisan group of Texas lawmakers traveled this month to Gatesville, where the state houses female death row inmates, and prayed with Lucio.

Five of the 12 jurors who sentenced Lucio and one alternate juror have questioned their decision and asked she get a new trial.

Lucio's cause also has the backing of faith leaders and was featured on HBO's "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver."

Lucio's family and supporters have been traveling throughout Texas and holding rallies and screenings of a 2020 documentary about her case, "The State of Texas vs. Melissa."

Before the court decision Monday, Lucio's supporters held a prayer vigil inside the state Capitol in Austin as they waited for word from the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles on her clemency application. On Saturday, supporters held rallies in 16 U.S. cities, including Houston, Boston, and Columbus, Ohio.

WHERE DO EFFORTS TO HALT HER EXECUTION STAND?

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles had been set Monday to consider a request to either commute her death sentence to life imprisonment or grant her a 120-day execution reprieve, but that hearing was put off by the appeals court's order. Lucio also had an appeal pending in federal court to stop her execution. The federal appeal and the clemency petition are now put aside as the case returns to the trial judge in Brownsville.

It was not immediately known when the lower court would begin reviewing her case. Tivon Schardl, one of Lucio's lawyers, said they hope to convince the trial judge to recommend that the appeals court grant her a new trial.

If the board had taken up her case and decided to recommend commutation of her sentence or a reprieve, that would have needed Abbott's approval. The governor has granted clemency to only one death row inmate since taking office in 2015. Abbott commuted a death sentence to life without parole for Thomas "Bart" Whitaker, who was convicted of fatally shooting his mother and brother. Whitaker's father was also shot but survived and led the effort to spare his son's life.

HOW FREQUENTLY ARE WOMEN EXECUTED?

It's rare in the U.S., according to the Washington-based Death Penalty Information Center, a nonprofit that takes no position on capital punishment but has criticized the way states carry out executions. Women have accounted for only 3.6% of the more than 16,000 confirmed executions in the U.S. dating back to the colonial period in the 1600s, according to the group's data.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976, 17 women have been executed throughout the nation, according to the data. Texas has put more women to death — six — than any other state. Oklahoma is next, with three, and Florida has executed two.

The federal government has executed one woman since 1976. Lisa Montgomery, of Kansas, received a lethal injection in January 2021 after the Trump administration resumed executions in the federal system following a 17-year hiatus. The Justice Department has halted executions again under the Biden administration.

Kidnapped California baby found and 3 suspects detained

By **OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A 3-month-old baby who was kidnapped from his San Francisco Bay Area home was found Tuesday and three suspects were detained, police said.

The baby, Brandon Cuellar, was taken to a hospital as a precaution, the San Jose Police Department announced on Twitter, without saying where the boy was located.

The announcement came shortly after police told reporters that a woman had been detained as "a person of interest" in the case after what authorities called inconsistencies in her statements to police about the kidnapping. Authorities then said that three suspects overall were detained but did not disclose whether the woman was among the

suspects.

The child was taken Monday from his apartment in San Jose by a man, who entered the home and was seen on video walking away with the baby in a carrier.

The woman taken into custody, who has not been identified, was with the child's grandmother before little Brandon Cuellar was abducted Monday by an unknown man, San Jose Police spokesman Sgt. Christian Camarillo told reporters Tuesday.

"This was a person who was with the grandmother yesterday when they went shopping, she was present at the apartment complex when this happened," he said. "There have been some inconsistencies with what she has told us. Obviously, drawing our attention to what she knows about this."

Police released a video showing the man walking

down the sidewalk holding the baby carrier covered by a white blanket.

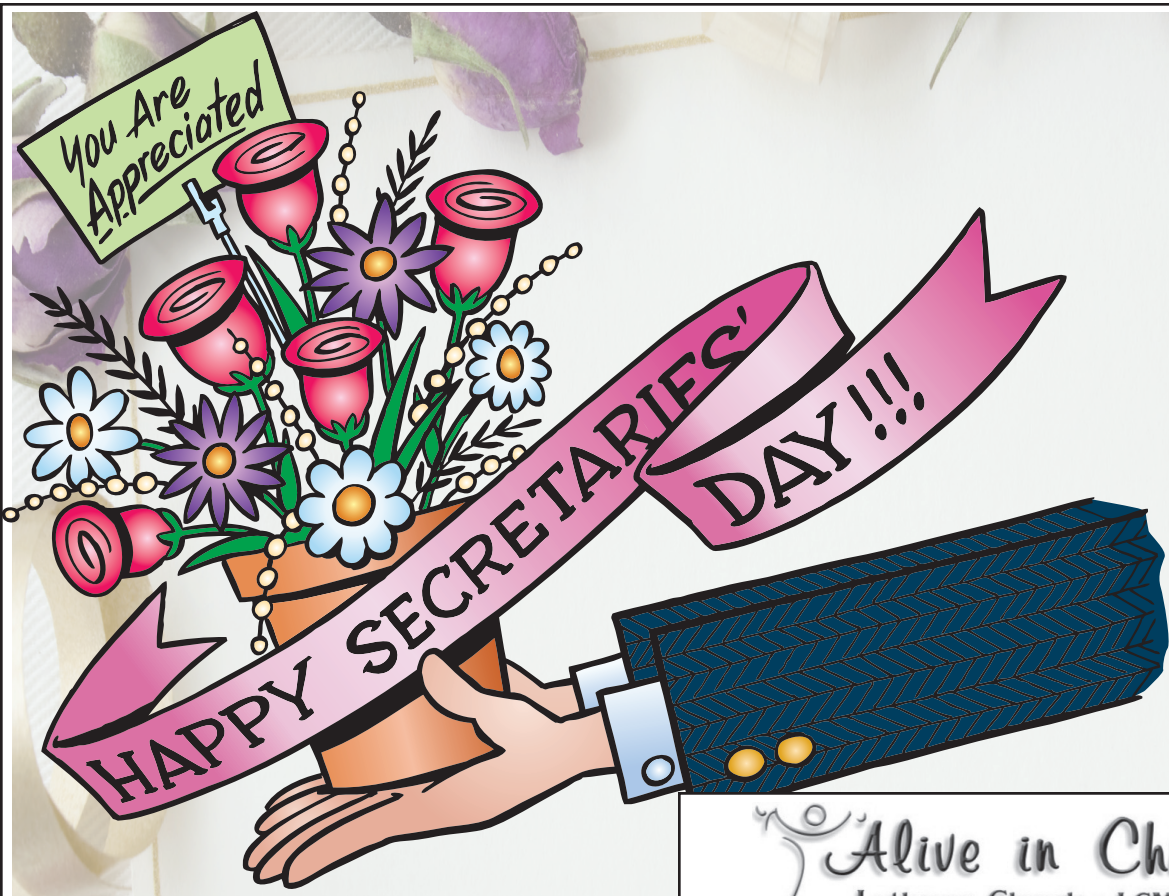
"The family does not recognize this suspect," police initially tweeted.

Camarillo told reporters Monday that the kidnapping was reported by the baby's grandmother.

"According to the grandmother, she came home to this apartment... She took the baby in the apartment, went downstairs to unload some groceries," Camarillo said. "In that short amount of time someone entered the apartment ... and left with the baby."

Brandon was last seen wearing a white long-sleeved onesie with dinosaurs.

Camarillo said the baby's mother was at work when the abduction happened.



THANKS!

Thank you,
Cheryl &
Michelle for
all you do!

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We would like to say a huge
Thank You to
Heidi Vizcaino
(Church Secretary)
for all her hard work!

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