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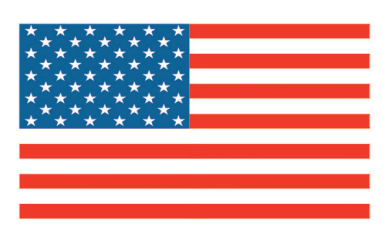
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Three Angels Food Pantry, 4319 Parkway, will distribute food from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday in a drive-through format. Bring a box or plastic bag for your food, and let the workers know how many are in your household.

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A Visit From St. Nicholas

by
 Clement Clarke Moore

Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse; The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there; The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads; And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap, Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap, When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash. The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below, When, what to my wondering eyes should appear, But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer, With a little old driver, so lively and quick, I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick. More rapid than eagles his coursers they came, And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name; "Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donder and Blitzen! To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!

the snow; The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth, And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath; He had a broad face and a little round belly, That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly. He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf, Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!" As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky; So up to the house-top the coursers they flew, With the sleigh full of Toys, and St. Nicholas too. And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof The prancing and pawing of each little hoof. As I drew in my head, and was turning around, Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound. He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot, And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot; A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back, And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack. His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples how merry! His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry! His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow And the beard of his chin was as white as

And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself; A wink of his eye and a twist of his head, Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread; He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk, And laying his finger aside of his nose, And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose; He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, And away they all flew like the down of a thistle, But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight, "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."

1 Day Til' Christmas!

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As COVID fueled the drug crisis, Native Americans hit worst

By **CLAIRE GALOFARO**

AP National Writer

BEMIDJI, Minn. — The medicine man told her she should soon give her son back to the earth.

Rachel Taylor kissed her fingertips and pressed them to the crow sewn onto a leather bag nestled on the couch in the living room. "Oh, my baby," she whispered, and hugged the buckskin satchel filled with his ashes.

Nearly a year ago, she had opened his bedroom door and screamed so loud she woke the neighbor. Kyle Domrese was face down on his bed, one of more than 100,000 Americans lost in a year to overdoses as the COVID-19 pandemic fueled America's addiction disaster.

When he was 4, the medicine man had given him his Ojibwe name: Aandegoons — "little crow." She traced the outline of the black bird on the sack.

"Love you," Taylor said to the bag, as she does each time she leaves for work in this city surrounded by three Ojibwe reservations in remote northern Minnesota.

As the pandemic ravaged the country, deaths from drug overdoses surged by nearly 30%, climbing to a record high. The drug crisis has also diversified from an overwhelmingly white affliction to killing people of color with staggering speed. The death rate last year was highest among Native Americans, for whom COVID-19 piled yet more despair on communities already confronting generations of trauma, poverty, unemployment and underfunded health systems.

It is no longer an opioid epidemic, but one in which people are dying from deadly cocktails of many drugs. Deaths involving methamphetamine have nearly tripled in recent years, with Native Americans 12 times more likely to die from it.

As Taylor began her shift at the Northwest Indian Community Development Center, a posterboard propped against the wall was pasted with 49 faces — a collage of their dead to drugs.

Taylor's tribe, the White Earth Nation, studied of the lives they've lost to addiction.

"Their death certificates say they died of an overdose, but that's not right," one member of their study group said.

These deaths were a culmination of far more than that: Despite their resilience, Native Americans carry in their blood 500 years worth of pain from being robbed of their land, their language, their culture, their children. In living people's memory, children were taken from their families and sent to boarding schools with the motto, "Kill the Indian, save the man."

"What they died of is a broken heart," the study says.

For years, Taylor tried to break the cycle.

Her grandmother was sent to a Christian boarding school, where she was taught to be so ashamed of her Ojibwe language that she would only speak or sing it after drinking.

Taylor had her daughter when she was 19 and her son a few years later. She lost custody of them for a couple years as she battled her own addiction to opioids and cocaine. She told them she wished she could fix all the dysfunctional things that happened when she was using.

"Then I thought, well, then my mom would have to go back and fix things, and then my grandma would have to go back, it would have to go on like that for generations," she said.

Taylor had lived in more than 50 places before she turned 18 — foster homes, battered women's shelters, on the streets — and faced sexual, physical and mental abuse.

"The things I blame on generational trauma are not feeling good enough, not feeling worthy enough, not feeling loved," she said.

She prayed to her creator to spare her children, and she told her son every day that she loved him.

White Earth Nation too worked hard to save its people from addiction, and many years lost no one to overdoses on the reservation. But then the pandemic arrived and proved too painful for some.

And now in Taylor's shaking hands, she holds her son's picture — another face for the posterboard, lost January 11, 2021.

At first, she put his ashes in an urn, but it was sharp metal. A friend made the buckskin bag that she could hug. It's become the center of her world.

He'd always loved to laugh, so Taylor teases the bag of ashes.

"Keep an eye on the cat," she'll say when she leaves the house. Then she tells the cat to keep an eye on him.

The wind churned snow across the prairies, so Dr. Carson Gardner, the medical director of White Earth Nation's health department, told the tale of the Windigo as a metaphor for addiction.

This story of an evil spirit in Ojibwe folklore can only be spoken with snow on the ground as a layer of protection from the monster. The Windigo is a cannibal that sings a song, and anyone who hears it must cover their ears and run away, he said. Otherwise, they develop an insatiable hunger.

"You will first eat everything in your lodge, and when that's gone, you'll eat everything in your neighbors' lodges. When that's gone, you will eat your neighbors. You will finish off by eating yourself," said Gardner.

Their reservation spans more than 800,000 rugged acres of prairie and lakes, dotted with small villages, known for glorious summers and long unforgiving winters. But despite the vast terrain, it's sparsely populated, and they live the belief that all should be loved like family.

"Those who listen to the Windigo song aren't bad people," Gardner said. "They just didn't plug their ears and walk away. They didn't know how powerful the song was."

Rachel Taylor's son once wrote her a letter because he thought his addiction was killing him: "I can't control it. I hope you can forgive me. I'm sorry, I love you, I wanted to spend more time with you."

He'd started abusing pills as a teenager when he got a prescription after having surgery for an infected finger. Then, consumed by the madness of addiction, he would smoke anything — methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl — that might quiet his lifelong anxiety and depression.

But just before the pandemic bore down, his mother felt hopeful.

She and her son quarantined together at her home in Bemidji, a city of 15,000 people. Her son had gone to treatment, sober 168 days. His cheeks were full again, and he asked her to make his favorite peanut butter cookies.

"I'm glad I still have a chance to make my loving mom proud," he wrote in a journal.

But the months dragged on, and he told her it seemed like the pandemic would never end. He couldn't get a job. He was isolated. He said he felt like a bum.

"He just gave up," she said. He started using again, then dealing drugs to support his habit.

All around them, people were dying. On the White Earth reservation, ambulance calls for overdoses tripled, Gardner said. They posted big red signs in gas stations and tribal buildings: "overdose alert,"

they said. "Please look out for each other."

Joe Kleszyk, the commander of the region's drug task force, sounded the alarm, too: "An epidemic within a pandemic," he told the local newspaper in August 2020. The task force covers five counties and two reservations, including White Earth.

The number of overdoses it investigated skyrocketed from 20 in 2019 to 88 last year. Fifteen of those were fatal, triple the year before.

It's getting worse: This year, there's been 148 overdoses, and 24 of those victims died.

In Minnesota, as across the country, drug dealers now cut nearly every drug on the street with fentanyl, a cheap and deadly synthetic opioid so potent the equivalent of a sugar packet can make 40 doses, Kleszyk said. "It's a game of Russian roulette," he said.

At the same time, the pandemic pushed many toward addiction, called a "disease of despair."

Unemployment in Indian County surged to 26%. And with the federal government's disinvestment in Native communities, many were already living on the brink of poverty — sometimes just across the street from predominantly white gated communities and summer vacation resorts.

On top of that, the healing traditions many turn to in troubled times, like sweat lodges and talking circles, were suspended. Theirs is a communal culture, and people were suddenly isolated.

Of the 148 overdoses the task force investigated this year, 124 victims were Native.

"I'm sick of telling people that their kids are dead," Kleszyk said.

When officers on the White Earth reservation arrived on Aug. 5, 2020 to deliver the news to Betty Oppgaard, her knees buckled, and she collapsed to the ground. Her daughter, Beth Renee Hill, a 32-year-old mother of three, died of an overdose involving methamphetamine.

Hill's Ojibwe name, Bebaanimadookwe, is the word for how snow sparkles in the sunshine.

"She was like that, she sparkled in people's lives, she was so beautiful," said Oppgaard. "She could make a lot happen in a day."

Hill started taking methamphetamine a couple years ago and fell apart fast. She lost custody of her kids and despaired, so she did even more drugs.

Oppgaard used to wake up each morning and run through the names of her eight children from oldest to youngest, imagining where they were and what they were doing. She forced herself to stop, because when she got to Hill, it felt too much to bear.

For months, Hill's father just held her picture and cried. Now he's buried next to her. He died in January, and Oppgaard blames a broken heart.

Amid all this death and dying, one of the most urgent questions White Earth and other Native

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TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

'We have stock': Smaller stores aim for last-minute shoppers

By MAE ANDERSON

NEW YORK — After a wearying nearly two years of the pandemic, independent retailers are cautiously hoping their holiday seasons will be bright, despite the challenges this year ranging from supply chain snags to shortages of hot holiday items.

Many businesses ordered decorations, toys, stocking stuffers and other items well in advance this year and have turned to smaller vendors to fill in any gaps in their inventory. They've reached out directly to customers on social media. And they're hoping that shortages at bigger stores stemming from supply chain issues this year will lead to a burst of last-minute shopping in their stores.

So far, worries about omicron and rising cases haven't made a measurable dent on holiday shopping. For the week that ended Dec. 18, store traffic was up nearly 20% from a year earlier, though down 23% from the same week in the pre-pandemic year of 2019, according to Sensormatic Solutions. But there are still a few crucial shopping days left.

Small retailers are hoping they can capture some of the expected growth in holiday sales. The holiday shopping season is crucial because it can account for 20% or more of annual sales for retailers, and boosts store traffic and new customers. The National Retail Federation predicts a sales increase of 8.5% to 10.5% for all of November and December, after 8% growth in those months in 2020.

American consumers, flush with cash from government stimulus, rising stock prices and increases to their home equity, have kept spending despite high inflation and the ongoing pandemic. That's put pressure on the global supply chain, leaving business owners scrambling to stock up on the products consumers want.

Last December, vendors warned Teresa Pries that shipping costs would be on the rise. So Pries, owner of two Revival 23 clothing and gift boutiques in Fresno and Clovis, California, took a gamble for this year: She ordered about four times what she normally would before the price increases kicked in. She also rented storage units for the first time to have room for the extra inventory.

"It's a little scary being a small business investing so heavily, but it has re-

ally paid off, our customers are thrilled," she said. "We thought okay, let's go for it. It's probably one of the best business decisions we had. Scary but good."

That gamble has paid off big time for Pries; her sales are up 90% compared with the same period last year. Now, her worry is less whether she bought too much, but the fact that she's selling out of items.

"I'm nearly sold out of every single candle, which has been a big gift item," she said.

As far as any worries about omicron putting a damper on store traffic: "We haven't seen anything that would indicate that is a factor," she said.

Other businesses are keeping up practices they started during the pandemic. Ann Cantrell has owned Annie's Blue Ribbon General Store in Brooklyn for 14 years. She said social media promotions to reach out to customers during the pandemic are still boosting sales, including a video of new items each Friday.

"When something new comes in we put it in our (Instagram and Facebook) Story online," she said. "We really relied heavily on that video every Friday, it started during pandemic and got an immediate reaction."

Still, she fears some sales will be hampered by the supply chain. For important items she ordered from multiple vendors. For example, she ordered Hanukkah gelt — chocolate coins wrapped in foil — from three vendors and got two out of three.

"I think this is the year when you see it you buy it, on some levels with the supply chain" she said. "We're grateful for what we have in store, and waiting for exciting things we ordered months ago and are still waiting for."

Corey O'Loughlin and Nina Vitalino co-own Prep Obsessed in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, an online boutique that also has a brick-and-mortar location. Black Friday sales jumped more than 30% over last year, a relief for the owners.

"I think that our biggest takeaway (from the Black Friday shopping week-end) is we're limited only by the inventory we can get, and speed of shipping product," Vitalino said. "If we're able to get more great product we can sell it."

They've had some delays problems getting items from some larger suppliers, such as clothing, gift and home decor merchant Mud Pie. So they've gotten creative, sourcing "smaller vendors, mom and pop wholesalers that we haven't done big business with before," Vitalino said.

COVID

Continued on from page 2

American communities are facing is how to spare the next generations from starting the cycle anew. Indian health care has been underfunded for decades. When the American government forced Native Americans off their land, it signed treaties with tribes promising to provide for them necessities like health care. The dead from addiction is proof it's never kept its word, said Minnesota Sen. Tina Smith.

The national average for health care spending is just over \$11,000 per person, but tribal health systems receive about a third of that and urban Indian groups even less, according to the National Council of Urban Indian Health. COVID-19 added another blow to this already stressed system.

Smith introduced a bill this summer that would usher \$200 million in grants to Indian organizations to bolster their mental health and addiction treatment. The bill, still stalled in Congress, would empower Native organizations to address addiction their own way.

In the years before the pandemic, the White Earth tribe married western medical interventions with the traditional healing practices that helped their people survive as the government tried to erase them. They trained thousands how to use the overdose-reversal medication naloxone and estimate that's saved 1,000 lives, Gardner said. They saved just as many through the millennia of inherited wisdom: drum circles, tobacco ceremonies, the dark, humid honesty of praying in a sweat lodge to balance their bodies, souls and minds.

Their motto is unconditional love, Gardner said. People can recover if they're given hope and healing, so they don't give up on anybody, no matter how deep their addiction.

Georgianna Garbow-Warren's addiction to methamphetamine for years left her homeless — she and her husband lived in abandoned houses, in shelters, eventually under a bridge. She lost custody of her three children. She felt like she was living in circles: She'd use drugs, get her kids taken, clean up, get them back, start the cycle again.

She grew up on the White Earth reservation near Beth Hill. She can rattle off names of other neighbors they've lost to addiction.

Garbow-Warren had a fourth child in 2019, a son born premature at four pounds, seven ounces. They took him straight from the hospital.

She kept using meth: "I wanted to take all that pain away," she said.

Then she couldn't breathe, went back to the hospital and was diagnosed with congestive heart failure from the damage meth had done. She was in and out of emergency rooms. One day she was lying in bed there and thought: "Oh God, do I really hate myself this much?"

She turned herself into the police on an outstanding warrant, and told them she wanted treatment. It was February 2020, just as the pandemic began brutalizing so many battling addiction.

"This year there's been the most funerals I've been to in my whole life," she said. Her sister was hospitalized in March with liver and kidney infections from drinking and drug use.

She couldn't see when Garbow-Warren visited her. The doctors said she could hear them. They

played her favorite song by Sir Mix-A-Lot and she wiggled like she was trying to dance. She died a couple days later.

"I'll never get the image out of my head," she said. One of her sisters is now in treatment, a brother still uses, and she waits for the phone call that he's dead.

Her husband found recovery, too. They got an apartment, a dog, a car, and slowly regained custody of their baby, who has cerebral palsy. He can't crawl, and scoots around on his back.

"I blamed myself. I felt a lot of guilt and shame, a lot of pain," she said, about her son's medical difficulties. Then a doctor told her there was no way to know if it was from her drug use or something else.

She doesn't know about her older children. Her son turned 18 this year, the others are 17 and 10. She sometimes imagines tracking them down, but then wonders if they're better off without her.

"I live with that everyday," she said, "wondering if they're OK."

In January, Rachel Taylor's heart began aching, like someone had reached into her chest and was squeezing it.

"It was like my heart knew before I did," she said. "My heart was broken four days before he even died."

She had an uneasy feeling the morning of Jan. 11. It was quiet in the house and her son's bedroom door was closed.

"Are you awake?" Taylor texted him at 9:21 a.m.

She never wanted to seem overbearing, and she knew it made him happy to think she trusted him. So she vacuumed the living room just outside his bedroom and hoped the commotion would wake him.

Eventually, she opened his door. At first she thought it must be a dream, like she was seeing from outside herself that his skin was purple.

She dialed 911, and the operator said to check his vitals. He was ice cold. She dropped the phone and screamed. "Come back, my baby, come back."

When he was born, the nurse put him on her chest, and he'd looked at her with such intensity. His eyes were always like that, like a cat's, she thinks.

He loved animals. In stacks of photos albums, he's often holding some little creature. She kept everything he ever made her — birthday cards, childhood pottery. "You're the best mom in the world," he'd write, and she loved it because she'd always felt like a bad one.

She knew the hell her son was living because she had lived it, too.

In December 2020, he punched holes in the walls until his fists bled and screamed he wanted to die. She called police, and when officers arrived she stepped in front of her bloody, hysterical son. "Please don't shoot him," she pleaded, "this isn't him."

They took him to a hospital, but he broke a camera, and the hospital kicked him out.

A month later, she

watched as they covered him in blue plastic, and begged them to let her kiss his forehead.

The toxicology report said that he'd died of a combination of alprazolam, the drug in Xanax, and fentanyl.

For a time, she didn't want to live.

Then the medicine man took her to a sweat lodge on the reservation. When she came out, the chatter of two cranes on the wind sounded like a crow — a sign from her son. Now she feeds the crows so they'll keep coming to the yard.

She still smells him, she said. She swears she hears his particular way of knocking on the door.

The anniversary of his death is approaching on Jan. 11, and it is customary in her culture to return him to nature after a year of grieving, she said.

But every morning, she kisses his bag. Her daughter took her out for a buffet dinner, and the bag went too. She fixed him a plate of his favorite foods, prime rib, mashed potatoes, she buttered him a bun. "The medicine man says I have to let him go back to the earth," she said. "But I don't think I'm going to be able to do that. He left me too soon."

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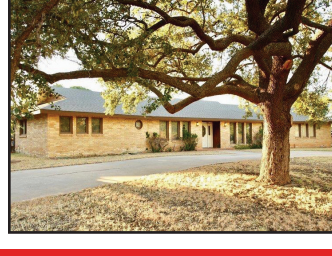
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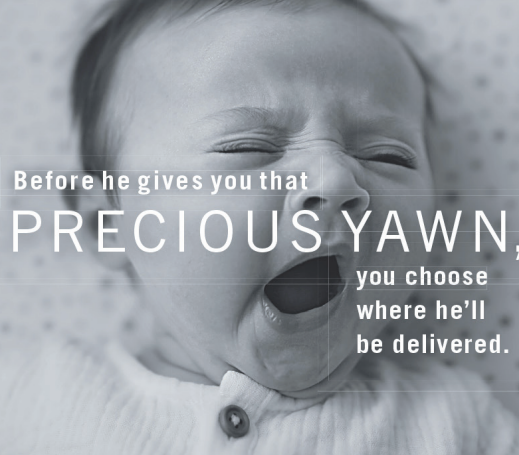
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Church News

NazFamily Church

“Don’t be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” (Luke 2:10-12) Can you imagine what it would have been like to stand in the stable that day, as dirt floors and flea infested animals welcome the long awaited Messiah? What would you say if you were there? What would you do? This is the King of kings and Lord of lords, Emmanuel – God-with-us. Join us this Sunday as we Gather at the Manger.

Christmas Eve
On December 24th @ 6:30pm we will have a special Christmas Eve Service. It will be a simple service of story and song focused on the true reason for the season. We hope you will invite your friends and family to join us as we celebrate together.

Watch Night
The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. ~ 1 Timothy 2:1-2 MSG
Our Sanctuary will be open from 10pm - 2am on December 31st for a special New Years Prayer Night. There will be several prayer stations set up to guide you. Bring your whole family or come individually. Come and go as you feel lead. Join us as we pray in the New Year. “My house will be called a house of prayer for all people...”(Mark 11:17)

NazFamily 101

College Baptist Church

The Christmas season is upon us. 2021 is closing its doors and opening up a whole new year to 2022. Time is fleeting as our “Gathering” church body, welcomes you as old and new members through salvation and baptism! Come see what God is doing at the corner of 11th and Birdwell Lane. Join us at College Baptist Church--We are open:
*Sunday morning -- 9:15 for Bible Study for all ages.
*Worship time is at 10:45 a.m.

*Girl’s Missions meet on Sunday at 5 p.m.

* Wednesday with our praying Youth groups starts at 6 p.m.

Fellowship meal between 6 and 6:45

Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at 7 p.m.
Children meet for King’s Kids and Krafts.
Nursery and extended care is as needed for all services.

Come join in the fun as we celebrate our winter season, serving our Lord. Services for December 12, 2021, is a great time for families to gather and celebrate our God together. Our services are in the building, live streaming, and on our Face Book page as well. Catch up on God’s perfect plan! Visitors, it was a such a joy to welcome you on Sunday. Come join us again—it is always a joy to welcome new faces. Our services are lively and worshipful.
We definitely enjoy the worship time as our ministry team leads us in songs of praise, and where our pastor, Bro. Ken McMeans, inspires us as we delve into God’s Word. Come and study with us as to what it takes to really know God cares for us so much He sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to save us. Focus on growth in Jesus as we continue to the end of this year and into 2022, as our pastor reminds us every Sunday, Jesus is coming SOON! Please call: 432-267-7429, for more information concerning Men’s, Ladies’ and youth meetings at this great and friendly church. Pray that lives are changed by the power of our Saviour, Jesus Christ our Cornerstone!

Cornerstone Covenant Church

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

We would love the opportunity to Connect with YOU! You can expect biblical teaching & preaching, genuine loving fellowship and live spirit filled praise & worship on Sunday’s (onsite) @9:30AM & (onsite & online) 11:00AM.

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

Sunday, December 26th –We would like to take a moment to invite you and your family to join us this Sunday at our 9:30AM & 11:00AM worship service. Our 9:30AM service is onsite and our 11:00AM service is both online & onsite. You can find our CCC Live Worship Experience online at facebook.com/CCCBigSpring or at Cornerstone Covenant Church Live on YouTube (look for the CCC logo).
Saturday, January 8th- Join Men’s 41 Prayer Breakfast @ 7AM in the ARC. We strive towards building a community of faithful men who are equipped to lead themselves and their families on a closer walk with God. On our journey, we will learn what it means to be godly servant-leaders and challenge each other to pursue that life. Men of all ages are invited to join us for a great time of food, fun, fellowship and the Word of God.
Monday, January 17th- Join us for (FAR) Far Above Rubies women’s night from 6-8PM in the ARC. Our desire is to foster an environment and opportunity for women to grow in their relationship with Christ and connect with other women. Bring your favorite dish, a friend and your bible as we enjoy a night of fun, food and fellowship together.

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

“Loving God, Loving People, Loving Communities and Changing the world!”
-Pastor Michael Willard

Crestview Baptist Church

At Crestview Baptist Church, we believe the most fulfilling pursuit of believers is not entertainment, gimmicks, or programs. The most fulfilling pursuit for a follower of Christ is to know Christ and His Word, so that we may live for Him. If you believe that, please come and worship with us! Sunday School starts at 10 AM, Worship begins at 11 AM, and our Sunday and Wednesday night meetings are at 6:30 PM. We are studying Biblical Doctrine. Come and be with us at 2305 Gatesville Rd., Big

Spring.

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

First Presbyterian Church Christmas Eve service is at 7:30 p.m. on December 24th.

Worship services December 26th, Christmas Day, begin at 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary at 8th and Runnels. Our Scripture readings will be Psalm 148, Colossians 3:17-17. Rev. Allen Cross will be preaching a sermon entitled: New Day, New Life. Organist/music director Gabe Martinez provides music for the service.

Sunday School begins at 9:45. Rev. Cross teaches the Children’s Class. Tom Koger leads the Youth Class. The Discovery Class is starting a new 5 week DVD study by Adam Hamilton called “Not a Silent Night- Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem.” Mary considers the life of Jesus from the cross backwards to the nativity. Vicki Miller and Helen Glass are leading the study.

Sunday morning Take Ten fellowship is in the parlor between Sunday School and worship.

Members and non-members alike are invited to take advantage of the spiritual resources available on our website and Facebook page. They include a six day each week prayer podcast, a weekly scripture reading and commentary, a weekly video devotional, and a video release of each Sunday’s sermon. All these tools and resources prepare us for the coming Sunday worship.

DIGITAL SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

- Church Calendar
- Daily Prayer Podcast (Monday-Saturday)
- Scripture Commentary (Tuesdays)
- Video Devotional (Wednesdays)
- Video Preview of this week’s bulletin (Fridays)
- Sunday Sermon Podcast & Video (Sundays)

Website: fpcbigspring.com
Facebook Page: FPC of Big Spring
YouTube Channel: FPC of Big Spring

The following weekly events are open to the community:

WEDNESDAY
The Women’s Bible Study meets at 10 a.m.
The History Lectures meets at noon.
The Lectionary Bible Study, meets at 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY
Everyone is invited to join the Lunch Bunch at 11:30 a.m.

All our worship services can be heard live on KBST 1490 AM and 95.7 FM at 11:00 a.m. as usual or seen recorded online at www.fpcbigspring.com by selecting the SERMONS tab and the correct date.

Please call the church office at 263-4211 for other information. We would be pleased for you to Like us on Facebook. Although the physical address of First Presbyterian Church is 701 Runnels, the mailing address is P. O. Box 2222, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

Life Church

You are welcome to join us every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. for an experience in the Word and in Worship.

Everyone is invited to join us for our 2021 Fall Fire Conference November 7th-9th. Jonathan Suber will be ministering on Sunday, November 7th at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Bobby Rivera will be ministering on Monday, November 8th and Tuesday, Nov. 9 at 7pm on both evenings.

See **CHURCH**, Page 6

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A Season for Remembering

At a time when loved ones lost are especially missed, we wish all of our friends and neighbors here comfort and peace.

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CHURCH

Continued from page 5

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

YOUTH of Life will meet on Wednesdays from 7:00pm-8:30pm on the Life Church Campus. For more information about YOUTH of Life follow their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/youthofLifeChurch>

Life Kids will have their classes this Sunday. Our Nursery is available for those ages newborn to 2. Our Toddlers class serve those ages 3 & 4. Our Elementary class serves those ages 5-8. Our Pre-Teen class serves those ages 9-12. Visit and follow the Life Kids Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Life-Kids-Life-Church-Big-Spring-TX-1654730487977488/> for more information.

For more information about our events or groups please visit our website www.golifechurch.net or <https://www.facebook.com/bigspringlife>

First Christian Church

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

We are an open, welcoming and compassionate church, pursuing a joyful relationship with Jesus.

This year of the pandemic has been one none of us will soon forget.

We have reopened for in person worship. We are taking proactive steps to maintain the health and safety of all who attend services.

Join us at First Christian Church, to find out

more information about First Christian Church or to see the online service, join Facebook Group at www.facebook.com/group/fccbigspring

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

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

Sunday morning Social Time - pre-Worship Service - starts approximately 9:30 a.m. in the Sitting Room by the office. Donuts, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Hot Tea and Bottled Water Worship Service starts at 10:50 a.m. Hope to see you there!

A new brick program has been started. Those who would like to know more information about the thankful brick program can contact Pastor Brian at 469-978-7547.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

Dec. 26, 2021

"Celebrating and Sharing God's Love and Grace in our lives".

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood Neighborhood in Big Spring. If you would like to reach Pastor Kohl, Vicar Roeber or the church office, please call (432) 264-7818, or e-mail us at aliveinchristtx@gmail.com.

Bible Study and Sunday School begin at 9:30 am and we are having class each Sunday morning. Our Sunday Service begins at 10:30 a.m. You can catch us on Facebook Live on our Facebook page. If you are new to the area or haven't been to church before or in a while, please accept this as an invitation to join us this Sunday.

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study is back. A

meal is served at 5:30 and our bible study begins at 6:00. We are beginning a new bible study.

We will be having a Christmas Eve Service on Dec. 24 at 7pm. Please come and join us.

The readings for this Sunday are 2 Chron. 24:17-22, Acts 6:8-7:2a, 51-60, and Matthew 23:34-39. The psalm is Psalm 119:137-144.

Bo Vizcaino will present the scripture readings this week.

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour. Tune in to 106.3 FM or 1400 AM between 6:45 and 6:50 each morning for these wonderful devotions: "Morning Meditation Thoughts". Also tune in every Sunday morning at 8:30 to listen to the Lutheran Hour.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

St. Mary's Episcopal

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

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

**Christmas Eve service will be on Friday, December 24 at 10:30 p.m.

Something to think about...

By RICHARD SCHNEBERGER

Special to the Herald

Last night we loaded up the kids in the minivan, we even threw in an extra one for good measure, and drove around town looking at all the amazing Christmas lights. It is one of our favorite family traditions. Some of the displays are definitely awe-inspiring. There are even a couple of houses in our little town that we're certain are visible from outer space.

When we first moved to Big Spring, Texas, we knew nothing about it being the lighted poinsettia capital of the world. (I didn't even know there was a competition going on for that coveted title.) The first lighted poinsettias we saw confused us. The kids were trying to figure out what in the world these things were and why they were everywhere. They ultimately decided the lights weren't from this world. One said, "They look like some kind of alien life form that has come to take over our town." Soon they developed this whole story about aliens that have come to conquer the earth. Then they began counting all the lighted poinsettias we saw on our drive. Once they reached 100, our daughter exclaimed, "This whole town is doomed! We're all DOOMED!" Parenting is an adventure. Pray for us!

Lights are a significant part of our celebration because the "Light of the World" has come to penetrate the darkness. That may be why I'm so drawn to John's version of the Christmas message. I think that John captures the

cosmic implications of this moment, as he writes: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." ~ John 1:1-5

Christ is the light in this dark world. We've all had the experience of navigating at night. We don't want to wake others so we stumble around in the dark, thinking we know the way. As we take that next careful step, we land right on a lego! And chaos ensues. They should use those things as torture devices. Attempting to find our way in the dark always leads to pain, but God calls us to walk in the light.

"This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." ~ 1 John 1:5-7

As we observe all the beautiful lights that pierce the darkness, may we be reminded to walk in the "Light of the World" this Christmas! May God reflect His light through us into the dark! Merry Christmas!

Best Gift Ever

Joelle Ludington

Luke 2:11-14 Best Gift Ever

This shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the baby unwrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

According to studies the manger in Israel was made out of stone, for the new born lamb. It was wrapped up in cloth. The lamb had to be perfect without blemish. Perfect lambs that were used in the sacrifice for sins.

Where Jesus was born was famous for their unblemished lambs used for sacrifice. The sheep herders would have understood their powerful parallel. They knew what the cloth and manger meant.

The perfect lamb of God.

The messiah who would sacrifice his life for the sins of the whole world.

He wasn't just a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. He was God; perfect, sinless, and holy. Humbling himself to become the perfect sacrifice to reconcile us back to himself.

That my friend was that perfect lamb. So why we celebrate Christmas, best gift ever.



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Worship: 10:30am	Bible Study: 6:30pm

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REFLECTIONS

By Bill Tinsley

The Leap of Love

I grew up near Waco, Texas and have fond childhood memories of family picnics at Cameron Park. I was ten years old when I first visited Lover's Leap, a site high atop the limestone cliffs that overlook the Brazos River. In my youth I could throw a rock across the river striking the trees on the other side. It was here, as a junior at Baylor that I first dated the girl that would become my wife. And it was in this park that I proposed to her 53 years ago.

In 1912 Decca Lamar West published the romantic story of Wah-Wah-Tee and her Apache Indian Brave who leaped from this precipice to their death rather than live their lives separated by tribal hostilities. The story has been passed down countless times by generations.

In Hannibal, Missouri, another majestic site that overlooks the Mississippi claims a similar story. According to a tradition dating to 1840 an Indian

princess and an Indian brave from opposing tribes fell deeply in love. Hunted by the maiden's tribe, they climbed to this pinnacle, embraced each other and leaped to their death.

When I lived in Minnesota, I became familiar with Maiden Rock, a high bluff overlooking Lake Pepin, where, by one legend, a beautiful young Indian Maiden, the daughter of Chief Red Wing, leaped to her death after her Dakota Sioux tribe killed the Chippewa brave whom she loved.

There are many Lovers Leaps across the country. You can find them in Texas, Wisconsin, Missouri, Connecticut, Virginia and California. Mark Twin noted, "There are fifty Lover's Leaps along the Mississippi from whose summit disappointed Indian girls have jumped."

Why are there so many legends? Why are they so similar?

I suppose it is because we all know that love is a leap. We cannot truly love someone without taking a chance, leaping into the unknown, making

a commitment, risking everything. It is the leap that makes life worthwhile. It was a leap for me, and certainly for my wife, 53 years ago when she was 19 and I was 22. I look back now, and it was the best jump of my life.

This Christmas we celebrate God's leap of love for us. It was love that caused God to send His son, born as a babe in Bethlehem, destined to die on a cross outside Jerusalem. He made the leap, risking everything in order to rescue us. This is what the Bible means when it says, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him might not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. His books are available at www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com.

His Name Is Jesus

By TOM SLOAN

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

I like Jesus because He makes me happy. Jesus makes me happy because He has forgiven all of my sins; past, present and future. Jesus has a way about Him that tells me that He has the ability to cut through the layers and layers of armour with which we have clothed ourselves. This armour consists of things like rules, regulations, standards, convictions, and all sorts of religious stuff we do. The purpose of this armour, is protection against God and His raging wrath. Yes, anytime someone mentions God, we feel the urgent need to run and hide behind our thick layers of religious armour. However, the purpose of God's presence in our lives is so that we can be seen, not so we can hide behind our religious robes. Jesus brings us out of hiding, to the wonderful light of His gospel of love by the power of the forgiveness of our sins. If we feel we must

hide from God behind the fortress walls of our own "good works", we have not known Him, because to know Him is to come out of hiding, and be known by Him. So, God made Himself known to us through Jesus (who is meek and lowly in heart) so that we wouldn't be afraid of Him.

God already knows us, even as we hide from Him. But when we hide, we neither know Him, nor ourselves. To know God is to lay aside all our religious armour. To be known by God is to be loved by Him. To know God is to know that He has forgiven us, and to know ourselves is to know that we are truly forgiven. God sent Jesus to bring us out of hiding. This is what it means when it says - He shall save His people from their sins. In Jesus, there is no need to hide because there is nothing to be afraid of. And if we are still hiding behind our religious armour, we haven't understood the true meaning of the forgiveness of our sins.

Come Let us Adore Him - Christ the Lord!

By BILLY HOLLAND

The holiday season is called the most wonderful time of the year but between buying gifts, hosting parties, trying not to break your healthy habits (or the bank), and attending family gatherings, it can also be the most stressful time of the year. Once again, we are trying to figure out what to give people who already have everything they need. Come to think of it, I'm trying to understand how we went from the wise men bringing gifts to Christ as an act of worship to the ritual of giving gifts to each other? I don't remember Mary and Joseph exchanging presents with the shepherds, or Bethlehem being decorated with tinsel and ribbons. Yes, there is widespread affection for the magical stories and traditions that we are accustomed to, but we also understand that much of our holiday festivities have little to do with Christ. Not to mention that children are taught that Santa has the same abilities as God. Nonetheless, for those who would rather focus on a more spiritual meaning, we are reminded of the angel's message to Mary in Luke 1:35, "The holy child that you will give birth to will be called the Son of God."

This has been a sad Christmas especially for those who live in our state. On December 10th we were on stage ready to perform our annual Christmas production with our local theater, when suddenly people's phones started lighting up. A plane had crashed just a few miles away as the pilot and his passenger were a part of our community that were dearly loved. Early the next morning, a powerful tornado stayed on the ground for over 100 miles and devastated the Western part of our state. As of this writing, 77 people lost their lives, and many lost everything they had. Let us keep these families in our prayers and may we remember to appreciate every moment we have. We are reminded that in all things God is absolutely good and from the words of a popular Christmas song, we humbly bow and proclaim, "O come let us adore Him - Christ the Lord."

If there was ever a reason to celebrate, it would be to tell the world that Jesus Christ is the Savior who came to deliver us from sin and a doomed eternity. He is the Master of the universe, the Creator of all things, and is forever the way, the truth, and the life. It would have been much easier

for the Almighty to send us a Hallmark card expressing how much He cares about us, but instead, He wanted to demonstrate and prove His love by sending His Son to be our Redeemer. He is now patiently waiting for people to decide if they will live for Him or themselves. It's no secret the temptation to become entangled in commercialism can distract us from the true reason for the season, and I suppose this qualifies people like me as being a Grinch. However, in my defense, if you've read, "The gift of the Magi" we see there is a significant difference between wisdom and being impulsive and that love is the real meaning of life - not materialism. Anyway, there is genuine peace and comfort in knowing that Christ is filled with endless mercy and compassion for everyone. Because of His humble entrance into this realm to save those who believe, we can sing His praises, "Joy to the world, the Lord has come."

magical elves, may we humbly realize that all God has ever wanted is our heart. Galatians 4:19 is not usually considered

a Christmas text, but the Apostle Paul makes a very interesting statement, "My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you." Is this not an appropriate time to declare our need for Jesus to be born into our lives? A holy truth that never becomes old or outdated and is as life-changing today as it was the moment Jesus appeared. The greatest Christmas miracle would be for Christ to be born in all of us. Do you have room for Him in your life? May we consider the familiar lines of, O Little Town of Bethlehem, "O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend on us we pray, cast out our sins and enter in, be born in us today."

Read more about the Christian life at billyhollandministries.com

Pope meets Afghan family relocated to Italy for child's care

By ALESSANDRA TARANTINO and NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis has greeted an Afghan family he met during a visit this month to a refugee camp in Greece and who he helped resettle to Italy because the youngest child needs medical care.

Francis greeted the family at the end of his general audience Wednesday, during which he once again urged European countries to share the responsibility of welcoming in migrants.

"All you need to do is open a door. The door of the heart. Let's not miss doing it this Christmas," he said.

Francis had stressed that message during his Dec.

26 visit to Cyprus and Greece, most poignantly when he met with refugees at a camp on the Greek island of Lesbos. It was his first trip back to Lesbos since he brought back a dozen Syrian refugees aboard his plane at the end of a 2016 visit.

While there, he learned of the health care needs of the 1 1/2-year-old Afghan boy. The Vatican didn't identify the family or say what medical care he needs. He had scrambled onto the steps of the Vatican audience hall and was sitting there when the pope arrived for the encounter Wednesday morning.



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"Our Legacy Is You"

Record 27 teams remain in playoff hunt with 3 weeks to go

By **JOSH DUBOW**

AP Pro Football Writer

While no team has clinched a postseason spot in the jam-packed AFC, there never have been more teams alive in the playoff hunt this late in a season.

Only Chicago, Detroit, Jacksonville, Houston and the New York Jets have been eliminated, with 27 teams still with at least a sliver of a postseason chance, tied for the most ever with three weeks left in the season.

The only other times that has happened came in 2004, 1995 and in 1982, when 16 teams made the playoffs in a strike-shortened, nine-game season.

The only team that has clinched a spot is the Green Bay Packers, who have won the NFC North after beating Baltimore on Sunday.

No team has clinched in the AFC, marking just the sixth time since the eight-division format started in 2002 that no team in a conference had clinched a playoff berth with three weeks left in the season.

It last happened in the AFC in 2016. It also happened in the AFC in 2002, the NFC in 2010 and both conferences in 2014.

FOURTH DOWN GAMBLERS

The two successful fourth-down conversions this week by the Chargers gave the NFL 301 on the season, topping the 300 from 2018 for the second-most in a season, behind the record 362 last year.

There were 20 more in Week 15, leaving the league on pace to break last year's mark.

But the failed chances for the Chargers this week in the overtime loss to Kansas City got much more publicity.

The Chargers got stopped on fourth-and-goal twice in the first half, becoming the first team to do

that since the Chargers did it 37 years to the day on Dec. 16, 1984, against Kansas City, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

The Chargers were stopped on a fourth down from inside the 5, marking the first time since at least 2000 that teams combined to fail on at least three fourth downs from the 5 or closer, according to Sportradar.

But while the failed fourth downs proved costly this past week, the Chargers have been successful on them plenty this season, tying for the league high with 15 conversions. They have gone for it on fourth down on 17 drives in field-goal range and scored 51 points on those possessions.

The Chargers weren't the only team struggling on fourth downs near the goal line. The Falcons were stopped three times inside the 10, the first time in the last 40 years that has happened, according to Elias.

RARE BLANKINGS

Tom Brady had a rare shutout loss this week with a 9-0 defeat to the New Orleans Saints, marking the first time his team had been held scoreless since Dec. 10, 2006, at Miami.

Brady had gone 255 straight starts in the regular season and playoffs without being shut out, the second-longest streak ever for a QB behind Drew Brees, who was never shut out in 304 career starts.

It also was the first time in Brady's career that he was shut out at home.

Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger has the longest active streak without being shut out for any current QB, with the Steelers scoring in his last 225 games in the regular season and playoffs.

Brady's old team, the Patriots, were held score-

less in the first half in their loss to Indianapolis for the first time since Oct. 2, 2016, against Buffalo, when Jacoby Brissett started in the final game of Brady's suspension for "Deflategate."

New England had gone 99 straight games in the regular season and playoffs without being shut out in the first half, the longest streak in the NFL since at least 1991. The Patriots also held the previous record of 82 straight games from 2006-11.

TOUCHDOWN TAYLOR

Jonathan Taylor of the Colts capped off another big performance with a game-sealing 67-yard TD run against New England that gave him a TD run in the 11th straight game.

Taylor is now tied with Priest Holmes (2002) and Emmitt Smith (1995) for the third-longest streak in a season in NFL history. Only John Riggins (12 in 1983) and LaDainian Tomlinson (12 in 2004) had longer streaks in a season. Tomlinson's streak, which started in 2004 and carried over until the next season, went 18 games, the longest ever.

Taylor has scored 31 career TDs before his 23rd birthday on Jan. 19, with Edgerrin James (35) the only player with more before turning 23.

ELITE COMPANY

Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert threw two TD passes and ran for a third score last week to give him a record 71 combined touchdown runs and passes in the first two years of his career, one more than Hall of Famer Dan Marino.

Herbert has posted back-to-back seasons with at least 4,000 yards passing and 35 combined TD passes and runs, joining an elite group with Brees (2011-13), Peyton Manning (2012-14), Brady (2020-21) and Aaron Rodgers (2011-12).

Column: NHL skips Olympics again, cites COVID-19 uncertainty

By **JIM LITKE**

AP Sports Columnist

First, the U.S. diplomats and a handful of allies said "no." Now it's the NHL. Some party this is shaping up to be.

It was just bad luck that Beijing landed the Winter Games in what turned out to be the time of COVID-19. But the decision to go ahead as scheduled rests squarely with the hosts and their International Olympic Committee cronies. Here's hoping that like most of the people who marry solely for money, they wind up having to earn every cent.

The NHL is the most anodyne of the major sports leagues, so unlike the diplomats who bowed out, it wasn't making a political statement about China's grave and varied human rights abuses. But just like the IOC, the league's abiding interest has always been its own bottom line. That's why the league skipped the 2018 Winter Games in Pyeongchang, an option that isn't available to all the lugers, curlers, ski jumpers and even figure skaters who need the attention the Olympics brings to pay rent during the three years in between.

But this was always going to be an easy decision for commissioner Gary Bettman and the NHL players union. The Olympic overlords pay them zilch for showing up and blow a three-weeks-or-so hole in the league's regular-season schedule, which — to put it mildly — is already a mess because of COVID. Fifty games had been postponed through Tuesday night, and there's a league-wide pause in effect until next week. Assuming the recently tightened protocols return some measure of control to the league's schedule-makers, that three-week window to make up games could come in mighty handy.

Who knows, the NHL might even decide to go ahead with its All-Star Weekend in Las Vegas, which would fall on the first two days (Feb. 4-5) of the Olympics. And wouldn't that be some wicked counterprogramming?

"We understand the decision," Olympic broadcaster NBC said in a statement Tuesday, "but the Olympics remain the greatest hockey tournament in the world regardless of whether the players are from the NHL or other elite leagues around the world."

Please.

On the plus side, the women's tournament might pick up some viewers and the scramble to fill the men's Olympic rosters with minor leaguers, college players and even the occasional beer-league star presents China's woeful hockey team with an opportunity.

Just a few weeks ago, the International Ice Hockey Federation was still wrestling with whether to let the team play. Olympic hosts are customarily extended the privilege of fielding a team in every sport, but China was so bad that new IIHF president Luc Tardif had his doubts.

"Watching a team being beaten, 15-0, is not good for anyone, not for China or for ice hockey," Tardif said in September.

Now the Chinese will be able to call a 7-0 final score a moral victory.

To be fair, it's a bad deal for just about everybody. The hosts lose face, NBC loses one of its three biggest draws -- figure skating and alpine being the other two -- and the rest of us will miss out on what has been a fast, wide-open version of the sport that is better than anything else the NHL puts on during the regular season.

Unfortunately, the players lose most of all. A generation of young stars denied their debuts in 2018 now will have to wait until 2026 at the very least; among them are Canada's Connor McDavid and Nathan MacKinnon, American Auston Matthews and Sweden's Victor Hedman.

"I'm still a guy that's wanting to go play in the Olympics," McDavid said. "But we also want to make sure it's safe for everybody. For all the athletes, not just for hockey players."

But the Edmonton Oilers' captain also conceded the 21-day quarantine in a Chinese facility for anyone who tests positive at the games — part of the protocol mandated by Beijing's organizing committee — was "unsettling." Las Vegas goalkeeper Robin Lehner had already declined the chance to represent Sweden, explaining in a text that having that possibility hanging over his head "is not ideal for my mental health."

Yet it was the NHL's fiscal health that mattered most. The Olympics lifted hockey's profile notably in Salt Lake City in 2002 and especially Vancouver in 2010, where local hero Sidney Crosby's overtime goal to beat the United States for the gold medal (again) drew nearly 35 million viewers, roughly twice the average audience for the Masters or the NCAA basketball finale. But the debut of NHL players at the Nagano Games in 1998, as well as their appearances in 2006 (Turin) and 2014 were played and televised at odd hours for North American audiences, which are the league's bread-and-butter.

The Beijing Games will be 13 hours ahead of the U.S. Eastern time zone. For all the other factors that weighed on his decision, all Bettman had to do was glance at the watch on his wrist to confirm he made the right one.



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To: The Unknown Heirs At Law Of Joyce Lightner, Deceased,

Defendant, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation the same being Monday 01/24/2022, before the Honorable 118th District Court of Howard County, at 312 Scurry Street in said County in Big Spring, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 15th day of October, 2021, cause number 55181 in the entitled cause styled

Longbridge Financial, LLC vs The Unknown Heirs At Law Of Joyce Lightner, Deceased

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit:

Plaintiff Longbridge Financial, LLC, its successors in interest or assigns, by and through its attorney of record Joseph M. Vacek of

Legals

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 5601 Executive Dr., Suite 400, Irving, Texas 75038, brought suit against The Unknown Heirs of Joyce Lightner, deceased and any other person claiming any subordinate right, title and/or interest in 800 W 15th Street, Big Springs, Texas 79720 ("Property"), and legally described as:

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APN:B48-00-005400

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5:30 AM	Big 2 Good Morning Basin	Como dice el dicho	FamFeud Business	CBS7 Wake Up	Al rojo vivo (SS)	Newsweek 9	The China HaYesod	Cat in the Hat	Paid Prg.	Paid Prg.	Matters	Charmed	SportsCenter	Keyshawn, JWill and Max	Ideal Relief	Chrisley	Jeremiah Joyce M.	Forbidden History
6:30 AM	Good Morning America	Despierta America!	Les Feld Robison	CBS7 Wake Up	Hoy dia (SS)	Newsweek 9 Sunrise	Our Mess Jesus IS	Peg-Holidays	Paternity Court	Highway Thru Hell	Matters	Charmed	SportsCenter	NHL Hockey: Stars at Blackhawks	NHL Hockey: Stars at Blackhawks	Movie: Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them (DVS)	Storage Storage Storage Storage	Forbidden History
7:30 AM	The 700 Club	Wendy Williams	Kelly and Ryan	Caso cerrado (SS)	Today 3rd Hour	Being MMTV	Arthur's Christmas	Kelly Clarkson	Steve Wilkos	George George	NCIS: New Orleans	First Take	Get Up	AVP Pro Beach Vol	(8:52) Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald	Storage Storage Storage Storage	The Repair Shop	
8:30 AM	The View	Como dice el dicho	The Real	The Price Is Right	Caso De'siones	Today-Hoda	Master Words of	Let's Go Luna	Drew Barrymore	Maury	George Friends	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	First Take	NHL Hockey: Stars at Blackhawks	(-45) Movie: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (DVS)	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
9:30 AM	Jeopardy!	Noticiero Nostro.	Tamron Hall	Young & Restless	Más sabe Noticias	The Dr. Oz Show	Cowgirl Dr. Wil	Nature Cat	The Doctors	Nick Cannon	Friends	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	First Take	NHL Hockey: Stars at Blackhawks	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, Emma Watson (DVS)	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
10:30 AM	GMA3: What	Hoy (SS)	TMZ Live	News Bold	Pasión de gavilanes	Days of our Lives	The On the Hero	Molly	Dateline	Hot Hot	Friends	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	30 for 30	NBA Basketball: Bucks at Mavericks	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
11:30 AM	General Hospital	Amor eterno	The People's Court	The Talk	En casa con	Blast Paid Prg.	Heritage Church	Cyber Pink	The First 48	Relative Relative	Friends	NCIS: New Orleans	This Just In	30 for 30	NBA Basketball: Bucks at Mavericks	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
12:30 PM	Rachael Ray	La madrastra	Judge Mathis	Let's Make a Deal	(1:58) Suelta la sopa	Ellen DeGeneres	Light of Southwest	Elinor	Monk	Jerry Jerry	Friends	NCIS: New Orleans	NBA Today	30 for 30	NBA Basketball: Bucks at Mavericks	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
1:30 PM	Jdg Judy	El gordo y la flaca	FamFeud	Kelly Clarkson	(2:58) Al rojo vivo	Dr. Phil	Light of Southwest	Donkey Curious	Chicago Fire	Divorce	Friends	NCIS: New Orleans	NFL Live	30 for 30	Ninja Warrior	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, Emma Watson (DVS)	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
2:30 PM	You Bet Jeopardy!	Primer impacto	Two Men	CBS 7	En casa con	News Inside Ed.	Cowboy Israel	Almas Xavier	25 Words	Steve Wilkos Show	Big Bang	NCIS: New Orleans	Must SC: Best of	30 for 30	Ninja Warrior	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, Emma Watson (DVS)	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
3:30 PM	ABC	Noticiero	Big Bang	CBS 7	Tele	News	The Creation	Curious King	Nick Cannon	Big Bang	Bones	SportsCenter	30 for 30	Ninja Warrior	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, Emma Watson (DVS)	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
4:30 PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Sheldon	CBS 7	Pelicula: The Black Stallion, Teri Garr (SS)	News	M:25 Bible	Wild Kratts-Creature	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Bones	SportsCenter	30 for 30	Ninja Warrior	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, Emma Watson (DVS)	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
5:30 PM	Wheel	Rosa de Guadalupe	WWE Friday Night SmackDown	Holly Dolly	Movie: It's a Wonderful Life, Lionel Barrymore (DVS)	MMTV	Gr8	Light of Southwest	Chicago P.D.	Christmas Around the World	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	Bones	College Football: Easypost Hawaii Bowl -- Memphis vs Hawaii.	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop
6:30 PM	Olaf's Shrek	Somos Navidad	FOX 24 News at 9	Blue Bloods	Pelicula: The Black Stallion Returns (SS)	Light of Southwest	Cyber Pink	Mike Mike	News Gold	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
7:30 PM	Landing Prep & Shark Tank	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Noticias	News	Words of Heritage	Elinor Donkey	Friends	Burgers	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
8:30 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Contacto deportivo	Mod Fam	Late Show-Colbert	Pendientes a la fuerza	Christmas Special	Shofar	Tiger Minute	CBS 7	black-ish	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
9:30 PM	Nightline	Las tontas no van	Mom	Drew Barrymore	Sin Senos Si	(-34) Christmas Eve Mass	News	Almas Holly	Friends	black-ish	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
10:30 PM	A Serenade for	La madrastra	Broke Girl	Paid Prg.	Programa	Glory! Christmas	Light of Southwest	Curious George	Jerry Springer	Liquidator	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
11:30 PM	Extra DailyMail	Vecinos	Seinfeld	Paid Prg.	Pelicula: Francisco: El Padre Jorge (SS)	Blast	Minute	Shepherd's Heart	Nature Cat	Blade	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
12:30 AM	Get Home Title Lock	El gordo y la flaca	Law & Order: SVU	Paid Prg.	Programa	Weather Yolo, TX	Church	Arthur's Christmas	Paid Prg.	Disease	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
1:30 AM	Outages	Nosotr.	FamFeud	Paid Prg.	Programa	Weather Yolo, TX	Church	Arthur's Christmas	Paid Prg.	Disease	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	
2:30 AM	Brain Foq	Noticiero	FamFeud	Paid Prg.	Programa	Weather Yolo, TX	Church	Arthur's Christmas	Paid Prg.	Disease	Movie: A Christmas Story (DVS)	SportsCenter	30 for 30	High School Football	(-15) Movie: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Court Court Court Court	The Repair Shop	

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

North	East	South	West
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	?	

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?
 1. ♠KQ983 ♥KJ82 ♦7 ♣A106
 2. ♠K8753 ♥KQ54 ♦— ♣Q762
 3. ♠AQ982 ♥AJ95 ♦QJ7 ♣10
 4. ♠AKJ82 ♥KQ73 ♦6 ♣A73

- Four spades.** The moment your partner opens the bidding, you know there's a game in the combined hands. The only problem is to find the best contract. Your first two responses were directed toward locating a major-suit fit, and now you've found one.
- Pass.** Game prospects are poor, given partner's minimum rebid of two diamonds and his belated spade preference. You should therefore settle for a partscore.
- Four diamonds.** Despite your partner's minimum rebids of two diamonds and two spades, there is still a reasonable chance for a slam. You should therefore do everything possible to try to reach it. Your leap to four diamonds implies a singleton (or void) in clubs as well as good diamond support. If partner holds ♠J63 ♥6 ♦AK9852 ♣A43, he should have no compunctions about bidding six diamonds even with his minimum opening values. But if his hand consists of ♠1063 ♥7 ♦AK10964 ♣KQ2, he should sign off at four spades because his club honors are virtually worthless opposite a singleton or void.
- Three clubs.** There is a good chance for a slam here also — this time in spades — but again you should not make the final decision yourself. Partner might have values where you don't need them and lack values where you do, in which case a slam could work out badly. So you consult partner by cuebidding your ace of clubs.

How far you go depends on what partner does next. He will know from your cuebid that you are angling for a spade slam, and he will presumably react accordingly. If he shows a lack of interest by bidding either three diamonds or three notrump, you will have to settle for game in spades. But if he cooperates by making a constructive bid (such as three hearts or four spades) over three clubs, you should head directly for slam.

Tomorrow: Hidden asset.
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There's something for everyone in the Big Spring Herald's Classifieds!

- Grandpa sold his sailboat
- Mama found the missing piece for her china set...
- Papa bought a great used car ...
- Little Brother traded his baseball cards for a guitar...
- Big Brother found an awesome set of free weights...
- Cousin Bill found a great apartment ...
- Big Sister found a great new job...
- Aunt Sue found a dining room table...

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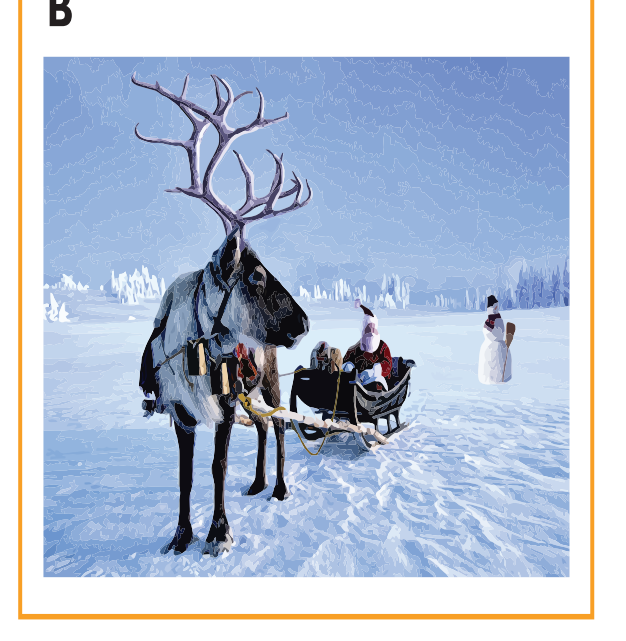
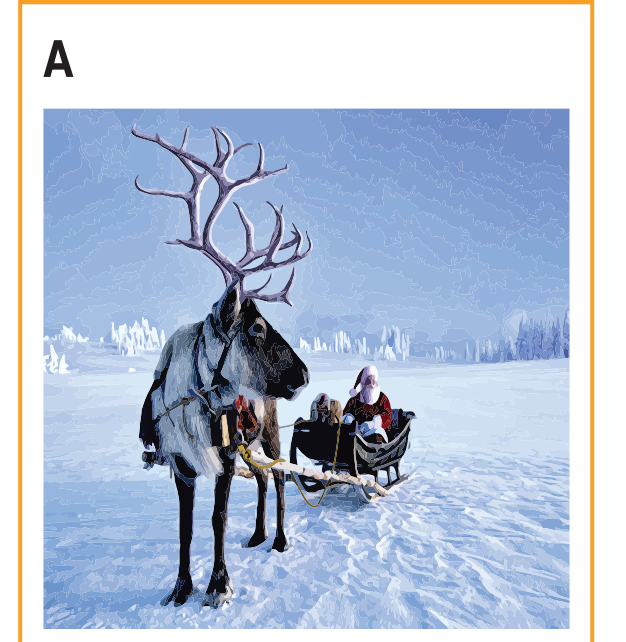


WHAT IS THE HOLIDAY DESSERT THAT PEOPLE LOVE TO MOCK AROUND CHRISTMASTIME?

ANSWER: FRUIT CAKE

What's the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Missing antler 2. Extra bell on reins 3. Santa's hat 4. Snowman in background

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1154: HENRY II OF ENGLAND IS CROWNED AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY.
- 1946: WAR STARTS IN INDOCHINA WHEN HO CHI MINH ATTACKS THE FRENCH.
- 1972: THE APOLLO PROGRAM OF MANNED LUNAR LANDINGS ENDS WHEN APOLLO 17 SPLASHES DOWN IN THE PACIFIC.

New Word

CAROL

a religious folk song or popular hymn

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Cookie
- SPANISH:** Galletta
- ITALIAN:** Dolcetto
- FRENCH:** Biscuit
- GERMAN:** Kek

Did You Know?

LED CHRISTMAS LIGHTS BURN COOLER THAN INCANDESCENT BULBS, MAKING THEM SAFER CHOICES FOR DECORATING CHRISTMAS TREES AND OTHER AREAS OF A HOME.

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

FEATURES

Today in History

Today is Friday, Dec. 24, the 358th day of 2021. There are seven days left in the year. This is Christmas Eve.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 24, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower supreme commander of Allied forces in Europe as part of Operation Overlord.

On this date:

In 1524, Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama — who had discovered a sea route around Africa to India — died in Cochin, India.

In 1809, legendary American frontiersman Christopher "Kit" Carson was born in Madison County, Kentucky.

In 1814, the United States and Britain signed the Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812 following ratification

by both the British Parliament and the U.S. Senate.

In 1851, fire devastated the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., destroying about 35,000 volumes.

In 1865, several veterans of the Confederate Army formed a private social club in Pulaski, Tennessee, that was the original version of the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1906, Canadian physicist Reginald A. Fessenden became the first person to transmit the human voice (his own) as well as music over radio, from Brant Rock, Massachusetts.

In 1913, 73 people, most of them children, died in a crush of panic after a false cry of "Fire!" during a Christmas party for striking miners and their families at the Italian Hall in Calumet, Michigan.

In 1968, the Apollo 8 astro-

nauts, orbiting the moon, read passages from the Old Testament Book of Genesis during a Christmas Eve telecast.

In 1980, Americans remembered the U.S. hostages in Iran by burning candles or shining lights for 417 seconds — one second for each day of captivity.

In 1992, President Bush pardoned former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and five others in the Iran-Contra scandal.

In 1993, the Rev. Norman Vincent Peale, who blended Christian and psychiatric principles into a message of "positive thinking," died in Pawling, New York, at age 95.

In 2013, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II granted a posthumous pardon to code-breaker Alan Turing, who was convicted of homosexual behavior in the 1950s.

Ten years ago: In a setback,

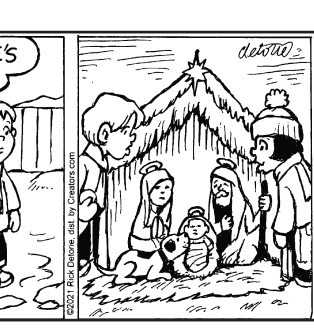
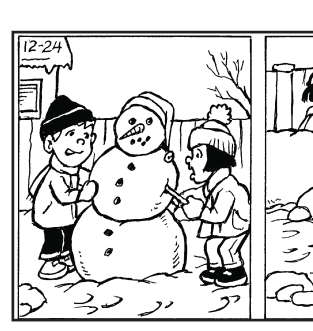
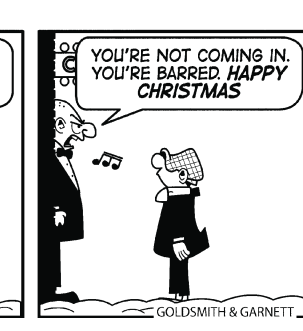
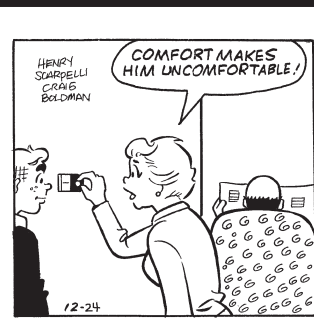
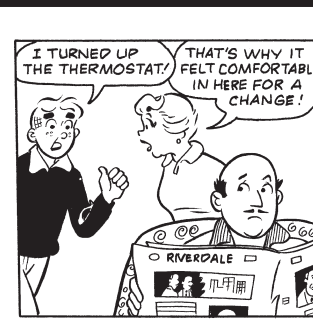
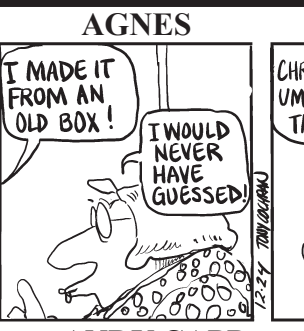
Republican presidential hopefuls Newt Gingrich and Texas Gov. Rick Perry failed to qualify for Virginia's Super Tuesday primary ballot by falling short of the 10,000 signatures required. Troops commanded by relatives of Yemen's outgoing president, Ali Abdullah Saleh (AH'-lee ahb-DUH'-luh sah-LEH'), attacked a crowd of more than 100,000 peaceful protesters, killing at least nine and driving Saleh to promise to leave the country.

Five years ago: President-elect Donald Trump said he would dissolve his charitable foundation before taking office to avoid conflicts of interest; the Democratic Party said that wasn't enough and called for the businessman to put his assets in a blind trust. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accused President Barack Obama of a "shameful ambush" at the United Nations and said he was looking forward to working with his "friend" Donald Trump; Netanyahu's comments came a day after the U.S. broke with

past practice and allowed the Security Council to condemn Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

One year ago: California became the first state to record 2 million confirmed coronavirus cases. Bethlehem ushered in Christmas Eve with a stream of joyous marching bands and the triumphant arrival of the top Catholic clergyman in the Holy Land, but few people were there to greet them as the pandemic and a strict lockdown dampened celebrations. Just a week before the deadline, Britain and the European Union struck a free-trade deal that would avert economic chaos on New Year's and bring a measure of certainty for businesses after years of Brexit turmoil. President Donald Trump completed a round of pardons for more than two dozen people, including former campaign chairman Paul Manafort and Charles Kushner, the father of his son-in-law, in the latest wave of clemency to benefit longtime associates and supporters.

Today's Birthdays: Dr. Anthony Fauci is 81. Recording company executive Mike Curb is 77. Actor Sharon Farrell is 75. Former U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions is 75. Actor Grand L. Bush is 66. Actor Clarence Gilyard is 66. Actor Stephanie Hodge is 65. The former president of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai (HAH'-mihd KAHR'-zeye), is 64. Rock musician Ian Burden (The Human League) is 64. Actor Anil Kapoor (ah-NEEL' kuh-POOR') is 62. Actor Eva Tamargo is 61. Actor Wade Williams is 60. Rock singer Mary Ramsey (10,000 Maniacs) is 58. Actor Mark Valley is 57. Actor Diedrich Bader is 55. Actor Amaury Nolasco is 51. Singer Ricky Martin is 50. Author Stephenie Meyer is 48. TV personality Ryan Seacrest (TV: "Live With Kelly & Ryan") is 47. Actor Michael Raymond-James is 44. Actor Austin Stowell is 37. Actor Sofia Black-D'Elia is 30. Rock singer Louis Tomlinson (One Direction) is 30.



AGNES

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ANDY CAPP

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ARCHIE

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ONE BIG HAPPY

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THE BARN

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Horoscopes By Holiday

FRIDAY DECEMBER 24, 2021

Saturn's Wild Card Christmas Eve

There's a wild card thrown into the cosmic deck this Christmas Eve with Saturn's angle to Uranus. Virgo moon is a player in this game too, offering diligence, attention to detail and the energy to work like Santa into the night. Surprises keep it interesting. Whatever comes is an opportunity to call on our better angels.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll get what you weren't quite ready for and it's brilliant... proof positive that you don't have to be perfectly prepared to be able to make the most of the moment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Authenticity is not something you can easily describe or define because it's different for each person and situation. But you know it when you see it and you feel it when you're in it. Honest goodness is the prevailing note today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The spotlight swings to you for good reason. You have demonstrated that you know what to do in its glow. You've earned this attention. Your practice is paying off. Enjoy it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Don't worry about who's better and who's best. As you find satisfaction with being good at something, loving and learning it, you feel rich indeed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Self-doubt is normal, especially right before the big moment. Dig a little deeper for the rock-solid kernel of confidence that prompted you to take a chance in the first place.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The opportunity of the day looks a lot like work, which of course it is. The opportunity of the day is work leading to more work followed by the deep, profound satisfaction of work well done.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Those who don't warm up to many people will feel safe around you. It's not so much what you say, but the way you say things. Your connection with people of different generations will be especially nice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have a strong inclination about how you should be spending these moments. Follow it. Don't get hoodwinked into thinking that the other people around you know better. Your way is best for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Whatever mood you strike, it gets magnified by the particulars of the day. So, start with joy. Just when you think you couldn't get any happier, you will.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The only way to

get the kinks out of your plan is to start working it. When the flow of productivity stops, it's the blessing that shows you what to fix. You'll fix it and continue.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Because solving problems makes you smarter, you don't see problems as frustrating. You see them as interesting little challenges, a point of view that will support your success.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You may have the impulse to save things that will not be of further use to you. If you're not totally convinced of the inherent value of something, discard it. Love it or lose it.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 24). As far as rides go, this year will be the exciting sort that people line up for, including climbs, swoops and thrilling twists. You'll have the most fun when you stay loose and yet well-aligned. A long process comes to a happy end. You'll be certified in some way. Surprises in your personal life bring out your best. Taurus and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 20, 16, 7 and 44.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: ARIES: A relationship grows closer or becomes more romantic. **TAURUS:** Promote yourself. Too much modesty will result in missed opportunity. **GEMINI:** It will do you no good to put a relationship on the back burner unless you also turn on the heat. **CANCER:** Pushy people can sometimes get you to do what they want but won't win your heart. Your generosity will flow with those who inspire it, not demand it. **LEO:** Lasting change happens in small increments. **VIRGO:** You know how to make others feel good and you'll use that skill to bring up your social stock. **LIBRA:** When what others do out of self-interest also happens to please you, it's a win-win. **SCORPIO:** Excitement builds up just being around a certain person. **SAGITTARIUS:** If you can agree about financial matters, you'll agree on many other things as well. **CAPRICORN:** The air of mystery you are cultivating is working very well for you. **AQUARIUS:** You're comfortable and you make others feel comfortable around you. **PISCES:** Ceremony and ritual will be significant. Don't take shortcuts, follow the tradition.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Capricorn and Virgo are a showstopping power couple this weekend. Wherever they go, the spotlight follows them, and they revel in the attention. How they treat each other and behave in front of friends is a major part of their flirting ritual. But

even when it's just the two of them, there's a special glow, as though they are stars lighting up the storyline of an epic romance.

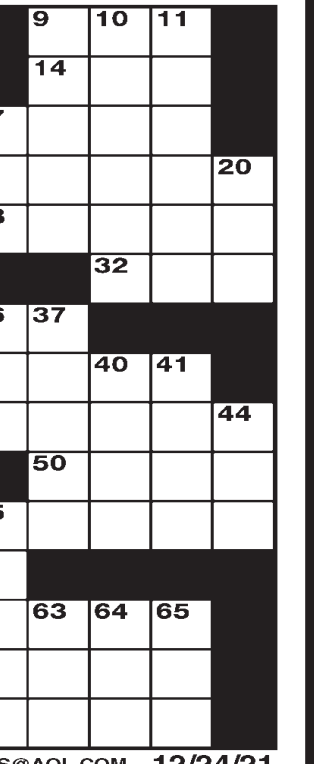
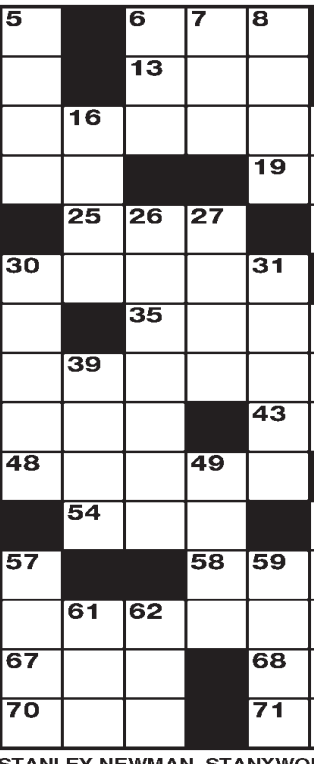
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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Second-longest African river
 - 6 Spread brand owned by Smucker's
 - 9 Vaccines.gov proprietor
 - 12 Live now
 - 13 Outmoded
 - 14 Site of the Tell legend
 - 15 Two of the crew
 - 18 Chaotic scene
 - 19 Summer hummer
 - 21 Crew boss
 - 25 Tulane rival
 - 28 One of the crew
 - 29 Sikorsky of aviation
 - 30 Whodunit story
 - 32 *Uno* less than *quattro*
 - 33 Took a second look at
 - 35 Arrays of options
 - 38 Two of the crew
 - 42 Isolated work groups
 - 43 Nintendo exergaming product
 - 45 Balky beast
 - 48 Steal away, in a way
 - 50 Latter-day top choice
 - 51 One of the crew
 - 54 GPS reading
 - 55 One of the crew
 - 56 It's in a nutshell
 - 58 Pinch hitter's aim
 - 60 Two of the crew
 - 66 Flock member
 - 67 Knowbefore-youfly.org partner
 - 68 Conversation starter or ender
- DOWN**
- 1 Mail order option
 - 2 "Sail __, Ship of State!"
 - 3 Side order with tandoori chicken
 - 4 Gucci's Tokyo locale
 - 5 Disk in many a lunchbox
 - 6 Piece of work
 - 7 Inauspicious
 - 8 Financial stability agcy.
 - 9 Incan Empire capital
 - 10 Earnestly imagined
 - 11 Ash fragment
 - 16 \$2 in nickels
 - 17 Quirky behavior
 - 20 Had something
 - 21 Rhyme for Burr in *Hamilton*
 - 22 Kept in a barrel, as bourbon
 - 23 Romance novelist Roberts
 - 24 Hair braid
 - 26 Springfield surname
 - 27 "Sign up to drive" site
 - 30 15-Grammy Brit
 - 31 Bowled over
 - 34 Sashimi fish
 - 36 Verse opener
 - 37 Works with wormholes
 - 39 Cameo, e.g.
 - 40 Page sent online
 - 41 Bank of France
 - 44 Euro denomination
 - 45 Sound of distress
 - 46 Upholstery material
 - 47 Stretch out carelessly
 - 49 9 Down's locale, today
 - 52 Deeply personal
 - 53 Safe Toys and Gifts Mo.
 - 55 Alto instrument
 - 57 Scrammed
 - 59 Party time, for short
 - 61 Scrammed
 - 62 Pack preceder or follower
 - 63 Propellant used by NASA
 - 64 Sorority letter
 - 65 Boasts

FLIGHT CREW by S.N.

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com



SUDOKU

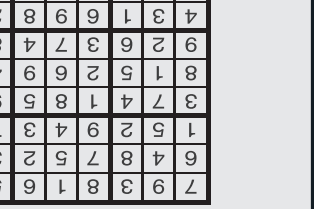


Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear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

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Today's Answers



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