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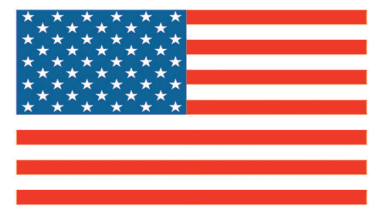
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Upcoming Events

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra will present "The Music of Queen" featuring Jeans 'n Classics, at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 22 at Big Spring High School Auditorium. Visit www.bigspringsymphony.org for more information.

Senior Citizens Dances are held the third Friday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The next dance is Jan. 21, 2022. Music will be Western style. Entry fee is \$5 and includes a snack. For more information call 517-9097.

+++
 Send announcements to editor@bigspringherald.com, or call 432-263-7331

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New Year Resolutions



Special to the Herald
 New Year's resolutions date back to over 4,000 years ago to ancient Babylon. The ancient Babylonians would hold a 12-day festival called Akitu. During this festival, they would plant crops, crown a new king, and promise the gods to pay

their debts and return any borrowed items. When making these promises to the gods, they believed that the gods would look favorably on them for the following year. If they break the promises, they thought they would be on the God's wrong side.

In ancient Rome, Emperor Julius Caesar introduced a new calendar in 46 B.C., making January 1 start the new year, making January 1 the beginning of the year honored Janus. Janus is a two-faced god who looks back into the previous year and the following year. The Romans would offer sacrifices to Janus and make promises of good behavior for the next year.

In the middle ages, knights would renew their vow to chivalry by placing their hands on a live or roasted peacock.

Today, we make resolutions to and for ourselves. We make resolutions for self-improvement and goals. Some common resolutions are losing weight, quitting smoking, and saving money.

Have a safe and happy New Year

Special to the Herald

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are two days where drunk driving happens more often. Over 50 percent of an accident on New Year's involves high blood alcohol levels.

Preventing drunk driving is essential every day but especially on holidays. Spend the night; if you are at a safe place, it is better to sleep it off than to risk driving home. Plan with designated drivers, a place to stay, and if you are with a group, then make sure everyone knows the plan and keep in contact. Use a rideshare app; if you are in a city where rideshare apps, like



Uber or Lyft, are available, use them instead of driving.

When going out, bring only what is needed. Remember your identification like an ID or passport, money, and a phone charger. Make sure that your phone stays charged.

Please pay attention to your drink and never take your eyes off of it. You never know what other people's intentions are when you go out, so keep your glasses close to you.

Remember, even if you are sober, that does not mean everyone else on the road is. Pay extra attention while driving and

stay safe. If you can, stay off the roads, but if you can't avoid it, then make sure to be sober and intelligent. Be smart and keep your life, friends' lives, and other people's lives safe. Think before you decide to get into a car.

New Year's traditions around the world

Special to the Herald

Each December 31st, people anxiously await and count down to the arrival of the new year. January 1 often is a time for reflection and for making future plans. It also is a holiday full of tradition.

Notable New Year's traditions include toasting champagne beneath skies lit up by fireworks, kissing one's sweetheart at midnight and making resolutions to better oneself in the year ahead.

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day traditions vary across the globe. The following is a look at the unique ways people ring in the new year throughout the world.

- Filipinos embrace round fruits for the new year. The custom includes gathering 12 different round fruits for each month of the year. The round shape symbolizes wealth and prosperity.

- Around Stonehaven, Scotland, people wield large fireballs for the Hogmanay festival on New Year's Eve. The idea is to ward off evil spirits by swinging balls of fires over the heads of trained professionals and then tossing them into the sea. The tradition has endured for more than 100 years.

- In the Eastern Orthodox

Greek Church, Christmas isn't celebrated until January 7. Aghios Vassilis, the

underneath frozen lakes. This "yolka" is said to symbolize the coming of Father Frost,



Greek Santa Claus, makes his rounds on New Year's Day.

- Chilean families celebrate the arrival of the new year by commemorating deceased friends and family members. It is common for those in Chile to set up chairs next to graves in the cemetery.

- Burmese people end the Thingyan water festival on New Year's Day. Since April, they have celebrated the arrival of Thagyamin, a celestial Buddhist figure, with the firing of water cannons. The water-logged revelry ends with the new year.

- Siberians celebrate the new year's with the planting of the "New Year's Tree"

but also represents starting over.

- Grapes are a hallmark of

Spanish New Year's celebrations. Throughout Spain, revelers gobble a grape per second as they count down the last 12 seconds of the year. Each grape corresponds to good luck for the 12 months of the new year.

- In Denmark, residents break old dishes on the doorsteps of family and friends on New Year's Day. The bigger the pile, the more friends and good will in the new year.

- In China, where the new year is celebrated on February 5 this year according to the lunar calendar, celebrants paint their doors red or hang red curtains or cutouts on windows to symbolize good luck.

HAPPY NEW YEAR'S! IT'S 2022!

RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR

THE TIMES SQUARE NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL DROP CAME ABOUT BECAUSE OF A BAN ON FIREWORKS. THE FIRST BALL IN 1907 WAS 700 POUNDS AND WAS LIT WITH 100 25-WATT LIGHTS.

TODAY, IT IS COVERED IN 2,688 CRYSTALS, IS LIT BY 32,000 LED LIGHTS, WEIGHS 11,875 POUNDS AND IS 12 FEET IN DIAMETER. LIKE THE TRADITIONAL BALL DROP IN NEW YORK, HER-SHEY, PA DROPS A GIANT KISS TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR. OTHER PENNSYLVANIA TOWNS HAVE TRADITIONS THAT PLAY OFF THEIR NAMES SUCH AS MECHANICSBURG, THEY DROP A WRENCH AND IN DILLSBURG, THEY DROP A PICKLE.

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Obituaries

Belva Jo (Wren) Hess



Belva Jo (Wren) Hess, 84, passed away quietly at home in San Antonio on Wednesday morning, Dec 15, 2021. She was born on Mar 22, 1937, to Bob and Mattie Wren in Big Spring, Texas.

She was a 1955 graduate of Big Spring High School and earned an Associate's Degree from Howard County Junior College. Belva met the love of her life, Stanley Hess, while he was stationed in Big Spring at Webb AFB for flight training. Life as an Air Force wife allowed her to travel the country and world. Belva and Stan lived in Selma, Alabama; Chandler, Arizona; San Antonio; Laredo; Del Rio; Glendale, Arizona; Woodbridge, England; San Antonio; Big Spring; Wichita Falls and back to San Antonio in 1973, where the family moved for a final time and remains in the same house to this day.

Belva and Stan loved traveling around the country to visit family and friends, which allowed them to see many beautiful areas of the United States. They and their family attended many Texas Longhorn and Texas Tech football games, including the 2005 Rose Bowl National Championship. She and Stan were there at Super VI when the Dallas Cowboys won their first Super Bowl. They supported the San Antonio Spurs from the team's beginning in 1973 and were season ticket holders for over 40 years, seeing them win five championships. Belva

loved her family and enjoyed gathering together with them. The household was a place where their kids' friends could find a safe, fun place to swim and hang out. She was very proud of being part of the Air Force family and proud of her and Stan's duty to their country.

As a fourth-generation Texan, Belva was proud of Texas and very proud of being a Texan. She always gave her love, strength, energy, and devotion to family, home, and faith throughout her life, and her legacy will always be with us.

Belva is survived by her husband Stanley; their son Wesley of Houston; daughter Nancy Carter and husband Preston of Dripping Springs; grandson Lt. Albert Carter and wife Melissa of Florida; granddaughter Cathy Carter of Dripping Springs; two great-grandchildren, McKenna Carter and Garrett Carter; sister Lana Overton of Carthage and countless extended family and friends.

Memorial services will be held at Windcrest United Methodist Church in Windcrest, Texas, on Tuesday, Jan 4, 2022, at 11:45 a.m., with a visitation and viewing from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Burial will follow at 1:15 p.m. at Fort Sam National Cemetery, with a reception afterward at Windcrest UMC. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Sunset Funeral Home, and online condolences can be made through www.sunsetfuneralhomesa.com. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memorial to Belva's name to Windcrest United Methodist Church at www.windcrestumc.org.

Paid Obituary

Oscar Lee Garcia,

Oscar Lee Garcia, 28, died Monday. Visitation will be Sunday 9 AM until 9 PM with vigil service at 7 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be Monday 10 AM at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

W A Burchel

W A Burchel, (Framer to his friends and family), 91 years old, went to his Heavenly home to be with his beloved wife, Maurene on Monday, December 27, 2021. Graveside memorial service will be held at a later date.

Helen Martinez

Helen Martinez, 91, of Big Spring died Tuesday, December 28, 2021. Services are pending at Myers

Jackie Ray Rinard

Jackie Ray Rinard, 87, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, December 29, 2021. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

popcorn and more. To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

- St. Vincent de Paul food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and other assistance will take place the third Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Both distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building.

- Interim HealthCare is looking for volunteers. Those who would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer can call 432-263-5999.

- VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out more information.

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

- 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, and answer a few questions to pick up food. The food pantry also has a Facebook page where they will post any updates. <https://www.facebook.com/healthynuggetsofgold44>.

- Senior Citizens Dances are held the third Friday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The next dance is Jan. 21, 2022. Music will be Western style. Entry fee is \$5 and includes a snack. 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.

- 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 November featured artist/special speaker will be Denise Malm. The next meeting is Nov. 20.

- The Big Spring Symphony is celebrating 40 years. Shows remaining this season include: Jan. 22: 'The Music of Queen' at Big Spring High School;

Take Note

Feb. 19 "Winter Wonderland"; and Spring Pops Concert on April 23. Venues for the February and April concerts will be announced at a later date. Tickets can be purchased in season passes or per concert. For updates and general information, follow The Big Spring Symphony Facebook page or go to www.bigspringsymphony.org.

- 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

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

Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services,

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“Our Legacy Is You”

Harry Reid remembered as a fighter, skilled Senate dealmaker

By **LAURIE KELLMAN** and **KEN RITTER**
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — He was an accomplished amateur boxer who'd rather dance. But Harry Reid was fond of reminding his opponents that he knew how to fight, too.

That skill took him far — from poverty in Searchlight, Nevada, to the pinnacle of the U.S. Senate.

"I don't have people saying 'he's the greatest speaker,' 'he's handsome,' 'he's a man about town,'" Reid told The New York Times in 2010 after a hard-fought reelection victory. "But I don't really care. I feel very comfortable with my place in history."

Reid, who died Tuesday at 82 after a four-year battle with pancreatic cancer, was one of Congress' most skilled negotiators, thriving on the behind-the-scenes wrangling that frustrated many of his predecessors. As majority leader from 2007 to 2015, he kept the Senate in Democratic hands through a volatile era of polarizing health care and economic policy, recession and war, and with a Republican and then a Democratic president.

"If Harry said he would do something, he did it," President Joe Biden said in a statement after the death of his longtime Senate colleague. "If he gave you his word, you could bank on it. That's how he got things done for the good of the country for decades."

Not a showman, Reid sometimes got in his own way on the national political stage. He once called President George W. Bush a "loser," criticized Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan as a "political hack" and misstated the condition of ailing Democratic Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, who was then dying of brain cancer. He apologized to President Barack Obama for calling him "light-skinned" and having "no Negro dialect, unless he wanted to have one."

Reid made an unproven political claim he refused to retract. During the 2012 presidential election he said on the Senate floor that GOP candidate and fellow Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints member Mitt Romney had not paid taxes for a decade. Romney denied that, and fact-checkers at the time found no evidence to support Reid's claim.

He was frequently underestimated. In his 2010 bid for reelection he looked like the underdog to tea party favorite Sharron Angle. Ambitious Democrats, assuming his defeat, began angling for his leadership post. But Reid defeated Angle, 50% to 45%.

Reid reluctantly retired rather than seek reelection in 2016 after an accident while he was exercising left him blind in one eye. His life after public office included a fellowship at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, law school and a role leading a new think tank at the school with former House Speaker John Boehner. The Ohio Republican and former congressional rival remembered Reid on Tuesday as "a fighter until the end."

Former President Bill Clinton, in a statement, called Reid "a canny and tough negotiator who was never afraid to make an unpopular decision if it meant getting something done that was right for the country." Obama released a letter he sent recently to Reid telling the ailing Democrat that "I wouldn't have been president if it hadn't been for your encouragement and support."

Reid was born Dec. 2, 1939, the son of an alcoholic hard-rock miner who killed himself at 58 and a mother who served as a laundress in a bordello. He grew up in a small cabin without indoor plumbing and swam with other children at a local brothel.

He hitchhiked to Basic High School in Henderson, 40 miles from his Searchlight home, where he met the woman he would marry, Landra Gould, in 1959; she and their five children survive him. At Utah State University, the couple became members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He put himself through George Washington University law school by working nights as a U.S. Capitol police officer.

At age 28, Reid was elected to the Nevada Assembly and at age 30 became the youngest lieutenant governor in Nevada history as Gov. Mike

O'Callaghan's running mate in 1970. Elected to the U.S. House in 1982 and 1984 and to the U.S. Senate from 1986, Reid served in Congress longer than anyone else in Nevada history. In 1998 he held off Republican Rep. John Ensign by 428 votes after a recount that stretched into January.

After his election as Senate majority leader in 2007, Reid was credited with putting Nevada on the political map by pushing to move the state's caucuses to February, at the start of presidential nominating season. That forced each national party to pour resources into a state which, while home to the country's fastest growth over the past two decades, still only had six votes in the Electoral College.

Reid's extensive network of campaign workers and volunteers twice helped deliver the state for Obama.

The most influential politician in Nevada for more than a decade, Reid steered hundreds of millions of dollars to the state and was credited with single-handedly blocking construction of a nuclear waste storage facility at Yucca Mountain outside Las Vegas.

He often went out of his way to defend social programs, calling Social Security "one of the great government programs in history" and championing suicide prevention with the story of his own father. He stirred controversy in 2010 when he said in a speech on the floor of the Nevada legislature it was time to end legal prostitution in the state.

Reid's political moderation meant he was never politically secure in his home state or entirely trusted in the increasingly polarized Senate. Democrats grumbled about his votes for the Iraq war resolution in 2002, for a ban on so-called partial-birth abortion and against resolutions endorsing Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

He also voted against most gun-control bills and in 2013, after the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre, dropped a proposed ban on assault weapons from the Democrats' gun control legislation. The package, he said, would not pass with the ban attached.

Reid's Senate particularly chafed members of the House, both Republicans and Democrats. When Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi muscled Obama's health care overhaul through the House in 2009, a different version passed the Senate and the reconciliation process floundered long enough for Republicans to turn it into an election-year weapon to demonize Pelosi and cast the legislation as a big-government power grab.

Obama signed the measure into law in March 2010. But angered by the Great Recession and inspired by the small-government tea party, voters swept Democrats from the House majority.

Reid hand-picked a Democratic candidate, former Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto, who won the election to replace him in 2016. He built a political machine in the state that helped Democrats win a series of key elections in 2016 and 2018.

On his way out of office, he repeatedly lambasted President Donald Trump, calling him at one point "a sociopath" and "a sexual predator who lost the popular vote and fueled his campaign with bigotry and hate."

Reid brushed off verbal tussles with the seen-it-all calm of a political veteran. After all, he had faced one of those before he ever got to Washington. As head of the Nevada Gaming Commission investigating organized crime, Reid became the target of a car bomb in 1980. Police called it an attempted homicide. Reid blamed Jack Gordon, who went to prison for trying to bribe him in a sting operation over illegal efforts to bring new games to casinos in 1978.

An accomplished amateur boxer in his teens, Reid often was seen ringside at title fights in Las Vegas. He said meeting Muhammad Ali was one of his greatest thrills. He also was a big baseball fan and could recite details about the careers of individual players.

His Mormon faith meant Reid sometimes sided with Nevada's social conservatives. Besides defending gun rights and opposing abortion, he said he believed marriage should be between a man and a woman but that states should decide whether it's legal for same-sex couples to marry.

On the other hand, Reid enjoyed strong support from environmentalists on most issues, earning praise for turning Nevada from one of the states with the least federally protected wilderness to one of the most during his tenure in the Senate.

Legislation he authored in 1986 established Nevada's first and only national park, Great Basin National Park on the Utah line. Reid also pushed Obama to create Basin and Range and Gold Butte national monuments in 2015 and 2016, protecting about 1 million acres of rugged desert, mountains and valleys.

In 1997, he persuaded Clinton and Vice President Al Gore to host an environmental summit at Lake Tahoe. Two decades later, he persuaded Obama to make a similar visit. Obama praised Reid's environmental efforts at the time and declared, "I could not have accomplished what I accomplished without him being at my side."

Reid waged an on-going battle against the coal industry and promoted renewable energy but frustrated conservationists by fending off federal mining law reforms opposed by his allies in Nevada's gold mining industry.

Following Reid's lengthy farewell address on the Senate floor in 2016, his Nevada colleague Republican Dean Heller declared: "It's been said that it's better to be feared than loved, if you cannot be both. And as me and my colleagues here today and those in the gallery probably agree with me, no individual in American politics embodies that sentiment today more than my colleague from Nevada, Harry Mason Reid."

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Oscar Lee Garcia, 28, died Monday. Visitation will be Sunday 9 AM until 9 PM with vigil service at 7 PM at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be Monday 10 AM at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

William "Farmer" Burchell, 91, died Monday. Graveside Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

Jackie Ray Rinard, 87, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Helen Martinez, 91, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Praise & Worship Guide

We invite you to visit the featured church this week, or find a new church home in the listings below.

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263-4242**CENTRAL BAPTIST
CHURCH**5108 Nichols Rd.,
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BAPTIST**201 South Ave.,
Coahoma
394-4990**COLLEGE BAPTIST**1105 Birdwell Ln.
267-7429**CRESTVIEW
BAPTIST**

Gatesville St. 213-4177

**EAST SIDE
BAPTIST**1108 E. 6th
267-1915**FIRST BAPTIST**705 W. FM 700
267-8223**FIRST BAPTIST OF
KNOTT**

Knott

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401 E. 14th

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Luther, TX 270-0594**CIRCUIT RIDER
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Church News

NazFamily Church

This Sunday
As we stand at the beginning of a new year, there are many unknowns that await us; many "what ifs". Some fill us with excitement, others that may cause some trepidation. And yet, as Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Faith is taking the first step, even when you can't see the whole staircase." We walk by faith into this new year knowing that God-with-us will never leave us, nor forsake us even to the very end of the age. Join us this Sunday as we start the new year On Target!

Men's Breakfast
Start off 2022 headed in the right direction. Join us for our Men's Prayer Breakfast on New Year's Day, Saturday, January 1st @ 8:00am. It is a great time of food, fellowship, and faith building together.

Holiday Hours
The Church Office will be closed on December 30 - 31 for the holidays. There will also be no regular MidWeek Service this week.

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

God, please bless this new Year 2022. 2021 has closed its doors and opened 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 January 2, 2022, 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 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. You can find us live online at facebook.com/CCCBigSpring or at Cornerstone Covenant Church Live on YouTube (look for the CCC logo).

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

Sunday, January 2nd-- HAPPY NEW YEAR & WELCOME TO 2022! You made it. Are you ready? Which direction are you going? How will you get there? Are you going the right direction?

One thing that is inevitable in our lives is the responsibility of "Decision" making. CCC wants to assist you and your family & friends with some practical principles that will set you up for success in this new year.

Join us Sunday, January 2nd at 9:30am or 11:00am as we start the new year seeking wisdom from God's Word on how to trust God's leading and His direction in 2022 in our first series of the New Year entitled "DECISIONS: Choose Wisely The Road You Take". We look forward to seeing you soon. #newyear2022 #decisions #choosewisely #ccc #whereisyourcompass

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.

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

Worship services January 2nd begin at 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary at 8th and Runnels. Our Scripture readings will be Psalm 147:12-20, Jeremiah 31:9-10; Ephesians 1:3-14. Rev. Allen Cross will be preaching a sermon entitled: You've Got Blessings. 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 10 week DVD study by Adam Hamilton called "Words of Life." What if the Ten commandments were not understood as rigid, ancient rules but a guide for experiencing a good life today, given by a loving, protecting God who brings order out of chaos? Hamilton brings contemporary eyes to history's most important set of ethics. Vicki Miller and Helen Glass are leading the study.

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

Presbyterian Women will resume meeting on January 25th and will be looking at lesson 3 of Merryl Blair's "What My Grandmothers Taught Me" which takes lessons from Matthew's genealogy of Jesus.

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 Ladies, you are invited to join us every Wednesday at noon for our Seek Prayer Group. The Zoom

See **CHURCH**, page 6



**Join us for our monthly
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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.*

Thanks to our community for your trust in us.

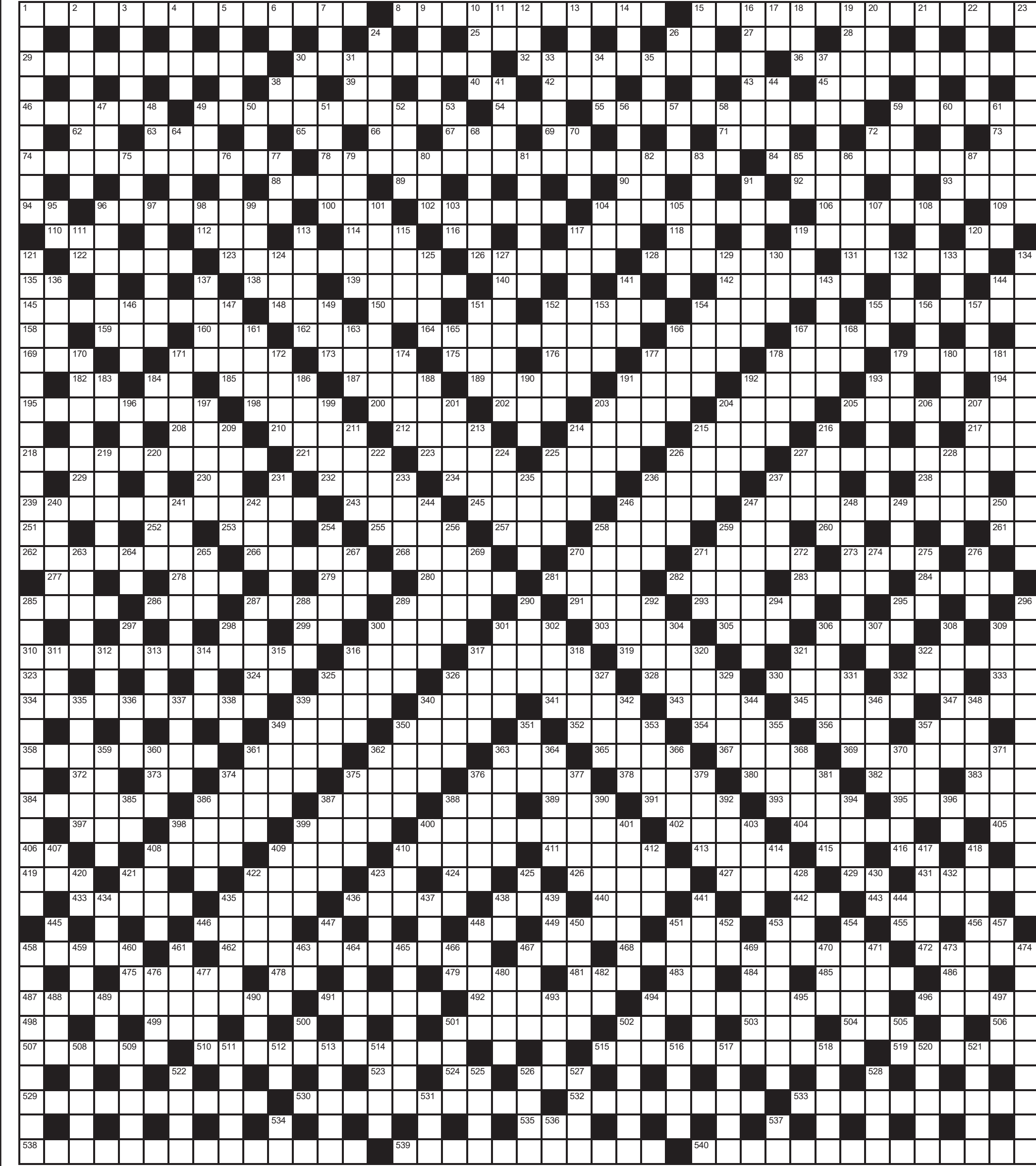


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ANNUAL MAMMOTH CROSSWORD PUZZLE

More than 200 clues in this puzzle reflect some of the past year's news events, anniversaries and pop culture occurrences. We saw billionaires in space and watched hosts rotate through Jeopardy!, while saying farewell to Lou Grant, a Rolling Stones drummer and many more. At the same time, birthdays and celebrations were plentiful. Siri turned 10, Sting hit 70 and Cher celebrated her 75th. These are just a few of the events that inspired clues in this puzzle. Sharpen your pencil and enjoy. See the answers on Tuesday, January 4, 2022.



- 1 Captain Kirk turned 90 and went to space, for real (7,7)
8 Jeopardy! champ who became 1st temporary show host (3,8)
15 He became 1st billionaire to go to space in his own rocket (7,7)
26 Digital currency named after 19th century mathematician (3)
25 Bachelor of Arts; abbr. (2)
27 Set one's sights (3)
28 ___Paul's Drag Race won Emmy for best competition show (2)
29 Kim ___ started hanging with Pete Davidson (10)
30 This billionaire's SpaceX co. hit \$100 billion valuation (4,4)
32 This Jeff Bezos space co. sent its 1st crewed mission to space in July (4,6)
36 TV hit Squid Game is accused of this 'copying' misdeed (10)
38 ___ Rainey's Black Bottom drew acclaim (2)
39 Symbol for the chemical element Nickel (2)
40 Movie about 'phone home' alien 1st televised (30 yrs ago) (2)
42 Country with most medals at Summer Olympics (3)
43 Prosecutor for the state (2)
45 Texting abbr. for Oh, I see (3)
46 Tennessee country songstress turned 75 (6)
49 Sound of Music's ___ Plummer died at 91 (11)
54 Joggled (3)
55 Socialite turned 40, got married and landed a reality cooking show (5,6)
59 John ___ won Grammy for best R&B album (6)
62 State (abbr.) that hosted real life Field of Dreams game (2)
63 Psychoanalytic subject; one's sense of self (3)
65 Baby talk for 'thanks' (2)
66 Bjork did musical adaptation of a poem by ___ Cummings (1,1)
67 Equal employment opportunity; abbr. (3)
69 Support group for those with drinking problems (2)
71 ___ to Billy Joe released as movie 45 yrs ago (3)
72 Symbol for the element iron (2)
73 ___ Paso or Salvador (2)
74 A spy working both sides (6,5)
78 Jimmy Stewart Xmas classic turned 75 (3,1,9,4)
84 The royal family of this Arab country is worth \$1.4 trillion (5,6)
88 Improve (4)
89 J.D. Derr's stock symbol (2)
90 A Netflix mystery drama canceled 2 yrs ago; The ___ (2)
92 Non-profit radio group, headquartered in Washington (3)
93 Stop or yield traffic instruction (4)
94 Weird ___ Yankovic made 1st TV appearance 40 yrs ago (2)
96 He won his 5th Super Bowl MVP award (3,5)
100 Explosive (3)
102 An unannounced visit (4,2)
104 ___ Buccaneers won Super Bowl LV (5,3)
106 Raises a glass to someone (6)
109 High quality picture TV (2)
110 TV show ___ 54, Where Are You? debuted 60 yrs ago (1)
112 Balloon filler (3)
114 Raiders of the Lost ___ was highest grossing film 40 yrs ago (3)
116 Trudeau in Canada or Johnson in Britain (2)
117 Plum's center (3)
118 I know; abbr. (2)
119 Audience noises of disapproval (4)
120 This is ___ announced last season (2)
122 Milwaukee ___ took the NBA championship (5)
123 Tampa Bay ___ won 3rd Stanley Cup (9)
126 Atlanta ___ won the World Series (6)
128 She became Grammys' most awarded female artist (7)
131 The Queen's husband, Prince ___ died in April (6)
135 Regarding, abbr. (2)
138 Goff's goal (3)
139 Coin toss: heads or ___ (5)
140 State of being verb (2)
142 Ravioli, penne and spaghetti (6)
144 Ma's counterpart (2)
145 Actor Rami Malek has an ___ twin (9)
148 Twosome (3)
150 Texting abbr.; Nothing to add (3)
151 Road; abbr. (2)
152 Prickly part of rose (5)
154 Actress ___ Mazar guest starred in The Other Two (4)
155 James Tyler, who played this barista on Friends, died in Oct. (7)
158 Friday expression: ___ IF (2)
159 Vietnamese Lunar New Year (3)
160 A joke (3)
162 I written web post (4)
164 It was 80th anniversary of this substance, which masks world agency turned (9)
166 ___ Fonda won Golden Globe's DeMille Award (4)
167 Survivor's ___ Probst turned 60 (4)
169 Actor ___ Beatty, who appeared in 160-plus films, died in June (3)
171 ___ Dern will return to the Jurassic Park franchise (5)
173 20 yrs ago ___ Eamhardt killed in Daytona 500 crash (4)
175 Actor ___ Holbrook died in Jan. at 95 (3)
176 Gorilla (3)
177 Apple's Steve ___ died 10 yrs ago (4)
178 Two out of two (4)
179 Finished just off the podium (6)
182 Not out (2)
184 A light-ending and winning criterion in boxing (2)
185 This Jonas brother hosted Billboard Music Awards (4)
187 Overhaul (4)
189 Harvests (5)
191 Homer Simpson common interjections (4)
192 Opposite of a business profit (4)
193 A short laugh (2)
194 Police abbr. for rescue ambulance (2)
195 This California natural park now takes visitor reservations (8)
198 Female powerhouse received Billboard Icon Award (4)
200 Apple voice assistant turned 10 (4)
202 Bro's counterpart (3)
203 These filmmaker brothers are rewriting Scarface (4)
204 Political commentator ___ Limbaugh died at age 70 (4)
205 This Caribbean country elected its 1st president, a Black woman (8)
208 An island state of Australia; abbr. (3)
210 Cheadle and Johnson (4)
212 Scotch, masking or duct (4)
214 TV's Dr. ___ had his 3,000th episode (4)
215 Phoenix ___ lost in NBA finals (4)
217 Same old, same old (3)
218 This agency turned 60; it sends young adults around body odor (9)
221 Not strong (4)
222 Salt Cell's Tainted ___ was huge hit 40 yrs ago (4)
225 Italian co. that won small car of the year award in U.K. (4)
226 Ding ___ the witch is dead (4)
227 ___ Bridge was designated part of U.S. Bicycle Route 95 (6,4)
229 Symbol for the element Iridium (2)
230 Initials of Motley Crue drummer (2)
232 40 yrs ago, hit of the year was Kim Carnes' 'Bette Davis' (4)
234 Divided up, shared (7)
236 Greek king of the gods (4)
237 A sandy island on the surface of a coral reef (3)
238 The ___ de Triomphe was wrapped as part of self installation (3)
239 Princess Diaries actress will star in upcoming Sesame Street movie (4,8)
243 Boy band N ___ had its 1st hit (in Germany) 25 yrs ago (4)
245 Depends on (5)
246 Farmer in the ___ (4)
247 This 'modern' music festival started 30 yrs ago (12)
251 Internet domain code for Romania (2)
252 Initials of Mr. Bean actor (2)
253 Black gunk (3)
255 Of course (4)
257 Network search engine; abbr. (3)
258 Abominable Snowman (4)
259 ___ Smoke was Billboard's top rap male artist (3)
260 Common abbr. for example (2)
261 Abbr. for augmented reality (2)
262 Rocky star turned 75 (8)
266 Legal drama about NYC firm, debuted 10 yrs ago (5)
268 Vince ___ won Grammy for best country solo (4)
270 Facebook's new company name (4)
271 Video game of the year in several competitions (5)
273 Baby's Mount ___ erupted dozens of times this year (4)
277 A remote controlled character in Toy Story (2)
278 Slang term for leg (3)
279 What we download on our phones (3)
280 Almost ten (4)
281 China began bottling Coca ___ 40 yrs ago (4)
282 Arcade game Donkey ___ released 40 yrs ago (4)
283 Suspender-wearing TV host Larry ___ died at age 87 (4)
284 Actress Natalie ___ died 40 yrs ago (4)
285 ___ do-well; an irresponsible person (4)
286 Game terminal, usually found in bars (3)
287 Baseball Hall of Fame manager ___ Lasorda died in Jan. (5)
289 Awestruck (4)
291 Radar signal (4)
293 British musician, ex-Police member, turned 70 (5)
295 Abbr. for oersted, a unit of magnetic field strength (2)
298 Pirate's expression (2)
299 A record with fewer tracks than an LP, but more than a single (2)
300 Guitar part (4)
301 Preschooler (3)
303 Thick piece (4)
305 Central bank of Switzerland (3)
306 Movie about Citizen Kane got an Oscar nomination (4)
309 Opposite of NW in navigation (2)
310 Godfather actor who turned 90 (6,6)
316 Gave money to cover a bill (4)
317 Be ready for (5)
319 Jazz improve (4)
321 Internet country code for Germany (2)
322 Rolling Stones drummer Charlie ___ died at 80 (5)
323 A megabyte; abbr. (2)
324 A birth certificate, driver's license or passport (2)
325 Harrison ___ was listed as the richest actor, 20 yrs ago (4)
326 Actor famous for playing Lou Grant died at 91 (2,5)
328 Brazilian soccer legend turned 81 (4)
330 Barbie's boyfriend turned 60 (3)
332 Time standard based on Earth's rotation; abbr. (2)
334 Actor with last appearance on NCIS, after 18 yrs (4,6)
339 Alabama Crimson Tide won ___ Bowl (4)
340 Boys (4)
341 Tis a pity! (4)
343 S.N.L.'s ___ McKinnon got another Emmy nomination (4)
345 Pandemic disease that changed the world over past 2 yrs (5)
347 Charged particles (4)
349 Sulk (4)
350 Quarterback's option (4)
352 Told a whopper (4)
354 Protective gear in many sports (4)
356 NASA's network of ground stations (3)
357 ___ the fields we go (3)
358 Scorsese's ___ thriller turned 30 (4,4)
361 Chris Hemsworth will play this superhero again in new movie (4)
362 The Amazing ___ debuted 20 yrs ago (4)
363 Buddy (3)
365 Singer ___ Diamond turned 80 (4)
367 Assistance (4)
369 Country that hosted huge climate conference in Nov. (8)
372 One of 2 spellings for this tool used to chop wood (2)
373 Signing a ___ agreement means parties won't disclose details (2)
374 Reality show Top ___ turned 15 (4)
375 The ___ Van Dyke show debuted on TV 60 yrs ago (4)
376 Suez ___ was blocked by a stuck container ship in March (5)
378 Opposite of nights (4)
380 This space agency announced two future missions to Venus (4)
382 Human performance technology; abbr. (3)
383 Little piggy (3)
384 Driven out (6)
386 Take out of the freezer (4)
387 Floppy ___ was invented 50 yrs ago (4)
388 Yellowfin tuna (3)
389 Word for expressing pleasure or excitement, added to dictionary in 2017 (3)
391 Oodles (4)
393 Kanye ___ won Grammy for Christian album (4)
395 Cowboy competitions (6)
397 Attempt (3)
398 Three of these make a yard (4)
399 Oak, elm or fir (4)
400 Mega coffee shop co. opened 50 yrs ago (9)
402 Must have (4)
404 A boreal forest or snow forest (5)
405 Australian territory home to Uluru/Ayers Rock; abbr. (2)
406 Weatherman ___ Roker launched a cooking podcast (2)
408 Scratch (4)
409 Honey drink (4)
410 The Zone, Keto and South Beach (5)
411 Mountain tops (5)
413 Slinger. J. Bibe turned 50 (4)
415 Play net; texting abbr. for Haiti (2)
416 Internet country code for Haiti (2)
419 Bay City Rollers singer ___ McKeown died at 65 (3)
421 A negative answer (2)
422 Crooned (4)
423 Third note of a major scale (2)
424 As Good ___ It Gets (2)
426 Beer mug (5)
427 Bryan hosted Country Music Assoc. Awards (4)
428 365 days; abbr. (2)
429 TV studio sign, while broadcasting occurs (2,3)
430 ___ Judd was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame (5)
433 Brewery tanks (4)
435 Sales of pants made from this material dipped, while comfy pants ruled (5)
436 Billboard's top male artist was ___ Weekend (3)
440 And so on (3)
442 Carrie Underwood's album ___ Gift received acclaim (2)
443 Computer key (5)
446 Tom Hiddleston reprised this Marvel character for a new series (4)
448 It keeps homes and cars cool (2)
449 A flat, thin round object (4)
451 Musician ___ Dylan turned 80 (3)
452 A solidifier for paint (3)
455 To ___ or not to be (2)
456 ___ Comics has produced 28 feature films (2)
458 The Goldbergs' George ___ died at 87 (5)
462 Theme park Walt ___ turned 50 (6,5)
467 ___ Rahn was No. 1 golfer in world (3)
468 1st movie about Rowling's boy wizard released 20 yrs ago (5,6)
472 The third month of the year (5)
475 Lively, especially for a walk (5)
478 Street; abbr. (2)
479 ___ Siwa got 1st same sex dance partner on DWTS (4)
481 ___ Poebler co-hosted Golden Globes (3)
483 A key hospital staffer (2)
484 Operating system; abbr. (2)
485 Composer ___ Stravinsky died 50 yrs ago (4)
486 Symbol for the element Lutetium (2)
487 Art Deco skyscraper in Manhattan completed 90 yrs ago (6,5)
491 ___frutti (5)
492 This two-piece swimsuit turned 75 (6)
494 25 yrs ago, this Mel Gibson film was Oscar's best pic (10)
496 ___ Cowell is writing seven kids' books with his son (5)
498 Gigabyte; abbr. (2)
499 Hush-hush American gov't. group (3)
501 Peaceful (6)
502 Sounds like two or too (2)
503 Slang term for leg (3)
504 Startled cry; yikes! (3)
506 The U.S. Open women's tennis champ is from here (2)
507 The face of a building (6)
510 Gavin MacLeod, who died in May, was captain of this TV cruise ship (3,4,4)
515 ___ Madie or Nevada (4)
519 Golden Bond released 40 yrs ago (2)
523 Meditation chant (2)
524 ___choy (3)
529 Original writer of James Bond series (which got a new author this year) (3,7)
530 System of plastic containers, for food storage, turned 75 (10)
532 Sales of this type of car continued to soar (8)
533 His Last Week Tonight show won an Emmy (4,6)
535 ___ Lioata took a role in the Sopranos prequel (3)
538 ___ Stars had its 30th season (7,4,3)
539 This animated family had its 700th TV episode (3,8)
540 Beagle who died 20 yrs ago (6,8)
541 This free online encyclopedia turned 20 (9)
542 Roman shrine to guardian spirits (8)
543 State that produces one-third of America's potatoes (5)
545 ___ Lions since Jay ___ got 1st major role, in Jerry Maguire (4)
546 ___ Ledger starred in Monster's Ball 20 yrs ago (5)
547 From Here ___ Eternity was Oscar's best picture 67 yrs ago (2)
548 Electric fish (3)
549 Avoid (5)
550 Gyllenhaal will star in upcoming film about The Godfather (4)
551 Colbert returned to live shows at the ___ Sullivan Theater (2)
552 Apprehend (3)
553 Informal acknowledgments of debt (4)
554 Moo ___ gal pan (3)
555 Fits of anger (3)
556 Honest (6)
557 Short form of hello (2)
558 Like a bug in a rug (4)
559 The pipe that carries water out of the sink (5)
560 Catherine ___ Jones joined cast of Prodigal Son (4)
561 Words of wisdom (5)
562 Parisian river that saw many riverside kiosks close, due to economy (5)
563 Oscar's best film of the year (9)
564 Wesley ___ got role in Netflix's True Story (6)
566 Prefix meaning two (2)
567 Where the sun rises (4)
568 Yoko ___ wished John 'Happy Birthday' on Instagram (3)
569 Pertaining to the moon (5)
574 Employee assistance program; abbr. (3)
575 Resting heart rate; abbr. (3)
577 Admire someone (4,2,2)
578 State that borders four of the five Great Lakes; abbr. (2)
581 Trampled (4)
582 Guinness and others (4)
583 Bar bill (3)
584 Maiden name (3)
586 A tooth on a wheel (3)
590 Howard is directing a film about the Thai cave rescue of a soccer team (3)
591 Tarnish (5)
592 On top of your neck (4)
593 ___ Speedwagon started touring again (3)
596 Financially solvent (6)
597 Three, in Roman numerals (3)
598 Garden tool (3)
599 Sets an example for others to follow (5)
600 Virginia is one state that fully legalized this drug this year (5)
287 Feucht, commuter or high speed (5)
288 Lethal Weapon actor ___ Gibson turned 65 (3)
289 Parched (4)
290 Feathery scarves (4)
292 Walk back and forth (4)
294 Shortened form of Latin phrase, meaning 'note well' or 'important' (2)
295 Expression of agreement (2)
296 Musical about rival gangs adapted by Spielberg (4,4,5)
297 Physician (2)
298 Shortened form of audio visual (2)
300 Bus ticket (4)
301 ___ the night before Christmas (4)
302 ___ Fey was exec producer on new show GirlsSeva (4)
304 Endorse (4)
306 Cantaloupe or honeydew (5)
307 This Garden State decriminalized pot in Feb; abbr. (2)
308 Actor ___ Craig shot his last James Bond movie (6)
309 Leave speechless (4)
311 A Japanese aromatic vegetable (3)
312 Antlered animal (3)
313 ___ la la (3)
314 German town that's home to church with tallest steeple in world (3)
315 Larry David's nickname on Curb Your Enthusiasm (2)
316 Rapper/singer ___ Malone got 9th Grammy nomination (4)
317 Combines (4)
318 Tattle (4)
320 Original release of The Parent ___ movie turned 60 (4)
321 Month marking the 2nd anniversary of current coronavirus discovery (3)
322 The Way ___ Were (2)
325 Number of World Series titles Atlanta has won (4)
326 ___ on Down the Road (4)
327 Drops from the sky (4)
329 State with bid for future Winter Olympics (4)
331 The nights before Christmas and New Year's (4)
332 Singer ___ lang released 'mukewer', an album of dance remixes (2)
335 Meal or banquet (6)
336 Math shorthand for Highest Common Factor (3)
337 Go through volumes (4)
338 Expression of pain (2)
339 Father of the ___ was highest grossing film 50 yrs ago (4)
340 Deficiency (4)
342 Gardner's spring purchase (4)
344 I Dream of Jeannie star Barbara ___ turned 90 (4)
346 Ruler unit (4)
348 Give a speech (5)
349 Expression of relief (4)
350 To put items in a suitcase (4)
351 Newsman ___ Rafter turned 90 (3)
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624 All square (4)
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Pope's 3 key words for a marriage: 'Please, thanks, sorry'

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

ROME — Pope Francis sought Sunday to encourage married couples, acknowledging that the pandemic has aggravated some family problems but urging couples to seek help and always remember three key words in a marriage: "Please, thanks and sorry." Francis penned a letter to married couples that was released Sunday, a Catholic feast day commemorating Jesus' family. It came halfway through a yearlong celebration of the family announced by Francis that is due to conclude in June with a big family rally in Rome.

Speaking at his studio window Sunday, Francis said he intended the letter to be his "Christmas present to married couples." He urged them to keep having children to fight the "demographic winter" which, in Italy, has led to one of the lowest birthrates

in the world.

"Maybe we aren't born into an exceptional, problem-free family, but our family is our story — everyone has to think: It's my story," he said. "They are our roots: If we cut them, life dries up!"

In the letter, Francis said lockdowns and quarantines had forced families to spend more time together. But he noted that such enforced togetherness at times tested the patience of parents and siblings alike and in some cases led to real difficulties.

"Pre-existing problems were aggravated, creating conflicts that in some cases became almost unbearable. Many even experienced the breakup of a relationship," Francis wrote.

He offered his closeness to those families and reminded parents that the breakup of a marriage is particularly hard on children, who look to their parents as a constant source of

stability, love, trust and strength.

"The breakdown of a marriage causes immense suffering, since many hopes are dashed, and misunderstandings can lead to arguments and hurts not easily healed," he said. "Children end up having to suffer the pain of seeing their parents no longer together."

He urged parents to keep seeking help to try to overcome conflicts, including through prayer. "Remember also that forgiveness heals every wound," he said.

He repeated a refrain he has often used when meeting with families and married couples, listing the three most important words in a marriage: "Please, thanks and sorry."

Picking up the theme in his remarks to tourists and passers-by in St. Peter's Square, Francis said a failure to make peace before going to bed at night can lead to a "cold war" the

next morning.

"How many times, unfortunately, conflicts originate within the domestic walls due to prolonged periods of silence and from unchecked selfishness!" he said. "Sometimes it even ends up in physical and moral violence. This lacerates harmony and kills the family."

He urged families to put down their cellphones at the dinner table and talk. "It's sad to see a family at lunch, each one with his or her own cell phone not speaking to one another, everyone talking to the mobile phone," he said.

Then when an argument breaks out, each one repeats their refrains "staging a comedy they've already seen where everyone wants to be right and in the end a cold silence falls. That sharp, cold silence, after a family discussion, is ugly, so very ugly!" he said.

CHURCH

Continued on from page 5

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

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS Second Sunday after Christmas



SUNDAY MORNING 10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY NIGHT 7 PM
1004 JOHNSON ST
WWW.GOLIFECHURCH.NET

Jan. 2, 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 Roever or the church office, please call (432) 264-7818, or e-mail us at aliveinchristx@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.

Please come and join us.

The readings for this Sunday are 1 Kings 3:4-15, Eph.1: 3-14, and Luke 2: 40-52. The psalm is Psalm 119: 97-104.

Dolline Budke 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 welcomes all to

Alive in Christ
Lutheran Church - LCMS
Celebrating & sharing God's love & grace in our lives

We invite you to join our Worship Service this Sunday!
Or us join virtually at [AliveInChrist Facebook Page](#)

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30am
Worship: 10:30am

Wednesday Night Supper: 5:30pm
Bible Study: 6:30pm

2805 Lynn Dr. • (432) 264-7818

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.



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DON'T DRINK & DRIVE



One drink here, another there... No big deal, right? **WRONG!** All it takes is just a couple of drinks to affect the body. The more alcohol consumed, the worse the effect on the body and the more compromised the ability to drive becomes.

Be aware of the effects alcohol can have on your body.
Drink in moderation this holiday season and don't drive impaired.

**A FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM
THESE LOCAL MERCHANTS THIS
HOLIDAY SEASON!**

Choose your ride.
Drink. Drive. Go to Jail.

CITY OF
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**Be Smart...
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Happy Holidays from
the Herald Team!
(432) 263-7331 710 Scurry St.

Alive in Christ
Lutheran Church

Don't Drink & Drive!

DON'T WRECK THE HOLIDAYS.

OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD,
ALMOST 4,000 PEOPLE DIED
IN DRUNK DRIVING CRASHES
DURING DECEMBER.

2805 Lynn Dr. **(432) 264-7818**

**Going Out Tonight?
So are we ...**

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3613 W. Hwy. 80 (432) 264-2550

**Please be safe
this holiday season.**

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**BE SMART and BE SAFE
this HOLIDAY SEASON!**

**DON'T
DRINK & DRIVE!**

20.1% of responders aged 35-44 know someone who has been killed in a drunk-driving accident. 37.4% of college-age responders believed they were fit to drive after 3 or 4 drinks.

"Who will be taking you home tonight?"

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DRIVE THRU**
LIQUOR, BEER AND WINE
710 W. Marcy
432-517-4069

**BUCKEASY'S
BY BIG MIKE**
BEER AND WINE
1700 S. Gregg
432-267-2825

FEATURES

Today in History

Today is Friday, Dec. 31, the 365th and final day of 2021.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 31, 2019, the health commission in the central Chinese city of Wuhan announced that experts were investigating an outbreak of respiratory illness and that most of the victims had visited a seafood market in the city; the statement said 27 people had become ill with a strain of viral pneumonia and that seven were in serious condition.

On this date:

In 1775, during the Revolutionary War, the British repulsed an attack by Continental Army generals Richard Montgomery and Benedict Arnold at Quebec; Montgomery was killed.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed an enabling act paving the way for Virginia's

western counties to become the state of West Virginia, which took place in June 1863.

In 1879, Thomas Edison first publicly demonstrated his electric incandescent light by illuminating some 40 bulbs at his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey.

In 1904, New York's Times Square saw its first New Year's Eve celebration, with an estimated 200,000 people in attendance.

In 1946, President Harry S. Truman officially proclaimed the end of hostilities in World War II.

In 1972, Major League baseball player Roberto Clemente, 38, was killed when a plane he chartered and was traveling on to bring relief supplies to earthquake-devastated Nicaragua crashed shortly after takeoff from Puerto Rico.

In 1974, private U.S. citizens were allowed to buy and own gold for the first time in more than 40 years.

In 1978, Taiwanese diplomats struck their colors for the final time from the embassy flagpole in Washington, D.C., marking the end of diplomatic relations with the United States.

In 1985, singer Rick Nelson, 45, and six other people were killed when fire broke out aboard a DC-3 that was taking the group to a New Year's Eve performance in Dallas.

In 1986, 97 people were killed when fire broke out in the Dupont Plaza Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico. (Three hotel workers later pleaded guilty in connection with the blaze.)

In 1999, Russian President Boris Yeltsin announced his resignation (he was succeeded by Vladimir Putin).

In 2010, tornadoes fueled by unusually warm air pummeled the South and Midwest, kill-

ing a total of eight people in Arkansas and Missouri.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama signed a wide-ranging defense bill into law despite having "serious reservations" about provisions that regulated the detention, interrogation and prosecution of suspected terrorists. A NASA probe fired its engine and slipped into orbit around the moon in the first of two back-to-back arrivals over the New Year's weekend.

Five years ago: Mariah Carey ushered in 2017 with a botched performance on "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest" on ABC; Carey blamed the show's producers for technical difficulties, while Dick Clark Productions called Carey's claims "absurd." Actor William Christopher, best known for playing Father Francis Mulcahy on the TV series "M.A.S.H.," died in Pasadena, California, at age 84.

One year ago: Around the world on New Year's Eve, pan-

democratic restrictions on open air gatherings saw people turning to virtual celebrations or makeshift-TV fireworks displays. In New York's Times Square, the ball dropped as always, but police fenced off the site to prevent crowds from gathering. Authorities arrested a suburban Milwaukee pharmacist suspected of deliberately ruining hundreds of doses of coronavirus vaccine by removing them from refrigeration. (Steven Brandenburg, an admitted conspiracy theorist who believed vaccines were the product of the devil, would be sentenced to three years in prison.) Britain completed its economic break from the European Union. Stocks ended the year at record highs, even after a breathtaking nosedive in the markets in the spring as the coronavirus took hold. Former U.S. attorney general and Pennsylvania Gov. Dick Thornburgh died at a retirement community near Pittsburgh; he was 88.

Today's Birthdays: TV producer George Schlatter is 92. Actor Sir Anthony Hopkins

is 84. Actor Tim Considine (TV: "My Three Sons") is 81. Actor Sarah Miles is 80. Rock musician Andy Summers is 79. Actor Sir Ben Kingsley is 78. Producer-director Taylor Hackford is 77. Fashion designer Diane von Furstenberg is 75. Actor Tim Matheson is 74. Pop singer Burton Cummings is 74. Actor Joe Dallesandro is 73. Rock musician Tom Hamilton (Aerosmith) is 70. Actor James Remar is 68. Actor Bebe Neuwirth is 63. Actor Val Kilmer is 62. Singer Paul Westerberg is 62. Actor Don Diamont is 59. Rock musician Ric Ivanisevich (Oleander) is 59. Rock musician Scott Ian (Anthrax) is 58. Actor Gong Li is 56. Author Nicholas Sparks is 56. Actor Lance Reddick is 52. Pop singer Joe McIntyre is 49. Rock musician Mikko Siren (Apocalyptica) is 46. Donald Trump Jr. is 44. Rapper PSY (Park Jae-sang) is 44. Rock musician Bob Bryar is 42. Rock musician Jason Sechrist (Portugal. The Man) is 42. Actor Ricky Whittle is 42. Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., is 42.

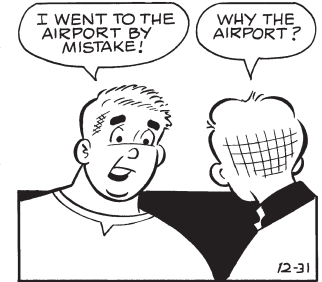
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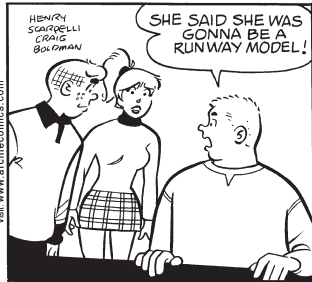
ANDY CAPP



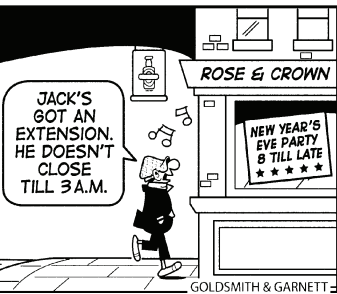
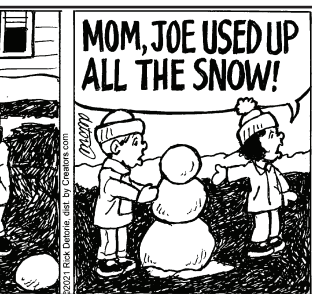
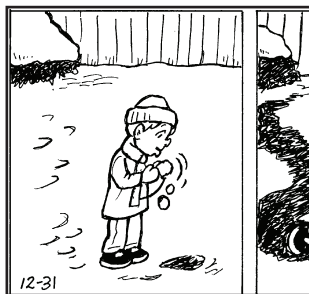
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ONE BIG HAPPY



THE BARN



Horoscopes By Holiday

FRIDAY DECEMBER 31, 2021

Sagittarius Moon Rules the Countdown

The raucous Sagittarian moon rules this year's New Year's Eve countdown, a fire sign placement sure to turn the party up as the ball comes down. Sagittarian lunar energy is adventurous and friendly, sophisticated and sometimes excessive. So, remember, safety first and when in doubt, get a ride out.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). To maneuver well, make sure you're in the same reality as what you're trying to influence. Once you accept the way things are, you have power in the situation. Drop all resistance to what is.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It will be as easy to make a big change as it is to make a small one. So, as long as you are envisioning a change, go for one that will make a huge difference in your life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Most of what needs organizing is emotional, but it can be handled through the physical moving of objects. You process feelings as you tidy up and arrange your possessions in a pleasing manner.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll look at things like a true and inclusive optimist. That means the glass is neither half full, nor is it half empty. It's all the way filled and brimming over. It's just that some of the content is water and some of it is air.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). One moment you're tuned in to the people around you and present to the conversation and work at hand; the next you are focused on experiencing your inner world. Alternating between these two forms of mindfulness will serve you well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). One way to keep someone's attention is to dangle a promise in the air, then yank it back. It's the old carrot-on-a-string trick, not for the faint of heart, though it keeps things interesting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've been so busy watching the entertainment around you that you forgot to get up and show the world what you can do. Take your turn in the spotlight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll find creative ways to use what you have. You'll tinker and fix things and assemble your resources in such a way that the result is greater than the sum of its parts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Plan for future good times. The fun you anticipate will bring your endorphins up almost as much as the fun you're actually having. You love to be surprised by humor and

camaraderie. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Life is not a dress rehearsal. You're fully aware that the show will go on regardless of the level of energy of your performance, and this is why you give it your all.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Removing yourself from a scene will help you see it for what it is. Tonight, someone you know needs to hear words of love. Lead with compassion.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). To learn from your mistakes, you have to be willing to make them in the first place. Your habit of being hard on yourself after the fact isn't helping. Ease up. It's okay not to get it right every time.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 31). You'll express what others need to hear and lead a group into clarity and success. The spirit of receptivity also visits your personal life. Your connections grow stronger, your relationships more vibrant as you make the sort of bold choices that are only possible between people who truly trust one another. Aries and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 14, 33, 40 and 15.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: ARIES: Certain people put you in the mood to celebrate love, and the more you celebrate it, the more you have between you. **TAURUS:** You know that taking the bull by the horns is sometimes necessary but isn't always wise. **GEMINI:** Romantic conversation will center on the pivotal moments that brought you closer with someone. **CANCER:** You've a flair for making romantic gestures that get right to the heart of the matter. **LEO:** Some games of love are never finished -- you'll learn more and formulate your next move. **VIRGO:** Your thoughts drift to a certain someone more often lately -- is it love or just a habit of mind? And what's the difference? Food for thought. **LIBRA:** You get the feeling that someone is watching out for you, and you're right. **SCORPIO:** Real love can be stark. An infusion of fantasy keeps it interesting. **SAGITTARIUS:** People can be poor predictors of what will make them happy. You'll get joy you wouldn't have predicted. **CAPRICORN:** When words aren't enough, the power of touch will do the job. **AQUARIUS:** You won't have to give up what you want, only change it. **PISCES:** Fiascos will make funny stories after enough time has passed.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Sagittarius and Capricorn hit it off like an explosion, lighting up every scene they visit. In the first days of 2022, the moon moves out of Sagittarius and goes dark in Capricorn, swinging their dynamic

in interesting ways. They will learn more about each other in one weekend than they could learn in months of dating!

Write Holiday Mathis at
HolidayMathis.com.
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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Big dipper
- 6 "¿__ español?"
- 11 Posture supporters
- 14 Ancient war story
- 15 It's near Mt. Holyoke
- 16 Fulfilled
- 17 Start of a quote
- 19 Not-so-great bond rating
- 20 Access granted
- 21 Glut
- 22 Key for a fast exit
- 23 Seller of gifts for troops
- 24 Email subject-line letters
- 26 Part 2 of quote
- 28 Mail ctrs.
- 29 Supporter's shout
- 30 Hardly vivid
- 31 Shakers founder
- 32 Flinty-eyed
- 35 With 37 Across, source of quote
- 37 See 35 Across
- 38 Bonus number
- 39 Go on to say
- 40 Individual effort
- 41 Curtain holder
- 42 ID since 1936
- 45 Part 3 of quote
- 49 What Earth is called in "Joy to the World"
- 50 Author who inspired Verne
- 51 Metric prefix
- 52 "Joy to the World," for one
- 54 Drama student's study

- 56 Container, in product names
- 57 End of quote
- 59 Let ripen
- 60 Short-article news website
- 61 Stop more squeaks
- 62 Golden: Fr.
- 63 Dost witness
- 64 Big name in blush

DOWN

- 1 Create a queue
- 2 King in *The Tempest*
- 3 Ancestors of photocopies
- 4 Fearful feline portrayer
- 5 Soprano player

EXPERIENCE COUNTS by S.N.

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- 6 Warm welcome
- 7 Invoice nos.
- 8 Religion originated in Iran
- 9 Exams for some srs.
- 10 In __ (agitated)
- 11 Brewpub product
- 12 Horrid
- 13 Hair that sounds like a hoard
- 18 What's tomorrow
- 25 Agribusiness biggie
- 27 Commentary section
- 32 Evidence of mowing
- 33 Most impressive, as a profit
- 34 What assisted living provides
- 35 Eyewitness
- 36 Dilapidated vessel
- 38 Way, way back
- 40 YouTube "move on" button
- 42 Flow controller
- 43 Meryl's second Oscar role
- 44 Exasperate
- 46 Early potato farmers
- 47 Have __ to grind
- 48 Spirit in a bottle
- 53 Certain Wall St. takeovers
- 55 Isn't proud of
- 58 Since, on some signs

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15						16		
17				18							19		
20						21					22		
23				24		25		26		27			
28				29						30			
				31				32	33	34			
								37					
			35	36				39					
		38											
40								41			42	43	44
45					46	47	48		49		50		
51					52			53		54	55		
56					57				58				
59					60					61			
62					63					64			

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

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!

Today's Answers

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

CROSSWORD Today's Answers

DOWN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56
57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98
99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112
113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126
127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140
141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154
155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168
169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182
183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196
197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210
211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224
225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238
239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252
253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266
267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280
281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294
295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308
309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322
323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336
337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350
351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364
365	366	367	368</										

What are we watching? COVID puts fairness, quality in limbo

By EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

There's a term for the sort of NFL contest that went down Monday night between Miami and New Orleans — a battle featuring a third-string quarterback for the Saints making his debut on a roster with about one-quarter of its regulars in street clothes.

It's called a preseason game.

More and more these days, the NFL and all the major sports leagues are calling this product the real thing.

The coronavirus pandemic and the onslaught of the omicron variant have forced a rapid rethinking and reshuffling of policies, as the leagues try to protect their schedules, their players and fans, along with their bottom lines.

While the policies are recalibrated, the leagues and sports fans have mostly avoided the question that first hit hard in the dark days of March 2020: Are we so thirsty for entertainment that we'll risk everything — or watch anything — simply to make it feel like normal?

Back then, the answer was "no." Starting with the NBA, then moving to March Madness and the NHL, leagues abandoned their schedules, well aware that there was too much uncertainty, and the risks were too high, to keep pretending sports could run like business as usual.

Now that sports are back, vaccines are widely available and data-based health decisions are easier to make, no league appears prepared to turn away again. This puts the NFL on a potential collision course with a disruption that could wreak havoc on the road to the Super Bowl. In turn, it puts fans in a position of paying full price — both in pure money terms, but also in emotion and time invested — for a product that is, for lack of a better word, compromised.

Not that anyone expects the ratings to decline.

"It's not that different from what we're used to seeing," sports marketing expert Joe Favorito said. "It's an inability to play for whatever reason, whether it's the virus or a bad knee."

Other headlines this week:

— The NBA set a record when Greg Monroe of the Minnesota Timberwolves became the 541st different player to play in a game this season. We haven't reached the All-Star break yet. No fewer than 63 players were ruled out of Monday night's seven games.

— The NHL partially resumed a schedule it had put on hold for nearly a week over Christmas while cases soared. But games in Canada are still being postponed. The Tampa Bay Lightning geared up to host Montreal in a Stanley Cup Final rematch by using a coach and an emergency goalie in net during practice, then brought in a minor leaguer for the game.

— Only hours before the scheduled kickoff, Tuesday night's Holiday Bowl became the fifth postseason college football game to get scrapped because of COVID-19 cases. Meanwhile, administrators in charge of the three most important postseason games — the winners on Friday between Alabama-Cincinnati and Michigan-Georgia will meet next week for the national title — have said those teams could forfeit if they can't field healthy rosters for any of those games.

The NFL finds itself on much different footing than in the early days of COVID-19, which hit during its 2020 offseason. While other leagues canceled and postponed, then eventually resumed in makeshift bubbles and with makeshift schedules, the NFL took the best of all the ideas and made a season out of it.

A few of the 256 games from last season were debates, such as when the Broncos were forced to play the Saints using a wide receiver as a quarterback. And without fans in the stands, and with the U.S. election season in full swing, and with a number of games being rescheduled, ratings actually dropped by more than 6%.

That did not, however, keep the league from making new TV deals in the offseason worth nearly double the old ones. And it hasn't kept fans away from their stadiums and TV sets this season. Ratings are up again.

"This is not replacement football," the likes of

which we saw during a short strike in 1987, Favorito said. "That was really kind of a detriment to the game. These are elite athletes, many of whom have spent the season on practice squads."

But it's hard to argue the product on the field is not being threatened by the virus. As of Monday, more than 400 players had tested positive for COVID-19 in December. That compares with 262 during all of the 2020 season. Even in a league used to large-scale attrition due to injuries, this number is jarring.

This week, the 400-plus includes 17 players from the Chargers, 13 from the Colts (including quarterback Carson Wentz) and 12 from the Dolphins. All those teams are in the playoff hunt. So, too, were the Saints, as they headed into Monday night's meeting with the Dolphins. But they played with their top two quarterbacks, four defensive starters and 11 other players on the COVID-19 reserve list.

It wasn't just that they lost — that was expected — but the game was a world-class snooze. Miami prevailed 20-3, and other than the Dolphins, the real winners were those hoping to get to bed early.

"One of those perfect storms," Saints coach Sean Payton said, laying out the difficulty of analyzing rookie Ian Book's performance considering the circumstances.

Could there be more to come?

The thought of the Chiefs meeting the Buccaneers for a rematch in the Super Bowl, but this time with Tom Brady or Patrick Mahomes forced to watch from a quarantined hotel room, isn't as unimaginable as it seemed a mere month ago.

The thought that wide swaths of football-loving America might find something better to do with their evenings if such a scenario transpires? Close to zero. Even the least-watchable games, such as Saints-Dolphins, were regularly drawing more than double the audience of the next-best-rated shows on Monday nights this season.

"I think you'd still get the amazing story of the backups who rallied one of those teams to win," Favorito said. "Because one of them will have to win, and that's creating a new hero for someone else."

Tight ends take center stage in College Football Playoff

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Too big to be covered by the fast guys and too fast to be covered by the big guys.

Great pass catching tight ends have always been a part of football, but the position and players who play it have evolved to the point where they are often the most difficult matchup on the field.

The NFL is in the midst of tight end boom, with players such as Travis Kelce, Mark Andrews, Zach Ertz and Rob Gronkowski frequently taking over games.

College teams haven't quite unlocked the full potential of the position as effectively as the pros, but Friday's College Football Playoff with No. 1 Alabama facing No. 4 Cincinnati in the Cotton Bowl and No. 2 Michigan playing No. 3 Georgia in the Orange Bowl will put players with potential to be part of the next wave of dominate tight ends on display.

"The bottom line is the size and speed combination, the size and speed and skill combination that people put out at those tight end positions where they can play as a wide receiver or get in the box and be physical, yeah, that makes life tough," Cincinnati defensive coordinator Mike Tressel said earlier this week.

Michigan and Georgia have combined this season to play 46% of their offensive snaps with multiple tight ends on the field, according to data tracked by Sports Info Solutions.

The Bulldogs run 48% of their offense from two or three tight end sets, and in a season where injuries took a toll on their wide receivers, freshman tight end Brock Bowers emerged as their leading receiver and a second-team All-American.

"Typically, nowadays, the tight ends that you recruit, four- and five-star type tight ends, are big receivers with great ball skills," ESPN analyst and former NFL quarterback Todd Blackledge said.

The 6-foot-4, 230-pound Bowers fits that mold. He has 47 catches for 791 yards (third in the nation among tight ends) and 11 touchdowns (second among tight ends).

The Northern California native caught the Georgia coaching staff's atten-

tion even before he officially signed by sending them videos of himself running hills in the Napa Valley during the pandemic shutdowns in 2020.

"We knew he had the run-after-catch ability," Georgia offensive coordinator Todd Monken said. "They used him in the backfield out of high school, but he's got a little more range than we thought and he's continued to develop as a route runner."

Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh fondly tells the story of his college coach, the late Bo Schembechler, being so pleased to hear that as three- and four-receiver sets were becoming more prevalent in the early 2000s, tight ends still played a prominent role in Harbaugh's attack.

The Wolverines have had two or three tight ends on the field for 43% of their snaps this year. Offensive coordinator Josh Gattis' version of the spread is run-heavy. Michigan's tight ends are blockers first and foremost, but far from exclusively.

Erick All is second on the team with 34 receptions and is responsible for maybe the single most important pass play of Michigan's season: He went 47 yards for a go-ahead touchdown in the fourth quarter of a 21-17 victory at Penn State in November.

"Coach Gattis has done a great job with getting us all involved with so many ways to attack defenses," Michigan's Luke Schoonmaker said.



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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

Legals

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 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:

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS TO-WIT:

BEING ALL OF LOT ONE(1),AND THE EAST TEN FEET (E/10") OF LOT TWO (2), BLOCK FIFTEEN (15), NORTH PARKHILL ADDITION TO THE CITY OF BIG SPRING HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF OF RECORD IN ENVELOPE 80/A, PLAT RECORDS OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS.

APN:B48-00-005400

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO JOYCE L. LIGHTNER BY DEED FROM AMY LEAN ANDREWS F/K/A AMY LEANN ZANT, AND ERIC ANDREWS RECORDED 05/04/2010 IN DEED BOOK 1176 PAGE 658, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS.

Issued and given under my hand seal of said court at office on this the 7th day of December, 2021.

(SEAL) JOANNA GONZALES District Clerk of Howard County, Texas

By: /s/ , Deputy #11154

Annie's Mailbox

Uplifting Advice Heading Into the New Year

Dear Annie:

You get a lot of letters about people whose partners fell in love with someone else, causing a rift in their partnership. I find a lack of these partners lacked communication, so I thought I'd share my story of what can happen when you just talk.

My husband and I celebrated nine years of marriage this year. During COVID-19, he worked from home and developed a lot of online friendships with people of all genders. One in particular, "Ellen," became especially close with him, and they

consider each other best friends.

I noticed, though, that he seemed quite smitten with her.

So, I talked with him about it. Calmly. No judgment. No accusations. Just a simple question: "Do you have feelings for Ellen?"

He admitted he did, and we had a long discussion about what that meant. I never raised my voice. In fact, I was sympathetic, listening as he explained his worries, his guilt, his hatred of himself for falling for another woman. And I just listened. He needed a sympathetic ear, not an angry, jealous wife. I was still open about the fact that it hurt, but we

talked about it calmly, like adults.

Since that initial conversation, we've continued talking about it. My husband and Ellen are very dear to each other, and I don't want to rip that from him, so I've made it clear that if he's trying to work through feelings for her, he can and should talk with me about it rather than hide it. I've also befriended Ellen since then (she knows nothing about his feelings for her) and made it clear that she can talk to me about anything, too.

It's made a massive difference while he works through this, and in the long run, it's actually made us closer. He

talks to me about it when necessary, no judgment, and I can tell it takes a weight off his shoulders to do so, because of those guilty feelings. While we've never used counseling, we've both said we're open to the idea if it becomes necessary.

I realize this isn't an option for everyone, but I thought you'd appreciate what communication can do in difficult situations. -- Sympathetic, Not Jealous

Dear Sympathetic:

You are a candidate for sainthood, and you are being rewarded with an unusually close relationship with your husband. Thank you for sharing

your experience about what honest, compassionate communication can do in a relationship -- especially when you hit a rough patch.

Dear Annie: I went to buy fish recently at our local supermarket. The nicest young man waited on me. As I walked out of the store, I thought about how lucky we are to have nice help. I thought to myself, "I should have told the young man, 'Thank you for working.'"

Everyone is looking for workers. We should not only thank our workers but also tell them how much we appreciate them for coming into work every day. -- Happy

Shopper

Dear Happy Shopper: What a timely reminder as 2021 draws to a close. Workers such as the gentleman who helped you at the supermarket have kept food on our tables, even when many of our stores were closed for COVID-19.

There is another message buried in your letter that I want to emphasize: One friendly face has the power to make someone's day. Don't underestimate it. Pay it forward.

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

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5: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.	Wipeout (DVS)	Charmed	SportsCenter	Keyshawn, JWill and Max	Paid Prg.	Law & Order: SVU	Jeremiah Joyce M.	Master Distiller
6:AM		¡Despierta América!	Les Feld Robison	CBS7 Wake Up	Hoy día (SS)	Newsweek 9 Sunrise	Our Mess Jesus IS	Peg & Cat Super Tiger	Paternity Court	Highway Thru Hell	Wipeout (DVS)	Charmed	SportsCenter		Ninja Warrior	Law & Order: SVU	Parking Parking	Master Distiller
7:AM	Good Morning America		Good Morning Basin	CBS Mornings		Today	Light of Southwest	Tiger	CBS7 Wake Up	Divorce Jerry	Wipeout (DVS)	Charmed	College GameDay	Get Up	Ninja Warrior	Law & Order: SVU	Parking Parking	Master Distiller
8:AM			FamFeud				Light of Southwest	Sesame Elinor	CBS7 Wake Up	Maury	Wipeout (DVS)	Charmed			World Poker	Law & Order: SVU	Parking Parking	Master Distiller
9:AM	The 700 Club		Wendy Williams	Kelly and Ryan	Caso cerrado (SS)	Today 3rd Hour	Being MMTV	Clifford Dinosaur	Kelly Clarkson	Steve Wilkos Show	Wipeout (DVS)	NCIS: New Orleans		First Take	Tennis	Law & Order: SVU	Court Court	Master Distiller
10:AM	The View	Como dice el dicho	The Real	The Price Is Right	Caso De'siones	Today-Hoda	Master Words of	Go Luna Curious	Drew Barrymore	Maury	Bridesmaids, Rose Byrne (DVS)	NCIS: New Orleans	College Football: Taxslayer Gator Bowl - Wake Forest vs Texas A&M.			Law & Order: SVU	Court Court	Master Distiller
11:AM	Jeopardy	Noticiero	Tamron Hall	College Football: Tony the Tiger Sun Bowl - Washington State vs Miami.	Más sabe Noticias	The Dr. Oz Show	Cowgirl Dr. Wil	Nature Xavier	The Doctors	Nick Cannon		Movie: Ant-Man (DVS)		SportsCenter	High School Football	Law & Order: SVU	Court Court	Moonshiners
12:PM	GMA3: What Jeopardy!	Hoy (SS)	TMZ Live		Pasión de gavilanes	Days of our Lives	The Molly On the Hero		Dateline	Hot	Movie: 50 First Dates (DVS)	(:11) Movie: Ant-Man and The Wasp (DVS)				Law & Order: SVU	Court Court	Blind Frog Ranch
1:PM	General Hospital	Amor eterno	The People's Court		En casa con	Blast	Heritage Church	Cyber Pink	The First 48	Relative			Football Pregame	This Just In	High School Football	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Blind Frog Ranch
2:PM	Rachael Ray	La madrastra	Judge Mathis		(1:58) Suelta la sopa	Ellen DeGeneres	Light of Southwest	Elinor	Monk Jerry		Movie: Knocked Up, Paul Rudd (DVS)	(:22) Movie: Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2	CFP Semifinal at the Goodyear Cotton Bowl: Cincinnati vs Alabama.	Pregame	Golf Life	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Blind Frog Ranch
3: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					Sports	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Blind Frog Ranch
4:PM	You Bet Jeopardy!	Primer impacto	Two Men	CBS 7 News	En casa con	News Inside Ed.	Cowboy Israel	Almas Xavier	25 Words	Steve Wilkos Show	(:45) Movie: Superbad (DVS)				Inside	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Blind Frog Ranch
5:PM	Big 2 ABC	Noticiero	Big Bang	CBS 7 News	Tele	News	Creation	Hero King	King						NBA Basketball: Mavericks at Kings	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Blind Frog Ranch
6:PM	News Wheel	P. Luche	Sheldon	CBS 7 News	Pelicula: Mi querido viejo (SS)	News	M:25 Bible	Odd Last Man	Fam. Guy				Movie: Black Panther, Lupita Nyong'o (DVS)	Pregame	CFP Semifinal at the Capital One Orange Bowl: Georgia vs Michigan.	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Blind Frog Ranch
7:PM	Dick Clark's Primetime New Year's	How to Be a Latin Lover, Rob Lowe (SS)	Fox's New Year's Eve Toast & Roast	New Year's Eve Live: Nashville's Big Bash	Pelicula: Entre monjas anda el Diablo (SS)	News Miley's New Year's Eve Party	Light of Southwest	Cyber Pink	Mike Mike	News Gold	(8:53) Movie: Shaft (DVS)					Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Blind Frog Ranch
8:PM	Dick Clark's	Natalia Jiménez	FOX 24 News at 9													Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Blind Frog Ranch
9:PM	Big 2	Feliz año 2022 con Vecinos	Fox's New Year's Eve	CBS 7 News	Noticias	News	Words of Heritage	Elinor Donkey	Friends CBS 7	black-ish	Full	Movie: RoboCop, Samuel L. Jackson (DVS)	(:10) SportsCenter	(:10) UFC Archival	Basketball: Mavericks at Kings	Law & Order: SVU	(:04) The First 48	(:04) Gold Rush
10:PM	Dick Clark's New Year's	Vecinos			Pelicula: El sinvergüenza (SS)	Tonight Show	Shotar Tiger	Minute Almas	Holly Creek		(:43) Movie: Knocked Up, Paul Rudd (DVS)		SportsCenter	UFC Archival	Inside ROH Wrestling	Law & Order: SVU	(:03) The First 48	Gold Rush
11:PM	Dick Clark's	Las tontas no van	Mom	Drew Barrymore	Minuto para ganar	Seth Meyers	Heritage Light of Southwest	Xavier Molly	Forensic Jerry Springer	Creek Gold			Movie: Jack Reacher: Never Go Back (DVS)	This Just Jalen &	NHL Hockey: Avalanche at Stars	Law & Order: SVU	(:05) The First 48	(:04) Gold Rush
12:AM	Paid Prg.	Vecinos	Broke Girl	Paid Prg.	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Odd Minute	Paid Prg.	Paid Prg.	(:14) Movie: Superbad (DVS)		CFP Semifinal at the Cotton Bowl	College Football	Postgame	Law & Order: SVU	Paid Prg.	Gold Rush: The Dirt
1:AM	Paid Prg.	Vecinos	Seinfeld	Paid Prg.	Pelicula: A Garrote Limpio (SS)	Minute	Shepherd's Heart	Odd	Paid Prg.	Forgetful		NCIS: New Orleans	College Football			Law & Order: SVU	Paid Prg.	Gold Rush: D. Turin
2:AM	Paid Prg.	Vecinos	Seinfeld	Paid Prg.	Programa	Weather	Church Zion	Odd Arthur	Paid Prg.	Paid Prg.		NCIS: New Orleans	CFP - Cotton Bowl			Law & Order: SVU	Paid Prg.	Gold Rush: D. Turin
3:AM	Paid Prg.	Vecinos	FamFeud	Paid Prg.	Programa	Gone Viral										Law & Order: SVU	Get	

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• 1932: RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL IN NEW YORK CITY OPENS.

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• 1978: SPAIN BECOMES A DEMOCRACY AFTER DECADES OF DICTATORSHIP.

New Word

BLIZZARD

severe snowstorm with high winds

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:

East South West North
1♦ Dble Pass 1♠
Pass ?

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠AQ92 ♥Q95 ♦74 ♣AKJ6
- ♠Q8 ♥AQ76 ♦AQ ♣KJ982
- ♠AQ73 ♥AQ52 ♦6 ♣AQ94
- ♠A64 ♥AQJ ♦10 ♣KQJ873

1. **Two spades.** Your takeout double forced partner to bid, so he might have no values at all. The best you can do, therefore, is to make a single raise, indicating spade support and about 16 to 18 points (with less than that, you would pass one spade). Partner can have anywhere from zero to at most nine points (with a better hand, he would have jumped in spades). You don't have to guess what he has, though; all you need to do is to tell him what you have and let him decide what to do next.

2. **One notrump.** The choice lies between one notrump and two clubs, both of which show substantial extra values. The notrump bid is slightly better because it is more apt to induce a further bid from partner. He might pass two clubs

with a hand where he considers an 11-trick game too remote to be pursued, yet act over one notrump because a nine-trick game would seem within the realm of possibility.

Note that a jump to two notrump would be overly exuberant, as it would indicate the values for an opening two-notrump bid, which you clearly don't have.

3. **Three spades.** While partner's response is forced, he might still have the few ingredients necessary to produce 10 tricks. For example, he might hold: ♠J8652 ♥K76 ♦932 ♣85, or ♠K854 ♥9 ♦832 ♣J7632, and with either of them he should happily bid four.

4. **Two clubs.** It might seem cowardly to bid only two clubs, but the fact is that game is unlikely unless partner bids again voluntarily.

The alternative bids are two spades or three clubs, but neither of them can be recommended. It would be dangerous to raise spades with only three-card support, as partner might have only four cards in the suit. It would be equally dangerous to leap to three clubs, since if partner has a worthless hand, you are not likely to make nine tricks.

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Winter

SPANISH: Invierno

ITALIAN: Inverno

FRENCH: Hiver

GERMAN: Winter

Did you Know?

WHILE NO ONE KNOWS WHO CREATED THE FIRST SNOWMAN, THE TRADITION OF MAKING SNOWMEN IS BELIEVED TO HAVE ORIGINATED IN MEDIEVAL TIMES.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: WINTER HAT

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