

NEWSBRIEFS

Racial progress

With Martin Luther King Jr. Day earlier this week and 58 percent of Americans saying increased diversity makes the U.S. a better place while only 9 percent say it makes the U.S. worse – the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *States with the Most Racial Progress* as well as accompanying videos for 2019. To measure America’s progress in harmonizing racial groups, WalletHub measured the gaps between blacks and whites across 22 key indicators of equality and integration in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The data set ranges from median annual income to standardized-test scores to voter turnout. This report examines the differences between only blacks and whites in light of the high-profile police-brutality incidents that sparked the Black Lives Matter movement and the holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who played a prominent role in the Civil Rights Movement to end segregation and discrimination against blacks. Texas scored second in racial progress and fifth in racial integration in this study ranking:

- 7th – Change in Median Annual Income Gap;
- 30th – Change in Labor-Force Participation Rate Gap;
- 15th – Change in Unemployment Rate Gap;
- 11th – Change in Poverty Rate Gap;
- 6th – Change in Gap in % of Adults* with at Least a High School Diploma;
- 5th – Change in Gap in Percent of Adults* with at Least a BA Degree;
- 14th – Change in Standardized-Test Scores Gap; and
- 9th – Change in Voter-Turnout Gap (2016 Presidential Election).

*People 25 years old and older.

Note: All of the comparisons refer to the gaps between whites and blacks over time from 1970 to present day, depending on when the oldest data was available for each metric.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-the-most-and-least-racial-progress/18428/> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

Smart jobs

With STEM jobs projected to grow at a faster rate than other careers until at

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The most humiliating thing about technology is that it keeps filling our lives with devices smarter than we are.

– Quips & Quotes

Judge rules City of El Paso responsible for 2006 Clint landfill storm disaster

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – After 12 years of perseverance, Clint property owners will get their day in court as a judge ruled recently in a civil lawsuit case against the City of El Paso that a trial was justified to determine the amount of damages the city will have to pay to those affected.

The 2007 lawsuit claimed that city officials failed to take action at the Clint Landfill (now known as the Greater El Paso Landfill) after storms in 2002 and 2004, thus causing a massive flood in 2006 when the landfill overflowed and flooded at least eight properties on the south side of Interstate 10 in Far East El Paso County.

The water and debris from the landfill crossed over the interstate and through drainage pipes under the highway. Most of the floodwater went through the drainage pipes and flooded the properties. The damages to the properties included flooded roads, deaths of cattle, trash and other toxic debris being left on the properties, contaminating the soil and costing thousands of dollars of damage to commercial vegetation.

After three days of testimony in a non-jury civil lawsuit trial, El Paso County Court at Law 5 Judge Carlos Villa ruled in November that the “remedial measures taken by the City were inadequate since similar problems occurred in July 2002, again in September 2004 and again in July, 2006. The only obvious and proper remedial action was to close the landfill as early as 2002.”

The ruling goes on to read, “The City’s continued operation and maintenance of the landfill after 2002, knowing its history of wash out, runoff and drainage problems, is evidence that the city acted intentionally for the clause purposes, i.e. the city knew that specific property damage was substantially certain to result from such action.”

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit are Guadalupe Ramirez III, Kerry Sturgeon, William and Jackie Boutwell; Amy and Raul Zamorano; Patricia Wynn and her late



– Photo by Rick Shrum

IT’S ALL DOWNHILL – This photo at the fenceline to the entrance of the Greater El Paso Landfill shows the steady uphill rise to the actual landfill. There is no elevation listed for the landfill online, but it sits a bit under the elevation of the Town of Horizon City – listed at 4,022 feet. The landfill entry road connects with Darrington Rd. (not shown). Darrington Rd. continues to run southwest to Interstate 10 and becomes FM 1110, continuing southwest toward Clint and San Elizario. The elevation in Clint is listed at 3,638 feet. It’s approximately 1.4 miles from the landfill entrance to North Loop Rd. and about .9 of a mile from Darrington Rd. up to the landfill. See Google Map below.

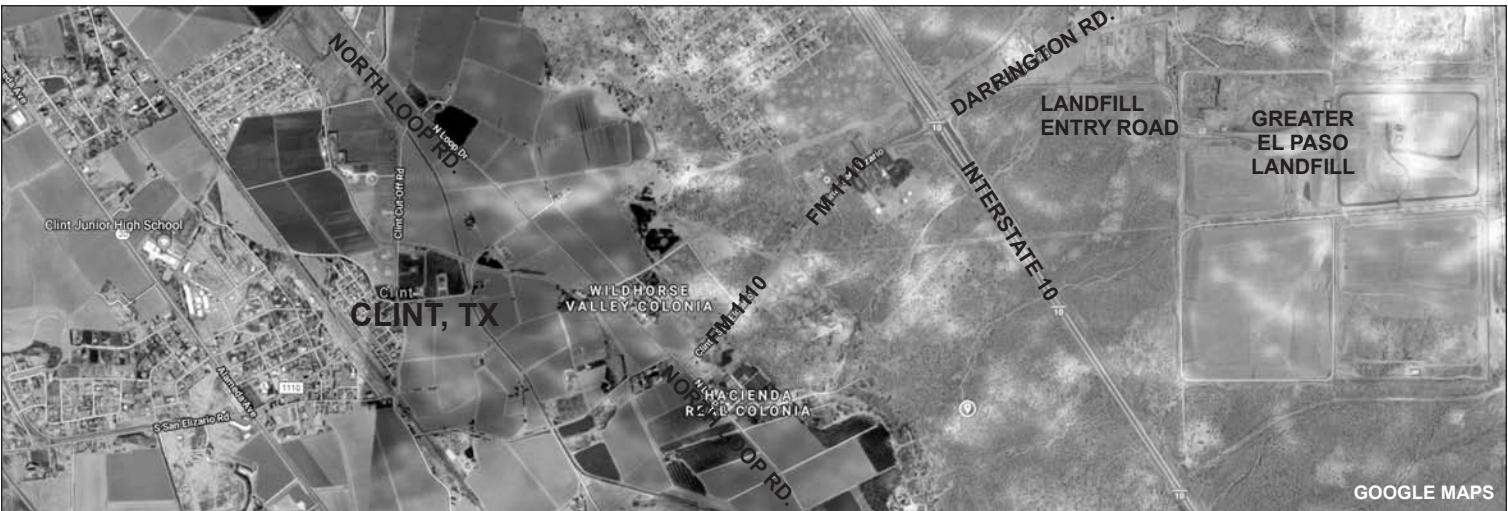
husband, George Wynn; Larry and Maria Webb; James and Yariela Raley; and Kenneth and Julie Johnson. Damages, being sought by the families, total roughly between \$1 million to \$2.5 million, according to reports.

The heart of the lawsuit focused on the 2006 floods and the city’s actions leading

to it. Residents alleged in their lawsuit that the city was aware after the 2002 and 2004 floods that the landfill had flooded and caused damage to the residents’ properties.

“By the end of 2005, then, the City knew that the water-retention ponds had

See LANDFILL, Page 2



GOOGLE MAPS

Cortez back playing with the band

By Denise Peña
Special to the Courier

FABENS – For the second year in a row, Fabens High School senior Isabella Cortez has earned a place on the Association of Texas Small School Bands All-State Symphonic Band. More than 10,000 high school band students from across Texas auditioned in twenty-two different regions. As the top flute chair in the region, Isabella advanced to area auditions for the chance to make All-State Band. Across the state only 280 of the 2,288 students auditioning were selected for all-state honors.

She will travel to San Antonio in February 13-16 for the Texas Music Educators Association Annual All-State Clinic/Conference, where she will rehearse and perform with the best high school band students in the state.

Isabella’s band director Mr. Miguel Soto attributes her success to her determination. “She is talented of course,” Mr. Soto said. “But she’s also ambitious and obsessive when it comes to learning music. She will work hard practicing nonstop until she can overcome a very challenging piece.”

Isabella is excited for the subsequent scholarship opportunities she will be offered after earning her place on the All-State band again this year, but is also just proud of her achievement. “Competitions helped me realize that I can put myself out there and get help with paying for college. But more than that I realize that I can push myself to accomplish something that not everyone can accomplish.”

Isabella plans to study Music Education at the University of Texas at El Paso. “Music has been an important part of my life ever since I picked up playing the flute my sixth grade year,” she said. “When I play I zone everything out. I don’t stress. All I think about is how can I get better? As a student, I learned to do



Isabella Cortez
– Photo courtesy Fabens ISD

this with anything else I do, math, science, anything. It’s important that all students get a chance to learn this through music.”

Landfill

From Page 1

overflowed at least twice in the preceding three years and flooded nearby properties with water, mud, trash, and toxic waste,” the lawsuit states. “Indeed, the city had been informed multiple times by area landowners of the damage. Yet the City continued to operate and maintain the Clint Landfill.”

They also claimed that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality “warned the City in the aftermath of the 2004 flooding that another incident involving multiple days of rain would overwhelm the landfill and result in flooding.”

The city countered in court documents that after the 2002 floods, they took “significant steps” to prevent flooding. The steps included doubling the depth of the retention pond from 15 feet to 30 feet and adding additional ponds. They added that state regulators repeatedly told the city that its runoff containment system was in compliance with the applicable regulations regarding runoff control. As for the 2004 flood, the city argued that no water or waste escaped the site.

In the 2006 storm, the city claimed that “an epic storm event occurred, exceeding all design criteria, as well as the City’s reasonable expectations. The landfill flooded. The plaintiffs flooded. The surrounding area flooded. They flooded because of an act of God, not because of an intentional act of the city that the city knew would harm the plaintiffs.”

“After a series of unprecedented rainstorms in 2006, several Clint property owners filed suit against the City of El Paso, alleging that the City’s continued operation and maintenance of its landfill caused contaminated floodwaters to damage their properties. Based on established Texas case law, the City has continuously denied the property owners’ claims. In addition, the City maintains that it did not intentionally cause any flooding or damages to these properties,” stated El Paso City Attorney Karla Nieman.

Residents asserted in their lawsuit that the 2006 storm was not significantly worse than the 2002 and 2004 storms. “Multiple witnesses testified that the 2006 storm was essentially identical to the storms in 2002 and 2004,” according to closing briefs filed by the plaintiffs. “The only thing that changed between 2002 and 2006 was the City’s continued piling of 1,100 tons of trash each day on a landfill approaching capacity... God may have brought the rain, but the City’s landfill brought the trash,” the plaintiffs’ closing briefs stated.

City officials confirmed that they are planning on appealing the judge’s decision. “The Judge has signed and entered an order allowing the City of El Paso to appeal the judgment,” Nieman said in a statement. “The City’s appeal will stay all further proceedings in this case pending resolution of the City of El Paso’s appeal. The City will appeal the judgment.”

The city has yet to file its appeal with the court, and a date on when the trial will take place has not been set.

Briefs

From Page 1

least 2024, the personal-finance website WalletHub followed up on its *Best Places to Find a Job* report with an in-depth analysis of *2019’s Best & Worst Metro Areas for STEM Professionals* as well as accompanying videos. To determine the best markets for STEM

workers, WalletHub compared the 100 biggest metro areas across 20 key metrics. The data set ranges from per-capita job openings for STEM graduates to annual median wage growth for STEM workers. Texas had six cities in the top 100. They are:

- 4th – Austin;
- 33rd – Houston;
- 38th – Dallas;
- 52nd – San Antonio;

- 83rd – El Paso; and
 - 92nd – McAllen.
- Other stats:
- Atlanta, GA has the most per-capita overall STEM job openings for STEM graduates, 100.15, which is 53.6 times

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1973
46
Years
2019

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Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right to edit or reject letters to the editor or other submitted material it considers inappropriate.



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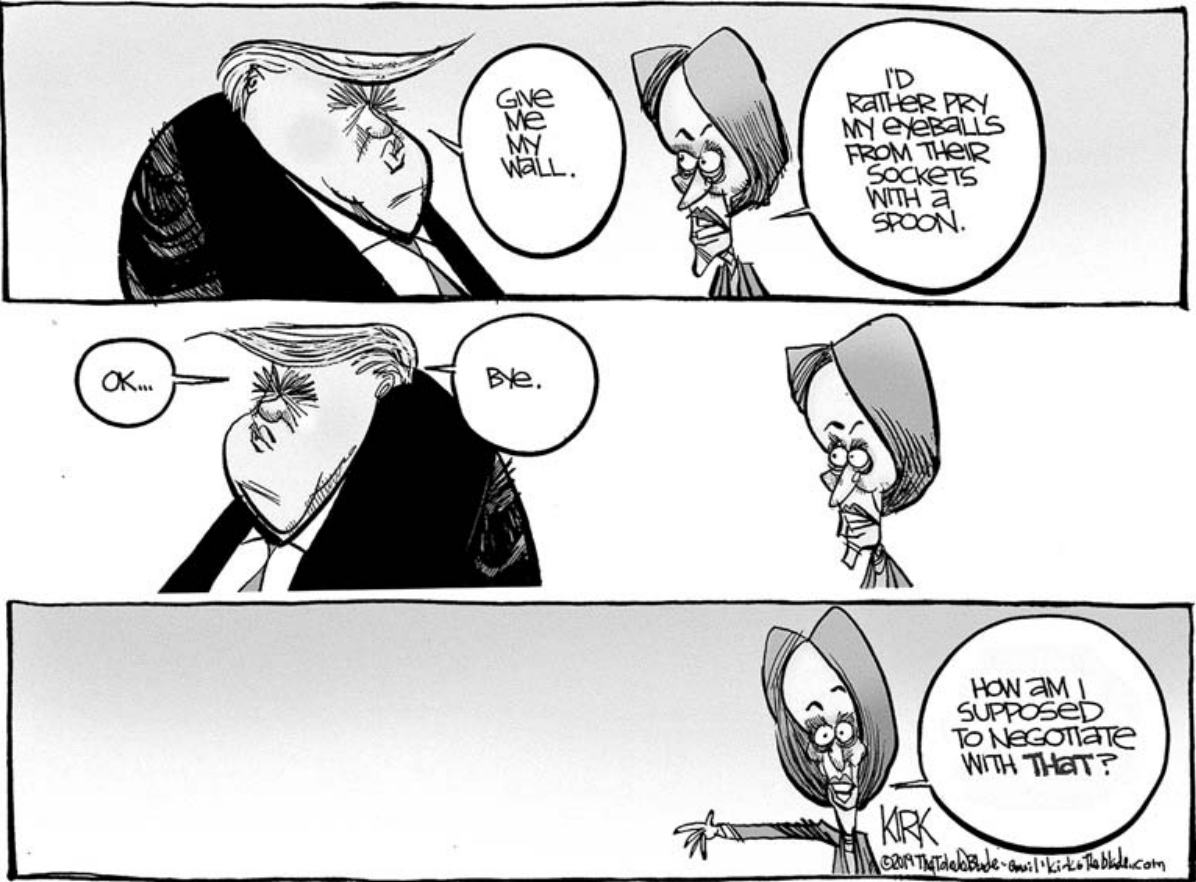
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Publisher
Rick Shrum

Contributors
Alfredo Vasquez
Steve Escajeda



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Does Trump care that he’s president?

The office of the presidency is known for wearing down the mere mortals who hold it.

At the very least, it prematurely ages its occupants. Often, it humiliates them, forcing them to rehabilitate their reputations later (George H.W. Bush and Jimmy Carter). In the worst case, it chews them up and spits them out (Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon).

It is a journalistic trope that this is happening to Donald Trump before our eyes. The media constantly write stories about how the president is panicked and cornered, barely able to handle his duties, as the walls perpetually “close in.” But as far as any outside observer can tell, he’s as ebullient and combative as ever, and has never blinked no matter how intense the pressure of any given controversy.

Far from getting crushed by the weight of the office, Trump doesn’t seem to feel it at all. Never has any president been as outwardly unfazed by the majesty of the presidency, or made less accommodation to its trappings and norms.

President Trump still acts like he’s Celebrity Trump fighting a vicious flame war with Rosie O’Donnell, except his targets now might be another head

of state, or his own attorney general, or losing members of his own party.

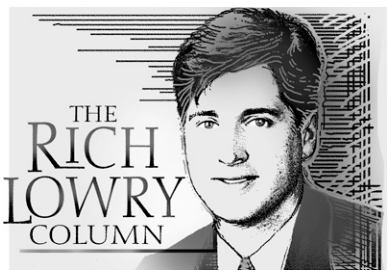
The idea that he’s a representative of the nation apparently makes very little impression on him. He never stops to think that any given gibe might be unworthy of the office, or maybe that he, blessed with more power and showered with more attention than anyone on the planet, has an obligation to be elevating and restrained, even if no one else is.

One of the attractions of the presidency to him appears to be that he can continue to punch down – but do it from a higher altitude than ever before.

Even after two years, he hasn’t lost his capacity to surprise. Did the president of the United States really render the last name of the incoming chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Adam Schiff, as an expletive? Did he call that TV anchor “low IQ”? Did he call his former secretary of state dumb?

Of course he did.

Much of this is ephemera, but collectively and over time it creates a lasting impression. A major factor in the drubbing that Republicans suffered in the suburbs in November was a reaction against Trump’s persona,



as underlined by his own conduct and tweets. If he cares about keeping the presidency – and he surely does – he should care a little more about respecting the dignity of the office.

The great advantage of the presidency is that it is naturally set up to invest people elected to it with a certain grandeur, via the White House, saluting Marines, Air Force One, “Hail to the Chief” and ceremonial events large and small. All it requires is showing up and, very often, reading from a script. Rather than simply pocketing this benefit, Trump tends to undercut it 280 characters at a time.

If he’s ever brought low, it’s less likely to be from the pressures of his responsibilities than his cussed inability or unwillingness to make a minimal effort to conform to his role.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2018 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Flu vaccines still available

Spike in flu illnesses around the Borderland highlight the need for immunization

By Dusty Warden
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – It is not too late to get protected against the flu, with vaccination being the best preventative measure. The influenza virus is beginning to hit Texas, notated by an upward trend in reported illnesses throughout the state and the entire U.S.

Data collected for the 2018-19 flu season by the Texas Department of State Health Services indicate 1,865 pneumonia and influenza-related deaths so far, with 96 within health region 9/10 which includes El Paso. A total of 13 pediatric deaths have been attributed to the flu, with one being right here in Texas.

There are several ways to prevent the flu, with the most effective being timely vaccination. Additional methods include avoiding contact with sick people, frequent hand washing, and disinfecting surfaces that may become contaminated.

Should you believe you have the flu, stay away from others to avoid infecting them. Should you experience flu symptoms and are in a high-risk group, contact your healthcare provider. If you experience shortness of breath, dizziness, persistent vomiting, or a fever with a worsening cough, seek immediate medical attention.

Flu vaccines continue to be available at each of Immunize El Paso’s clinic locations along with outreach sites scheduled through the next several weeks.

More information can be found at www.cdc.gov/flu, immunizeelpaso.org or by calling (915) 881-1100.

Central El Paso
Phone: (915) 533-3414
San Juan Clinic
6292 Trowbridge, 79905
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

East El Paso
Phone (915) 857-2474
1580 George Dieter
Ste 103, 79936
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Classified Ads

Public Notice

Town of Anthony, TX

Request for Proposals

Sealed proposals addressed to Town of Anthony will be received at City Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821 until **February 12, 2019 at 2:00 p.m., MST** for Town of Anthony Well No. 2 Replacement Project, described below.

The project entails the drilling and construction of a municipal 900 feet deep high capacity potable water well in the Town of Anthony, Texas in El Paso County. Included in the construction work is installation of 900 feet deep test hole, 900 feet deep drilled bore hole, 530 feet of 18-

inch steel casing, 360 feet of 18-inch stainless steel screen, 18-feet x 10-feet stainless steel casing sump, 18-inch dielectric coupling, gravel pack, cementing, bentonite seal, well development and step-drawdown test, water quality testing and sampling, concrete seal block for well head, build-up of well site pad by 2 feet, video-logging, well disinfection, 80 horsepowervertical turbine line shaft pump, 200 feet of 8-inch column pipe, pump testing and disinfection, upgrade of existing electrical service, 8-inch discharge piping, valves, and associated appurtenances, soft-start for pump and associated control panel, electrical and instrumentation, testing and start-up, and site

security fencing. I m m e d i a t e l y following the closing time for receipt of bids, proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud at City Hall. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened. Bids will be tabulated and presented to Town of Anthony for action at a later date.

A pre-bid conference will be held on **January 29, 2019** at City Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821 at **10:00 a.m., MST** followed by a site visit. Attendance by prospective Bidders is **not** mandatory.

I n f o r m a t i o n for bidders, proposal forms, specifications and plans are

on file at the office of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 501 W. San Antonio, El Paso Texas 79901 (Phone 915-533-6811).

Copies of the plans, specifications and contract documents may be secured at the office of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 501 W. San Antonio, El Paso, Texas 79901 (Phone 915-533-6811) as follows:

- Download documents (.pdf file extension format) from PSC's Info Exchange web site after registering as a plan holder with issuing PSC office. **There is no cost or deposit required for this option.**
- One set of paper copies for a non-refundable deposit

of \$50.00. 3. A digital copy (.pdf file extension format) upon a non-refundable deposit of \$20.00 per each CD.

Deposit shall be Company check or cashiers' check made payable to Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc. No partial sets will be issued.

Funding Agency Requirements:

• This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). • Any contract or contracts awarded under this Invitation for Bid (IFB) or Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are expected to be funded in part by financial assistance from the TWDB. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees are or will be a party to this IFB, RFQ, or any resulting contract. • This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "fair share policy", which includes EPA-approved "fair share goals" for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) firms in the Construction, Supplies, Equipment, and Services procurement categories. EPA's policy requires that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to Minority Business Enterprise and Women-Owned Business Enterprise firms. Although EPA's policy does not mandate that the fair share goals be achieved, it does require applicants and prime contractors to demonstrate use of the six affirmative steps.

The current fair share goals for the State of Texas, by **CATEGORY***, are

as follows:

- *CONSTRUCTION
MBE: 12.94%;
WBE: 8.72%
- *SUPPLIES
MBE: 9.68%;
WBE: 9.34%
- *EQUIPMENT
MBE: 7.12%;
WBE: 5.39%
- *SERVICES
MBE: 10.84%;
WBE: 5.72%

• Equal Opportunity in Employment – All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or handicap. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under TWDB financial assistance agreements. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach, which may result in the termination of the awarded financial assistance.

• The Town of Anthony reserves the Right to reject any and all bids. • This project is subject to the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements of P.L. 113-76 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. All iron and steel products for construction, alteration, maintenance, or repairs used for this project must be produced in the United States. Contractor will be required to provide Manufacturer Certification that iron and steel materials are manufactured in the United States. • All laborers and mechanics working on the work site and employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund shall be paid wages as described in the section, Mandatory Davis-Bacon Act Contract Conditions. • Any contracts in excess of \$2,000

for construction, alteration or repair (including painting and decorating and funded under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs shall include the Mandatory Davis-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.

Carole Baksa
Town Clerk

WTCC: 01-17-19
01-24-19

Public Notice

Village of Vinton, Texas

Proposed Official Zoning Map

A public hearing will be held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, during the Vinton City Council meeting at Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas.

The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following item(s):

Proposed adoption of an updated Official Zoning Map for the Village of Vinton to comply with the requirements of the Unified Development Code (UDC) adopted on January 11, 2018 (Ordinance No. 2017-12-5-2) and the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan adopted on February 21, 2017 (Ordinance No. 2017-2-21-4). A copy of the proposed updated zoning map along with the Village of Vinton Engineer's explanation for the zoning map revisions is posted at the Village of Vinton town hall.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Village Administrator at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915) 886-

5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Andrea N. Carrillo
Village Administrator

WTCC: 01-24-19

Public Notice

EPCWICD#4

Position Open

El Paso County Water Control and Improvement District #4 is taking applications for full time office position in Fabens, TX. Required: HS diploma/ GED, cashiering, computer experience, bilingual; AP, AR, P/R knowledge preferred. Microsoft Excel, Peachtree/Sage Software a plus. Position available immediately. Starting pay \$10.00, negotiable, dependent on experience. Open until filled. Submit applications/ resume to office at 117 East Main Street, Fabens; or fax to (915) 764-4840; or e-mail pcruz@epcwicd4.com. Questions – call (915) 764-2212. EPCWICD#4 is E.O.E.

WTCC: 01-24-19

JOBS

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By Samantha Weaver

• It was Leroy “Satchel” Paige, arguably the best pitcher in baseball history, who made the following sage observation: “Never look back. Something might be gaining on you.”

• The “Harley” in “Harley-Davidson” comes from William Harley, one of the motorcycle company’s three founders. His is a common surname in England with roots in Old English, in which language it means, literally, “pile of rocks.”

• A narwhal’s horn isn’t a horn; it’s a tooth – the left front tooth, to be specific. As such, it’s considered to be a tusk, making the narwhal the world’s only animal with a tusk that’s straight rather than curved. The tusk was highly prized in the Middle Ages, fetching as much as 10 times its weight in gold for those fortunate enough to have one to sell.

• Those who study such things say that millions of trees are planted accidentally when absent-minded squirrels forget where they buried their nuts.

• Charlie Chan, the fictional Honolulu detective, was created in 1919 by novelist Earl Derr Biggers. The books featuring Chan became so popular that the character made the leap to radio, movies and television. Even though more than a dozen actors have portrayed the detective over the years, not one of them has been of Chinese ancestry.

• In the 1830s you could give someone a “blizzard.” Back then, of course, the word wasn’t referring to a snowstorm; rather, that phrase meant to give someone a piece of one’s mind.

• In the original calculations made by NASA experts, a landing on the moon was thought to have only a 5 percent chance of success.

Thought for the Day: “One dog barks at something, the rest bark at him.”
– Chinese proverb

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1973
46
Years
2019

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Horizon City, TX 79928

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CryptoQuip

Answer

Hit comedy movie concerning some very dangerous super-potent brews:

“The Bad News Beers.”

9	+	8	×	2	34
+		×		+	
6	×	5	+	9	39
×		-		×	
1	+	7	×	3	24
15		33		33	



Moments
in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On Feb. 4, 1938, Walt Disney releases “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs,” the first animated feature to be produced in English and in Technicolor. Naysayers warned him that audiences, especially adults, wouldn’t sit through a feature-length cartoon fantasy about dwarfs. The film was a smash hit.

• On Feb. 5, 1994, Byron de la Beckwith is convicted of the assassination of civil-rights leader Medger Evers 31 years earlier, ending the lengthiest murder case in American history. Two earlier juries refused to convict. The third sent Beckwith to jail for life.

• On Feb. 6, 1820, the first organized immigration of freed slaves to Africa from the United States departs New York on a journey to Sierra Leone, in West Africa. The expedition was partially funded by the U.S. Congress, which appropriated \$100,000.

• On Feb. 7, 1964, Pan Am Yankee Clipper flight 101 from London Heathrow lands at New York’s Kennedy Airport – and “Beatlemania” arrives. The Beatles were greeted by 3,000 screaming fans who caused a near riot.

• On Feb. 8, 1924, America’s first execution by lethal gas is carried out in Nevada. The executed man was Tong Lee, who was convicted of murdering a rival Chinese gang member. Lethal gas was seen as a more humane method of carrying out death sentences.

• On Feb. 9, 1900, the silver trophy known today as the Davis Cup is first put up for competition when American collegian Dwight Filley Davis challenges British tennis players to come across the Atlantic and compete against his Harvard team. In 1904, Belgium and France entered the competition.

• On Feb. 10, 1962, downed American spy plane pilot Francis Gary Powers is exchanged by the USSR for Soviet Col. Rudolf Abel, a senior KGB spy captured in the U.S., on the Glienicker Bridge linking East and West Berlin. The event inspired the 2015 film “Bridge of Spies.”

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Send Your
Newsbrief To:

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Canutillo, Socorro ISDs are H-E-B finalists

H-E-B names 2019 Excellence in Education School District, Outstanding Public School Boards

By Jill Reynolds
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – H-E-B announced today that eight school districts and five early childhood facilities have been selected as finalists for the retailer’s 18th annual Excellence in Education Awards program. For the sixth year in a row, H-E-B is recognizing five public school boards to highlight the importance of strong leadership at the board level.

Since the program’s inception, H-E-B has awarded more than \$10 million in funding to benefit outstanding Texas public schools. This year, H-E-B will award a total of \$82,500 to the finalists and school boards,

who will go on to compete for even greater cash prizes at the statewide level. Each finalist in the district and early childhood categories, as well as the five recognized school boards, will receive \$5,000; the three finalists in the small district category will receive \$2,500.

To determine overall statewide winners, a panel of judges visits each district, early childhood facility and school board, tours campuses and talks with administration, staff, parents and community members.

Winners will be announced at the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards ceremony on May 5 at the Fairmont Hotel in Austin. The winning large district will receive \$100,000; the

winning small district \$50,000. An early childhood facility will receive \$25,000. If selected, one or more school boards will receive up to a total of \$25,000.

Forty teacher and principal finalists will be announced in February and March during a series of surprise visits to schools and classrooms across Texas.

H-E-B launched the Excellence in Education Awards program in cooperation with the Texas Association of School Administrators in 2002 as a positive way to support public education in Texas. It has become the largest monetary program for educators in the state, spotlighting best practices and celebrating the passion and creativity of Texas educators.

2019 nominees:

LARGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Austin ISD, – Austin
Burleson ISD – Burleson
Klein ISD – Klein
Socorro ISD – El Paso
United ISD – Laredo

SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Canutillo ISD – Canutillo
Roma ISD – Roma
Stephenville ISD – Stephenville

SCHOOL BOARD FINALISTS

Corsicana ISD – Corsicana
Del Valle ISD – Del Valle
Grapevine Colleyville ISD – Grapevine
McAllen ISD – McAllen
Socorro ISD – El Paso

Clint Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 2018

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	60 Capital Projects	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:					
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 14,009,731	\$ 4,613,643	\$ 544,686	\$ 238,081	\$ 19,406,141
5800 State Program Revenues	84,626,379	9,371,907	–	1,354,513	95,352,799
5900 Federal Program Revenues	12,470,097	–	–	7,562,819	20,032,916
5020 Total Revenues	111,106,207	13,985,550	544,686	9,155,413	134,791,856
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	50,791,699	–	244,051	5,929,439	56,965,189
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	1,149,892	–	–	–	1,149,892
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	1,712,543	–	–	1,359,726	3,072,269
0021 Instructional Leadership	1,992,232	–	–	468,096	2,460,328
0023 School Leadership	6,690,316	–	–	34,705	6,725,021
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	2,576,445	–	–	1,052,525	3,628,970
0032 Social Work Services	165,709	–	–	–	165,709
0033 Health Services	1,152,221	–	7,567	–	1,159,788
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	7,118,863	–	–	–	7,118,863
0035 Food Services	8,607,906	–	159,414	64,637	8,831,957
0036 Extracurricular Activities	3,305,432	–	–	–	3,305,432
0041 General Administration	3,182,405	–	–	–	3,182,405
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	17,755,629	–	2,640,504	–	20,396,133
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	1,999,762	–	606,011	70,994	2,676,767
0053 Data Processing Services	2,059,549	–	–	–	2,059,549
0061 Community Services	108,110	–	–	100,923	209,033
Debt Service:					
0071 Principal on Long Term Debt	196,164	5,530,855	–	–	5,727,019
0072 Interest on Long Term Debt	5,121	9,007,270	–	–	9,012,391
0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	–	6,494	–	–	6,494
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	762,741	–	19,641,282	–	20,404,023
Intergovernmental:					
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	307,492	–	–	–	307,492
6030 Total Expenditures	111,640,231	14,544,619	23,298,829	9,081,045	158,564,724
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(534,024)	(559,069)	(22,754,143)	74,368	(23,772,868)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):					
7915 Transfers In	27,917	–	–	–	27,917
7949 Other Resources	630,491	–	–	–	630,491
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	–	–	–	(27,917)	(27,917)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	658,408	–	–	(27,917)	630,491
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	124,384	(559,069)	(22,754,143)	46,451	(23,142,377)
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	47,449,369	6,978,952	38,703,659	233,111	93,365,091
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 47,573,753	\$ 6,419,883	\$ 15,949,516	\$ 279,562	\$ 70,222,714

New season, new players, same old El Paso Rhinos

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The inconsistency of the UTEP football and basketball programs has been a problem for a few years now.

Except for football; that’s been going on for about 50 years.

Anyway, one local sports organization that has never had that problem is the El Paso Rhinos.

The Rhinos hockey team doesn’t just settle for winning seasons every year, their only goal is to win league championships, like they did last season.

In fact, they’ve won three league titles since entering the league in 2007.

Let’s put it this way, last year’s team put up an unbelievable 49-1-1 regular-season record.

Back in 2014, they went 41-5; in 2013 they were 44-2.

I think you get an idea of what the team does on a regular basis and where they expect to be every year.

This year, however, was supposed to be a little different.

As head coach Cory Herman put it, “when you have the kind of success that we had last year, players are going to be signed to play at different colleges and that could affect our roster for this season.”

That was putting it mildly.

Of the 25 players on this year’s roster, 21 of them are new.

And like we see with the UTEP squads, it takes time for a bunch of new players to learn a new system and learn how to play together.

Maybe that’s why the Rhinos started the season with a 9-5 record. For most organizations, getting off to a 9-5 start is a good thing.

But when you’re used to losing about five games for the entire season, that’s not very good at all.

Like Herman feared, it did take the new guys time to learn how the system works and how their new teammates play.

And since that inconsistent start, the Rhinos have gone 14-2 and are back in first place in the WSHL’s Mid-West Division – where they belong.

What Herman has done over the years as the Rhinos coach has been amazing.

He’s never had a losing season and has amassed an eye-opening 506-93 win-loss record since the team’s rookie campaign in 2006-07.

Through all the success and championships, this may indeed be Herman’s best coaching job.

If the team had slipped to second or third place this season, it would have been totally understood. But as he has said on many occasions – the Rhinos never rebuild, they reload.

With 15 games to go, the team still has plenty of time to improve on the things they need to, to be a force in the playoffs.

And even better is that 12 of those final 15 are at home.

Usually, the Rhinos are a high-flying, high-scoring, offensive-minded squad that puts a ton of pressure on the opponent’s goalie. Case in point, last year’s team averaged nearly eight goals a game.

This year the team has had to grind out wins with aggressive defense and tough hard-nosed play.

Instead of 10-2 and 8-1 scores as in the past, this year’s Rhinos have had to pull

out 4-2 and 2-1 victories.

But victories are still victories.

What Herman likes the best about this year’s team is that they play playoff-style hockey.

He said that during the playoffs, as in every sport, things slow down. The games are more intense, the checking is a little harder, there’s more defense.

But the Rhinos already play that kind of hockey. The team isn’t as talented as it has been so it has to treat every game like a playoff encounter.

It’s difficult to say how successful this year’s crop of Rhinos will be once they get into the playoffs, but just the fact that they get there is already a success.


Of course if the team bows out early, they won’t consider it a success. But that’s part of why they’ve achieved so much – it’s the winning attitude, the winning formula that everyone in the program buys into.

Like most successful franchises over the years, most of the Rhinos’ games are won before they even step onto the field pf play. They’ve already won the mental war.

Now the Rhinos have to do it on the ice.

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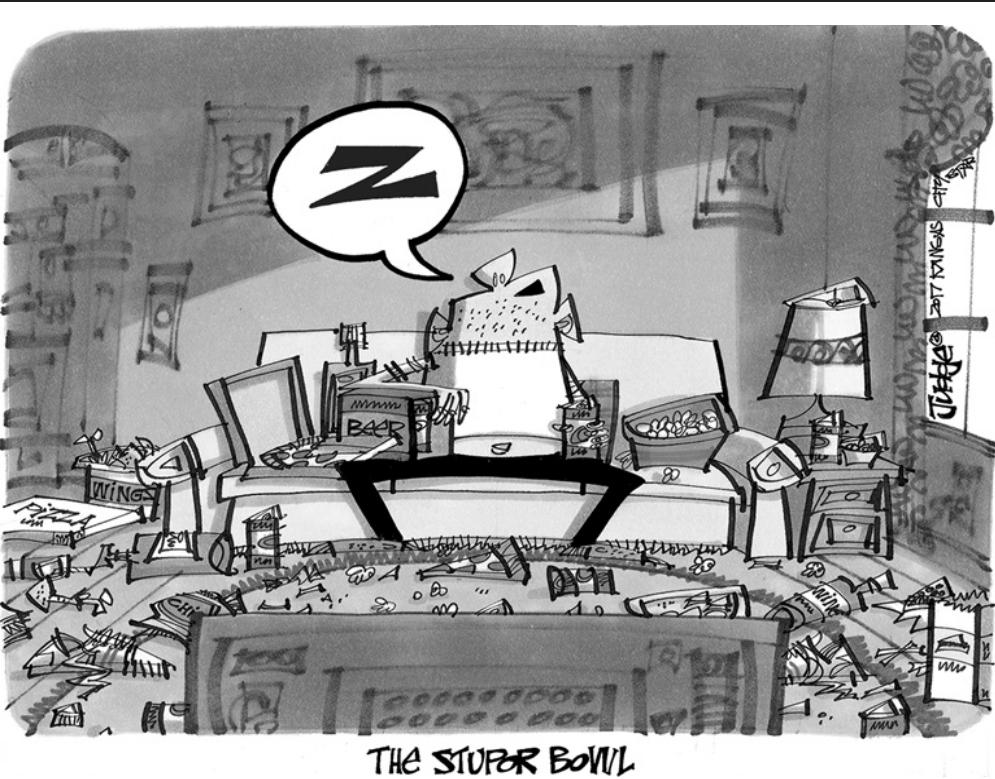
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CONTINUING ED ACROSS

1 Shred

6 To another country

12 Buster Brown's dog

16 Mexican article

19 University of Maine's city

20 News anchor Katie

21 Arduous task

22 Not be idle

23 Discoverer of Uranus... and "The Office" co-star

26 Spoil

27 "Orinoco Flow" singer

28 Sea, to Luc

29 Buenos _

30 Commanded

31 PCs on planes, often

33 Long-range German gun of WWI... and "Apollo 13" Oscar nominee

37 Letter #3

38 Bern's river

39 To the extent that

40 1975 Wimbledon winner... and "Shape of You" singer

47 German article

48 U.S. architect I.M.

49 Pet treaters

50 Slaughter with a bat

52 Abnormal plant swelling

56 Schindler with a list

58 Deputy of an envoy... and old CBS variety show host

63 Ballpark gate

64 Explorer Hernando de _

65 Rose color

66 Klee output

67 Bistro bills

68 Olay product...

and "My Cup Runneth Over" singer

73 Sheriff Andy Taylor's tyke

74 Coach Parseghian

75 _ polloi

76 "T.N.T." rock band

77 Game venue

78 Officer played by Phil Silvers... and 1970s-'80s New York City mayor

84 2006 Sacha Baron Cohen film

85 Nobelist Arafat

86 Celine of song

87 Many a repo

89 Poetic form

90 Holiday drink

92 Left-leaning slant... and "Lou Grant" star

97 "Hips Don't Lie" singer

101 _ Grey

102 Special span

103 Large, hooded snake... and "60 Minutes" reporter for 26 years

107 Cited as evidence

111 Ship sailing past sirens

112 " _ Less Ordinary"

113 Suffix with 66-Across

114 Liquefy

115 Rolodex no.

116 Money from investments... and Reagan cabineteer

121 Previous to

122 Jib holder

123 "No clue"

124 Whoop it up

125 Berlin-to-Prague dir.

126 " _ girl!" ("All right!")

127 Unboastful

128 Pastoral verse

DOWN

1 Disk at the end of a spur

2 "Three Sisters" sister

3 61-Down producer

4 Open, as a shutter

5 Luau paste

6 Peaks

7 Nobelist Niels

8 Long to undo

9 NHL's Bobby

10 " _ for Alibi"

11 1983 Mr. T comedy

12 " _ is human..."

13 Bays, e.g.

14 Detective, slangily

15 Suffix with priest

16 Hedy of film

17 National park in Maine

18 Italicize, e.g.

24 Electrical current unit

25 Move quickly

30 Soccer star

Chastain

32 Body of work

33 "Harrumph!"

34 Rage

35 "Oh wow!"

36 Off course

38 Birthplace of St. Francis

40 Desertion of one's faith

41 Highway pull-off

42 Polynesian-themed lounges

43 Quad bike, e.g.

44 Classic car

45 Actress Blyth

46 Turndowns

51 "Of course!"

53 1996 role for Madonna

54 Steeping sauce

55 Snacker on termites

57 Capone and Unser

59 Dupe

60 Plus more: Abbr.

61 Reef stuff

62 Guitar pioneer

Paul

68 " _ wise guy, eh?"

69 Caring

70 Martin Luther opponent Johann

71 Hoopla

72 Actress Mitzi

73 Gold, in Italy

75 Daring

77 On deck, say

79 Tree with fan-shaped leaves

80 Up to, in ads

81 Young male, in hip-hop

82 Having five sharps

83 Central point

88 Joined with

91 React to, as a bad pun

93 Moray, e.g.

94 "Norma _"

95 Suffix with compliment

96 Fried quickly

97 Glides on ice

98 Job opening fillers

99 He directed "Life of Pi"

100 Most adept

104 Gaucho rope

105 Mali's cont.

106 Kin of khaki

107 Natty tie

108 'Vette, e.g.

109 Atelier tripod

110 Reflect (on)

113 Rural hotels

116 Thurman of "Prime"

117 Tokyo, once

118 Fizzling thing

119 Opal finish?

120 Hosp. scan

Super Crossword

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					

Answer Page 4

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



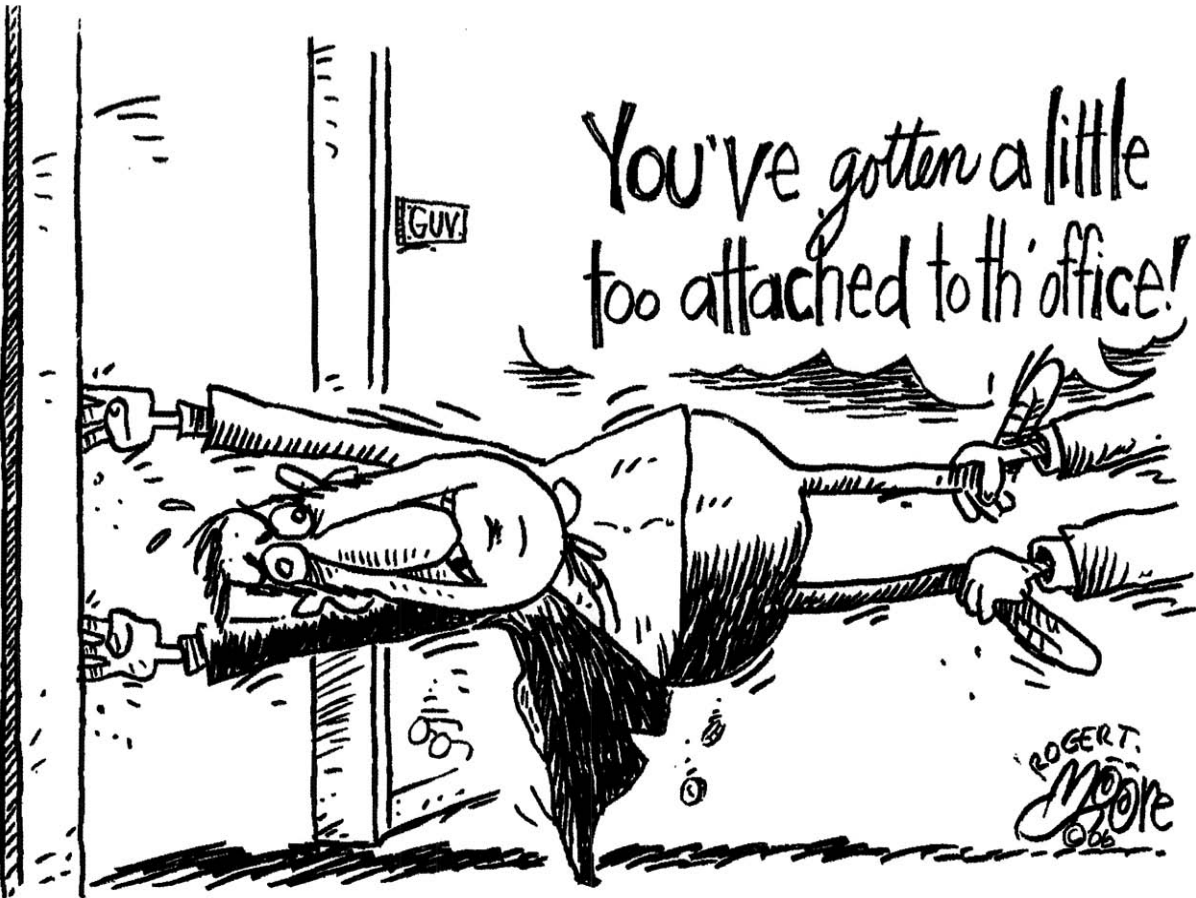
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore
Jan.14,1874: Defeated reconstructionist Governor Edmund Davis refuses to vacate his office.

Could abdominal migraine cause cyclic vomiting?

DEAR DR. ROACH: My son started having gastrointestinal problems in high school. Approximately three years ago, they became so intense that he couldn't work. Last May, he finally had surgery for gastric reflux. This helped with the persistent vomiting, but he is still experiencing intractable nausea. After a year of tests and trials of every anti-nausea medication known, he finally was told that he has cyclic vomiting syndrome. He also was told, basically, "We don't know how to treat it." He currently is on a trial of a tricyclic antidepressant, but wasn't given much hope that it would help. Could you suggest any possible treatment? He is only 28, and I can't imagine him living with this and not being able to work or participate in life forever after. – M.S.



Cyclic vomiting syndrome is best described in children, but is certainly described in adults. It is called "cyclic" because there are periods of multiple vomiting episodes (lasting from one day to a week) interspersed with periods of completely normal health. Children have 12 cycles per year on average, while adults have four. CVS has been associated with migraine headaches, and treatment for migraines is sometimes successful in treating CVS, so it's possible CVS represents a variant of abdominal migraine.

CVS is a difficult diagnosis to make, as it can be easily confused with other causes of recurrent vomiting. Both children and adults often go a long time with incorrect diagnoses, sometimes getting surgeries, like your son did.

Treatment should be administered by a clinician experienced in this condition, and unfortunately, that doesn't seem to be the case with your son. In one series, 3 in 17 adults with CVS had a complete response to tricyclic antidepressants, but 13 had at least some response. So I would hold out more than just a little hope for some benefit. Other medications that have been tried include sumatriptan (normally used for migraine), ketorolac (a powerful anti-inflammatory medicine) and prochlorperazine (usually used for nausea, and I'm sure your son would have tried it).

I would strongly suggest you contact the Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome Association to get more information and suggestions for an expert in your area, at www.cvsaonline.org.

See HEALTH, Page 8

San Elizario Independent School District
Public Notice of Meeting

San Elizario Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's 2017-2018 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR). The meeting will be held at 4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 in the San Elizario ISD Central Office Board Room, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas, 79849.

The public is invited to attend. For more information, call (915) 872-3900.

Junta Pública

Distrito escolar independiente de San Elizario celebrará una audiencia pública para discutir el informe de rendimiento académico 2017-2018 Texas del distrito (TAPR). La reunión se celebrará a las 4:00 p.m. el miércoles, 13 de febrero de 2019 en la sala de juntas de San Elizario ISD, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas, 79849.

El público está invitado a asistir. Para obtener más información, llame al (915) 872-3900.

Health

From Page 7

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have noticed that the medical profession uses a number of standard words in different ways. For example, “negative” is usually good, and “positive” often is bad news. – N.M.G.

Both certainly can cause gas. Skim milk contains the milk sugar lactose, to which many people are intolerant. In mild cases, it causes some gas; severe cases can cause diarrhea. Oat bran is a good fiber source, and all good sources of fiber can cause gas, especially if taken in amounts that are greater than the person is used to.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. (c) 2019 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Can

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: D equals T

QCD BARSHW RAJCS BAVBSKVCVF

UARS JSKW HMVFSKANU UNXSK-

XADSVD YKSPU:

“DQS YMH VSPU YSSKU.”

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

Answer Page 4 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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VA suspends changes to caregiver program

VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

The Department of Veterans Affairs recently asked for public comment about proposed changes to the Family Caregiver program, and many of you must have replied because it has now issued a press release. Officials declared a moratorium on its practice of discharging or decreasing caregivers, citing the “inconsistent application of eligibility requirements by VA medical centers.” Meanwhile, the VA will continue processing applications for caregivers based on current eligibility criteria. Since 2011, the caregiver program has assisted more 38,000 family members, mostly wives and mothers, who receive a monthly stipend ranging from \$600 to \$2,600, depending on what assistance the veteran needs and where they live. Are you eligible for caregiver services? You might qualify if you have a serious injury (for example, loss of limbs, psychological trauma, mental disorder, traumatic brain injury) suffered in the line of duty and you need personal care for one or more activities of daily living. Currently the eligibility date is injury on or after Sept. 11, 2001. The proposed changes to the caregiver program would take place over two years. The clock starts when the VA proves to Congress that it has implemented the required information technology system upgrades. Changes also include expanding the caregiver program to include veterans from World War II, Korea and the Vietnam era. A new addition to the program will include veterans who need regular or extensive instruction or supervision to be able to function in daily life. Another proposal would expand services for financial planning and legal services for injured veterans and their caregivers. Go online to www.caregiver.va.gov and click around to find more information and to download an application. You also can learn about qualifying as a caregiver. Each veteran can have one primary and two secondary caregivers as backup.

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GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult

★★★ GO FIGURE!

	+		×		34
+		×		+	
	×		+		39
×		-		×	
	+		×		24
15		33		33	

1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9

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Answer Page 4

FEAR KNIGHT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

OHE
ELAMIC
♥RHCLU
♥OCLO
ANELUS
♥ILE
♥CMHU
♥RAMLO
ILO
ELICUS
♥EIDOL
LMLO

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Answer Page 4

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

Now here's a tip!

by Jo Ann Derson

- Keep a cutting board in place with a lightly damp kitchen towel underneath. It won't slide. Cutting a juicy fruit? Even better. The towel catches drips off the side.
- Soften butter in a jiffy without a microwave. Cut into pats and let sit for 10-15 minutes. The smaller the pat, the quicker it softens.
- “Store your kids’ favorite breakfast cereal in a large jar with a measuring scoop. This will help children be more independent and stop them from pouring too much in a bowl – and spilling cereal all over the floor.”
– R.Y. in Virginia
- Quick pickled vegetables can make a perfect little side dish or even garnish that makes you look like a fancy cook. Just add a bit of salt and sugar to white vinegar, then add some thinly sliced veggies – carrots, cucumber, cabbage, beans or squash. Let sit for 20 minutes or more, then drain and serve.
- “What I’m loving right now: marinated fresh cheese! Slice or chunk fresh mozzarella or goat cheese, and throw it in a bowl with some olive oil, Italian seasoning, red pepper flakes, fresh herbs or what have you. The longer it sits, the yummier it gets. It doesn't last long around here!”
– V.R. in Florida

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.

Briefs

From Page 2

higher than in Deltona, FL, the metro area with the fewest at 1.87.

- San Jose, CA has the highest share of all workers in STEM occupations, 20.50 percent, which is 14.6 times higher than in McAllen, TX, the metro area with the lowest at 1.40 percent.
- Houston, TX has the highest annual median wage for STEM workers (adjusted by cost of living), \$98,750, which is 2.3 times higher than in Honolulu, HI, the metro area with the lowest at \$42,512. Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-metro-areas-for-stem-professionals/9200/> for the full report.

– Diana Polk