



NEWSBRIEFS

High standards

For the second consecutive year the Canutillo Independent School District received an Exemplary Performance A-Rating in overall performance from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). “Our continued success is due to teachers and staff willing to take risks and put the energy and passion into their work to let the students know how important their education is,” Canutillo ISD Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galaviz said. “This year, our goal is to sustain the A and continue to keep kids in the forefront.” The Texas Education Agency “A-F” accountability system, introduced during the 85th Texas Legislature, gives districts and schools an overall rating based on performance in three different areas or domains: Student Achievement, School Progress, and Closing the Gaps. Elementary and middle school ratings are based entirely on performance on the STAAR test. High school ratings consider college, career and military readiness and graduation rates. “Our A-rating is due to the enthusiasm, innovation, and advocacy our teachers and staff bring to work every day,” Board of Trustee President Sergio Coronado said. “Our Superintendent Dr. Galaviz always emphasizes teamwork and a ‘students first’ mindset to continue moving our district forward and improving the outcomes for all of our students.”

— Liza Rodriguez

SISD earns honors

The Socorro Independent School District (SISD) is the first and only large district in the El Paso region to earn an “A” grade in the Texas Education Agency (TEA) latest accountability ratings. For two consecutive years, SISD is also the only district in the region – one of only three districts in a pool of the largest 50 in the state – to earn the distinction for postsecondary readiness at the district level from the TEA. “I am extremely proud of every student, educator, employee, and administrator in Team SISD for their hard work in earning this huge honor,” said SISD Superintendent José Espinoza, Ed.D. “I am grateful for the unity and dedication among everyone in Team SISD who work to ensure all students are educated and treated as if they are our very own children.” The TEA’s A-F accountability rating system consists of three domains for measuring

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While science has made giant strides in communication in recent years, there’s still a lot to be said for paying attention.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy University of Texas at El Paso Centennial Museum

THEY WANT YOUR VOTE – The University of Texas at El Paso’s Chihuahuan Desert Gardens is a participant in the Lark Label Loves Gardens Sweepstakes that continues through the end of August. The public is invited to vote online at <https://larklabel.com/loves-garden-choices/> for their favorite garden.

UTEP’s Chihuahuan Desert Gardens is national finalist

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso County residents can help bring positive attention to the desert climate and the beauty found in xeriscape landscaping by voting for the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens located at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) campus. The UTEP garden is one of nine public gardens to make it to the “Lark Label Loves Gardens Sweepstakes!” final phase where online votes will be counted through the month of August. The last day to cast a vote is August 31st.

UTEP’s desert gardens are going up against eight very impressive gardens and arboretum parks found throughout

the country including the Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park in northern Michigan; Bartlett Arboretum in Belle Plains, Kansas; Bedrock Gardens in Lee, New Hampshire; Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens in Florida; Monk Botanical Gardens in north central Wisconsin; Montgomery Botanical Garden at Oak Park in Alabama; West Virginia Botanic Garden in Morgantown; and Wilbur D. May Arboretum in Nevada.

Nonetheless, UTEP’s Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, which encompasses over 1.5 acres, is truly unique as it maintains more than 700 species of plant life, such as flowering shrubs and perennials in addition to trees, succulents and cacti.

The Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, which

surrounds UTEP’s Centennial Museum, was dedicated in 1999. “It is likely the country’s only garden that promotes plants from the northern Chihuahuan Desert. That’s what makes us unique,” said John White, the gardens’ lead curator. Lark Label sweepstakes organizers picked the nine finalists from a list of 40 nominees, he added.

The Lark Label Co. of Wichita, Kansas is one of the largest producers of plant ID markers in the United States. It uses a laser to etch into black anodized aluminum the nameplates that are black on both sides and also provides stakes that are black anodized rather than painted. It is the only plant display marker company- used by museums, zoos, parks, and gardens- to warranty its markers for ten years.

At the end of contest, the garden with the most votes wins \$1,000 towards educational and plant identification signage. To vote for the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, visit the sponsors website, at <https://larklabel.com/loves-garden-choices/>. An email address is required as part of the voting process.

To view videos of UTEP’s different desert garden areas, the University’s Centennial Museum posted a set of videos online, at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist=PLADFB8613E1421670>.

UTEP Centennial Museum officials are encouraging all El Pasoans to vote and to ask friends, family, and co-workers to vote for the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens. The voting is open to the public. Everyone voting can only vote once a day but can vote every day. The voting phase will run until August 31.

For more information about UTEP’s Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, visit UTEP’s website, at utep.edu/museum.

San Elizario contracts with Tigua Animal Control

By Maya Sanchez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – The City of San Elizario is proud to lead the way and usher in a pilot program to be the first municipal government within the County of El Paso to contract with Tigua Facility Services, Inc., a Native Owned 8(a) Corporation under the Small Business Act of 1958 (“TFS”) for animal control services which, to date and for all municipalities except the City of El

Paso, have been provided by the County of El Paso’s Sheriff’s Department.

The City of San Elizario, which incorporated in 2013, has several governmental interlocal agreements for services ranging from public health and environmental to animal control. Tigua Animal Control will provide support in addressing stray animals, animal cruelty and enforcement of the City’s Animal Control Ordinance, which can be found on the City’s website. This includes animal

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Food for thought By Marilyn M. Singleton, M.D., J.D

The ‘Soylent Green’ new deal is three years away

In an effort to cut carbon emissions from burials and cremations, the state of Washington, led by staunch environmentalist Governor Jay Inslee, became the first U.S. state to legalize human composting. To think, people can be criminally prosecuted for disrespecting a human corpse, a symbol of a once-living person. But the religion of Mother Earth now supersedes all cultural decency.

We’ve already cemented the contempt for life at the front end. I thought we had evolved since the ancient Greek elders determined that only the strong newborns survived and the weak were left to die. Virginia’s Governor Ralph Northam made it clear that infants were once again throwaways at will. In explaining the procedure of an “abortion” of a child who was born alive, he said “the infant would be resuscitated if that’s what the mother and the family desired, and then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and the mother.”

Now we must be acutely aware of what is happening at the other end of life’s spectrum. In the U.S., elders are all too often considered expendable by society at large and sadly, by their own families. Such disregard in some 10 million cases escalates to abuse in many forms. Government-certified entities make a significant contribution to this

contemptible crime.

In many states court-appointed guardians cravenly plunder their wards’ assets with no repercussions. A U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report identified hundreds of allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation by guardians in 45 states and the District of Columbia between 1990 and 2010. An investigation of a small sampling of the allegations found that court-appointed guardians had stolen or otherwise improperly obtained \$5.4 million from 158 incapacitated victims, mostly older adults. Moreover, such crimes were frequently overlooked by judges.

Soon after coming into office, President Trump signed into law the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act that provided for 90 prosecutors and “elder justice coordinators” nationally to prosecute those committing elder abuse, including guardianship cases. Currently, a sleepy little bill in the wings, the Stamp Out Elder Abuse Act, will direct the proceeds of a new postage stamp to enforcing laws against elder abuse.

These new laws may be for naught with the advent of more physician-assisted suicide laws. New Jersey is the latest, complete with a cute acronym: MAID – Medical Aid in Dying. All the calls for government-controlled medicine are

terrifying to those of us who remember a dystopian film where in 2022, with rampant food shortages and homelessness, the only food available is a high-energy wafer purportedly made from plankton. Alas, we witness humans entering a processing center for a happy death and emerging as the main ingredient of Soylent Green.

I contend that the trend of placing older people into hospice before the ink is dry on the hospital admission papers is a new form of elder abuse. Hospice has become the new Medicare cash cow for unscrupulous facility owners who abuse and neglect patients. One study found that 8 percent of the hospices studied did not provide a single skilled visit – from a nurse, doctor, social worker, or therapist – to any patients who were receiving routine home care in the last two days of life in 2014.

Recall that President Obama robbed Medicare of \$716 billion to fund the Affordable Care Act, including \$56 billion from hospitals serving poor people. Recall that an ethics advisor for ObamaCare, Ezekiel Emanuel, MD, advocates for the “Complete Lives System” of medical care where resources are directed to those with “future usefulness.” Dr. Emanuel proudly claims he wants to die at 75 years of age. Tell

that to the countless lives Mother Teresa transformed when she was her 80s. Tell that to John Glenn, who went back into space for 9 days at 77, and to the 20 million other over-75 disposables – or should I say, recyclables.

Quite coincidentally, eliminating the over-75 crowd from the insurance pool would help fund government-sponsored insurance for this country’s remaining uninsured. In other words, hurry up and die before the Medicare program goes bankrupt.

My gratitude goes to those congresspersons who recognize that our elders need protection. Given that the federal trust fund that finances much of the Medicare program is projected to run out in 2026, let’s hope these compassionate people realize that the first losers of Medicare for All are our elders.

Dr. Marilyn M. Singleton is a board-certified anesthesiologist. She is President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS). While still working in the operating room, she attended UC Berkeley Law School, focusing on constitutional law and administrative law. She teaches classes in the recognition of elder abuse and constitutional law for non-lawyers. She lives in Oakland, Ca.



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View from here By Rick Shrum

Pig in a poke

I hate doing someone else’s work for them. Absolutely hate it. Especially when it involves something I’ve bought or am buying. And doubly hate it when I am mandated to buy it. Particularly when the product is insurance.

But today I’m giving Obamacare a break. Today I’m concerned with how car insurance works – both ends of it.

I often describe automobile insurance as a dog. When you buy it the tail is wagging and they are oh so nice. But when you file a claim – out come the teeth. And they fight for every penny like a dog over a bone every step of the process.

A few years back – I wrote about it at the time – my truck was dinged up in parking lot. No major was damaged, but it was well in excess of my deductible. All cosmetic.

The adjuster from Albuquerque brought his girlfriend with him to make his appraisal. His attention was clearly divided. Though it was plain the all damage was from a small impact, this guy writes some of the damage up as “normal wear and tear.” Bonus money on the line. Teeth.

Eventually I was fully compensated by doing this man’s work the way it should have been done. I wondered if he retained his work relationship with the insurance company for being so flagrantly bad at his job. That took about about five seconds. Of course he did. Not everybody pushes back.

Fast forward to this month. My cars are in pretty good shape but aging and the insurance is up for renewal so I ask the insurance reps (yes, more than one) a simple question: “What are my cars worth for replacement value according to the policy?” They would not tell me. They said values change and they could not tell me until I made a claim. Then they referred me to KBB and NADA online to get a value – a value they may or may not agree with. In other words, they want me and you to do their work.

Seriously, they want to sell people state mandated insurance but will not tell us exactly, in dollars and cents, what the payout is if the car is totaled. And this does make a big difference when you factor in deductibles and whether or not to maintain comprehensive coverage on a car.

By the third rep I stood firm. These sites they refer you to are intrusive. They want some personal information to give you a value. So I asked her to use KBB to see what happens. She was nice the whole time I spoke with her and agreed with my position. In fact the only time she became unhappy was when she tried to get the value of my car WITH the VIN and actually QUIT trying because of what the site puts a person through to get a value.

But she was persistent. She calls the claims department and her own claims department will not give her the payout value of the car for the date the policy takes effect. To be fair I call another insurance company and ask them the same questions and I get the same answers.

This is an unethical way to do business at its best and, in my opinion, a lot closer to corruption. Even in Nevada you can get the odds and percentages before you place a bet. Can you imagine going to a store that won’t tell you what groceries or goods they will provide for you until AFTER you pay them?

Insurance for cars in Texas and other states is government mandated. The states should in turn require ALL insurance companies to provide the payout dollar value of the cars they insure (just like they do for a house) on the effective date of each policy. This is not burdensome for them. This is something they already do automatically every time somebody files a claim.

Consumers should not bear the burden of tracking down a third party appraisal to “guestimate” the value of the car they are trying to insure. They shouldn’t have to do the work that rightly belongs to the insurance company. And most certainly, buying car insurance shouldn’t be like buying a pig in a poke.

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Epstein was allowed to game the system

The Jeffrey Epstein case establishes beyond a doubt that if you're a sexual predator, it pays to be a rich and connected sexual predator.

Epstein, now dead of an apparent suicide before his accusers had their day in court, worked the system and benefited from advantages and breaks unimaginable to anyone who didn't jet around with influential friends.

The multimillionaire financier who lived in Palm Beach, Florida, and Manhattan, N.Y., used his resources to build a network of sexual predation and then used his resources to escape meaningful legal punishment. Even after registering as a sex offender, he lived a life of ease and glamour unavailable to even most of the 1 percent.

Epstein was the Jay Gatsby of sexual abuse, relying on his wealth to perfume over what should have been the overwhelming smell of sulfur.

He hired a highly credentialed, aggressive legal team that wooed and overawed prosecutors who were supposed to hold him accountable for his crimes. A decade ago, the state prosecutor in Florida took a pass, and former Trump Labor Secretary Alex Acosta,

the U.S. attorney for Southern Florida at the time, applied the minimal possible sanction while affording Epstein every possible consideration.

In a letter explaining his handling of the case, Acosta described "a year-long assault on the prosecution and the prosecutors." The proper response of an office invested with the awesome powers of government, arrayed against a lowlife and his hired guns, should have been to double down. Instead, Acosta's

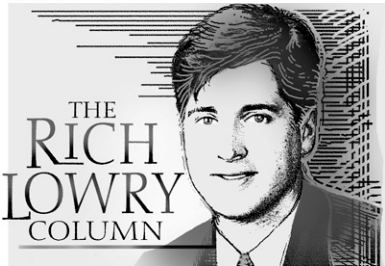
office buckled.

If any of the nameless victims had been rich or famous themselves and able to hire an Alan Dershowitz or a Jay Lefkowitz, the result surely would have been different. A couple of years ago, Taylor Swift pursued, on principle, an assault case against a man who groped her at a meet-and-greet, and won a symbolic \$1. But none of the Epstein's victims were anything like Taylor Swift. They were selected for abuse – because they

were vulnerable. And failed by their government – because they were vulnerable.

Having minimized Epstein's offense in Florida, his lawyers got busy minimizing the consequences. They somehow convinced a prosecutor in the office of Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance to petition a judge to lower Epstein's sex-offender status. The shocked judge rejected it out of hand.

This held true to the pattern – all mistakes always worked in



Epstein's favor.

It was a mistake that Epstein got to leave 12 hours a day, six days a week, while briefly in jail in Palm Beach so he could pursue his "work" (including bilking one of his clients).

It was a mistake that New York City police didn't enforce the requirement that Epstein check in every 90 days as required under his sex-offender status.

All the while, Epstein continued to socialize with fancy people, buying his way into their company and entertaining the great and the good at his New York City mansion. It was only when the Miami Herald unearthed the enormity of his crimes that Epstein's world began to unravel.

It shouldn't be possible for a hideous monster to game the American system of justice, but it's exactly what Jeffrey Epstein did, from loathsome beginning to unforgivable end.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2019 by King Features Synd., Inc.



About face patches up a bad decision in Plano

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Sometimes in life we can make horrendous mistakes. The good thing is that most mistakes can be corrected.

Just ask the Plano Independent School District. Plano ISD Superintendent Sara Bonser inexplicably announced last week that the football game between Plano and Eastwood would be cancelled for safety concerns.

Because the El Paso Walmart shooter graduated from Plano High School, Bonser thought it was too soon to play the game and that it was too dangerous.

The official Plano ISD release from the district stated: “After consulting with local law enforcement agencies, Plano ISD administrators felt obligated to prioritize the safety of the participating players, students, families and communities, and have concluded that the timing of the game falls too soon after the tragedy in El Paso.”

I think it’s fair to say that the collective response from the entire city of El Paso was, “What? Seriously?”

It seemed like everyone, except for Plano ISD, thought this was the perfect opportunity to bring both communities together in a show of unity and strength and healing.

A statement from Bonser said: “We grieve with our neighbors in El Paso and are heartbroken that what is happening in society today is affecting our kids and our communities. Our students and coaches were eager for this opportunity to come together with Eastwood High to promote a message

of compassion and healing, but what should be a celebratory event would be encumbered by safety concerns for the participants and fans of both teams. Our top priority must be the safety of all.”

Though her message is heartfelt, it doesn’t explain what safety concerns she was worried about. Also, complicating her stance ever more was the Plano police department’s statement that there were no safety concerns connected to the game.

El Paso officials, coaches and players immediately voiced their displeasure with the Plano decision, citing a missed opportunity for young men who only want to play football and prove that hate was no match for their love of life.

With pressure mounting from all sides in and outside the city of El Paso, the Plano district announced last Friday that the game would go on after all.

A mistake was corrected.

To show what a big story this was, even Forbes magazine weighed in: “Facing mounting criticism Texas’ Plano Independent School District did an abrupt about-face on Friday and rescheduled Plano Senior High’s season-opening game against El Paso Eastwood for a Thursday night – Sept. 5 – at the indoor Ford Center in neighboring Frisco. The Ford Center also serves as the indoor practice facility of the Dallas Cowboys.”

Yes, it turns out that the Dallas Cowboys and owner Jerry Jones played a role in fixing things by allowing the game to be played at their 12,000-seat practice facility.

Several school district leaders from different states stepped in to help. Coaches from different teams and politicians stepped in. Even the two schools that were scheduled to play at the Ford Center on that evening, Frisco Lebanon Trail and Fort Worth Arlington Heights, agreed to move to another venue.

Talk about an outpouring of support.

And though things were corrected in the end, I’m not sure Superintendent Bonser still gets the importance of moving forward.

She said after the decision, “Ultimately, I put the safety of students and community first, and I cannot and will not regret that decision, one that makes our community and those visiting our community safe.”

She could have also added the words, “fearful and cowering” about her decision.

Sometimes you have to stand up to tyranny and hate; not give it what it wants. And what it wants is to totally disrupt and change the way a society or community does things simply because they don’t agree with it.

Kudos to everyone who recognized and helped to correct this error.

The odds are stacked against Eastwood in their game against Plano. They lost to the Wildcats 72-48 last season.

But that’s not the point.

This is more than just a high school football game, it’s a message that right will always defeat wrong, that good will always win over bad, and that love will always triumph over hate.



By Samantha Weaver

- It was Nobel Prize-winning 20th-century American author John Steinbeck – considered by many to be “a giant of American letters” – who made the following sage observation: “We spend our time searching for security and hate it when we get it.”
- No one can really explain why women tend to strike matches away from themselves while men strike them toward themselves.
- It may be hard to believe, but there is an official competition to see who can sit in a sauna the longest. The World Sauna Championships have taken place in Heinola, Finland, annually since 1999. The starting temperature is 110 F, and a liter of water is poured on the stove every 30 seconds. The winner is the last person who is able to leave the sauna without assistance. Competitors participate at their own risk, and they are required to sign a waiver agreeing not to take legal action against the event organizers.
- Other than being celebrities, what do Woody Allen, Farrah Fawcett, Stanley Tucci, Glenn Close, Richard Attenborough and Kevin Spacey have in common? They’re all pigs. In the Chinese zodiac, that is – they were born in the year of the pig.
- The small Central American country of Costa Rica has more species of mammals and birds than are found in all of the contiguous United States and Canada combined.
- The ubiquitous summertime flip-flop sandals are known in Australia as pluggers, are called slops in South Africa and slippers in Hawaii, and New Zealanders call them jandals.
- You might be surprised to learn that Jane Austen’s novel “Pride and Prejudice” was originally titled “First Impressions.”

Thought for the Day: “Lack of money is no obstacle. Lack of an idea is an obstacle.”
– Ken Hakuta

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CryptoQuip Answer

The aging dry cleaner was a white-collar criminal, infamous for money laundering.



Moments
in time
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Aug. 19, 1909, the first race is held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. After the unstable rock and tar track caused the deaths of six people that day, the surface was replaced with 3.2 million paving bricks.
- On Aug. 20, 1975, Viking 1, an unmanned U.S. planetary probe, is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on a mission to Mars. On July 20, 1976, the Viking 1 lander touched down on the Chryse Planitia region, becoming the first spacecraft to successfully land on Mars.
- On Aug. 21, 1920, Daphne Milne, wife of writer A.A. Milne, gives birth to a son, whom they name Christopher Robin Milne. He would be immortalized in A.A. Milne’s books “Winnie-the-Pooh” and “The House at Pooh Corner.”
- On Aug. 22, 1989, Nolan Ryan of the Texas Rangers becomes the first pitcher in major league history to record 5,000 career strikeouts. Ryan would go on to compile 5,714 strikeouts, a record that still stands.
- On Aug. 23, 1999, seven people die in New York from what turns out to be the first cases of West Nile virus in the United States. West Nile virus, previously found only in Uganda and the Middle East, had been contracted by birds and spread by mosquitoes.
- On Aug. 24, 1873, William Henry Jackson takes the first photographs of Colorado’s elusive Mount of the Holy Cross, providing reliable proof of its existence. The phenomenon formed after thousands of years of erosion of two deep ravines, which by sheltering winter snow from the sun created a perfect cross.
- On Aug. 25, 1835, the start of a six-part series announcing the discovery of life on the moon appears in the New York Sun newspaper. Sales of the paper soared as readers believed the tales about unicorns, two-legged beavers and furry, winged humanoids. Even Yale University scientists were fooled.

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San Eli

From Page 1

impounding and the authority to issue citations, when deemed necessary, to those in violation of the ordinance. All County and State laws will also be enforced.

As a result of this new partnership, beginning on September 7, residents within the City of San Elizario city limits must call the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo dispatch center for animal services at (915) 860-9653 and same day response is guaranteed. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday

and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., excluding federal holidays. For all emergencies, continue to use 911 for service.

The agreement with the City of El Paso for animal shelter services remains unchanged and Tigua Animal Control will continue to impound animals from within the City of San Elizario’s city limits at the El Paso Animal Services Center, located at 5001 Fred Wilson Ave, El Paso, TX 79906.

“The County and City of El Paso have committed to achieving ‘no-kill’ status for our primary animal shelter and we feel with our new partnership with Tigua Animal Control will

place the City of San Elizario at the forefront of leading that effort,” states Mayor Antonio Araujo. City Marshal, Roberto Hernandez added, “The City of San Elizario has long been perceived as a problem area for stray animals and animal cruelty issues within the County. With Tigua Animal Control on board, we will now we will now have support to hold residents who violate the rules, accountable for perpetuating the problem.”

The change in service begins September 7, 2019 and Tigua Animal Control may be reached at (915) 860-9653 or k9support@tiguainc.org.

Briefs

From Page 1

the academic performance of districts and campuses: Student Achievement, School Progress, and Closing the Gaps. The postsecondary readiness distinction from TEA is based on the success of all elementary, middle, and high schools in SISD. To earn the distinction, campuses are ranked based on certain postsecondary readiness criteria set forth by TEA in the accountability system including graduation

rates, ACT/SAT participation, career and technical education graduates, and meeting the college readiness level on STAAR.

– Christy Flores-Jones

Pre-K

With research showing that pre-K education results in better test scores, less crime and economic benefits, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2019’s States with the Best & Worst Early Education Systems as

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Paseo del Este Municipal
Utility District No. 10
of El Paso County
Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 10 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2019 on Tuesday, September 3, 2019, at 12:00 p.m. at the offices of Inframark, LLC, 12350 Montwood Drive, Suite 100, El Paso, Texas. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal: **Directors Luis Ortega, Greg Spence, B.D. Reynolds, Martin Lettunich and Antonio Gallardo**

AGAINST the proposal: **NONE**

PRESENT and not voting: **NONE**

ABSENT: **NONE**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 197,062	\$ 197,463
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen’s or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 197,062	\$ 197,463
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,477.97	\$ 1,480.97
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	+ \$ 3.01	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	+ 0.20%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYER’S RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

Paseo del Este Municipal
Utility District No. 11
of El Paso County
Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 11 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2019 on Thursday, September 12, 2019, at 11:30 a.m. at the offices of TRE & Associates, LLC, 110 Mesa Park Drive, Suite 200, El Paso, Texas 79912. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal: **Directors Mary Suzann Pell, Darwin Voge, Marisa Lascurain and Murray Van Gundy**

AGAINST the proposal: **NONE**

PRESENT and not voting: **NONE**

ABSENT: **Director Jose R. Soto**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 146,454	\$ 145,638
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen’s or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 146,454	\$ 145,638
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,098.41	\$ 1,092.29
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	– \$ 6.12	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	– 0.56%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYER’S RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

Briefs

From Page 5

well as accompanying videos. In order to determine the best early education systems in America, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 12 key metrics. The data set ranges from share of school districts that offer a state pre-K program to number of pre-K quality benchmarks met and total reported spending per child enrolled in pre-K. Texas placed 23rd in this report, ranking:

- 12th – Share of 3- and 4-year-olds Enrolled in pre-K, pre-K Special Education and Head Start;

- 9th – Income Requirement for State Pre-K Eligibility;
 - 39th – Total Reported Spending per Child Enrolled in Preschool;
 - 13th – Total State Head Start Program Spending per Child Enrolled in Preschool; and
 - 47th – Monthly Child Care Co-Payment Fees as a Percent of Family Income.
- Visi <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-the-best-and-worst-early-education-systems/62668/> for the full report.
- Diana Polk

Community colleges

With back-to-school season upon us and a year of community college nearly

three times less expensive than a year at a public four-year college, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *2019’s Best & Worst Community Colleges*, coupled with its state-by-state ranking of the *Best & Worst Community-College Systems* as well as accompanying videos. To determine where students can receive the best education at the cheapest rates, WalletHub compared 710 community colleges across 19 key indicators of cost and quality. The data set ranges from the cost of in-state tuition and fees to student-faculty ratio to graduation rate. El Paso Community College ranked 351st in this report. Read the full reports at:

- Individual Schools: <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-community-colleges/15076/>
- School Systems: <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-best-worst-community-college-systems/15073/>

– Diana Polk

GOOOAL!

With the U.S. Open Cup final coming up at the end of August and the U.S.

Women’s National Team having won the World Cup this year, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *2019’s Best Cities for Soccer Fans* as well as accompanying videos. To find the best places for loving on the world’s favorite sport, WalletHub compared nearly 300 U.S. cities with at least one college or professional soccer team across five divisions comprising 52 key metrics. The data set ranges from minimum season-ticket price for a game to stadium accessibility to number of championship wins. El Paso was ranked 60th in this report. Other stats:

- Orlando, FL has the lowest minimum season-ticket price for an MLS game, \$149, which is 3.6 times less expensive than in Atlanta, GA, the city with the highest at \$540.
- Salt Lake City, UT has the lowest minimum season-ticket price for an NWSL game, \$120, which is 2.1 times less expensive than in Washington D.C., the city with the highest at \$250.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-cities-for-soccer-fans/14207/> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

Haciendas del Norte
Water Improvement District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate

The Haciendas Del Norte Water Improvement District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2019 on September 3, 2019 at 13931 Sagebrush Circle, El Paso, Texas 79938 at 7:00 pm. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR the proposal:

Joseph McCandless, Daniel Diaz, Ed Brown, David Lincoln and George Gibson
- AGAINST the proposal:

NONE
- PRESENT and not voting:

NONE
- ABSENT:

NONE

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.211492/\$100	0.210709/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	– \$0.000783	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– 0.370%	
Average appraised value	\$ 216,300	\$ 217,103
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen’s or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 216,300	\$ 217,103
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 457.47	\$ 457.47
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	\$ 0.00	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	0.00%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

Notice of Tax
Revenue Increase

The **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2** conducted public hearings on August 15, 2019 and August 20, 2019 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2** from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 12.08 percent.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last year’s tax rate of \$0.090858 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$3,272,376.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$3,582,087.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$3,673,544.

The governing body of **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2** is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on August 27, 2019 at El Paso County ESD #2 Board Room, 100 S. San Elizario Rd. Suite N, Clint, Texas 79836 at 6:00 PM.

The governing body of **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2** proposes to use the increase in total tax revenue for the purpose of funding capital improvements and purchasing a new pumper.

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



Use keto diet only in the short-term

DEAR DR. ROACH: What is your opinion of the keto diet? I have been doing it for a few weeks now and lost a few pounds, but it goes against everything I usually eat – high quantities of red meat, lots of full-fat foods and dairy. Since I am losing some weight and actually feel better and am sleeping better, I like the short-term results, but I cannot see this as a long-term way of life. I am concerned about all that fat going into my body and clogging my arteries. I exercise every day with Zumba, jogging, etc. – J.P.



The ketosis diet favors very large amounts of fat – 60% to 80% of calories, with 15% to 20% of calories from protein and 5% or less from carbohydrates. The theory is to cause ketosis, a physiological condition of ketones in the blood as a result of high fat intake. It has been used since the 1920s as a treatment for seizures, but now is used for weight loss.

Like every diet, it has both good and bad aspects. On the good side, it is effective at short-term weight loss. However, much of the apparent early weight loss is due to water weight, which is a universal finding on a high-fat diet. Weight gain is likely when stopping the diet.

It is highly restrictive. Further, many of the foods that you can’t eat on this diet are those that have been shown to be associated with improved health, especially vegetables and most fruits. Most people will have a substantial increase in cholesterol levels (by as much as 50%). The red meat and saturated fat probably present an independent risk of heart disease and cancer (even apart from its effect on cholesterol), although this remains somewhat controversial.

I do not recommend the keto diet for long-term use, at all. It may have some benefit in helping with short-term weight loss, but I think there are much healthier alternatives for most people.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Your column about the 58-year-old woman who felt like she had oil in her eye reminded me of having a very similar situation. I described it to my optometrist, and he also diagnosed ocular migraine. I wanted another opinion, because the only symptom I had was the oil, no headache or visual disturbances. The ophthalmologist diagnosed blepharitis, or

See HEALTH, Page 8

Super Crossword

POETIC LICENSE ACROSS

1 3.26 light-years

7 Smithies' blocks

13 Mark with surface ridges

20 Wise goddess

21 Baby sock

22 Garden State capital

23 Money made by the poet who wrote "In a Station of the Metro"?

25 Lessees

26 Port on the Danube

27 "Just playin' with ya"

28 Singer DiFranco

29 Bad-mouth

30 Fuel brand in Canada

31 Tirana is its cap.

32 Hound doc

33 Switchboard worker reached by the poet who wrote "The Bridge"?

36 Grid of fine lines in an optical instrument's focus

38 Boxer Johansson

39 Aged, once

42 According to

43 Concerning

44 High-priority task

48 Holiday tree decoration hung by the

poet who wrote "The Song of the Shirt"?

52 German car make

54 Cool, 1940s-style

55 Mix up

56 "No it _!"

57 450, in old Rome

58 Co. division

59 Caesar of old TV

60 Horror film lab helper

62 Puente of mambo

64 Promises

67 Business run by the poet who wrote "The Shooting of Dan McGrew"?

71 Most ventilated

72 Lovett of country rock

73 Give a title to

74 Pindar verse

76 FBI action

77 Koko, e.g.

79 Vigoda and Fortas

81 Having a bill

83 Novelist Packer

84 Soccer star

86 Caution given by the poet who wrote "The Road Not Taken"?

88 Amount of groceries, say

90 Busy as _

92 Adriatic, e.g.

93 Henri's head

94 Off the mark

96 Compound with

two or more amino acids

99 Food energy used by the poet who wrote "To a Mouse"?

103 Toronto-to-D.C. dir.

104 _ Cruces

107 Irish Rose's lover

108 Pats' goals

109 Drink suffix

110 Enter

111 Noah's boat

112 Tennis hitting technique

114 Marinara cooked by the poet who wrote "Aurora Leigh"?

117 Shifty

118 Fisher of fashion

119 Israel's language

120 One of the 12 apostles

121 See 115-Down

122 Tromps (on)

DOWN

1 _ New Guinea

2 Reef ring

3 Any point of the compass

4 D.C. figure

5 Curly-leaved salad green

6 Funeral box

7 Sacked out

8 Hide-hair link

9 Old Plymouth

10 1986 memoir by singer Turner

11 Bolshevik, e.g.

12 Line div.

13 Skunk mark

14 Hair-care brand

15 Kyo _ ("Star Wars" villain)

16 Weeping

17 Trial blast

18 Bodily trunk

19 Painter James

24 Venetian painter

29 Carry out kind acts

33 Simoleons

34 M.D. type

35 Cuba's Castro

36 Actor Foxx

37 Eau _

39 Resistance units

40 Mardi Gras locale

41 Moving shakily

43 Like sun visors

45 2002 baseball-themed film

46 Reliant (on)

47 Decides

49 Drab shade

50 Denver university

51 Contest form

53 Town square

57 Bamboozle

58 Hwy. felony

61 In base eight

63 1990s cardio fad

65 Conga's kin

66 Guide

68 Purge

69 Jai-alai cry

70 Shoe part

71 UAR part

75 Threshold

78 June gems

80 Twisty paths

82 Cards' cost

84 Witty bits

85 Optional course

86 Alternatives to Maseratis

87 Sherlock Holmes' pal

89 Tactfulness

91 Scarer's cry

95 Comedian Gilda

96 Runt

97 Apple computer webcam

98 More obtuse

99 Norman in "Psycho"

100 Curved fastening bar

101 Rend

102 Pop heroes

104 Singer Branigan

105 Curved

106 Distorts

110 Cotton seed removers

113 Fruit seed

114 TV's Arthur

115 With 121-Across, company's worth after liabilities

116 Japanese prime minister Shinzo

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						
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107							108				109								111	
112							113						115					116		
117																				
120																				

Health

From Page 7

clogged oil glands at the base of my eyelashes. She recommended placing a warm pack of rice in a sock over my eye and then washing the eye area with baby shampoo on a washcloth. I did this for a week or two, and on my visit with her to recheck the eyes, the problem was gone. – J.P.

However, you are quite right that it includes blurry vision, and the eye-care professional sometimes can see an oily or foamy film over the eye. The treatment the ophthalmologist recommended works for most people. Gentle lid massage may help get additional oily material out of the glands. However, antibiotics or other treatments are sometimes necessary.

Thank you for writing. Blepharitis is caused by changes in the meibomian glands, oil glands that are present in both eyelids, often associated with changes in bacteria. I usually see people with this condition noticing red eyes and a gritty sensation.

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.

Archives: www.wtxcc.com

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: L equals D

LTL MAS FGIQ VFIV AKL DFGN
BFA BIR RGIRAJTJW FTR
NQGJDF NQTGR? FG BIR
SRTJW RIKVM KIJWSIWG.

Answer Page 4
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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When veterans die without a family



by Freddv Groves

When a veteran dies and there is no family to tend to the details, the cremated remains will sometimes stay in storage for years. They're called Unclaimed Veterans. If the eventual burial takes place in a Department of Veterans Affairs cemetery, it's called an Unattended Interment.

Sometimes these veterans are homeless; sometimes they're in a care facility. Sometimes no one knows the whole truth unless VA paperwork is found in the veteran's belongings.

I know of three situations in the past six months where veterans with no relatives were buried – yet hundreds and thousands showed up at their funerals. In those instances, word went out via a social media blog requesting that

people come to pay their respects. Some traveled many miles to be able to attend and notified others in the area.

Now and then a local funeral home will put out word for nearby residents to attend the funeral of a veteran without family. Use it as the clearinghouse for any plans you might make, such as for "Taps" or notifying veteran motorcycle groups. That way you won't be duplicating efforts.

Ask specifically what they need. It might be they only require your attendance and anyone else you can bring with you. Either way, the veteran can receive military honors, including "Taps" and a gun salute, often performed by the American Legion if the burial takes place in a civilian cemetery.

If asked to attend the funeral of a veteran without family, please try to go. While they don't have a biological family, these veterans do have a military family – us.

To learn more, there are

Unclaimed Remains Burial Resources and Unclaimed Veteran Remains fact sheets available on the VA's cemetery website (www.cem.va.gov). Also look online for the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program (www.dignitymemorial.com).

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• Struggling with your shower cleanliness? Keep a bottle of shower sanitizer and a grout brush in the shower at all times. Use the grout brush if something pops up, and spray shower daily. This should greatly extend the time between deep cleanings.

• "I bought a television recently and didn't realize until I got it home that there are NO buttons on the unit itself. It operates only through the remote control. So, I put some hook and loop tape on the remote, and also on the TV and the side table. That remote stays put, and I can always find it when I want to turn the TV off!"
– I.J.M. in New York

• Hotel rooms can be germ paradises. Try sticking your TV remote inside of a plastic bag (you can use the one that comes with the ice bucket). Touch all you want; germs are trapped inside.

• Brooms get worn down with use. Be sure to remove clumps of hair and dust bunnies after use, and give it a dip in soapy water or a spray with the hose weekly (not straw brooms, though). Hanging a broom will give it a longer life.

• "After we replaced our kitchen knives with a nice block, we repurposed the magnetic strip to the garage, where it can hold a variety of tools and hardware."
– E.P. in North Carolina

• If you want to keep a few bottles of beverage cold in your hotel room, use one of the trash bins lined with a bag that's filled with ice. The actual ice bucket is typically too small to use as a cooler, and if you use the bathroom sink, where will you wash your hands?

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

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!

	+		×		20
×		–		+	
	×		÷		18
+		×		×	
	–		×		21
11		15		21	

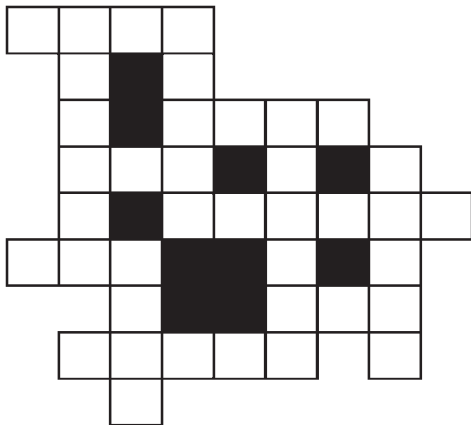
1 1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9

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Answer Page 2



GW I
BICULP
TWYTI
♥ BTAU
BUYSWA
MSI
OGWL
MTPAR
♥ TAC
IBINIK
GYSGO
♥ SEAP



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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.

Answer Page 4