

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Pot luck

The Oz and Audrey Glaze Senior Center is having Anniversary Pot Luck on October 9 at 12:00. We will be unveiling the new plaque dedicated to both Oz and Audrey for all their dedication to Horizon City.

— Judi Verslype

### Are you happy?

With the U.S. ranking No. 19 on this year's World Happiness Report, down one spot since the previous edition, and research showing that money up to a certain dollar amount can contribute to happiness, the personal-finance website has released its report on 2019's *Happiest States in America* as well as accompanying videos. To determine where Americans have the highest satisfaction with life, WalletHub compared the 50 states across 31 key indicators of happiness. The data set ranges from emotional health to income level to sports participation rate. Texas ranked 23rd in this report. Other stats:

- Hawaii has the lowest share of adult depression, 11.88 percent, which is 2.3 times lower than in Maine, which has the highest at 26.89 percent.
- New York has the fewest suicides (per 100,000 residents), 8, which is 3.6 times fewer than in Montana, which has the most at 29.
- North Dakota has the lowest long-term unemployment rate, 13.10 percent, which is 3.4 times lower than in New Mexico, which has the highest at 44.90 percent.
- Utah has the highest volunteer rate, 51.00 percent, which is 2.2 times higher than in Florida, where the rate is the lowest at 22.80 percent.
- Utah has the lowest separation and divorce rate, 15.88 percent, which is 1.6 times lower than in Nevada, which has the highest at 26.19 percent.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/happiest-states/6959/> for the full report.

— Diana Polk

### What are the odds?

An adventurous roller coast enthusiast at New Zealand's Port Aventura theme park dropped his cell phone mid-ride and flew through the air. But a passenger with quick reflexes riding in a car behind him managed to reach out and catch the phone as it flew through the air. The roller coaster, which was traveling at 80 MPH at the time, was equipped with a surveillance camera that caught the whole thing on video.

— John Grimaldi

*No one is more confusing than the person that gives good advice but sets a bad example.*

— Quips & Quotes

## El Paso Sierra Club presents bears of Big Bend at the zoo

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – “How the Mexican black bears have successfully returned to the mountains of Big Bend National Park during the 1980s” will be the featured topic of discussion at the El Paso Sierra Club's next monthly meeting, which is scheduled for 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 24, at the El Paso Zoo.

To lead the discussion, the local Sierra Club chapter has invited Raymond Skiles, a wildlife biologist from Alpine, Texas. Skiles' presentation will kick off the club's 2019-20 Kevin von Finger Speakers Series. The El Paso Zoo will host the first lecture in this year's new series at the Zoo's state of the art Wildlife Amphitheater. The event is free and open to the public.

The lecture series is named in honor of Kevin von Finger, a well-known El Paso naturalist and environmentalist, who died in 2012. The local ecologist and biologist served on several city and county environmental boards. He worked as senior ecologist for the Directorate of Environment at Fort Bliss for almost 28 years and retired from there in 2003. He had degrees from Knox College in Illinois and the University of Texas at El Paso.

Skiles, who grew up in Langtry, Texas, recently retired from the National Park Service (NPS) after over thirty years of service. While working as the park's wildlife biologist, Skiles was at the forefront of instituting pro-active management programs to make Big Bend



— Photo courtesy of Rick LoBello

**THEY START SMALL** – Raymond Skiles – holding a bear cub – grew up in Langtry, Texas and recently retired from the National Park Service after over thirty years of service. While working as the park's wildlife biologist, Skiles was at the forefront of proactive management, instituting programs to make Big Bend an exemplary bear park.

an exemplary “Bear Park”.

“The natural recolonization of the black bear to Big Bend National Park from the cross-border population in northern

Mexico is one of the most important conservation stories in Texas,” said Zoo

See BEARS, Page 4



— Photo courtesy of Valerie Hairston

**WHICH ONE ARE YOU** – SPC. Rafael Hernando III Middle School celebrated 22 sets of biological twins and its first set of triplets during the 2019 Spirit Week.

## SISD enrolls more than 500 twins, 10 triplets in 2019-20

By Ytzel A. Molina  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – SPC. Rafael Hernando III Middle School celebrated Spirit Week with a designated “Twin

Day.”

The festivity encouraged hundreds of Cavaliers to dress identical to one another, which prompted Principal Valerie Hairston to showcase the 22 sets of actual twins at her school.

“I noticed we had many sets of twins at

our school last school year, but we never counted them,” Hairston said. “Twin Day was the perfect opportunity to highlight our current twin and triplet students. I think it's very cool that we have so many

See TWINS, Page 2



# Twins

From Page 1

and I would find it incredible if anyone would have more.”

Hernando was the middle school with the greatest twin count; however, Montwood High School topped its number with 30 sets of twins. Districtwide, SISD enrolled 503 sets of twins and 10 sets of triplets during the 2019-2020 school year.

Sandra Andrade, a teacher at Dr. Sue A. Shook, the elementary said having multiples in class is special because they get to witness the unique bond these students share.

“It’s neat to see how close they are and how much they care for each other,” Andrade said. “I sit the twins in opposite sides of the room but as soon as we line up, or when we go to the carpet, they are drawn back to each other.”

To differentiate identical students, Andrade looks closely at their hair, shoes and the color of their uniform polo.

“It helps when moms do their hair differently,” she said. “I pay close attention to the smallest of details to tell them apart.”

Despite being together even before birth, and the obvious genetic similarities, a pair of fraternal twins at Montwood say they are very different.

“My brother Steven and I are

complete opposites ... we are like night and day,” said Jaclyn Terrazas, a senior. “He has a soft, calm tone and I’m crazy and vibrant. We complement each other, and we are a perfect match.”

An SISD trio concurs. The students are enrolled in different programs and schools; one is in the Health Professions Academy at Socorro High School, another in the Socorro Early College program and the third sibling is part of Eastlake’s School of Advanced Technology Applications.

“My brothers and I are very different and we don’t agree on a lot of things but I’m proud to be

a triplet,” said Monica Guerra, a sophomore in the Socorro HPA program . “I was very shocked when I heard that we had that many twins and triplets. It’s nice to be part of the group.”

With multiples being prevalent in schools, twin and triplet students want to set the record straight.

“People have a misconception that we do everything the same or they think we can read each other’s mind,” Steven Terrazas said. “We share parents and we share a birthday, but we don’t have magical powers. What I can say is that we are close, and as the years progress our bond continues to grow.”

## – CORRECTED NOTICE –

### Fabens Independent School District SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

The Fabens Independent School District has the following instructional arrangements available to eligible students.

- 1) Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE); 2) Mainstreaming; 3) Inclusion; 4) Fundamental Living Skills; 5) Behavior Development Unit (BD); 6) Homebound; 7) Resource; 8) Transitional Learning Class (TLC); 9) Program for Academic and Vocational Skills (PAVS); 10) Vocational Academic Program (VAP); 11) Content Mastery; and 12) Speech Therapy.

The district also provides the following services to eligible students:

- 1) Teacher for the Visual Impaired; 2) Physical Therapy; 3) In-Home Training; 4) Occupational Therapy; 5) Counseling Services; 6) Adaptive Physical Education; 7) Special Transportation; 8) Extended School Year Services (ESY); 9) Extended Educational Programming (EEP); 10) Nursing Services; 11) Personal Care Services; 12) Adaptive Assistive Devices; 13) Psychological Assessment Services; and 14) Auditory Impairment Teacher.

Services are provided to identify auditory and visually impaired individuals who reside within the district from birth to age twenty-one.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Public Law 105-17, parents and adult students have the right to inspect educational records. District policy FL provides information for record access, confidentiality and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a child with disabilities who is not receiving educational services, please contact: Jorge Saenz, PO Box 697, 603 NE Camp St., Fabens, TX 79838, (915)765-2690.

### El Distrito Escolar de Fabens SERVICIOS DE EDUCACION ESPECIAL

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens tiene las siguientes disposiciones y servicios de instruccion para aquellos estudiantes que sean elegibles.

- 1) Programa de Instruccion: infancia temprana (ECSE); 2) Clases Convencionales; 3) Clases Inclusivas; 4) Clases de Habilidades para vivir; 5) Clases para desarollar comportamientos (BD); 6) Instrucion en el hogar; 7) Clases de Recursos; 8) Clases de Aprendizaje transicional (TLC); 9) Programa de preparamiento Academico y Vocacional (PAVS); 10) Programa Academico Vocacional (VAP); 11) Clases de Dominio de contenido; y 12) Terapia del Habla.

El Distrito tambien ofrece los siguientes servicios a estudiantes elegibles:

- 1) Maestro para estudiantes con problemas visuales; 2) Terapia fisica; 3) Entrenamiento en casa; 4) Terapia Ocupacional; 5) Servicios de Consejeria; 6) Educacion fisica adaptiva; 7) Transportacion Especial; 8) Servicios de Año Escolar extendido (ESY); 9) Programa de Servicios extendidos (EEP); 10) Servicios de Salud; 11) Servicios de cuidados personales; 12) Aparatos de Asistencia Adaptiva; 13) Servicios de Asesoramientos psicologicos; 14) Maestro para estudiantes con problemas auditivos.

El Distrito tambien ofrece servicios para identificar niños con discapacidad auditiva o visual que vivan dentro del Distrito desde el nacimiento hasta la edad de 21 años.

Conforme al Acto de Derechos y Confidencia Educacional de Familia del 1974 y la Ley publica 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derecho de revisar sus archivos educativos. Poliza FL explica los derechos, la confidencialidad, y el proceso de alguna queja.

Si usted desea mas informacion o sabe de un niño/niña con alguna discapacidad que no este recibiendo servicios educativos, favor de comunicarse con: Jorge Saenz, P.O. Box 697, 603 NE Camp St. Fabens, Texas 79838, (915) 765-2690.

## Student travels over 200 miles every week to attend EPCC

By Ismael De La Rosa  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Community College (EPCC) throughout its 50 years of service has impacted the lives of thousands, granting them diplomas, certificates and unique skills required for the workforce in different fields of study. One of the most popular programs within the college is English as a Second Language offered by the Language Institute.

The program not only prepares students who want to start taking courses in the United States, it also provides the grammatical, writing and speech skills to professionals who have found a job opportunity and need to improve their English, like Mr. Saminda Fonseka.

Fonseka, a 32-year-old native of Sri Lanka, works as an engineer in a land process research company in Socorro, NM. He travels over 200 miles every Saturday to attend an Intensive English class at EPCC.

“I chose EPCC because of its great quality in education, safe and friendly environment and affordable tuition compared to other educational institutes,” Fonseka said, “I have only missed two classes since I started at EPCC, that is a testament to how much these classes have impacted me.”

“At the Language Institute, we are committed to offering classes in a dynamic, multicultural and effective environment with the most innovative, supportive resources imparted by highly qualified and competent faculty members.” Said Lucy Flores, Manager of the Language Institute.



Saminda Fonseka



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**Publisher**  
Rick Shrum  
**Contributors**  
Alfredo Vasquez  
Steve Escajeda



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# Yes, gun ownership is a God-given right

The fastest way to trend on Twitter, and not in a good way, is to say that the right to bear arms is a God-given right.

Texas state Rep. Matt Schaefer established this beyond a doubt in a Twitter thread in the aftermath of the West Texas shooting spree. He said that he wouldn't use "the evil acts of a handful of people to diminish the God-given rights of my fellow Texans."

Progressives were aghast, and when actress Alyssa Milano objected, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz jumped in to support Schaefer's argument (in less bombastic terms).

The basic proposition isn't hard to defend, and indeed it is written into our fundamental documents. This doesn't mean that God wants you to own an AR-15, or that every jot and tittle of our current gun regime is divinely mandated. Far from it. Yet there is a natural right to self-defense, and gun ownership is inherently connected to that right in a modern society.

This is glossed over even by Democrats who have a connection to America's culture of gun ownership. Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar said the other week, "I look at [gun legislation] and I always say, 'Does this hurt Uncle Dick in his deer stand?'" That's not the

question, though. The Second Amendment isn't fundamentally about Uncle Dick bagging deer, but about his ability to defend himself and his family.

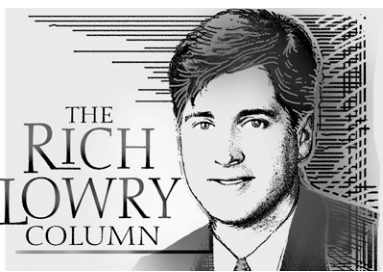
The notion of God-given rights shouldn't be controversial. It is a bedrock of the American creed, written into the Declaration of Independence. Its preamble says, of course, that all men "are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights."

The Bill of Rights numbers "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms" among those unalienable rights. Why? Because the founders believed that everyone has an inherent right to self-defense.

As David Harsanyi notes in his history of the gun in America, "First Freedom," John Adams said in his defense of one of the British soldiers charged in the Boston Massacre in 1770 that self-defense was "the primary canon in the law of nature."

Owning a gun is an extension of this law of nature and has been recognized as such for a long time in Anglo-America. The right to bear arms had deep roots in England, and predated the Constitution on these shores.

There was no doubt at the time about the importance of the right to bear arms. Harsanyi writes



that "not a single soul in the provisional government or at the Second Continental Congress or any delegate at the Constitutional Convention – or, for that matter, any new American – ever argued against the idea of individuals owning a firearm."

None of this is necessarily a trump card in the gun control debate – the most commonly proposed gun control restrictions wouldn't substantially lessen gun ownership. It does mean, though, that there is a limit to how far gun control can go in America and that proponents of new restrictions should be fully aware that they are tampering with a constitutionally protected individual right.

If Uncle Dick likes to hunt, good for him. But his right to own a firearm doesn't begin or end there.

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



— Photo courtesy of Rick LoBello

**HEAD FOR THE HILLS** – The Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta is the signature event of the Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition and Franklin Mountains State Park. Last year about 800 participants, above, attended; and with the 15th Annual Fiesta just a few days way, organizers are hoping to surpass the 1,000 visitors mark.

## Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta offers fun day at the mountain park

**By Alfredo Vasquez**  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PSAO COUNTY – Discover the rugged beauty of Franklin Mountains State Park at the Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta,

Which is the signature event of the Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition and Franklin Mountains State Park. The 15th Annual Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta is a free community event that is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, September 28th. All activities will be centered at the end of the loop road at the Tom Mays Park section off of Transmountain Road (Loop 375).

This year's fiesta promises to be another interesting and enjoyable day at the park where volunteers and staff will offer guided hikes, interactive desert activities sponsored by local conservation groups, entertainment, storytelling and animal

See FIESTA, Page 5







– Photo courtesy of Rick LoBello

THEY FINISH BIG – A Mexican black bear in the Chisos Mountains of Big Bend National Park.

Classified Ads

**NOTICE ESTABLISHING OFFICES AND MEETING PLACES OF PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 10**

**TO THE RESIDENTS OF PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 10 OF EL PASO COUNTY AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:**

**TAKE NOTICE** that in accordance with V.T.C.A. Water Code § 49.062, the Board of Directors of Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 10 of El Paso County (the “District”) has on September 3, 2019, formally established offices and meeting places for the District that are outside the boundaries of the District. A District office outside of the District is hereby established at the office of TRE & Associates, LLC, 110 Mesa Park Drive, Suite 200, El Paso, Texas 79912; and the office of TRE & Associates, LLC, 6101 W. Courtyard Drive, Building 1, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78730. The Board confirms the previous establishment of District offices located outside the boundaries of the District at the offices of Hunt Communities LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, Texas 79902; the offices of Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701; and Inframark, LLC, 13034 Eastlake Boulevard, Suites D-E, El Paso, Texas 79928. These offices are established for the purposes of conducting the business of the District and maintaining certain records of the District. Said offices are hereby declared to be public places and open to the public.

A meeting place of the Board outside of the District is hereby established at the office of TRE & Associates, LLC, 110 Mesa Park Drive, Suite 200, El Paso, Texas 79912; and the office of TRE & Associates, LLC, 6101 W. Courtyard Drive, Building 1, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78730. The Board confirms the previous establishment of District meeting places located outside the boundaries of the District at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, Texas 79902; the offices of Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701; and Inframark, LLC, 13034 Eastlake Boulevard, Suites D-E, El Paso, Texas 79928. These offices are hereby declared to be public places and open to the public, and the public is invited to attend any meeting of the Board.

**YOU WILL THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE OF THE FOREGOING FACTS.**

PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 10 OF EL PASO COUNTY

BY: /s/ Luis Ortega, President  
ATTEST: /s/ B. D. Reynolds, Jr., Secretary

WTCC: 09-19-19

**NOTICE ESTABLISHING OFFICES AND MEETING PLACES OF PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 11**

**TO THE RESIDENTS OF PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 11 OF EL PASO COUNTY AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:**

**TAKE NOTICE** that in accordance with V.T.C.A. Water Code § 49.062, the Board of Directors of Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 11 of El Paso County (the “District”) has on September 12, 2019, formally established offices and meeting places for the District that are outside the boundaries of the District. A District office outside of the District is hereby established at the office of TRE & Associates, LLC, 110 Mesa Park Drive, Suite 200, El Paso, Texas 79912; and the office of TRE & Associates, LLC, 6101 W. Courtyard Drive, Building 1, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78730. The Board confirms the previous establishment of District offices located outside the boundaries of the District at the offices of Hunt Communities LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, Texas 79902; the offices of Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701; and Inframark, LLC, 13034 Eastlake Boulevard, Suites D-E, El Paso, Texas 79928. These offices are established for the purposes of conducting the business of the District and maintaining certain records of the District. Said offices are hereby declared to be public places and open to the public.

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**YOU WILL THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE OF THE FOREGOING FACTS.**

PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 11 OF EL PASO COUNTY

By: /s/ Mary Suzann Pell, Vice President  
ATTEST: /s/ Darwin Voge, Secretary

WTCC: 09-19-19

## Bears

From Page 1

Education Curator Rick LoBello, who is also vice chair of the El Paso Sierra Club chapter.

Earlier this year the El Paso Zoo piloted a Zoo-Park partnership with Big Bend National Park to coordinate efforts to help conserve black bears in the park after being awarded a \$10,000 Winter America’s Keystone Wildlife Grant (AKW), according to LoBello. “The grant partners zoos with National Parks and National Wildlife Refuges to help America recover the wildlife legacy lost during the fur trade and westward expansion era of the United States,” he explained.


Starting his NPS career in 1980, Skiles experienced the NPS as a fee collector, interpretation ranger, and clerical worker at parks throughout the country before returning home to West Texas as a resource management ranger in 1987, and soon after became Big Bend Park’s wildlife biologist.

Skiles’ other career highlights include establishing backcountry campsites in the Chisos Mountains, fostering international conservation efforts across the Rio Grande, and oversight of large mammal and endangered species programs. He was also instrumental in completing Big Bend’s management plans for invasive species removal (aoudad and feral hogs), vegetation management (African grasses), and trespass livestock to ensure that park managers have the administrative tools to protect the park for many years to come.

The upcoming presentation is hosted by the El Paso Group of the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club, which currently has about 500 members from throughout West Texas including the counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson.

“We share a love of the outdoors and a desire to leave to our children and grandchildren the same opportunities to enjoy the outside world that we have had,” stated LoBello. “To accomplish this, we support conservation, smart energy solutions to combat global climate change, and wise use and protection of public lands,” he added.

For more information about the El Paso Sierra Club, visit the local chapter’s website, at <https://elpasosierraclub.com>.



**By Samantha Weaver**

- It was British politician John Sweeney who made the following sage observation: “How can a society that exists on instant mashed potatoes, packaged cake mixes, frozen dinners and instant cameras teach patience to its young?”
- Golfers beware: Don’t chew on the tees. One golfer who was in the habit of gnawing while he played overdosed on pesticides after playing 36 holes in one day.
- The longest word in the English language that can be typed using only one hand is “stewardesses.”
- It’s been reported that the last words of 19-century American author, essayist, biographer and historian Washington Irving were, “Well, I must arrange my pillows for another night. When will this end?”
- Famed actor Gary Cooper was offered the role of Rhett Butler in the film adaptation of Margaret Mitchell’s novel “Gone With the Wind,” but he turned down the part. He said he believed the movie would be “the biggest flop in Hollywood history.” The film went on to win 10 Academy Awards, including one for Best Actor, which was taken home by Clark Gable, who took the part that Cooper refused.
- If you know you have coronary issues, beware of extreme temperatures. Those who study such things say that you’re more likely to have a heart attack on a particularly hot or a particularly cold day.
- Records show that in England in 1552, William Shakespeare’s father had to pay a fine for littering.

Thought for the Day: “You will die. You will not live forever. Nor will any man nor any thing. Nothing is immortal. But only to us is it given to know that we must die. And that is a great gift: the gift of selfhood.”

– Ursula K. LeGuin

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## CryptoQuip Answer

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# Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Sept. 16, 1620, the Mayflower sails from Plymouth, England, bound for the New World with 102 passengers. Although headed for Virginia, stormy weather and navigational errors forced the Mayflower off course. On Nov. 21, the Pilgrims reached Cape Cod at what is now Provincetown, Massachusetts.
- On Sept. 17, 1996, talk show host Oprah Winfrey launches a television book club and announces “The Deep End of the Ocean,” by Jacquelyn Mitchard, as her first selection. Since then, Oprah’s Book Club has catapulted dozens of little-known books onto best-seller lists.
- On Sept. 18, 1973, future president Jimmy Carter files a report with the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, claiming he had seen an UFO in October 1969. Carter and other witnesses described the object as “very bright [with] changing colors.”
- On Sept. 19, 1957, the United States detonates a 1.7 kiloton nuclear weapon in an underground tunnel at the Nevada Test Site, 65 miles north of Las Vegas. It was the first fully contained underground detonation and produced no radioactive fallout.
- On Sept. 20, 1946, the inaugural Cannes Film Festival opens at the resort city of Cannes on the French Riviera. It was to make its debut in 1939, but the outbreak of World War II forced its cancellation.
- On Sept. 21, 1780, during the American Revolution, American Gen. Benedict Arnold meets with British Major John Andre to discuss handing over West Point to the British, in return for money and a position in the British army. The plot was foiled and Arnold became synonymous with the word “traitor.”
- On Sept. 22, 1985, the first “Farm Aid” concert is held in Champaign, Illinois, started with an offhand remark made by Bob Dylan. The Farm Aid organization has since raised more than \$33 million to support small-farm owners.

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Send Your Newsbrief To: [wtxcc@wtxcc.com](mailto:wtxcc@wtxcc.com)

# San Elizario trustees commit to improving student success

By Jeannie Meza-Chavez  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – The San Elizario ISD Board of Trustees has earned the team certificate for completing the Lone Star Governance Workshop. The LSG Governance Workshop is a two-day training where all Board of Trustees in collaboration with the Superintendent engaged in identifying adult behaviors that need to change in order to improve student outcomes.

Since the Board of Trustees accepted the invitation to become a member of the Inaugural LSG Exemplar Cohort in October of 2018, through a needs assessment process, they have worked tirelessly to identify district goals that focus on improving mathematics, reading, and college and career military readiness. In addition, they have committed to continue increasing the time spent on goal progress monitoring every month to include quarterly self-evaluations.

Training and guidance from ESC Region 19 Lone Star Governance Coach, Monica Jaloma, also provided in depth perspective and personal reflection with additional support from TEA Deputy Commissioner, AJ Crabill. He states, “Student outcomes don’t change until adult behaviors change.” The Board’s focus on goal progress monitoring has demonstrated positive gains as the district’s latest accountability rating of a B with an 86 is a 3-point gain from last year.

The distinction of earning the team certificate also commemorates the journey of Trustees to identify the vision and values of students, faculty, staff, and community by engaging in campus and community meetings and establishing a two-way communication.

The current board trustees also recognize the contributions of previous trustees whose participation assisted in making the necessary gains throughout the LSG framework: Mr. Ramon Holguin, Mr. Antonio Araujo, Mr. Armando Martinez, Mr. Ramon Rojas, and Staff Sergeant Norman B. Harrison.

## Fiesta

From Page 3

encounters presented by the El Paso Zoo.

Over the past fourteen years, thousands of El Pasoans attending the Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta at Tom Mays Park have discovered the rugged beauty of Franklin Mountains State Park. The park features hiking trails, camping and picnic sites surrounded by an undisturbed Chihuahuan Desert landscape.

The Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition is looking for new members and membership is free. Membership benefits include the good feeling of knowing that you are helping others understand and appreciate our beautiful Chihuahuan Desert and special invitations to events, such as the annual membership meeting, the Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta, and other special programs.

For more information about the desert fiesta, contact Rick LoBello, at [ricklobello@gmail.com](mailto:ricklobello@gmail.com).



– Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**WORKING TO SUCCEED** – Pictured, from left, are Dr. Jeannie Meza-Chavez, Superintendent; Eduardo Chavez, Board Secretary; Fernie Madrid, Board President; and trustees Sandra Licon, Michelle Garcia, Myrna Hernandez, and Becky Romero.

# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 8 Notice of SUPPLEMENTAL Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 8 will hold a SUPPLEMENTAL public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2019 on Friday, September 27, 2019, at 10:30 A.M., at the offices of TRE & Associates, LLC, 110 Mesa Park Drive, Suite 200, El Paso, TX 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 Quiñones, Silva, Spurlin and Touchstone**
- AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**
- PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**
- ABSENT:** **Director Contreras**

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
	Adopted	Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	0.75/\$100	0.75/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0.00/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	0.00%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 163,531	\$ 173,291
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 163,531	\$ 173,291
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,226.48	\$ 1,299.68
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	+ \$ 73.20	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	+ 5.97%	

## 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 water 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.



# Team USA falls flat at World Cup

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

Prior to that controversial loss to Russia in the Olympics of 1972, the United States had never failed to win a basketball gold medal.

Which, of course, means that they had never lost an Olympic basketball game.

That game has stayed in my mind all these years because of the local connection to it; Don Haskins was an assistant coach on that team and UTEP’s Jim Forbes was one of the players.

Over the last five decades, America has dominated the world basketball stage for the most part. The USA hasn’t won every single international competition, but they’ve come close.

Let’s put it this way, when the U.S. fails to win a basketball tournament, it makes news.

And boy did the recent United States entry into this year’s FIBA World Cup make some news.

Things didn’t just not go well for the Americans – it was their worst showing

ever in a major international tournament.

The United States defeated Poland in their final game of the event – to finish in seventh place!

I can see the Americans finishing seventh in any men’s soccer tournament, or seventh in hockey and even baseball. But finishing seventh in basketball is unheard of.

San Antonio Spurs coach Greg Popovich coached the team and had some harsh words for anyone taking a verbal swipe at his squad.

“Some people want to play the blame game. There’s no blame to be placed anywhere,” the usually stoic coach said. “They want to play the shame game, like we should be ashamed because we didn’t win a gold medal? That’s a ridiculous attitude. It’s immature, it’s arrogant, and it shows that whoever thinks that doesn’t respect all the other teams in the world and doesn’t respect that these guys did the best they could.”

And that might be the problem. I don’t remember any coach ever saying that the United States did “the best they could” when using NBA players in a tournament.

The question is, did the USA send their best NBA players to compete against the rest of the world’s best? The answer is a resounding no.

Let’s face it, there are now a ton of players from all over the world playing in the NBA. And I just don’t mean playing, many of those are star players.

There is no longer any fear of the “impossible to beat” NBA superstars.

But before anyone blames Popovich, a quick look at his roster tells the true story.

They began putting this team together a year ago and of the 35 players who started last summer on Team USA’s roster, 31 ended up pulling out.

Another handful pulled out after being added to the roster. From 2018, when the group was announced as Popovich took over as coach, only Kemba Walker, Khris Middleton, Harrison Barnes and Myles Turner made the trek to China.

Those are just four players on the team.

Here are some of the names of players who were not on the team: LeBron James, James Harden, Russell Westbrook, Steph

Curry, Paul George, Kawhi Leonard, Damian Lillard, Blake Griffin, Kyrie Irving, LaMarcus Aldridge, Chris Paul, DeMar DeRozan and Jimmy Butler, to name just a few.

There was a time that all the NBA stars could be counted on to represent their country in a big worldwide tournament. But that is obviously not the case now.

It figures that professional basketball has become such big business that players, and their representatives, would rather they take the time off to rest, or just avoid any chance of injury.

After all, an injury hits them where it really hurts – the pocketbook.

The Olympic games in Tokyo are coming up in July of 2020 and you can bet that there will be a lot of tweaking going on.

I’ve got to believe that after this dismal showing, some of the missing names listed above will make themselves available for the team.

If not, the USA will struggle to climb its way back atop the world’s basketball mountain.

The best basketball players in the world still play in the United States, but to win a gold medal, they’ll have to “play” for the United States.

# SPOT A STROKE

# F.A.S.T.



StrokeAssociation.org



## Super Crossword

DOUBLE-CHEDDAR  
ACROSS

- 1 Simple floater  
5 Declare  
11 Declines  
15 Harvesting yield  
19 Aruba, e.g.  
20 Alfred E. \_  
(magazine mascot)  
21 One-player card game  
23 Pompom or megaphone?  
25 Fine white gypsum  
26 Actor Reeves  
27 Cain or Abel, to Adam  
28 Soft, white limestone used as cat litter?  
29 Hen product  
31 Give a casual greeting  
34 Cup rim  
35 Shortage of maraschinos in a busy cocktail bar?  
42 It's factual  
46 Cyber-giggle  
47 Dada artist  
48 Act humanly  
49 Petition  
51 Golfer \_ Aoki  
52 Sothern of the screen  
53 Roadies work on it  
55 "This has me angry like a Prague native might be!"

- 58 It has pores  
60 Poker option  
62 Radio or TV spots  
63 \_ Rico  
64 Certain Asian capital  
66 Spay, e.g.  
69 Fleur-de-\_  
70 Slow-moving land reptile sitting on a recliner?  
77 Arctic seabird  
78 Balances evenly  
79 Community hangouts  
81 "The King of Queens" actor Patton  
85 Mother of Cain and Abel  
87 Greek love god  
89 \_ Le Pew (skunk toon)  
90 Areas where certain salad greens are grown?  
94 Pet dog of Sgt. Snorkel  
96 Mailroom container  
97 Scented powder  
98 Brain tests, in brief  
99 "Well, how about that!"  
101 "Say what?"  
102 Walk\_ (brief roles)  
103 Fervency  
105 Map showing southern U.S. states?  
109 Bit of A/V equipment

DOWN

- 1 Singer Astley  
2 Court king Arthur  
3 Dog botherer  
4 11th-grader, e.g., slangily  
5 DiFranco of folk rock  
6 Part of SLR  
7 Actor Bela  
8 Spring (from)  
9 Tom yum \_ (Thai soup)  
10 With 43-Down, software buyer, e.g.  
11 Morales of films

- 12 Door locker  
13 Sheep's call  
14 Female seer  
15 \$1,000 award, say  
16 Poet Dove  
17 Dodger Hershiser  
18 Exec's extra  
22 Unstated  
24 Little 'un  
28 Model shop buy  
30 Street cart sandwiches  
32 Vostok 1's Gagarin  
33 Impair  
35 Be at odds  
36 Warn with a toot  
37 Cause of odd weather  
38 Orbiter in 1957 news  
39 Apple's Air, e.g.  
40 Part of REO  
41 3 R's org.  
43 See 10-Down  
44 Social skill  
45 Tubular snack cake  
50 Molded jelly  
54 Wishes one could undo  
56 \_ Gras  
57 Like a really easy job  
59 And not  
61 Expected  
65 Author Calvino  
67 Get narrower  
68 Rocker Brian  
69 African country  
71 Very unusual

- 72 Mao \_-tung  
73 Deli sub  
74 Band blaster  
75 Fridge, old-style  
76 Broccoli-like vegetable  
80 See or touch  
81 Eight: Prefix  
82 \_-Pei  
83 Untamed  
84 Escort  
85 D-I link  
86 Rose holder  
88 Overfill  
91 Despite that  
92 Comic Jay  
93 Silvery fish  
95 "My, my!"  
100 Mine vehicles  
104 Actress Christina  
106 Aunt's son, informally  
107 Trinket  
108 Lest  
110 Orang's kin  
113 602, to Ovid  
114 \_ McNally  
115 Pendant gem  
116 \_-TASS  
117 Memo  
118 Low card  
120 As sly as \_  
122 Ruler of yore  
123 McEntire of music  
124 Fruit drinks  
126 PC's core  
127 \_ Solo  
128 Sob

Answer Page 4

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132						133					134							135			

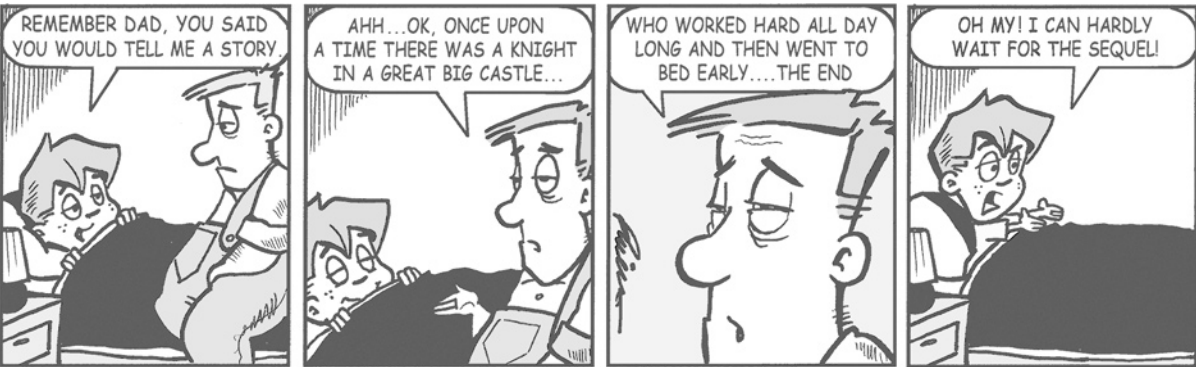


Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Better to sleep on left side or right?

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am a man in my late 50s. I now am told to sleep on my right side and not my left side, because it's better for the heart. However, my sinuses seem to open up and it's easier to breathe lying on my left side. What, if anything, will happen if I sleep on my left side? Can it damage the heart permanently or lead to an early death? – M.N.



Most people can sleep in whatever position they find comfortable without any problem. However, there are a few instances in which sleeping on the left side may potentially cause problems. One is in people with untreated obstructive sleep apnea, in which several studies have shown that sleeping on the left side leads to slightly more breathing problems than sleeping on the right. However, in people who are treated, that should not be a problem. Pregnant women should sleep on the side. Although women have often been recommended to sleep on their left side, either side is fine for the baby. Left-sided sleeping may reduce swelling in the feet. People with known severe congestive heart failure or coronary artery disease and who habitually sleep on the left side have a small increase in death compared with back or right-side sleepers. However, my opinion is that the benefit is so small that comfort and quality of sleep is more important.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have read that many runners drink too much water and that this can be dangerous. What are the signs of drinking too much? – H.C.

Exercise-associated hyponatremia (“hypo” means “too little,” and “natremia” means “sodium in the blood”) is common for endurance athletes, such as long-distance triathletes and marathoners. It is caused by losing salt and water, mostly through sweat, and replacing it with only water. Most cases are mild and have few symptoms, but if there are symptoms, they are most commonly weakness, headache and dizziness. Severe cases cause disorientation and can lead to seizures and death. In a study of the Boston Marathon in 2002, 13% of finishers had hyponatremia, but only 1% had critical levels. To avoid hyponatremia, you need to ignore the advice to “drink

See HEALTH, Page 8

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1973

46

Years

2019

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CLASSIFIED AD FORM

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
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33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

Deadline: Monday, 4 p.m.  
Please print. Send form and  
payment (no cash) to:  
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15344 Werling Ct.  
Horizon City, TX 79928

Contact Information:  
  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Health

From Page 7

as much as possible” during exercise. Further, most sports drinks do not have enough sodium to protect against hyponatremia. As simple as the advice is, drinking when you are thirsty when you exercise is the best way of preventing hyponatremia while still preventing volume depletion or dehydration.

studies showing a difference between brands, which I can’t find with cod liver oil. However, I would look for a brand that is labeled “certified USP,” meaning it is tested for contaminants, and one that has a low vitamin A level (below 10,000 IU daily). You also might want one with high (450 mg or greater) EPA plus DPA (the most commonly recommended omega-3 fats).

*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](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu). (c) 2019 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.*

DEAR DR. ROACH: You wrote last year about cod liver oil as a source of vitamin D and omega-3. Can you recommend a brand? – M.E.T.

I don’t like to recommend specific brands unless there are scientific

Archives: [www.wtxcc.com](http://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: F equals V

YCXMBGMA QXO JMVHAK XEXR  
CV XfvGB CKJ LHAGIGYC’Y  
LHMNKJY, G’FJ LIXNJB WRYJIQ  
VHC VQ XOW’Y EXR.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Disability ratings undergoing changes



by Freddy Groves

If you received disability from the Department of Veterans Affairs, your rating might go up. The VA has updated parts of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities, which is the set of diagnostic codes for 15 different systems of the body.

Current updates being made include infectious diseases, nutritional deficiencies and immune disorders. The schedule is what claims processors use to determine the severity of illnesses and assign ratings. The plan is to aim for consistency. Other body systems will be updated in the coming months.

If you had a claim in process before Aug. 11, claims processors will review both sets of criteria, and you’ll be given the one that’s more

advantageous to you. If you filed after Aug. 11, you’ll be under the new schedule.

To review the schedules, go online to [www.benefits.va.gov/WARMS/bookc.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/WARMS/bookc.asp), the Schedule for Rating Disabilities. My concern is that the newest update shown in the Table of Amendments is 2018, even though it is the link given by the VA and even though they are for the body systems the VA says are now updated. Hopefully the claims processors are working with newer files.

TIP: If you’re new to filing a claim, know the Veteran Affairs Schedule for Rating Disabilities (VASRD) code for your particular disability. These will be four-digit numbers. Then look them up to be certain the right code was assigned. Not every single medical condition has a code, so the closest one is selected. Be sure you agree. If you don’t, speak up. Go online to research “how to read VA diagnostic codes” as

a place to start. This is not the first schedule update. Starting two years ago, the VA updated schedules for skin conditions, endocrine, gynecological disorders, eye diseases, dental and oral conditions, and the hematologic and lymphatic systems.

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• Mirrors make a room feel larger, because they reflect space, essentially doubling the visual area. But for maximum impact, experts say to hang your mirror on the wall adjacent to your window, not across from it.

• Here’s a way to remove stickers, especially ones that don’t tear off. Rub labels with straight white vinegar or soak a paper napkin with vinegar and lay it over the label. Let it sit for 10 minutes, then remove. You should be able to rub the adhesive right off. Reapply if necessary.

• Whether you recycle because of global warming, landfill overload or environmental issues, the planet thanks you. But remember that recycling is only one part of going green. “Reduce” and “re-use” are just as important. Choose products with less packaging. Have small appliances fixed instead of automatically replacing them. And keep recycling.

• Clean your coffeemaker this way: Fill your coffeepot with equal parts water and vinegar. Add to machine and run as normal. Halfway through the cycle, turn the pot off and let the heated mixture sit for an hour or more. Complete the cycle, and run another pot or two of plain water through to rinse.

• If you kids have gone wild with new school supplies, here’s a tip from A.M. in Indiana to erase crayon marks from painted walls: “Make a paste of equal parts baking soda and water, and apply to the area. Then let it dry and wipe away.” This works best on a white or very light wall, as dark colors may lose some color. Also, wipe gently, as baking soda is a mild abrasive.

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!

	×		−		15
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	×		+		13
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	+		+		20
25		16		16	

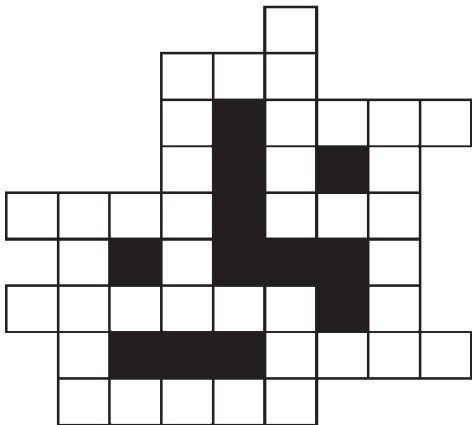
1 2 3 5 6 7 8 8 9

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Answer Page 4



GZA  
♥ MECASH  
NAKOR  
♥ HACE  
STRAZE  
RKA  
ERZA  
GENKI  
RSI  
SKIRHA  
♥ REGEA  
ROAK



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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