



NEWSBRIEFS

Socorro ISD report cards online

Report cards for Socorro ISD students are available online at https://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Accountability/State_Accountability/Performance_Reporting/School_Report_Cards and on the SISD website at www.sisd.net/SchoolReportCards. A printed copy of the report is available upon request at each school or at the SISD District Service Center. A more complete report about each school and the District, the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), is available at <https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/perfreport/tapr/index.html>.

— Christy Floes-Jones

Best driving states

With U.S. traffic congestion costing U.S. drivers \$87 billion in 2018 and the U.S. ranked 17th in the world in road quality, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *2020's Best & Worst States to Drive* in as well as accompanying videos. To determine the most driver-friendly states in the U.S., WalletHub compared the 50 states across 31 key metrics. The data set ranges from average gas prices to share of rush-hour traffic congestion to road quality. Texas was rated 4th in the report. Driving in Texas (1-Best; 25-Average):

- 30th – Share of Rush-Hour Traffic Congestion;
 - 28th – Traffic Fatality Rate;
 - 6th – Auto-Repair Shops per Capita;
 - 5th – Average Gas Prices;
 - 22nd – Auto Maintenance Costs; and
 - 3rd – Car Dealerships per Capita.
- Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-states-to-drive-in/43012/> for the full report.

— Diana Polk

Education by state

With U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics data showing a correlation between higher education levels, higher income and lower unemployment rates, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *2020's Most & Least Educated States in America* as well as accompanying videos. In order to determine where the most educated Americans live,

See BRIEFS, Page 2



— Photo by Mike Scheck/ U.S. Army

ALLEGIANCE – As part of this recent mass enlistment ceremony held at Chase Field in Phoenix, AZ, U.S. Army recruits recite the oath of enlistment. The Army's goal was to add 68,000 new active-duty recruits by the end of this fiscal year. Approximately 1,426,713 military service personnel are currently on active duty, and an additional 1,259,000 are in the National Guard or Reserve components.

Young men required to register for selective service

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

NATION – In the United States, men between the ages of 18 and 25 are legally required to register for the selective service, that is for possible draft purposes. This stark reminder came to light recently when talk of a confrontation with Iran resurfaced in Washington D.C.

Presently, there is no active draft, and it would take an act of Congress signed into law by the president for the Selective Service Administration to go back in action and call people involuntarily to military service, according to U.S. military professionals.

For now, the selective service system is simply a database for the government to keep a list of eligible males whom they can draft to serve in the military should there be a need, one military expert explained. "Enacting a draft is a congressional power, not a presidential

one. Should there be a need for people to serve in the military involuntarily, then that list would be used to start calling people to service," he stated.

As it stands currently, by law the government requires only that men register, and the government would need to enact new legislation to actually put men in arms. A draft is meant to be activated only in an extreme emergency, like a full-scale war with a formidable foe.

Most 18- to 25-year-old men are automatically registered in most states, like Texas, when they obtain their driver's licenses, submit paperwork for college financial aid, or apply for a federal government job.

The law stipulates that males have up until 30 days after they turn 18 to register, but there is a grace period that allows them to register up until the last day of their 25th year. Even permanent residents, regardless of citizenship status, are expected to register for the selective service. Only men who are not between

the ages of 18 and 26 are exempt from selective service.

Failing to register may lead to fines, possible imprisonment, and not being eligible for certain benefits, according to selective service officials. Although rarely has an individual been fined or thrown in jail for not registering, the main thing he should worry about is that he would be limited in his financial resources and future career choices, officials pointed out.

"It will cut them out of the market for student loans and make it harder, if not impossible, to get a job with the federal government or apply for an internship," one official stated. "It is a more moderate system of penalties rather than a criminal procedure," he added.

But just because a man registered, it does not mean that he will automatically have to serve in the military if a draft is reinstated. "If a person has a physical

See DRAFT, Page 6

Social Security chief warns of predatory phone scams

By Mark Hinkle
Special to the Courier

NATION – The Social Security Administration launched a new Public Service Announcement (PSA) campaign to continue warning people about the ongoing nationwide telephone impersonation scheme. The PSAs

feature a message from Social Security Commissioner Andrew Saul. Social Security and its Office of the Inspector General (OIG) continue to receive reports about fraudulent phone calls from people falsely claiming to be Social Security employees. The scammers mislead victims into making cash or gift card payments for help with purported identity theft, or to avoid arrest for bogus Social

Security number problems.

"I want every American to know that if a suspicious caller states there is a problem with their Social Security number or account, they should hang up and never give the caller money or personal information. People should then go online to oig.ssa.gov to report the scam call to

See SCAMS, Page 4

The quickest way for a parent to get a child's attention is to sit down and look comfortable.

— Quips & Quotes

OK, zoomers

OK, zoomers: Here is your trigger warning. What was the name of Roy Rogers’ horse? The answer is Trigger. You were warned.

For those who are wondering who in tarnation is Roy Rogers, he called himself the “King of the Cowboys” and was one of the big stars of Western shoot-’em-up movies. Those films really contributed to the cultural mindset that has made us such a gun-totin’ country today, which results in one assault weapon massacre after another.

If you’re wondering who zoomers are, they make up Generation Z, and have barely made it out of puberty. As well as millennials, who just seem

like they haven’t. It’s a snarky reference to those who are too young to have accumulated the mileage necessary to take over, well, just about anything. It’s also an irritable reaction to the “OK, boomer” dismissal of anyone who might offer the benefit of experience to anyone younger who thinks he or she knows everything and doesn’t need the benefit of seasoning that only comes from years of existence.

It’s also ageist as all get out to diss anyone just because he or she is senior. So yes, I’m dissed off as a member of the generation that is older than dirt.

But let’s discuss this attitude on its merits, or lack thereof. It is true that the boomers have

made a mess of things and also true that the boomers were incredibly self-indulgent. “If it feels good, do it” was the mantra of the 1960s, obviously irresponsible, but it certainly felt good. The boomers made the same mistake of those who succeeded them, the millennials and the ones they begat. For the boomers, the watchword was “Never trust anyone over 30,” rejecting the lessons their parents tried to teach them, as part of the so-called Greatest Generation.

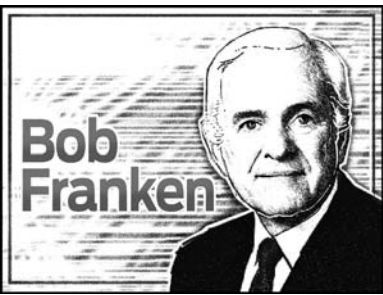
The “Greatest” survived the Great Depression and went off to war to stop tyranny, but their era was, in fact, a mixed bag. Balancing the obvious accomplishments were the realities of Jim Crow segregation and the oppression of women. Plus, that generation could be blamed for raising the boomers. While they were a population bulge of narcissists, this is the same self-indulgent demographic group that started unraveling all the bigotry it inherited. They also coddled their children, who have continued their assaults on the prejudices that still infect our society.

Meanwhile, technology is spinning out of control. Yes, it brings with it a worldwide connectivity. But that has advantages, along with very serious disadvantages. While the cyber world moves at blinding speed, it also blinds us to the need

to understand how knowledge is accumulated. We no longer have to learn how to learn. Computers do it all for us, which inevitably leads to a contempt for the learned.

The social media also are antisocial media. Our access to everyone paradoxically means we are in solitary confinement, where our individual abilities translate into lone voices. A sense of community at any level is tougher and tougher to achieve.

So, OK, zoomers: How are we going to undo our mess? The answer is to combine forces, to value experience as well as energy. Furthermore, we must



ignore those who refuse to abandon puberty, like a certain divisive president we all know, who would take us back to generations that are obsolete.

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Fabens Independent School District Public Notice of Meeting

Fabens Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District’s 2018-2019 Annual Report. The meeting will be held at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 in the Fabens Independent School District’s Board Room at 821 N.E. “G” Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

The public is invited to attend. For more information, call (915) 765-2600, x2102.

Junta Pública

El Distrito escolar independiente de Fabens celebrará una audiencia pública para discutir el informe anual 2018-2019. La reunión se celebrará a las 6:30 p.m. el miércoles, 19 de febrero de 2020 en la sala de juntas de Fabens ISD, 821 N.E. “G” Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

El público está invitado a asistir. Para obtener más información, llame al (915) 765-2600, x2102.

WTCC: 01-30-20

Classified Ads

LEGAL

VILLAGE OF VINTON, TX

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2020-001

BANKING DEPOSITORY SERVICES

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Vinton will receive sealed bid proposals for a three (3) year bank depository services contract with the effective date of April 1, 2020 at City Hall, until 4:00 p.m., Friday, February 21, 2020. The contract may be extended by agreement for up to two additional one (1) year terms.

Copies of specifications and bid documents may be obtained from the Village of Vinton website under “Opportunities” or from the Village Administrator.

Sealed applications for a Municipal Depository Agreement shall be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 21, 2020 at the Village City Hall, located at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton Texas, 79821. Proposals

for a Municipal Depository Agreement received after the due date shall not be considered by the City Council.

All bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “DEPOSITORY PROPOSAL 2020-001”.

The City Council will consider awarding a contract at the Regular City Council meeting on March 3, 2020.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularities or informalities or both in any bid, and to make an award in any manner, consistent with the law and deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Village of Vinton is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Village of Vinton, TX
Andrea N. Carrillo
Village Administrator

WTCC: 01-30-20

Briefs

From Page 1

WalletHub compared the 50 states across 18 key metrics. The data set ranges from share of adults aged 25 and older with at least a high school diploma to average university quality to gender gap in educational attainment. Texas was rated 39th in this report, ranking (1-Most; 25-Average):

- 49th – Percent of High-School Diploma Holders;
 - 37th – Percent of Associate’s Degree Holders or College-Experienced Adults;
 - 28th – Percent of Bachelor’s Degree Holders;
 - 33rd – Percent of Graduate- or Professional-Degree Holders;
 - 30th – Avg. University Quality;
 - 5th – Racial Gap in Educational Attainment; and
 - 1st – Gender Gap in Educational Attainment.
- Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/most-educated-states/31075/> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

Doggie joy ride

A Port St. Lucie, FL driver left Max, the dog, alone in his car and as he stepped away the pooch managed to

accidentally put the auto in gear and went on a joy ride – in reverse. Anna Sabol, who lives nearby, watched as the car went round and round in a cul-de-sac for some 30 minutes, coming to a halt when it backed into a mailbox. The unidentified owner of the vehicle promised to pay for the minimal damage Max caused. But, Ms. Sabol was impressed with Max, telling a reporter for the Sun-Sentinel newspaper: “They should give that dog a license. He drives better than some people I’ve seen on the roads here.”

– John Grimaldi

The Doghouse Inn

Jayne Trapper of Devon, England is something of a homebody. Husband Paul spent most evenings at a local pub. Then Jayne got the bright idea of building a pub of her own in their backyard, which she appropriately named, The Doghouse Inn. Says Jayne, “My husband had always loved popping down to our local [pub], and I could never seem to keep him at home... so I got to thinking – why not create my own pub, become my own landlady and then I can really tell people – my husband’s in the doghouse!”

– John Grimaldi



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Election too important to be left to the voters

The Democrats believe that the 2020 election is too important to be left to the voters.

It's obvious that President Donald Trump withheld defense aid to Ukraine to pressure its president to commit to the investigations that he wanted, an improper use of his power that should rightly be the focus of congressional investigation and hearings.

Where the Democrats have gotten tangled up is trying to find a justification that supports the enormous weight of impeaching and removing a president for the first time in our history.

They've cycled through different arguments. First, Trump's offense was said to be a quid pro quo, a phrase cast aside for supposedly being too Latin for the public to understand; then it was bribery, which has lost ground lately, presumably because of the inherent implausibility of the charge; now, the emphasis is on Trump's invitation to the Ukrainians to "meddle" and "interfere" in our elections.

This is posited to be an ongoing threat. Nancy Pelosi said in her statement calling on the House to draft articles of impeachment: "Our democracy is what is at stake. The president leaves us no choice but to act because he is

trying to corrupt, once again, the election for his own benefit."

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerry Nadler said on "Meet the Press" that Trump has to be impeached "for posing the considerable risk that he poses to the next election." Asked if he thinks the 2020 election will be on the up and up, he said: "I don't know. The president, based on his past performance, will do everything he can to make it not a fair election."

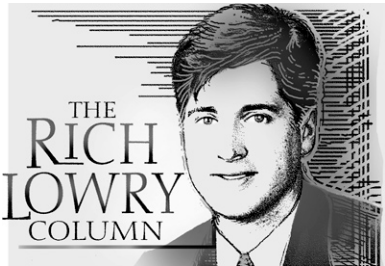
The gravamen of this case is that the election is too crucial to allow the incumbent president of the United States, who is leading in key battleground states and has some significant chance of winning, to run. In fact, the integrity of the election is so at risk that the U.S. Senate should keep the public from rendering a judgment on Donald Trump's first term, or deciding between him and, say, his nemesis Joe Biden.

Of course, it's possible to imagine a circumstance where a president would indeed present such a grave risk to our elections that he'd have to be removed. This is a reason that we have the impeachment process in the first place. But what's the real harm that Trump's foolhardy Ukraine adventure presented?

The bottom line is that after tsk-tsking Trump for refusing to say in advance that he'd accept the outcome of the 2016 election, Democrats have steadfastly refused to truly accept the 2016 result (allegedly the work of the Russians) and now are signaling they won't accept next year's election either, should they lose again. Given their druthers, Trump

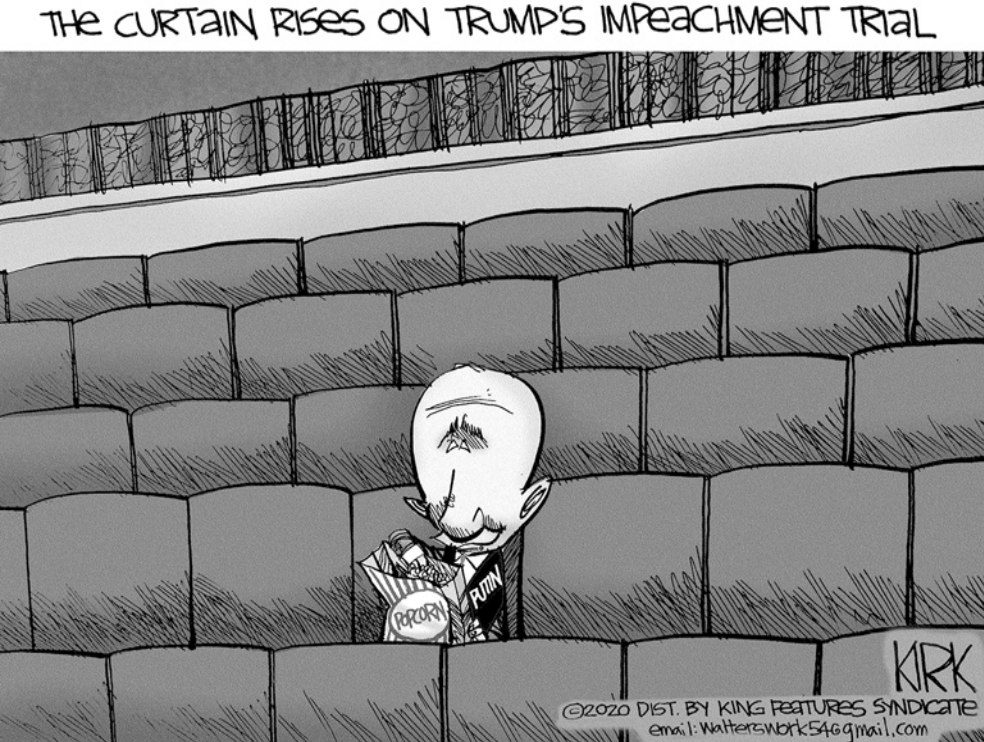
wouldn't be an option for the voters. They are rushing their impeachment, in part, because they know that as November 2020 approaches, it becomes steadily less tenable to portray the man who wants to run in an election as the threat to democracy and the people who want to stop him as its champions.

With every day that passes, the Democrats risk creating the



perception that they themselves are a threat to the 2020 election.

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



Scams

From Page 1

Social Security,” said Saul. People should also be on the lookout for a new version of this scam. Fraudsters are now emailing fake documents in attempts to get people to comply with their demands. Victims have received emails with attached letters and reports that appear to be from Social Security or the OIG. The letters may use official letterhead and government jargon to convince victims they are legitimate; they may also contain misspellings and grammar mistakes. The new PSA addressing the

telephone impersonation scheme is available online at www.youtube.com/socialsecurity and below: Social Security employees do occasionally contact people--generally those who have ongoing business with the agency--by telephone for business purposes. However, Social Security employees will never threaten a person, or promise a Social Security benefit approval, or increase, in exchange for information or money. In those cases, the call is fraudulent and people should just hang up. Generally, the agency mainly calls people who have recently applied for a Social Security benefit, someone who is already

receiving payments and requires an update to their record, or a person who has requested a phone call from the agency. If a person is not in one of these situations, they normally would not receive a call from the agency. Social Security will not:

- Tell you that your Social Security number has been suspended.
- Contact you to demand an immediate payment.
- Ask you for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Require a specific means of debt repayment, like a prepaid debit card, a retail gift card, or cash.
- Demand that you pay a Social Security debt without the

ability to appeal the amount you owe.

- Promise a Social Security benefit approval, or increase, in exchange for information or money.

If there is a problem with a person’s Social Security number or record, in most cases Social Security will mail a letter. If a person needs to submit payments to Social Security, the agency will send a letter with instructions and payment options. People should never provide information or payment over the phone or Internet unless they are certain of who is receiving it. To get more Social Security news, follow the Press Office on Twitter @SSAPress.



By Samantha Weaver

- It was nonviolent Indian activist Mahatma Gandhi who made the following sage observation: “First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win.”
- In 1905, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, author of the Sherlock Holmes stories, became one of the first people ever to be fined for speeding.
- Appropriately, the patron saint of bankers is St. Meingold.
- Less than half the people in the world use a spoon, fork and knife to eat. The rest use chopsticks, just a knife or their hands.
- In Babylon 4,000 years ago, it was accepted practice that for a month after the wedding, the bride’s father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer, and so that time became known as the honey month – what we know today as the honeymoon.
- People who pick chili peppers in Costa Rica have to wear special suits to avoid getting blisters just from coming into contact with them.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was published in 1892 in celebration of the 400th anniversary of Columbus’ voyage to the New World. It didn’t contain the words “under God,” though, until 1954, when they were added by an act of Congress in an attempt to check the creeping advance of “Godless Communism.”
- Abraham Lincoln was the only American president to witness battle firsthand while in office.
- A caterpillar has 4,000 muscles.

Thought for the Day: “Going to the opera, like getting drunk, is a sin that carries its own punishment with it, and that a very severe one.”
– Hannah More

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Fabens Independent School District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended August 31, 2019

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	20 ESEA, Title I, Part A	Other Funds	98 - Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
5700 Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 2,426,094	\$ –	\$ 3 82,265	\$ 2,808,359
5800 State Program Revenues	20,046,497	–	2,014,329	22,060,826
5900 Federal Program Revenues	1,821,559	1,292,233	1,035,159	4,148,951
5020 Total Revenues	24,294,150	1,292,233	3,431,753	29,018,136
EXPENDITURES				
0011 Instruction	12,402,319	1,185,395	940,050	14,527,764
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	267,741	–	–	267,741
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	123,055	106,838	24,324	254,217
0021 Instructional Leadership	169,081	–	118,650	287,731
0023 School Leadership	1,441,225	–	–	1,441,225
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	872,301	–	205,755	1,078,056
0032 Social Work Services	31,405	–	–	31,405
0033 Health Services	312,223	–	796	313,019
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	412,561	–	–	412,561
0035 Food Services	1,216,072	–	34,850	1,250,922
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	967,044	–	–	967,044
0041 General Administration	1,187,004	–	1,000	1,188,004
0051 Plant Maintenance and Operations	2,642,762	–	900	2,643,662
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	257,302	–	41,539	298,841
0053 Data Processing Services	232,579	–	–	232,579
0061 Community Services	30,870	–	67,633	98,503
0071 Debt Service - Principal	83,768	–	1,215,000	1,298,768
0072 Debt Service - Interest	–	–	1,030,342	1,030,342
0073 Debt Service - Bond Fees	–	–	3,445	3,445
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	34,980	–	–	34,980
6030 Total Expenditures	22,684,292	1,292,233	3,684,284	27,660,809
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	1,609,858	–	(252,531)	1,357,327
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7915 Transfers In	–	–	8,458	8,458
8911 Transfers Out	(8,458)	–	–	(8,458)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(8,458)	–	8,458	–
1200 Net Change in Fund Balance	1,601,400	–	(244,073)	1,357,327
0100 Fund Balance – Beginning	705,796	–	309,922	1,015,718
1300 Prior Period Adjustment	1,600,364	–	–	1,600,364
3000 Fund Balance – Ending	\$ 3,907,560	\$ –	\$ 65,849	\$ 3,973,409

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CryptoQuip

Answer

Married “Star Wars” fans have split up. Pals proclaim “may divorce be with you!”

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27		25		17	



- On Jan. 27, 1943, future President Ronald Reagan, an Army Air Corps first lieutenant during World War II, is on assignment with the Army's First Motion Picture Unit. He had been tapped to star in a motion picture called "Air Force."
 - On Jan. 28, 1964, the U.S. State Department angrily accuses the Soviet Union of shooting down an American jet that strayed into East German airspace, killing three U.S. officers aboard the plane. The Soviets said the flight was a "gross provocation."
 - On Jan. 29, 1977, "Roots," a groundbreaking television program, premieres on ABC. The eight-episode miniseries, which aired on consecutive nights, follows a family from West Africa through generations of slavery and the end of the Civil War.
 - On Jan. 30, 1933, Adolf Hitler, leader of the National Socialist German Workers Party (or Nazi Party), is named chancellor (Fuehrer) of Germany. Hitler immediately ordered a rapid expansion of the state police, the Gestapo.
 - On Jan. 31, 1606, at Westminster in London, Guy Fawkes, a conspirator in the plot to blow up the British Parliament building, jumps to his death before his execution for treason. On Nov. 5, 1605, Fawkes had been found lurking in a cellar of Parliament with two tons of gunpowder.
 - On Feb. 1, 1781, the Articles of Confederation are finally ratified. The Articles had been signed by Congress and sent to the individual states on Nov. 15, 1777, but bickering between Virginia and Maryland delayed final ratification for almost four years.
 - On Feb. 2, 1887, Groundhog Day, featuring a rodent meteorologist, is celebrated for the first time at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. According to tradition, if a groundhog comes out of its hole on this day and sees its shadow, it gets scared and runs back into its burrow, predicting six more weeks of winter weather.
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Send Your
Newsbrief To:
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Tejanos go into season with new coaches, new field

By Jim Heiney
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Community College (EPCC) welcomes spring with the opening of baseball season. The Tejanos baseball team, are members of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The team plays their home games at the EPCC Valle Verde campus, 919 Hunter. They will welocme in their 25th season with new turf that was installed in the fall.

In the off-season, EPCC hired veteran coach Julien Soucy to head the men’s baseball program. Soucy served as the Pitching Coach/Recruiting Coordinator at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida for the past three years. During his time there, they had a record of 160 wins and 28 losses. In his second year,



Julien Soucy

they went on to win the NAIA World Series and finished ranked #1 in the country.

“El Paso has a very rich tradition of baseball and I plan to continue that tradition at EPCC. My vision is to bring a tremendous amount of success not only on the field, but off the field as well,” Soucy said. “We will be the best students, active members in the community, and compete at a national level on the field.”

In addition to Soucy, the Tejanos hired Assistant Coach Omar Quintanilla. Quintanilla began his playing career with the Socorro Bulldogs and then went onto a successful 10-year major and minor league baseball career.

This year’s season began on the road against Eastern Arizona College on January 24 and 25. They split double-headers on both days. The Tejanos’ first home stand will be versus Scottsdale Community College January 31 and February 1.

Ruedas signs with Sul Ross



– Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

Eastlake High School softball player Alejandra Ruedas signed with Sul Ross State University on January 22, 2020. The student-athlete was surrounded her parents, family, coaches, teammates and Socorro ISD faculty as she put ink to paper. Ruedas, a catcher, made 2017 1st Team All-District and 2019 1st Team All-District and All-City Honorable Mention. Her stats for her junior year are: batting average .444; RBIs 26; stolen bases-11 with a slugging percentage .679.

– Christy Flores-Jones

Anthony Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 2019

Data Control Codes	General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 2,193,892	\$ 370,937	\$ 2,564,829
5800 State Program Revenues	6,343,025	290,167	6,633,192
5900 Federal Program Revenues	1,082,273	760,651	1,842,924
5020 Total Revenues	9,619,190	1,421,755	11,040,945
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
0011 Instruction	4,751,814	415,954	5,167,768
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	157,191	–	157,191
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	136,899	62,674	199,573
0021 Instructional Leadership	154,451	28,882	183,333
0023 School Leadership	489,423	13,147	502,570
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	218,741	88,405	307,146
0032 Social Work Services	20,402	34,019	54,421
0033 Health Services	118,888	–	118,888
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	250,055	–	250,055
0035 Food Services	824,769	279,787	1,104,556
0036 Extracurricular Activities	461,054	8,107	469,161
0041 General Administration	765,382	764	766,146
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	977,678	6,602	984,280
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	150,278	–	150,278
0053 Data Processing Services	277,343	–	277,343
0061 Community Services	489	36,686	37,175
Debt Service:			
0071 Principal on Long Term Debt	–	315,000	315,000
0072 Interest on Long Term Debt	–	157,900	157,900
Capital Outlay:			
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	46,551	819,593	866,144
Intergovernmental:			
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	28,610	–	28,610
6030 Total Expenditures	9,830,018	2,267,520	12,097,538
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	(210,828)	(845,765)	(1,056,593)
0100 Fund Balance – September 1 (Beginning)	4,292,380	1,124,990	5,417,370
3000 Fund Balance – August 31 (Ending)	\$ 4,081,552	\$ 279,225	\$ 4,360,777

Super Bowl Sunday brings fun, food... and a football game

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Without a single solitary doubt, this Sunday marks the biggest sports day of the year – the Super Bowl.

It’s the day in which even the non-football-fan spends the afternoon in front of the TV, cheering, booing, or yelling out loud at that ridiculous interference call.

What makes the game so unique are all the things that comes with it. There’s the four-hour long pre-game show, the wacky commercials, the elaborate halftime show, and of course – the food.

Sales of chips and burgers and pizza and wings and beer, skyrocket in the days just prior to the Super Bowl; not to mention the sales of Pepto-Bismol.

And probably the most intriguing reason to keep up with the game is the gambling. Almost everybody has a little something riding on the game.

Whether it’s a bet with your buddy, a visit to your friendly neighborhood bookie, or buying one of those enticing

office squares; we often end up rooting for a number as much as a team.

And how can we forget about those Las Vegas prop bets? You know, those quirky bets you can make, like which team is going to win the coin flip, or how long will it take to sing the national anthem, or even which color Gatorade will be drenched over the winning coach at the end of the game.

Either way, the United States of America will be glued to its TV set, laptop or cell phone this Sunday.

That brings us to the participants.

The Kansas City Chiefs were one of the teams expected to be in this game at the beginning of the season. They came close last year and it was thought that they’d take the next step this year.

Absolutely no one, outside of Northern California, figured the San Francisco 49ers would be here.

The 49ers were just 4-12 a year ago, but this young team, especially on the defensive end, got off to an 8-0 start this year and never looked back.

San Francisco quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo had a decent season; nothing

spectacular. But he’s been competent enough the lead his team this far.

What the 49ers have is a strong running game. They pound it down the field and then surprise the defense with the occasional big pass play.

But let’s be honest, the 49ers are here because of their defense, which is led by rookie defensive end Nick Bosa.

It will be the defense that will give the 49ers a chance to disrupt Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs offense.

Speaking of Mahomes, there’s little debate that he’s the best pure passer in the league today.

It’s Mahomes who makes the Chiefs the most exciting team to watch in the NFL.

Sometimes the Chiefs appear to be competing in a track meet rather than a football game.

With speedsters Tyreek Hill, Sammy Watkins, Mecole Harman and Demarcus Robinson to choose from, Mahomes and the Chiefs strike quickly and often.

Oh, and we haven’t even talked about tight end, Travis Kelce, who many claim is the best in the league at his position.

What makes this Super Bowl such

an attractive view, is that it pits one of the league’s best defenses against an explosive offense.

So who is going to win the day, Bosa’s stifling defense or Mahomes and his scoring machine?

Odds makers quickly made the Chiefs and one-point favorite and the line changed much since then. They’re expecting a very close game – and isn’t that what we all want?

We also wanted someone other than the New England Patriots in the big game.

Usually when a team comes out of nowhere, they lose the championship game. The bright lights are a little too bright, the moment is a little too big, and the reality of what’s at stake is a little too overwhelming.

And that is what the 49ers are up against.

The Chiefs have won eight in a row and are playing their best football of the season right now.

I believe that will continue this Sunday with the guys from Kansas City finally winning one for coach Andy Reid, by the score of 31-20.

Draft

From Page 1

or mental condition that keeps him from serving, that will be decided after he is drafted,” selective service officials noted. The same goes for people who are dual nationals. For instances, if the government decides that it does not want to draft men of a certain nationality, the selective service administrators would determine that after these men are drafted.

Also, transgender people

are prohibited from openly serving in the U.S. military, but trans women are still required to register for the draft because they were originally identified as a male at birth, according to the current law. “If a trans woman is drafted, she would appear for the medical examination and would likely not be inducted into military service,” a military expert asserted.

The last men to be drafted were those drafted in December 1972 for the Vietnam War. The current version of the draft was also used during World War

I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. It was also active in peace times between the latter two wars.

Once a male turns 26 years of age, he is exempt from being drafted. However, there is a past precedent for extending that age, according to military historians. They cited that in August 1918, during World War I, the age limit was amended to 45.

Additionally, just because a man is drafted, it does not mean that he

See DRAFT, Page 8



Moore Texas by Roger Moore

Jan. 26, 1839: Homestead Act provides land for public schools... there were critics, I'm sure.

Super Crossword

APT OCCUPATIONS ACROSS

- Ship parts
- One in a veil
- Very small: Prefix
- Sealed, say
- Early TV's Stu
- Posteriors
- Stick _ in the water
- Songwriter's creation
- Martin the ticket collector?
- Actor Bana or Stoltz
- Pay to play poker
- Game with Wild cards
- Clinton the doctor?
- Caught at a rodeo
- Pollen lover
- Hardly fresh
- Worldwide
- Ellington the Peppermint Pattie factory worker?
- More greasy
- Ending for Israel
- Ilk
- Car owners' org.
- Kelly the minister?
- "Let's go!"
- Former Apple messaging software
- See 64-Down
- Primate studier
- Fossey
- Benny the golfer?
- Markey and Bagnold
- Actor Hinds

- of 2017's "Justice League"
- Negligent
- Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's purview
- Bailey the philosopher?
- Folder flap
- Meal tie-on
- Rice-based Spanish dish
- Ivory's counterpart collector?
- Benatar the dairy owner?
- Fuzzy stuff
- Departure
- Standoffish
- Karmann _ (bygone VW sports car)
- Nolte the clockmaker?
- Skeleton part
- +
- Ariz.-to-Kan. dir.
- Girls in the family
- Liotta the lamp designer?
- Gets dilated
- Basic deg. for designers
- Supermodel
- Carangi or actress
- Scala
- End profit
- Behar the chef?
- Airport stat
- Hotel chain
- Morales of film and TV
- Arden the demolition contractor?

- Shady giants
- Get-out-of-jail money
- Super-mad
- "The Flea" poet John
- Blog addition
- Pot for stew
- Lauder of makeup
- Evil smile

DOWN

- Get gold, e.g.
- Target Center, e.g.
- Smacks
- Spork parts
- _cone
- "Viva Zapata!" star
- Alter totally
- Reply to "Who's in charge here?"
- Bounced down the court
- Actress Davis of two "Matrix" films
- Spam, say
- Langston Hughes poem
- Athletic team assoc.
- Film anew
- Not wobbly
- Throw
- Troop body
- Pt. of MIT or STEM
- Nuclear reactor tube
- Polar vehicle
- Polar pixie
- Curved arch

- High jump on a skateboard, informally
- Lacking a key, in music
- "Semper Fi" mil. branch
- Weirdo
- Rubik of cube fame
- Aiea's island
- Broccoli _
- Kit _ (candy bars)
- Poet Nash
- Twisted wit
- _lazuli
- Frosted
- Abbr. on a pay stub
- "Please, Mommy, will you let us?"
- "Veni," in English
- Nero's 160
- Villain in Disney's "Aladdin"
- Waitress on TV's "Alice"
- Spruce (up)
- With 57-Across, Ali ring strategy
- Abate
- "Fighting" Big Ten team
- Cut, as pizza
- Cold and wet
- Like poison
- Japanese cartoon art
- Measures of memory
- Scaring cry
- _noire

- One of Henry VIII's Catherine
- Et _
- Mug in a pub
- Jamaican citrus fruit
- Mean ruffian
- Wife on "The Addams Family," to her hubby
- Cover for a truck bed
- Crystal rubbers, perhaps
- Jab deliverer
- Control in a clinical study
- Certain wind player
- Very loudly, musically
- 9-to-5er's weekly cry
- Main dish
- Art house film, often
- Went aboard
- Nitrogen compound
- Words after all or hole
- San Fran griddier
- All-terrain vehicle
- Fjord city
- Tasty tubers
- Egg-shaped
- Eye, in Paris
- Nut with caffeine
- Rock finale?
- Perched
- LP replacers

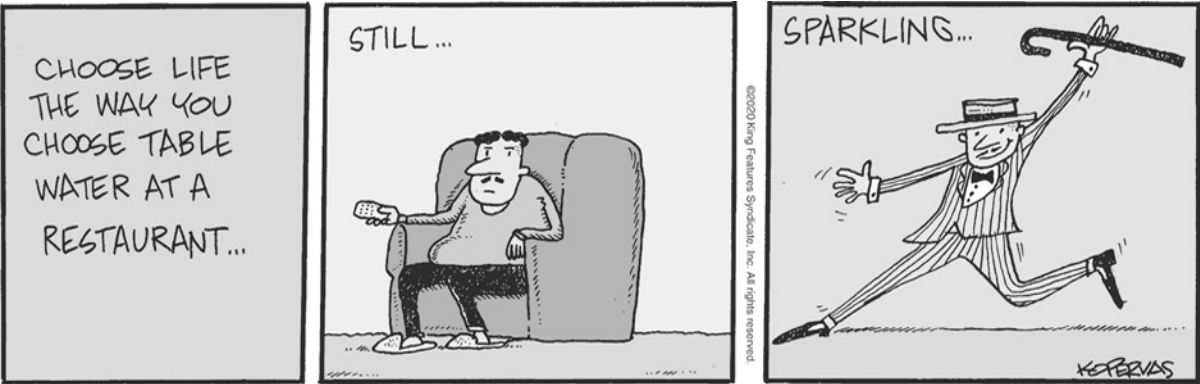
Answer Page 4

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	
19						20						21					22				
23					24						25						26				
27					28				29							30					
31				32					33					34							
				35			36	37			38	39	40	41				42	43	44	
45	46	47	48				49					50						51			
52						53					54					55	56				
57					58					59					60						
61				62		63			64						65						
66				67	68							69	70	71				72	73	74	
				75					76							77	78				
79	80	81					82	83	84			85			86		87				
88							89					90				91					
92							93					94				95					
96				97	98					99		100			101						
				102					103	104					105			106	107	108	109
110	111	112					113	114	115					116				117			
118							119							120				121			
122							123					124					125				
126							127					128					129				

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



TIGER

By Bud Blake



Doctors disagree on blood pressure target

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am a 91-year-old male. When I switched primary care physicians, my new doctor shook his head because my previous doctor had never told me about my low GFR readings and being borderline diabetic. In the past I had assumed that if the doctor didn't mention any low or high blood test results, everything must be OK. I no longer assume: I ask for a copy of the results and question them. The new doctor referred me to a nephrologist. My blood pressure at the time was usually in the 130-140/60-70 range. He told me that for a person of my age, that was too low. He gave me a target of 159/89. Then on my next visit to primary care, I was told that my blood pressure was too high; I was prescribed losartan. I am testing my blood pressure daily, and the past few days it has been in the 170s. So, what is a good target for my blood pressure? Which doctor is correct? – A.L.



There is no absolute right answer to your question. On the one hand, overaggressive treatment of blood pressure in a 91-year-old is unnecessary and may lead to symptoms of lightheadedness, especially upon standing. Other blood pressure drugs may have additional side effects.

On the other hand, a 91-year-old has a higher risk for heart disease and stroke, and in someone with a low GFR reading (a measurement of kidney function) and borderline diabetes (which further increases the risk of heart attack and stroke), most experts would aim for a blood pressure goal that is closer to 120-130/80-85, as long as it isn't causing annoying symptoms. I'm not clear why the doctor wasn't happy with your usual blood pressure, since a level of 130-140/60s seems very reasonable for a man your age if you aren't having side effects. If 170 is the usual systolic pressure on your new regimen, I would ask about going back to the old one.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I always have had small breasts. Suddenly, in my mid-70s, my breasts grew, and now at 80 I have outgrown most of my clothes. My doctor said that it is fat, but I have gained only a few pounds. Could this be hormonal? Have you addressed this issue before? – S.F.

I haven't addressed this before. Breasts change size during a woman's life for many reasons. Breast tissue is a mixture of fat and glandular tissue. For young women, there's proportionally more glandular tissue, the amount of which tends to decrease over time. After menopause, the breasts become less glandular; what is lost is replaced by fat, as there is less estrogen.

About 20% of women will notice significantly larger breasts after menopause; however, this usually occurs along with overall weight gain. Significant breast enlargement without much weight gain is not common in my experience.

Hopefully, your doctor did a thorough examination. However, I think it is very unlikely that your breast size changes represent a tumor. Very rarely, there are estrogen-producing tumors, so if there were other reasons to be concerned, your doctor might check blood levels of hormones, including estrogen.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer questions individually. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. (c) 2020 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Click It or Ticket.

Even in the back seat.

Buckle up every rider for every trip.

State law now requires both adults and children to be buckled up in the front or back seat. A child less than 8 years old, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in a child safety seat. Most children between 4 and 8 years old will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Fines range from \$25 to \$250, plus court costs. TexasClickItorTicket.com

Draft

From Page 6

will be immediately thrown onto the front lines of the battlefield. “After someone is drafted, he can claim conscientious objector status, which is basically stating that he has religious or moral convictions that do not allow him to serve in war,” commented a military expert. He added that in previous wars, claiming conscientious objector status allowed a person to serve as a medic or in other non-combat positions, and in extreme cases have made it so he did not have to serve in the military at all. Today, women cannot be drafted since the law does not require women to register for selective service. That could

change in the near future, as more women are now joining the military ranks in different capacities. Victor Espinoza, a 22-year-old El Pasoan, said that he registered when he turned 18 because the requirement was clearly promoted in high school. “I don’t have a problem with having to register for selective service and if a draft were to be implemented, I would join the military,” he said. Roman Loya, a Coronado High School senior who turned 18 in December, said that he found out about having to register for selective service when he was filling out college financial aid applications. “I just hope that the U.S. doesn’t get involved in any kind of war that would make it necessary to start the draft again,” he commented.

Agent Orange benefits for Blue Water vets



by Freddy Groves

As of Jan. 1, 2020, the Department of Veterans Affairs has extended presumption of Agent Orange herbicide exposure benefits with the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019. That means it is now taking disability claims with the presumption that veterans were exposed to Agent Orange while offshore, not necessarily on the land or the inland waterways. Here are some particulars: It covers 12 nautical miles off the coast of Vietnam from Jan. 6, 1962 to May 7, 1975 and between Jan. 1, 1967 and Aug. 31, 1971 in the Korean Demilitarized Zone. Additionally, verified service in Thailand at a certain time is covered. There are 14 medical conditions that are covered for presumption of exposure to Agent Orange: AL amyloidosis, chronic B-cell leukemias,

chloracne, Type 2 diabetes mellitus, Hodgkin’s disease, ischemic heart disease, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, Parkinson’s disease, peripheral neuropathy, early-onset porphyria cutanea tarda, prostate cancer, respiratory cancers and soft tissue sarcomas. Veterans who were there do not have to prove they were exposed; it’s assumed they were. The VA has assembled tons of records. For example, see va.gov (put “blue water navy” in the search box) for lists of ships (updated October 2019). Scroll down the ships page to see various ways of herbicide exposure, such as supply trips, picking up Bob Hope, salvage operations, mapping surveys, mail runs, liberty leave ashore and more. The list is nearly 40 pages long. To file an initial claim, you’ll need VA Form 21-526EZ, Application for Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits. If you filed and were turned down, use VA Form 20-0995, Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim. Because of the new law, the VA will automatically review claims in the pipeline or under appeal. Payment is retroactive to when you first filed. Go online to www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/blue-water-navy.asp for more information.

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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: B equals R

OMBBWIZ “LPMB JMBL” NMTL
XMDI LCKWP FC. CMKL
CBGUKMWO “OMQ
ZWDGBUI AI JWPX QGF!”

Answer Page 4
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Answer Page 4

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GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!
Answer Page 4

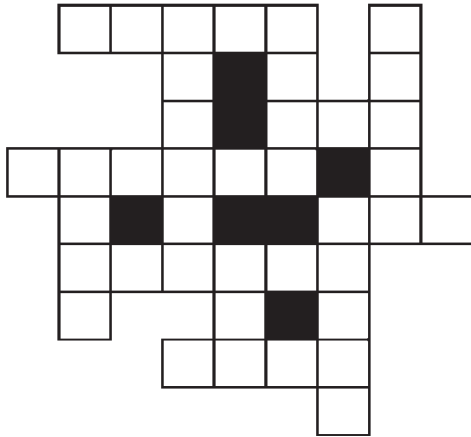
	×		+		23
-		+		+	
	×		+		20
×		×		÷	
	+		×		14
27		25		17	

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 9

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OBO
MUDSIN
♥ LERBU
♥ TANE
CEDVIA
NEF
♥ ICLO
GONAC
♥ ABT
EMBLUF
DIFTE
TDFA



Answer Page 4

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

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• Mayonnaise can stand in for cooking oil in a recipe. Use in an equal amount. It works especially well in brownies.

• “When flossing, cut a length of floss, then tie the loose ends together. Now you have a circle and can hold it open with your fingers rather than wrapping the loose ends around your fingers and cutting off the circulation. All it takes is a little tension on the circle to keep the line taut.” – C.E. in Kentucky

• “If you have to wash dishes by hand, here’s a tip for rinsing utensils: Clean silverware together and toss into a colander. Then you can rinse the whole thing together instead of each fork, knife or spoon. This will save time, and water.” – M.V. in Ohio

• Apply car wax to shower walls to keep soap scum from hanging around. Petroleum jelly can be used in shower-door tracks to lubricate them, since it won’t wash away easily.

• “I like to use metal cans for storage in my shop. To make them safer, I file the rims and dip them in a shallow disk of melted wax. When the wax hardens, it fills in all the potential jagged edges that might lead to a small cut.” – F.J. in Florida

• Here’s a fun plumbing trick: Use a wad of soft white bread (centers only) to plug up a pipe you are working on. The bread disintegrates quickly but will stop up any trickle of water long enough for you to seal two pipes together.

Send your tips to Now Here’s a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.