



## The Texas Commission on the Arts seeks artists’ nominations

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

TEXAS – Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) announced recently that nominations are now being accepted for the positions of 2021 and 2022 State Poet Laureate, State Musician, State Artist two-dimensional media (i.e., painting, photography), and State Artist three-dimensional media (i.e., sculpture). The nomination call is on behalf of the Texas State Legislature.

Qualified nominees must be native Texans or five-year residents of the state. Candidates must have received recognition for high levels of excellence and success in their respective disciplines. They also must have received critical reviews in state, regional, or national publications.

Chosen artists will join the company of previous state artists – such as Willie Nelson, Beili Liu, and Kathy Vargas – and will receive statewide recognition.

Texas State Legislature’s 2019 and 2020 appointments to the positions of state poet laureate, state musician, state two-dimensional artist and state three-dimensional artist were: 2019 State Musician was Little Joe Hernandez, who helped pioneer Tejano music, a mix of traditional norteño music and country, blues, and rock styles. 2020 State Musician was Emily Gimble, who has been singing and playing on-stage since she was seven years old and comes from a long line of family guitar pickers.

2019 State Poet Laureate was Carrie Fountain, whose poems have appeared in Tin House, Poetry, and The New Yorker, among others. 2020 State Poet Laureate was Emmy Perez, who is the author of the poetry collections, *With the River on Our Face* and *Solstice*. She is a member of the Macondo Writers Workshop and is a former recipient of poetry fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, Canto Mundo, and the New York Foundation for the Arts.

2019 State Visual Artist (two-dimensional) was Mary McCleary, who makes collages of great complexity that combine painterly craftsmanship and striking iconography. Her subject matter comes from religion,

science, history, and literature. 2020 State Visual Artist (2-D) was Earl Hudnall, Jr., who as a photographer explored and documented the daily lives of African American families, individuals, elders, and children in Houston’s Third, Fourth, and Fifth Wards, which had a lasting impact on him as an artist.

2019 State Visual Artist (three-dimensional) was Rick Lowe, who lives in Houston and has exhibited and worked with communities nationally and internationally. 2020 State Visual Artist (3-D) was Gabriel Dawe, whose work is centered in the exploration of textiles and is aimed at examining the complicated construction of gender and identity in his native Mexico and attempting to subvert the notions of masculinity and machismo prevalent in the present day.

During their year-long tenure, Texas State Artists participate in TCA events and promotions, including participation on TCA’s Texas Touring Roster and other state initiatives in relation to their respective arts discipline.

Although the state artists recognition program has been going on for many decades, El Paso County’s only state recognized artists have been – in 1968, when Sybil Leonard Armes was named alternate poet laureate behind Kathryn Henry Harris, of Waco; and in 1995 when Frederick Carter was selected state visual artist winner, according to data on TCA’s website.

“We are fortunate to have many outstanding artists in Texas, and we anticipate receiving numerous qualified nominations,” said Gary Gibbs, executive director of TCA. “Being named a Texas State Artist is the Texas Legislature’s highest honor for an artist, and it brings new career opportunities and recognition from the arts community and the general public.”

TCA oversees the selection process for the four positions, in accordance with Chapter 3104 of the Texas Government Code. TCA issues the call for nominations, oversees an evaluation review process, and provides a list of finalists to the selection committee.

The committee, composed of members appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor and speaker of



Little Joe Hernandez



Emily Gimble



Carrie Fountain



Emmy Perez

the Texas House of Representatives, makes the final selections. The 87th Texas Legislature will make the appointments next spring when they are in session.

“The mission of the Texas Commission on the

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## Socorro ISD to begin phasing in on-campus instruction September 8, 2020

*El Paso region has met parameters set by Department of Public Health to begin safely bringing students back to school*

By **Christy Flores-Jones**  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – Following guidance from the El Paso Department of Public Health to help limit the spread of COVID-19 in the community, the Socorro Independent School District began instruction for its more than 47,000 students via remote learning on August 17, 2020. When the health order expires on September 7, 2020, the district plans to implement a phased approach to transitioning students, and staff, safely and cautiously back to school beginning on September 8, 2020 and continue phasing in students for on-campus instruction through September 28, 2020.

Remote (at-home) learning will continue to be an option throughout the 2020-2021 school year for all families who have chosen remote instruction for their child.

“Keeping Team SISD Safe has been at the forefront of our planning and decision

process since day one of our response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. I believe we have done a great job mitigating risks while following guidance and directives by local, state and national authorities,” said Superintendent Jose Espinoza, Ed.D. “Bringing in students at this time is both in line with state mandates and the right thing to do for our families in need.”

### TEA waiver to extend transition period beyond four weeks

District administration proactively requested and received approval of a Texas Education Agency waiver allowing for the extension of the at-home learning transition period. As mandated by TEA, the waiver requested an “indication as to the local health conditions that would warrant a faster end to the transition period, so that all students have access to on-campus instruction.”

The district followed the guidance of City and County Health Authority Dr. Hector I. Ocaranza to indicate which parameters would warrant a safe return to

school for students and staff.

According to Dr. Ocaranza, the region has currently met the local public health conditions set forth by his department for the safe reopening of schools.

“The parameters previously stated have shown a continuous downward trend in the pandemic indicating that the spread of COVID-19 in our community has slowed down to a level that can be considered as an indicator for return of in-person instruction on campus, in a safe and cautious manner, on or after September 8, 2020,” Dr. Ocaranza said in a memo to school district leaders.

### Phased reopening plan

To be in compliance with the TEA waiver requirements as well as the guidance by the local Department of Public Health, Socorro ISD has updated its reopening plans to include a phased-in approach that reflects Dr. Ocaranza’s recommendation “for return of in-person instruction on campus, in a safe and cautious manner.”

“We are working to accommodate our parents and employees to the best of

our ability as we strive to provide our students with a quality education in a safe and supportive learning environment,” Espinoza said. “Unfortunately, there are no simple, unilateral solutions that best serve all stakeholders.”

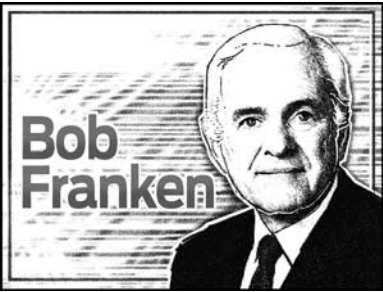
### Students unable to connect remotely

The first group of students to return to campus are those who have been served through solely an asynchronous learning model due to lack of internet access. As mandated by TEA, these students shall be provided the opportunity to receive instruction on campus during the district’s transition period.

School personnel have identified students who are not able to connect remotely and have worked diligently to accommodate them with offline learning opportunities through September 4, 2020. Beginning September 8, 2020, they will be given the opportunity to participate in online remote learning on their campus where a device

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“There’s a sucker born every minute.” There’s some question about whether P.T. Barnum really said that first, but it’s attributed to him. And certainly it’s true. All you need to do is ask President Donald John Trump, the reincarnation of Phineas Taylor Barnum. Have you noticed the similarities? Trump released

# PTB and DJT

“The Art of the Deal” in his own name. True, it was ghostwritten, but let’s not quibble. Among the books that Barnum authored was “The Art of Money Getting.” Coincidence? I don’t think so. Barnum was a blatant hoaxster with his various phony freak shows. Trump is a major-league huckster, and his administration has been described more than once as a freak show. P.T. is best remembered for his circus. See? Another dead ringer. Actually, we could say “dead three-ringer.” While the

Democrats put on a memorable show with their virtual convention, you know that D.J. Trump is producing the “Greatest Show on Earth.” He always does with his high-wire acts. Why? As P.T. said, “The bigger the humbug, the better people will like it.” That has been Donald Trump’s motto from day one. He convinced folks that he was a master businessman even though his properties went bankrupt six times. He has always had a reputation among contractors for

agreeing to a price, getting the work done and welching on full payment, hiding behind a wall of lawyers. Through it all he declared his business failures to be roaring successes, and so they were as far as the public was concerned. He has taken that con job to public life. Among the various Barnum quotes that Trump has clearly embraced is his personal favorite, possibly without knowing who said it: “The success of quacks and quackeries are infinitely more wonderful than those of honest and laborious men of science and their careful experiments.”

Donald Trump has always ignored experts, dismissing them as tools of some sort of “deep state.” That is nowhere more evident than in his reactions to the COVID pandemic, where he has gone against the public health specialists nearly every step of the way. He has gone from first dismissing the coronavirus as not a big deal, to embracing various phony “miracle” cures like hydroxychloroquine, to declaring the crisis over long before it was, to my personal favorite, igniting a rebellion against face masks. Now what is his campaign selling

See FRANKEN, Page 11

## View from here By Rick Shrum

# Defund: Who you gonna call?

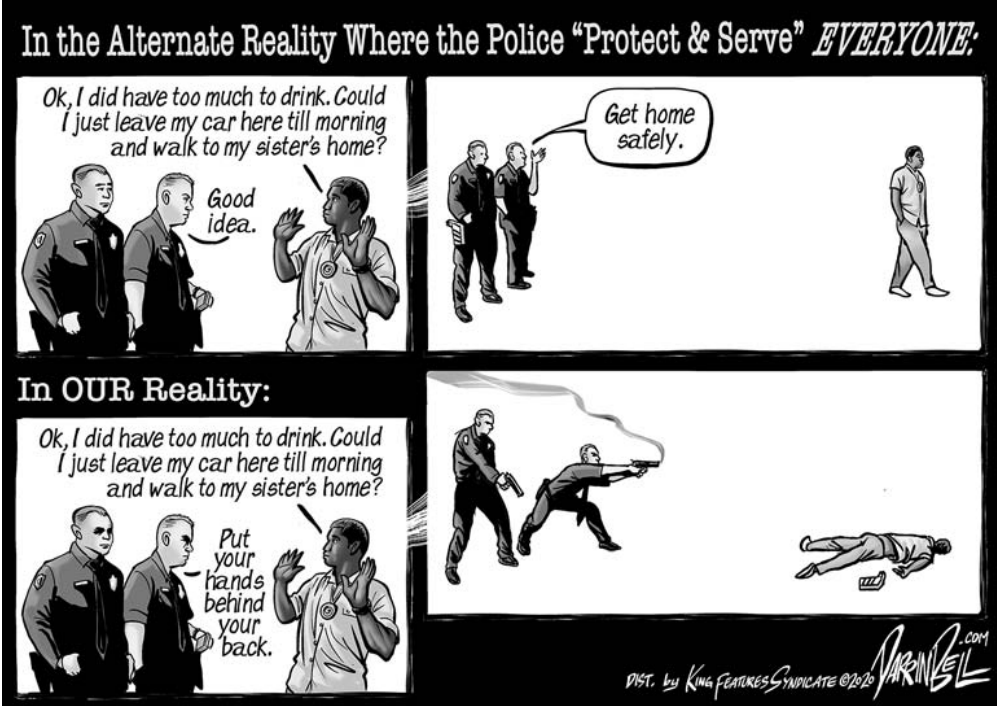
The next time you or a loved one is in trouble just call the media. Call ABC, CBS, NBC or any of the boundless cable news networks. They will not save you, but they will shape you with a story. Don’t call the police. They are the killers. Just watch the “news”. Rayshard Brooks’ death, though regrettable, was *his* choice. He fell asleep, drunk, in the drive through of a Wendy’s restaurant. After 45-minutes and a calm chat with police *he chose* to wrestle with police and grab a weapon as they tried to cuff him. *He* ran and *he* discharged the stolen taser at the officers. He was killed as a result of *his* actions. Brooks had a history of violent criminal behavior including theft, cruelty to children, battery on a family member and false imprisonment. Even a cursory internet search shows a criminal record extending from 2013 to 2018. Where was that information in the mainstream news? So how should Brooks’ story end – as the editorial cartoon at right suggests? If the police let him walk home how does the morning headline read: *Police let*

*intoxicated driver walk home* or maybe worse. Can you hear the outcry if he gets run over in traffic while staggering home. Maybe he gets into another car and kills somebody while driving still under the influence. Maybe he mixes it up with his family and hurts – or worse – one of them. The police didn’t go looking for Brooks. They were *called* to a problem. It just happened to be Brooks. And he was violent with the police when he didn’t get his way. Who was Jacob Blake before he was made infamous for ignoring repeated commands to yield by police officers? Why didn’t he obey? Was he under the influence of something or reaching for a weapon? A knife was found. Maybe it was the open warrants he had with a record of sexual assault, trespassing and disorderly conduct that drove his behavior. He was a fleeing criminal that put not only his life at risk, but those of his children and the officers as well. At least he will live to face the consequences of *his* actions. May God bless his mama for speaking out for peace from the public. And

may God ease the pain of his children for witnessing what *their father instigated*. There are plenty of white people in trouble every day. There are Mexicans and other nationalities in trouble too. Where are those stories? Maybe they aren’t as important or don’t they fit the political ambitions of the big three and other powerful media outlets. The fact is that most people in this country only have very limited contact with law enforcement officials. And when they do,

they need immediate help. Help resulting from theft, cruelty to children, battery on a family member or false imprisonment. Help resulting from sexual assault, trespassing or disorderly conduct. *Who you gonna call?* So why is it people feel justified in burning and looting in *protest*? Why do more people die from the *protesters that kill them* than the police? What purpose

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## Write stuff

**Editor:** Today, I am warning the public about fraudulent letters threatening suspension of Social Security benefits due to COVID-19 or coronavirus-related office closures. Social Security will not suspend or discontinue benefits because their offices are closed. The Social Security Office of the Inspector General has received reports that Social Security beneficiaries have received letters through the U.S. Mail stating their payments will be suspended or discontinued unless they call a phone number referenced in the letter. Scammers may then mislead beneficiaries into providing personal information or payment via retail gift cards, wire transfers, internet currency, or by mailing cash, to maintain regular benefit payments during this period of COVID-19 office closures. As of Tuesday, March 17, 2020, local Social Security offices are closed to the public due to COVID-19 concerns. However, Social Security employees continue to work. Social Security will not suspend or decrease Social Security benefit payments or Supplemental Security Income payments due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Any communication you receive that says Social

Security will do so is a scam, whether you receive it by letter, text, email, or phone call. Social Security will never: Threaten you with benefit suspension, arrest, or other legal action unless you pay a fine or fee. Promise a benefit increase or other assistance in exchange for payment. Require payment by retail gift card, cash, wire transfer, internet currency, or prepaid debit card. Demand secrecy from you in handling a Social Security-related problem. Send official letters or reports containing personally identifiable information via email. If you receive a letter, text, call or email that you believe to be suspicious, about an alleged problem with your Social Security number, account, or payments, hang up or do not respond. We encourage you to report Social Security scams using our dedicated online form. Please share this information with your friends and family, to help spread awareness about Social Security scams. Learn about Social Security services during the COVID-19 pandemic, by visiting our Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) page. Tammy L. Whitcomb Acting Inspector General Social Security

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# The QAnon rot in the GOP

QAnon is getting its first congresswoman.

Marjorie Taylor Greene won a runoff in a Republican primary, all but assuring her victory in November in a heavily GOP district.

She is thus set to become the highest officeholder in the land who takes seriously the lunatic theories of QAnon, the anonymous internet poster who says, among other ludicrous and poisonous things, that there's a global network of pedophiles about to be exposed and undone by President Donald Trump.

Greene's ascension is the latest indication of the creeping influence of Q, who has fashioned a kind of free-floating John Birch Society for the digital age. The author's adherents or fellow travelers are adept at spreading memes on social media, hold signs or wear paraphernalia touting Q at Trump rallies, and now are notching some victories in GOP primaries.

Jo Rae Perkins, a no-hoper who won the Republican Senate primary in Oregon, has associated herself with Q and expressed disappointment when her sellout campaign team tried to hide her enthusiasm for the conspiracy theory. Lauren Boebert, the upset winner of a primary for a Republican House seat in Colorado, said of Q in a radio interview, "If this is real, then it could be really great for our country."


The rise of Q shouldn't be exaggerated. Surely, most

Republicans aren't even aware of this dreck, and the Q caucus in the next Congress might number one or two. Almost every political movement has a fringe that marinates in paranoia and is prepared to believe – or invent – the worst about the other side.

Yet, the spread of QAnon shows that the Trump-era GOP has weakened antibodies against kookery. Trump himself sets the tone. He's an indiscriminate tweeter of disreputable Twitter accounts, and he's floated all sorts of ridiculous conspiracy theories over the years – just ask Ted Cruz's father, or Joe Scarborough. Trump fulsomely praised Greene upon her primary victory as a Republican rising star.

In 2017, Greene posted a long, hilariously earnest and completely bonkers explication of Q posts to YouTube. She had read them closely and spent time trying to figure out their import. The time and energy you'd hope an eventual congressional candidate would devote to understanding the federal budget or, say, how to reform military procurement, she'd poured into Q, and was clearly invigorated and alarmed by it.

Q has a special draw for a segment of Trump supporters. The author's lurid inventions involve people who are already villains of the populist right, the



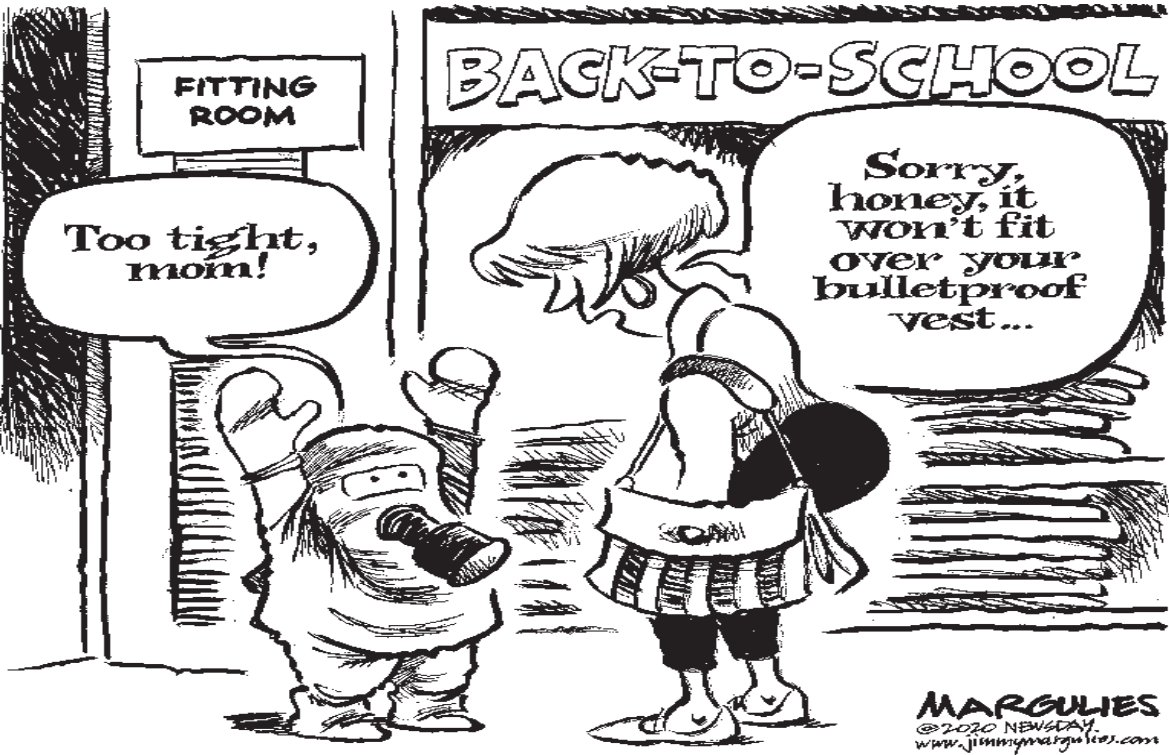
THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

likes of George Soros and John Podesta. Q promotes a radical distrust of traditional sources of information and makes Trump's stumbles into master chess moves, both of which are pleasing to Trump superfans.

All of this is an explanation, not an excuse. Q is deeply corrosive of the qualities necessary to live in and govern a republic. It invites its adherents to suspend reason – how else to credit all the prophecies that haven't come to pass? – and believe that a swath of the American establishment isn't just wrongheaded or incompetent, but engaged in monstrous secret crimes.

Marjorie Taylor Greene has already been criticized by Republican congressional leaders for her incendiary rantings about Muslims. She deserves, too, to be shunned her for attraction to Q, even if the president of the United States is unbothered by it.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2020 by King Features Synd., Inc.





# Defund

From Page 2

does it serve to burn down a Wendy’s burger joint because a drunk criminal resisted arrest

and unfortunately died for it? Or what about the businesses burned in Kenosha, WI because Blake ignored the lawful commands of police officers? And why do people *in other cities* feel like it is their duty to, as Chicago

Mayor Lori Lightfoot put it, commit outright felonious acts? They, *protesters for justice*, and Black Lives Matter – as well as bad actors – have killed more people than the police during *their protests*, in *their efforts* to

gain national attention than the media is willing to report. Did the protesters mean to have bodies drop? Maybe, maybe not, depending on their ultimate goal. But there *are* bodies on the ground. Who will come forward and take responsibility for those deaths?

Let’s get real. Yes, there is injustice – racial and then some – in this country. And sometimes bad shootings and actions by law enforcement. However not all of it is *race against race*. In fact most violent crimes are committed *within* races – white on white, black on black and so forth.

In any case, Brooks and Blake are not the poster children for all this outrage. As for Black Lives Matter – look them up online and see who they really are and what they really stand for. Read their mission statement. Are these men – Brooks and Blake and others like them of whatever race with violent criminal histories – really the pillars on which we should hang our moral outrage? Is the Black Lives Matter agenda this nation’s agenda? I hope not.

We all should be outraged by the actions of men of this character regardless of race – as well as racists of any color, nationality, creed, organization or affiliation. We all matter – to ourselves, to our friends, to our families and to God above.

## Arts

From Page 1

Arts is to advance the state economically and culturally by investing in a creative Texas,” commission officials stated. “TCA supports a diverse and innovative arts community in Texas, throughout the nation and internationally by providing resources to enhance economic development, arts education, cultural tourism, and artist sustainability initiatives, officials asserted.

All Texas residents are encouraged to make nominations, and self-nominations are accepted. Citizens can nominate more than one artist. The nomination form and complete information are available online at <http://www.arts.texas.gov/nominate>. The deadline for Texas State Artists nominations is October 15, 2020. Visit [www.arts.texas.gov](http://www.arts.texas.gov) for more information on TCA and its programs.



**By Lucie Winborne**

- A Florida waitress was promised a new Toyota after winning a sales contest at her restaurant, but was given a toy Yoda, a “Star Wars” doll, instead. She sued the company, and received more than enough to buy herself a new Toyota.

- Fear of dolls is called “pediophobia.”

- Alchemist Hennig Brand is thought to have used upwards of 1,500 gallons of human urine in his quest to make gold. After he evaporated, boiled and distilled it multiple times, it started to glow in the dark and burst into flames. He had instead discovered the element phosphorus.

- “Phantom Vibration Syndrome” is the name for when someone thinks their phone is vibrating, but it isn’t.

- Cats have more than 100 vocal sounds, while dogs only have about 10.

- Astronaut John Young caused a small scandal in 1965 when he smuggled a corned beef sandwich aboard Gemini 3. When he took it out in zero gravity and tried to eat it, it broke up, sending crumbs flying around the cabin. No harm was done, but the incident sparked a safety review by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations and a statement from NASA assuring that steps had been taken “to prevent recurrence of corned beef sandwiches in future flights.”

- Take a good look at Disney princesses and you’ll notice that they’re all essentially attired in typical princess garb of gown, tiara, etc. But here’s a small difference you might not have picked up on – some wear gloves, and some don’t. What’s up with that? The ladies without gloves are commoners who married into royalty.

Thought for the Day: “In a complex world, intelligence consists in ignoring things that are irrelevant.”  
– Nassim Nicholas Taleb

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# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

A tax rate of **\$0.710781 per \$100 valuation** has been proposed by the governing body of **TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX**.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	<b>\$0.710781</b> per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	<b>\$0.710781</b> per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	<b>\$0.571215</b> per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	<b>\$0.814319</b> per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2020 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for TOWN OF ANTHONY from the same properties in both the 2019 tax year and the 2020 tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that TOWN OF ANTHONY may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for TOWN OF ANTHONY exceeds the voter-approval tax rate for TOWN OF ANTHONY.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for TOWN OF ANTHONY, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for TOWN OF ANTHONY.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that TOWN OF ANTHONY is not proposing to increase property taxes for the 2020 tax year.

A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on September 14, 2020 at 6:30 PM at Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821 (open to the public at 6:30 pm); members of the public may also communicate with Council during the public hearing by calling the following number (915) 886-3944 during office hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm or emailing Norma Gonzalez at [ngonzalez@townofanthony.org](mailto:ngonzalez@townofanthony.org) to participate virtually.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate, but not greater than the de minimis rate. However, the proposed tax rate exceeds the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If TOWN OF ANTHONY adopts the proposed tax rate, the qualified voters of the TOWN OF ANTHONY may petition the TOWN OF ANTHONY to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters reject the proposed tax rate, the tax rate of the TOWN OF ANTHONY will be the voter-approval tax rate of the TOWN OF ANTHONY.

## YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount = ( tax rate ) x ( taxable value of your property ) /100

The members of the governing body voted on the proposed tax increase as follows:

<b>FOR:</b> Councilman Eluterio Alfaro Mayor Pro Tem Shawn Weeks	Councilman Jose Garcia
<b>AGAINST:</b> None	
<b>PRESENT and not voting:</b> Mayor Benjamin Romero	
<b>ABSENT:</b> Councilman Eduardo Chavez	

The 86th Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by TOWN OF ANTHONY last year to the taxes proposed to the be imposed on the average residence homestead by TOWN OF ANTHONY this year.

	2019	2020	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.681647	\$0.710781	Increase of \$0.029134 or 4.27%.
Average homestead taxable value	\$109,814	\$110,111	Increase of 0.27%.
Tax on average homestead	\$749	\$783	Increase of \$34 or 4.55%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$1,374,821	\$1,375,522	Increase of \$701 or 0.05%.

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for **TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX** at **915-212-0106** or [citytaxoffice@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:citytaxoffice@elpasotexas.gov), or visit [townofanthony.org](http://townofanthony.org) for more information.

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# CryptoQuip Answer

I feel awful for circus elephants. We all know the poor creatures work for peanuts.

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# Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On Aug. 31, 1997, shortly after midnight, Diana, Princess of Wales dies in a car crash in Paris. She was 36. Her boyfriend, the Egyptian-born socialite Dodi Fayed, and the driver of the car died as well. A swarm of paparazzi on motorcycles had been aggressively tailing their car.

• On Sept. 1, 1972, American chess grandmaster Bobby Fischer defeats Russian Boris Spassky during the World Chess Championship in Reykjavik, Iceland. Fischer became the first American to win the competition since its inception in 1866.

• On Sept. 2, 1666, the Great Fire of London breaks out in the house of King Charles II’s baker near London Bridge. When the Great Fire finally was extinguished on Sept. 6, more than 80% of London was destroyed and 100,000 people were left homeless.

• On Sept. 3, 1939, Britain and France declare war on Germany. The first casualty of that declaration was the British ocean liner Athenia, which was sunk by a German U-30 submarine.

• On Sept. 4, 1957, Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus enlists the National Guard to prevent nine Black students from entering Central High School in Little Rock. The armed Arkansas militia troops surrounded the school while an angry crowd of some 400 whites jeered, booed and threatened to lynch the frightened teenagers.

• On Sept. 5, 1969, Lt. William Calley is charged with premeditated murder in the deaths of 109 Vietnamese civilians at My Lai in March 1968. Calley, a platoon leader, had led his men in a massacre that was only stopped when a pilot landed his helicopter between the Americans and the fleeing South Vietnamese.

• On Sept. 6, 1943, a new high-speed train traveling between New York City and Washington, D.C., derails, killing 79 people and seriously injuring 100 more. The Congressional Limited traveled at a then-unprecedented speed of 65 mph.

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## Classified Ads

### LEGALS

#### Public Notice

**Village of Vinton, Texas**

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m., September 15, 2020, through Zoom. The purpose of the public Hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify regarding the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.

Members of the public are invited to attend and participate in the Village Council's September 15th regular council meeting where the public can testify regarding the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget will take place, by taking the following steps to join the meeting.

1) On a desktop or laptop computer, copy and paste the following URL into a web browser (preferably google chrome) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84079004263>

a) You will see “a download should start automatically in a few seconds”

b) Select Run and you will join the meeting.

2) For cell phones and other mobile devices, you may join by taking the following steps:

a) On the zoom screen click on join meeting (if you've downloaded the zoom app) or dial 1 346 248 7799

b) Dial/Insert the Meeting ID 840 7900 4263 (followed by the pound sign (#) if you are calling in) or select join if you are using the zoom app

c) As a participant, press the pound sign (#).

3) For land lines, dial 1 346 248 7799 and then dial in the Meeting ID 840 7900 4263 followed by the pound sign (#) and then, as a participant, press the pound sign (#) again.

The meeting will open at 6:00 PM on September 15, 2020 so that people may start joining. The meeting will start at 6:30 PM. Council may choose to enter into executive session, if so members of the public will be moved into a wait list and added back in once Council reconvenes. If for

any reason you are not able to join please feel free to call at the 915-217-4231 so that we may assist you.

Those unable to attend are invited to submit their views in writing to the Village of Vinton, Attn: Mayor Manuel Leos, 436 E. Vinton Road. City Hall is accessible for handicapped persons in need of special assistance to attend the hearing are encouraged to contact the City Secretary at (915) 886-5104, forty eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. A copy of the proposed budget is available for review on the Village of Vinton website and at the Village Hall located at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821.

Andrea N. Carrillo  
Village Administrator  
WTCC: 09-03-20

**TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Town of Anthony will conduct a **PUBLIC HEARING** at 6:00 p.m., September 14, 2020, at Town Hall, in the Town Council Chambers, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, TX 79821 and via Microsoft Teams please contact Town Clerk Norma Gonzalez at (915) 886-3944 to provide invitation. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.

Those unable to attend are invited to submit their views in writing to the Town of Anthony, TX, Attn: *Benjamin C. Romero Jr.*, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, TX 79821. Town Hall is accessible for handicapped persons in need of special assistance to attend the hearing are encouraged to contact the Town Clerk at (915) 886-3944, fortyeight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Copies of the budget are available for review at 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, TX 79821.

*Norma Gonzalez*  
Town Clerk  
WTCC: 09-03-20

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 22, 2020. The public may watch the livestream of this meeting at <http://www.youtube.com/c/CanutilloISDPremier>. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

<b>Maintenance Tax</b>	\$1.030100/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
<b>School Debt Service Tax</b>	
<b>Approved by Local Voters</b>	\$0.360000/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

### Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

<b>Maintenance and Operations</b>	5.24% Decrease
<b>Debt Service</b>	0.95% Decrease
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	4.76% Decrease

### Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 3,390,675,082	\$ 3,614,326,184
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 160,587,374	\$ 145,954,870
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 2,474,331,480	\$ 2,616,168,457
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 151,960,492	\$ 128,854,081

\* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.  
\*\* "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.  
\*\*\* "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

### Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$95,609,627

\* Outstanding principal.

### Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.068350	\$ 0.360000*	\$ 1.428350	\$ 5,973	\$ 5,643
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.162100	\$ 0.266870*	\$ 1.428970	\$ 6,092	\$ 5,137
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.030100	\$ 0.360000*	\$ 1.390100	\$ 6,255	\$ 5,237

\*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.  
The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

### Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 173,358	\$ 175,982
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 147,163	\$ 150,497
<b>Last Year's Rate Versus</b>		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.428350	\$ 1.390100
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 2,102.01	\$ 2,092.06
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (9.95)

**Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.**

### Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.390100. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.390100.

### Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 23,267,348
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 8,053,785

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

*Car trouble: When the engine won't start and the payments won't stop.*  
— Quips & Quotes

*Buying what you don't need often results in needing what you can't buy.*  
— Quips & Quotes

# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 1

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 1 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 10:30 A.M. MT by means of using a toll-free conference number (877-853-5257 | Meeting ID: 991 0207 0281 | Passcode: 537205), pursuant to Section 551.125, Texas Government Code, as modified temporarily by Governor Greg Abbott, and the related guidance from the Office of the Texas Attorney General, in connection with the Governor's COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

**FOR** the proposal: **Directors Holford, Roark, Mills, Covington and Mellenbruch**  
**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**  
**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**  
**ABSENT:** **NONE**

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7500/\$100	\$0.7500/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ –	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– %	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ –	\$ –
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–) and percentage of increase (+/–)	N/A	N/A

**NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE**  
If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.  
**The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.**

# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 2

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 2 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 1:00 P.M. MT by means of using a toll-free conference number (877-853-5257 | Meeting ID: 970 6620 8712 | Passcode: 346752), pursuant to Section 551.125, Texas Government Code, as modified temporarily by Governor Greg Abbott, and the related guidance from the Office of the Texas Attorney General, in connection with the Governor's COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

**FOR** the proposal: **Directors Borrett, Jorjorian-Raynal, Newsom and Esparza**  
**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**  
**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**  
**ABSENT:** **Director Limon**

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7500/\$100	\$0.7500/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ –	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– %	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 282,664	\$ 279,279
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ –	\$ –
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 282,664	\$ 279,279
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 2,119.98	\$ 2,094.59
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–) and percentage of increase (+/–)	– \$ 25.39	– 1.20%

**NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE**  
If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.  
**The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.**



# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 3

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 3 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 9:00 A.M. MT by means of using a toll-free conference number (877-853-5257 | Meeting ID: 972 9955 0992 | Passcode: 287807), pursuant to Section 551.125, Texas Government Code, as modified temporarily by Governor Greg Abbott, and the related guidance from the Office of the Texas Attorney General, in connection with the Governor’s COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

- FOR** the proposal:
- Directors Alcocer, Haddad,  
Dyer, Boswell and Adauto
- AGAINST** the proposal:
- NONE
- PRESENT** and not voting:
- NONE
- ABSENT:**
- NONE

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7500/\$100 Adopted	\$0.7500/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ –	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– %	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 183,837	\$ 194,428
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ –	\$ –
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 183,837	\$ 194,428
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,378.78	\$ 1,458.21
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–) and percentage of increase (+/–)	+ \$ 79.43 + 5.76%	

**NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE**

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 4

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 4 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on Friday, September 11, 2020, at 9:30 A.M. MT by means of using a toll-free conference number (877-853-5257 | Meeting ID: 992 0807 7448 | Passcode: 936439), pursuant to Section 551.125, Texas Government Code, as modified temporarily by Governor Greg Abbott, and the related guidance from the Office of the Texas Attorney General, in connection with the Governor’s COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

- FOR** the proposal:
- Directors Lascurain, Macias,  
Taylor and Campbell
- AGAINST** the proposal:
- NONE
- PRESENT** and not voting:
- NONE
- ABSENT:**
- Director Silerio

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7500/\$100 Adopted	\$0.7500/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ –	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– %	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ –	\$ –
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–) and percentage of increase (+/–)	N/A N/A	

**NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE**

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 5

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 5 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 10:30 A.M. MT by means of using a toll-free conference number (877-853-5257 | Meeting ID: 931 9805 4756 | Passcode: 780034), pursuant to Section 551.125, Texas Government Code, as modified temporarily by Governor Greg Abbott, and the related guidance from the Office of the Texas Attorney General, in connection with the Governor’s COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

**FOR** the proposal: **Directors McLean, Alonzo, Juarez, Lascurain and Sanchez**

**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**

**ABSENT:** **NONE**

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7500/\$100 Adopted	\$0.7500/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ –	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– %	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 195,430	\$ 193,989
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ –	\$ –
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 195,430	\$ 193,989
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,465.73	\$ 1,454.92
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–) and percentage of increase (+/–)	– \$ 10.81 – 0.74%	

**NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE**

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

**The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.**

# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 6

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 6 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 2:00 P.M. MT by means of using a toll-free conference number (877-853-5257 | Meeting ID: 956 0130 0122 | Passcode: 356723), pursuant to Section 551.125, Texas Government Code, as modified temporarily by Governor Greg Abbott, and the related guidance from the Office of the Texas Attorney General, in connection with the Governor’s COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

**FOR** the proposal: **Directors Huit, Wheeler, Peterson, Rico and Romero**

**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**

**ABSENT:** **NONE**

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7500/\$100 Adopted	\$0.7500/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ –	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– %	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ N/A	\$ 168,863
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ –	\$ –
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ N/A	\$ 168,863
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ N/A	\$ 1,266.47
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–) and percentage of increase (+/–)	N/A N/A	

**NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE**

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

**The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.**



*Hospitals can put both you and your bankroll on the critical list.*  
— Quips & Quotes

*By nature all men are much alike, but by education they become different.*  
— Quips & Quotes

# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 7

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 7 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 3:00 P.M. MT by means of using a toll-free conference number (877-853-5257 | Meeting ID: 951 0527 2942 | Passcode: 725828), pursuant to Section 551.125, Texas Government Code, as modified temporarily by Governor Greg Abbott, and the related guidance from the Office of the Texas Attorney General, in connection with the Governor’s COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

**FOR** the proposal: **Directors Hansen, Goldfien, Garnica, Moye and Ulrich**

**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**

**ABSENT:** **NONE**

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7500/\$100 Adopted	\$0.7500/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ –	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– %	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 156,057	\$ 153,410
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ –	\$ –
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 156,057	\$ 153,410
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,170.43	\$ 1,150.58
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	– \$ 19.85	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	– 1.70%	

### NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23601, Water Code.

**The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.**

# Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 8

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo Del Este Municipal Utility District No. 8 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on Friday, September 11, 2020, at 10:30 A.M. MT by means of using a toll-free conference number (877-853-5257 | Meeting ID: 978 6854 6881 | Passcode: 603091), pursuant to Section 551.125, Texas Government Code, as modified temporarily by Governor Greg Abbott, and the related guidance from the Office of the Texas Attorney General, in connection with the Governor’s COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

**FOR** the proposal: **Directors Quiñones, Silva, Spurlin, Touchstone and Contreras**

**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**

**ABSENT:** **NONE**

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7500/\$100 Adopted	\$0.7500/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ –	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– %	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 174,746	\$ 176,203
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ –	\$ –
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 174,746	\$ 176,203
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,310.60	\$ 1,321.52
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	+ \$ 10.93	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	+ 0.83%	

### NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

**The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.**



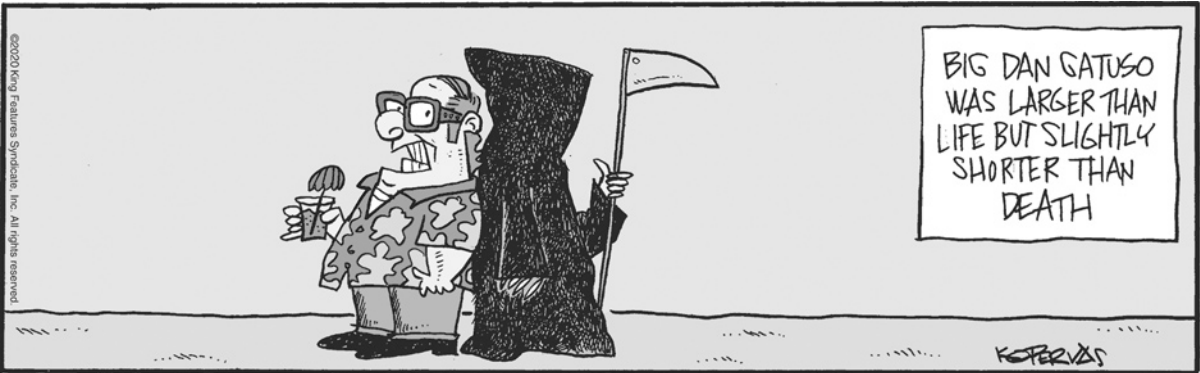




Comix

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



Franken

From Page 2

as fundraisers? You guessed it: face masks with “MAGA” or simply “Trump” on them. Again, the wisdom of P.T. Barnum: “The common man, no matter how sharp and tough, actually enjoys having the wool pulled over his eyes, and makes it easier for the puller.”

We can witness a one-

man show not only with his convention spectacle, but with his entire campaign. It was ever thus with him, saying in 2016, “I alone can fix it,” referring to the state of the country. And now, four years later, standing in the wreckage he has caused, telling a group of conservatives, “I’m the only thing standing between the American Dream and total anarchy, madness and chaos.”

So remember the two P.T.s:

P.T. Barnum and the modern P.T., President Trump. As he seeks re-election, Donald Trump once again will be testing still another quote from the master showman of days gone by as he parodied Abraham Lincoln: “You can fool most of the people most of the time.”

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Pulmonary fibrosis needs exact diagnosis

*DEAR DR. ROACH: My husband was recently diagnosed with mild to moderate pulmonary fibrosis. His mother died from pulmonary fibrosis. From what we have read there is no cure, only palliative care. The thought of doing nothing to try to stop the progression is totally unacceptable when there have been such successes with immunotherapy and stem cells. Would he receive more aggressive treatment going to a pulmonary fibrosis care center that has lung disease programs? – C.D.*



There are several diseases that may cause fibrosis of the lung, so having an exact diagnosis made by an expert is critical for getting the right treatment. The most common type of pulmonary fibrosis is called “idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis” (it also has been called “usual interstitial pneumonia” and “cryptogenic fibrosing alveolitis”), and I am going to discuss that diagnosis.

The cause of IPF is unknown (both “idiopathic” and “cryptogenic” mean “of unknown cause”), but cigarette smoking is a risk factor. It is usually diagnosed in people who are their 50s and 60s, although some familial cases may come on earlier. IPF can run in families.

Although it is a rare disease, it seems to be on the rise. The major symptoms are cough and shortness of breath.

There is no cure for IPF, but there are treatments available. Two drugs, pirfenidone and nintedanib, are approved for use in the U.S. and Canada. Both of them slow progression of lung disease, reduce exacerbations and have been proven to reduce mortality from the condition, if only slightly. I am concerned that you and your husband apparently haven’t heard of these drugs.

I strongly advise you get a referral to a center for lung disease in order to get your husband the best care. I found 35 IPF trials recruiting patients in the U.S. and six in Canada. A clinical trial will help scientists understand this condition as well as determine the best current treatment. You also can find out what centers have expertise on this condition by seeing where the trials are conducted at [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov). The most aggressive treatment isn’t always the best, but you and your husband deserve to hear about all the options.

The Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation can help you find experienced centers for treating this condition. You can find them online at [www.pulmonaryfibrosis.org](http://www.pulmonaryfibrosis.org).

*DEAR DR. ROACH: My niece recently was diagnosed with breast cancer. Radiation was recommended. Her mother said that first she’d have to boost her immune system. Is it possible to actually do that? – P.P.L.*

Radiation is a common treatment after breast cancer surgery. It’s done to reduce the risk of recurrence, depending on the exact type of cancer.

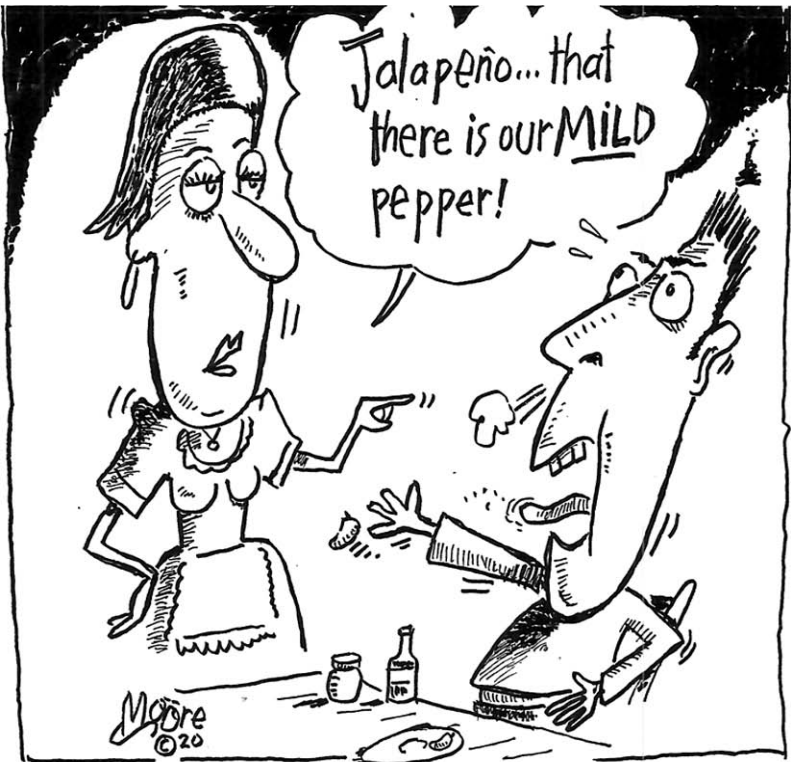
Boosting the immune system is a new adjunct for many types of cancer. There are several ways to do this: One is to genetically modify the patient’s own immune T-cells, but many other techniques are in trials now.

However, if your niece’s mother is talking about supplements, I’d be cautious. Supplements that are promoted to boost the immune system generally are ineffective at doing so. Making sure your niece has proper nutrition, gets good sleep and experiences as little stress as is manageable are ways to prevent stress on the immune system. Everyone could benefit from those deceptively simple steps, but especially a person being treated for cancer.

*Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to [ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu). (c) 2020 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.*

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**Moore Texas** by Roger MOORE  
The Texas Legislature designated the Jalapeno pepper as the official state hot pepper. Well HOT DANG!!

## 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: C equals E

Y ICCF PRIWF IQV KYVKWH  
CFCGMPZOH. RC PFF NZQR  
OMC GQQV KVCPOWVCH  
RQVN IQV GCPZWOH.

Answer Page 4  
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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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## A child like that



by Freddy Groves

The regular crew of older veterans was spread out on the sidewalk in front of the coffee shop, but I didn't expect they'd be there long. The heat was coming up and it was going to be a brutal day. Half of them were drinking iced coffees.

One of them held out his paper coffee cup to me as I walked up. "A little more ice, please, since you're standing right there." I took his cup and tapped on the pickup window glass. The unfriendly counter girl dumped a few more pieces of ice in the cup. When I didn't take it away, she added a few more.

One of the vets was reading from his tablet, an iPad that seemed to have every single news alert known to man. Every few minutes it dinged.

A woman pulled into a parking space and climbed out.

"Here comes my warden," taking a final sip of his coffee. "We all need a child like that."

"Daddy, I'm concerned about you in this heat," the woman said to him. "Are you about ready to come home?"

"I was about to order a sandwich," he said, but he was finishing up his coffee as he said it.

"I have ham and cheese and turkey and salami at home, if that's OK. And the big Kaiser rolls you like."

"Hope there's enough mustard," he said, getting up and folding his chair.

After she'd loaded him in the car and driven off, the group went quiet until: "Be a heck of a thing if she hadn't taken him in."

The story came out in pieces: The daughter had discovered her veteran father in sad shape in the retirement home, had a few choice, very loud words to say to management, and had promptly packed up her daddy and taken him home with her. That was mere weeks before the coronavirus hit the home and veterans started getting sick.

"Yup," said another veteran,

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• A tip from our good friend A.S.M.: "When buying berries packed in a basket, check the bottom to see if there's a juice stain. This means that the strawberries at the bottom are crushed."

• "Here's a great tip for use at bath time with baby: I have a sippy cup that changes color when the drink is hot. Oddly enough, it changes at the perfect temperature for baby's bath. So, I fill the tub and toss in the cup. When the cup starts to change back to its original color (blue), I know the bathwater is not too hot. I always swish the water around and check with my wrist also, but it is a good visual clue to check." – P.B. in Idaho

• "To remove muffins or rolls from a pan, set it on an old, damp towel for a minute. The steam must loosen the bottoms because they just slide right out. I thank my mom for this tip." – J.R. via e-mail

• When heating milk in a pan, "seal" the pan with unsalted butter to keep the milk from filming and sticking to the sides. Lightly coat all sides of the pan with butter, and the milk is sure to not leave scum, which can take away from the rich flavor of the milk.

• Do you find yourself throwing away unused and spoiled fruits and veggies at the end of the week? Try setting aside time after you come home from the grocery store for prepping fruits and vegetables. Pre-bag snack sizes of carrots, celery, strawberries, grapes, cantaloupe and apples. Pre-cut veggies for meals to make later in the week. Slice tomatoes and onions for sandwiches, and tear and separate lettuce for salads. They all make great, healthy treats, and having them ready to go makes it easier to get that five a day!

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2020 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!  
Answer Page 4

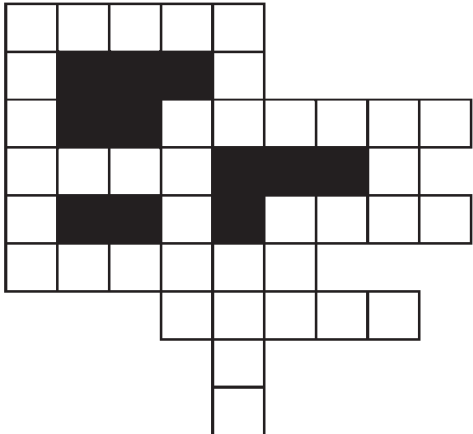
	÷		+		11
+		×		+	
	+		×		17
÷		÷		×	
	+		÷		4
3		3		10	

1 1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9

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TGE  
HUGACT  
DEYNE  
♥TANE  
HOYTER  
IHE  
♥LAAG  
YOARN  
♥EAY  
ENGREE  
♥HACSR  
♥ERRA



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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