

## NEWSBRIEFS

### TDLR issues emergency licenses

Due to COVID-19 department quarantines at the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), all licensees with a renewable license that expired between August 1 and November 30 will be considered to hold an emergency license valid for up to 120 days after their expiration date. The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation adopted the emergency rule granting the emergency licenses on November 23. Current license expiration dates will not change, and any late fees accrued will not be waived. All licenses should still be renewed in accordance with their regular expiration dates. The agency will not mail out printed emergency licenses but will post a list of emergency licenses on the TDLR website (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/emergency-licenses/search.htm>). TDLR strongly encourages licensees to renew online using a credit card instead of mailing in a paper form and a check whenever possible, as online renewals are automated and processed within a week of receipt. Applicants for new licenses should check the TDLR website to see whether their license type allows for original applications to be submitted online. If so, they should apply online and submit documents electronically to help speed up the licensing process.

— Tela Mange

### Easy does it

Many a husband has been chastised by his spouse for dedicating precious space in their abodes to what you might call a “man cave.” But three New York City transit workers got suspended recently for taking over a storage room under the tracks of Grand Central Terminal and turning into their own manuary. Their bosses acted on a tip, which upon investigation led them to the well-furnished converted supply locker with its TV, air conditioning, video streaming equipment and other trappings. The MTA posted photos of the repurposed space on Facebook as well as a statement rebuking the workers for having “the chutzpah to commandeer a secret room beneath Grand Central Terminal and make it their very own man-cave, sustained with MTA resources, and maintained

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*Another thing about trouble – you don’t have to get rid of the old ones to make room for the new ones.*

— Quips & Quotes



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

**ROUGH CHOICE** – “Small towns are really hurting right now,” said Dr. Richard P. Jackson, an optometrist with offices in Anthony and Socorro, TX. “What is happening to businesses in small towns is making it extremely difficult to stay open,” he stated when announcing his decision to close his Anthony office at the end of December.

## Anthony’s only optometry office closes up shop

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

ANTHONY, TX – Dr. Richard P. Jackson has been providing eye health care services to the residents of both Anthony Texas and New Mexico for the past twenty-five years. But, by the end of this year the only optometry business in the area will be shuttered leaving the small rural town without a licensed eye care doctor.

The Anthony optometrist’s office closure is a glimpse of the phenomenon that seems to be happening throughout

small-town America. Many small town businesses have been struggling to survive in the current economic environment.

Jackson acknowledged that he did everything he could think of to try to stay open; however, he said that there were just too many challenges to overcome.

His quaint office building, which also serves as his home, sits right on the border of the two neighboring states along Washington Avenue, which crosses the Rio Grande in El Paso County’s upper valley.

The optometrist stated that he was seeing about 2,000 patients yearly and that most of them were of modest means.

“Unfortunately, the people out here will no longer have a local eye doctor to serve their needs,” Jackson said. “I have been able to provide my services very cost-effective because most of my patients are economically-disadvantaged. I accept all kinds of insurances including government assistance programs, and I also provide my services to referrals from the local Lions Club members,” he pointed out.

At his Anthony office, Jackson provides eye examinations to evaluate health and visual abilities. He diagnoses eye diseases, conditions of the eye and

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**OPERATIONAL VIABILITY** – Small town businesses – like Dr. Richard Jackson’s eye care office, above, in Anthony, TX – have been struggling to survive in the current economic environment because of not only the pandemic but also due to the trends of consolidation and growing market concentration, according to a recent economic study report. “This increasing concentration, especially in rural communities, has led to the rise of the modern company town, where a community is dominated by a single firm,” according to the report.





In my hometown of Little Rock, Arkansas, back in the late 1950s they closed the public schools down rather than desegregate. But since high-school sports were as big as in Texas, they kept

# Racial politics then and now

the football season going. The saying around town that year was that the teams were “Undefeated, Untied and Uneducated.” Fast-forward 60-plus years. This year, so many schools are once again closed, but at least some of their teams are also not playing football, nor any sports. It’s too dangerous, thanks to the pandemic. Now we are overwhelmed

with more than a quarter-million people killed by the coronavirus and more than 12 million cases in the United States since the plague began. And, yes there is a racism factor involved: The infection rate disproportionately affects minorities, largely due to the fact that they are among the nation’s poorer citizens. To say that the Trump administration’s response to this

crisis has been dismal understates disastrous. From day one, it has been a tragedy of errors. Nearly every responsible government agency has been irresponsible, near every decision has been wrong and/or carried out in ways that give new meaning to the word “incompetent.” Those who know what they’re doing have been sidelined because they were unwilling

to parrot the party line that the coronavirus was no big deal. And we are talking about the Trump party here, with one member. Since the beginning, President Donald Trump has insisted that the invisible attacker would have minimal effect, would “miraculously” disappear after a brief period, and it wasn’t worth getting our protective gear in a knot about it. What protective gear? Even

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View from here

By Marilyn M. Singleton, M.D., J.D.

# COVID-19 won the 2020 presidential election

One is hard-pressed to deny that Joe Biden is a weak<sup>1</sup>, corrupt<sup>2</sup>, pathologically lying<sup>3</sup>, creepy dirty old man<sup>4</sup> who has lived off the government teat for 50 years. And he allegedly won the 2020 presidential election. Are Americans that ignorant? Or has Joseph Stalin’s political philosophy that has been simmering in America for years finally come to fruition? COVID was the not-so-secret agent. The COVID pandemic was Nancy Pelosi’s stated reason for inserting blanket mail-in voting into a COVID financial relief package<sup>5</sup> several months before the election. This method is a breeding ground for fraud. It is not absentee voting where the voter requests a ballot. With mail-in, a ballot is sent to anyone on the voter rolls – dead or alive. Magically, after all the ballots were mailed out, the CDC announced that people suffering from COVID could vote in person as long as they told the poll workers of their condition. During his bloody 30-year career, Joseph Stalin (1878-1953) made two immediately pertinent points. First, “Political power does not rest with those who cast votes; political power rests with those who count votes.”<sup>6</sup> The second point lays the foundation for

the first: “The press is our Party’s sharpest and most powerful weapon.”<sup>7</sup> The Left’s plans for fundamentally changing America were upended by three years of peace and prosperity. Enter the media collaborators. CNN has a permanent sidebar banner with global statistics with no context. There were never stories on recoveries or successful treatments, of which there are many inexpensive, home-based<sup>8</sup> therapies. Many studies demonstrate positive results from the anti-inflammatory antiparasitics hydroxychloroquine<sup>8</sup> and ivermectin<sup>9</sup>, fluvoxamine<sup>10</sup> (antidepressant), budesonide<sup>11</sup> (inhaled steroid), vitamins D and C, quercetin, and zinc. Social media refused to post materials favorable to the President or unfavorable to his opponent. I presume we are supposed to be impressed by Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey<sup>12</sup> testifying that he should not have censored news about Hunter Biden’s internationally sensitive business ventures. Too little, too late. But he knows that. He had a mission to complete: emulate Pravda, censor and manipulate speech, and sway the election. We knew this was coming. 60 years ago

Nikita Khrushchev<sup>13</sup> predicted of the United States, “your grandchildren will live under communism.” If we didn’t believe Stalin or Khrushchev, maybe we will believe Hollywood. Given the perpetual “2 weeks to flatten the curve” lockdown and the paucity of non-Pravda network news, 50-year-old television shows have become welcome substitutes. The 1967-68 series called The Invaders was premised on aliens from another planet descending upon Earth to “make it their world.” The aliens’ dialogue was eerily familiar to the current authoritarian COVID Great Reset<sup>14</sup> social engineering blather. In *The Ivy Curtain*<sup>15</sup> episode an alien “college” course instructed new alien arrivals that “fear is an emotion that dominates all human behavior.” The aliens would “use fear as a weapon, to twist anxiety into hate, suspicion into violence, cowardice into surrender.” COVID was the convenient vehicle to induce fear.

Was The Invaders pure entertainment or allegory? On the technical side, 2019’s futuristic *Terminator: Dark Fate*<sup>16</sup> is prophetic. When Facebook, Google, Twitter, and big tech hyperbolically propagandizing the coronavirus – excuse me, Skynet’s machines began to overtake humans, the government told the people to hide and isolate for a while. Hiding became the “new normal” until one strong leader inspired humans to fight the machines. The one-sided news presentation, the post-election fortuitous release of 2 vaccines and revelation of Biden’s lockdown plans, mayors<sup>17</sup> and governors<sup>18</sup> and congresspersons flagrantly attending and planning celebrations<sup>19</sup> – maskless<sup>20</sup>, opened many eyes to the media’s manipulation. Some voters are feeling like someone who got drunk in Las Vegas and woke up in bed married to a stranger or in

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:**

The *West Texas County Courier* will not publish the last two weeks of December. The first issue of 2021 will be January 7.

The *West Texas County Courier* office will close beginning Wednesday, December 16, 2019. The office will open again on Monday, January 4, 2021.



# The coming anti-COVID restriction backlash

It already seems clear that the first major political and culture eruption of the Biden years will be a roiling populist backlash against the next round of COVID restrictions.

We saw this sentiment play out in sporadic anti-lockdown

demonstrations last spring and it has driven ongoing resistance to masks, but it is, in all likelihood, about to reach an entirely new level – fueled by exhaustion with the virus, elite hypocrisy and the shattered credibility of the public-health establishment.

## Office

From Page 1

visual system, and provides necessary treatment such as eyeglasses, contact lenses, vision therapy, and low vision

aids. He noted that he did not perform surgeries.

As much as he wants to keep his Anthony office open, he indicated that with the COVID-19 pandemic entering a second wave, fewer patients have been willing to venture out of their homes to have their eyes examined.

Additionally, the doctor stated that insurance companies have been cutting their funding for eye care services, all the while business costs continue to increase. He added that only recently he has even had to struggle with the Town of Anthony, TX zoning and planning commission over commercial licensing permits regarding combining his office with his residence.

The 73-year-old Jackson said that he plans to consolidate his practice and offer eye care services at his Socorro Eye Care office only, which is located at 10377 Socorro Rd., in Socorro, TX.

“I really don’t want to leave the Anthony area. I feel I am contributing to the town’s economic base; I hire persons who live in the community, and I am providing an important quality of life service,” said Jackson, who has been an optometrist since 1988 and is originally from Arkansas.

Nonetheless, the good doctor said that he plans to vacate the Anthony premises before the new-year. He asks current patients that want their eye care records or have prescriptions for glasses or contact lenses on order to call his office to arrange for pick up.

The ascension of Joe Biden will add force to the reaction. It is an iron law of American politics that whichever party doesn’t control the presidency will suspect the other of plotting to impose a tyranny, so the fear and loathing of COVID restrictions, somewhat muted on the right while Donald Trump was president, will deepen and intensify.

The right’s populism and limited-government impulse, which separated in the Trump years, will presumably be reunited in the push against lockdowns in a way that they haven’t been since the Tea Party.

“Lockdowns. Mask police. Curfews. What about freedom?” asked conservative Rep. Jim Jordan in a recent tweet, forecasting things to come.

It’d be much better if we could find a prudent middle path through the next several months, as the pandemic enters its worst phase and as new vaccines arrive that will soon start changing everything. But a significant segment of the American public has lost its patience with a new normal that has, at times, been arbitrary and poorly thought through.

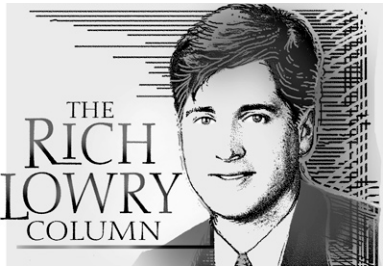
When the new virus first

hit our shores and we knew much less about it, the case for lockdowns was strong to keep the health-care system from getting overwhelmed and to play for time (and better treatments). In retrospect, though, the nationwide lockdowns of the spring closed down some states before they experienced their initial waves of the disease, imposing economic, mental health and medical costs without much upside.

After that kind of sacrifice, it’s hard to double-dip and ask people to do it again.

Especially when the latest advice ran against the grain of one of the nation’s oldest traditions, namely Thanksgiving, and when prominent pro-restriction officeholders discredit themselves with their own behavior.

In mid-November, Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot told residents of her city: “You must cancel the normal Thanksgiving plans. Particularly if they include guests that do not live in your immediate household.” Yet just days earlier she happily had joined a crowd celebrating Joe Biden’s election victory. During this moment, the political class should have been especially sensitive to playing by its own



rules, when those rules have been so relatively easy to bear for the elite and so punishing for ordinary workers.

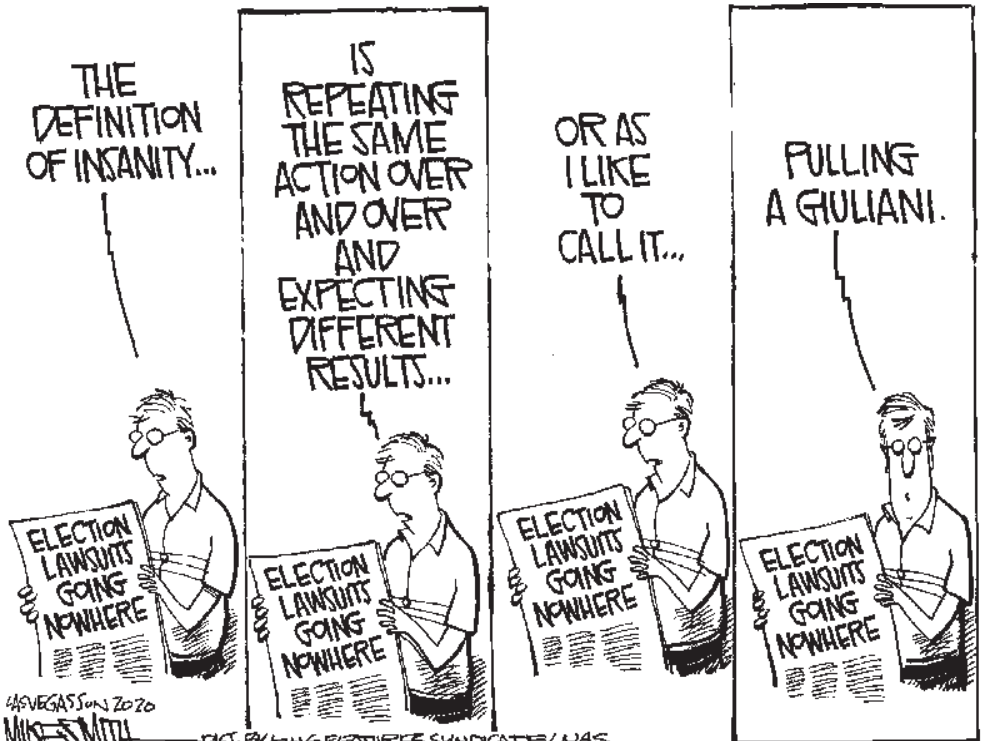
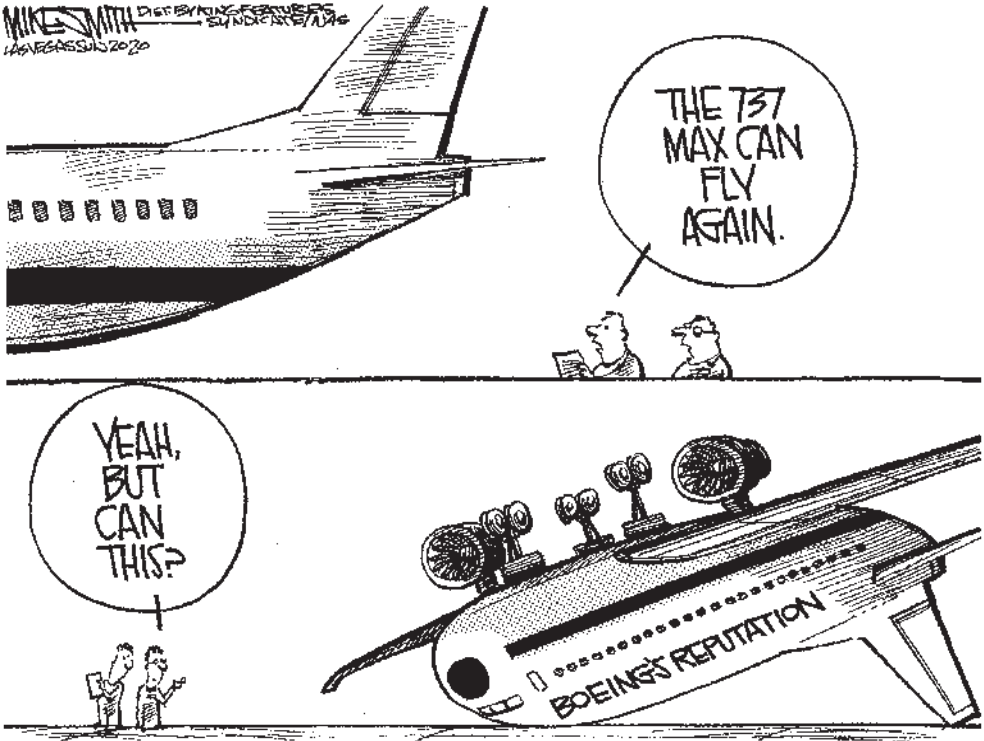
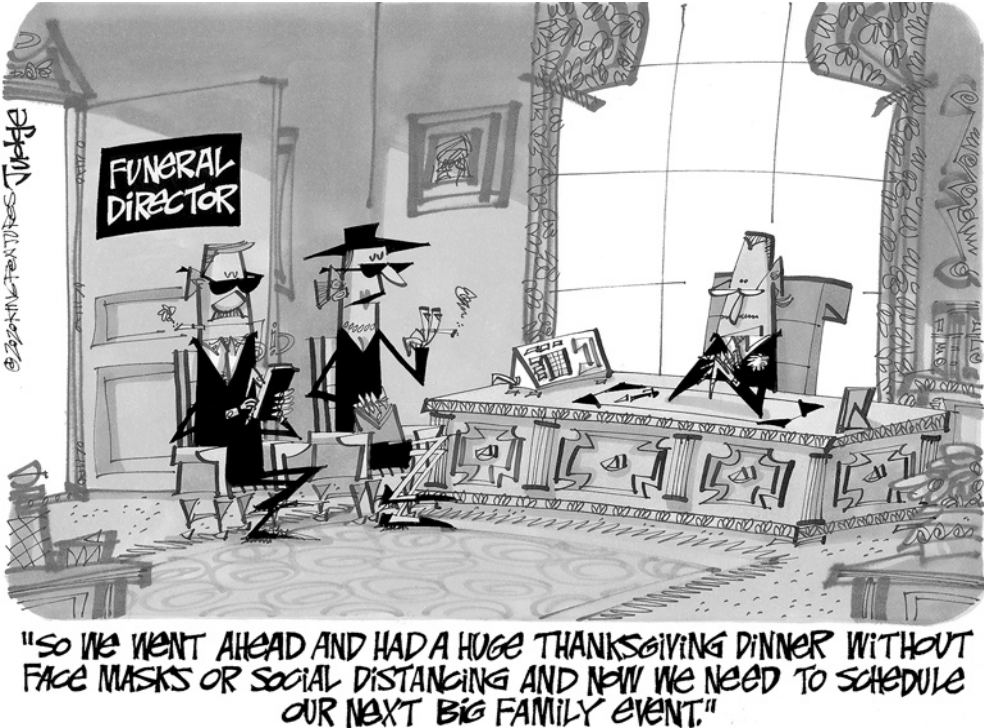
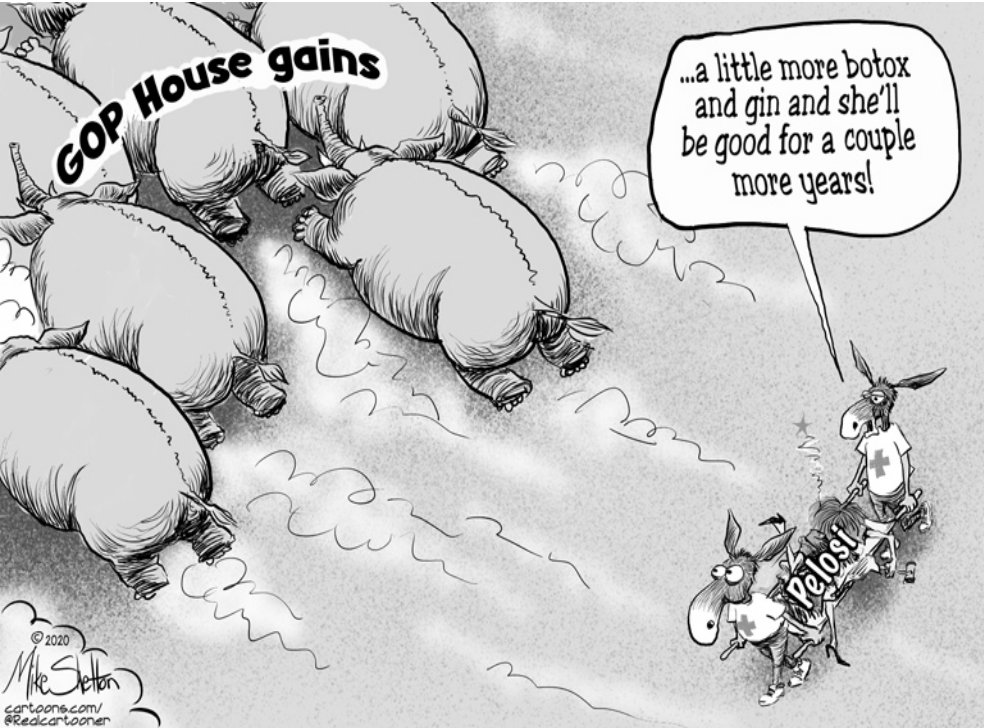
To simplify and generalize, at the start of this year, they downplayed the virus for fear that it would stoke xenophobia. Then, they lurched into five-alarm-fire mode.

They poured cold water on masks before turning around and insisting on them despite ambiguous evidence on the efficacy of cloth masks.

They preached the gospel of social distancing until mass Black Lives Matter protests erupted, blessing these huge, often unruly gatherings because fighting racism is supposedly a paramount public-health issue.

The upshot will be poisonous contention in the months ahead before the advent of that most American solution – the clever technological fix, in the form of transformative vaccines.

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





# PSB reviews FY 2021-22 proposed budget, rates and fees

Budget prioritizes water supply, system reliability and flood control

By Denise Parra  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – On Monday El Paso Water staff presented the proposed FY2021-22 Water/Wastewater and Stormwater budgets to the Public Service Board on Monday evening. The proposal included no increase to stormwater fees and a 2% increase in water/wastewater fees. Both are below financial plan projections, which

called for a 3% increase to the stormwater fee and a 5% increase in water/wastewater rates. If approved, the combined \$506 million budgets will result in an increase of \$1.11 per month for the average residential bill. This is the third consecutive year that staff proposed no increase in stormwater fees, opting to focus on projects already funded in 2020-21. During the meeting, the PSB requested to see options for a minimal increase to the stormwater fee to allow for the

completion of additional flood control projects. These fee options will be presented to the PSB for consideration at the December 9 meeting, and approval of the FY 2021-22 budget including rates and fees will be voted on during the January 13, 2021 meeting. Key funding priorities driving the slight increase to water and wastewater rates included securing El Paso’s future water supply, improving system reliability through rehabilitation of aging infrastructure, and expanding systems for city growth. Investing in these priorities will support long-term sustainability for customers.

Capital improvement projects for the new fiscal year include: the drilling of new wells; rehabilitating several water tanks; upgrades and/or expansion of the Roberto Bustamante, Fred Hervey, and John T. Hickerson wastewater treatment plants; improvements to the Jonathan Rogers and Canal river water treatment plants, and technology and facility upgrades to increase efficiency of operations.

EPWater will launch the first phase of a major capital project that will recharge the Hueco Bolson aquifer to secure this important water supply. The first phase of the project involves excavation and construction of infiltration infrastructure along a 1.3 mile stretch of arroyo in Northeast El Paso with a dual benefit of providing urban greenspace and trails along

the arroyo. Eventually, upon completion of the multi-year project, EPWater will take treated Rio Grande water during plentiful seasons and use it to help stabilize the aquifer and improve drought resilience.

“We have built an innovative portfolio of water resources, and this is just one way we are ensuring EPWater customers have a reliable source of water,” said EPWater President and CEO John Balliew. “It is especially needed when we do not have a plentiful river water season.”

The current pandemic has proved to be a challenging time for many EPWater customers. In March, EPWater made the decision to suspend service disconnections for non-payment for customers who have had a difficult time paying their bills.

The utility also applied for and received \$500,000 in CARES Act assistance through the City of El Paso. The program, which ended today, has helped more than 1,500 residential customers with payment assistance.

Compared to Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin and San Antonio, EPWater’s monthly water and wastewater charges are the second lowest of large Texas cities; only Laredo’s water rates are lower. EPWater’s rate structure will continue to provide relief for low water users while charging more for high-water users. Customers using less than 4 ccfs\* (2,990 gallons) of water in any given month will receive a waiver of the \$11.82 Water Supply Replacement Charge.



By Lucie Winborne

- Deceased scientists and researchers who have contributed to the study of Mars will, in a sense, live forever on the red planet: Craters larger than 37 miles are named in their honor.

- Hans Steininger, who is said to have had the longest beard in the world, died in 1567 from tripping over that beard while running from a fire.

- The blue whale is earth’s largest living creature, surpassing even most dinosaurs. Not only can it reach over 100 feet in length and weigh more than 100 tons, but its heart can tip the scale at 1,300 pounds and is the size of a small car, while its arteries are big enough for a full-grown human to swim through – not that we recommend you go for a swim and attempt it.

- New York City’s Flatiron building used to cause enough downdrafts to lift the skirts of women passing by, giving a then-daring view of their legs and ankles. The phenomenon resulted in groups of young men regularly gathering on 23rd Street to watch.

- People with autism are less likely to catch yawns.

- The record for most times being hit by a baseball pitch – a whopping 287 – belongs to Hughie Jennings, who finally got smart and retired in 1918.

- A bizarre form of Victorian-era entertainment was the “Fasting Girl.” Young women appeared in public exhibits and dazzled spectators with claims that they ate nothing at all. Obviously they munched in secret and most were eventually caught at it, though, tragically, some starved to death in a bid for authenticity.

Thought for the Day: “What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.”

– Pericles

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## Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Fabens Independent School District’s State Financial Accountability Rating (FIRST)

The Fabens Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 16, 2020 in the boardroom of the Fabens ISD Administration Building, 821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Fabens Independent School District’s rating on the state’s financial accountability system.

WTCC: 12/03/20

## Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Clint Independent School District’s State Financial Accountability Rating (FIRST)

Clint Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:30 PM, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Due to health and safety concerns related to the Covid-19 Corona Virus, this meeting will be conducted by videoconference or telephone call.

Notice for the meeting and access including, methods for public comments are available at <https://www.clintweb.net/>.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Clint Independent School District’s rating on the state’s financial accountability system.

*The Clint Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment.*

WTCC: 12/03/20

## Briefs

From Page 1

at our riders’ expense.”

– John Grimaldi

### Civic service

Prince Pinkney, an eighty-three-year-old Vietnam war veteran, collapsed from heat exhaustion this summer while doing yard work at his Fort Lauderdale, Florida home recently. Firefighters and paramedics wasted no time coming to the rescue. They not only treated Pinkney and his wife, Rebecca, they finished mowing their lawn for them. As Fire Rescue Captain Terry Maylor put it: “Their age, what they’ve gone through,

his history as a veteran serving this country. If that doesn’t move you to go ahead and do what you’re capable of, then nothing will.”

– John Grimaldi

### Swept away

A three-year-old girl was swept up by the tail of a giant kite during a festival recently in Taiwan. The 30-second nightmare ended happily when control of the kite was regained and it was slowly pulled back down to earth. The toddler suffered only minor injuries but appeared shaken by the buffeting winds as she hung entangled at the end of the kite’s long orange streamer.

– John Grimaldi

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## CryptoQuip Answer

The nun asked to leave the covenant, but she found it difficult to shake the habit.

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- On Nov. 30, 1965, lawyer Ralph Nader publishes the muckraking book “Unsafe at Any Speed.” The book became a bestseller and prompted the passage of seat-belt laws in 49 states (all but New Hampshire).
  - On Dec. 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks is jailed for refusing to give up her seat on a public bus to a white man, a violation of the city’s racial segregation laws. Parks’ refusal was not merely brought on by her tired feet, as is the popular legend. Local civil-rights leaders had been planning a challenge to Montgomery’s racist bus laws for several months.
  - On Dec. 2, 1997, “Good Will Hunting,” a movie that will earn childhood friends Ben Affleck and Matt Damon a Best Screenplay Oscar and propel them to Hollywood stardom, premieres in Los Angeles.
  - On Dec. 3, 1979, the last AMC Pacer rolls off the assembly line at the American Motors Corporation factory in Kenosha, Wisconsin. It was hailed as the car of the future when it debuted in 1975.
  - On Dec. 4, 1928, “Dapper Dan” Hogan, a St. Paul, Minnesota, saloonkeeper and mob boss, is killed when someone plants a car bomb under the floorboards of his new Paige coupe. The first car bomb was a horse-drawn-wagon bomb that exploded in 1920 outside the J.P. Morgan Company’s offices in New York City.
  - On Dec. 5, 1933, the 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is ratified, bringing an end to the prohibition of alcohol. Prohibition did little more than slow the flow of booze, and bootleggers like Al Capone had built criminal empires out of illegal distribution.
  - On Dec. 6, 1884, in Washington, D.C., workers place a 9-inch aluminum pyramid atop a tower of white marble, completing the construction of a monument to the city’s namesake and the nation’s first president, George Washington.
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## Election

From Page 2

a bathtub of ice minus a kidney. Stalin has another thought for these folks: “Words are one thing – deeds something entirely different. Fine words are a mask to cover shady deeds.<sup>20</sup>” Sounds a bit like Barack Obama. President Trump’s words did not do justice to his deeds. Everything was for Americans – more jobs, energy independence, improving national parks<sup>21</sup>, medical choice for veterans, prison reform, advancing historically black colleges, opportunity zones in poor neighborhoods, and on and on.

By contrast, the compassionate Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez launched the Trump Accountability Project<sup>22</sup>. The hit list included individuals who worked for the Trump for President campaign, Republican National Committee, and affiliated PACs in 2016 or 2020, those who staffed his government, individuals who worked in any role as a political appointee in the Trump Administration, and those who funded him,

and the millions of Americans who elected him. This hateful website silenced itself but the Stalinesque sentiment runs deep and is certain to resurface.

1 – <https://nypost.com/2020/10/24/biden-corruption-claims-all-but-confirmed-with-hunter-emails/>

2 – <https://thehill.com/opinion/campaign/499065-lies-damned-lies-and-the-truth-about-joe-biden>

3 – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-PkGI3-Tec>

4 – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4PLSPvJ9BY>

5 – <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/116/hr6800>

6 – [https://www.azquotes.com/author/13993-Joseph\\_Stalin](https://www.azquotes.com/author/13993-Joseph_Stalin)

7 – <https://aapsonline.org/covidpatientguide/>

8 – <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.09.30.20204693v1>

9 – <https://c19ivermectin.com/>

10 – <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-11-fluvoxamine-illness-covid-patients.html>

11 – <https://erj.ersjournals.com/content/early/2020/04/20/13993003.01009-2020>

12 – <https://justthenews.com/accountability/media/twitter-ceo-admits-censoring-hunter-biden-report-was-wrong-senators-grill-tech>

13 – <https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP73B00296R000200040087-1.pdf>

14 – <https://greatreset.com/>

15 – [https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0611998/?ref\\_=ttep\\_](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0611998/?ref_=ttep_)

ep11

16 – [https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6450804/?ref\\_=nv\\_sr\\_srsq\\_0](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6450804/?ref_=nv_sr_srsq_0)

17 – <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/nov/13/lori-lightfoot-denies-virus-hypocrisy-of-attending/>

18 – <https://www.politico.com/states/california/story/2020/11/13/newsom-faces-backlash-after-attending-french-laundry-dinner-party-1336419>

19 – <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/pelosi-backlash-planning-fancy-dinner-democrats>

20 – [https://www.azquotes.com/author/13993-Joseph\\_Stalin](https://www.azquotes.com/author/13993-Joseph_Stalin)

21 – <https://apnews.com/article/b05f9869fc7840fb0eb66a87ec8eeda1>

22 – <https://www.trumpaccountability.net/>

Marilyn M. Singleton is a board-certified anesthesiologist. She is the immediate past President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS). She graduated from Stanford and earned her MD at UCSF Medical School. While still working in the operating room, she attended UC Berkeley Law School, focusing on constitutional law and administrative law. She teaches classes in the recognition of elder abuse and constitutional law for non-lawyers.

San Elizario Independent School District				
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance				
Governmental Funds				
For the Year Ended June 30, 2020				
Data Control Codes		General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
5700	Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 2,875,437	\$ 452,843	\$ 3,328,280
5800	State Program Revenues	32,344,736	1,707,426	34,052,162
5900	Federal Program Revenues	2,798,845	3,711,277	6,510,122
5020	Total Revenues	38,019,018	5,871,546	43,890,564
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0011	Instruction	19,987,530	1,986,704	21,974,234
0012	Instructional Resources and Media Services	502,912	78,239	581,151
0013	Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	169,232	1,163,679	1,332,911
0021	Instructional Leadership	731,385	33,681	765,066
0023	School Leadership	2,227,246	5,241	2,232,487
0031	Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	1,275,694	5,044	1,280,738
0032	Social Work Services	183,338	–	183,338
0033	Health Services	422,328	86,509	508,837
0034	Student (Pupil) Transportation	1,190,266	495,295	1,685,561
0035	Food Services	2,774,862	158,230	2,933,092
0036	Extracurricular Activities	951,268	88,288	1,039,556
0041	General Administration	1,584,997	13,197	1,598,194
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	3,778,716	25,736	3,804,452
0052	Security and Monitoring Services	1,002,714	–	1,002,714
0053	Data Processing Services	1,041,954	–	1,041,954
0061	Community Services	38,326	84,390	122,716
Debt Service:				
0071	Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	770,000	555,000	1,325,000
0072	Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	68,672	1,124,650	1,193,322
0073	Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	440	400	840
Capital Outlay:				
0081	Facilities Aquisition and Construction	–	949,313	949,313
Intergovernmental:				
0099	Other Intergovernmental Charges	30,924	–	30,924
6030	Total Expenditures	38,732,804	6,853,596	45,586,400
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(713,786)	(982,050)	(1,695,836)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
7912	Sale of Real and Personal Property	14,145	–	14,145
7915	Transfers In	–	167,338	167,338
8911	Transfers Out (Use)	(1,667,338)	–	(1,667,338)
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(1,653,193)	167,338	(1,485,855)
1200	Net Change in Fund Balances	(2,366,979)	(814,712)	(3,181,691)
0100	Fund Balance – July 1 (Beginning)	13,172,180	3,447,124	16,619,304
1300	Prior Period Adjustment	–	10,607	10,607
3000	Fund Balance – June 30 (Ending)	\$ 10,805,201	\$ 2,643,019	\$ 13,448,220



# Maybe the Cowboys’ downfall is a good thing

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

There are many bad thing about losing in professional sports; attendance starts to go down, coaches and players get

frustrated with each other, fans and media members have all kinds of negative things to say, and so on.

The only good thing about losing is that the team is guaranteed a high pick in next year’s draft.

That’s why if an NFL team is 2-8 and

hopelessly out of the playoff hunt, the idea of losing games on purpose always comes up from fans and reporters.

Of course coaches and players would never even consider losing on purpose, or “not giving it their best” in any game.

Or would they?

Some teams get away with that by letting their second- and third-string players start the last few games of the season. They tell those players to do their best, but they know these players just aren’t good enough to compete with other team’s first stringers.

So are they losing on purpose to get that high draft pick?

All this brings me to the Dallas Cowboys and their embarrassing 41-16 loss to the Washington Football Team on Thanksgiving.

Both teams came into the game with 3-7 records. But amazingly, the winner of this contest would take over first place in the historically bad NFC East.

And with Washington clobbering Dallas 25-3 earlier this season, one would think the Cowboys had plenty of incentive to pay back those guys from DC.

But just like it’s been all season, horrible luck struck the Cowboys very early in the game. In the first quarter, offensive lineman Cameron Erving left the game with an injury and then just four plays later, Pro Bowl offensive lineman Zack Martin leaves the game with a knee injury.

This was happening to a team that was already missing linemen Tyron Smith and La’el Collins to injuries and center Travis Frederick, who retired due to an illness.

Every real football fan knows that no NFL team can win without a decent offensive line. Without one the team can’t run and the quarterback won’t have enough time to throw.

And that’s just what you saw from Dallas for the rest of the game, no offensive firepower.

But there were some play calls in the game that made me wonder whether the Cowboys were trying to guarantee

themselves a loss.

Everybody loves a good conspiracy theory, so here it goes.

In the second quarter the Cowboys were facing a fourth-and-one from their own 35 yard line. Inexplicably, they went for it. They didn’t make it.

Then, in the fourth quarter, while trailing only 20-16, the Cowboys were facing a fourth-and-10 from their own 24-yard-line.

They tried a fake punt. They didn’t make it.

Needless to say, after failing both times, they gave the Football Team great field position on their way to two easy touchdowns.

Why would the Dallas coaching staff do this? Especially knowing they’d just lost two more offensive linemen. I think under the circumstances, a coach would be less likely to try to go for it on fourth down from deep in their own territory... twice!

You have to wonder, why, in such a big game, with first place on the line, would a coach try something so dangerous?

It can’t be because the team is so good, they were just 3-7. It can’t be because Washington is so bad, they had the same miserable 3-7 record. It can’t be because the percentages were in Dallas’ favor, they weren’t.

So why would Dallas risk it on fourth down when they didn’t have to?

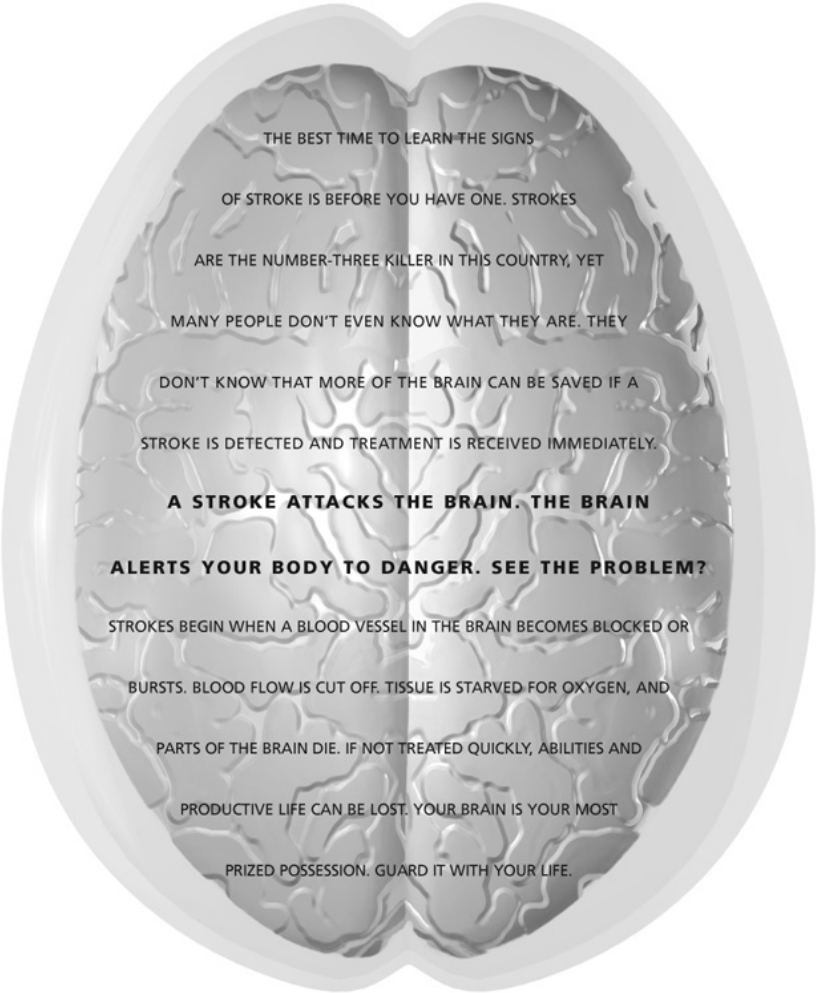
Could it be because having a lousy record and getting high draft pick is better than making the playoffs with a 6-10 record and losing in the first round?

It’s certainly something to consider.

We can keep blaming the offensive line, the defense, special teams, the election, covid-19, the lack of fans in the stands and the coin shortage.

But maybe, just maybe, the real culprit is the incentive to start planning for next season.

Let’s face it, at this point it would be better for the ’Boys to keep losing. Because, right now, they aren’t very good and they could use plenty of young help.



THE BEST TIME TO LEARN THE SIGNS OF STROKE IS BEFORE YOU HAVE ONE. STROKES ARE THE NUMBER-THREE KILLER IN THIS COUNTRY, YET MANY PEOPLE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THEY ARE. THEY DON'T KNOW THAT MORE OF THE BRAIN CAN BE SAVED IF A STROKE IS DETECTED AND TREATMENT IS RECEIVED IMMEDIATELY.


**A STROKE ATTACKS THE BRAIN. THE BRAIN ALERTS YOUR BODY TO DANGER. SEE THE PROBLEM?**

STROKES BEGIN WHEN A BLOOD VESSEL IN THE BRAIN BECOMES BLOCKED OR BURSTS. BLOOD FLOW IS CUT OFF. TISSUE IS STARVED FOR OXYGEN, AND PARTS OF THE BRAIN DIE. IF NOT TREATED QUICKLY, ABILITIES AND PRODUCTIVE LIFE CAN BE LOST. YOUR BRAIN IS YOUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION. GUARD IT WITH YOUR LIFE.


**WITH A STROKE, TIME LOST IS BRAIN LOST.**

If you suddenly have or see any of these symptoms, call 9-1-1 immediately: Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body • Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding • Difficulty seeing in one or both eyes • Trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination • Severe headache with no known cause

Learn more at **StrokeAssociation.org** or **1-888-4-STROKE**.



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## Super Crossword

### ATROCIOUS TUNES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Talk big
- 6 Generally speaking
- 15 Lhasa \_ (little dogs)
- 20 Ed of "Gus"
- 21 Small drying item on a bathroom bar
- 22 Obama's successor
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 Have a blast
- 26 "Yummy!"
- 27 "Exodus" actor Mineo
- 28 Lyric forgetter's syllables
- 29 "Yippee!"
- 30 "Forbidden" perfume
- 33 Common pet lizard
- 38 Warlike deity
- 39 Riddle, part 2
- 44 India's place
- 46 Brand of contact lens cleaner
- 47 Place to exit
- 48 Riddle, part 3
- 52 Unfurled, e.g.
- 57 Former Disney head Michael
- 58 Uncle, in Spain
- 59 Depict by drawing
- 62 Met maven
- 63 No, in Essen
- 66 \_ bow (upper lip shape)
- 68 A-list person
- 69 Riddle, part 4
- 73 "Neon" fish in a tank
- 75 Naturally illuminated at dusk
- 76 Duel weapon
- 77 Baldwin of "Andron"
- 78 Morse E's
- 79 Jet grounded in '03
- 81 \_ "Fideles"
- 86 West Texas city
- 88 Riddle, part 5
- 91 Munchkin
- 95 Farm baby
- 96 Crimson and carmine
- 97 End of the riddle
- 104 Actress Tara
- 105 Write the score to
- 106 Polo of "The Fosters"
- 107 Time of note
- 110 Official seal
- 112 \_ Na Na
- 115 Lopsided
- 117 Lopsided
- 118 Riddle's answer
- 124 Plow maker
- 125 Consensus
- 126 Acting teacher
- 129 Ex-NFLer Grier
- DOWN**
- 1 Humorously

- indecent
- 2 Milo of film
- 3 Study of data patterns
- 4 Alien seekers' program, for short
- 5 Sad, in Nice
- 6 Many a time
- 7 Casual turndown
- 8 Top fighter pilots
- 9 Inferior \_ cava
- 10 And others, in Latin
- 11 \_com (film category)
- 12 Feeling of amazement
- 13 Prefix with magnetic
- 14 Munchkin
- 15 Gillette shaver brand
- 16 Major for a future D.A.
- 17 Actress Mena
- 18 Eggy dish
- 19 Belly flop result
- 24 Fake display
- 28 "The Far Side" cartoonist Gary
- 31 Hamilton dueler Aaron
- 32 Web surfer, say
- 34 Great joy
- 35 Brand of fleecy boots
- 36 \_ Lingus
- 37 Vegas-to-Helena dir.
- 40 Violin virtuoso Hilary
- 41 Having a shot to win
- 42 Shaped like a die
- 43 Purported psychic gift
- 44 Suffix for an enzyme
- 45 Fashion's Anna \_
- 49 Skin dye
- 50 State north of Calif.
- 51 Like a boor
- 53 Blissful site
- 54 Aswan's river
- 55 Woman in 53-Down
- 56 Little bit
- 59 Actress Tyler or Ullmann
- 60 Concept, in Calais
- 61 New car sticker fig.
- 64 Words in an analogy
- 65 Food box datum: Abbr.
- 67 Miniature couch for a pooch
- 68 Female college students, outdatedly
- 69 One foot forward
- 70 Two-tone whale
- 71 Part of HRH
- 72 52-week unit
- 73 \_ Bo (fitness option)
- 74 Certain pipe fitting
- 78 Neglects to
- 80 "How Great \_ Art"
- 82 To be, in Le Havre

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



Franken

From Page 2

after all the flailing around, even after the president demonstrated his nonstop ignorance, he was able to intimidate many governors and local officials to prematurely abandon the lockdown, which was wreaking havoc on the economy but which was starting to work.

Eleven months later, the invisible viral enemy is still mercilessly slaughtering our citizens.

Trump moved on to other things to distract from the miserable job he and his people had done. What did he choose? Well, bigotry, of course. When Black and white people together rose up in the wake of the George Floyd killing by police, Trump predictably sided with the white supremacists and ran as a demagogue

trying to stoke racial fears this this country. In other words, whatever worked.

Except it didn't work. It was all about Donald Trump getting a second term. But he was beaten by about 5 million in the popular vote and the Electoral College tabulation, 306-232.

As we all know, Donald Trump is not about to let getting beaten beat him. Having gotten away with flim-flam all his life, he is flaming the constitution,

looking for an angle, any angle, to steal the election.

He doesn't care how much he is shattering the nation. As far as he is concerned, in politics, he has never lost. Why? Because he said so. But January 20, he'll discover that this racist lost the race.

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False positives plague lung cancer screening

DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm a 74-year-old female who smoked a pack a day for 40-plus years, having quit smoking about 18 years ago. As a precaution, I asked my primary doctor to order a screening CT scan, knowing that I'm a candidate for lung cancer. The results showed a 3-mm nodule in one lung, and I was advised not to worry and that my doctor would order another CT scan in six months. I can't help but wonder if this is cancer and if an oncologist, after six months, will ask me why I waited so long to see him. – T.W.



Medical professionals have been attempting to screen for lung cancer for decades. Chest X-rays proved insensitive: By the time cancer could be seen on X-ray, it was usually too late to do anything about it. CT scans are much more sensitive (maybe too sensitive; see below), and studies have shown that some lives will be saved with a screening program. However, the number of people who would benefit is relatively small; 256 moderate-to-heavy smokers would need yearly screening for three years in order to prevent one lung cancer death.

There are two other significant concerns about lung cancer screening. The first is the issue you have now: an abnormal result and what to do about it. It's extremely common. Almost 25% of scans will be abnormal, and 96% of the abnormal results will be false positives. But it will require multiple scans and sometimes an invasive procedure to prove it. This means a great deal of anxiety among people who get the type of result you did.

The small size of your nodule means your risk that this nodule is cancer is much lower than 1%. A follow-up scan is the usual recommendation, and if the nodule is the same size or smaller, the chance of it being cancer is very close to zero. You should have had a careful explanation of the likelihood of false positive results before getting the scan. You should also have been warned of the possible need for a biopsy and the possible financial costs associated with follow-up testing.

The second concern is that current smokers who consider screening should receive intensive advice and help in quitting smoking. A negative CT scan is not a "clean bill of health" for a smoker and quitting remains the single most important thing most smokers can do for their overall health.

DEAR DR. ROACH: How often does a healthy person with perfect vision and no eye concerns need to see an eye doctor? – D.S.

A periodic eye exam in someone with no symptoms involves a screening test for vision changes related to aging and other eye diseases, including glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration and cataracts. There are several commonsense reasons for screening, but there has not been good evidence to support its use. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force does not make a recommendation for or against screening. The Canadian Task Force recommends against it.

By contrast, the American Academy of Ophthalmologists recommends a baseline exam at age 40; visits every two to four years from age 40-54; every year to three years from age 55-64; and annual exams for people 65 and over.

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.





**Moore Texas** by Roger Moore  
**December 1777: A French engineer, Louis Andry and his crew, begin mapping the Texas-Louisiana coast all the way to Matagorda Bay.**

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: I equals F

JAN CGC VTUNZ JR  
YNVXN JAN PRCXNCJ, LGJ  
TAN IRGCZ KJ ZKIIKPGYJ  
JR TAVUN JAN AVLKJ.

Answer Page 4  
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Letters reach out to troubled vets



by Freddy Groves

We’ve been in a stressful period for many long months, and now here come the holidays. It’s going to be different this year: fewer (or no) family get-togethers, no parties, little shopping at stores... in other words, a potentially lonely time for many veterans who are sad or anxious or who have PTSD.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has done a randomized evaluation of its Caring Letters Program to test the effects of sending a written letter every month to veterans who have called the Veteran Crisis Line. One result was that when asked, 85% of psychiatric patient veterans agreed or strongly agreed that they would like to receive caring communication through the mail, and the period of time was monthly for

one year. (This rated higher than receiving email or text messages.) Granted, given the setting, most of them said that contact with a mental health counselor or physician was preferred, but I expect that a message from a friend or acquaintance or another veteran would likely be just as welcome.

At this point, the Veteran Crisis Line has sent letters to 90,000 veterans over the past year.

What can you do? You can reach out to a veteran you suspect might be struggling, whether it’s with suicidal thoughts or just loneliness. Monthly cards or letters in the mail to say hello are small things that can be huge to receive when someone is alone and struggling. Keep the communication brief, but caring.

If you honestly don’t know any veterans who might be struggling right now, make a call to the chaplain of your local American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars and

ask if there’s anyone they’re worried about.

If you’re going to do this, make a commitment to yourself right now that you’ll do this monthly for a minimum of one year. The impact of your effort might be greater than you’ll ever know.

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by Jo Ann Derson

• Be sure to eat a hearty breakfast before heading out to the airport. Pack a piece or two of whole fruit or a portion of nuts for snacking, and bring an empty water bottle so that you can make it through airport security and fill the bottle when you are at the gate. Being hydrated and having healthy snacks will make your travel experience more pleasant.

• “Print a physical copy of your travel itinerary, including flight numbers. Stow a copy inside a secure spot in your luggage so that if it gets lost, you’ll be easy to find. I like to put mine inside the zippered net bag that’s attached to my suitcase.” – E.L. in Ohio

• Pack a hanging luggage scale. This is especially helpful at the holidays, when you may be both taking gifts to give and returning with gifts given to you.

• When planning a vacation or even a visit home for the holidays, it’s important to manage everyone’s expectations. Imagine Mom expects her grown kids to spend most of their time seeing extended family, while they are making plans to see childhood friends while in town. Have a chat with parents, siblings and extended family so that everyone has a good idea of what the plan is.

• “For large gatherings, borrow what you need from local friends and family. That includes chairs, servingware, place settings, silverware and linens! Most people are happy to help.” – R.R. in Alabama

• “We have a large family, and when we all get together at the holidays – or anytime – we share a screenshot of our itinerary in a group text as we make plans. This way, we can try to group up for pickups from the airport or car rentals.” – C.A. in Oregon

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

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

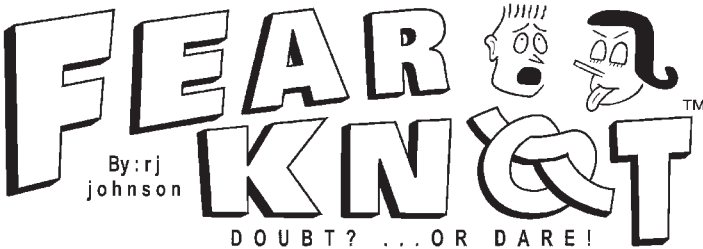
DIFFICULTY: ★★

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

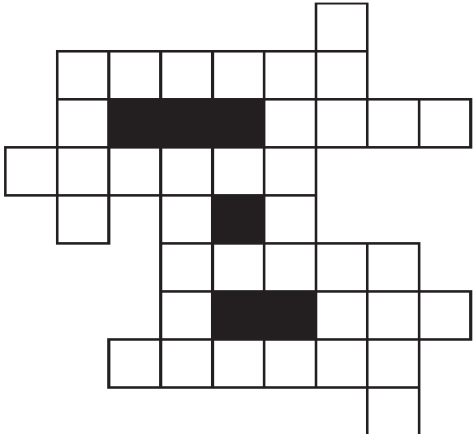
	÷		+		14
–		×		÷	
	×		–		9
×		+		+	
	×		–		20
14		10		9	

1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 9

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EPG  
ORPACH  
OMEPT  
♥REPY  
♥GRENIS  
♥EEW  
LCLE  
♥RIEMT  
SY P  
NALIUM  
MUPIO  
♥NOSW



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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