



NEWSBRIEFS

TISD back at school

Teachers and staff at Tornillo Independent School District (TISD) returned to campus on Monday, January 4, 2021. They kicked off the second semester with an address from Superintendent Rosy Vega-Barrio, Board President and special guest Texas Education Commissioner, Mike Morath. The collective message was clear – TISD is relentless and dedicated to their students. “This is a group of educators that say we will stop at nothing to give our kids the best that we can,” Morath said as he acknowledged the efforts and accomplishments of TISD. Board President Marlene Bullard and Board Vice President Ida Estrada also joined to thank teachers and staff. Students returned to the classroom, virtually and face to face, on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, to begin their second semester.

– Rachel Aguilar

School to parents: Don’t fling that kid

What to do when you take your kid to school and find the gates are locked? At one elementary school in Avignon, France “parents arriving after the bell were literally throwing their kids” over the gate, according to the Trillade school’s principal, Sanaa Meziane. It got so bad that Meziane posted a warning at the gate with a cartoon showing a parent flinging a small child over the gate with the caption: “Don’t throw late students over the closed gate.”

– John Grimaldi

COVID opportunity

The Northwest Arkansas Council is investing a million dollars through a Life Works Here Initiative to attract new residents to the region. They see the COVID-19 pandemic as a chance to give the region an economic boost. Council president Nelson Peacock says the agency is seeking to attract new residents to their community by offering them \$10,000 to relocate. He told *Forbes* magazine recently that “Northwest Arkansas has one of the fastest growing economies in the country.” Peacock said there are more than 10,000 job openings in Northwest Arkansas and a shortage of people to fill those openings. He’s hoping to attract people looking to relocate from big cities as a result of the coronavirus crisis.

– John Grimaldi

We can do more for other people by correcting our own faults than by trying to correct theirs.

– Quips & Quotes

Labrado was a true American patriot

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – The term patriot, as in an American patriot, has been used a lot lately during these trying times in the United States. Particularly after the recent astonishing attack on this country’s Capitol building in Washington D.C. by so-called, pro-Trump patriots.

But what exactly is a patriot? In dictionaries, a patriot is defined as a person who loves, supports, and defends his or her country and its interests with devotion.

Obvious to most individuals, waving an American flag does not make one a patriot, nor does owning an American flag automatically make one citizen better than another American. The same goes for using social media to post rants and suggestive commentaries about love of country.

For a patriot is not just a label or name given to certain types of persons; instead, a patriot is recognized by his or her actions when no one is looking.

Take for example Jose Labrado, who grew up in El Paso, joined the U.S. Army at the height of the Vietnam War and rose through the ranks to become a lieutenant colonel. Unfortunately, he recently succumbed in his fight against the devastating Parkinson’s disease.

Labrado was a 1968 graduate of Jesuit High School of El Paso. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Management from Park College, in Parkville, Missouri, and he earned a Master of Arts degree in Latin American Studies from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

Labrado ended up serving a 27-year distinguished career in the U.S. Army where he acquired a superior record of outstanding performance that encompassed numerous challenging tours of duty.

Labrado’s military career began in 1970. After Basic



– Photo courtesy Pedro Labrado

NOT FORGOTTEN – U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel (ret.) José Labrado, age 72, died on Sunday, Jan. 2, 2021 at The Lucy Smith King Care Center, St. Anthony’s Hospice, in Henderson, KY. This photo is from the early 1970s.

Training, AIT, and Airborne School, he served a tour of duty as an infantryman in the Republic of Vietnam, with the 173rd Airborne Brigade.

After Southeast Asia, he served with the Third Brigade of the 101st ABN DIV at Fort Campbell, Kentucky where he attained

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Canutillo ISD using smart cameras to connect with remote students

By Andrew Reynoso
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – Remote learning students in Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) now have a new way to experience classroom instruction in much the same way that on-campus students do.

The District has invested in nearly 300 Swivl integrated robotic cameras that will improve remote instruction by keeping students engaged and connected. Swivl integrates with the Zoom video conferencing solution and allows teachers to have real-time smart cameras that would follow the learning environment for synchronous lesson delivery while simultaneously creating a recording for asynchronous learners.

With the Swivl system, teachers can move around their classroom and the students at home can see and hear the teacher and the rest of the class. Groups of students also have the ability to participate and collaborate both in-

person and online.

CISD Technology Executive Director

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– Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

GOT MY LENS ON YOU – A Swivl system device connects Canutillo ISD classrooms to remote students.

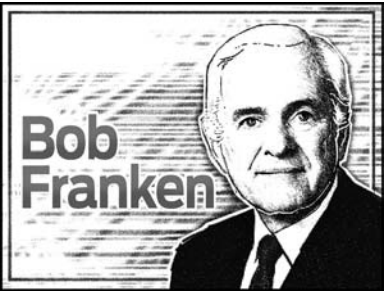
San Eli ISD prioritizes face-to-face instruction for all students

By Jeannie Meza-Chavez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Living through a pandemic is nothing anyone could have prepared for or anticipated. Early in the pandemic, expectations and demands changed and educators in the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) had to quickly shift gears to meet the needs of students. Amongst the first set of educators, stepping up to the plate were special personnel. Federal and state guidelines did not lessen as a result of the pandemic, so special education personnel had to adjust quickly to meet the needs of students with disabilities.

As the pandemic began, Amanda Sanchez, Director of Special Education for SEISD was selected to serve on the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Special Education Task Force. Sanchez,

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“If at first you don’t secede, try again.”

It’s not that the secession of states is a good idea – it’s not – but the truth is, we are not a United States anymore, and never have been. Were it not for the fact that the motivation for

A secession session

the Confederacy to break off was so odious – it was really about the states’ rights to hold fellow humans as slaves and brutalize them – I would have said let them go. The Southerners were nothing more than a bunch of genteel backstabbers who talked funny anyway. But still, I see Lincoln’s point when he said, “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

The Civil War ended more than 155 years ago. And, amazingly,

even after the grudging progress we’ve made from slavery through Jim Crow to those who still long for Jim Crow, we still have a bunch of regressives, like radio sage Rush Limbaugh, promoting secession. Meanwhile, Donald Trump and his MAGA-teers (Make America Great Again is just another way of saying Jim Crow) have effectively left us with a Divided States. So why not?

Well, there are some practical

considerations, like land mass. The lower 48 are geographic neighbors, in the same subdivision, although they are more like relatives with bitterly feuding hatreds. So that obviously isn’t convincing. Besides, how do you account for Alaska and Hawaii, and, for that matter, Puerto Rico, Samoa, the Virgin Islands and all those distant places? So that’s not it.

Is it that we are bound by a system of laws? That would be it, except when you have laws, you have lawyers, so you don’t really

have laws. As we’ve witnessed with President Trump, we have attorneys ready to thwart the will of the people in this alleged democracy at the drop of a billable hour.

Besides, when you have laws, you have lawmakers, Congresspeople and legislators who can be bought and sold. And you also have judges who are bound by their ideologies. Except in cases where the loser in the election goes bonkers and concocts legal impediments that

See FRANKEN, Page 7

Write stuff

Editor:

What is going on with the Covid vaccine?

I am 77 years old with diabetes and high blood pressure but was made aware that the vaccine was available for those 75 and older with medical conditions until the supply was already used up.

Only one of my friends in the same category found out by word of mouth from her daughter whose customer (a judge) complained of his shoulder pain from the shot. He then gave her the number to call for an appointment with the Westside UMC clinic. When she called she was offered a choice of different places to get it. Her appointment was the last day they were giving the vaccine until the next batch is

received and that is supposed to include all 65+. So what happened to the doses for those 75+ with medical conditions? Did they go to government officials and their cronies and family members first?

I called 6 different numbers to find information about where and when to get the vaccine (public health, #211, referred me to an 800# which referred me back to “211” or my doctor. My doctor’s office said they didn’t know anything about it but would probably be getting some vaccines in late Jan. 2021). The local news gave out a telephone number but it was a completely “dead” line. The other choice (the “first” choice) offered by every place called was to go to [www._____](#) or use the “app.” Many who are 75+ don’t use

those things or even have access to them.

Business as usual in El Paso nepotism and cronyism wins the day! All else is disorganized and the general public has to fend for themselves. If you are old and not family of the select few, you are expendable.

Our medical care systems should “step up” and advise their eligible patients that the vaccine is available and where to get it. They have not done anything as far as Covid is concerned.

If someone tested positive for the virus, they couldn’t go see their doctor for other things or retesting. They had to have a negative test first at one of the free testing centers. They often had to test multiple times (since they carried the antibodies

for months afterwards) and each time they tested positive again, they were counted as another new case because there was no name or medical ID associated with each test. Did anyone else notice that the “new” case count coincided with the implementation of the free testing?

The medical care system has totally stepped back from any involvement in care except for those that are hospitalized. As usual, it is only the “grunts” that work in the hospitals that actually practice “patient care,” the clinics and medical administrators have avoided all responsibility.

Sincerely,
Jacqueline Borst
El Paso County

View from here

By Jane M. Orient, M.D.

Americans need unfiltered news about COVID-19

Manipulating the news is a standard propaganda technique for molding public behavior. Today it may be called “fake news.”

It can be very hard to sort out the facts in the cacophony of conflicting statements on COVID-19. Dr. Anthony Fauci, perched as head bureaucrat at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) since the 1980s, would make it very simple for

you: “Just do what you are told.” Don’t wear a mask, or wear a mask. Go back to normal when there’s a vaccine; or when 70 percent are vaccinated; no, when 90 percent are vaccinated; or maybe when 70 to 85 percent are vaccinated¹.

If Americans were to make informed decisions for themselves, they would need to know the facts about such issues as:

- Early at-home treatments³, including hydroxychloroquine, antibiotics, corticosteroids, and ivermectin; and
 - Risks and benefits of the vaccines now being rolled out.
- In China, attorney and citizen-journalist Zhang Zhan⁴ is on trial for “spreading lies” – i.e. videotaping scenes like a hospital hallway and a crematory that conflicted with the narrative of the government’s “wise, triumphant response.”
- Fortunately, the U.S. does not have 5-year prison terms for such activities, but we do have “Twitter jail” and “Facebook jail” for doctors such as Dr. Vladimir

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Trump hoisted with his own petard

One of President Donald Trump’s foremost achievements has been to erect a formidable obstacle to his own post-election legal challenges.

The federal judiciary, now seeded throughout with Trump-nominated judges, has given the back of its hand to pro-Trump election litigation, with Trump judges issuing notably harsh opinions.

It’s always been strange that Trump, who will never be mistaken for a rigorous constitutionalist and who personalizes everything, has elevated a couple of hundred judges who, by and large, are deeply committed to the Constitution and feel no particular personal loyalty to him.

Hardly an institutionalist, Trump has buttressed the institution of the judiciary. Not one to honor norms, he’s generally nominated sticklers for them to the bench.

The paradox reached its height in the weeks after the election. Trump and his allies launched a battery of litigation asking for millions of votes to be thrown out or elections to be decertified, hoping to catch a break from a judge somewhere or from the U.S. Supreme Court. Trump himself put out a call for “courage” from

a justice or justices. Instead, the Trump team got nowhere, even with Trump-nominated jurists.

At a fraught time when most Republican elected officials in Washington were keeping their heads down, Trump judges involved in post-election litigation issued their rulings without fear or favor. They have shown a commitment to facts, reason and the law, and great institutional self-confidence.

Progressives portrayed Trump judges as right-wing hacks. Elizabeth Warren called Trump’s picks “aggressively unqualified,” while the editor of the left-wing website Talking Points Memo, Josh Marshall, tweeted: “The federal judiciary is corrupt. The Supreme Court is the most deeply corrupted.”

With the president of the United States raging at our electoral system and desperately seeking assistance from the courts, the alleged partisanship and corruption of the Trump-influenced judiciary has been nowhere in evidence.

Trump nominated University of Pennsylvania law professor Stephanos Bibas to the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in 2017. The signature Trump litigation in Pennsylvania landed in his lap,

and Bibas wrote an unsparing opinion for a unanimous panel of the 3rd Circuit dismissing it.

In Georgia, U.S. District Judge Steven D. Grimberg, nominated by Trump last year, denied a request by Trump super fan Lin Wood to stop the certification of the results.

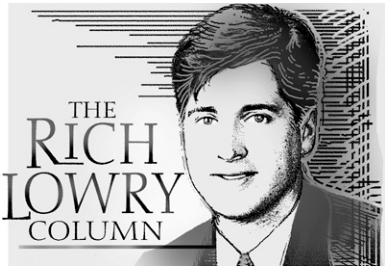
And the Supreme Court denied a request to block certification of the Pennsylvania results in a curt, one-sentence order with no public dissents.

One of the main Democratic lines of attack on Justice Amy Coney Barrett during her confirmation was that, as Illinois

Sen. Dick Durbin said, she was “being sent on assignment to the Supreme Court by President Trump” in order to “be there if the president needs her on an election contest.”

Where does Barrett go to get her apology?

Surely, the overtly transactional Trump would have been happy for her to have actually been his political tool on the court, along with his other two picks. But Barrett and her colleagues, trained and soaked in the law and profoundly cognizant of their institutional role, are not



susceptible to such influence. Neil Gorsuch is not Corey Lewandowski; Stephanos Bibas is not Rudy Giuliani.

Nothing underlines the merits of Trump judicial selections quite like their willingness to deny him and his allies, as warranted.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2021 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Canutillo ISD

From Page 1

Dr. Oscar Rico says that the level of integration of the Swivl system on a large, district-wide scale is unique to the region and Canutillo ISD is the first to do so.

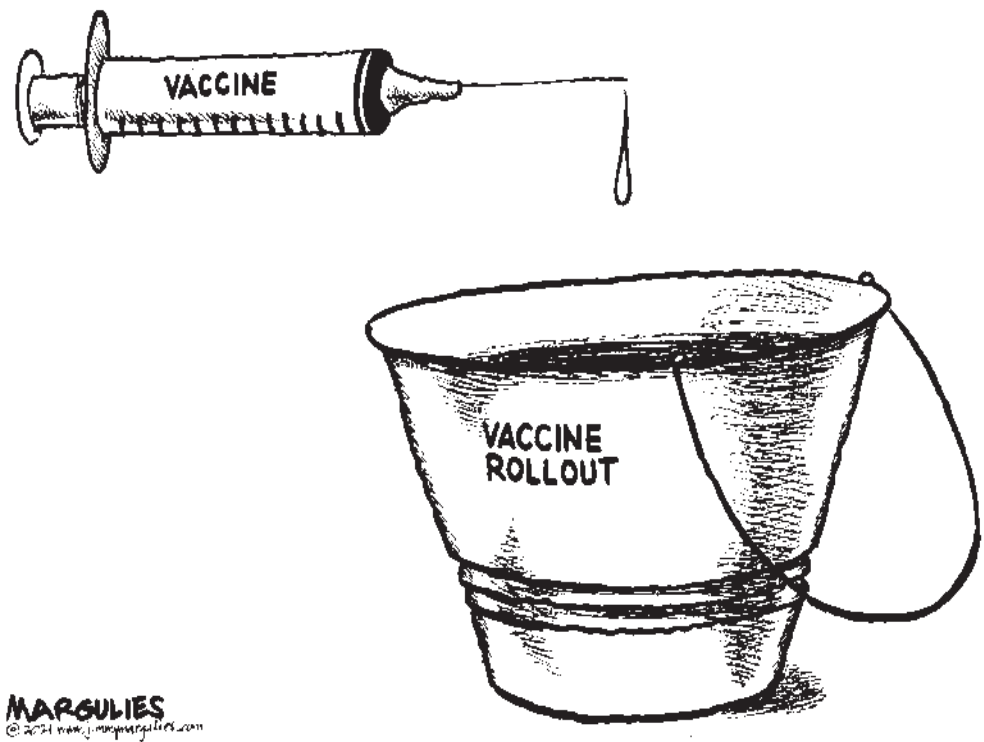
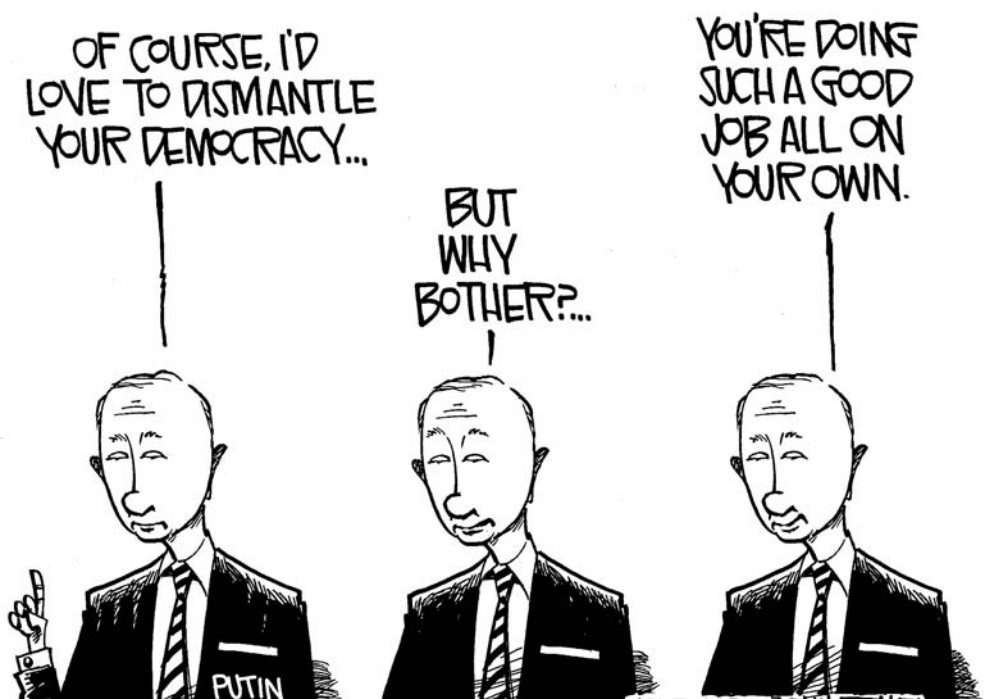
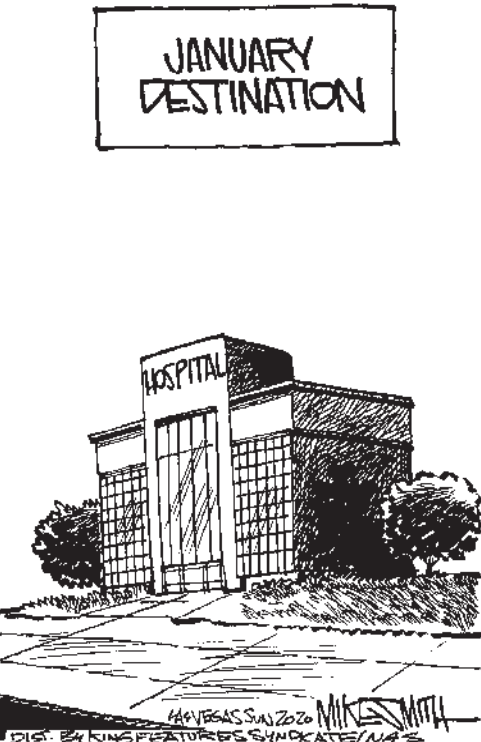
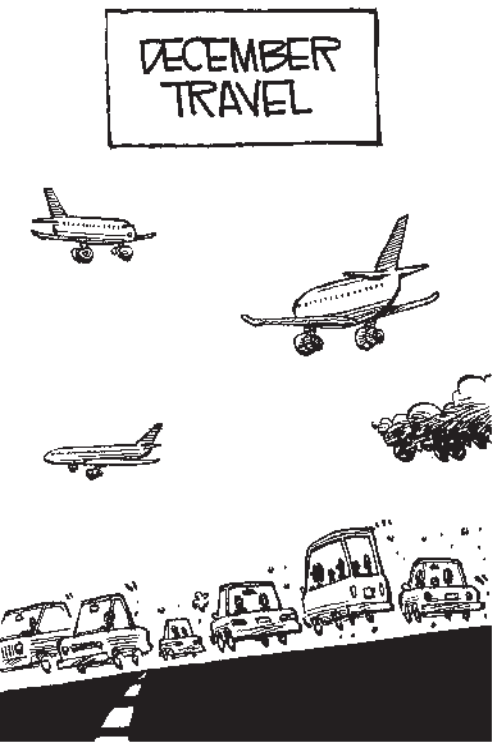
“We are really able to bring the classroom to the students learning at home,” Rico said. “The smart camera system makes the classroom more interactive and they very much get a sense of being in the classroom itself.”

The Swivl system was approved by the CISD Board of Trustees last August and costs about \$273,000.

Canutillo ISD Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galaviz says that the new system aligns with the District’s strategy of offering flexible learning options to support students who wish to learn remotely.

“We need to provide safe learning spaces for our teachers and students,” Galaviz said. “This helps us teach in-person to a reduced student population while also serving students, not in the classroom. And, teachers don’t have to be chained to their computer to do it.”

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Unfiltered

From Page 2

Zelenko⁵, who post information about their treatment successes. Videos and postings on many other social media outlets are also taken down and branded as “harmful misinformation” at the discretion of the owners. Viewers are referred to U.S. federal agencies or to the World Health Organization (WHO), which is pervasively influenced by foreign powers, especially China.

A few important facts that the public probably doesn’t know:

- PCR tests that have a cycle threshold⁶ (CT) greater than 30 or 35 are more than 90 percent likely to be false positives. There are also false negatives, and delaying treatment may miss the window of opportunity for success.
- Evidencenowsuggeststhatasymptomatic transmission⁷ is rare. And where is the virus – in the droplets from your breath, or in the explosion of droplets from toilet flushes⁸? Virus may persist in feces for months⁹. Why are Chinese flight attendants¹⁰ being told to wear diapers?
- Vitamin D deficiency is very common and probably quadruples your risk of death¹¹ from COVID-19.
- Independent physicians are using a number of safe, affordable treatments and keeping their patients out of the hospital and out of the morgue. But public health authorities, hospitals, and organized medicine may deplore, discourage, or even ban such treatments, allegedly because of insufficient “scientific” information.
- It is impossible to know the long-term effects of vaccines that have been used on limited numbers of trial subjects for only a

few months. Neurological effects such as Bell’s palsy have occurred after vaccination. Companies admit they don’t know effects on fertility or birth defects. Trial subjects had to agree to use acceptable contraception until at least 28 days after the final dose. Men have even been advised to freeze some sperm¹².

How do we sort out the fake news or scaremongering? The remedy for misinformation is openness and free discussion. But there are two means for promulgating errors or lies and protecting them against rebuttal.

First, under the Smith-Mundt Modernization Act of 2012¹³, section 1078, Operation Mockingbird was allegedly mobilized¹⁴ against U.S. citizens. This program purportedly could enable the Central Intelligence Agency to manipulate the news in the U.S. by channeling it through a foreign country – perhaps one that would benefit from destroying the U.S. economy. Federal agencies should not be funding news outlets and thereby influencing their content.

Second, social media outlets can control content with impunity under the Communications Decency Act of 1996 (CDA, section 230), which protects them from tort liability. Congressman Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) threatened to withdraw this protection if they did not de-platform certain views. AAPS filed a lawsuit¹⁵ asking the court to enjoin Rep. Schiff from coercing media outlets to censor information about vaccine risks. There are increasing calls to censor information¹⁶ that might cause “vaccine hesitancy” or “distrust of government,” based on the opinion of non-accountable authorities or “fact-checkers.”

The situation is complicated by the huge financial stakes. Forbes magazine has found

open discussion, skepticism will only increase.

The links in the digital copy of this issue, at www.wtxcc.com, are clickable.

1 – <https://thejewishvoice.com/2020/12/fauci-again-changes-his-perspective-on-covid-19-herd-immunity-threshold/>
2 – <https://aapsonline.org/covidpatientguide/>
3 – <https://c19protocols.com/>
4 – <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/25/world/asia/china-coronavirus-citizen-journalist.html?referringSource=articleShare>
5 – <https://www.vladimirzelenkomd.com/>
6 – <https://swprs.org/the-trouble-with-pcr-tests/>
7 – <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/asymptomatic-transmission-of-covid-19-didnt-occur-at-all-study-of-10-million-finds>
8 – <https://nypost.com/2020/04/03/scientists-say-covid-19-can-come-from-aerosolized-feces/>
9 – <https://www.inyverse.com/mind-body/can-coronavirus-spread-through-poop>
10 – <https://nypost.com/2020/12/10/chinese-flight-attendants-told-to-wear-diapers-amid-covid-19/>
11 – <https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/942497>
12 – <https://christiansfortruth.com/researchers-advise-men-to-freeze-sperm-prior-to-receiving-covid-vaccine-over-concerns-it-may-cause-sterility/>
13 – <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/4310>
14 – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSm0GNPRuaE>
15 – <https://aapsonline.org/judicial/aaps-v-schiff-1-15-2020.pdf>
16 – <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/12/21/social-media-vaccine-misinformation-449770>
17 – <https://www.forbes.com/sites/giacomotognini/2020/12/23/meet-the-50-doctors-scientists-and-healthcare-entrepreneurs-who-became-pandemic-billionaires-in-2020/?sh=74454a1c5cd9>
18 – https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?cmd=link&linkname=pubmed_pubmed&log%24=relatedarticles&logdbfrom=pmc&from_uid=32125357

Jane M. Orient obtained her undergraduate degrees in chemistry and mathematics from the University of Arizona in Tucson, and her M.D. from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1974. She has been in solo private practice since 1981 and has served as Executive Director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) since 1989. She is currently president of Doctors for Disaster Preparedness. More than 100 of her papers have been published in the scientific and popular literature on a variety of subjects including risk assessment, natural and technological hazards and nonhazards, and medical economics and ethics. She is the editor of AAPS News, the Doctors for Disaster Preparedness Newsletter, and Civil Defense Perspectives, and is the managing editor of the Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons.

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Answer

If you work as a window washer, I guess you’d find yourself on the outside looking in.

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- By Lucie Winborne
- On Earth you need heat to fuse metal, but in space, due to the lack of atmosphere, two pieces of the same kind of metal will fuse together with just a little pressure in a process called cold welding.
 - The average person will grow 590 miles of hair in their lifetime. Nose hairs alone contribute 6.5 feet of that.
 - Digging a hole to China is possible if you start in Argentina.
 - While adult giraffes usually sleep standing up, their offspring get more comfortable by hunkering down on the ground and taking advantage of their extra-flexible necks, twisting around to plop their heads on their own posteriors.
 - The U.S. government gave Indiana University \$1 million to study memes.

- Caffeine, which is found in tea leaves, guarana berries, kola nuts and, of course, coffee beans, acts as a natural pesticide. It overloads the nervous systems of insects that try to eat the plants containing it, paralyzing and even killing them before they can do too much damage.
- Liquids can boil and freeze at the same time.
- Can’t get your kids to eat their carrots and broccoli? Perhaps they suffer from lachanophobia, otherwise known as the fear of vegetables.

- Hurricanes release the energy of 10,000 nuclear bombs.
- Harry Truman was the first president to celebrate Hanukkah in the White House. In 1951, he accepted a menorah from David Ben Gurion, the prime minister of Israel.

Thought for the Day: “When you do the common things in life in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world.”
– George Washington Carver

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Jan. 11, 1973, the owners of America’s 24 major league baseball teams vote to allow teams in the American League to use a “designated pinch-hitter” that could bat for the pitcher, while still allowing the pitcher to stay in the game.
- On Jan. 12, 1838, after his Mormon bank fails in the Panic of 1837, Joseph Smith flees Kirtland, Ohio, to avoid potential criminal prosecution by angry and disillusioned former believers. Smith claimed the angel Moroni had visited him in 1823 and told him he was destined to become a modern prophet of God.
- On Jan. 13, 1968, in the midst of a plummeting music career, legendary country singer Johnny Cash arrives to play for inmates at California’s Folsom Prison. The concert and the subsequent live album launched him back onto the charts.
- On Jan. 14, 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt issues Presidential Proclamation No. 2537, requiring aliens from World War II-enemy countries – Italy, Germany and Japan – to register with the Department of Justice.
- On Jan. 15, 1870, the first recorded use of a donkey to represent the Democratic Party appears in Harper’s Weekly, drawn by political illustrator Thomas Nast. Four years later, Nash originated the use of an elephant to symbolize the Republican Party in a Harper’s Weekly cartoon.
- On Jan. 16, 1938, Benny Goodman brings jazz to Carnegie Hall, a notion so outlandish at the time that Goodman himself initially laughed off the idea. The concert at the citadel of American high culture sold out weeks in advance.
- On Jan. 17, 1950, 11 men steal more than \$2 million (\$22 million today) from the Brink’s Armored Car depot in Boston. It was the perfect crime – almost – as the culprits weren’t caught until January 1956, just days before the statute of limitations for the theft expired.

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Send Your Newsbrief To: wtxcc@wtxcc.com

Labrado

From Page 1

the rank of staff sergeant within three years of service.

After his next tour in the Panama Canal Zone with the U.S. Army School of the Americas, Labrado was selected to attend Officer Candidate School (OCS), where he was designated an honor graduate from both OCS and the infantry officer basic course.

Afterwards, Labrado was graduated from Ranger School, a special forces regiment, and was assigned again to the Third Brigade 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) Fort Campbell as an Infantry Second Lieutenant.

In his new position, Labrado served as the Rifle Company Commander of A-2/503 Infantry. He completed the Armor Advanced Officer course and assumed command of the El Paso Recruiting Command.

About a year later, Labrado was selected to serve as a Latin American Foreign Area Officer and assigned as a personnel exchange officer to Guatemala, Central America where he served as a member of the faculty at the Guatemalan Military Academy and was decorated by the Minister of Defense for his service.

Upon returning to the U.S, Labrado attended the Command and General Staff College and then returned to the Third Brigade,

101st ABN DIV (ASSLT). He served as the Brigade S-4 and subsequently as the executive officer of the 2-187 Infantry. His last two-year assignment was as the division and installation Deputy Inspector General at Ft. Campbell.

During his Army career, Labrado received numerous awards including the Army Achievement Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge and Ranger Tab.

“My brother’s focus was always mission accomplishments, and he placed the needs of the U.S. Army and the nation above his own,” stated Pedro Labrado of El Paso, the younger of seven brothers and five sisters. “His service was characterized by the U.S. military’s ideals of duty, honor, country,” Pedro related.

After retirement from the US Army as a lieutenant colonel (a one-star general), Labrado, who was married to Diane Hurley Labrado for 31 years, took a teaching job with the Dawson Springs Independent School District, in Dawson Springs, KY, as a high school Spanish teacher.

The retired lieutenant colonel brought invaluable knowledge from his military career into the classroom, according to

said “Participating on this task force was both an interesting and positive experience as we were trying to develop supports for special education programs across the state to ensure that students with special needs didn’t fall through the cracks during the pandemic. My participation also allowed me to have quicker access to information and participate in brainstorming sessions that helped me to provide more immediate responses and services to the San Elizario community. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of this committee.”

In March, virtual sessions began promptly to continue with intervention services. Virtual instruction for children with various disabilities such as Autism or Intellectual Disabilities is challenging, but San Elizario teachers and parents made it work.

Now schools in SEISD are in the next phase of instruction. Specialized units have been providing face-to-face instruction since the beginning of September by placing students in smaller groups to reduce the risk of exposure to both students and staff. Special education teachers continue to offer virtual services while simultaneously working face to face with those students whose parents have chosen for them to return to in person instruction.

Borrego Special Education Teacher, Krystal Mijares, shared her COVID-19 instructional experiences saying, “Students have been benefited from small group instruction allowing for increased student safety and by giving the teacher the ability to truly focus on each individual student.”

Nanette Raulston, a Special Education Teacher at Sambrano Elementary School also shared her COVID 19 teaching experience, “The biggest reward is creating important bonds with my students though it has been a challenge to find allowable activities with the social distancing requirements, but we are doing everything to keep our students safe.”

Special education continues to offer all services required in each student’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP). If you have questions about your child’s services, please reach out to the Special Education Department at (915) 872-3900.

Loya Primary Special Education Teacher, Irene Salom, sums it best by sharing that “The home school connection is stronger than it’s ever been. Meeting the needs of students isn’t possible right now with only 100 percent virtual or 100 percent face-to-face. We get the best of both worlds!”

Labrado’s wife. And, because he grew up in a border city, a bilingual environment, his background was an asset in sharing the Spanish language and culture with his Kentucky students, she stated.

Labrado was also the head coach for the high school golf team and an assistant boys’ basketball coach for many years. He eventually retired from his teaching assignments after 17 years with the school district.

Labrado was a quiet man, his younger brother remarked. “Joe rarely spoke about his accomplishments in military or private life, but everyone who was close to him was aware that he was a special man, that he lived an exemplary life,” Pedro stated. “We also knew that Joe was devoted to the Army, to America.”

The remarkable irony of Jose’s life is that he was born on September 13, 1948 in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua to the late José María Labrado and Consuelo Zambrano Labrado, who is 92 years-old and lives in El Paso.

Jose was brought from Mexico to the U.S. as a child by his

parents, and soon afterwards became an American citizen, according to his younger brother. “I will always remember my brother as a real American patriot,” Pedro asserted. “He was a far cry from the image that President Donald Trump portrayed when he first came into office and clamored that only murderers, rapists, and drug dealers were coming to America from Mexico,” he added.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Sale of property to satisfy a landlord’s lien. Sale to be held at **Fabens Self-Storage at 16289 Alameda Ave, Fabens, TX 79838** on **January 16, at 9:00 a.m.** Unit items sold for cash to the highest bidder. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenants: Lorena Sifuentes, Maria G. Ontiveros, Terry Elligson, Vividiana Garcia, Veronica Perez, Steven A. Garcia, Adilene Soto, Lorenzo Portillo and Silvia Ruiz Ramirez: Items of units include tools, furniture, and miscellaneous household items. **Notice of Public Sale** of property to satisfy a landlord’s lien.

WTCC: 01-07-21

01-14-21

Canutillo Independent School District Public Notice

Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District’s 2019-2020 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) as part of a regular School Board meeting which is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 26, 2021 by video feed and teleconference.

Video Feed:
<http://www.youtube.com/c/CanutilloISDPremier>

Teleconference:
Phone number: 1-346-248-7799
Access code: 892 8238 9258

The public is invited to attend. The TAPR report will also be available for review after the hearing at all Canutillo ISD campuses, the central office and at www.canutillo-isd.org.

For more information, call 915-877-7481.

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo Junta Pública

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar sobre el “Reporte de Rendimiento Académica de Texas” (TAPR) del año escolar 2019-2020. El reporte sera parte de la reunión de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para el martes, 26 de enero del 2020 a las 3:00 p.m. por video and teleconferencia.

Alimentación de Video:
<http://www.youtube.com/c/CanutilloISDPremier>

Teleconferencia:
Número de teléfono: 1-346-248-7799
Códiga de acceso: 892 8238 9258

Todos los interesados están invitados a asistir. El reporte TAPR estará disponible después de la reunión en todas las escuelas del distrito, en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas y en www.canutillo-isd.org.

Para mas información, favor de llamar al 877-7481.

WTCC: 01-14-21

UTEP basketball still looking for that main ingredient – consistency

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

It’s no secret that one of the reasons most successful sports programs are successful is a little thing called “consistency.”

Whether it’s the way they workout, the way they study, the way they execute, or the way they respond to adversity, the teams that do all that tend to win – consistently.

Over the last few seasons the once-proud UTEP basketball program has been reduced to a shell of its former self.

For decades, UTEP football teams have suffered through horrible seasons while the basketball teams flirted with league championships and NCAA playoff games every year.

Now that’s consistency!
But in recent years, for some reason, the basketball team has come to resemble the football team.

Don Haskins wouldn’t even recognize the program he built back in the 1960s.
In the last four seasons, the Miners have compiled a dismal 51-73 record. This from a team, who under Haskins, once had a winning record in 31 of 34 years.

But over the last nine seasons, UTEP has had five winnings ones, and four losers. Not exactly a mark of consistency.

Things hit a new low last season when it was believed that a new crop of Miners were going to return the program back to its former glory. This team was considered a lock for the NCAA Tournament.

But not only did they struggle to win games, team chemistry was severely

lacking. Players wanted to be noticed more than they wanted to win. They didn’t get along with each other and many transferred out of the program.

In a word, it was a disaster.
Well, with many of those players gone and a crop of “unknowns” coming into the program, no one really knew what to expect this time around.

Of course, with covid disrupting college sports all over the country, it was hard to even get close to any of the players to try to predict whether these guys could be a little more consistent.

Well, it’s taken the new guys a few games to get used to one another, but if there is one word we can apply to this year’s UTEP basketball team it’s - inconsistent!

The Miners are 6-4 so far this season

and 2-2 in Conference USA action.
They seem to have better chemistry this year and they look like a better team. But the big problem with this team is what’s been missing from the program in recent years – mental toughness.

It’s the ability to put two decent games together. It’s the ability to keep your composure and not fall completely apart when the other guys go on a run. It’s the ability to stay focused and compete at your best on either side of the court.

The main reason the Miners were so consistent under Haskins was because they played tough defense every single game. Haskins always said that a player could have a tough night shooting the basketball, but hustling on defense was something a player could do every single game.

This year’s Miners upset Arizona State on the road. They led Southern Mississippi by seven points with 46 seconds left in the game, and lost in overtime. They came back the next night and played a great game and crushed the same Southern Miss team by 15 points. They returned home and shot lights out in a 101-89 drubbing of Rice. The next night in the Haskins Center, Rice returned the favor and knocked off the Miners.

Inconsistency.
It appears as though the Miners will finish in the middle of the pack in the CUSA standings and they’ll advance to the conference tournament comfortably, which is better than the last few seasons anyway.

What makes the Miners better is their guard play. They went from a team who could not handle the basketball, to a team with Jamal Bieniemy, Souley Boum and Christian Agnew, three guys who rarely turn it over.

The big problem with UTEP is their ability to rebound. The Miners give away too many second chances to teams by not being able to rebound.

But in the end, it all comes down to consistency. Until the Miners get it, they’ll languish in mediocrity.
I think Don Haskins just rolled over.

Food for thought

By John Grimaldi

Better legislation needed to prevent illegal aliens from obtaining Social Security cards, using any fake ID card

Tens of thousands of immigrants enter the U.S. legally from Mexico and other Central American countries. The vast majority of them, 77 percent of them, according to Pew Research, enter the country as law abiding permanent or temporary residents; 23 percent are illegal immigrants.

“We can fully expect that the numbers of illegal immigrants will increase exponentially when Joe Biden becomes the next president of the United States. He has already laid the groundwork for a new and potentially larger surge of illegal immigration by promising to stop President Trump’s border wall initiative. In fact, almost immediately after the November election reports started coming in of new caravans from Central America getting ready to head north toward the U.S. border,” according to Bob Carlstrom, president of AMAC Action, the senior advocacy affiliate of the Association of Mature American Citizens.

Carlstrom says that there are many reasons why it is important to take measures to repel the influx of illegal aliens.

“The principal reason is that they are breaking the law. We are a nation of laws and Congress needs to get some backbone and deal with illegal aliens and their migration. No doubt that many of them are fine people, but they need to take a legitimate path to come and work in our country if they are good guys and

there is a need for their services. That’s why we are backing reintroduction in the new Congress of the No Social Security for Illegal Aliens Act, a measure that would stress the fact that if you are in this country illegally there’s no way you are ever going to collect Social Security benefits.”

Carlstrom points out that it is not uncommon for illegal aliens to use false Social Security cards to get jobs and the legislation is designed to reinforce the fact that using a fake Social Security number or one belonging to someone else is criminal.

According to the language of this bill, unauthorized work performed by illegal aliens in the U.S. would not constitute coverage by Social Security, prohibiting them from receiving benefits later in life. This legislation helps to close the gap between Social Security and U.S. immigration rules, ensuring that those who violate immigration laws are not rewarded for their actions.

“Addressing this crucial inconsistency strengthens the laws of our country and safeguards Social Security benefits for hard-working citizens,” Carlstrom explains.

The 2.3 million member Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation’s capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country.

Super Crossword

AUTO SUGGESTION

ACROSS
1 Halo sporter
6 Nest nuggets
10 Had no being
15 “Vamoose!”
19 “I wanna try!”
20 Cameo, e.g.
21 Lend _ (pay attention)
22 Poi source
23 Participants in a guided discussion
25 Longtime kids’ nature magazine
27 Spanish for “bear”
28 McDonnell Douglas jet
30 Refugee
31 Thelma’s cohort, in film
34 Use an entryway
35 Velvet or Hallow ender
36 _ hop (jitterbug)
37 14- to 18-year-old in a British youth association
40 Source copy: Abbr.
42 “BTW” part
43 You, in Berlin
44 Road given a no.
46 Pop-rock singer Simpson
50 Kind of sheet metal
54 Border illumination on some smartphones
57 Mini-whirlpools
58 What bran

provides, to Brits
60 Grads.-to-be
61 Basso Pinza
62 Outfits anew
64 “No” voter
65 “_ culpa!”
66 Slender nails
67Large cosmological aggregate
71 Imams’ God
75 U.S. tax org.
76 Berlin article
77 Ejected lava
82 Waste time
83 Party game
84 “_ not lost”
86 1980s TV’s Remington
87 1966 Wilson Pickett hit
90 The “I” of
75-Across
92 Show up for
93 Farm female
94 Abbr. for those with only one given name
95 Mil. unit
96 Tooth anchor
98 First extended stay on the International Space Station
104 Spiny plants
107 With 103-Down, didn’t know at all
109 Radio knob
110 Loin steaks
111 Put in order
113 Writer Franz

114 “Y” athlete
115 Annual Arizona football game
117 New York City fashion-industry agency whose name is apt for this puzzle
122 Shoe fillers
123 Conical tent
124 Comics’ Kett
125 “Peachy!”
126 Sommer of Hollywood
127 Lauder of fragrances
128 Asian nation
129 Garish

DOWN
1 TV title alien
2 Natal lead-in
3 Yukon maker
4 Avian-based skin care product
5 To a smaller degree
6 Botch it up
7 “Sheesh!”
8 Biochemical sugar
9 Erma Bombeck’s
“The Grass Is Always Greener Over the _ Tank”
10 Alert
11 Actress Ortiz
12 Pick up on
13 1998 Winter Olympics city
14 Nonkosher
15 More direct

16 _ terrier
17 Curved
18 Sweet white wine
24 Word after film or play
26 Frank topper
29 Musician Brian
31 Vowel, e.g.
32 Bull leather
33 Capsizes
35 Ending for major
38 Conn. hours
39 Compulsion
41 Inferior mags
45 Someone _ problem
47 Tony winner Minnelli
48 Writer Blyton
49 Huge heads
51 More, in music
52 “Psycho” co-star Janet
53 Dog in “The Thin Man”
54 Bidding site
55 Common battery type
56 Infuriated
59 “What You Need” rock band
63 Injured-arm supporter
65 Actor Paul
66 Yahoo
68 Left the bed
69 Kin of a tulip
70 Once, once
71 Mater lead-in

72 Yahoo
73 Rearmost
74 It lingers in the mouth
78 _ annum
79 Bodily band
80 Benes on “Seinfeld”
81 Investigates
83 Annul
84 Author Haley
85 A lot like
88 Rub oil on
89 Wowed
91 Future louse
94 Bismarck is its cap.
97 Realm of Oedipus
99 PalmPilot, e.g., in brief
100_ Tower (Paris sight)
101 Agenda part
102 Like an oval or rectangle
103 See 107-Across
104 _ latte
105 Disney’s “Little Mermaid”
106 Streamlet
108 Become a parent to
112 Fence “door”
113 Swiss painter Paul
116 Really small
118 Berlin article
119 Water, to Somme folks
120 “Inc.” cousin
121 _ latte

Answer Page 4

19						20					21						22				
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87						88				89				90	91						
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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

out of necessity are, to use a technical term, shamelessly stupid.

Getting back to the political system... it's really a series of fiefdoms, not only in terms of federal, state and local entities, but also with all the other sub-jurisdictions, all of which have their own

potential for corruption. While it's easy to sneer at the politicians, in fairness, there were a few who stood up to the bizarre tactics of Donald Trump trying to save his own skin – some of them in his own party.

That does not include the 126 Republican House members who actually backed the brief in support of that last-minute far-fetched lawsuit initiated by the Texas state attorney

general. A brief so asinine that the U.S. Supreme Court justices unanimously rejected even considering it. One has to ask, who elected those 126 congresspeople to begin with?

Come to think of it, Texas politicians make a habit of trying to secede. Among the latest is Republican state Rep. Kyle Biedermann, who wants to establish a referendum for what he calls "Textit."

It will get to the point where the majority of our citizens try to simply ignore our politicians, which would make sense if it was not for the fact that they have life and death power over us. Still, that type of mental secession is the best America can do.

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Proper technique is key to accurate BP reading

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have always read that when you are having your blood pressure taken, your arm should be elevated above your heart. When mine is taken this way, it is normal, around 120/70. When I go to the doctor, my blood pressure is taken with my arm hanging at my side. I often get a much higher reading taken this way, say, 140/90. Is there a correct way to take it, and does it affect the reading? My doctor said the position doesn't matter and wants to prescribe medication. – U.P.



When taking the blood pressure, the goal is to approximate the blood pressure in the heart. That means that the blood pressure cuff should be at the level of the heart. If the blood pressure cuff is above the heart, then the blood pressure reading will be artificially low. If the blood pressure cuff is dangling below the level of the heart, the reading will be high.

For every 10 cm (about 4 inches) above the heart, the blood pressure will be about 7 mm of mercury too low. If I stretch out my arm as high as I can above my heart, I can get it about 30 cm higher than my heart, which would be enough to explain the difference between the 140/90 and 120/70 you have observed. However, for most people when sitting up straight, a properly placed cuff on the arm will approximate the same level as the heart. Although you are right the position matters, it sounds like the doctor's office is taking the reading correctly.

I should also note that the feet should be resting on the floor, not dangling, which can artificially raise the blood pressure. The arm should be supported while taking the blood pressure. I recommend taking the blood pressure three times and using the average.

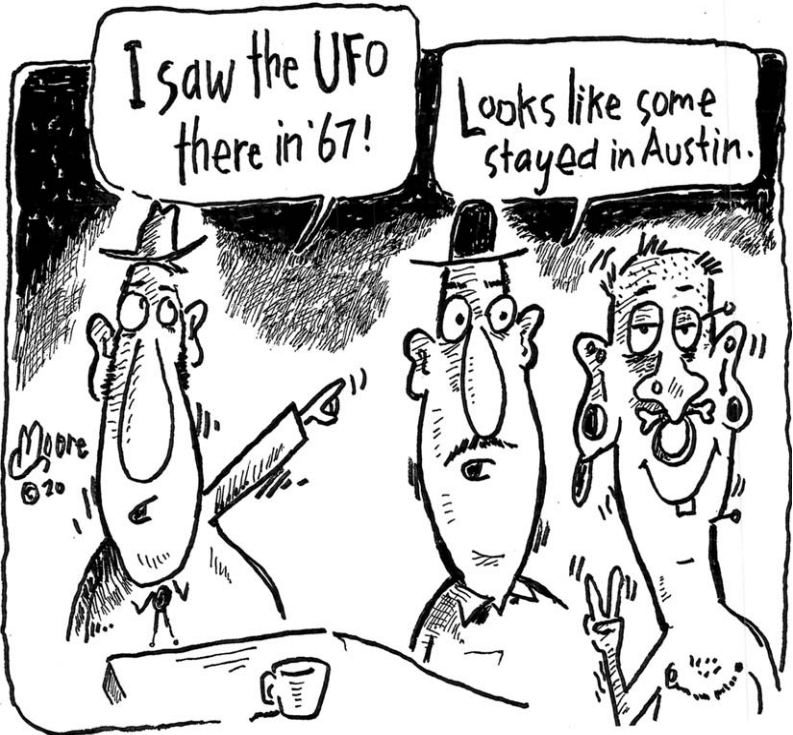
Given how important blood pressure is, correct technique is essential in order to properly recommend who should get blood pressure treatment. Evidence is increasing that a 24-hour home blood pressure device is more accurate at determining who might need medication, especially in suspected white coat hypertension, where the readings are artificially high just because a person is in the office (even if they don't feel nervous).

DEAR DR. ROACH: I recently had a cancer growth removed from my upper arm by a dermatologist. I was instructed to use Vaseline on the wound. I told them I use an antibiotic with pain reliever. I was told that because this is an antibiotic, I will become immune to the usage. Does the topical antibiotic have the same effect as a pill or shot? Because it is on the outside of my body, will I become immune as described, or is it safe to use as I have done for 40 years? – W.B.

I agree with your dermatologist. Petrolatum, such as Vaseline, is effective at keeping a wound moist, which promotes healing, and acts as a barrier to keep out dirt and bacteria.

Topical antibiotics may have additional usefulness in areas of skin infection or to reduce carriage of a dangerous bacteria like MRSA, but is no better than petrolatum for a clean surgical wound. Potential downsides to topical antibiotics include not only resistance, but also skin reactions. Accordingly, they should be used sparingly and only for clear indications.

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. (c) 2020 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
Austin was visited by a light blue UFO in June of 1967. Some aliens stayed.

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: N equals U

HB PGN XGUD MV M
XHZEGX XMVQFU, H YNFVV
PGN'E BHZE PGNUVFOB GZ
LQF GNLVHEF OGGDHZY HZ.

Answer Page 4
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Answer Page 4 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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At ease
Sarge and the coffee shop vets



by Freddy Groves

There wasn't a single veteran on the sidewalk outside the coffee shop. I was saddened by this, believing they couldn't continue their morning meetings because of the cold weather. Still, I approached the carry-out window to order a hot drink – and saw that the whole bunch of them were inside, all seated 6 feet apart in their lawn chairs.

I poked my head through the door and was waved in.

"I have an announcement," Sarge said from his perch on a stool at the counter. He rapped his COVID measuring stick on the floor. "We can't stay out in the cold all winter," he said. "So, I bought this place. VA small-business loan. Welcome to our new clubhouse."

The group exploded with questions, of course. He

explained, "I bought it, but we're the only ones who will be allowed in here. To keep to all the virus rules, we'll sell coffee through the window, maybe make hot meals for homeless vets if anybody knows how to cook. But you all have to sign up as employees."

That naturally got a huge reaction about government regulations, phony COVID stats and privacy. "We're limited in how many we can have in here," he countered, "unless you're employees. In case somebody rats us out and sends the authorities around."

Sarge was serious, and he had the paperwork to prove it. He waved a sheaf of documents and handed out a stack of W-4 forms. They all got busy writing in their names and Social Security numbers on documents that would never be sent to the IRS.

"You up for it, son?" He waved a form at me.

Why not, right? I know how to cook, courtesy of the Army. So I took the form and filled

it out. I knew I was officially admitted to the group, after all this time, when Sarge told me to bring a lawn chair.

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• Apply lemon juice to the cut surface of an apple to prevent browning.

• For stubborn dry patches on hands, like knuckles and around fingernails, try rubbing in a bit of Chapstick. It does the trick to moisturize, and it doesn't wash off as easily.

• "To protect feet from getting soggy when out in snowy or rainy weather, cut a piece of plastic wrap about 3 inches longer than your foot on both sides, then step on it and fold it up on all sides before you put your foot in your shoe. It also keeps feet warm." – M.S. in Colorado

• "I use the old-fashioned round coffee filters to cover food in the microwave. Less expensive than paper plates and stays in place but doesn't stick to food." – N.B. in Texas

• D.R. in Illinois uses flip-flops for some unusual purposes, like covered with sandpaper as a sanding block, covered with a chamois for waxing a car or even to apply paint. He says they can be found on clearance for less than a dollar. One thing you shouldn't do: "Don't ever weed eat your driveway while wearing! Personal injury."

• When making meatloaf, put strips of raw bacon on the bottom of the pan and place the meatloaf on top. It adds terrific flavor and will keep the meatloaf from sticking to the pan.

• "I purchased a dish drain pad approximately 9 inches by 17 inches, and I use it on the seat of my shower so it won't be slippery. It fits perfect – especially good for seniors! I am 86 years old, so I need all the help I can get." – B. B. In Massachusetts

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2021 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

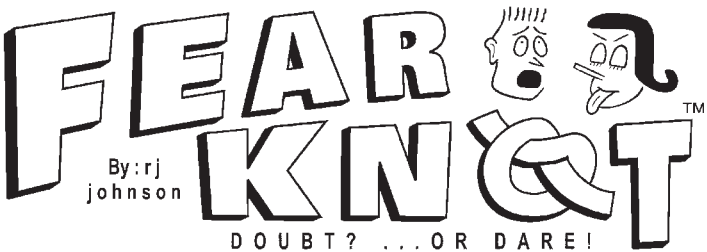
★★★ GO FIGURE!

Answer Page 4

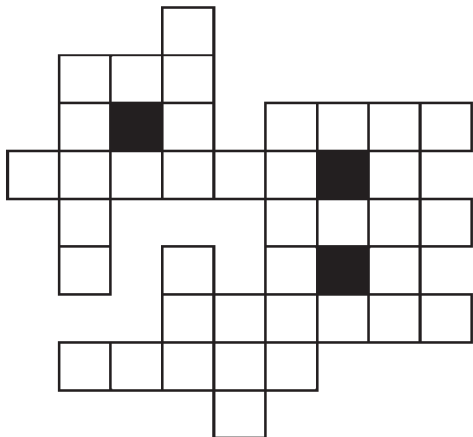
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×		–		+	
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	×		–		1
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OTE
♥ TIGNAR
♥ APTEL
♥ YERL
TROSEY
RER
♥ EGED
♥ NORLE
♥ APY
♥ SINTLE
♥ DEGRA
♥ IGRTR



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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