



NEWSBRIEFS

Carrasco named TASPAs president

Martha Carrasco, Canutillo ISD Chief Human Resources Officer, has been named President of the Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators (TASPA). Carrasco was nominated and elected by general membership of the TASPA Executive Board. Previously, Martha was Secretary, then Vice President. “It is an honor to be elected as President of the Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators for 2021,” Carrasco said. “I am excited to be able to serve the countless administrators and support staff so they can provide the best service to the public school human resources profession. I am deeply grateful for the support and encouragement from Canutillo ISD and my team.” A committee member for the past 7 years, as President, Carrasco will attend and facilitate all board meetings overseeing five committees: Legislative Committee, Nominations Committee, SBEC Committee, Scholarship Committee, Conference and Planning Committee. Carrasco will make recommendations based on feedback to provide guidance, development, and continuing education for HR administrators across Texas.

— Liza Rodriguez

San Eli ISD keeps facemasks

The San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) Board of Trustees unanimously voted to mandate facemask use in the district. The use of facemasks by students and staff to include individuals visiting district buildings will continue. The Texas Education Agency has updated its public health guidance to indicate that public schools can retain their current practices. It also affirms that local school boards now have the local authority to make changes if they desire. “Since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, the SEISD has been operating under safety guidelines inclusive of wearing face masks to protect our students, staff, and anyone entering district property,” Superintendent Jeanne Meza-Chavez said. “I have spoken to the City of San Elizario Mayor Antonio Araujo, and he too is in support of continuing the use of face

See BRIEFS, Page 4

There’s a book on the market for people that want to change everything – the CONTRADICTIONARY.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

WATER DISTRIBUTION – The Rio Grande canal project was constructed between 1938 and 1943 in Southern New Mexico and West Texas. The project extends 106 miles along the Rio Grande from the Percha Diversion (located 37 miles downstream of Elephant Butte Dam) to the American Dam in El Paso, above.

Farmers prep for rough irrigation season

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Jesus Reyes, general manager of El Paso Water Improvement District No. 1 (EPWID #1), in a recent public statement indicated that the Rio Grande Canalization Project (RGCP) is in an extraordinary drought despite recent winter storms.

The amount of usable water available for release currently in storage is approximately six percent of total project capacity or less than 160,000 acre-feet, Reyes reported, making local area farmers prepare for irrigation back-up plans.

The Rio Grande project provides flood

protection against a 100-year flood and assures releases of waters to New Mexico, Texas, and Mexico from the upstream reservoirs that hold waters flowing from the Rocky Mountains. The accord was first agreed upon in a 1906 pact but was not set in motion until 1936 between the two neighboring countries.

Because of the current limited water supply, the RGCP allocation committee has not yet made definitive allotment projections to EPWID#1, Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID) in southern New Mexico, or Mexico.

Considering the small amount of water in storage, the estimated allotment to farmers would be about 6 to 12 acre-inches per acre. The EPWID#1 allocation

committee is currently evaluating the project water supply monthly. A release date announcement is slated for the first week in May with the first water expected to arrive in El Paso in June.

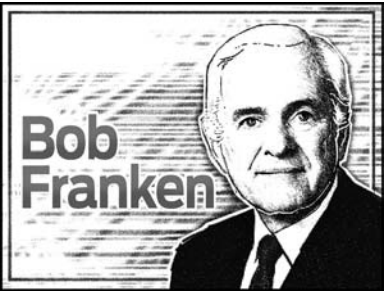
“If there would be any increase, it would depend on the runoff from the snowpack in Colorado and northern New Mexico; and as in past years, the EPWID#1 allocation and the farmers allotment will be increased once the runoff reaches the dam,” Reyes related.

The winter outlook for projected moisture in the watersheds supplying the Rio Grande remains entrenched in a La Nina weather pattern, according to

See IRRIGATION, Page 6



LOW FLOW – The inflow to Elephant Butte Reservoir in 2020 was dismal, leaving little new water for allocation to the U.S. irrigation districts and Mexico in 2021. New Mexico’s usual monsoon season instead developed into a “nonsoon” failing to deliver seasonal relief and boost reservoir storage. As of February, storage in Elephant Butte reservoir, above, was only about 112,000 acre-feet.



There is always someone in public life to entertain us with cheesy sex.

What’s the difference between the pervy lounge lizard whose idea of a seductive come-on line is: “Hi, baby. What’s your sign?” and the governor of the fourth most populous state? The answer is not much. Both make most women feel uncomfortable at being treated like a hooker.

It is downright smarmy when that governor, Andrew Cuomo, asks a 25-year-old subordinate if she’d ever been with an older man, meaning if she’d ever gone to bed with a guy 40 years her senior, like Cuomo is. Given the fact that he’s the boss, the explanation that he was just being “playful” doesn’t cut it, particularly when he has a

C’mon, Cuomo

long-established reputation for mistreating his staff.

How is it that when a female bigwig runs roughshod over her little-wigs, it’s a fatal blow to her ambitions? I’m thinking of Amy Klobuchar, whose presidential candidacy was blown out of the water when word seeped out that she was tough on those under her command, as opposed to Andrew Cuomo the bully.

Bully boy Cuomo is making himself scarce right now, except to appear and insist that he’s not going to resign. It ain’t going to happen, he says, and he’s given a reasonable chance of weathering his storms. There’s also that little thingy where his administration grossly undercounted the number of nursing home deaths at the exact time when Cuomo was burnishing his image as a decisive handler of the COVID-19 plague as it was ravaging his state. Now Cuomo’s image is decidedly tarnished.

How the mighty have fallen.

Many in Cuomo’s party were promoting him as presidential material, but now many of those same Democrats are calling for

his resignation: Bill de Blasio, for instance, the embattled mayor of New York City. (Why is it that in New York, everyone is embattled?) That’s hardly a surprise; de Blasio and Cuomo have been waging a ferocious

battle of the egos for years.

Other state party heavyweights take a more namby-pamby approach. U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer is among

See FRANKEN, Page 7



San Elizario ISD offers dual language education

By Rogelio Segovia
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – The San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) launched its first-ever dual language education program this school year. It is now available for students in Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten. SEISD will be adding the program to both first and second grade next school year. The goal is to have students take advantage of dual-language

classes up to their twelfth-grade year. Bilingual Instructional Officer Sandra Rico said, “The Dual Language Program has many benefits. Our students develop the ability to read and write in another language, in addition to being able to listen and speak it, which is beneficial on the border.”

The program will produce graduates that speak two languages as well as read and write at grade level, or above, in Spanish and English. “The academic growth that students

are demonstrating both in English and Spanish has been phenomenal,” said Diana Berumen, a Loya Primary Pre-K teacher. The program takes advantage of children’s natural language learning abilities. Instead of teaching a language, we teach through language. Berumen added, “Students are taking the initiative to have conversations in English and Spanish, not only in Spanish.”

Teachers use special techniques called Sheltered Instruction to help those

children who are working in their second language. Every teacher must follow the curriculum guidelines for every subject as set forth by the state of Texas. The only difference is that the teacher and students are doing all of this in two languages. Students immersed in instruction in both languages – half in English and half in Spanish as they study the same subjects as other students. The teacher does not translate for the students.

Finally, students will need

the full support of their families to succeed. Dual-language is a challenging program, but the family does not have to be bilingual. Mariana Molina, a Loya Primary parent, said, “The dual-language program is important because we are on the border where two languages are equally spoken. In my son’s case, his grandparents only speak Spanish, and he needs English to understand when other people speak to him in the language.”

Parents interested in the dual language program should contact Susana Frescas, Coordinator of Instructional Programs, at (915) 872-3900.

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Steve Escajeda





EL PASO COUNTY
• HOUSING AUTHORITY •

Public Notice

El Paso County Housing Authority will be accepting applications for Low Income Public Housing (LIPH), located in Fabens for 1, 2, 3 & 4-bedroom units

(Only 12 applications available for 1 & 2-bedroom units)

Must come in-person to apply, ONLY on:

Thursday, April 1, 2021
8:30 A.M. to 12 P.M. (noon)
1101 Yann Road
Fabens, TX 79838

(As a precaution, face coverings are required for everyone’s safety.)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY, call the office at (915) 764-3559.

WTCC: 03-18-21



Baeza is BRLA Librarian of the Year

By Ismael De La Rosa
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – The Border Regional Library Association (BRLA) named Oscar Baeza Librarian of the Year for 2020 in February. Baeza is an El Paso Community College (EPCC) Professor and Head Librarian at the EPCC Valle Verde campus Library.

“It is a great honor to have received the 2020 Border Regional Library Association (BRLA) Librarian of the Year award,” Baeza said. “There is something special about receiving a local award, where the nomination and selection committee are your colleagues.”

As librarians and information



– Photo courtesy EPCC

Oscar Baeza

specialists, BRLA members find the organization provides a forum for local issues, which impact the future of all types of libraries in the region. BRLA also serves as a support group to promote libraries as important educational and cultural institutions.

Archives: www.wtxcc.com

HR1 voting proposal is a partisan disgrace

It'd be fitting if Democrats undertook a radical procedural step to pass a radical piece of legislation. That's what the left is pressuring Senate Democrats to do by eliminating, or significantly curtailing, the filibuster to pass HR1, the sweeping voting proposal that is one of the most execrable bills to pass the House in a very long time.

HR1 would federalize the conduct of elections and codify what were supposed to be emergency voting procedures during the pandemic, in frankly partisan legislation sheathed in the rhetoric of "voting rights."

According to advocates of the bill, anything to tighten up or maintain good practices regarding ballot security is "voter suppression" worthy of the old Jim Crow South.

By this way of thinking, Republican efforts at the state level to, say, reduce the days available for early voting – Iowa is reducing its early-voting period from 29 days to 20 days – will disenfranchise millions, never mind that deep blue New York State allows only about a week of early voting.

Voter identification laws, a bogeyman of supporters of HR1, were recommended by a 2005 bipartisan commission jointly

led by Jimmy Carter and James Baker, neither of whom will ever be mistaken for Bull Connor. Not too long ago, it was a feature of big bipartisan voting bills to require states to periodically clean up their voter rolls, another commonsense measure that is now considered tantamount to wielding bully clubs and police dogs.

There may be many problems besetting American democracy, but people turning out to vote isn't one of them. Turnout exploded in the 2018 midterms prior to the pandemic and turnout exploded in 2020 during the pandemic, with both Democrats who availed themselves of early voting and Republicans who voted same day showing up in historic numbers.

In response largely to a non-problem, Democrats want to trample on the prerogatives of states to conduct elections, mandating their electoral priorities throughout the land.

States would have no choice but to accept same-day registrations. People applying for various government programs or for college would be registered automatically. States couldn't turn away the registrations of 16-year-olds, even though they can't legally vote.

States couldn't require voter ID. They couldn't remove

inactive voters from the rolls. They couldn't work with other states to try to find duplicate registrations six months prior to an election.

It would be pandemic-era mail-in voting forevermore, with no ID or witness signatures required and ballot-harvesting and drop boxes mandatory everywhere.

Felons could no longer be barred from voting. The federal government would pay to train high-school students how to register people to vote and fund "campus voter coordinators," as well as giving colleges grants to register students.

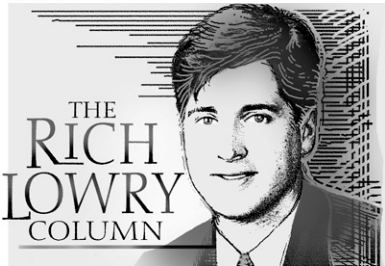
To truly bring home that the states are being divested of powers that go back to the founding of the republic, state legislatures would no longer draw congressional districts; instead the task would be taken up by purportedly independent commissions. The FEC would become partisan. Provisions would prohibit or chill unwelcome political activity.

That many Democrats say that the filibuster should fall for this bill is a symptom of the fevered state of the party, which despite holding or winning every elected branch of the federal government has conjured out of nothing a vast conspiracy to stop people from voting that allegedly justifies one

of the most blatant federal power grabs in memory.

Early voting isn't going away, but there should be protections against potential abuses and voting on Election Day should be encouraged – it's the most secure and private, and least error-prone, way to vote.

It's a symptom of what a wrecking ball HR1 is that, in the course of mandating the opposite on all counts, it could



kneecap both the states and a longstanding Senate procedure in one fell swoop.

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

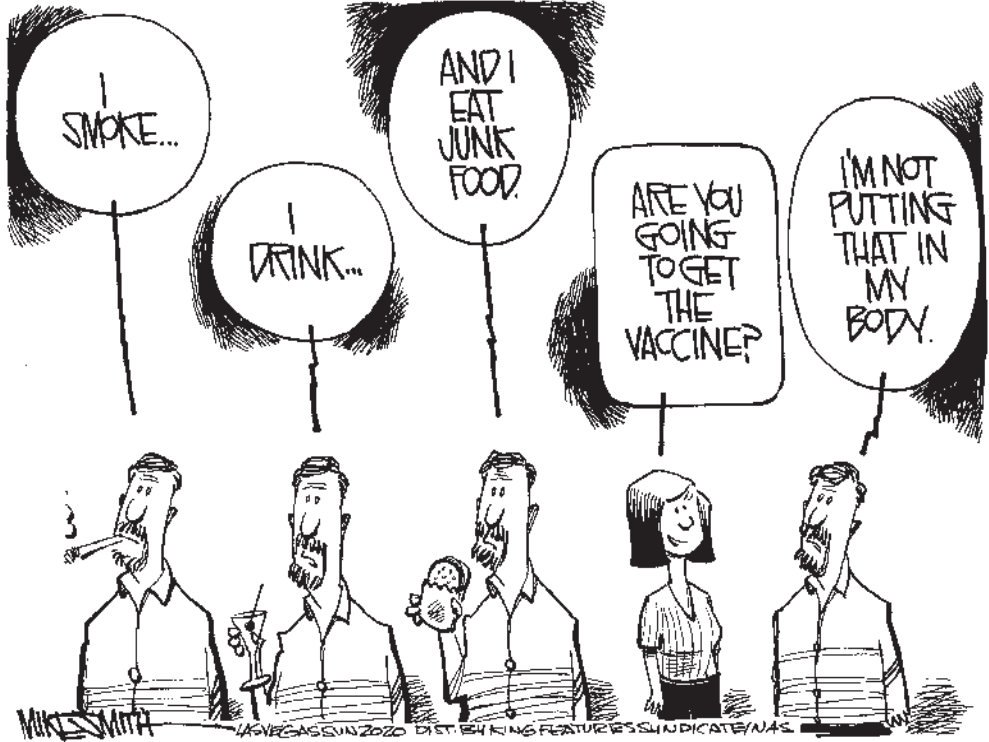
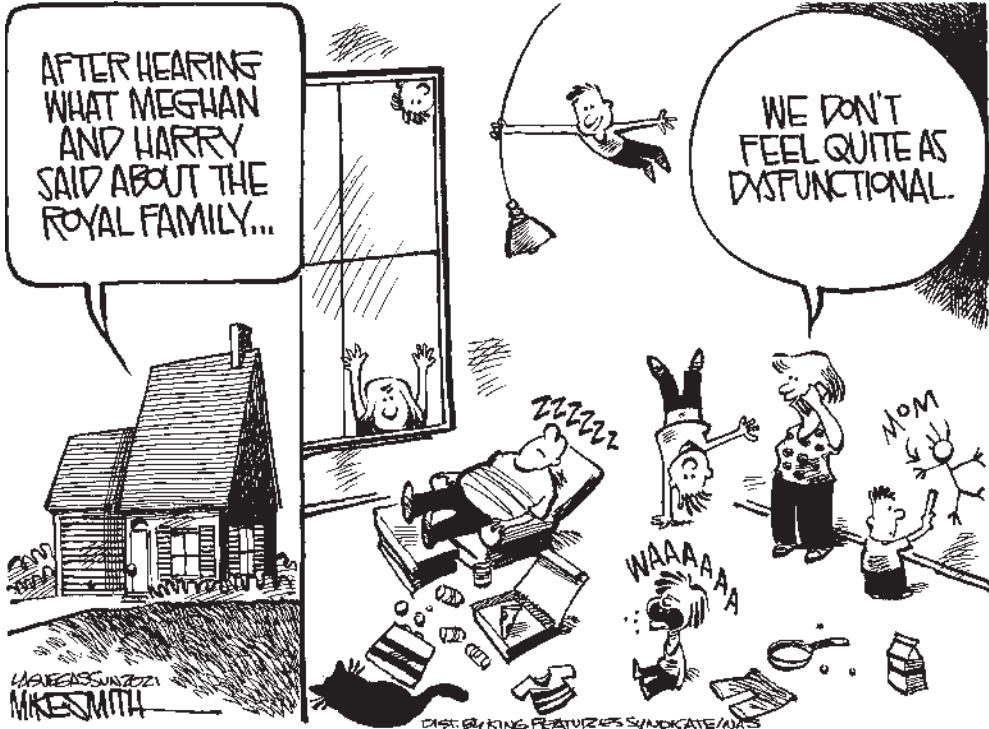
Anthony Independent School District Public Notice

Anthony Independent School District will hold a public meeting to consider the final version of the proposed District's Innovation Plan for the 2021-2025 school years. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 5:45 p.m. in the Anthony Middle School Library, 813 6th Street Anthony, TX.

Notificacion Pública

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony llevará a cabo una Junta pública para considerar la versión final de la propuesta de plan de Innovación del Distrito para los años escolar 2021-2025. La junta Se llevará a cabo el miércoles, 24 de marzo 2021, a las 5:45 p.m. en la biblioteca de la escuela secundaria de Anthony, 813 6th Street, Anthony, TX.

WTCC: 03-18-21





Clara Peller and her pals take a close look at the \$1.9 trillion Covid-19 Stimulus Package (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021).

Briefs

From Page 1

masks to protect our community.” SEISD will continue with preset safety precautions and has begun allowing fans for outdoor sporting events. “Our junior and senior student-athletes will be able to bring two parents to watch them play in our venues outdoors,” said Athletic Director Christine Jaksch. Even though Governor Abbott has opened everything at 100% capacity, the San Elizario ISD will keep the slow transition to reopen attendance to capacity for athletics events.

– Christine Cuevas

EPCESD1 tax meeting

El Paso County Emergency Services District No. 1 (EPCESD1) will be holding two virtual meetings to discuss the upcoming sales and use tax proposition on the May 2021 ballot. These events will feature exhibits showing the plans and goals for the District, and the Commissioners and District consultants will be present to answer your questions. Visit www.epcesd1.com/sales-tax-elections/ to review posted information regarding the election. Participants can choose from either March 30th at 7:00 p.m. (MDT) or April 10th 10:00 a.m. (MDT). Visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/2116298611873285392> to register for either EPCESD1 Resident Informational Webinar.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Visit www.epcesd1.com for the District site.

– *Kris Menendez*

Movies put off

Due to damage from this past weekend's windstorm, the El Paso County Coliseum will have to postpone the "Under the Stars" Drive-In movies scheduled for March 19, March 20, March 26, March 27, April 2, and April 3. Once the screens are repaired, the rescheduled dates for movies this Spring and Summer will be announced. We thank you for your patience. For patrons who have purchased tickets, please hold on to your ticket, or for refunds, contact the El Paso County Coliseum box office at (915) 533-9899. For inquiries, please contact the El Paso County Coliseum office at (915) 534-4229.

– Beau Bagley

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- In 2008, two sisters from Virginia sold their Illinois-shaped corn flake on eBay for \$1,350.
- One of the first diet books, “The Art of Living Long” by Luigi Comaro, came out in 1558... and is still in print.
- The mostly unknown second and third verses of “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” reveal the song was originally written as a feminist anthem about a woman wanting to go see a baseball game rather than go on a date to a show.
- Overdo it on the garlic or onions and need to freshen your breath? Try roasted coffee beans instead of gum or mints. Israeli scientists have found that coffee can inhibit the bacteria that leads to bad breath, but if you prefer drinking it to chewing, you’ll do best to take it black.

- German chocolate cake was named for an American baker, Samuel German.

- “Scurryfungie” is an old English word meaning to rush around cleaning when you see company is on their way over.

- In the Middle Ages, the “shrew’s fiddle” or “neck violin” was used to punish those who were caught bickering by linking them face-to-face, forcing them to talk to each other. They weren’t released until their disagreement was resolved.

Thought for the Day: "I had a new vision in front of me, and I always feel that if I can see it and believe it, then I can achieve it."

– Arnold Schwarzenegger

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CryptoQuip Answer

I believe if someone
demolishes a roof, he
should get in trouble
for eavesdropping.



Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On March 15, 1968, construction starts on the north tunnel of the Eisenhower/Johnson Memorial Tunnel on I-70 in Colorado west of Denver. At more than 11,000 feet, the project became the world's highest vehicular tunnel when it was completed in 1979.

- On March 16, 1926, Robert Goddard successfully launches the world's first liquid-fueled rocket at Auburn, Massachusetts. The 10-foot-tall rocket traveled for 2.5 seconds at a speed of about 60 mph, reaching an altitude of 41 feet and landing 184 feet away.

- On March 17, 2000, Julia Roberts becomes the first actress ever to command \$20 million per movie when “Erin Brockovich” is released. At the time, \$20 million was the standard paycheck for Hollywood’s male stars.

- On March 18, 1911, Irving Berlin copyrights the biggest pop song of the early 20th century, “Alexander’s Ragtime Band.” The song was easier to play than Joplin’s “The Entertainer,” which encouraged sheet music sales. Those topped 1.5 million copies in the first 18 months after publication.

- On March 19, 1953, for the first time, audiences are able to watch from their living rooms as the movie world's most prestigious honors, the Academy Awards, are given out at the RKO Pantages Theatre in Hollywood, California.

- On March 20, 1861, President Abraham Lincoln's sons, Willie and Tad, are diagnosed with the measles. The boys recovered, but in 1862 Willie contracted typhoid fever and died. Tad died at age 18 in 1871. Of Lincoln's four boys, only the first child, Robert, lived to an advanced age; he passed away at age 82 in 1926.

- On March 21, 1971, “The Andromeda Strain,” the first movie to use computer animation, opens. Based on a Michael Crichton book, the sci-fi thriller featured scientists racing against time and an alien virus.

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Jerry Jones and the Cowboys make Dak a very rich man

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The NBA is lumbering through its season. March Madness is about to get into full swing. The NHL has been underway – although nobody knows it. And professional baseball teams are training for their April start.

In other words, every sport has its specific time of the year – of course, except for football.

Football, and we’re talking about the NFL, seems to be in the news 12 months out of the year.

Whether it’s regular season games, preseason games, the playoffs, training camp, the draft, trades, re-signings and releases, mini camps, injury reports, speculation and rumors, it doesn’t matter what it is – the NFL is always “on.”

And the last couple weeks have been a great example.

The NFL made more news than all the other sports being played right now even though the Super Bowl ended a month-and-a-half ago.

The obvious big news, especially for Dallas Cowboys fans, was the signing of Dak Prescott to a four-year deal.

It looked like the Cowboys were going to sign Dak prior to the 2019 season. They didn’t.

Then it looked like Dallas was definitely going to sign him prior to the 2020 season. They didn’t.

So all the experts were falling all over themselves trying to predict what the Cowboys and Dak were going to do. Some were saying if the Cowboys really wanted Prescott, they would have signed him by now.

Well, Jerry Jones finally opened his

considerable wallet and made Dak a very wealthy man.

The totals are staggering. Dak will become the highest paid Dallas Cowboy ever by making \$160-million over the next four years.

Only Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes has a richer contract.

The fact is Prescott’s signing dominated the news cycle the whole week after it was announced, proving once again that the NFL is king.

Not only is the NFL America’s top sport, but the Dallas Cowboys are America’s team.

I mean, how popular is a franchise that makes big news every time it does something even if it can’t win consistently?

Anyway, now that Jones had improved Dak’s financial situation, how does that improve the team’s winning percentage situation?

The Cowboys can throw and catch, they can run, and they can kick. But they can’t rush the passer, stop the run or cover anyone in the secondary.

It’s all very simple. Dallas can score points on any team in the league. Their offense is as potent as any team, except maybe for Kansas City.

But the defense is slow, ordinary and seems to always look confused.

If they can plug a few holes here and there, it could be a quick fix.

Let’s not forget that this team suffered a ton of injuries last season, especially on the offensive line. If the majority came back healthy – and there’s no reason to believe they won’t – the Cowboys should rule the NFC East once again.

Everything changes with the signing of Prescott. There’s been a cloud of doubt that hung over this franchise for the last couple of years that didn’t have to be there.

Knowing that their star quarterback is in place for at least another four years has to give his teammates some reassurance and confidence that the organization is committed to winning, and not just making money. Which the Cowboys do better than any other sports franchise in the world.

So with players like Prescott, Ezekiel Elliott, Tony Pollard, Amari Cooper, Michael Gallup, CeeDee Lamb, Blake Jarwin, Dalton Schultz and Greg Zuerlein, Dallas has nothing to worry about on offense – as long as their offensive line comes back healthy.

Of course all that means nothing if Dallas doesn’t address their defensive woes.

Everything coming out of Dallas is really positive concerning Dak’s ankle recovery. They say he is ahead of schedule and looking great.

If this whole coronavirus thing starts to clear up by the summer, you should expect some huge crowds at Dallas Cowboys games now that Dak is secure and there’s a kind of renewed enthusiasm about the 2021 season.

Are the Cowboys a Super Bowl contender like many thought last season? No.

But there is a sense of stability – and that usually leads to better things ahead.

Irrigation

From Page 1

Dr. Phil King, engineering consultant for Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID). Reservoir inflow has remained steady and is contributing about 933-acre feet per day, which is well below average for this time of year, King noted during the EBID’s monthly board meeting in February.

According to EBID officials the seasonal project supply currently sits at 188,421-acre feet of usable storage in the combined Elephant Butte and Caballo reservoirs. An acre foot is a unit of volume equal to the volume of a sheet of water one acre in area and one foot in depth and is equal to 43,560 cubic feet.

According to climate experts much of the western U.S. remains in severe to exceptional drought in early 2021. And King pointed out that the watershed is drier than this time last year. “The dry watershed means that, for a given level of snowpack, we will get less runoff into the river and Elephant Butte reservoir. The

harsh reality presented by the ongoing drought requires careful planning as agricultural producers prepare to plant the spring crops that will help feed and clothe the nation,” King stated.

Arthur Ivey, a pecan farmer based in Clint, Texas, stated that he is already planning to use his irrigation well pumps about five or six times this growing season, which he said he didn’t especial like to do because the underground pumped water is brackish and is not good for his pecan trees in the long run.

In southern New Mexico, each year farmers rely on the scientific data and analysis provided by the EBID to evaluate the situation and determine their best strategies for farming with a severely restricted surface water supply.

EBID Groundwater Resources Director Dr. Erik Fuchs also stated that southern New Mexico farmers are going to have to depend on pumping water from the underground aquifer to get through this year. He recently presented to the board a snapshot view of the aquifer conditions in the Mesilla and Hatch/Rincon valleys using data collected via the district’s state of the art data collection system.

Fuchs pointed out that EBID is working with real-time data from its acquisition systems as well as those of other agencies to bring the most complete data-driven status of the system available to its constituents.

Although snowpack has improved slightly since January, resulting in an increase of 27,000- acre feet into the reservoir, King cautioned that runoff and resulting allotments that may materialize will not arrive until late spring. Water and farm managers are being advised to plan accordingly for likely low spring runoff and a critically short year with an allotment of six inches or less.

He said that initial allocation numbers will likely be based on the first week of April conditions and will announce initial allotments in the first week of May. He advised farmers to plan for a late start to the surface water irrigation season with an expected first delivery date in June.

King surmised that unless conditions improve in the late winter and early spring, “We can expect 2021 to be a critically low water supply year for the Rio Grande project, perhaps the worst in RGCP history,” he stated.

Super Crossword

SUMMONING JEKYLL AND SEUSS ACROSS

1 Stallion, e.g.
6 Saudi, e.g.
10 Floats gently
15 Livens (up)
19 Optic layers
20 Female adult
21 Accustom
22 Roman 951
23 Sweet capsicum variety
25 Bacon piece
26 Give kudos
27 Queen, in Spanish
28 Mickey & Sylvia hit of 1957
31 Don _
32 Suddenly become alert
35 Tetley pouch
36 Extremely scarce
41 President pro _
43 Brainy bunch
44 Bit of Vail gear
45 The “sum” of “Cogito, ergo sum”
46 Bona _
47 Christmas poem opener
49 Sinister powers
54 Wooed with tunes
58 Comic blows
59 Fragrant
60 Best Actress nominee for “Breaking the Waves”
63 Turn aside

64 Category
65 Hit, as a gnat
66 Place
67 Lure for fish
71 Deodorant target
74 Song from “Oklahoma!”
77 How fast a plane is flying
80 Govt. agent
81 Comic Gilda
82 Deep pessimism
84 Installed, as brick
86 Actor Ladd
87 Soft throw
88 Chum
89 Lhasa _ (small dogs)
94 Visibly angry
95 Highly venomous cephalopod
101 Filled the fuel tank, with “up”
103 User of four-letter words
104 “_ Smile Be Your Umbrella”
105 “Guys and Dolls” guy
109 Rockers Clapton and Burdon
111 Fitzgerald of jazz
112 Cliffside nest
113 What you do when you look at the ends of nine long answers in this puzzle
117 Regal Norse name
118 Adorn fussily

119 Morales in movies
120 Haggard of country
121 Where AT&T is “T”
122 Squiggly letters
123 Breeding 1-Across
124 Carne _ (Baja dish)

DOWN

1 Central area
2 Make hackneyed
3 Brush up on
4 City near Monterey
5 Fox Sports alternative
6 High, rugged peak
7 Drake’s music
8 University in Nassau County
9 Mechanical way to learn
10 Prudent
11 Part of ABM
12 Animal coats
13 French for “sad”
14 Days of the week, e.g.
15 Campus workstation locale
16 Tending to radiate something
17 Provided juice for?
18 Pro or con
24 Give relief to
29 Composer Carl Maria _ Weber
30 Cheer shout
31 Printer clog

33 Org. in “The Martian”
34 With 53-Down, requests
37 Broken-down
38 Knights, e.g.
39 Tic-toe link
40 Retired professors
42 Defrost
46 Was achy or regretful
48 “Holy cow!”
49 Hoof or paw
50 Totally dominate
51 Good craps roll
52 Keats work
53 See 34-Down
54 Place
55 Novelist Tan
56 Small bite
57 Comedic actor Jackie
58 H.S. junior’s exam
61 It has fluttery leaves
62 Twirl, as one’s thumbs
63 Naturalist Fossey
66 Con game
68 “Anthem” writer Rand
69 Suffix with hero
70 The Raptors, on NBA schedules
72 Engine stat
73 “_ culpa”
74 “I think,” in texts
75 Half of hexa-
76 Anwar of Egypt

77 Culture base
78 In a criminal way
79 Book full of street maps
80 Desert in Mongolia
83 Palme _
84 Sonny boys
85 Balm plant
88 Most cheeky
90 Maintains order over
91 Prisms’ color bands
92 Was a better peddler than
93 Org. issuing nine-digit IDs
95 Youth org. with troops
96 Delaware Valley tribe
97 Cows’ milk deliverers
98 Pvt.’s superior
99 False appearances
100 Street _ (urban acceptance)
102 Cut off stubble
105 An inert gas
106 Certain dwarf planet
107 Clock info
108 Gym lifter’s units
110 Tomato variety
114 Water, in Nantes
115 Give relief to
116 Irish actor Stephen

Answer Page 4

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

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

those agreeing that the accusations are “troubling,” or some such pablum. Or they recite the mantra that they need to see the results of the independent investigation run by State Attorney General Letitia James. Cuomo had tried to set up a more insipid probe, but there

was such an outcry that he was forced to agree to a more independent, independent investigation.

Meanwhile, Gov. Cuomo is basically out of sight, which is hard to pull off since the pandemic is very much still with us and he’ll need all the solid expertise he can muster. That includes many female experts, who don’t take kindly to objectification or a creepy chief executive who hits on women young enough to be

his granddaughter.

Given the #MeToo movement and its well-known unforgiving response to what used to be considered good ol’ boy fun, you’d think that we men would have learned a thing or two, particularly someone as prominent as the governor of New York. However, there seems to exist a male hubris where they’re too macho to be bothered.

It is really no different than the casting

couch that Hollywood producers used.

Whether Andy Cuomo survives as casting couch governor, he will certainly be cut down to size. Perhaps next time some well-known person will think twice before he imposes himself on a female colleague.

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CT scan unlikely to miss advanced lung cancer

DEAR DR. ROACH: Is it possible for X-rays and a CT scan to miss advanced lung cancer? My brother worked two days before he died. He went to the hospital, was admitted to hospice and died the next day. I wonder if he knew at least a year ago, but didn’t tell anyone. He said his scans showed pneumonia. His son was called to the hospital and spent the day with him until he died. During his last day, my brother told him that he had lung cancer and that it was not diagnosed earlier. – N.W.



I am very sorry about your brother.

Lung cancer, especially early lung cancer, is often missed on a regular chest X-ray. Pneumonia can accompany early lung cancer, and the pneumonia can hide the cancerous mass, but experienced radiologists should be able to see something. Also, experienced clinicians should check an X-ray weeks after a pneumonia to be sure there is no cancer in a person at risk, such as a current or former smoker.

Advanced lung cancer is only very rarely missed on X-ray, and should essentially never be missed on a CT scan. While I can’t say it’s impossible, it’s much more likely that a year ago he was told that he had lung cancer and did not say anything, perhaps to spare his family’s feelings, or perhaps he didn’t want the sympathy and attention that accompany a diagnosis such as advanced lung cancer.

DEAR DR. ROACH: What does a person do when symptoms are vague and hard to explain? I am an 82-year-old woman. I started feeling discomfort in one breast about three weeks ago. It felt like irritation from a bra. I did all the things I thought I should, and three weeks later the symptoms are the same or slightly worse. Nothing looks or feels different when I touch it. Do I see my primary doctor (he’s never seen me naked), or find a gynecologist? How do I present this issue? I feel like a fool. – V.B.

Both clinicians should be able to appropriately evaluate this concern. You should go to whoever you are more comfortable seeing. What you should not do is ignore it.

In your particular case, it’s unlikely that your symptoms are because of something serious. Breast discomfort is common and only rarely due to breast cancer, which is what you must surely be concerned about. You should NEVER stop yourself from seeing your doctor for fear of not being taken seriously.

Primary doctors like me and gynecologists are very familiar with women coming in with breast symptoms, and we take them seriously. Clinicians know how justifiably concerned women are about breast cancer. Most often, a woman can be reassured with a careful history and physical exam; other times, a mammogram or ultrasound may be ordered. You don’t want to regret missing that visit to the doctor.

It is often said that the only foolish question is the one that is not asked. This situation is analogous: It would be foolish for you not to go. While the overwhelming likelihood is that you will be reassured, in the unlikely event there is something wrong it’s far better to know about it earlier than later.

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) 2021 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
1846: Governor James Henderson serves just 28 days and quits.

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: J equals R

P XNHPNON PV QLYNLTN
ANYLHPQENQ S JLLV, EN
QELFHA BNC PT CJLFXHN
VLJ NSONQAJLRRPTB.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

Answer Page 4

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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VA extends loan forbearance period



by Freddy Groves

Some of you are going to breathe a sigh of relief at this news: The Department of Veterans Affairs moratorium on evictions and foreclosures was due to end March 31, but it's been extended to June 30.

The extension is designed to keep you in your home while you sort out the damaging financial effects of the COVID pandemic.

If you need forbearance (permission to miss payments or send a reduced amount), your lender is expected to grant you that for up to six months. During this time there are to be no late fees or penalties, but interest will accrue. The deadline to ask for forbearance is June 30, 2021.

If you can't make up your missed payments all at once when you have income again,

call the mortgage company. If you're not comfortable doing that, call the VA loan people directly at 877-827-3702.

Your missed payments can't just be pushed to the end of the loan period, but it is possible the loan could be modified. The VA allows loans to be extended under certain situations.

Your credit score won't take a negative hit during forbearance (not making payments), but only if you were current at the time you requested it. If you were already late on payments when you asked for help, then yes, they'll continue to report you as delinquent during the whole period. That's why it's important to stay ahead of the problem by asking for help before things spin out of control.

You have three ways to keep your home: forbearance, a repayment plan or a loan modification.

To talk to the VA about COVID-related loan payment problems, call them at 877-827-3702.

If you're a renter and are in danger of being homeless, call the VA immediately at (877) 424-3838.

Visit benefits.va.gov/homeloans/cares-act-frequently-asked-questions.asp for additional information.

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• Need a quick fix for tarnished brass? Look in your fridge. Ketchup, applied liberally then buffed off, will remove tarnish in a pinch.

• Use a sticky note to clean the cracks in your keyboard. First hold it upside down and shake to remove crumbs. You'd be surprised how much comes out. Then run the sticky strip of the notepaper between the keys to pick up dust and any other crumbs.

• "Many people play drinking games with movies and alcohol, but here's my drinking game: I work at an 'office' job (although we are remote now), and every time I get an email notification, I take a sip or slug of water. It's got me surprisingly hydrated!" – P.J. in Florida

• If your marker is nearing the end of its life, you might revive it by setting it tip down in a little bit of rubbing alcohol.

• "Schedule important doctor's checkups, like your annual physical and dental cleanings, in the same month each year so you will know when they are coming up. I use my birth month. My mom always has hers done in February." – E.D. in Massachusetts

• Use a cotton swab to clean out the tips of your earbuds!

• "To clean out your coffeemaker, run a cycle of water through it, and then pour out half the water and replace it with white vinegar. Pour that mixture back through the coffeemaker (make sure it's off) and let it sit for 10 minutes. Then run the vinegar mixture through, then two cycles of fresh, cold water. – A.L. in New York

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

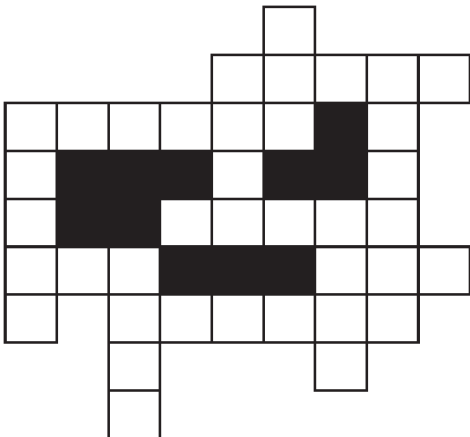
	÷		+		10
+		+		-	
	+		÷		8
÷		+		×	
	×		+		13
13		16		20	

1 1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9

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GPI
TAPUNE
♥ATBES
♥LUBR
♥ERSBIT
ILT
♥TPSA
MOIBL
♥OBN
♥ALMRUB
ROGPN
♥UGEL



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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