



NEWSBRIEFS

Teen drivers

With teens obtaining driver's licenses during the summer more than any other season and an average of seven teens dying every day from motor vehicle injuries, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2021's Best & Worst States for Teen Drivers, as well as accompanying videos and expert commentary. In order to determine the safest and least costly driving environments for U.S. teenagers, WalletHub compared the 50 states based on 23 key metrics. The data set ranges from the number of teen driver fatalities to the average cost of car repairs to the presence of impaired-driving laws. Texas was rated 8th in the report, ranking (1-Best; 25-Avg.):

- 27th – Teen Driver Fatalities per 100,000 Teens;
- 21st – Teen DUIs per 100,000 Teens;
- 1st – Presence of Distracted-Driving/Texting-While-Driving Laws;
- 19th – Vehicle Miles Traveled per Capita;
- 7th – Presence of Occupant-Protection Laws; and
- 1st – Presence of Impaired-Driving Laws.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-states-for-teen-drivers/4598> for the full report

– Diana Polk

Let go my Lego

Ask a cop and he or she will tell you that theft is a top crime of choice among the world's criminals. There are jewel thieves, auto thieves and, of course, bank robbers. And now, French police are focusing their attention on an international gang of, what England's Guardian newspaper, calls Lego Looters. They recently arrested a woman and two men in the act of lifting Legos in a toy store near Paris and when questioned they revealed that they were part of a gang specializing in robbing special editions of the popular building block toys. Similar thefts have been reported throughout Europe and in the U.S. There's big money to be made selling stolen Legos, says professional online auctioneer Van IJken. He explains that the company keeps changing out its offerings and so a special 2007 \$150 Lego set can fetch as much as \$3,000 today, if kept in its original condition.

– John Grimaldi

The small difference between keeping your chin up and sticking your neck out is well worth knowing.

– Quips & Quotes

Escobar, Gonzalez announce re-election bids

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – During the 2020 election, Veronica Escobar, a Democrat, convincingly defeated Republican challenger, Irene Armendariz-Jackson, with more than 64 percent of the vote. And Escobar is confident she can do it again, as she announced recently that she would run for the office of the U.S. Representative for Congressional District 16, which encompasses El Paso County.

The Mexican American congresswoman, who was first elected in 2018, said that she plans to run for a third term in the 2022 mid-term elections. Escobar was the first woman elected to the seat and one of the first two Latinas from Texas to serve in the U.S. Congress. Before being elected a district representative, she served as an El Paso County Commissioner and El Paso County Judge.

Escobar stated that since taking office in 2018, she has consistently prioritized three main issues- reforming immigration laws, expanding healthcare programs, and protecting the environment.

"I'm proud of the work my colleagues in the House and I have accomplished so far," Escobar said in a recent news release. "We've gotten vaccines into arms, put money into peoples' pockets, helped small businesses, and restarted our economy," she stated. "We're cutting child poverty in half, working on addressing the climate crisis, and building an infrastructure bill that will invest in our country and our people," she added.

At the state level, Texas House Representative Mary González is also showing that she too has enduring power



IN THE RUNNING – U.S. Representative Veronica Escobar, left, announced recently that she would be launching a "new, county-wide voter registration program," which will be funded by her re-election campaign. Texas House Representative Mary Gonzalez, right, who was first elected to office in 2012, announced recently that she would seek another term. The Clint, TX native has a master's degree from St. Edward's University in Austin and a doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Cultural Studies in Education from the University of Texas at Austin.



among local political heavyweights as she plans to run for re-election for a fifth term.

González was first elected State House of Representative for District 75 in November 2012. Her district covers parts of El Paso County including Socorro, Horizon City, Clint, Fabens, San Elizario, Tornillo, and the East Montana area.

In a recent public statement, González asserted that during her time in the legislature she has fought hard for

her constituents, raised awareness on key issues, and modeled leadership in authentic and integral ways. And she related that she is excited to be running for re-election.

González stated that in this year's legislative session, she is especially proud of her co-authoring House Bill 103, or the Leilah Hernandez Act, which was signed into law recently by Governor

See RUNNING, Page 3

Gamboa heads to Atlanta on scholarship

By Ismael De La Rosa
Special to the Courier



– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

ON THE MOVE – Daniel Eduardo Gamboa was born in Durango, Mexico and grew up Ciudad Juarez. He is heading to Atlanta, GA to continue his education.

EL PASO COUNTY – Daniel Eduardo Gamboa, an International Student from El Paso Community College (EPCC), has been accepted to Georgia State University after receiving a 100 percent Transfer Campus Atlanta Scholarship for up to three years of undergraduate studies. He will attend starting fall of 2021 and study Performing Arts.

Gamboa was born in Durango, Mexico and moved to and lived most of his life in Ciudad Juarez. Crossing the border every day and learn a new language has been an extra challenge, but this was not an obstacle for him to join the EPCC Forensics Speech and Debate Team and be recognized for his participation. "Speech and debate are fundamental

See GAMBOA, Page 4

Tornillo Independent School District Public Notice

2021-2022 SSO School Meal Policy

Tornillo Independent School District announced its policy today that this school year, healthy meals will be offered every school day to all students at no cost. Typically, a student’s household must meet income eligibility requirements to qualify for free or reduced-price meals. However, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued guidance that allows schools to offer meals to all students at no cost for the 2021-2022 school year. Each school/site or central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed upon request.

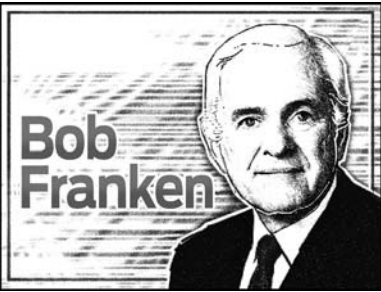
While no application or eligibility determination process is required for your student to receive free meals this school year, the income eligibility requirement will likely resume in the 2022-2023 school year.

Noticia Pública

Poliza de Comidas Escolares de SSO del Año 2021-2022

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tornillo anunció hoy su política de que este año escolar se ofrecerán comidas saludables todos los días escolares a todos los estudiantes sin costo alguno. Por lo general, el hogar de un estudiante debe cumplir con los requisitos de elegibilidad de ingresos para calificar para comidas gratuitas o a precio reducido. Sin embargo, el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos (USDA, por sus, emitió una guía que permite a las escuelas ofrecer comidas a todos los estudiantes sin costo alguno para el año escolar 2021-2022). Cada escuela/sitio u oficina central tiene una copia de la póliza, que puede ser revisada bajo petición.

Si bien no se requiere ningún proceso de solicitud o determinación de elegibilidad para que su estudiante reciba comidas gratuitas este año escolar, el requisito de elegibilidad de ingresos probablemente se reanudará en el año escolar 2022-2023.



Here’s a little inside-the-Beltway knowledge (in fact, it’s inside the White House gate): In the executive mansion, where people go only if they have a temporary or a permanent pass issued by the Secret Service, there’s a “drop” in the driveway outside the West Wing. A drop is a permanently installed live camera position. There are hundreds of these drops in official Washington and dozens within the White House gate, sealed off by unfriendly men and women of the protective detail who talk into their sleeves.

The driveway drop is one of the places where lesser lights than the president, vice president,

The art of no deal

cabinet members, etc., usually hold their press “availabilities,” or “avails” inside the “gilded cage,” as President Joe Biden calls it. The commander in chief can go anywhere he wants. Which, long after your eyes have glazed over, is the point.

A senator would be one of these lesser lights who have occasion to meet with Biden all the time. They would be consigned to the driveway drop, while the chief executive could speak inside. Senators have much too fragile egos for that, particularly since it’s only a matter of time, in their minds, until they will run the whole show, unless some foul-mouthed idiot comes along.

You know how the CEO, in a dominant position, will leave his desk barrier on high and join the supplicant on the couch? It’s done when the exec is trying to convince you that he’s a good guy, or mislead you into thinking so.

Guess who joined the senators’ delegation after their all-important meeting on infrastructure legislation at their driveway location. Yes, it was Uncle Joe himself, strolling with the Capitol delegation and announcing, “We have a deal.” It was a blatant example of trying to project a “we’re all in this together” demeanor.

Except that they are not all in this together. Far from it. They have just reached, as the old-timey quiz show described it, “the first plateau.” The reality is that they are plateaus apart and the valleys are slithering with poisonous snakes heading in all directions.

On the left, there are sandal-wearing water moccasins. (This

See FRANKEN, Page 7

Food for thought By Jane M. Orient, M.D.

What doctors think about the COVID jab

Many patients tell us that their doctors are pressuring them to get the COVID jab. The American Medical Association (AMA) claims that 96 percent of doctors are themselves fully vaccinated. So, if 9.6 out of 10—not a mere 4 out of 5 doctors recommend something, it must be “right for you.”

As far as I have heard, the message from state and local medical societies is “take the lead, get your shot, volunteer at a vaccination center, educate your hesitant patients.”

There is probably some person with an M.D. degree backing up your employer’s threat to fire you, or a college’s threat to deny your child an education, or some committee’s decision to deny your medical exemption. It might appear that doctors are all “speaking with one voice,” as the AMA constantly urges.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, Bill Gates, Joe Biden, Dr. Jill Biden¹, Klaus Schwab, executives at Pfizer and other manufacturers, and the anonymous Big Tech “fact-checkers” all want you to get the jab.

In addition to threats, there are incentives: free French fries in New York City; free ice cream for unaccompanied children in Canada; or a chance to win a scholarship, a firearm, or \$1 million. One medical association offers permission to attend a celebratory “happy hour” (drive there, drink, and drive?).

The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) decided to check out the AMA’s 96 percent claim. We recall that the “one voice” has sometimes been wrong, and the four percent right.

It turns out that the AMA’s 300 survey respondents² were not inclusive of all doctors. In the AAPS survey³, nearly 60 percent of some 700 respondents⁴ said they were NOT “fully vaccinated.” Of these, 80 percent said “I believe risk of shots outweighs risk of disease.”⁵

Both physicians and nonphysicians were invited to submit comments about side effects in patients that they were aware of. More than 2,500 did so, and these are available just as entered¹⁶—no screening, editing, or fact-checking. They mention deaths, from heart failure and other causes; an amputated leg due to blood clots; strokes, paralysis, brain fog, emotional disturbances, and other neurological problems; intestinal inflammation necessitating removal of part of the small intestine; menstrual problems and miscarriages; “several episodes of sky rocketing blood pressure along with flash bang headaches,” never experienced previously; flares of previous auto-immune conditions; and much more.

A non-medical professional wrote: “All kinds of adverse reactions that The Media isn’t reporting. Doctors are being muzzled and threatened for telling the Truth and caring for their patients.” Another wrote: “It would require a book to list all the adverse events occurring now and the deluge of others that will surface in time.” One reports that her 87-year-old mother has had unrelenting pain in the injected arm. “Doctor trips yield nothing. The doctor does not know what to do.” Reporting that “24 year old healthy female has passed out 7 times after second shot,” a nonprofessional asks that with a disease with a 99+ percent survival rate, “Why get experimental shot in first place?”

Bad things happen to people all the time, and sometimes right after they have had a shot. The shot may have had nothing to do with it. But when there is no other explanation, and the reports keep piling up, responsible public health officials will investigate diligently. At some point a harmful program may be stopped, and a product, such as the swine flu vaccine, withdrawn. It might take a long time. It took 5 years⁷ to withdraw thalidomide, approved in Europe as “safe and effective” for all, after somebody noticed the connection to babies being born without limbs.

Remember that your doctor may only see pro-vaccine material and may suffer repercussions from an employer or insurance panel for not meeting vaccine goals. You might ask him some questions, such as what does he think of the first autopsy report⁸ on a COVID-vaccinated patient, who had spike proteins in every organ?

General good advice for life applies here. (1) Don’t fall for the hard sell. If you have to sign up immediately (before you look under the hood), or

See JAB, Page 4



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Trump’s huge 2023 decision

Sometime in 2023, Donald Trump will presumably make the most momentous decision by a single person affecting the fate of the Republican Party in decades.

He will decide whether to run for president again, and that will determine who’s the frontrunner (Trump, if he’s a go) and the contours of the race.

If Trump runs, he will, one assumes, blot out the sun. Everything will be about him – his record, his pronouncements, his animosities. Much of the conservative mass media will get on board, while the mainstream media – inadvertently aiding him, yet again – will be even more intensely hostile.

The choice between this and a more “normal” nomination battle is Trump’s alone.

Perhaps not since Dwight Eisenhower turned aside Harry Truman’s entreaties to run for president as a Democrat and threw his hat in the ring as a Republican has someone had such “yea or nay” influence over the nation’s politics.

Trump’s continued sway has been a boon to his most hardcore cadre, but it is a problem for Trumpism, at least if that term is to mean anything more than personal loyalty to him. In particular, his staying power risks overshadowing and distorting the development of the populist wing of the party, which should be about more than “Stop the Steal” and adherence to one man, even if that man has defied political gravity.

Trump lost last November and contributed more than his share to the Georgia Senate losses that have added trillions of dollars to what Joe Biden can plausibly spend.

He no longer has any formal power, whereas six months ago he could move aircraft carrier groups.

He’s off social media and is not nearly as omnipresent on traditional media as when he was holding impromptu press conferences on his way to Marine One.

And yet, his grip on the party has barely loosened, if at all.

Why?

Most important, he avoided the stigma of a loser by falsely claiming he really won.

He connected with his voters at a cultural level deeper than any of his policies, creating an enduring bond.

His voters still think he’s the only one who truly gets the threat from the left, and the only one willing to fight with the requisite

ferocity.

Finally, they think Trump is being persecuted by social media companies and worry they could be next.

The lesson of the defenestration of Liz Cheney is that you can’t run headlong into these sentiments and expect to survive in leadership.

Mitch McConnell, who has made his disdain for Trump clear, has taken the more prudent course of declining to elaborate on his well-known views, and isn’t going anywhere.

But there’s no doubt that what it means to be a populist in the Trump mode is overly determined by Trump himself.

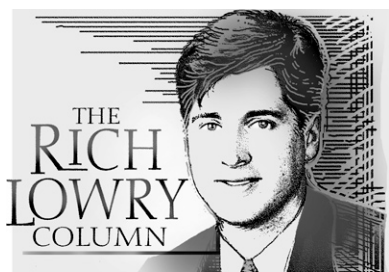
Until recently, Elise Stefanik was a moderate Republican from New York state. She became the alternative to Cheney for the party’s populists by toeing the line on Stop the Steal, an issue that isn’t liberal, conservative or populist, but pure Trump.

The Trump effect is stark in Ohio Republican politics. One would think Rep. Anthony Gonzalez, a featured speaker last year at an event of the populist policy shop American Compass, would have more populist credibility than Senate primary candidate Josh Mandel, a run-of-the-mill establishment

Republican. Yet Gonzalez voted to impeach Trump, so Mandel is earning populist points by calling him a “traitor.”

On the other hand, another likely Senate candidate, J.D. Vance, who represents a sincere, thought-through populism, will have to answer for his lack of enthusiasm for Trump in 2016.

If Trump does decide to run, even if he’s less dominant than advertised, he’ll squeeze out potential candidates like Missouri Sen. Josh Hawley, who are most determined to run as his direct successors.



They, like most everyone else in the party, will have to hold their breath until Trump comes down one way or the other in 2023.

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

Running

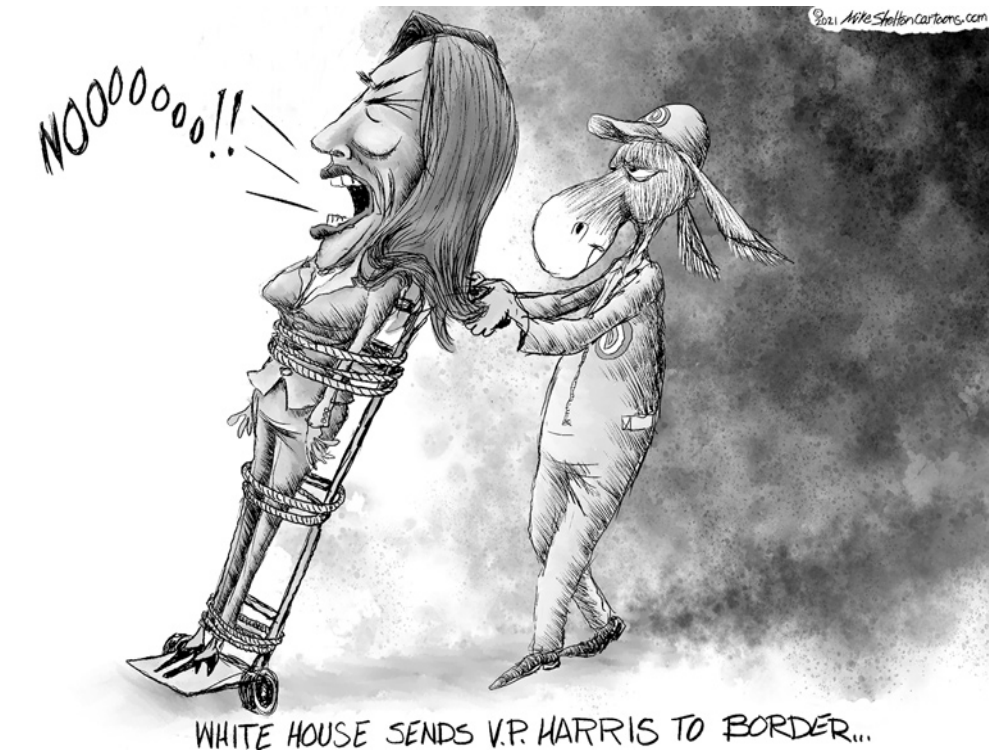
From Page 1

Greg Abbott. The act will establish the Texas Active Shooter Alert System. This new law is designed to give Texans timely alert messages when an active shooting incident is taking place in their area.

Currently, González’ legislative assignments are vice chair of the state house appropriations committee and a member of the public education committee. She is also vice chair of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus of the TX House of Representatives and is the first chair of the Texas House LGBTQ Caucus.

The Clint, TX native is the first openly LGBTQ woman to serve in the Texas Legislature. She is also the first openly pansexual elected official in the U.S., according to her office.

During the 87th regular legislative session, which ended in May, González authored 75 bills and co-authored 76 bills. Visit the Texas legislative website at <https://bit.ly/3gRiUI8> to view a full list of the bills González authored or co-authored this year, as well as the bills’ status.



Jab

From Page 2

lose your once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, alarms should go off. (2) Don’t take the word of the anointed “expert” on faith, especially when he won’t let others peek behind the curtain.

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

- 1 – <https://floridapolitics.com/archives/437048-jill-biden-to-visit-florida-for-vaccine-events/>
- 2 – https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2021-06/physician-vaccination-study-topline-report.pdf?&utm_source=BulletinHealthCare&utm_medium=email&utm_term=061421&utm_content=NON-MEMBER&utm_campaign=article_alert-morning_rounds_daily&utm_uid=2256120&utm_effort=MRNRD0
- 3 – https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PIIqBumg6106S_XRONmxRy6rFuaRebj9/view
- 4 – <https://aaps.wufoo.com/reports/z1e8wyr31awx6wfl>

Tornillo Independent School District Public Notice of Nondiscrimination

It is the policy of the Tornillo Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or any person who has a disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The Tornillo Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, the Age Discrimination Act 1975, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act 1973 as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Lizeth Carroll, Human Resources Director, P.O. Box 170, Tornillo, TX 79853. Phone: (915) 765-3000. Fax: (915) 765-3099.

Notificación Pública No Discriminar en Tornillo ISD

Es la regla del distrito escolar de Tornillo prohibir discriminación basada en raza, color, origen de nacionalidad, sexo o cualquier persona con discapacidad en la admisión o acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de Tornillo esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas en el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmienda, el Titulo IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, la Acta de la Discriminación por edad de 1975 como enmienda, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmienda, y el Acto de Americanos con discapacidades.

Para mas información acerca de sus derechos favor de comunicarse con Lizeth Carroll, Directora de Recursos Humanos, PO Box 170, Tornillo TX 79853. Teléfono: (915) 765-3000. Fax: (915) 765-3099.

WTCC: 07-08-21

- 5 – <https://aaps.wufoo.com/reports/z7ek1br193t0zj/>
- 6 – <https://aaps.wufoo.com/reports/zt3g8qz1rtzpzfl/>
- 7 – <https://jpands.org/vol26no2/merritt.pdf>
- 8 – <https://www.eutimes.net/2021/06/first-autopsy-of-covid-vaccinated-patient-finds-every-organ-of-body-infested-with-spike-proteins/>

Jane M. Orient obtained 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.

Gamboa

From Page 1

for all majors and any area of personal development. Being a non-native English speaker, the Forensics Speech and Debate Team has absolutely evolved my mastery of the English language and how I transmit my ideas and feelings through my voice and expressions.” Gamboa said.

“Eduardo qualified for the National Speech and Debate Tournament in Prose Interpretation, Poetry Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation, and Duo Interpretation. While we were in lockdown Eduardo was still able to compete remotely along with the rest of the team in virtual tournaments against students from all over the country.” Matthew Minnich, EPCC Speech and Debate Coach, said.

“EPCC really is the best place to start, especially for the Hispanic community who are unaware of their opportunities to grow so far away from home,” Gamboa said. “My experience here opened my eyes to a whole new world, meet so many interesting people and have some of the best experiences in my life.”

The 100 percent Transfer Campus Atlanta Scholarship allows students to pay in-state tuition rates instead of out-of-state tuition rates; it is renewable based on maintaining full-time enrollment status at Georgia State University and at least a 3.0 Georgia State institutional GPA.



By Lucie Winborne

• A green cat was born in Denmark in 1995. Some people believe that high levels of copper in the water pipes nearby may have given his fur a verdigris effect.

• Edgar Rice Burroughs, creator of the iconic jungle man Tarzan, worked as a pencil-sharpener salesman before trying his hand at fiction. He only started writing at the age of 36 to support his wife and two kids.

• Boanthropy is a psychological disorder in which patients believe they are a cow.

• The infamous crocodile jump by James Bond in “Live and Let Die” was performed with real crocs by the only person willing to attempt it – the owner of the crocodile farm.

• In early 2015, Mattel released Hello Barbie, an interactive talking doll that didn’t just repeat preprogrammed phrases, but could actually hold a two-way conversation. The doll raised major concerns over privacy, however, since the discussions between it and child owners were recorded and sent to third-party vendors. Goodbye, Barbie!

• Like casinos, your local shopping mall is intentionally designed to make you lose track of time, with clocks and windows removed to prevent views of the outside world, in a type of “scripted disorientation” known as the Gruen Transfer.

• As if it weren’t cool enough that your DNA encodes the entire blueprint for your body using a set of just four characters (amino acids), you can treat the outside surface of cotton fabric with concentrated genetic material, as the DNA is also flame retardant: Its molecules are similar to those in other fireproofing substances.

Thought for the Day: “I’m a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it.”
– Thomas Jefferson

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Moments in time
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On July 5, 1865, in London, revivalist preacher William Booth and his wife, Catherine, establish the Christian Mission, later known as the Salvation Army, to wage war against the evils of poverty and religious indifference. The Army currently works in 75 countries.

• On July 6, 1957, Liverpool teenagers John Lennon and Paul McCartney meet for the first time. Lennon was a member of the Quarry Men, scheduled to play at a public event. Two weeks later, Lennon invited McCartney to join the band.

• On July 7, 1983, Samantha Smith, an 11-year-old American girl, begins a two-week visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of Soviet leader Yuri Andropov after she wrote him a letter as part of a school project.

• On July 8, 1776, a 2,000-pound copper-and-tin bell now known as the “Liberty Bell” rings out from the tower of the Pennsylvania State House (now Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, summoning citizens to the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence. In the fall of 1777, the bell was hidden in Allentown to save it from being melted down by the British and used to make cannons.

• On July 9, 1993, British forensic scientists announce they have positively identified the remains of Russia’s last czar, Nicholas II, his wife and three of their daughters. The scientists used mitochondria DNA to identify the bones, which had been excavated from a mass grave near Yekaterinburg in 1991.

• On July 10, 1962, the U.S. Patent Office issues Swedish engineer Nils Bohlin a patent for his three-point automobile safety belt. The traditional two-point belt had been known to cause severe internal abdominal injuries in a high-speed crash.

• On July 11, 1804, Vice President Aaron Burr fatally shoots his long-time political antagonist Alexander Hamilton in a duel. Burr’s shot struck Hamilton in the stomach, and he died the next afternoon.

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CryptoQuip Answer

Busy hub in the Big Apple where folks trade footwear all day: New York Sock Exchange.

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View from here

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Don’t give up your personal freedom

You may create instability and insecurity for your personal life if you put others in charge of your decisions.

The idea of a child or acquaintance “shouldering” your life’s concerns and finances might feel comforting. Having someone else pay your bills and oversee your welfare might feel like a relief. For many it ends up being the end of freedom and security.

You love your children, or that special niece or grandchild. You are so bonded to them. You may feel that adding their name to your checking or other financial accounts will increase your bond and the ongoing warm fuzzy relationship. Be very aware.

An acquaintance wanted her daughter to have the family home so bad that she went ahead and did all the legal work to assign the house to her daughter. Her daughter’s name was added to all her savings and checking accounts. For the rest of her life this poor woman never had a life. From that point forward, her daughter made every decision about what “was” her mother’s money. She would even tear up any kind of credit or retail purchasing card that her mother tried to get with commentary such as, “You don’t need these.” The mother spent her remaining years hearing almost weekly from her daughter that she was going to “put her in a nursing home.”

Another acquaintance with a healthy savings account and beautiful house signed everything over to a nephew and gave him her power of attorney. He soon made the decision to put her in a nursing home telling her she would be better off. He now drives her car and spends out of her

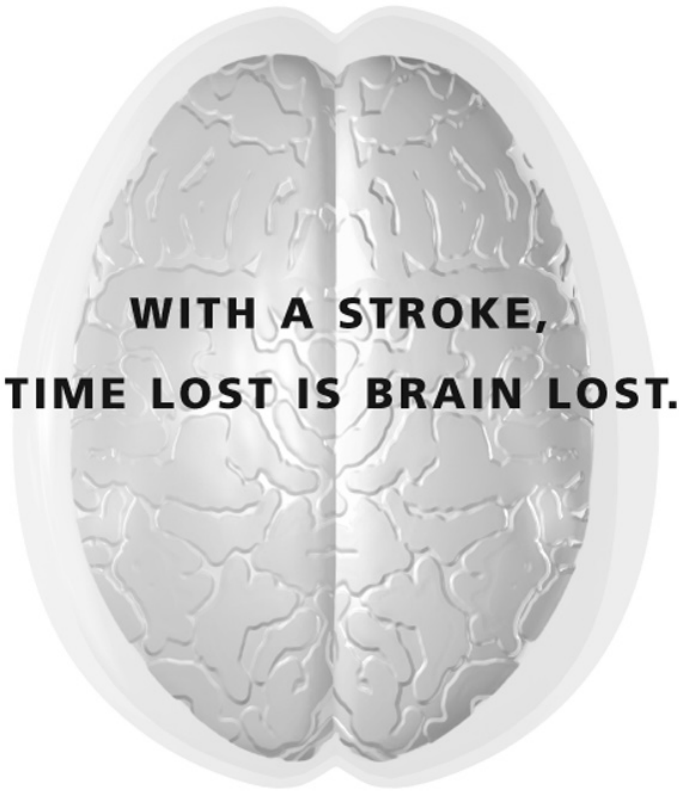
checking account. He has told her she will have to sell her house to cover the costs of her nursing home care.

Just recently, an elderly acquaintance said, “I have no cash. My son takes care of paying all my bills, groceries and more but I don’t have access to any money.”

There is always the possibility that any of us could become physically or mentally disabled. Make your legal arrangements for when and if that happens. Be wary about putting children or loved ones on your accounts now. Get with your attorney and draw up a document that says, “When, such disability happens or death happens then Mr. or Mrs. John Doe are to have “this” or “that.”

Of course, do what you want to do. Sometimes it works out. However, do you really need someone saying to you, “Now mom, now dad, do you really need to buy those shoes?” Or, “Do you really need to take that trip?” “Now mom, now dad do you really need to be shopping at the mall?” Hey friend, it’s your money. You and your spouse work it out and if you live alone you and God can work it out. It can be wise to seek financial counsel from a professional. However, you can do this without giving up your personal freedom.

Glenn Mollette is a graduate of numerous schools including Georgetown College, Southern and Lexington Seminaries in Kentucky. He is the author of “Uncommon Sense” and 12 other books. His column is published weekly in over 600 publications in all 50 states. Learn more at www.glennmollette.com or www.facebook.com/glennmollette.



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

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

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Ohtani having the greatest baseball season... in history

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The Major League Baseball season’s annual All-Star game is coming up this week, which means the regular season is about 60 percent complete.

That means that every team has played about 90 games. These are enough games into the season to determine who the frontrunners are for the MVP awards.

In the American League, as usual, the MVP frontrunner belongs to the Los Angeles Angels.

The only difference is that we’re not talking about Mike Trout.

Trout, the nine-time all-star and three-time most valuable player, suffered a calf muscle injury on May 17 and hasn’t played a game since.

No Trout... no problem, the Angels have been blessed with another megastar and his name is Shohei Ohtani.

Ohtani is the first Japanese MLB star since the days of Ichiro Suzuki and Hideki Matsui and Hideo Nomo.

The only difference is that while ichiro and Matsui played in the field, and Nomo was a pitcher, Shohei Ohtani happens to do both.

No, that wasn’t a misprint.

In baseball, the game is played one way and one way only. The pitchers pitch and never bat unless they have to. The regular position players always hit – and that’s it.

Ohtani is a pitcher, he bats for himself when the Angels are allowed to use a designated hitter for the pitcher; when he isn’t pitching he’s the team’s designated hitter and he’s also played in the outfield.

Let me be perfectly honest with you,

nobody does that unless they play in high school or little league.

Even when Babe Ruth did it nearly 100 years ago, he was mainly a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox and didn’t start hitting all those home runs until he was a fulltime position player with the New York Yankees.

Ohtani is doing it during the same season. But doing it is one thing, doing it well is quite another. So is he doing it well?

Well, to be totally honest, Ohtani is having a season like no other player has had in the 150-year history of Major League Baseball.

As of last weekend, Ohtani led the majors with 30 homeruns.

He was also in the top ten in runs batted in, runs scored, triples, total bases, slugging percentage and he was even

tied for 12th in the league with 12 stolen bases.

That’s just him hitting, on the mound he has started 12 games with a record of 3-1. He has an earned run average of 3.60 and he has 83 strikeouts in his 60 innings pitched.

He is one of the best hitters in the entire league and he is the best starting pitcher on the Angels’ staff. All this is completely unheard of.

And the craziest thing of all is that almost nobody knows about him. This shows you how terrible professional baseball is at promoting its sport.

Here they have a 26-year-old Japanese player who is redefining the way the game is played and MLB is sitting on its hands, again.

It’s funny – in little leagues across the country – the best player is the pitcher who also plays in the field and bats during every game.

But for some unknown reason, once they get older they are told that they can’t hit anymore and have to concentrate solely on pitching.

Why is that?

Bo Jackson proved that an athlete could not only play two professional sports at the same time, he proved that an athlete could be an all-star in both at the same time.

Ohtani is proving once and for all, that pitchers can also be baseball players.

This is definitely going to change the way baseball is played. Players all over the country are going to want to be the next Ohtani.

And for those who have never seen him play, or never watch baseball for that matter, Ohtani will not only be in the All-Star game on July 13, he’ll be competing in the homerun derby.

There are only a few baseball players who fans stopped what they were doing to watch, like Mark McGwire or Derek Jeter or Reggie Jackson hit, or Nolan Ryan pitch, or Ricky Henderson steal a base.

Now they will stop and watch Shohei Ohtani do... well... all of the above.



Super Crossword

TINKERING WITH THE ELEMENTS ACROSS

1 Austrian peaks

5 MLB stat

8 Mitch who wrote "Tuesdays With Morrie"

13 Three-tone chords

19 Toxin-fighting fluids

20 Critter treater

21 "The king," in France

22 Popular social news website

23 Extracted element

#79 with a big hammer?

26 Renee of silent films

27 "Science Kid" of PBS

28 Reinforcing eyelet in a hole

29 Go out on _

31 Chilling stuff

32 Unfeeling

34 Element #16 that's causing difficulty?

37 Owls' prey

38 Carrere of "Jury Duty"

41 Fleming and McKellen

42 "August: Osage County" playwright

43 "That celestial object seems to be composed of element

#5?"

48 Tartan wearers, e.g.

50 Some dashes

51 Neighbor of Lithuania

52 Off-road rides, in brief

53 Before now

56 Sea rovers

plundering element

#6?

60 Big road rig

63 Bismarck-to-Austin dir.

64 _ Tome

65 Overcomes

66 Shawls, e.g.

68 ICU worker

71 Genetic ID

73 Small sample

74 Very virtuous

77 Gaudy scarf

79 Suffix with peace

82 Prattle

83 "Quit asking about my supply of element #83!"?

88 Stew tidbit

89 Birch, e.g.

90 "Impossible for me"

91 Small sample

94 Twyla of dance

96 Element #30 in a medicine cabinet?

98 "George & _" (old talk show)

101 Special glow

103 "FWIW" part

104 Gets the total

105 Element #18 found in a city opposite Vancouver?

110 Lightish sword

111 Hub city for Israel's El Al

112 Bad-smelling

113 Narcissist's quality

117 Biol. or anat.

119 Combo punch

121 Element #29 collected by actress Loni?

124 Ancient Crete native

125 To the point

126 ETs' ship

127 Gershon of "Face/Off"

128 "... Wedding" (1990 Alan Alda film)

129 Great Lakes tribespeople

130 Go bad

131 Crumb toters

DOWN

1 Invites

2 Russian

Revolution theory

3 Things made for sale

4 Small pouch

5 Unendingly

6 Change

7 Very little bit

8 Change

9 Without a _ stand on

10 Good pal

11 "So chic!"

12 Hanging to the calves, as a dress

13 Brits' trolleys

14 Popular energy drink

15 Altar reply

16 Free-floating

17 Punched out, as jigsaw pieces

24 CIA's onetime rival

25 MLB arbiter

30 Rescuee's cry

33 "Give _ call"

35 Big box

36 The, to Yves

37 Fannie _

38 Rows

39 Lands in el oceano

40 Subsidized

44 MLB stat

45 Raw rock

46 Toys _ (kids' chain)

47 Bears, in Spain

49 Suffix with opal

52 Loads

53 Put to shame

54 "I _ run!"

55 First stage

56 Brought (in), as music

57 Voguish thing

58 Rear, at sea

59 Make it to

60 Boggy area

61 Bert's friend

62 _ Carta

67 Surreptitious

69 Double-reed instrument

70 Bovine critter

72 Az of "Master of None"

75 Very little bit

76 Small raisin

78 Actress Kendrick

80 " _ one to complain..."

81 Accolades

84 Disavow

85 Net automaton

86 I, to Wilhelm

87 Hanks of film

91 Slice-serve motion

92 Not proper

93 Windows 10 runners

94 Blasting inits.

95 To the middle point

96 Drinking spot

97 Microwave

98 Poise

99 Canadian dollar coin

100 Passionate

102 Comedian Gilda

106 Long spans

107 Fliers in V's

108 Ugly beasts

109 Tel. book collection

110 Angsty rock genre

114 See 123-Down

115 News

116 Kilt sporter

118 Nest egg funds, for short

120 How-_ (DIY books)

122 Soft & _

123 With 114-Down, it includes the Brit. Open

Answer Page 8

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18
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111											113				114	115	116		117	118
119				120			121		122									123		
124							125						126					127		
128							129						130					131		

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



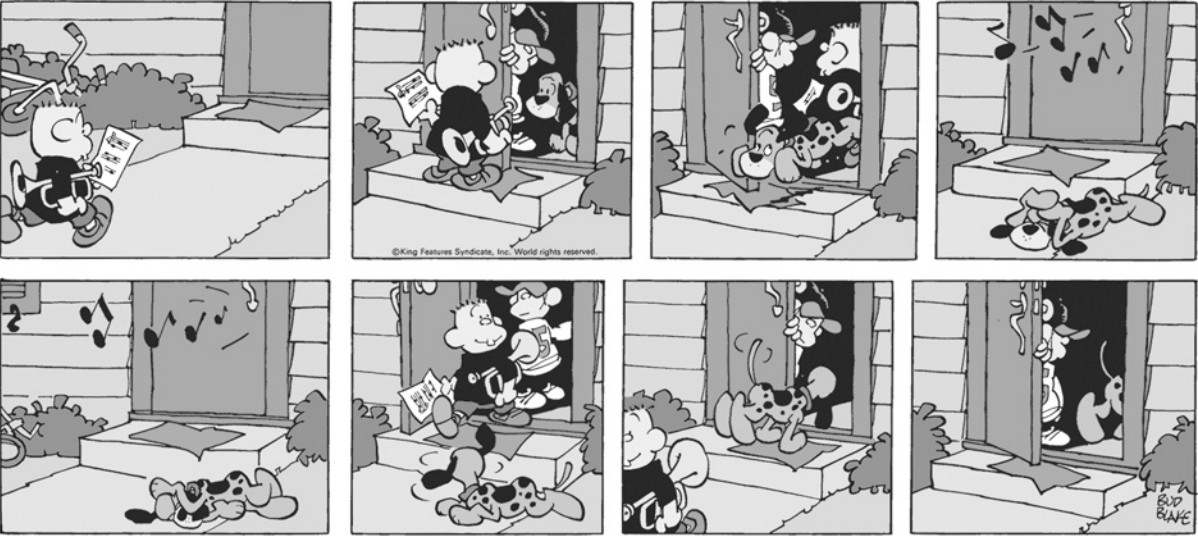
THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



TIGER By Bud Blake



Franken

From Page 2

is a lousy metaphor because snakes wouldn't wear sandals, would they? For that matter, they wouldn't wear moccasins either. That's why they are called "cottonmouths" too, which is appropriate because as politicians, they talk out of both sides of their cotton mouths. But I digress.)

These deadly progressive snakes are predatory. They find many of their natural

enemies in their own nest: the moderates. Meanwhile, the GOP reptiles, whose main characteristic is following the dreaded Trumpsnake, wouldn't vote for any Biden-led or meet-me-in-the-middle proposal.

The progressive snakes want what is loosely described as "soft infrastructure," paid for by taxing the rich: climate change policies, paid medical leave, "Medicare for all," every liberal dream and no compromises. But if Biden tries to placate the left, he displeases the right.

Biden's next job is to somehow bring

the squabbling factions together, because the Republicans who were in the meeting with Biden are the only ones the slightest bit interested in bipartisanship. Most of the GOP contingent is Trumppublican.

This is how it used to work: Back in very late 2011, Congress and the Obama administration were just a few hours away from failing to negotiate an increase in the debt ceiling. That would mean default of the United States on its sovereign debt, a worldwide financial disaster. The two sides were at an impasse.

Republican leader Mitch McConnell

picked up the phone and called Democratic Vice President Biden, with whom he served decades in the Senate: "Does anyone down there know how to make a deal?"

The crisis was averted. The story had a happy ending. Except that on July 31, the debt ceiling expires again. Disaster waits, and the atmosphere is worse than back then. Just look at infrastructure.

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Dust mite allergy triggers cough

DEAR DR. ROACH: For months, I have had a persistent cough that I have been unable to get help with. I saw an allergist about three years ago and was told I am allergic to dust mites. I was first referred to a lung doctor where X-rays showed that my cheek sinus drains were completely blocked, and then to an ear, nose and throat doctor, who also confirmed this diagnosis. This ENT doctor recommended I have surgery to unblock the drains and clear out the sinus area. I understand that sinus drainage can cause coughing and wonder if this would still make me cough. I sometimes cough until I can cough up something, and this seems to stop my cough for a while. I was using a nasal rinse for a while until about two weeks ago when it caused my nose to bleed. The ENT doctor prescribed antibiotics and oral steroids that did not make any difference. It doesn't seem to make any difference whether I'm home or sitting in the doctor's office, I'm still coughing. What is the best way to deal with dust mite allergy? – J.S.



There are many causes of chronic cough, but postnasal drip is at the top of the list. Dust mites are indeed a common allergen, and symptoms may include runny nose, watery eyes, sneezing and cough from postnasal drip. Specific treatment for dust mites should include physical barriers, such as covers for pillows and mattresses, and sometimes for other soft surfaces, like furniture cushions, but this is only part of an effective strategy. Removing as many fabrics as possible (draperies, carpets, stuffed children's toys) where dust mites can live is essential. Regular cleaning is necessary, and high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters for vacuuming have been shown to reduce dust mites. A low-humidity environment can be very effective in discouraging dust mites, and cooler air – especially at night – can reduce irritation of nasal passages caused by dry air. Many interventions for a prolonged period are necessary to reduce dust mite infestation and the symptoms associated with them.

This is critical, because the issue of the sinuses is probably secondary to ongoing allergic exposure. Fixing your sinuses will not fix your ongoing symptoms. Without control of the allergens, you will continue to have symptoms and may even develop sinus blockages again, no matter how good a job the surgeon does on your sinuses.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 90 years old. My husband and I donated blood as often as needed, over 100 times, but last week my doctor said I tested positive for syphilis. I about fell off my chair. I haven't slept for four nights. Have you ever heard of this? – E.

The screening test for syphilis, called the VDRL or RPR test, is not particularly accurate. About 1-2% of people will have a false positive result. Meaning, the test is positive but they do not have syphilis. There are many possible causes, such as infection and autoimmune disease, like lupus, but some people, particularly older people, will have a positive test for no identifiable reason.

In your case, I am sure it is a false positive, but your doctor may do a more specific test, such as an FTA-ABS, to be 100% sure. You shouldn't let it keep you awake at night.

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
The elegant Hotel Galvez in Galveston was built with no kitchen.

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: G equals L

AOJX VOA CK EVF ACM
PDDGF IVFNF UTGBJ ENPRF
UTTEIFPN PGG RPX: KFI
XTNB JTLB FHLVPKMF.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Blue Water Navy and Agent Orange claims



by Freddy Groves

One of the first lawsuits brought against the Department of Veterans Affairs for benefits for veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange was in 1986. At issue in *Nehmer v. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs* was the fact that the only medical condition acknowledged by the VA was chloracne... a very serious skin condition caused by exposure to dioxins and dibenzofurans. It's been a very long haul since then to get the VA to acknowledge (and pay for) other damage done by Agent Orange.

The Nehmer Law was created for veterans, spouses, children and parents of any Vietnam veteran who should have received exposure benefits but didn't. Since

1991, the VA has paid out billions of dollars in AO exposure benefits for diabetes, ischemic heart disease, Parkinson's disease, cancers and more, but they've resisted every step of the way.

In November 2020, attorneys went back to court to force the VA to address the exposure suffered by Blue Water Navy veterans who literally drank, breathed and showered in AO while on ships in the harbor. The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 extended the presumption of exposure to include more than aboard-ship service.

Now, thanks again to Nehmer, the VA is required to readjudicate any denied Blue Water claims. The reviews started in April. No new claim is required, and any changes to claims are supposed to be automatic. It applies not only to veterans, but their survivors as well. Still at issue is whether the VA will pay retroactively for denied claims.

To learn more, go online to

congress.gov and search for H.R.299 – Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019. For eligibility specifics, go to va.gov and search for Agent Orange. And if you'd like to know where the class action lawsuit began, look up Beverly Nehmer..

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- Fill a 2-liter soda bottle with water, then plunge the top upside down into a potted plant for self-watering while you are on vacation. Use smaller bottles for smaller pots.
- Going to the beach for your vacation? Here's a handy hint to take great care of your swimsuit. (They get more expensive all the time!) Pack at least two suits and bring a box of baking soda. Soak the suit for 15 minutes in a baking soda and water solution, then lay flat on a towel. Roll the towel up and wring lightly. Unroll and hang to dry. Rotate suits. – JoAnn

• Help for a sunburn: Take two nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories (aspirin, ibuprofen) right away. Soak a cloth in cold milk and drape over the burn until it warms to room temperature. Repeat if necessary and apply a light moisturizer.

• Use your Christmas light timers to set different lights to go on or off at certain times of the day while you are away on vacation. You can even use a timer on a radio, so it comes on sometimes too. The variation will make people think you are home.

• Always keep a couple bottles of water and a roll of duct tape in your trunk. You never know when you'll need these items, and they seem to be pretty handy when traveling.

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

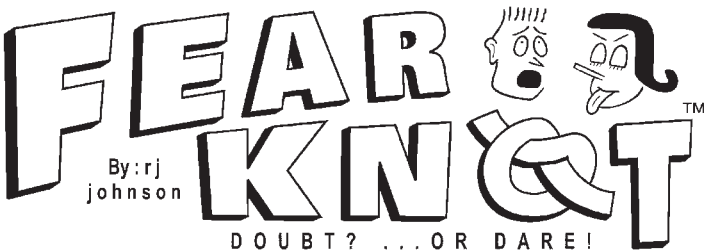
★★★ GO FIGURE!

Answer Page 4

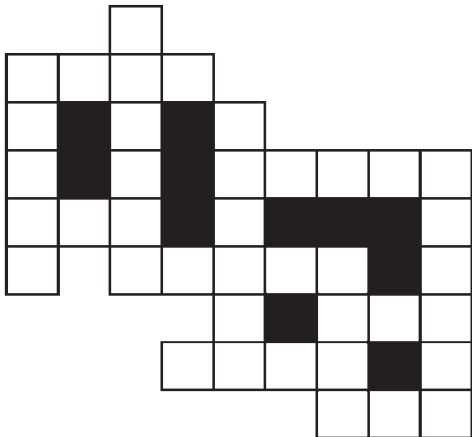
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	+		×		25
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12		15		26	

1 2 3 4 5 5 6 7 9

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EKL
AMPBLO
♥OLSHA
PKLE
♥PELNIA
HMO
♥ESLA
PYLHM
UPN
♥NEHKRA
NIBKR
PHEO



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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ALPS	SERA	ALBOM	TRIADS
SERA	VET	LEROI	REDDIT
KNOCKED	OUT	GOLD	ADOREE
SID	GROMMET	ALTIMB	ICE
NUMB	PROBLEMS	SULFUR	
MICE	TIA	IANS	LETTS
ASTARIS	BORON	GAELS	
EMS	BELARUS	ATVS	AGO
PIRATES	OF	THE	CARBON
SEMI	SSE	SAO	DEFEATS
ANGELIC	BOA	NIK	CHAT
WRAPS	DOIC	DNA	TASTE
MIND	YOU	ROWN	BISMUTH
PEA	TREE	NOCAND	SIP
THARP	BATHROOM	ZINC	
ALANA	AURA	ITS	ADDS
PORTLAND	ARGON	EPEE	
LOD	FETID	EGOTISM	SCI
ONETWO	ANDERSON	COPPER	
MINOAN	TERSE	UFO	GINA
BETSYS	ERIES	ROT	ANTS