



NEWSBRIEFS

A true long shot

It can seem that the quest for a Guinness World Record has achieved “pandemic” proportions with people around the world making up things they can do that no one else has done before, like eating 26,000 Big Macs or growing the longest fingernails. But two guys in Utah have come up with a trick that emphasizes accuracy in a sweet and tasty way. Dallas Anderson, who’s aim with a slingshot is impeccable, is the shooter of the two-man team and his pal, Jon Paleka, is the catcher. They recently won the record for, what some might call, accurately propelling a marshmallow into a far off mouth. In this case, Anderson aimed and shot the marshmallow a distance of nearly 226 feet directly into Paleka’s open mouth.

— John Grimaldi

A cryptic pregnancy

An Indonesian woman claimed recently that she got pregnant when a “gust of wind” entered her body. She says that within 15 minutes she went into labor and was rushed to a local clinic where an hour later she gave birth to a healthy baby girl. Neighbors in the religious West Java community where this happened were quick to assume that she concocted the story to cover up an extra-marital affair. But it is more than likely that she simply didn’t know she was pregnant. Such so-called cryptic pregnancies occur more often than you might think. The online site WebMD reports that one in 2,500 pregnant women show no signs that they are with child until they go into labor.

— John Grimaldi

Expensive comic book

A comic book that cost a mere ten cents when it was first published sold at auction recently for a whopping \$3.25 million. It was the highest price ever paid for a comic book, but this was no ordinary comic book. It was a first edition 1938 issue of the Action Comics #1 book in which the character of Superman was introduced. “This is an 83-year-old comic book in near-pristine condition – and it’s a sight to behold. Not to mention, this book launched the superhero genre that’s such a huge part of our culture,” according to Vincent Zurzolo, co-owner of the online auction house, ComicConnect, which handled the sale.

— John Grimaldi

The government continues to ensure that future generations of Americans will be born in a quagmire of debt.

— Quips & Quotes



State Senator César J. Blanco (D), El Paso



State Senator Juan Hinojosa (D), McAllen



State Senator Judith Zaffirini (D), Laredo

Texas border community senators weigh in on immigration Blanco, Hinojosa and Zafrini take on border issues

By César J. Blanco,
Juan Hinojosa, and
Judith Zaffirini
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – Texas Gov. Greg Abbott recently held a press conference to announce his plans for the state of Texas to build a physical border wall with state taxpayer dollars. He also indicated a new approach to charge immigrants and asylum seekers with state crimes to create a criminal record and jail them.

At the press conference, Gov. Abbott was surrounded by lawmakers from various parts of the state, but not a single lawmaker who joined him represents a border community.

Because border lawmakers live and work on the border every day, we understand the concerns of our constituents and the challenges our communities face. In our representative government, the voices of border lawmakers are the voices of border communities and should be at the table discussing issues that impact our

districts.

For whatever reason, we were omitted from major policy discussions related to the border. We support legal immigration, not open borders, and have supported transparent, accountable, and smart border security for years.

Lawmakers from both political parties agree border security is a federal responsibility. For years, however, Texas has supplemented federal efforts by spending billions of state taxpayer money on this federal responsibility, instead of on other pressing state needs. This session, for example, Texas appropriated another \$1.1 billion for border security. None of that money was earmarked for a border wall.

The federal government, dating back to President George W. Bush, has already built fencing and walls in the highest traffic areas. Building a physical wall from El Paso to Brownsville would be the most expensive and least effective way to achieve border security, and it would be a colossal waste of taxpayer money.

A physical wall made of cement or steel

slats is a third century solution to a 21st century migration problem.

Anyone who commits a crime, whether immigrant or legal resident, should be arrested. But Texas shouldn’t circumvent federal immigration and asylum laws by creating new ways to criminalize and to jail undocumented immigrants and asylum seekers. This expensive proposition would overfill local jails and prisons, which already are stretched thin – with non-dangerous persons – and separate families looking for refuge and the American dream.

The new federal administration is working on addressing the root causes of these migration waves that stress our borders, but this will take time. The bottom line is that Congress needs to act immediately to pass immigration reform and provide resources to stop the criminal elements from crossing the border.

If Texas, however, is going to be in the business of border security in the meantime, the state needs to be

See BORDER, Page 4

El Paso Elks Lodge promotes Most Valuable Student scholarship

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – High school seniors who plan to go to college after graduation are encouraged to participate in the Most Valuable Student (MVS) contest, sponsored by the Elks National Foundation (ENF), and earn a chance of winning scholarships of up to \$50,000.

El Paso’s Elks Lodge 187 recently reached out to El Paso County high school principals, counselors, and senior sponsors to elicit their help in promoting the ENF 2022 MVS scholarship program.

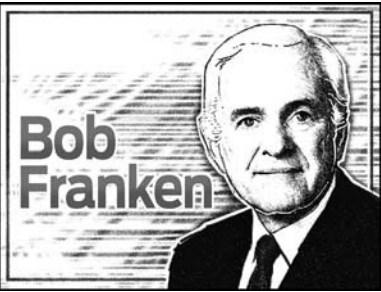
Every year, ENF awards 500 four-year scholarships based on academics, leadership, and financial need. The national

scholarship awards range from \$4,000 to \$50,000 per year, according to Lilia (Teddy) Martinez, chairperson of the El Paso Lodge 187 scholarship committee. The 2022 scholarship award winners will be announced next April.

In the past nine years, El Paso’s Elks Lodge members have facilitated the awarding of more than \$48,000 in scholarships for several local area high school graduates including seven \$4,000 scholarship winners and a \$20,000 scholarship winner. The El Paso Elks Lodge 187 chapter is an affiliate of the New Mexico Elks Association (NMEA).

Last year’s local MVS scholarship winner was Eleanor Schoenbrun, from Franklin High School in the El Paso Independent School District. She was awarded a \$4,000

See ELKS, Page 3



The Guardians?! After being known as the Indians since 1915, the best team name that the Cleveland baseball club could come up with was the Guardians? There are so many questions: Why did it take more than a hundred years to realize the previous name was obviously offensive to Native Americans? Why not return to one of the squad’s earlier nicknames, like the Spiders? It’s what they were called before the turn of the century – the 20th century. Why name the franchise after statues on a bridge that crosses the Cuyahoga River, which is most famous for catching fire in 1969? Why not the Flames? Particularly since three years later the city’s mayor at the time, Ralph Perk, set his hair ablaze with a blowtorch. (By the way, I am not making this up.)

But Guardians it is, after this season. What will they call themselves in the meantime? The Cleveland Baseball Team? Sorry, but that idea has already been taken. The Washington

Team names

Football Team is the best that owner Dan Snyder could come up with after deciding that he couldn’t squeeze another nickel out of the depleted NFL franchise by insisting on calling them the R-word, which is even more pejorative than Indians. For some reason, Snyder cannot get his act together and come up with a nickname until next year, although I’m sure he has heard scads of ideas. Lobbyists would be on the list, with a logo of a fat cat, although you could save time and effort by just renaming the squad the FatCats. Then we’d have the NFL FatCats, the MLB Nats, the NHL Caps and the NBA Wizards.

The Wizards?! How did that happen? It seems that in 1995, team owner Abe Pollin had become concerned that his NBA franchise’s name, the Bullets, celebrated gun violence. A noble motivation, indeed. So what to call his squad? Pollin opened up a 1-800 number for suggestions and decided that the least inappropriate ones were Sea Dogs, Dragons, Express, Stallions and Wizards.

After a while, Pollin announced that Wizards had won, even though it had nothing to do with anything. And Wizards it’s been

ever since. By the way, gun violence has gotten worse since then.

Back to the Washington Football Team: The franchise is still a team with no name,

although Sea Dogs, Dragons, Express and Stallions are still available; for that matter, so is Spiders. So is my personal favorite, the Swamp. The rally song could easily be changed to “Hail to the Wetlands.”

That would be a tribute to the political situation in Washington,

where bribery – excuse me, campaign contributions determine who gets their way there. And don’t forget Dan Snyder, who not only has sucked the bog dry since 1999 when he bought the franchise,

See FRANKEN, Page 7

View from here By Tamzin A. Rosenwasser, M.D.

Critical Race Theory

Just as Karl Marx interpreted all of human history as a fight between the “proletariat” (oppressed) and the “capitalists” (oppressors) using a method I can only call “Illogical Abstractionism,” so also do the “critical race theorists” use a rigid abstraction to divide all of mankind into one of two groups.

Karl Marx had no understanding of history or the time course in human affairs. He never set foot in the situations he wrote about with such certainty. Stupid. The “revolt of the proletariat” never happened, because the people whose strengths did not include invention of machinery, or founding of factories, (the proletariat) became much more comfortable and wealthier as a result of the existence and work of those whose strengths did include those things (the capitalists). The capitalists provided useful work, and it was an enormous benefit to the workers (proletariat).

Could humanity have managed without refrigerators and automobiles? We did so for millennia. Do you want to return to a world without refrigeration or the other comforts brought to us thanks to capitalism?

To take abstract theories and apply them with deadly force to human beings does not appear to me to be a viable formula for happiness, or for unchaining anybody from any kind of oppression. In fact, we have history as our guide in judging the result of the abstract theories of Marxism as it was imposed in the Soviet Union. In all places where Marxism, Communism, Nazism, Fascism, and Socialism have been imposed, the major result is not tens of thousands, or even hundreds of thousands, but millions of corpses. Where less force has been used, the most benign result of these economic and political systems has been economic stagnation and the blighting of human lives.

At least a few people do well. Not necessarily the people who are so eaten up with the abstract theories that have decided they must be imposed on everyone, but those who survive the brutal political power struggle – like Lenin, Stalin, Mao, Castro, and the Kims in North Korea. They live in luxury while people starve and suffer all around them. Marxists like Patrisse Cullors, the “Black Lives Matter” queen, may hope to remain on top but should remember that the revolution devours its children.

Perhaps a “trained Marxist” knows the story of Lavrentiy Beria, the chief of Stalin’s secret

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

If a selfishly scheming mathematician is chilly, I suppose he’s cold and calculating.

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+		−		−	
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police. He bragged, “Show me the man and I’ll show you the crime.” That seems to be very like the mantra of the “Critical Race Theorists.” Several months after Stalin’s death, this slave labor camp supervisor and torturer was summarily executed by his rivals.

Critical Race Theory’s view of the oppressor (whites) and oppressed (people of color) classes quickly leads to logical contradictions. Where is Barack Obama? He is half “white” on his mother’s side, and half “black” on his father’s side, whether his father was the elder Obama or Frank Marshall Davis. So, is half of Barack Obama oppressing the other half? Sounds schizoid, but of course, that’s why we have psychiatrists. The question also arises, which half is which? Does the left half oppress the right? The right side of the brain is not exactly the same as the left half, so right away we run into a problem. Same with the front side fighting the back. There are no eyes in the back of the head, so they are not exactly equal halves. I suppose maybe each cell could line up its mitochondria, and uncurl its chromosomes, and each divide into half. Obviously crazy, but crazier than dividing society by skin tone?

Psychiatry has not made much progress in treating sociopaths and psychopaths. Perhaps that is because those are moral diseases,

See CRT, Page 6

1973

48

Years

2021

WEST TEXAS COUNTY

COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINE, FARENS, SAN ELIZABIO AND TORNILLO

PUBLISHED:
Published each Thursday (minimum 50 issues) by Homesteader News, Inc. Office open Monday through Thursday.

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Minimum 50 issues for \$50. Delivery via 1st class mail.

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Homesteader
Est. 1973
News, Inc.

Town of Horizon City

In an effort to provide a safe, healthy and clean environment the Horizon City Code Enforcement Department asks that all residents please follow property maintenance requirements. Visit www.horizoncity.org for complete Ordinance requirements about the following topics and more:

- **Yards and Trees** – keep yards, including parkways and gutters, clear of weeds and debris; trees shall be trimmed to maintain proper clearance;
- **Stagnant Water** – items such as tires shall not be stored on properties in order to prevent mosquito growth; up to 5 tires may be brought to City Hall;
- **Outdoor Storage** – do not store indoor furniture/appliances outside;
- **Illegal Dumping** – violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law;
- **Vehicle Parking** – only allowed on approved parking surfaces; do not park on yards;
- **Garage Sales** – maximum of 4 per year with a permit; and
- **Signs** – illegally placed signs will be removed; contact City Hall for further clarification.

Notice of Violation

Individuals or property owners must comply with a Notice of Violation.

If the property is not brought into compliance, the City may request a court order that would give the City authorization to access the property and correct the violation; all associated costs will be billed to the property owner.

Call 915-852-1046 with any questions and/or to report violations.

We don't need women to register for the draft

If you wonder what Republicans are accomplishing in Washington, look no further than the Senate Armed Services committee, where a majority of them voted to create the predicate for drafting women into the military.

Astonishingly, only five of the committee's 13 GOP members voted against an amendment requiring women to begin to register for the Selective Service.

It's unclear why this is a pressing national need, or why anyone believes that it would help during a major war. Perversely, though, it's considered a blow for gender equity, and, of course, that overwhelms all other considerations for Democrats and Republicans alike.

Currently, men between the ages of 18 and 26 must register with the Selective Service. This is the database that, in theory, we'd draw on in the event of a military draft.

A draft, which we haven't had since the Vietnam War, isn't supposed to be a mechanism for making people feel good about themselves or a tool of so-called social justice. Its purpose is to funnel manpower into the military as expeditiously as possible during a national crisis.

A draft is a gargantuan effort.

As Max Margulies of West Point and Amy Rutenberg of Iowa State University note, during World War II, more than 180,000 volunteers helped process draftees at 11,000 draft and appeals boards. During Vietnam, 31,000 people did this work.

It would unnecessarily complicate this inherently difficult task to also screen all the young women in the country to find those suited to military roles at a time when, presumably, we'd need to quickly find and train new soldiers en masse.

Although women serve admirably and honorably in the armed services, the military is still overwhelmingly male. According to a recent GAO report, the percentage of women in the military overall has increased only slightly, from 15.1% in 2004 to 16.5% in 2018. The numbers are tiny when it comes to combat arms. As of late 2019, 653 women were serving in combat roles in the Army and 231 female Marines in combat arms billets.

With notable exceptions, women aren't as physically capable as men. A Marine Corps study released in 2015 found that all-male units performed better than gender-integrated units on 69% of tasks. All-male units were faster. They were more accurate

in firing weapons. They engaged targets more quickly. They were more adept at negotiating obstacles. And they were better at evacuating casualties.

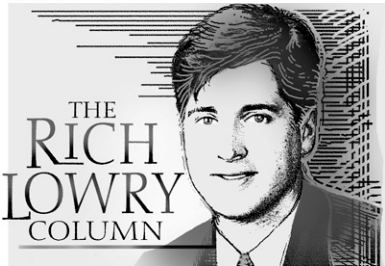
The Marine study noted higher rates of injury for women than for men, resulting from higher levels of fatigue because women simply aren't as strong. Women got hurt at six times the rate of men during entry-level training, and during the assessment for the study, the musculoskeletal injury rate for women was 40.5% and 18.8% for men.

The males in the study weighed on average 178 pounds with 20% body fat; the females 142 pounds with 24% body fat. The women had 15% less aerobic power (the

top 25th percentile of women overlapped with the bottom 25th percentile of men), and 15% less aerobic capacity (the top 10th percentile of women overlapped with the bottom 50th percentile of men).

Israel, which drafts both men and women, is often cited as a counterexample. Surrounded by larger hostile countries, it is an international outlier, though, truly desperate for sheer numbers.

Getting women to register for the draft has been a longtime priority of "men's rights" groups that think it's unfair that males in the United States should be asked to shoulder a disproportionate burden defending their society the way men have across all



cultures since time immemorial.

Then, there are feminists who believe that it is only by raising the prospect of drafting females to fight our wars that women can truly become first-class citizens.

Neither of these is a good argument, but Congress is inclined to use the Selective Service to make a social point anyway.

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

Elks

From Page 1

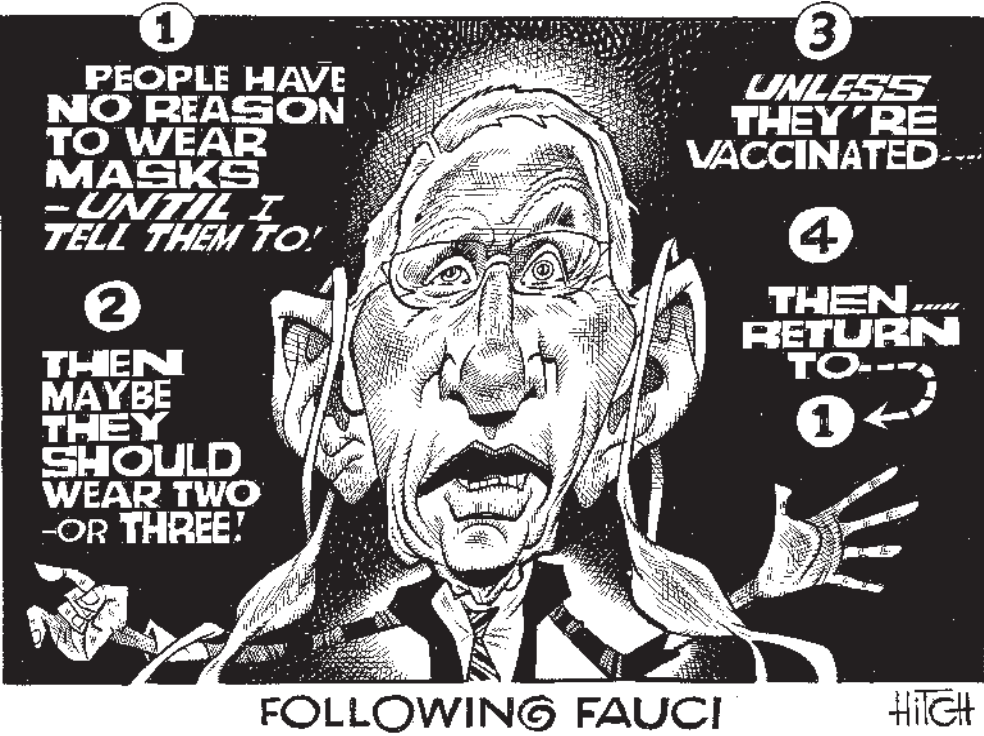
scholarship. In 2019, Regina Sung, from Clint Early College High School in the Clint school district, was awarded a \$20,000 scholarship.

The MVS scholarships are designed for students who plan to pursue a four-year degree on a full-time basis (minimum of 12 semester hours), at a U.S. college or university. Interested applicants must be current high school seniors (or equivalent) and are citizens of the United States. Also, eligible applicants for the MVS scholarship do not have to be related to a

member of the Elks organization. And male and female students compete separately.

High school seniors may complete the application process using the Internet and visiting the Elks' website, at enf.elks.org/MVS. When filling out the forms, local area applicants are reminded to choose the El Paso Lodge 187 as their sponsoring lodge from a list of the lodges that are designated by the applicant's home address and zip code. The application deadline is November 15.

For more information about the scholarship or about Elks Lodge 187, contact Martinez by email at liliamartinez48@hotmail.com or call (915) 503-3067.



Canutillo ISD plans for bond proposal

By **Liza M. Rodriguez**
Special to the Courier

Independent School District (CISD) Just for Kids Committee (JFK) meeting was held Wednesday, July 28 where key recommendations regarding future district initiatives and projects were

discussed in preparation to be brought before the Board of Trustees for consideration of a proposed 2021 bond.

The JFK Committee is an important group of community members and stakeholders who work closely with the CISD administration and Board of Trustees to provide input on innovative instruction and facilities that support students and accommodate long-term growth of the Canutillo area.

During the meeting, committee members voiced their suggestions and concerns to help formulate a recommended project list and initiatives to include in the forthcoming bond proposal intended to support projected growth and development of the district and areas it supports over the next seven years.

Some of the items discussed include

a new career and technology building at Canutillo High School, an additional wing added to Reyes Elementary School to alleviate overcrowding, land purchase for a new middle school, and a permanent building for Northwest Early College High School. The proposed bond will also include a large amount of funds allocated to renovations, maintenance and enhancements made to existing campuses to further support students.

“The Just for Kids Committee plays an important role in the bond process because it has created space for community input and encouraged collaboration with the district. It ensures that both the district and the community are working together to build an even brighter future for our kids,” said Dr. Alexis Rossi, JFK Committee member and Canutillo ISD parent.

On August 10, the JFK Committee will

See **BOND, Page 7**

El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The EL PASO COUNTY TORNILLO WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., at 19210 Cobb Ave., W.E. Neill Service Center Board Room, Tornillo, TX 79853. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: **Eliberto Nuñez, Eusebio Villa, Jr., Loretta Aguilar, and Anel Lujan**

AGAINST the proposal: **NONE**

PRESENT and not voting: **NONE**

ABSENT: **Nancy Tarin, Jorge Aguirre and Jose A. Zavala**

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.110000/\$100	0.104005/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ -0.005995	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	-5.45%	
Average appraised value	\$ 70,535	\$ 77,198
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 70,535	\$ 77,198
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 77.59	\$ 80.29
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	+ \$ 2.70	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	+ 3.48%	

If the proposed combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires or authorizes an election to approve or reduce the tax rate the governing body of El Paso County Tornillo Water District proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of.

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

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

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

Border

From Page 1

accountable, transparent, and smart with taxpayer dollars. The state also should hear from border lawmakers. If Texas is to be committed to going down this path, as lawmakers who represent districts along the Texas-Mexico border, we suggest the following smart measures as a starting point:

Building a virtual or smart wall with fiber optic lines along the border, supported by technology, drones, motion sensors, cameras, etc.

Virtual infrastructure for border security could be accomplished at a fraction of the cost of a physical wall; bolster real time monitoring, detection, and response; and bridge the digital divide for law enforcement along the border.

Reimbursing local border communities and private property owners for costs incurred related to border security and humanitarian aid with proceeds from asset forfeitures related to border crimes and other state grants.

Our border communities are on the front lines as local law enforcement support border security efforts, provide humanitarian assistance for needy families and children, and humanely process the remains of deceased migrants. Because private property owners along the border also sustain property damage by human traffickers and cartels to fences, barns, outhouses, and livestock, they should be reimbursed for related expenses.

Cracking down on gun trafficking in Texas and incentivizing the reporting of lost or stolen guns to law enforcement

If Texas is serious about combatting cartels and armed human traffickers, we should find ways to disarm them. Hundreds of thousands of firearms are smuggled from the United States into Mexico every year and are traced to 70 percent of all weapons seizures following murders, robberies, and drug busts. Approximately 41 percent of illicit guns utilized to commit a crime in Mexico are from Texas.

Reducing the demand for drugs, beginning with our children, and the related flow of money into Mexico

This will require education, intervention, rehabilitation, and law enforcement programs. The flow of drugs from Mexico into Texas and of cash from here to there will stop when the demand for drugs is reduced or eliminated.

Modernizing ports of entry with technology and intelligent transportation systems


Fentanyl and most illicit drugs from Mexico enter the United States through the ports of entry. Investing in our ports of entry can make our border more secure while boosting our economy.

Improving border rail inspection stations required by U.S. Customs and Border Protection for border rail lines owned by the state of Texas

Some border rail lines owned by Texas cross the border and need improved facilities for the inspection and processing of rail cars.

These are only a few ideas from lawmakers who represent the border and who understand our region’s problems and related solutions. By funding these proposals instead of a wall, we will make great strides while using state taxpayer dollars to benefit Texans and without funding programs that should be the responsibility of the federal government.

The issue of immigration and border security has been a challenge for decades and plagued by partisan politics. These issues will not be solved overnight or by one party. We are confident if we leave politics at the door, we can find common ground from which to address these challenges. That first requires including border lawmakers at the table.




Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Aug. 2, 1776, members of Congress affix their signatures to an enlarged copy of the Declaration of Independence. Fifty-six congressional delegates in total signed the document. John Dickinson of Pennsylvania and James Duane, Robert Livingston and John Jay of New York refused to sign.
- On Aug. 3, 1861, the last entry of Charles Dickens' serialized novel "Great Expectations" is published in his literary circular, "All the Year Round." The novel tells the story of young Pip, a poor orphan who believes he will inherit a fortune.
- On Aug. 4, 1936, American Jesse Owens wins gold in the long jump at the Summer Olympics in Germany. It was the second of four gold medals Owens won in Berlin. Owens would win his third gold medal in the 200 meters the next day.
- On Aug. 5, 1914, the world's first electric traffic signal is installed, in Cleveland, Ohio. It consisted of four pairs of red and green lights on corner posts. A gas traffic light, in 1860 in the U.K., exploded after being used for a month.
- On Aug. 6, 1890, at Auburn Prison in New York, the first execution by electrocution in history is carried out against murderer William Kemmler. When the current failed after 17 seconds, a second charge was required for two minutes before Kemmler was declared deceased.
- On Aug. 7, 1987, Lynne Cox braves the freezing waters of the Bering Strait to make the first recorded swim from the U.S. to the Soviet Union. Her swim took 2 hours and 16 minutes.
- On Aug. 8, 1942, six German saboteurs who secretly entered the United States on a mission to attack its infrastructure are executed for spying. On June 12, the German team had buried explosives on Long Island to use later. On July 18, a second team had successfully landed in Florida.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- The fuller your refrigerator, the more energy-efficient it is.
- In 2005, a Powerball drawing had a stunning 110 second-place winners, all of whom attributed their luck to... a fortune cookie. No foul play was involved, just a Chinese fortune cookie distribution factory named Wonton Food, which happened to correctly foretell five of the six winning numbers. Each grateful recipient took home between \$100,000 and \$500,000.
- Master of suspense Alfred Hitchcock was an ovophobe, or someone who is frightened of eggs.
- Children of identical twins are genetically siblings, not cousins.
- Notwithstanding the fact it has no feathers, beak or talons, the Goodyear Blimp is the official bird of Redondo Beach, California.
- James Cameron sold the film rights to "The Terminator" for \$1. It went on to earn a worldwide total of \$78.3 million at the box office in 1984.
- The green code in *The Matrix* was actually created from symbols in the code designer's wife's sushi cookbook.
- Comic Sans, designed by Vincent Connare in 1995, has been labeled the world's most hated font. Even its creator isn't much of a fan, admitting that he has only used it once, to write a complaint letter to his internet provider. At least he received a refund.
- Australia's Lake Hillier and Hutt Lagoon are known for their vibrant pink and lilac hues, due to the presence of the algae *Dunaliella salina*.

Thought for the Day: "There is something beautiful about all scars of whatever nature. A scar means the hurt is over, the wound is closed and healed, done with."
— Harry Crews

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Anthony Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:45 p.m., Wednesday, August 18, 2021 in the Anthony ISD Board Room, 813 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

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

Maintenance Tax	\$0.906700/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.170200/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

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

Maintenance and Operations	0.4%	Decrease
Debt Service	1.6%	Decrease
Total Expenditures	0.5%	Decrease

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

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 278,735,467	\$ 287,467,645
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 129,860	\$ 816,434
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 203,113,582	\$ 213,564,249
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 129,860	\$ 770,587

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

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 3,690,000
* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.966400	\$ 0.199080*	\$ 1.165480	\$ 3,221	\$ 9,700
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.045920	\$ 0.190380*	\$ 1.236300	\$ 3,275	\$ 9,570
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.906700	\$ 0.170200*	\$ 1.076900	\$ 3,003	\$ 9,569

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

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

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$110,992	\$111,496
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 85,995	\$ 86,496
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.165480	\$ 1.076900
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,002.22	\$ 931.48
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (70.74)

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

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$0.906700. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$0.906700.

Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 3,878,433
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 276,588

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

Send Your Newsbrief To:

wtxcc@wtxcc.com

The long wait is over, Cowboys kickoff 2021 season

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

There are certain days each year that stand out on the calendar; days like New Year’s and Christmas and July 4 and Thanksgiving and Easter and yes... even the dreaded date of April 15.

And then there are days that don’t occur on a specific date, but once they are here – they change everything.

One of those days happens this Thursday and it marks the start of the 2021 National Football League season.

It’s been six long months since Tom Brady and that relentless Tampa Bay Bucs defense shut down Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs to win the Super Bowl.

It’s amazing how times flies when

you’re stuck at home watching “Game of Thrones” or “Breaking Bad” reruns.

Thursday’s Hall of Fame game has special significance to this part of the world because it features the Dallas Cowboys and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

And though this game won’t have as much riding on it as the three Super Bowls they’ve battled in, it’s a sign for many of us that the best time of the year is just around the corner.

Yes, it’s just an exhibition game and most of the starters will be on the bench cheering on the young guys, but it’s football – and it’s the Cowboys.

And after a disastrous 6-10 season in 2020, fans are hopeful that last year’s debacle was simply due to a combination of Covid, an unusual number of injuries and just plain old rotten luck.

In 2021, the first thought that comes up

with America’s Team is the health of Dak Prescott – particularly Dak’s ankle. The last time we saw was pointing south when it should have been pointing north.

Of course it was that injury that basically ended any hopes Dallas had of making the playoffs.

Fortunately for Cowboys fans, the first week of spring training has shown that Prescott’s ankle appears to be as good as ever. He’s been running effortlessly and changing direction like he always has.

That’s the good news. The bad news is that Dak missed the second week of practices because of soreness in his throwing shoulder.

Dallas officials, and Dak himself, have said that the shoulder isn’t a big deal and all should be fine with a little rest.

But the quarterback position isn’t the only one the Cowboys are trying to address.

Anyone who suffered through watching any Dallas games a year ago knows that the defense probably the worst in the league.

They had no pass rush to speak of. The linebackers were weak and the secondary allowed big play after big play all season long.

The defense was so bad that it allowed at least 33 points in eight games, that’s half the schedule.

They gave up more rushing yards than any other team in the NFL except for the Houston Texans.

Hmmm, I thought the state of Texas was football country.

Anyway, the Cowboys have added rookie linebacker Micah Parsons, who many feel was the best defensive player coming out of college.

They’ve added secondary help by drafting Kelvin Joseph and Nahshon Wright. They also signed Keanu Neal and Damontae Kazee from the Falcons and added Malik Hooker from the Colts.

CRT

From Page 2

not mental ones.

More conundrums: Are Arabs people “of color” They enslaved “black” Africans for centuries. In fact, they bought “black” people as slaves from other “black” people in Africa, and sold them to British slave-traders, or took them east to their lands, where they were enslaved. Arabs also enslaved “white” people. Do those “white” people somehow become “black” because they were oppressed? Do “black” people who enslaved other “black” people get transmogrified into “white” people?

Perhaps an easier solution would be for all oppressed people to identify as oppressed victims. It works for gender, so why not for race?

As we see, human beings and productive enterprises are not all that Critical Race Theory, Communism, Nazism, Fascism, and Socialism kill. They also kill reason and logic. They kill love and hope. They also try to kill faith in Jesus Christ, whose teachings led William Wilberforce to get rid of the slave trade in the British Empire.



Think about it.

Tamzin Rosenwasser earned her M.D. from Washington University in St. Louis after putting herself through medical school. She is board certified in Internal

Medicine and also Dermatology, and has practiced Emergency Medicine as well. She served as President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) in 2007 and 2008. She currently serves as Treasurer of the Association of the American Physicians and Surgeons.

Super Crossword

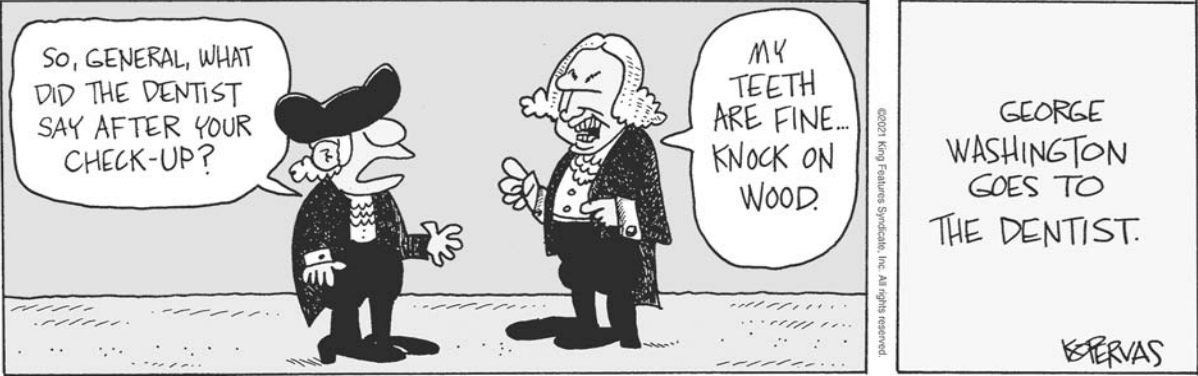
BACKWARD	Golda	121 C-3PO, e.g	33 "Trauma: Life in _"	73 Sharif of "Che!"
WORD-BUILDING	64 Big fusses	122 Stanley Cup gp.	(old TLC series)	77 Uniform liquid
ACROSS	66 Capitol's top	123 In snazzy clothes	34 Guzzled, e.g.	suspension
1 Really ruffle	67 Add a letter before	124 Media biggie	35 Ill-gotten gains	78 Zend_
6 Bozo	that to spell...	125 Tabby cries	36 Shimmery gem	(Zoroastrian scripture)
9 They may fly at	71 "I know! Pick me!"	126 Dems' rival	41 Bride-to-be's	79 Rent check
half-mast	74 Novelist Jaffe	127 Bergen dummy	clothing drawer	collector
14 "_ Mia" (Abba hit)	75 Two before X	Mortimer	43 Lumberjack, at	81 Org. with putters
19 Sao _	76 Deadly		times	82 Levi's fabric
20 Sway to and _	80 Fruity, sourish	DOWN	45 Nickname of	84 Subject
21 TV's Greene or	dessert	1 Rival of FedEx	Onassis	86 Univ. division
Michaels	82 The Cowboys, on	2 With 6-Down, yield	46 Phyllis' last name	87 Hidden mike
22 Ovine sign	a sports ticker	a profit	on the old sitcom	88 Uplifting spiritually
23 S	83 Falsify	3 Hot stretch	"Phyllis"	93 Like King
26 Asinine	85 Add a letter before	4 Macaroni shape	47 _-chic (hippie-	Atahualpa
27 "_Dick"	that to spell...	5 "Such a pity"	inspired fashion)	95 Movie dancer
28 _-Ball	89 Pear, apple and	6 See 2-Down	48 Mild cheese	Charisse
29 2007 Disney	quince	7 Popped up	49 Italy's Villa d'_	96 Aviation branch of
princess	90 Main artery	8 Two-pronged	51 Brand of tea	the military
31 Add a letter before	91 Essen "a"	vehicle	53 Jacob of social	97 Great traits
that to spell...	92 He married Lucy	9 Well-spoken	reform	98 Traffic noise
37 Above, to bards	94 Moor growth	10 E-giggle	54 Part of ETA	100 Yarn units
38 "How dumb of me!"	95 Tennis great	11 Dog's yap	55 "No _!" ("Sure	102 Intense ache
39 Fearless	Jennifer	12 Wildebeest	thing!")	103 Real introvert
40 Orbit, e.g.	99 Young _ (toddlers)	13 Composer	56 Studio tripods	104 Tank slime
42 Foliage unit	101 '60s Pontiac	Prokofiev	58 Old-time actress	105 Vehicles near
44 In the manner of	muscle car	14 En _ (as one)	Dolores	igloos
45 "The Zoo Story"	102 Add a letter before	15 1989 Disney	63 Water quality org.	106 Tennis great
playwright Edward	that to spell...	princess	64 Onetime ring king	Monica
50 Bozo	109 Alveolar trill, as in	16 Metric "thousandth"	65 Longtime soap	107 Cantina chip
52 Add a letter before	Spanish speech	17 _ Yello (soft drink)	actress Hall	108 Grown gal
that to spell...	110 Tofu source, to	18 Thus far	68 Movie mogul	114 Boot part
57 Close amigo	Brits	24 Germ killer in a	Marcus	115 "Vice" aier
59 Really ruffle	111 Long stretch	can	69 Bird beak	116 Dejected
60 Wet-weather	112 Perfect little kid	25 Connery of film	70 Tonto player	117 Swiss peak
headgear	113 Add a letter before	30 "_ be an honor"	Johnny	118 Env. insert
61 Hay fever	that to spell...	31 Subjects	71 Gymnast Korbut	119 Guitarist Barrett
explosion	120 Gettysburg victor	32 In direct	72 Seat of Hawaii	
62 Former Israeli PM	George	confrontation	County	

Answer Page 5

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



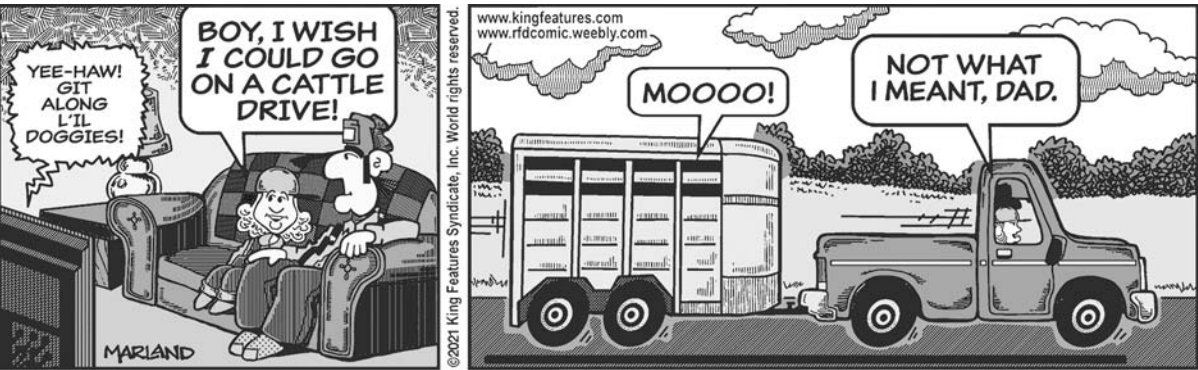
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



TIGER

By Bud Blake



Franken

From Page 2

but has also faced years of accusations of sleazy conduct involving cheerleaders and women employees in general. His conduct was so bad that Snyder’s active involvement in operating the team was taken away. But then, as an indicator of how the NFL’s wimpy executives run things, it was

turned over to Tanya Snyder, Dan’s wife! How much input will she have in choosing a franchise name? It’s possible the NFL squad will continue to be called the Washington Football Team, although it might be more accurate to call it the Washington Disgusting Football Team. But how do you go about choosing a mascot in that case? Whatever – the fans don’t really give a hoot. Sports teams

are pretty much an automatic moneymaker. Even when it’s a name like the Guardians or whatever the R-words choose, the merchandising alone will generate enough megabucks to make the ridicule worthwhile. And, compared to other news, it really doesn’t mean anything.

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Chronic vs. acute pain

DEAR DR. ROACH: What is the difference between chronic pain and acute pain? How can I best describe my chronic pain when it is variable in intensity but negatively impacts so much of my life and my activities? Are there things my doctor should consider or suggest in my treatment or in communicating with me? – P.P.C.

Acute pain is usually due to an injury or infection, and we expect healing to occur relatively quickly. Chronic pain is expected to go on for at least six months. In some people, acute pain is not treated adequately at the time of injury, and the brain and body learn to be in pain chronically.



The reason for pain is perfectly obvious in some cases, but in others, it is not possible to identify the exact cause of pain. Most times, pain is due to damaged nerves (neuropathic pain); injury or degeneration in the musculoskeletal system (osteoarthritis and many kinds of back pain); inflammatory pain (due to infection or inflammatory diseases like rheumatoid arthritis); and compressive pain (such as kidney stones or cancer).

Chronic pain affects many parts of your life, as you correctly note, and an experienced doctor will ask about the effect of pain on your social life, mood (depression is very common), relationships, sleep, exercise and occupation. People with more severe problems will have limitations in their activities of daily living.

Many people with chronic pain have almost given up communicating the scope of the problems they have, as they don’t like “complaining” all the time, or they feel their loved ones are tired of hearing about it. However, getting a thorough history of the effect of all these dimensions of pain is important for your doctor. Questionnaires like the Brief Pain Inventory address more areas of function than a typical 1-10 pain scale, and may be useful to monitor response to treatment. Experts in pain management are more likely to have the knowledge and experience to communicate about pain effectively, and truly effective treatment for chronic pain requires understanding it.

There can be pain without suffering. Suffering is the emotional component brought on by fear: “How bad am I going to hurt today? Will I ever be able to work again? All of my relationships are suffering.” Learning to live a function-centered life is key in the treatment of chronic pain. It isn’t easy and requires a multidisciplinary approach.

The time of prescribing pain medications, especially opiates, without a comprehensive plan for long-term pain management, should be over.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I’m a 79-year-young female and take one 200-mg tablet of magnesium oxide before bedtime to keep leg cramps at bay. I sleep really deeply and wonder if it has side effects or long-term consequences? I’m generally not a sound sleeper, so taking the MagOx daily seems to help me get a good night’s rest. – J.L.

Magnesium oxide in the low dose of 200 mg is quite safe for most people. It is often used as an antacid at up to four times that dose. Diarrhea is the major side effect. In people with kidney disease, magnesium should be used with caution, and only at the advice of a physician.

It doesn’t help everyone with leg cramps, but it is effective for some people, anecdotally. I have not heard of it making people sleep more deeply.

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.

Bond

From Page 4

present their recommendations before the CISD Board of Trustees for a formal vote on

the proposed 2021 bond. Visit www.canutillo-isd.org/bond/just_for_kids or contact Liza Rodriguez at lrodriguez@canutillo-isd.org to learn more about items discussed during the final JFK meeting.



Moore Texas by Roger Moore
Peeping Toms with one eye are exempt from prosecution according to a one time Texas law.

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: V equals H

HG Z XDUGHXVUT XYVDRHMI
RZNVDRZNHYHZM HX YVHUUT,
H XKSSJXD VD'X YJUC ZMC
YZUYKUZNHMI.

Answer Page 2

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 2

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Don't mess with the VA



by Freddy Groves

This is a big no-no. An Ohio man threatened to kill a Department of Veterans Affairs social worker's daughters. You do not do that, no matter what your beef. You do not go after family.

The Ohio idiot didn't even do it anonymously, sending a threatening text message, and it wasn't long before the VA Office of Inspector General was all over it. Turns out he was known to the social worker because he'd availed himself of homeless-veterans services and had been given permanent housing. Several years later, he was evicted due to multiple complaints of physical threats and public intoxication. Upset, he sent the threatening text message.

At this point he's indicted. No established guilt. Court to be held later. At his arrest he was charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and

obstructing official business. I hope the federal charges are stronger than that. You do not threaten family.

This next case I don't understand. Oh, I understand the theft and scamming part. What I don't understand is why it took so long.

In 2017, a VA employee who worked in the IT department was nabbed and indicted for attempting to sell the personal info of veterans and employees he'd grabbed off the computers. He'd even narrowed down the victims to those making over \$50,000 per year, saying that would be valuable to identity thieves. He selected veterans who'd received compensation or a pension, those who went to a VA medical center and those who'd had a VA financial assessment. He even made fake credit cards and had the equipment to do that. He was picked up in a bathroom when he went to the VA to steal a server.

In 2019, he pleaded guilty to one charge in exchange for having the others dropped. Fast-forward to now: He's just been sentenced to 46 months,

plus two years of supervised release.

What took so long?

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• Dill planted near tomatoes will draw caterpillars away from the fruits. And it's delicious.

• Potato salad will have more flavor if you whisk together all the dressing ingredients and add it to the potatoes when they are warm. The potatoes will absorb the ingredients better, and the flavor will develop even more during refrigeration.

• "I love to grill, and when it's nice out, we grill every weekend. I always put on extra and use the leftovers through the week. Chicken in salad, a nice flank steak for fajitas, etc. And it means less cooking for me!" – Y.L. in Maryland

• Here's a great recipe for an icy treat: Freeze orange juice or apple juice in ice trays. Throw a handful in the blender for a fruit slush that can't be beat on a hot day.

• "A lot of smoke was coming off our grill, and our patio doors were wide open. Long story short: It swamped the living room with smoke. The smell was a little overwhelming. After we closed the door, my neighbor doused a kitchen towel with white vinegar, wrung it out and waved it around the room. It cleared out the smoke smell right away, and the vinegar smell went away just as quickly. What a miracle!" – F.F. in South Carolina

• Got poison ivy? The maddening itch might find relief from coffee grounds or a cooled cuppa. It contains anti-inflammatories.

• To ease the ache of a brain freeze, simply cup your hands over your mouth and nose. Blow out hot air, and it will recirculate to warm your palate in seconds. Works like a charm.

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 2

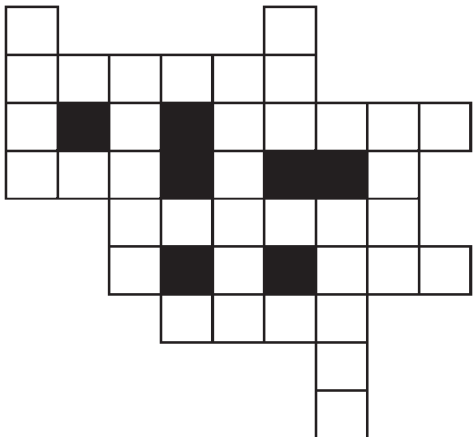
	+		×		20
×		×		×	
	+		-		10
+		-		-	
	×		÷		14
15		20		26	

1 3 4 5 6 7 7 8 9

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YHE
RUMSIP
PHYMN
LEHO
MERBOY
♥AET
LYPA
♥TESLM
♥MYA
♥NELCAT
HENSE
♥EMTA



Answer Page 2

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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