



NEWSBRIEFS

Eat your veggies

With Oct. 1 being World Vegetarian Day and Nov. 1 being World Vegan Day, and with the prices of synthetic meat products dropping considerably during the pandemic, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2021's *Best Cities for Vegans & Vegetarians*, as well as accompanying videos and expert commentary. To determine the best and cheapest places for following a plant-based diet, WalletHub compared the 100 largest cities across 16 key indicators of vegan- and vegetarian-friendliness. The data set ranges from the share of restaurants serving meatless options to the cost of groceries for vegetarians to salad shops per capita. El Paso was rated 22nd in the report. Other stats:

- Scottsdale, AZ has the highest share of restaurants serving vegetarian options, 27.99 percent, which is 10.1 times higher than in Laredo, TX, the city with the lowest at 2.77 percent.
- Scottsdale, AZ has the highest share of restaurants serving vegan options, 16.41 percent, which is 19.5 times higher than in North Las Vegas, NV, the city with the lowest at 0.84 percent.
- San Francisco, CA has the most community-supported agriculture programs (per square root of population), 0.0160, which is 20 times more than in San Antonio, TX, the city with the fewest at 0.0008.
- Miami, FL has the most salad shops (per square root of population), 0.2226, which is 18.2 times more than in North Las Vegas, NV, the city with the fewest at 0.0122.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-cities-for-vegans-vegetarians/39706/> for the full report.

— Diana Polk

Foodies

With Oct. 16 being World Food Day and restaurant prices rising 5.4% between July 2020 and July 2021, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2021's *Best Foodie Cities in America*, as well as accompanying videos and expert commentary. To determine the best and cheapest local foodie scenes, WalletHub compared more than 180 of the largest U.S. cities across 29 key metrics. The data set ranges

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A conviction is that commendable quality in ourselves that we call bullheadedness in others

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy Kyle Burnette

ROUND AND ROUND – Car 32 driven by Kyle Burnette banks a turn during a recent race at the Vado Speedway Park in Vado, NM. The track is about 15 miles west of El Paso County off Interstate-10. The racing facility will host one of its biggest events with the running of the 21st Annual Rancho Milagro USRA Fall Nationals, October 21-24.

Circle track racing offers families and friends a way to come together

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

The world of circle-track racing isn't just about winning. It's more about the gathering of friends, about time spent with family, and about making acquaintances in the pits where one shares parts and resources with others while undertaking a common goal.

Sure, the thrill of victory is exhilarating for team members who help along the way including business associates, clients, fellow workers, among others; but the real attraction is lifelong friends and family members doing what they enjoy. For there are lots of other things that could have taken these individuals in different directions, instead racing with all its intricacies keeps them together.

So, every time a racer and his entourage – the gathering of friends and family – show up for a competition, it is more like a celebration of their commitment to the sport and the camaraderie with their fellow racers that makes them all winners.

The staff and management of the Vado Speedway Park in Vado, New Mexico know this feeling all too well, and since 2017 they have been providing racers and fans action-packed events at their state-of-the-art facility, which is situated along the Interstate-10 highway between El Paso and Las Cruces.

Now, the Vado Speedway Park is about to host one of the biggest events in the facility's history with the running of the 21st Annual Rancho Milagro USRA Fall Nationals, October 21-24. The event – which is a late season staple for USRA Modifieds, USRA B-Mods, and USRA Stock Cars – was not held during the 2020

season due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

To highlight its return, track owner Royal Jones and general manager Chris Stepan are offering an event-record \$21,000 winner's prize for the modified cars and \$2,100 winners' prizes for the B-Mods and stock car races that will be held during the three-day fall extravaganza, according to the speedway's website.

In a change from previous years, passing points will be totaled after the Friday and Saturday events, and the top 12 in overall passing points in each of the three divisions will be locked into Sunday's big money feature races. All other competitors will compete in qualifying races on Sunday to solidify their spots in Sunday's featured events, the speedway's website stated.

Each feature starter in the modified division could earn at least \$1,500, and each feature starter in the B-Mod and Stock Car main races will receive at least \$200 for their efforts. All three nights will count towards the 2021 Vado Speedway Park track championship as well as for USRA national points, the website affirmed.

Kyle Burnette, 31, of El Paso, said that he recently rekindled his interest for the sport and is currently racing in the Legend class at the Vado Speedway Park. "Legends are all very similar and must be built and maintained with Inex approved parts," he stated. "I purchased my car used which was race-ready minus the seat. I installed my own seat and repainted the car inside and out," he added.

"There are all sorts of types of circle track racing," Burnette pointed out. "From NASCAR on asphalt to cars like mine that run on either dirt or asphalt. There are many different classes that run at the dirt track in Vado; circle tracks vary

in size, shape, and have different banking around the corners," he explained. Vado is a 3/8-mile track.

Burnette related that he became interested in car racing as a kid. "I had a next-door neighbor by the name of Rob Davies, who let me hang around in his garage while he built a racing car, and I have been hooked ever since," he stated.

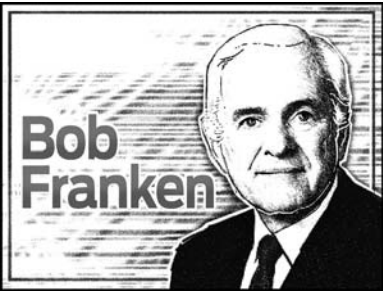
"I was 7 years old at the time, and I was very involved in the racing team that Rob and his friend, Steve Miner, had at the time. Steve drove in the street stock car class and was able to win the championship in 2000," Burnette recalled.

"In 2002, I was able to get into Go Kart racing and be a part of the Franklin Mountain Karting Association. I was able to pull off second in points in the 2003 season in the Super Junior class," Burnette recounted. "In 2005, I built my own street stock car and raced it for a few seasons. I sold my street stock in 2008 and just barely got back into racing in July of this year," he noted.

"I enjoy this type of racing because setting the car up is a challenge as well as driving the car," the 31-year-old racing enthusiast stated. "There are different track conditions throughout the race in which the track surface changes... anywhere from a wet slick surface to a tacky surface, or a dry slick dusty surface. All of which need different setups on the car as well as different driving styles," he explained.

Burnette said that he has several friends on his race team who lend a hand and that they typically race every other Saturday, from May through October, with a few races that are scheduled in

See RACING, Page 5



Microsoft announced recently that individuals using their various accounts won't need to use passwords. Big bloomin' deal! If you were underwhelmed by that declaration, you were probably aware that passwordless access has been available for Microsoft's corporate clients since March.

More importantly, various competitors have offered such features as fingerprint recognition, facial recognition, odor recognition (best used with a dog), driverless cars (best used with a driver; they have a tendency to have accidents), and now cashierless grocery stores where Amazon is making everyone happy (except cashiers and shoplifters).

And speaking of meaningless exercises, here's another case in point: the California recall election scam (another redundancy), which was accompanied by the punditocracy filling the void with words, proving that Aristotle was right: "Nature abhors a vacuum."

The outcome was never in doubt; Gov. Gavin Newsom was never in danger of losing. Registered Democrats outnumber Republicans 2 to 1 in California. Donald Trump lost California in 2020 by 30%. Newsom's leading opponent [was] conservative radio host Larry Elder. President Joe Biden got a lot of mileage out of it. "All of you know last year I got to run against the

Political passwords

real Donald Trump." He went on, "Well, this year, the leading Republican running for governor is the closest thing to a Trump clone that I have ever seen in your state."

Biden wouldn't have said that if Trump or Elder was a threat to Newsom. He wouldn't even have been out there if he didn't expect that Gavin would wipe the floor with Larry, and the other 40 odd opponents (and some of them were really odd), which he did.

But pundits got to "punctuate," and they did, both before and after it was over. "The key to this election is turnout," said the political experts. If Democrats were not going to turn out, there would have had to be a disease that wiped out only their party. And did anyone point out that if consultants specialized in turnout, they would be hired at exorbitant wages? I mean, how many would be employed if they said something like, "This is a slam dunk; the Democrats have got this in the bag!"?

It got worse after the polls closed. Not only did Newsom lap the field by a 30 point margin, but he automatically became one of "the mentionables," meaning he would be one of those mentioned if Democrats with presidential appeal were the topic of conversation. Of course, that line of thinking has limited appeal, because Joe Biden has a lock on the office – until he doesn't, if, say, something unpredictable were to happen. In which case the lock would switch to Kamala Harris, unless she pulled a Mike Pence.

Pence was Donald Trump's No. 1 bootlicker until the last

moments of the administration, when he dared not do anything illegal, like telling a big lie about his power to sway Trump's "big lie." The Trumpster controls the party through intimidation, and the next presidential nomination is Trump's if he wants it, unless he goes to jail or something.

Or the Democrats live down to their reputation of snatching defeat from the jaws of victory.

Actually, it's premature to talk presidential politics since there's a midterm election for control of Congress before then. If that goes bad for the Ds, it could open an entire can of worms. Although the worms have already turned with Afghanistan and the new surge in COVID, thanks to the delta variant and the lack of patriotism on the part of anti-maskers and anti-vaxxers.

So the recall hyperbole will last as long as there's nothing more for the self-serving pundits

and candidates to exaggerate.

Sen. Roy Blunt, Republican of Missouri, was quoted in The Washington Post as saying, "I don't think a recall election in California means much at all." He's probably got the password to this election, which was to pass. Sen. Blunt has chosen to do so and not to run next year.

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View from here By Jane M. Orient, M.D.

FDA is correct: I am not a horse

When the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) learned that doctors were writing 88,000 prescriptions a week for ivermectin¹, mostly for COVID-19, it apparently felt it necessary to message the yahoos of America on Twitter.

From @US_FDA: "You are not a horse². You are not a cow. Seriously, y'all. Stop it."

I for one agree completely. I am not a horse. In particular, I am not *their* horse, or *their* cow, to be ridden, milked, or slaughtered for the greater good. They do not own me and have no right to decide that I must take the COVID-19 vaccine, supposedly to protect the vulnerable or the herd. By the way, it doesn't.

The FDA also has NO authority to dictate or deny medical treatment. Once it approves a drug for safety for any indication, it does not have the legal right to tell physicians that they can use the drug for *this*, but not for *that*. Or veterinarians either. The only reason to go through a billion dollars' worth of studies to get a new "on-label" indication is to allow a company to market a drug for that use. If it's a cheap, non-patentable drug, why would a company make such an investment? But doctors are allowed to talk about it, and journals may publish articles. Normally, such discussions are not automatically smeared as "harmful misinformation" by social media fact-checkers.

When a patient takes a prescription to the pharmacy, the pharmacist ordinarily just fills it. The exception has been for controlled substances, to attempt to keep opioids from being overused. But when you take in a prescription for doxycycline, the pharmacist doesn't ask you whether it is for acne or bronchitis – or a sexually transmitted disease.

The reason we have gotten used to diagnosis (ICD-10) codes is to get Medicare or Medicaid or

insurance companies to pay. They decide what to cover – they are not supposed to dictate what you can obtain. Neither are government agencies like the FDA or persons who are not trained to practice medicine.

Suddenly, with repurposed ivermectin, the pharmacist demands to know whether you have head lice or scabies ("crabs," often sexually transmitted) or want to treat or prevent COVID.

Like a lot of drugs including antibiotics, ivermectin has veterinary uses. It was, however, first developed for use in humans. Billions of doses have been taken by humans, especially in Africa, where it has been a miracle cure for river blindness³ among other dread parasitic diseases.

Africans are humans. They have, to our shame, been treated by public health authorities as lab rats. In the infamous Tuskegee syphilis experiment⁴, African-American men were recruited into a study to observe the natural history of syphilis, a devastating disease in its late stages. When penicillin became available, these men were not informed because... "science." Treating them would have destroyed our ability to scientifically watch them deteriorate and die. Black Americans have not forgotten – and neither should anybody else. Distrust of government is one big reason why around 60 percent of black people are unvaccinated⁵.

No physician would recommend that patients should buy their medicine at a feed store. But many are doing it because doctors refuse to prescribe, or pharmacies refuse to dispense the human formulation.

Are veterinary products of poor quality? I

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Why Democrats can't pay for their ambitions

Benjamin Franklin was right about death and taxes, but new taxes only become inevitable when a Democrat is elected president, and here we are.

The House Ways and Means Committee released an outline of tax proposals to offset President Biden's jaw-dropping spending plans, and it's the expected assortment of tax increases on business and the affluent that Democrats like to pretend can fund a social welfare state of the sort that Bernie Sanders has long pinned and advocated for.

The individual tax rate would increase from 37% to 39.6%, the capital gains rate from 20% to 25%, and the corporate tax rate from 21% to 26.5 %, among sundry other provisions befitting the hideously complex U.S. tax regime.

It's a sign of the scope of Biden plans that the committee version represents a step back from his tax proposals, yet still clocks in at an enormous \$2.2 trillion in estimated new revenue over ten years.

The corporate taxes are particularly noxious. Democrats love the politics of taxing corporations, based on the lazy and wrongheaded idea that the corporate tax is the way to stick it to executives and shareholders. To the contrary, if businesses

are taxed at a higher rate, they have less resources available the capital investments that improve worker productivity over time. This ultimately means lower wages for workers.

It is telling that no one is talking about going back up to the pre-Trump rate of 35%.

According to the Tax Foundation, a top corporate rate of 28%, the level that Biden favors, would once again give the U.S. the highest rate in the OECD at 32.3% once state level corporate taxes are factored in as well. France currently has the highest rate but is set to reduce it next year.

What's the sense in instantly making the business environment in the United States less favorable and giving a competitive advantage to foreign countries?

While the Way and Means draft rejects Biden proposals such as taking the capital gains rate all the way up to 39% (!), it does everything it can to try to hold anyone making less than \$400,000 harmless. As The Washington Post puts it, "The efforts are designed to avoid even the appearance of affecting middle- and lower-income households."

This is where the Democrats are willing to talk the talk about

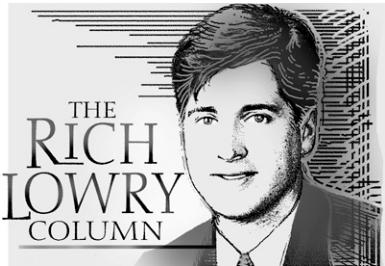
a cradle-to-grave welfare state, but not walk the walk. There can be no European-style welfare state, at least not sustainably so, without European-style taxes.

The dirty secret about the Scandinavian countries that the left constantly holds up as a model is that they aren't afraid to tax the middle class. These alleged models of social justice tax more than we do and tax much more broadly, realizing that taxing the rich and corporations isn't enough to fund extensive

and generous social programs.

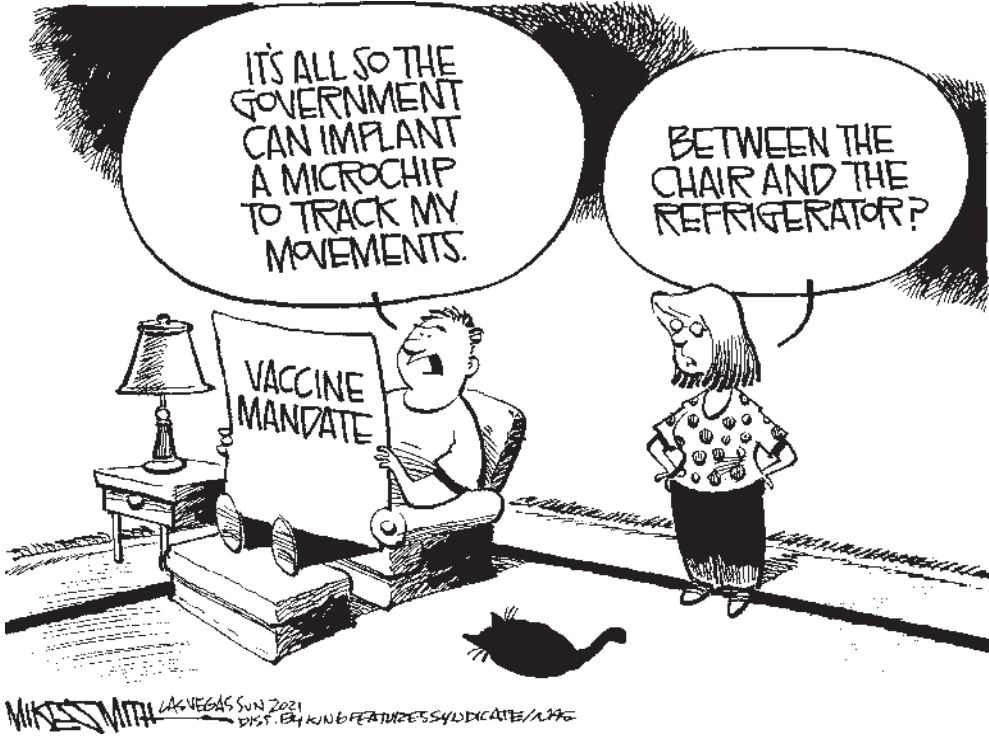
The Tax Foundation calculates that if the U.S. had a tax system comparable to Denmark, we would be taxing all income over \$70,000 at 55.9%, Denmark's top rate.

The Ways and Means tax hikes would, sure enough, create Denmark-like rates. As Robert Frank of CNBC notes, the combined state and federal top tax rates in New York City would be 61.2%, in California 59.7%, and in New Jersey 57.2%. But



the rates wouldn't reach down into the middle class. In fact, Democrats from high state taxes are determined to raise the cap on federal tax deductions for state and local taxes – limited in Donald Trump's tax reform – to reduce the tax bite on their

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Food for thought

By Dr. Glenn Mollett

Immigration desperation does not make it right

Imagine a family of six people coming to your house. They knock on the door. They look tired, frail, dirty and very hungry. They are desperate. Two of the six people are under six years old. Their clothes are rags and their shoes are barely still on their feet. They tell you about their plight. They have traveled a long way. They left their country in search of a better life. They need you to help them. They need you to give them shelter, food, clothes and some cash. They need to stay with you for a while. What if your sole income is \$2,000 a month in Social Security? What if your pantry is no longer overstocked? What if you have trouble saving enough money each month to pay your utility bills and keep your car running? Your heart goes out to these people. You would like to help them, but you don't have the means to care for yourself and so you have to say, "I can't." The reason I can't is because seriously, I just don't have the financial means to do so."

The next thing that happens is they totally ignore what you've just said and come into your house anyway. They scatter out to your bedrooms and begin to make themselves at home. They open your refrigerator and eat the food you have and then ask you to fix them more. Next, they need money. "Do you

have money you can please give us?" they ask. You ask them to leave but they remind you they are desperate people who need for you to help them.

Next they insist you go to the bank and draw out your life savings and hand it over to them. They are desperate and need money. They promise they will leave. Now you are scared. You wonder what's next? You call The White House. You talk to Joe Biden and he lets you know that Kamela Harris is on top of this and hangs up. Of course, you don't see any of them moving in with him. Delaware is a long way from the border. He doesn't figure Immigrants will be much of a problem up there when he retires.

At least sixty thousand immigrants are coming to the border of Mexico to enter the United States. They are all desperate people in search of adequate housing, jobs, free education, free medical insurance and more. Panama's Prime Minister sounded a warning that a massive group is passing their county and many of them are coming from Haiti. Erika Mouynes is reported to have notified the White House of the most recent migration surge.

Prime Minister Mouynes recently described how her country has seen 80,000

Haitian immigrants and evacuees crossing from South America, through Panama, headed to the United States this year.

Outlaws rob out of desperation. Drug addicts steal and kill out of desperation. Rapists assault out of deranged desperation. We don't overlook these criminal acts in America.

They are coming here. They are moving in. They are desperate for shelter, food, free education, free Medicare, free transportation and more. Their desperation doesn't make it right.

America is a nation of immigrants. Most of them have come legally and followed an orderly process. If our national leaders do not gain control of our border crisis a further humanitarian crisis unlike, we've ever seen is fast approaching.

Glenn Mollette is a graduate of numerous schools including Georgetown College, Southern and Lexington Seminaries in Kentucky. He is the author of 13 books including Uncommon Sense, Grandpa's Store, Minister's Guidebook insights from a fellow minister. His column is published weekly in over 600 publications in all 50 states.

FDA

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doubt it. In my experience, people love their horses. Ranchers may not love their individual cows but think they are valuable, and demand safe medications. Still, the formulations may be different.

Ivermectin is in the news, but official suppression of early treatment began at the onset of the epidemic, with another safe, long-approved drug, hydroxychloroquine⁶. And why doesn't the CDC tell everybody about vitamin D⁷, especially important for dark-skinned people? And why is government attempting to block access to N-acetyl cysteine (NAC)⁸, long available over the counter and possibly of some benefit in COVID? And why are people who are trying to protect themselves with dilute Betadine or other gargles ridiculed as "anti-vaxxers,"⁹ despite evidence of benefit¹⁰?

The definitive evidence that this is not about controlling COVID but controlling us is that the Biden Administration is keeping monoclonal antibodies¹¹ from people in Florida and some other states, in the name of "equity." Supply is plentiful, or more can be made.

Message to the FDA: Americans are not livestock on a government ranch – or lab rats. This massive human experiment can hardly be called scientific, since the control group is being wiped out through coercion.

Americans are human and have fundamental human rights – inalienable rights, not canceled by a virus.

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

- 1 – <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/30/health/covid-ivermectin-prescriptions.html>
- 2 – https://twitter.com/US_FDA/status/1429050070243192839?s=20

Briefs

From Page 1

from affordability and accessibility of high-quality restaurants to food festivals per capita to craft breweries and wineries per capita. El Paso was rated 88th in the report. Other stats:

- Orlando, FL has the most restaurants (per square root of population), 7.23, which is 18.1 times more than in Pearl City, HI, the city with the fewest at 0.40.

- Orlando, FL has the most ice cream and frozen yogurt shops (per square root of population), 0.3566, which is 49.5 times more than in South Burlington, VT, the city with the fewest at 0.0072.
 - Santa Rosa, CA has the highest ratio of full-service restaurants to fast-food establishments, 1.72, which is 3.2 times higher than in Jackson, MS, the city with the lowest at 0.54.
- Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-foodie-cities/7522> for the full report.
- Diana Polk

Jane M. Orient obtained her undergraduate degrees in chemistry and mathematics from the University of Arizona in Tucson, and her M.D. from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1974. She has 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.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Baritone Leonard Warren died on stage at The Met in 1960 just as he finished singing Verdi's "Morr, Tremenda Cosi" ("To Die, a Momentous Thing").
- While shedding, geckos will eat their skin in order to prevent predators from finding and eating them more easily.
- A man named Ronald MacDonald robbed a Wendy's in 2005.
- In the early 2000s, when hackers were not that rampant, a survey showed that 70% of London commuters would reveal their computer password in exchange for a chocolate bar, while 30% of the respondents admitted they would give their password even without said candy.

- The sequel to the 1953 film titled "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" was called "Gentlemen Marry Brunettes."
- Per capita, the happiest countries in the world also rank highest in terms of consumers of antidepressants.
- The term "plastic surgery" was coined in 1839, 70 years before plastic was even invented. It comes from the Greek word "plastike," which means "the art of modeling" of malleable flesh.

- Journalist John Richards founded The Apostrophe Protection Society in 2001 to enforce the proper use of the apostrophe in written English. He closed the society in 2019, however, at the age of 96, with the announcement that "the ignorance and laziness present in modern times have won!"
- Abibliophobia is the fear of running out of material to read.

Thought for the Day: "When the path ignites a soul, there's no remaining in place. The foot touches the ground, but not for long."

– Hakim Sanai

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CryptoQuip Answer

The runner usually goes fairly slowly, but he has begun sprinting. He wants a change of pace.

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Oct. 4, 1957, the Soviet Union inaugurates the “Space Age” with its launch of Sputnik, the world’s first artificial satellite. The 22-inch sphere weighed 184 pounds. In January 1958, Sputnik burned up in the atmosphere when its orbit deteriorated.
- On Oct. 5, 1986, after his plane crashes in Nicaragua, ex-Marine Eugene Hasenfus confesses to shipping military supplies into Nicaragua for use by the Contras, an anti-Sandinista force created and funded by the U.S. and run by the Central Intelligence Agency. The resulting Iran-Contra scandal would rock the Reagan administration.
- On Oct. 6, 1847, “Jane Eyre,” the book about the struggles of an orphan girl who grows up to become a governess, is published. Author Charlotte Bronte wrote of her experiences at being sent to a boarding school at the age of 5.
- On Oct. 7, 1960, the television drama “Route 66” first airs on CBS. It followed two young men as they drove across the country in a Corvette. “Route 66” was shot on location all over the U.S. instead of in a studio.
- On Oct. 8, 1869, future auto inventor and mechanic Frank Duryea is born. In 1893, his Duryea Motor Wagon made its first successful trip, 600 yards down his street in Springfield, Massachusetts, before the transmission blew.
- On Oct. 9, 1936, harnessing the power of the Colorado River, the Hoover Dam begins sending electricity over transmission lines spanning 266 miles to Los Angeles. The dam was built for the collection, preservation and distribution of that most precious of all Western commodities, water.
- On Oct. 10, 1973, Spiro Agnew becomes the first U.S. vice president to resign in disgrace. He pleaded no contest to a charge of income-tax evasion in exchange for dropping charges of political corruption, which included accepting bribes even while vice president.

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Send Your
Newsbrief To:
wtxcc@wtxcc.com



– Photos courtesy Kyle Burnette

BACK ON THE TRACK – Kyle Burnette, of El Paso, recently returned to circle-track racing and is currently competing in the Legend class cars division at the Vado Speedway Park, in Vado, NM.

Racing

From Page 1

the off-season during the fall and winter periods.

“I’m still a bit rusty due to being out of racing for so long, but I have managed to run middle of the pack so far, as I’m driving conservatively to keep the car and others in one piece,” Burnette acknowledged. “We run an eight-lap heat race and a 20-lap main event race this season, he said. “The heat races range from 8 to 10 cars and the main races usually have around 20 cars in it. I plan on making my way to the front of the pack next season, after I learn the car and the best set ups,” he related.

Burnette, who is the service manager at Frank’s Supply Company in El Paso where he has been working for the past eleven years, said that although his favorite pastime can get a bit expensive, the experience is totally worth it because it is “a stress reliever and gets my mind off of everything... work, personal stuff, whatever is worrying me”. He said that he recommends this sport to anyone who like working on cars and looking for a constructive hobby that one can share with family and friends.

IT’S ALL HANDS ON DECK – Burnette’s friends lend a hand before the race. The track is full of families and friends before a race. The circle-track racing season typically runs from May through October at the Vado Speedway Park.



This is not the same old UTEP football team

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

For most of the last 50 years, UTEP’s football seasons have gone one of two ways – very bad, or much worse.

But after putting together a dismal 5-39 record over the last four years, including two when the Miners were declared the worst team in the country, there has been serious talk this year about the team actually qualifying for a bowl game.

Getting off to a 3-1 start going into Conference USA action last Saturday had fans wondering if this UTEP bunch was for real.

Sure, the Miners may have beaten a depleted New Mexico State team that hadn’t played a single game in two years

because of the virus.

And they may have followed that with a win over a depleted Bethune-Cookman team who also hadn’t played a single game in two years because of the virus.

But look at it this way – the Miners have been so bad in recent years that they would have lost those games anyway.

The icing on the legitimacy cake came when UTEP, after falling behind 13-3 at the half, rallied to outscore the New Mexico Lobos 17-0 in the second half on the way to a 20-13 victory.

But This C-USA opener would be a true indicator of whether the Miners were a legitimate contender for a six win season, which would qualify the Miners for postseason play.

And at least early on, UTEP looked like it was going to have an easy night of it.

The Miners totally controlled the first half and ran their lead to 17-0 with just over a minute left in the second quarter.

But a last-minute rally resulted in an Old Dominion touchdown pass with 10 seconds left, to cut the lead to 17-7 going into halftime.

And you could almost feel that the fans were beginning to wonder whether the Miners were about to break their hearts once again.

And speaking of the fans, one of the most disappointing but understandable, stats the Miners have put up this season has nothing to do with rushes or passes or tackles. It has to do with fans in the stands and there haven’t been many.

There were only 11,000 fans at the Old Dominion game. Only 14,500 fans visited the Sun Bowl for the Bethune-Cookman

game, and just over 15,000 showed up for the Lobos.

That’s not very good for a Sun Bowl that seats about 48,000 fans.

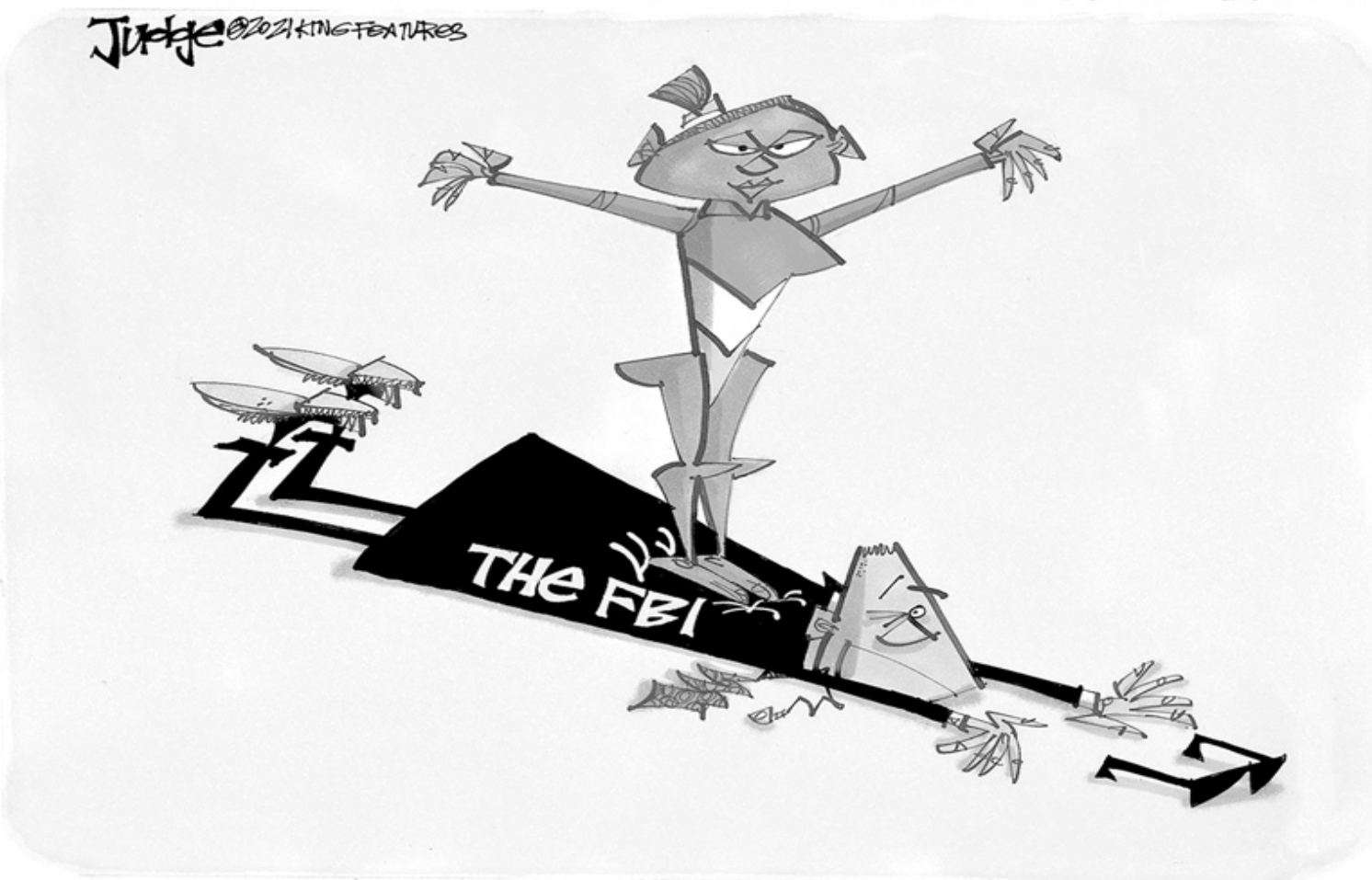
Anyway, back to the game.

In the second half, Old Dominion cut the Miners lead to 20-14 late in the third quarter. That’s when all the doubts, the fears, and the ghosts from seasons past came back to the Sun Bowl. It took just one play, when a UTEP punt attempt was blocked, recovered and returned for a touchdown. It gave the Monarchs a 21-20 lead with 4:27 left in the third quarter.

It was a lead Old Dominion would take with them into the fourth quarter.

Oh, and to make matters worse, UTEP starting quarterback Gavin Hardison left the game with an injury with about 10 minutes left.

SIMONE BILES STICKS THE LANDING:



Everything was pointing toward another UTEP football meltdown.

But that’s when backup Calvin Brownholtz came in and led the Miners on a drive that ended in a Deion Hankins touchdown run. That and a two-point conversion put the Miners up 28-21 with seven minutes remaining.

Still plenty of time for a UTEP team to give up a number of big plays and go home unhappy.

And though this night would be different, fans just knew the Miners were never going to make things easy.

On its final possession, Old Dominion drove down to the UTEP 30 yard line with less than a minute to play.

But with just 30 seconds left and facing a fourth and 17, the Monarchs’ Hail Mary attempt fell harmlessly to the end zone turf. And unlike all those disappointing finishes of yesteryear, UTEP walked off the field 28-21 winners.

The 11,000 Sun Bowl fans sounded more like 50,000 as they cheered on a now 4-1 UTEP squad that just might be a real contender for a bowl game after all.

The Miners are doing their part on the field. Now let’s see if the fans can do their part by showing up.

Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18
19						20						21					22			
23					24							25					26			
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111	112	113				114						115							116	
117					118						119	120		121			122			
123						124					125		126						127	128
129						130					131						132			
133						134					135						136			

ON A FIRST-NAME BASIS ACROSS

1 Father

6 Gather

11 No. on a car lot sticker

15 Quaint letter salutation

19 Pool table fabrics

20 Large town, in Italian

21 Burn slightly

22 Purple fruit from a palm

23 Candid bow wielder? [Anne]

25 Green Hornet's valet

26 Lisa formerly of "The View"

27 Bread eaten at Passover

28 Gallic senior citizens? [Victor]

31 Subside

33 Earnest and solemn

35 D.C. VIPs

36 Four doubled

37 Ebony-colored card given on February 14? [Karen]

41 Stable scrap

42 Writer Ayn

43 Houston site

44 Little bit

46 A Great Lake

50 Cry of worry

53 Precious gem that formed just recently? [Neil]

57 Port in Italy

61 Boot leathers

62 Chi preceder

63 Hueless Focus or Fiesta? [Betty]

67 Self-help writer

68 Butts in

70 Long-eared hopper

71 Undersized carriage with a fold-down top? [Martin]

76 Prefix with plane

77 University of Maine's town

79 Reply to "Are you?"

80 Annoyed small songbird? [Christopher]

82 PD alert

83 Mutiny

87 Pioneer in graph theory

88 Sweetheart prone to sulk? [Ron]

92 Sailor who flew on a roc

97 Absorbed by

98 Follower of "Co.," often

99 Little bit

103 The last Mrs. Chaplin

104 Showery

106 Robust artisan working in precious metal? [Oliver]

111 Venue

114 Byte lead-in

115 Brand of fake fat

116 Wee, in brief

117 British noble who feels no affection? [Patty]

121 Quartets doubled

123 Oratorio solo

124 "Der _" (nickname for Konrad Adenauer)

125 Clear quartz fashioned to look like a suitor's flower? [Billy]

129 Mets' clubs

130 In tatters

131 Tickle pink

132 Long-term con

133 Louver strip

134 ERA or HRs

135 Quick

136 Up to now

DOWN

1 Very close bud

2 Eternally, in poetry

3 "Glitter rock" group

4 Sicilian spewer

5 "For shame!"

6 Circus tumbler

7 "Glee" actress Lea _

8 Pt. of NCAA

9 Pear waste

10 Actress Gilbert

11 Poet Rod

12 Razor feature

13 Hotel listing

14 U. lecturer

15 Slashed-price product

16 Pastry bag fill

17 Cowboy's workplace

18 Vision

24 127-Down

between Russia and Ukraine

29 Prefix with plane

30 Stephen of the screen

31 Spanish river

32 Boring

34 T. _

38 B-F linkup

39 "No" vote

40 General on Chinese menus

41 Stage prize

45 Total up

47 More stringy

48 Possible follower of "Psst!"

49 Menlo Park "wizard"

51 Grow mellow

52 Ring arbiters

54 Meat stamp inits.

55 Subtlety

56 Horned viper

58 Osaka drama

59 "_ y plata"

60 "This is not _!" ("Red alert!")

63 Self-reflective question

64 Talk about ad nauseam

65 1950 Asimov classic

66 Five doubled

67 Elegant tree

69 With 109-Down, unprocessed facts

72 "Mon Oncle" star Jacques

73 Actress Joanne

74 MSN rival

75 Employs

78 Suffix with audit or arm

81 _ Lanka

84 Revise copy

85 Ryder vehicle

86 A maestro conducts it

89 In Maine

90 Doze off

91 Dude

93 _ de plume

94 Removes via very hot water, as impurities

95 "No" voter

96 Writer Roald

100 Oxfam or Amnesty Intl.

101 Huge statues

102 Voted in

105 Twisty fish

107 Gung-ho

108 Writer Santha Rama _

109 See 69-Down

110 Fishhook lines

111 Hefty slices

112 Deep pink

113 Madonna musical

114 Groove for a letter-shaped bolt

118 Ingests

119 Old Chrysler

120 Bombcock of humor

122 Sextet halved

126 "I reckon so"

127 Body of water

128 Drop the ball

Answer Page 4

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



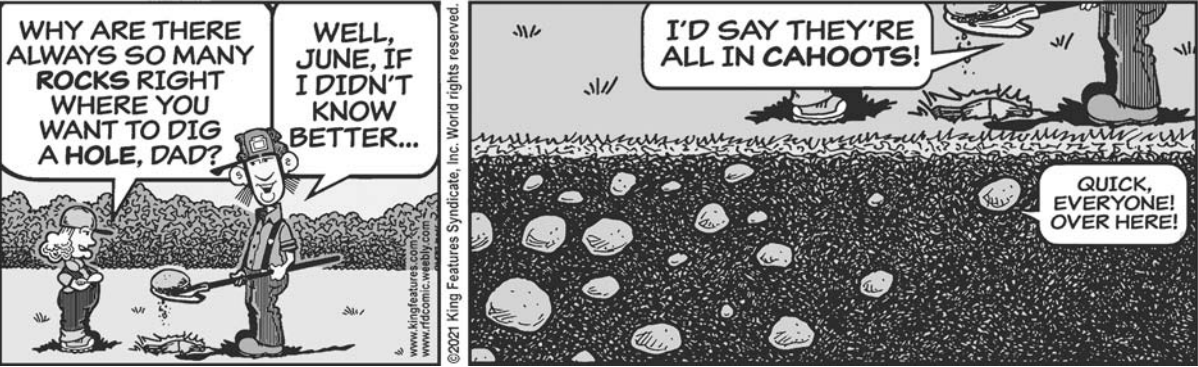
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



TIGER By Bud Blake



Lowry

From Page 3

relatively affluent constituents.

Maybe don't increase taxes in the first place?

Indeed, rather than trying to spend historic amounts of money while their slender majorities last, it'd be better for the country if Democrats sought to fund

their priorities by reallocating dollars within the already vast federal budget. But standing the aforementioned Benjamin Franklin on his head, they believe that a trillion saved is a trillion wasted.

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

Estrogen insert may help with bladder problems

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am an 83-year-old female with bladder problems. I get up two or three times a night and usually make it to the bathroom. I thought it would be good to see a doctor in case the problem got worse. An operation was mentioned, which I am not interested in, so they gave me a pessary, which has been good and bad. It is comfortable and I don't have to use the bathroom as often, but now I don't get bathroom warnings and don't always make it to the bathroom. I also leak urine with coughs and sneezes, which didn't happen before. Now the doctor wants me to use Imvexxy inserts. After reading the side effects, I'm not sure that's a good thing to do. What are your thoughts: Is the Imvexxy necessary? The side effects really scare me. – Anon.



You have symptoms of both urge incontinence (the sensation of needing to get to the bathroom right away to avoid an accident) and stress incontinence (losing urine with abdominal pressure, such as cough or sneeze). It is possible that you have two separate problems. However, loss of estrogen can cause the lining of the vagina and vulva to thin. This includes the urethra, which provides conscious control over urinary flow. It needs estrogen to close optimally, and older women often have stress or urge incontinence (or both, which is called mixed) due to lack of estrogen.

Imvexxy (estradiol) is a low-dose estrogen preparation inserted in the vagina, usually daily for two weeks then twice weekly thereafter. It is a very reasonable choice for women with symptoms of urge or stress incontinence and who have findings of estrogen loss on physical exam. The low dose makes side effects uncommon (in the initial trial of 764 women, there were no adverse effects that happened in women using estradiol at greater frequency than in the placebo group).

DEAR DR. ROACH: My wife's mother and her mother's father had subarachnoid hemorrhages (SAHs) – he died immediately, and her mother recovered after a time, during which she suffered delusions. Should my wife receive special monitoring? She has always had migraines, which have for the most part been controlled by medicine, but as we get into our older years (70s), I wonder if we should pay more attention to the possibility of an SAH, and what might that entail. – J.C.

Most subarachnoid hemorrhages, a life-threatening bleed into the head from a ruptured aneurysm, are spontaneous events unrelated to genetics. However, they sometimes come related to a genetic condition, such as Ehlers-Danlos syndrome and polycystic kidney disease. Even when they are not associated with a known condition, people with a strong family history for SAH are at increased risk for one themselves. Someone with one first-degree relative (like your wife's mother, in her case) has about a 1% chance of having a SAH in the next 10 years. Someone with two first degree relatives has a 7% chance. Your wife would be in between, with one first-degree and one second-degree relative (her grandfather).

There is no consensus on whether she should be screened (with a CT- or MRI-based angiogram scan), but she should discuss it with her doctor, or see an expert, such as a neurosurgeon.

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.

✠ AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION.
of Texas

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1-800-LUNG-USA



Moore Texas by Roger Moore

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: Q equals S

KZW BIEWB IQIGVVJ UXWQ
HGYBVJ QVXOVJ, PIK ZW ZGQ
PWUIE QSBYEKYEU. ZW OGEKQ G
AZGEUW XH SGAW.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

Answer Page 4

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Are you getting all your VA benefits?



by Freddy Groves

Are you taking advantage of all your veterans’ benefits? The Department of Veterans Affairs recently launched a program to bring awareness of the benefits that elderly veterans might be missing. Per the VA’s notice, only 189,800 wartime veterans and 139,800 surviving spouses are using all the pension benefits they could receive.

Here are a few benefits, available through the Pension and Fiduciary Service:

- The Survivors Pension is a monthly payment to qualified surviving spouses and unmarried dependent children of wartime veterans, but only those who meet certain income and net-worth limits. There’s an additional benefit for surviving spouses who are housebound or need aid and attendance from someone else.
- The VA Pension is for wartime veterans who are permanently and totally disabled because of nonservice

disability, or those who are over age 65 and meet income and net-worth limits.

- The Special Monthly Pension is an additional payment for qualified veterans who are housebound, need aid and attendance for daily activities, have limited sight or are in a nursing home.

- Surviving Spouses of Blue Water Veterans (who served between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975) might be eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, even if they were previously denied.

- Funeral and Burial Benefits are available whether the death was service or nonservice related. Additionally, there are benefits such as the burial flag, a headstone or marker and Presidential Memorial Certificate. See the National Cemetery website for much more information [www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits] and to check eligibility in advance.

For details about benefits, go to benefits.va.gov/benefits. Click on Apply to find instructions and forms.

Those seeking help in filing claims need to beware. Be sure who you’re trusting

with your information. Look for a VA-accredited Veterans Service Organization (VSO) representative – they are character-checked and have to pass an exam. Search for accredited representatives at www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation by filling in the information, or call 1-800-827-1000 to ask for someone in your area.

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- If you need to pick up small shards of glass, use a cotton ball that’s been moistened, or a slice of white bread (insides only) wadded up.

- Glass and chrome will shine if you clean them with newspaper. You can mist the paper with water first, but not too much. Rub ... and the shine comes right out, plus no streaks or lint!

- “Use purified water in your coffeemaker to lengthen its life. Water deposits build up and affect both the flavor and function of your machine. They can be cleaned, but it’s much better if you use purified drinking water from a jug. It makes it very easy to fill the machine, too.” – M.E. in Wyoming

- “Purchase colorful laundry baskets for each child in your home. In the evening, you can have the child find all his or her stray items, put them in the basket and then put them away. In our house, the kids also use their basket to hold anything they need for school the next day – backpack, coats and outerwear, even boots. We stack the baskets by the door, and nothing gets left behind.” – P.W. in Missouri

- When you are frying up ground beef, add a tablespoon or two of water. It will help the excess grease to pull away from the meat, making it easier to drain off.

- “To speed the healing of bruises, try eating pineapple. Drink lots of water, too. I play contact sports, and this has always helped me.” – R.E. in Missouri

Send your tips to Now Here’s a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

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

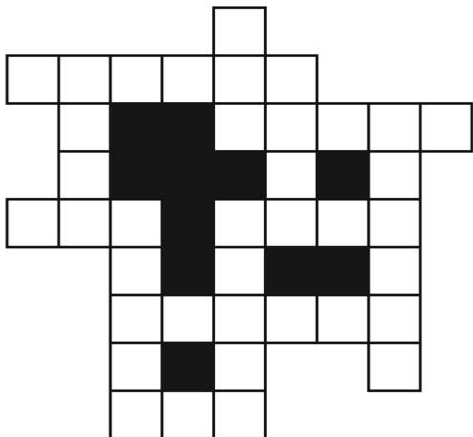
	÷		+		10
×		×		÷	
	-		×		12
-		+		+	
	÷		+		10
7		8		11	

1 2 3 4 5 5 6 8 9

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IN Y
FRIOPT
♥ARNLE
ATIX
HEYROT
TLE
♥ERRA
♥SYANT
♥PNA
♥ROFEAL
LUTPI
♥EVLI



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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