



NEWSBRIEFS

Voter registration

Texas Secretary of State John Scott wants Texas voters to make sure they are registered to vote ahead of the January 31st voter registration deadline for the March 1, 2022 Primary Elections in Texas. Voters registered by January 31st can also participate in Early Voting, which begins on February 14th and ends February 25th, 2022. In Texas, voters register with their respective county voter registrars, which are housed within Elections Administrator offices or Tax Assessor-Collector offices, depending on the county. “Registering to vote in Texas is easy and straightforward – so long as you are a qualified voter, you can send in a voter registration application to your county’s voter registrar by January 31st and you’ll be eligible to vote in the upcoming Primary Election,” Scott said. “We want all eligible Texans to participate in all of this year’s upcoming elections, including the Primary Elections in which voters will choose the candidates to appear on the November 2022 General Election ballot.” To be eligible to vote in Texas, you must be:

- A United States citizen;
- A resident of the county where you submit the application;
- At least 17 years and 10 months old on the date your voter registration application is submitted, and 18 years of age on Election Day.
- Not finally convicted of a felony (you may be eligible to vote once you have completed your sentence, probation, and parole); and
- Not declared by a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be either totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.

Texas is an open primary state, which means that voters do not ‘register’ as members of a particular political party. Rather, eligible Texas voters can cast a ballot in either party’s primary election – but not both. Primary Elections are run by the Republican and Democrat parties in each of Texas’ 254 counties. Party chairs in each county are responsible for conducting voting on Election Day, while county election officials administer the Early Voting period. Texans can check to verify their registration status ahead of the January 31st deadline by visiting the Texas Secretary of State’s My Voter Portal.

– Sam Taylor

The sincere man suspects that he, too, is sometimes guilty of the faults he sees in others.

– Quips & Quotes

\$34.5 million approved for Socorro flooding project

By J.J. Garza
Special to the Courier

LOWER VALLEY – A new \$34.5 million flood control project will protect the people and property in and around Socorro, Texas. The Texas Water Development Board approved funding for the design and construction of a flood water detention basin at the lower end of Sparks Arroyo, just northeast of Socorro. “The area has flooded frequently, and flooding infrastructure has been needed for decades in our community,” said State Representative Mary Gonzalez, Vice Chair of the Texas House Appropriations Committee. “Obtaining the additional funding for these needed investments took a lot of work by my office, and I am

proud of the multi-level collaboration of city, county, and state leaders to improve the realities of our constituents,”

The project will involve excavating 300 acre-feet of ground to hold flood water and building a 40-foot tall embankment. The excavated area and the embankment will hold flood waters and release them slowly to control flooding further downstream. Currently, 578 houses, 52 commercial building, 28 bridges, and over 800 acres of agricultural land are threatened by flooding in the area.

“While saving lives and property are most important, the financing is going to save our local taxpayers more than 20 million dollars,” said Rep. Gonzalez. “First, the state is awarding El Paso



– Photo courtesy State of Texas

See PROJECT, Page 3 State Representative Mary Gonzalez

New state laws go into effect amid controversy

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – Requiring school districts to teach students about dating violence, family violence, child abuse, and sex trafficking is one of a series of controversial laws that went into effect in Texas with the start of the new year.

The school districts’ mandate, known as the “Christine Blubach Act”, is named after a sixteen-year-old who was killed by her boyfriend in Grand Praire, Texas in 2000. The original legislation did not require parental permission and with bipartisan support passed the Senate on a 29-2 vote.

But Governor Greg Abbott vetoed the original version of the bill over concerns that it didn’t allow parental involvement. So, during the second special session, legislators passed a revamped version of the law that addressed Abbot’s concern.

Parents are now required to sign a

permission slip for their students to be educated on these subjects. The parental stipulation, however, did raise issues concerning children who may be experiencing abuse at the hands of a parent and could be excluded from receiving information that could help them.

State Sen. Royce West, of Dallas, who helped with both versions of the bill, said that the reality is that he couldn’t pass the bill without having that opt-in. “And so, I think the greater good is served by passing the compromise bill with the governor to make sure we touch as many lives as possible,” he stated.

According to the governor’s press secretary, the original bill failed to recognize the right of parents to opt their children out of the instruction. With the revised version “having been signed into law by the governor, middle school and high school students will now receive instruction on the prevention of child abuse, family violence, and dating violence, while

ensuring the rights of parents in their child’s education,” she stated.

Other controversial laws that go into effect in January include the voting and elections changes, the limits on how race can be taught in classrooms, the divisive abortion restrictions, and the limits on social media companies’ control of content. Although, these new laws are currently being challenged in the federal courts.

On the voting and election bill, Senate Bill (SB) 1, five of the lawsuits were filed on behalf of two dozen civil rights organizations and advocacy groups as well as six voters. The sixth lawsuit came from the U.S. Department of Justice.

The lawsuits challenge specific sections of SB 1 as unconstitutional, illegal or discriminatory including its ban on 24-hour and drive-thru voting; ID requirements for mail-in ballots; limits on what polling place help can be given to those with a

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Nine Fabens ISD students advance to State competition

By Michele B. Gonzalez
Special to the Courier

FABENS – Fabens High School hosted the Area 1-4A TACS Academic Challenge on December 15, 2021. The TACS Academic contains teams made up of three students: a Level I student, a Level II student, and a Level III student. Each contestant has 15 seconds to answer the questions posed to them according to their level. After the Level I students answered their five questions the Level II students answered five questions followed by the Level III. There were sixty questions in all and the points were totaled together to

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San Eli ISD has reading program for families

By Susana Frescas
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Typically, Spanish-speaking parents think their language skills prevent them from helping their children improve their English reading skills. The San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) wants parents to embrace their Spanish skills and use them with their children to help build the love of books, and ultimately, literacy, no matter the language.

SEISD uses bilingual books. The books, from the Latino Family Literacy Project, are written in both English and

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The failure of ‘Latinx’

What the progressive culture elite wants, it usually gets. Single-sex bathrooms changing overnight to all-gender or non-gender bathrooms? Done. Illegal immigrants becoming known as undocumented persons? But of course.

So, when it was decided in the precincts of fashionable opinion that the term “Latino” would be retired in favor of “Latinx,” one could have been forgiven for thinking that this hideous neologism would, like so much else in American life, go from a fringe cause to mainstream soon enough.

But a funny thing happened on the way to the Latinx ascendancy -- Latinos have rejected the term, at the same time that a big swing toward the GOP among these voters has highlighted the perils of high-handed cultural politics for the Democrats.

Latinx may end up being a woke experiment that failed, showing the vast gap between the identity-politics-obsessed progressives earnestly talking to one

another in seminar rooms and on social media and the Hispanics in whose name they presume to speak.

Latinx is a project cut from the same cloth as the endless extension of LGBTQ, which, as of this writing, is now more properly and comprehensively rendered as LGBTQQIP2SAA.

The alleged problem that Latinx was invented to fix is that is Spanish has gendered nouns. This means that using the male Latino as an adjective to describe men and women of Latin American ancestry, let alone transgender and non-binary people, is supposedly exclusionary, hateful and downright dangerous. As a handbook on the terminology by a Princeton scholar explains, “To default to the masculine gender promotes interpersonal violence against women and non-binary individuals.”

Latinx rose from the ashes of its predecessor neologism Latin@, an attempted amalgamation of the -o at the end of the Latino and the -a at the end of Latina. But

no one knew how to pronounce the word. It was deemed insufficiently woke because the “o” was supposedly graphically dominating the “a” (yes, this is how some people think). And it caused confusion on social media where the at sign is used to tag someone.

Enter Latinx, which is only slightly less ridiculous.

As Giancarlo Sopo of The Daily Wire, who has been on a one-man crusade against the rise of the term, points out, Latinx is incomprehensible to any Spanish speaker without some knowledge of English. Most Spanish-speakers don’t think there is something desperately flawed about their language, or that Spanish grammar is a proto-hate crime. The Real Academia Espanola, Spain’s



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Food for thought

By John Grimaldi

A promise is a promise, and you made a promise to get more exercise in 2022

So your kids got you to you either disappoint them and promise to exercise more in take it easy or you convince 2022 during the festivities of yourself to give it a try. Come the holiday season. You couldn’t on, you can do it whether you resist. After all, you agreed turn 60, 70 or even 80 years of because you love them but now age this new year, says Rebecca

Weber, CEO of the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC).

“No one’s telling you to go to Olympic extremes. All you have to do is the basics such as going for a 15 to 30 minute walk every day. Once you get used to it, you’re bound to up the ante and start doing things like carrying a pair of dumbbells on your outings. Pretty soon you’ll find yourself doing sit-ups and push-ups. But be sure not to go to extremes, particularly if you have health issues. In fact, it is best to have a chat with your health care provider before you begin your exercise routine,” Weber

advises.

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) recommends that you take it slow at first. You don’t want to overdo it. Over-exercising – particularly at the outset – can make you want to quit, or worse, cause injury.

The right way to get started, according to the NIA, is to:

If you have specific health conditions, discuss your exercise and physical activity plan with your health care provider before starting any new exercise program.

- Begin your exercise program slowly with low-intensity exercises.
- Warm up before exercising and cool down afterward.
- Pay attention to your surroundings when exercising outdoors.
- Drink water before, during,

and after your workout session, even if you don’t feel thirsty. Play catch, kickball, basketball, or soccer.

- Wear appropriate fitness clothes and shoes for your activity.
- If you have specific health conditions, discuss your exercise and physical activity plan with your health care provider.

The pandemic has been hard on all of us, but it has been a particularly difficult experience for senior citizens creating an additional disincentive to take it easy, if you can. However, says AMAC’s Weber, it can also be another good reason for working out. At the very least, it can take your mind off of the disease for a while on a daily basis, which can raise your spirits.

“When you consider what is required for someone to engage in exercise – time, motivation, goal, and willingness to put up with some discomfort – it becomes a little clearer as to why a person dealing with stress and anxiety would be less likely to engage ... Despite having time on their hands, this person is struggling with psychological discomfort due to negative thoughts which saps away motivation and energy to engage in activities, let alone exercise,” says Dr. P. Priyanka.

In fact, a poll conducted by researchers from Canada’s McMaster University and Western University in April showed that participants who had work out regimens prior to the COVID outbreak were exercising less as a result of the pandemic.

“But don’t use the coronavirus excuse to get out of doing your exercises,” says Weber. “Think of the benefits you’ll derive – the stamina and energy you’ll gain, not to mention the fact that it improves your mood and helps you fight off depression and not to mention the fact that you made a promise to your kids and your loved ones.”

Canutillo Independent School District Public Notice

Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District’s 2020-2021 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) as part of a regular School Board meeting which is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thursday, January 27, 2022, at the Canutillo Administrative Offices Board Room, 7965 Artcraft, El Paso, TX 79932.

The meeting will also be available virtually. Please visit the Canutillo ISD YouTube channel at youtube.com/c/CanutilloISDPremier to access the livestream of this meeting.

The TAPR report will also be available for review after the hearing within the Canutillo ISD Testing and Accountability webpage: <http://www.canutilloisd.org/departments/testing>

For more information, call 915-877-7481.

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo Junta Pública

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar sobre el “Reporte de Rendimiento Académico de Texas” (TAPR) del año escolar 2020-2021. El reporte sera parte de la reunión de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para el jueves, 27 de enero del 2022 a las 5:30 p.m. en las Oficinas Administrativas de Canutillo en la Sala de Juntas en 7965 Artcraft, El Paso, TX 79932.

La reunión también estará disponible virtualmente. Visite el canal de YouTube de Canutillo ISD en youtube.com/c/CanutilloISDPremier para acceder a la transmisión en vivo de esta reunión.

El informe TAPR también estará disponible para su revisión después de la audiencia dentro de la página web de Canutillo ISD Testing and Accountability: <http://www.canutillo-isd.org/departments/testing>

Para mas información, favor de llamar al 915-877-7481.

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

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Homesteader
Est. 1973
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Project

From Page 1

County a \$13.8 million grant. Second, the remaining loan for \$20.7 million is at no interest, so that will save taxpayers another \$9.2 million in interest over the life of the loan.”

Gonzalez says she had this specific project in mind when, as Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, she requested additional money for flooding projects across the state. The state is able to fund the project because in 2019 she and other legislators voted to take \$3.26 billion from the Economic Stabilization Fund and devote it to paying for flood control projects.

“We have been looking for a solution to the flooding problem for almost a decade. Until now, the problem has been that cost was simply too great for the county,” Rep. Gonzalez said. “When we saw the opportunity to use money from the Economic Stabilization Fund to pay for these projects, we jumped at it. Soon, the people of southeast El Paso County will see the benefits, too.”

Officials hope to close on the financing and have the design work completed by August of 2023. Construction should take about a year to complete.

Fabens

From Page 1

announce the winners.

The top three teams qualified for the State TACS competition which will be held at the campus of Mary Hardin-Baylor University in Belton, Texas on February 27, 2022. Fabens Q placed 3rd and won a \$300 scholarship, these students were: Matthew Hernandez, Yadhira Parra and Eric Hernandez. Fabens U placed 2nd and won a \$450 scholarship, these students were: Jacob Calleros, Victoria Martinez and Carmen Morales. The winners of the Area 1-4A TACS Academic Challenge and the winners of a \$750 scholarship were Roberto Rodriguez, Briana Tarango and Leslie Loya.

This was the first time Fabens High School hosted a TACS Academic Area Meet and third time competing, but plans to continue doing so in the future. All of these students are well deserving of their scholarships and their opportunities to compete at state. The questions these students tackled were ones that ranged from the TEKS covered in all 4 years of their high school core classes. All schools are looking forward to the state competition and are proud of all the competitors.

San Eli

From Page 1

Spanish on the same page. It helps parents, regardless of language, establish a family reading routine with their children. Additionally, it offers families the opportunity to English skills and vocabulary together at home.

Flor Sanchez, the SEISD parent liaison, reminds us that the importance of this program is the parents are involved and bond with their children as they spend time reading together. She goes on to say, “Through our literacy program, families learn about Latino social and cultural customs as they embrace English and Spanish literacy.”

When parents attend this literacy institute, they

Reading Sessions

Place: San Elizario ISD Central Office

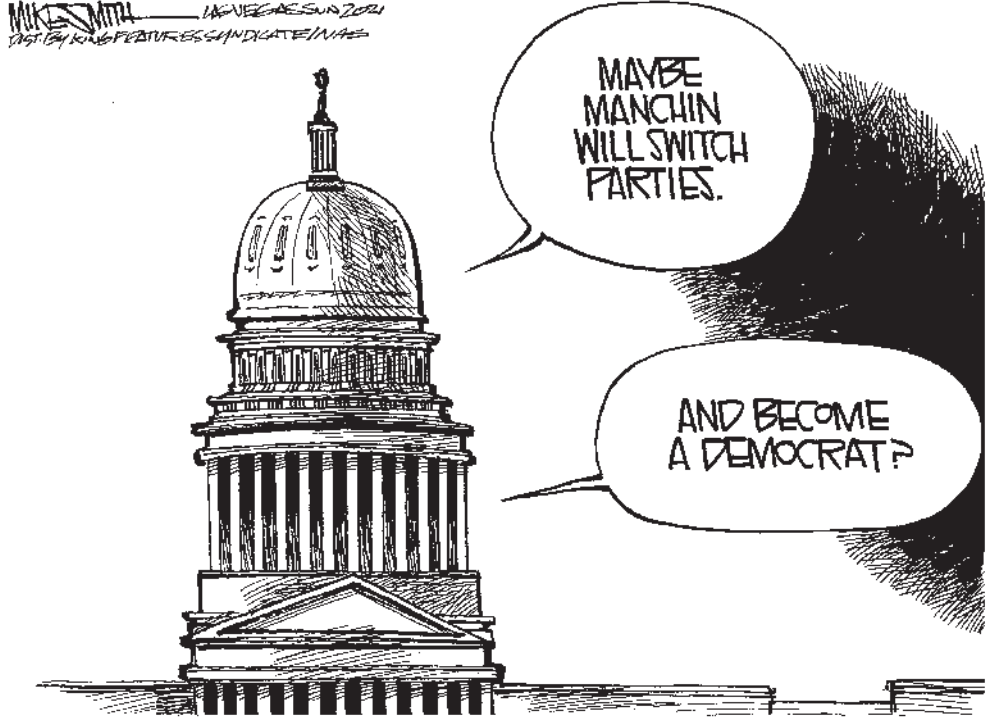
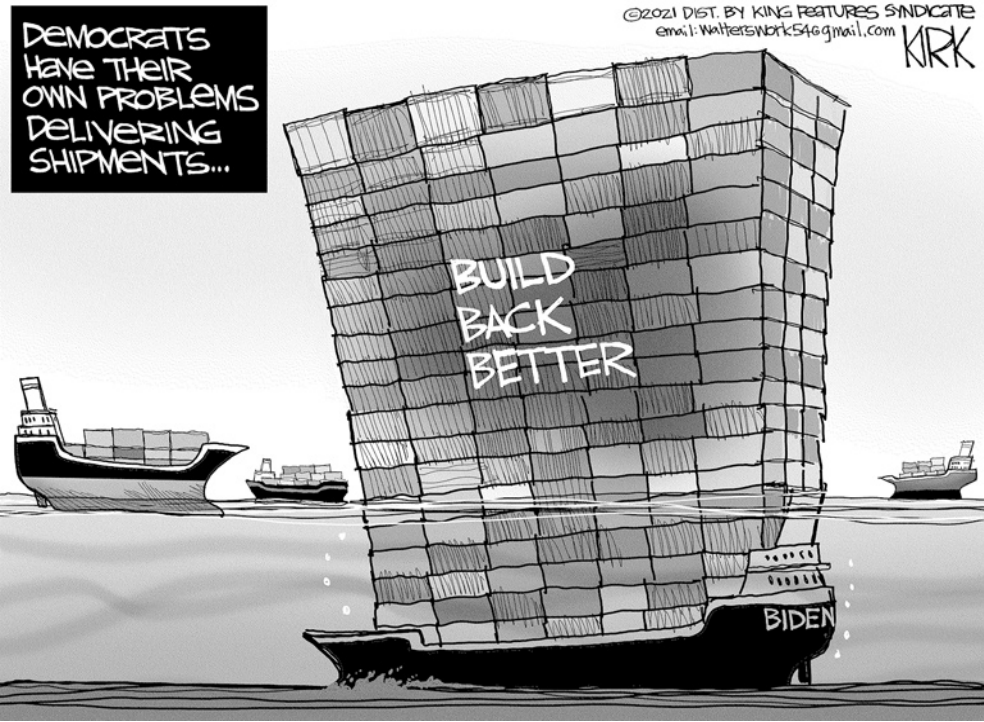
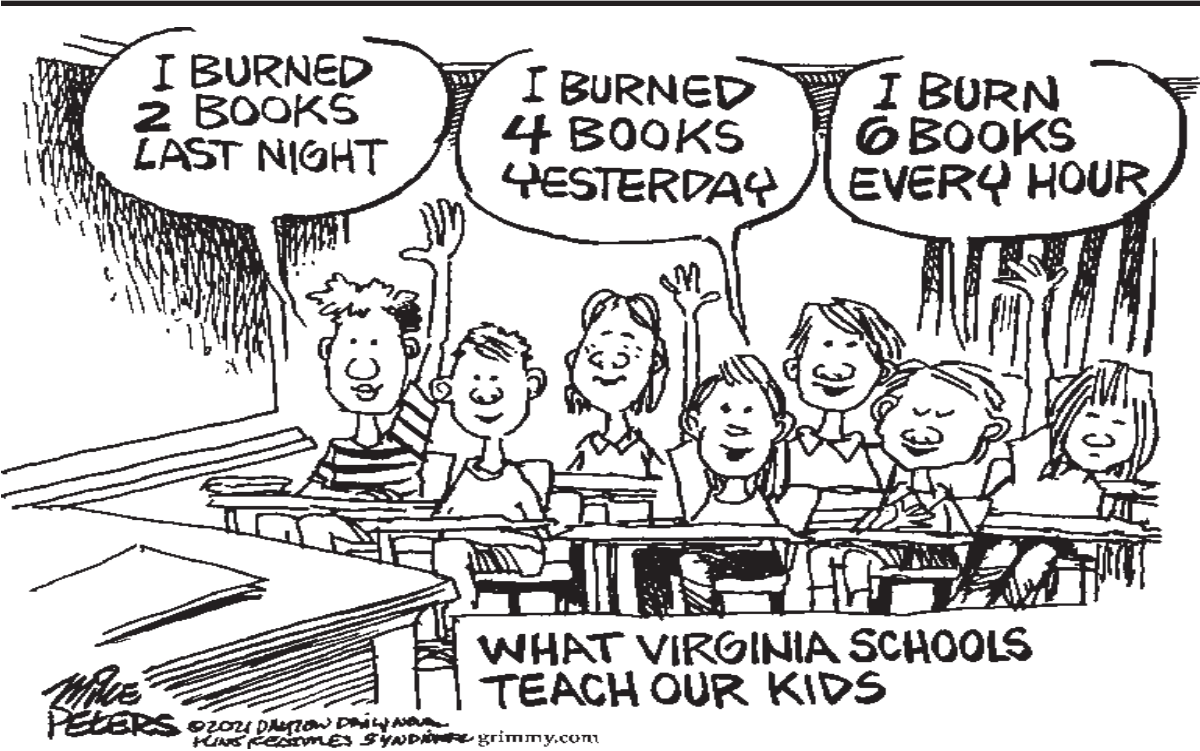
Hours: 9-11 a.m. on Fridays.

Dates:

- February 4, 2022;
- February 11, 2022;
- February 18, 2022; and
- February 25, 2022.

learn lessons to follow with a children’s book. For attending, the parent will receive the book and all of the materials needed to create this wonderful learning experience with their child at home. When asked what she thought of the Parent Literacy Institute, one of the program’s regular parent participants, Ruby Gordillo, said, “The Latino Literacy program has helped me learn more vocabulary in English and Spanish, thanks to the books they provide us.”

Parents are encouraged to attend this year’s Parent Literacy Institute program. The sessions take place in the central office boardroom throughout February. Parents should plan on attending all of the sessions because they build on one another.



Anthony High School students receive OSHA certification

By Adriana Candelaria
Special to the Courier

ANTHONY, TX – The Anthony Independent School District now has a team of students that are professionally trained students to identify the safety conditions of facilities.

Ten students from Anthony High School enrolled in the school’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) certification classes offered during the October intersession. The 30-hour training taught students how to identify potential hazards in a facility and how to improve safety conditions.

The certification serves as an extra tool that can help students obtain a job after graduation. For Nathaniel Cuellar, AHS sophomore, the idea of getting hired thanks to his OSHA certification was the main reason why he enrolled in the course.

“It was a really fun experience, and I would encourage other students to take advantage of it. It would be amazing if other students could also have the same experience,” Cuellar said.

During the certification process, students inspected district facilities for any safety hazards. The potential hazards, such as lowering an exit sign to make it more visible in case of a



– Photo courtesy Anthony ISD

ONE OF TEN – Dereck Olivas gives part of a presentation to AHS faculty and staff about what he and nine other students learned during OSHA training.

fire, were immediately fixed by the district’s custodial team.

“We took pictures of the hazards and then composed that into a presentation. On the last day of the training, we presented it to the school principals and custodians so they could understand what safety hazards there are and the consequences,” Cuellar said.

It is the second time that Anthony High School provides students with the opportunity to get their OSHA certification. The first OSHA program for AHS students took place during summer school earlier in the year. AHS Principal Oralia Moseley

says the benefits of having an OSHA certification go beyond a classroom.

“The OSHA class not only helps students with a future job, but it seems to help them in their lives right now. A lot of these students say they were checking for safety hazards in their homes and telling their parents about them. It helps the families in the community as well,” Moseley said.

The next OSHA certification classes are scheduled for the first week of Spring Break 2022 from March 7–11. Students may register in the front office of Anthony High School.



By Lucie Winborne

• The Greek playwright Aeschylus was killed in 455 B.C. when an eagle, mistaking his bald head for a rock, dropped a tortoise on it. According to Pliny, Aeschylus was spending a lot of time in the open to avoid a prophecy that he would be killed by a falling object!

• Soviet tenor Victor Ivanovich Nikitin had such an appealing voice that when he sang to his Soviet comrades during World War II, German troops on the Eastern Front ceased fire to listen.

• The human heart can squirt blood up to a distance of 30 feet.

• The American football huddle was invented in 1892 by Paul Hubbard, a quarterback from then all-deaf Gallaudet University, to stop the opposing team from reading their signs.

• A woman who was blinded in an accident developed multiple personalities – some of which could see.

• An average raindrop falls at a speed of roughly 7 mph.

• When it comes to educating future billionaires, Harvard University holds the lead with an astonishing 29 billionaire alumni as of 2021.

• A town named Hell in Norway freezes over quite regularly.

• Do your lips get annoyingly dry in the winter? Better read the ingredients in that lip balm, as quite a few of them contain salicylic acid, which can exacerbate the problem and cause your lips to peel – necessitating even more lip balm.

• The first plant to flower and produce seeds in space was Arabidopsis thaliana, grown in 1982 by the crew of the Soviet Salyut 7 on the International Space Station.

• It is illegal to step on money in Thailand because you would be insulting the king by treading on his picture.

• Many inventions and discoveries have come about through the medium of dreams, including the alternating current generator, the sewing machine, Google, the periodic table and DNA's double helix spiral form.

Thought for the Day: “The only path wide enough for us all is love.”

– Kamand Kojouri

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THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On Jan. 10, 1946, the first General Assembly of the United Nations, comprising 51 nations, convenes in London. Then, on Jan. 24, the General Assembly adopted its first resolution, a measure calling for the peaceful uses of atomic energy and the elimination of atomic and other weapons of mass destruction.

• On Jan. 11, 1937, nearly two weeks into a sit-down strike by General Motors auto workers at the Fisher Body Plant in Flint, Michigan, a riot breaks out when police try to prevent food deliveries to the strikers from supporters on the outside. The melee was later nicknamed the “Battle of the Running Bulls.”

• On Jan. 12, 1981, prime-time ABC soap opera “Dynasty” debuts. The show’s elaborately melodramatic plot lines resembled those of the daytime soap operas (kidnappings, amnesia, characters returning from the dead), and its style fit perfectly with the over-the-top excesses of the 1980s.

• On Jan. 13, 1842, a British army doctor reaches the British sentry post at Jalalabad, Afghanistan, the lone survivor of a 16,000-strong Anglo-Indian expeditionary force that was slaughtered in its retreat from Kabul. He told of a terrible massacre in which the Afghans killed 4,500 soldiers and 12,000 camp followers.

• On Jan. 14, 1639, in Hartford, Connecticut, the first constitution in the American colonies, the “Fundamental Orders,” is adopted. The Fundamental Orders declared that “the foundation of authority is in the free consent of the people.”

• On Jan. 14, 1875, Nobel Prize-winning physician Albert Schweitzer is born in Upper-Alsace, Germany. Schweitzer’s philosophy revolved around what he called “reverence for life,” the idea that all life must be respected and loved.

• On Jan. 16, 1919, the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, prohibiting the “manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes,” is ratified and becomes law. Large-scale distribution of alcoholic beverages and organized crime flourished anyway.

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Answer

If a letter has reached
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guess you could say it’s
been sent flying.

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Eduardo Mena



Ofelia Bosquez



Maria L. Garcia



Tristan Hernandez



2nd Vice President
Jaime Lopez



Adan Escobar



Martin Chavarria



Pablo Barrera



Daniel Dozal



Oswaldo Gomez



Armando Rodriguez



Mary Macias



Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia



Eduardo Chavez



Paul Guerra



Hector Lopez



Luz Rodriguez



Laure Searls



Isela Torres



Viola Hernandez



Axel Lopez



Cynthia Ann Najera



Maria Kika Saldaña



Anabel Vela



Blanca Trout



Vacant



Greg Spence



Fernie Madrid



Michael A. Najera



Enrique Vega



Oscar A. Troncoso



Pedro Galaviz



Juan I. Martinez



Veronica Vijil



Jeannie Meza-Chavez



Marta C. Carmona (Int.)



Rosy Vega-Barrio

Superintendents

Thank You For Serving

Antonio Brown is just being Antonio Brown

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

They say that participating in sports can build positive personal traits, like character, discipline, responsibility and teamwork.

And whether its high school, college or the pros, the mission is always the same, to be as successful as possible on the field as well as off.

But no matter how many athletes walk away better human beings, there will always be those who think they are above the team and the system.

There will be those who don’t take responsibility and think only about themselves and not the team.

Often an athlete will go through some hard times and eventually figure it out. But

on occasion, there are some athletes who never seem to learn. They spend their entire career in trouble with team management, coaches, teammates and fans.

These are the athletes who think they are actually bigger than the team, who are a constant distraction to the team.

And of course in this case we’re talking about Tampa Bay Bucs wide receiver Antonio Brown.

Well... I should say former Tampa Bay Bucs receiver Antonio Brown.

By now I’m sure you’ve seen the video of Brown taking off his helmet and shoulder pads and jersey and leave the bench, quitting on his team, in the middle of the game a couple weeks ago.

After the game, Bucs coach Bruce Arians immediately made it known to the media that Brown was no longer a Buc.

The big question after the game was

what happened? Why did Brown chose to quit in the first place?

At first, Brown said that the Bucs were forcing him to play even though he had an injured ankle. He said he left the field because he was upset and didn’t want to injure himself further by playing.

But, it was reported that on the week before he left the field, his agent had asked the Bucs to pay him \$2 million in incentive money – and of course, the Bucs said no.

For those of you who are not aware of how this works, players will include incentive pay in their contracts. It could be extra money for catching a certain number of touchdown passes, or gaining a certain amount of receiving yards.

Once it was obvious he was not going to reach those incentive numbers, Brown demanded that the team pay him anyway.

I guess it was just a coincidence that he quit on his team right after they said they wouldn’t pay him.

But one of the most puzzling things of all is that certain members of the media came to Brown’s defense, saying that the Bucs had done him wrong and that he was dealing with mental health issues.

Well, let’s take a look at Brown’s timeline.

In December of 2018 he was deactivated for a game by the Steelers for throwing a ball at a teammate in practice.

In February of 2019, he has a meeting with Steelers owner Art Rooney II and asked to be released from the team – he was. A month later he was traded to the Raiders.

In July of 2019 he suffered from frostbite on his feet in a bizarre cryotherapy therapy incident.

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Laws

From Page 1

disability or limited understanding of the language; and protections for partisan poll watchers.

None of these lawsuits seeks to stop SB 1 from taking immediate effect; instead, they focus on overturning the challenged provisions before the general election in November 2022. But with the trial set for July, that means the March 1 Republican and Democratic primaries will be conducted under SB 1.

Lawmakers also decided SB 3 was necessary to crack down on the teaching of critical race theory, which explores how racism shaped history, policies, the legal system, among other topics. Though critical race theory is not specifically taught in public schools, Republican legislators argued that that way of thinking produced instruction designed to label white students as racist and promote racial discord.

SB 3 applies to all courses from kindergarten through high school and

requires instructors to teach racial topics “free from political bias.” Students also cannot be taught that people are consciously or unconsciously racist by virtue of their race or responsible for actions committed by other members of their race.

Democrat lawmakers, who strongly disagreed, claimed that SB 3 was an attempt to whitewash history by downplaying racism and the contributions people of color made in history.

Another contentious new law is SB 4, which limits the availability of abortion-inducing drugs, prohibiting their use for patients who are more than seven weeks pregnant instead of the previous 10-week limit. The law also makes it a state jail felony for physicians to prescribe abortion-inducing medication without first conducting an in-person examination. It also prohibits the delivery of such drugs through the mail or a delivery service.

An additional highly debated law now in effect is House Bill (HB) 20, which allows social media users to sue if they or their opinions are blocked

from view or removed on Twitter, Facebook or YouTube. It also gives the state attorney general the power to sue social media companies on behalf of affected users.

The law was inspired by complaints that conservatives are being censored on large social media platforms, particularly after Twitter and Facebook removed President Donald Trump for inciting violence before the January 6 Capitol riot. This new law allows legal challenges by anybody who lives in Texas, does business in the state or “shares or receives content on a social media platform in this state.”

Two tech associations, nonetheless, have sued in Austin federal court and have asserted that the law violates the companies’ First Amendment right to have editorial discretion over what appears on their websites and will impose onerous legal costs on companies forced to defend countless lawsuits from users.

Overall, the 87th Texas legislature passed more than 580 bills while in session from January through May 2021. State lawmakers convene every two years, making the next session slated for 2023.

A month later he missed Raiders training camp practices because he didn’t like the helmet he had to wear.

In September, he was let go by the Raiders after his Instagram post asking for his release. He then signed with Patriots.

Also in September, his ex-trainer Britney Taylor, accused him of sexual assault. Sports Illustrated then reported a 2nd incident of sexual misconduct. He was then immediately released by Patriots

In January of 2020 he was charged with felony burglary with battery and two misdemeanors for incident with moving truck company.

In July he was suspended eight games for multiple violations of NFL’s personal conduct policy.

In October he signed 1-year contract with Tampa Bay.

Last month he was suspended three games for providing a fake vaccination card.

Now I may not be the smartest guy in the world but I would think long and hard before I start blaming all of Brown’s problems on someone else.

If he’s looking for the reason for all his problems, all he has to do is find the nearest mirror.

Super Crossword

BROODING SEASON

- ACROSS**
- 1 Examined by touching
- 9 Smart _(know-it-all)
- 14 Alphas' opposites
- 20 All across the region
- 21 Indian city on the Yamuna River
- 22 "Gil Blas" novelist
- Alain-Rene _
- 23 Blemish-resistant bar seat?
- 25 Male flower part
- 26 Earth lighter
- 27 Autumn chill
- 28 Sentry allowing nobody to nap?
- 30 Monet, say
- 34 Interstices
- 36 _roll (hot)
- 37 Shoulder-hugging, horn-honking driver?
- 42 Thin and supple
- 47 Duck cousin
- 48 Actress Messing
- 49 More plucky
- 50 Lt.'s inferior
- 53 "I see mice!"
- 56 Ear-related
- 58 Indian city on the Yamuna River
- 59 Vehicle in a chase scene
- 63 Decorative pins worn by jockeys?
- 67 Yellow-and-black bird
- 68 16-Down, to Jacob

- 69 Flagged auto
- 70 Mao _-tung
- 71 Bit of pasta that's really hard to find?
- 77 Bodily pouch
- 79 Spanish for "that"
- 80 Big pet food brand
- 81 "Infinite" rapper
- 84 Have pain from bending forward too sharply?
- 89 Tire type
- 90 Tolkien terrorizers
- 91 Up _ (stymied)
- 92 _ Lanka
- 94 Butter holder
- 95 More hideous
- 97 _ liver (meat product)
- 100 Harvestable
- 104 Work layoff, slangily
- 105 Dive to attack with perfect form?
- 111 Texter's "I think ..."
- 113 Neeson of "Darkman"
- 114 GMC pickup
- 115 Decide on
- Domino's for dinner?
- 122 Taylor of "Cleopatra," for short
- 124 Los Angeles' Playa _ Rey
- 125 Regular practices
- 126 Botching an April 1 prank?
- 131 Crops up
- 132 Ickily sticky
- 133 Enlarge
- 134 Quick

- 135 In any way
- 136 Power-supplying socket
- DOWN**
- 1 Volkswagen model
- 2 Maestro Toscanini
- 3 Simple shed
- 4 _gow (casino option)
- 5 Grain beard
- 6 Up to, informally
- 7 Paradise
- 8 Blueprint
- 9 TV spots
- 10 "Show me"
- 11 College town in North Carolina
- 12 Toy train, when doubled
- 13 Quantity in a narc's bust
- 14 Former NFLer
- Merlin
- 15 Annual ritzy NYC fundraising event
- 16 Biblical birthright seller
- 17 Explorer Vasco da _
- 18 Antiquing aid
- 19 Ship off, say
- 24 Petty quarrel
- 29 Saldana of the screen
- 31 "_ so you!"
- 32 Hem, e.g.
- 33 Lilted syllable
- 35 Prof's deg.
- 38 United
- 39 Israel's Abba
- 40 Opiate, e.g.

- 41 Raiment
- 43 Apple option
- 44 Close, as a community
- 45 "_ to you!"
- 46 Rub out
- 49 Person rubbing it in
- 50 Prefix with warrior
- 51 And not
- 52 Final washer phase
- 54 Noted Deco master
- 55 Furry fruit
- 57 Rocket paths
- 60 Pigeon noise
- 61 Balm plants
- 62 Betelgeuse or Antares
- 64 Clangor
- 65 How balloons float
- 66 Trump replaced him
- 72 Thief's bagful
- 73 "Bali _"
- 74 Autos such as Gremlins and Pacers
- 75 Belgian river
- 76 Spain's El _
- 77 Teapot part
- 78 "I'm so frustrated!"
- 82 Water, to Gigi
- 83 Rangers' and Rays' gp.
- 85 Brunei locale
- 86 Mean whale
- 87 High point
- 88 One-named sports legend
- 93 Lyric penner

- Gershwin
- 96 Lived
- 98 Ball of mashed chickpeas
- 99 _fi movie
- 101 Electees, say
- 102 Greek letter
- 103 She baas
- 105 Swab
- 106 Film score composer Schiffrin
- 107 Iago's wife
- 108 Hard trial
- 109 Bully's threat ender
- 110 Warehouse platform
- 112 Hardly tidy
- 115 Cartoonist Addams
- 116 Celestial instrument
- 117 Off-Broadway prize
- 118 French river or department
- 119 TV actress
- Swenson
- 120 _ suit (1940s duds)
- 121 Reverse alphabetical order
- 123 Bronze metal
- 127 Olive of "Popeye"
- 128 Lt.'s inferior
- 129 "Despicable Me" villain
- 130 Dewy, e.g.

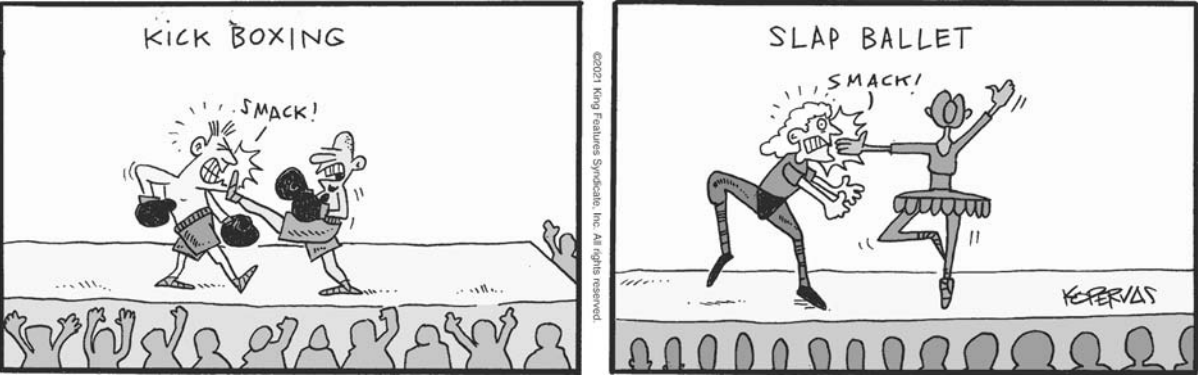
Answer Page 4

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115	116	117	118					119	120	121			122		123			124		
125								126				127				128	129	130		
131								132					133							
134								135					136							

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 2

official institution charged with maintaining the integrity of the language, has ruled against the -x appendage.

Out in the real world, “Latinx” polls even more poorly than Joe Biden does. A Politico poll found

that only 2% of Hispanics prefer the term, while 68% opt for Hispanic and 21% favor Latino or Latina. The term is considered offensive to 40% of respondents and 30% said that they are less likely to support a politician or group using it.

Rep. Ruben Gallego, an Arizona Democrat, tweeted in reaction to the poll that he forbids

his staff from using Latinx in official communications. “When Latino politicians use the term, it is largely to appease white rich progressives who think that is the term we use,” he wrote. “It is a vicious circle of confirmation bias.”

Still, elite media outlets and other institutions susceptible to progressive influence, as well as

Blood-pressure goal:
How low should it go?

DEAR DR. ROACH: My sister, 75, is taking only two drugs for the past three years, and they are both for high blood pressure. Now she finds that her blood pressure is 110/70 and wonders why she can't take less of her medications as an experiment. For instance, if she cut her pills in half and still has her blood pressure under 120/80, would there be any problem with this? – R.I.



The optimum goal of blood pressure treatment is still not known; however, evidence is accumulating that it might be lower than the less than 140/less than 90 that is has typically been the target. At least in higher-risk people with high blood pressure, a large trial found that a goal blood pressure of less than 120/less than 90 had better outcomes than the traditional goal. A more recent follow-up study showed that risk of dementia was also lower in the group that had the lower blood pressure.

Not everyone can tolerate a blood pressure that low: Side effects of medications can be problematic. But it's reasonable to aim at 120/80 or less.

In your sister's case, she is a little bit below that. It wouldn't be unreasonable if, after discussing with her doctor, she tried reducing the dose of one of the medications. If her blood pressure remains lower than 120/80, she could continue that lower dose. However, if she feels perfectly well on her current dose, there is not a reason to reduce the dose.

In either case, don't reduce the dose without a discussion, nor cut the pill in half without checking with the doctor or pharmacist. Some pills shouldn't be cut in half.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am an 82-year-old woman in good health. I recently had lab work that showed my TSH level is 6.14. I was told that I would need thyroid medicine because eventually I would feel tired and cold all the time. I do not have either of these symptoms. I'm usually warm when others say they are cold. I wake up at 6:30 and am ready for the day. Do I have an underactive thyroid? I don't think so. – R.K.

I don't think you have an underactive thyroid either. The thyroid stimulating hormone level is a measure of the pituitary hormone TSH, which stimulates the thyroid gland to release thyroid hormone (thyroxine, or T4). Many people, especially older women, have a high TSH level and normal thyroxine levels. There is some controversy about whether people in your situation need to be treated. Certainly, people with symptoms that are clearly from low thyroid benefit from treatment. There is also new evidence suggesting that younger people may benefit from treatment in order to reduce risk of heart disease. This effect was observed when TSH levels were higher than yours (above 7).

My personal practice is to not treat people with high TSH, normal thyroxine and no symptoms unless the TSH levels are above 10. Treating people under 65 with TSH above 7 might also make sense. Some of my colleagues will measure anti-thyroid antibodies, since people who have high levels of these antibodies are more likely to go on to develop symptomatic low thyroid levels.

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) 2022 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

sign of the limits of elite cultural power, and of the lack of interest of most Latinos in being pawns in the ever more strained and obscure progressive politics of perpetual victimology.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2022 by King Features Synd., Inc.



Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
A 300 carat Topaz (the official Texas gem) was found in Mason County.

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: E equals L

UA R EFDDFY BRO YFRMBFL
OJVFWJLS WS RUYVRUE, U
XKFOO SJK MJKEL ORS UD'O
WFFG OFGD AESUGX.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Boot-Camp for veteran-owned businesses



by Freddy Groves

Last summer, the Department of Veterans Affairs brought together 80 women veteran business owners for a six-month boot camp hosted by PenFed and the VA Office of Small and Disadvantaged BusinessUtilization(OSDBU). The goal: teach them how to grow their businesses.

The education they received was like a fast-tracked MBA with hands-on classes in product/market analysis, business development and more. At the end of the six months there was a pitch competition to win a grant for their business.

The Veteran Entrepreneur Investment Program (VEIP), in collaboration with PenFed, has much to offer veterans who already have a business up and running.

To learn more about PenFed, go to veip.penfedfoundation.org. Read about its various

programs, especially the Master’s Program start-up fundraising accelerator. Application deadline for the Spring 2022 program is Jan. 30. The eight-week program is part of an intensive one-year Master’s Program. Classes are open to veterans and their spouses who own businesses, and include fundraising coaching, mentor matching and investor deal day.

If you don’t qualify for the Master’s Program because you don’t have the required number of years running your business or because you haven’t even started your business, there is other help for you.

The Small Business Administration offers support, grants, low-interest loans and more to veteran owners of small businesses under the “Patriot Express” program. Search the VA website (va.gov) for small business. Look carefully at the eligibility requirements, such as that the business needs to be more that 51% veteran-owned. Look for information at the OSDBU website.

If your location to open a business is flexible, check the VEIP website (veip.penfedfoundation.org)

for its list of top cities for veteran entrepreneurs. Find out which locations top the list in categories such as growing economy, support for veterans and ability to start a business. Don’t miss the list of emerging cities to get ahead of the curve.

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• To prevent candle wax from sticking to a candleholder, swipe the inside with a little olive oil. It'll do the trick!

• Make your own gift wrap from everyday items like newspaper (think color comics) and children’s drawings, which can be glued together along the edges. For a really unique wrapping, try inexpensive fabric.

• Cookies are so fun to make (and to eat). To save some of your favorites for the new year, simply place dough balls on a cookie sheet and freeze. Pop into a freezer-safe bag, and you can have freshly baked cookies pretty much anytime! – JoAnn

• “I have two carafes that I use for my breakfast bar. I keep coffee in one, and the other holds milk or cream. On holiday nights, I prep the cream carafe and put it in the fridge. In the morning, while the first pot of coffee is brewing, I fill the coffee carafe with hot water and let it sit until the coffee is ready. It keeps the coffee hot longer. Then guests can serve themselves some coffee while the next pot is brewing.” – D.A. in Ohio

• “Wine: Nobody I know is wasting it. But if you’re done before the bottle is, pour the leftover wine into ice-cube trays to save it. You can use it later in recipes or (my favorite) to chill a glass of wine!” – E. in Florida

• A can opener’s crevices can be cleaned by “opening” a length of waxed paper. Kitchen scissors can be sharpened by folding a piece of aluminum foil and cutting through it with the scissors.

Send your tips to Now Here’s a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2022 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

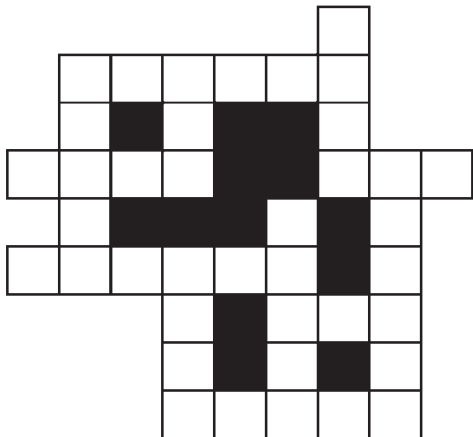
	÷		+		10
×		×		÷	
	+		+		13
–		+		+	
	–		×		18
15		17		17	

1 2 3 4 5 5 7 8 9

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BEB
GULAPE
♥NOALT
URBG
TABODE
PGA
UTER
NEPEC
♥UNT
TREGGU
♥DERBA
♥IPSN



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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