



– Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

PILGRIMAGES – The Department of Homeland Security said that a fence extension will not hinder visitors' access to the winding trail, above, that leads up to the Mount Cristo Rey monument. The site, below right, is situated where the United States and Mexico and the U.S. states of New Mexico and Texas and the Mexican state of Chihuahua come together.

Fence extension at Mount Cristo Rey sparks debate and legal battle

By **Alfredo Vasquez**
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Mount Cristo Rey, the nearly 30-foot-tall limestone monument of Jesus Christ overlooking the desert landscape from atop a mountain peak that straddles two countries and three states, is at the crux of a troubling dilemma for many borderland residents.

The sacred mount has been attracting pilgrims of all faiths and from both sides of the border since 1939. Especially on holy days, like Good Friday before Easter, thousands of individuals make the trek to the top of the mountain to affirm their spiritual devotion.

Now, the Trump administration plans to extend the border wall along the monument's southern base, and its construction has generated concerns that such a barrier could become a symbol of division, as well as a detriment to the area's ecosystem.

"It is kind of sad to think that this being such a sacred place, they (federal government) could cut into it and start blasting away... I understand the need to protect the border, but maybe there is a better way to do that other than dishonoring this mountain," stated one recent visitor to the site.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials maintain that the 1.3-mile wall extension will not hinder access to the winding trail up the mountain. "Access to the shrine will not be affected, as all attendees enter from the U.S. side. The only

individuals who could be impacted by the border wall are illegal aliens attempting to illegally enter our country," a DHS spokesperson stated in a recent news report.

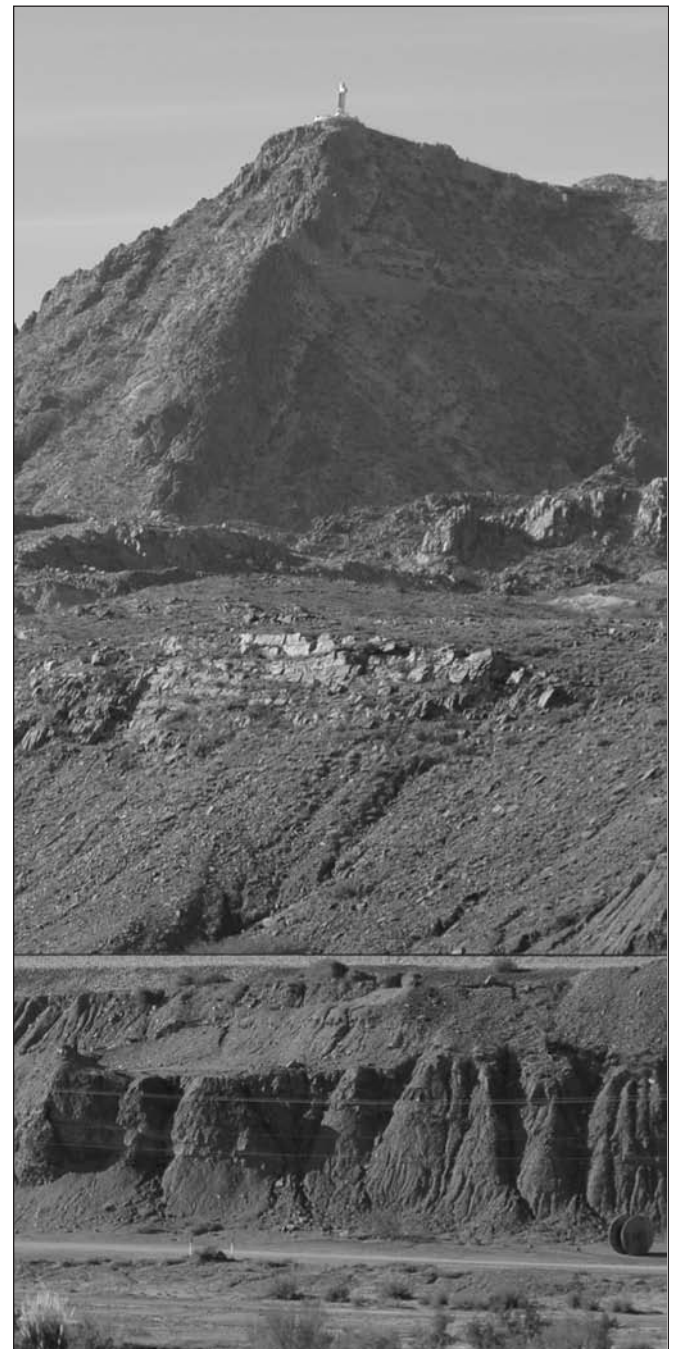
The Mount Cristo Rey border wall is one of the multiple wall projects under construction along the southern border. Already in place are miles of steel barriers that run along the Rio Grande from the New Mexico State line to El Paso County's easternmost boundary.

The border wall for the Mount Cristo Rey area is just one of at least five border wall projects planned by the Trump administration, which awarded two firms – Montgomery, Alabama's BCCG Joint Venture and the Bozeman, Montana's Barnard Spencer Joint Venture – contracts worth at least \$1.59 billion. The Barnard Construction Company received another contract for the construction of a secondary border wall east of Santa Teresa towards the border with Arizona, worth \$1.58 billion, according to USASpending.gov.

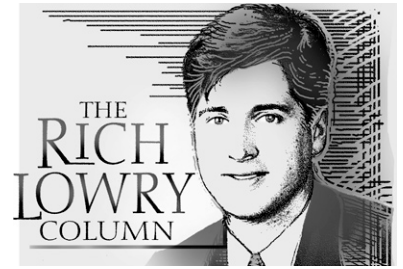
The local project includes a secondary border wall on the mesa west of Mount Cristo Rey and another wall section near Anapra, Mexico. The new wall construction to the west is nearing the land owned by the Catholic Church, which is creating a legal stand-off between the church and the Trump administration.

The federal government is seeking to take a portion of the 14.2 acres near Mount Cristo Rey

See MOUNT, Page 2



How to kill the Supreme Court in one easy step



In 2016, the conservative writer Mike Anton made a galvanizing case for Donald Trump in his famous “Flight 93” essay, arguing that the stakes in the contest between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton were existential.

His contention that a Clinton win would cement Democratic electoral dominance forever, such that Republicans needed to charge the cockpit or die, was implausible at the time and seems more so in retrospect.

If Hillary had won in 2016, in all likelihood, she would have been gone in 2020, washed away by the pandemic just like Trump was.

This time, though, really might be different. Democrats are now seriously contemplating measures that wouldn’t have occurred to Hillary Clinton circa 2016. Endorsing some version of court-packing, or “court reform,” as Democrats insist on calling it, is becoming orthodoxy among

mainstream Democrats.

Several weeks ago, James Carville said that Democrats should pack the Court and add the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico as states in 2028 if they get unified control of Washington.

The immediate past Democratic presidential nominee, who has some chance of winning the 2028 Democratic nomination, Kamala Harris, associated herself with the same ideas. She added abolishing the Electoral College to the list.

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, who easily could be the Speaker of the House next year, has said: “In the new Congress, we’re going to have to do something about this Supreme Court, and let me be very clear: Everything is on the table.”

The top Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, Jamie Raskin, has fashioned a reason why the Supreme Court needs to be expanded by four justices (supposedly, the number of justices

should match the number of federal circuits at 13).

If all these ideas were to become consensus Democratic agenda items in 2028, they would constitute one of the most radical political platforms of a major political party in American history.

Court-packing alone would be a seismic, system-changing event, as would abolishing the Electoral College, which has been foundational to our presidential elections from the beginning.

The common theme of all of this would be guaranteeing outcomes – four new progressive justices, four new Democratic senators – in blatant power grabs undermining the legitimacy of the

See LOWRY, Page 7



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

EXISTING FENCE – U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials said the new border barrier at the base of Mount Cristo Rey, shown in photo background, will connect with the existing steel fence, above foreground, to close the gap in the border wall and enhance Border Patrol operations. The monument is circled, top center of the picture.

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Mount

From Page 1

from the Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces through eminent domain. The diocese is responding to the land grab by attempting to block the federal government from taking land in Doña Ana County NM.

The diocese recently filed a lawsuit against the federal government. “The erection of a border wall through or along this holy site could irreparably damage its religious and cultural sanctity, obstruct pilgrimage routes, and transfer sacred space into a symbol of division,” the Diocese of Las Cruces stated in the legal filings. “Any federal action to seize this land, construct physical barriers, or impede access to Mount Cristo Rey would constitute a significant infringement on religious freedom and the rights of worship.”

Kathryn Brack Morrow, the attorney representing the diocese, called the attempt to use eminent domain to take the land “an affront to religious liberty.”

Arturo Bañuelas, a retired Monsignor of the Catholic Diocese of El Paso, added that the statue of Christ, with extended arms, is a sign of welcome into life with God. “It is a sign of welcome to the border community. It is a sign of welcome to people who are different from each other. And it is an openness of Christ to open your arms to welcome each other and

treat each other with dignity and respect,” the Monsignor stated.

Advocates for building the wall across the Mount Cristo Rey gap asserted that it would protect not only the hikers and pilgrims that ascend the mountain, but also the migrants themselves. They contended that the trail for migrants crossing Mount Cristo Rey can be dangerous.

However, Juan Ortiz, an organizer with Casa Carmalita in El Paso, pointed out that with all the new technologies and other forms of mass vigilance, physical pursuits are not only dangerous but not necessary. “Falls from the border wall, exposure deaths due to the creation of huge infrastructure projects, like the wall, push people further out into the desert and create more dangerous conditions,” he noted.

George Arcinega, who works with the Mount Cristo Rey Restoration Committee, said that he’s worried that construction blasts could cause long-term damage to the statue of Jesus atop the mountain and about what the border wall will mean for the desert ecosystem, the borderland community, and the mountain’s significance.

“Our community comes to these trails to find peace, connection and healing,” Arcinega commented. “This wall, this barrier, is going to replace a symbol of faith and connection, with

See MOUNT, Page 3

King Crossword

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 - 5 Homer's lament
 - 8 Grate
 - 12 Sprint
 - 13 Geological period
 - 14 Intro studio class
 - 15 Met melody
 - 16 Knee cartilage
 - 18 Cough drop flavor
 - 20 Valerie Harper sitcom
 - 21 Light brown
 - 22 Fluffy neckpiece
 - 23 Streep of "The Post"
 - 26 Patching up
 - 30 Lab eggs
 - 31 Witty one
 - 32 Wrigley product
 - 33 Proteges
 - 36 Accra's country
 - 38 Stein filler
 - 39 Zadora of "Hairspray"
 - 40 Huge success
 - 43 H.L. _ (The Sage of Baltimore)
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 - 11 Galileo's birthplace
 - 17 Pressing need
 - 19 Actor Linden
 - 22 Plead
 - 23 Soccer _
 - 24 Prior night
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 - 26 More, to Manuel
 - 27 Polish tennis star
 - Swiatek
 - 28 Convent head
 - 29 "Today" rival, briefly
 - 31 Pint-sized
 - 34 Flavors
 - 35 K thru 12
 - 36 Tom Collins liquor
 - 37 Website invader
 - 39 Green sauce
 - 40 Urban haze
 - 41 Apportion
 - 42 Shortly
 - 43 L-Q bridge
 - 44 Designer Spade
 - 45 Literary Jane
 - 46 Must have
 - 48 British singer Rita
- Answer Page 4

Mount

From Page 2

division, saying we are going to be dividing our people," he surmised. "Imagine what the billions of dollars being spent on the border wall by the Trump administration instead could be used for, like health, education, housing, and farming programs," Arcinega opined.

Currently, a group of activists is calling on the public to protest the new barrier, which they say would not halt humans from

attempting to migrate but rather would block the migration of animals and disrupt the area's ecology.

The group is urging concerned residents to submit comments to the Customs & Border Protection (CBP) agency about the proposed border barrier by emailing their concerns to ElPasoComments@cbp.dhs.gov or by calling (833) 412-2056, which will become part of the public record. The agency stipulated that emailed comments should include "El Paso Sector Border Barrier Construction" in the subject line.

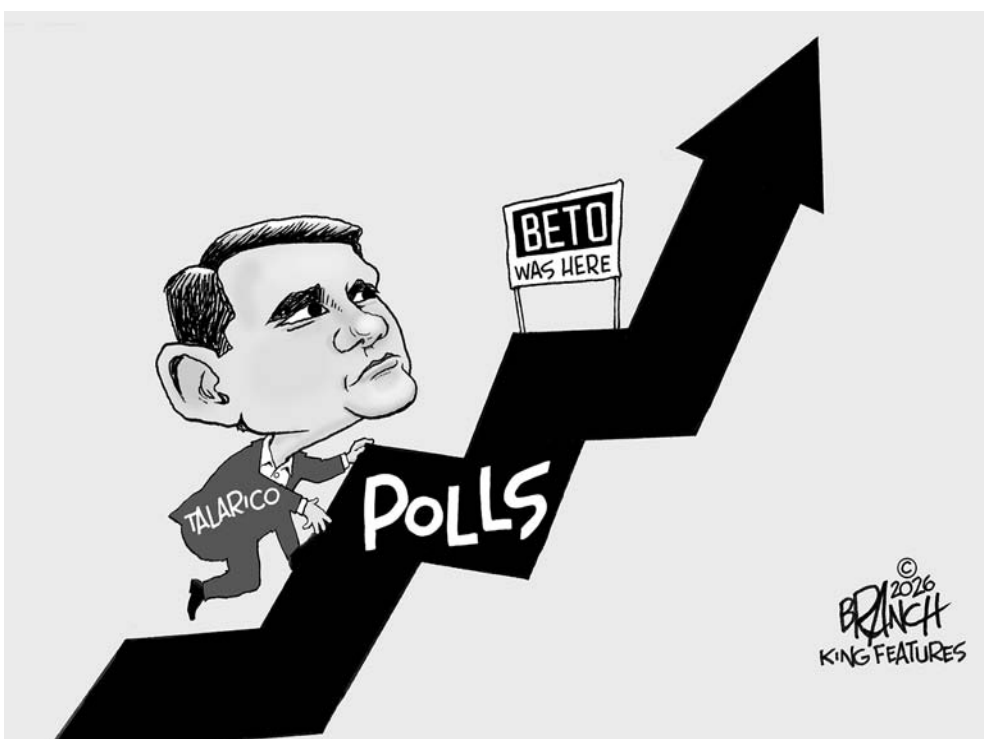
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LEGALS

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR TPDES PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0014529001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION

El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District, P.O. Box 136, Tornillo, Texas 79853, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0014529001 which authorizes the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 730,000 gallons per day. TCEQ received this application on April 25, 2025.

The facility is located at 695 Henderson Road, in Tornillo, El Paso County, Texas 79853. The treated effluent is discharged to Tornillo Drain, thence to Rio Grande Below Riverside Diversion Dam in Segment No. 2307 of the Rio Grande Basin. The unclassified receiving water use is minimal aquatic life use for Tornillo Drain. The designated uses for Segment No. 2307 are primary contact recreation, public water

supply, and high aquatic life use. All determinations are preliminary and subject to additional review and/or revisions. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application:

<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-06.105421,31.43454&level=18>

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District, 19225 Highland Street, Tornillo, in El Paso County, Texas. The application and associated notices are available electronically at the following webpage:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications>

ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE

Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/public-notices>

tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices

El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING

You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING

After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will

also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing."

If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests

the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period. TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit

for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION

The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST

If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or

(2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at:

www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment

within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at:

www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid

Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

Public comments

and requests must be submitted either electronically at:

www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment

or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Any personal information you submit to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's record; this includes email addresses. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at:

www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep

Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Marlena Hernandez, Business Manager, at 915-764-2966.

Issuance Date: June 4, 2026

WTCC: 06-18-26

Classified Ads, Con't. Page 5

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CryptoQuip Answer

Breakfast cereal containing chunks shaped like small single-masted sailboats: Fruit Sloops.



By Lucie Winborne

• Police officers in Thailand can be forced to wear Hello Kitty armbands as punishment for transgressions such as illegal parking or arriving late to work.

• Historians cite runaway inflation as a major cause of ancient Rome's fall.

• During World War II, the SS ran a wiretapped brothel named "The Kitty Salon" in Berlin where prostitutes would glean information from clients through seemingly innocuous conversations.

• "Hoover wagons," named after President Herbert Hoover, were broken down cars pulled by mules during the Great Depression.

• When Napoleon attacked Vienna in 1809, Beethoven hid in his brother's basement and covered his ears with pillows, afraid the noise would destroy his remaining hearing.

• The FIFA World Cup is the world's most-watched sporting event.

• Most tornadoes in the Southern Hemisphere rotate clockwise, while their Northern Hemisphere counterparts rotate counterclockwise.

• When serving as a lawyer, Abraham Lincoln only argued one case in front of the U.S. Supreme Court – which he lost.

• In ancient Egypt, chief embalmers often wore a mask of the god Anubis.

• Soccer is known as "football" everywhere except America. The name refers not to the fact that it's played with the feet, but that it's played on one's feet, rather than on horseback.

• About two-thirds of the world's lowest literate adults are women.

• Before the year 1000, all chess pieces were male figures or animals. The queen made her debut when the game was introduced in southern Europe.

Thought for the Day: "After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him... The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut."

– Will Rogers

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Moments in time
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On June 15, 1667, French physician Jean-Baptiste Denis performed the first blood transfusion, on a feverish boy, but with lamb rather than human blood. While the boy survived and recovered, two more patients died following the same procedure, leading to a centuries-long ban on transfusions.
- On June 16, 1943, Oona O'Neill, the 18-year-old daughter of playwright Eugene O'Neill, married 54-year-old Hollywood legend Charlie Chaplin. It was his fourth marriage (and his third to a teenage girl). Oona's father, who was Chaplin's age, disapproved of the union so strongly that he disinherited his daughter, but the marriage, which produced eight children, was successful and only ended with Chaplin's death more than three decades later.
- On June 17, 1976, the National Basketball Association announced a merger with its rival, the American Basketball Association, and acquired the latter's four most successful franchises: the Denver Nuggets, the Indiana Pacers, the New York (later Brooklyn) Nets and the San Antonio Spurs.

- On June 18, 1979, at a summit meeting in Vienna, President Jimmy Carter and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev signed the SALT-II agreement dealing with limitations and guidelines for nuclear weapons. Roundly criticized in America as a sellout to the Soviets, the treaty never formally went into effect and did little, if anything at all, to slow the arms race.
- On June 19, 1865, on what is now known as Juneteenth, Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas, with the news that the Civil War had ended and slavery in the United States had been abolished. Despite the fact that President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation had been issued on Jan. 1, 1863, a lack of Union troops in the rebel state of Texas had made the order difficult to enforce.
- On June 20, 2003, the Wikimedia Foundation, an American nonprofit organization best known for being the host of Wikipedia, one of the world's most-visited websites, was founded in St. Petersburg, Florida.
- On June 21, 2001, one of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo's iconic self-portraits was featured on an American postage stamp, making her the first Hispanic woman to be honored in that manner.

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FBI report on senior scam losses

This is painful to write: The FBI's 2025 report says that seniors lost over \$7.7 billion to scams – in one year. Complaints to their Internet Crime Complaint Center (also called IC3) showed losses had increased by 59% – again, in one year.

The information was grim. Where IC3 used to get a few thousand complaints per month, they were seeing 3,000 per day. Over the course of the year, seniors logged over 201,000 complaints. The average loss was over \$38,500, with phishing/spoofing, tech/customer service and investment scams heading the list. Following on the list were personal data breaches, confidence/romance scams and non-payment/non-delivery.

Dollar amounts for all age groups put investment losses clearly at the top of the list, by a wide margin: over \$8 billion. Even at the very bottom of the long list of types of crimes, charity losses were nearly \$8 million.

Where seniors were scammed with romance fraud, the losses were over \$548 million, money that they'll likely never get back. We were scammed by

tech/customer support to the tune of \$1 billion, and seniors topped the list of all age groups with \$4 billion in cryptocurrency losses.

To see the whole FBI report, go to www.ic3.gov/AnnualReport/Reports/2025_IC3Report.pdf. As you scroll through the 66 pages of the report, note the sections with advice, especially the section on recovery scams and thieves impersonating the FBI while pretending to help you recoup your losses.

Note the section that compares 2023, 2024 and 2025 for all types of senior complaints. With the exception of extortion, which had a short pause in 2024, all categories rose over the years.

An important sentence near the top of the report: "It has never been more important to be diligent with your cybersecurity, social media footprint and electronic interactions."

There's our warning. We must be diligent.

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Classified Ads, From Page 4

COMISIÓN DE CALIDAD AMBIENTAL DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS



AVISO DE LA SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR PARA EL PERMISO DEL SISTEMA DE ELIMINACION DE DESCARGAS DE CONTAMINANTES DE TEXAS (TPDES)

PARA AGUAS RESIDUALES MUNICIPALES RENOVACIÓN

PERMISO NO. WQ0014529001

SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR

El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District (El Distrito de Mejoramiento de Agua de Tornillo del Condado de El Paso), P.O. Box 136, Tornillo, Texas 79853 ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) una renovación para autorizar el vertido de aguas residuales domésticas tratadas con un caudal medio diario que no supere los 730.000 galones diarios. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 25 de abril de 2025.

La planta está ubicada en 695

Henderson Road, en Tornillo, en el Condado de El Paso, Texas. El efluente tratado es descargado al drenaje Tornillo, de ahí a la presa de desviación río Grande Below Riverside en el Segmento No. 2307 de la cuenca del Río Grande. Los usos no clasificados de las aguas receptoras son no significativos usos de la vida acuática para el drenaje Tornillo. Los usos designados para el Segmento No. 2307 son recreación de contacto primario, elevados uso de vida acuática, y abastecimiento de agua potable. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud.

<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-06.105421,31.43454&level=18>

El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha completado la revisión técnica de la solicitud y ha preparado un borrador del permiso. El borrador del permiso, si es aprobado, está disponible bajo las condiciones de la instalación

debe operar. El Director Ejecutivo ha tomado una decisión preliminar que si este permiso es emitido, cumple con todos los requisitos normativos y legales. La solicitud del permiso, la decisión preliminar del Director Ejecutivo y el borrador del permiso están disponibles para leer y copiar en el Distrito de Mejora de Agua de Tornillo del Condado de El Paso, 19225 Highland Street, Tornillo, en el condado de El Paso, Texas. La solicitud y los avisos asociados están disponibles electrónicamente en la siguiente página web:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/tpdes-applications>

AVISO DE IDIOMA ALTERNATIVO

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/tpdes-applications>

COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA

El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el

Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO

Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo

y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso. Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS:

su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado". Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar

una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y por qué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los periodos de comentarios y de petición que aplican, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para reconsideración o para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión. La Comisión sólo puede conceder una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el solicitante haya

presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente. Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios. Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso para descargar aguas residuales sin proveer una oportunidad de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

ACCIÓN DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO

El Director Ejecutivo puede emitir una aprobación final de la solicitud a menos que exista un pedido antes del plazo de vencimiento de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o se ha presentado un pedido de reconsideración. Si un pedido ha llegado antes del plazo de vencimiento de la audiencia o el pedido de reconsideración ha sido presentado, el Director Ejecutivo

no emitirá una aprobación final sobre el permiso y enviará la solicitud y el pedido a los Comisionados de la TECQ para consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

LISTA DE CORREO

Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o más de las listas de correos siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

Todos los comentarios escritos del público y los pedidos una reunión deben ser presentados durante los 30

días después de la publicación del aviso a la Oficina del Secretario Principal, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or por el internet a:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment>

Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia.

INFORMACIÓN DISPONIBLE EN LÍNEA

Para obtener detalles sobre el estado de la solicitud, visite la Base de Datos Integrada de los Comisionados en:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid>

Busque en la base de datos utilizando el número de solicitud, que se proporciona en la parte superior de este aviso.

CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN DE LA AGENCIA

Los comentarios y solicitudes públicas deben enviarse electrónicamente a:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment>

o por escrito a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Cualquier información personal que envíe a al TCEQ pasará a formar parte del registro de la agencia; esto incluye las direcciones de correo electrónico. Para obtener más información sobre esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al Programa de Educación Pública de la TCEQ, sin cargo, al 1-800-687-4040 o visite su sitio web en:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/decisions/participation/permitting-participation>

Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener información del Distrito de Mejoras de Agua de Tornillo del Condado de El Paso en la dirección indicada anteriormente o llamando a la Sra. Marlena Hernández, Gerente de Negocios, al 915-764-2966.

Fecha de emisión 4 de junio de 2026

WTCC: 06-18-26

The bigger they are, the harder they fall

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

In sports, the story of David and Goliath is often referred to when a smaller team upsets the heavy favorite.

It was used when the New York Jets and Joe Namath upset the mighty Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III, when nobody thought an AFL team could compete with a team from the NFL.

It was used when Muhammad Ali upset the mighty George Foreman when Big George looked unbeatable and everyone thought Ali was past his prime.

And it was used when the United States hockey team of young college players upset the mighty national team from the USSR in that "Miracle on Ice" game.

The 2026 NBA Finals pitted the New York Knicks and the San Antonio Spurs, and the truth is there was no David or Goliath with these two teams.

Some thought the Spurs were the more talented, but they were also extremely young and inexperienced. The Knicks had all the maturity on their side and had the added incentive of not winning a title in 53 years.

In the end it was the veterans who taught the youngsters a lesson. The Spurs' dreams will have to wait at least another year as New York took the title by four games to one.

And while they'll have to wait another year, the Spurs have nothing to hang their head about. They were probably the better team. They led most of the time but squandered leads in the fourth quarter so many times it became a habit. They'll probably overcome next year thanks to this experience.

Though neither team was heavily favored in this series, there was still a David and Goliath scenario going on.

Well, maybe not David and Goliath, but more like Brunson and Goliath.

Jalen Brunson, New York's little big man, put up 45 points in last Saturday's Finals' clincher.

The 6-2 Brunson went around, beyond and past the Spurs time and time again, hitting clutch basket after clutch basket to almost single-handedly lead the Knicks to their first championship since 1973.

I say single-handedly because no other player on the Knicks had more than 14 points in the 94-90 championship win.

Goliath in this case is San Antonio's 7-5 giant Victor Wembanyama, who had a good series averaging 26.0 points, 11.2 rebounds and 3.6 blocks a game.

And at the tender age of 22, imagine how good this guy is going to be five, ten years from now.

As for Brunson, the Finals' MVP, he averaged 32.6 points a game in the five games and seemed to always hit that difficult basket just when New York needed it.

He scored at least 20 points in all five Finals' games and scored at least 30 in four of the five. The Spurs had absolutely no answer for the little guy.

Don't get me wrong – the Knicks got some really good play from other guys like Karl-Anthony Towns, who battled Wembanyama all series long. OG Anunoby was their second-leading scorer and hit the game-winning tip in at the end of game 4. Mikal Bridges drained plenty of long-range jumpers.

But it was Brunson who was there consistently for the orange and blue.

Here's another interesting thought. The entire state of Texas is feeling down right now. Not only did the San Antonio Spurs lose a chance at

the title, but since 2022 the Dallas Mavericks lost a couple players you may have heard of – Jalen Brunson and Luka Doncic.

So long-suffering New York Knicks fans finally have an entire year to brag about being the NBA champions, and who can blame them.

They might as well celebrate it now because it seems as if it will be the San Antonio Spurs and the Oklahoma City Thunder who will dominate the league over the next decade, if they don't mess it up.

But for now, all the accolades go to the little guy. The guy who everyone knew was good. They just didn't know how good.

Jalen Brunson's Finals' performance will go down in history with names like Michael Jordan and LeBron James and Larry Bird and Magic Johnson and Tim Duncan and Dirk Nowitzki.

Brunson proved once again that big things sometimes come in small packages.



PUZZLING PERJURY

- ACROSS**
- 1 Illuminated like quaint old streets
 - 7 "Taxi" mechanic
 - Gravas
 - 12 Shut noisily
 - 16 "If u ask..."
 - 19 Full of mischief
 - 20 Dam on the Nile
 - 21 Very angry
 - 23 What you may feel after doing something very bad
 - 25 In a messy way
 - 26 Be worthy of
 - 27 Feudal sovereign
 - 29 Big name in car rental
 - 30 Bad-mouth
 - 31 Currency in 60-Down
 - 32 Hosp. zones
 - 33 James of "Gunsmoke"
 - 35 Sly plan
 - 38 Somewhat
 - 42 Shed for watercrafts
 - 44 In _ terms (not using technical jargon)
 - 46 "Fernando" group
 - 48 Ballet bend
 - 49 Settle the bill
 - 50 Bi- x four
 - 51 Top 40 DJ Casey
 - 53 "My life _ open book"
 - 55 Clothing supporter

- 59 Smidgens
- 61 Wild West's Wyatt
- 65 North of Iran-
- Contra
- 66 Decks in a boxing ring
- 67 Mediocre
- 68 Loan shark
- 70 New York Giants legend
- 72 Certain cereal
- bran
- 74 In a macabre manner
- 75 Down East dweller
- 76 "Night" writer
- Wiesel
- 77 PE place
- 79 Allayed
- 80 Wintour of fashion
- 81 Thus far
- 83 Major leaguer, e.g.
- 85 Endure
- 87 Fossil rock
- 89 Debt security
- 90 Biceps locale
- 93 Spiced tea
- 95 Dueling tool
- 96 Close enough to touch
- 100 People tending
- butting beasts
- 103 Hunger sign
- 105 Et _ (and others)
- 106 Banked (on)
- 107 Diner bill
- 109 Gallery stuff
- 111 Get decayed
- 112 Terse confession

- 113 "Hold on just a minute!"
 - 117 Planted "pet"
 - 119 Nutty holiday dessert
 - 122 Commit perjury... or what literally can be found eight times in this puzzle
 - 125 Unsticks, as a sticker
 - 126 Fifth wheel?
 - 127 Caron of "Lili"
 - 128 Letters before esses
 - 129 Doing the job
 - 130 1941 Oscar winner
 - Mary
 - 131 Park board
- DOWN**
- 1 They may be
 - AWOL
 - 2 Old Glory's home
 - 3 Very eye-catching
 - 4 Pick-me-up
 - 5 Atoll part
 - 6 E'en if
 - 7 Senora, say
 - 8 Court great Arthur
 - 9 Little branch
 - 10 "Citizen" of film
 - 11 Trig measure
 - 12 Cousin of a custard apple
 - 13 "Casablanca" character Ilsa
 - 14 ABA mem.
 - 15 Med. scan

- 16 "Uncle!"
- 17 Actress McCarthy
- 18 Homeric epic
- 22 "A Bell for _" (1944 novel)
- 24 Hoppy brew
- 28 Sky sphere
- 30 Broadband inits.
- 31 Gossipy sort
- 33 Up for debate
- 34 Emu's cousin
- 36 Full of feeling
- 37 Bush knife
- 39 Fundraisers with food
- 40 Bridge beam
- 41 "Wipeout" channel
- 43 Et _ (and others)
- 45 Descended
- 47 Vowel string
- 52 Color of a forest "carpet"
- 54 Computer system modeled on the human brain
- 55 Punctuation causing pausing
- 56 Fake fat brand
- 57 Wagering
- everything
- 58 Viscid
- 60 Japan's capital
- 62 Come about
- 63 Find new tenants for
- 64 Marvel superhero
- Kitty _
- 67 That gal
- 69 "Listen, pal!"

- 71 Threw away
- 73 Donate 10%
- 78 African land
- 82 Galaxy unit
- 83 Supplication
- 84 Hint of color
- 86 Dull hurt
- 88 Tablet extra
- 90 Great-grandfather of Nero
- 91 Certain stag or doe
- 92 Intentions to do evil
- 94 Phishing crime
- 97 TV antennas
- 98 Zagreb locale
- 99 Fedora or fez
- 101 _ wave
- 102 _ Paulo
- 104 Accumulate
- 108 Raft wood
- 110 Ruby-hued
- 113 Hotel room service, often
- 114 Helpful hints
- 115 Oven output
- 116 Irish money
- 117 Ontario tribe
- 118 Nylons, e.g.
- 120 Intel org.
- 121 Chili holder
- 123 Urban trains
- 124 Whack down

Answer Page 4

Super Crossword

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| 100 | | | | 101 | | | | | 102 | | 103 | | 104 | | 105 | | | | | |
| 106 | | | | | | | | 107 | | 108 | | | 109 | 110 | | | | | 111 | |
| 112 | | | | | | | | 113 | | | | 114 | 115 | 116 | | | | 117 | 118 | |
| 119 | | | | | | 120 | 121 | | | | 122 | | | | | 123 | | | | 124 |
| 125 | | | | | | | | | | | 126 | | | | | 127 | | | | |
| 128 | | | | | | | | | | | 130 | | | | | 131 | | | | |

Comix

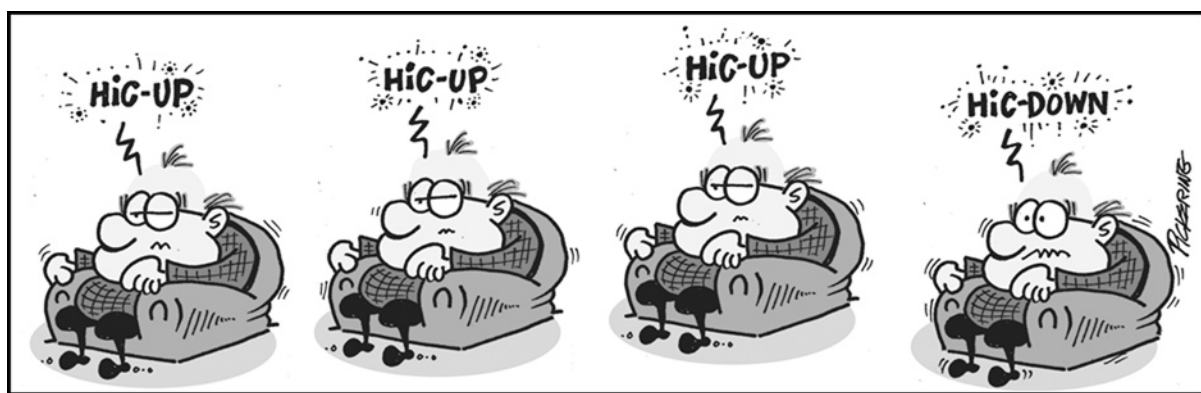
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



TIGER By Bud Blake



Lowry

From Page 2

institutions in question.

What would a world look like where a substantial portion of the country thinks the Supreme Court is a sham, and not because the court is issuing unwelcome opinions, but because the court has been arbitrarily changed to produce a predetermined ideological result through a grotesque end-run around the rules?

Democrats will say Republicans have already done this, even though the GOP operated within standard procedures to forge the current conservative majority. Did Republicans play hardball? Sure. But their influence on the composition of the court depended on winning presidential and senate elections, and taking advantage of fortuitous timing to confirm justices the way they've always been confirmed.

Manufacturing new seats out of nothing, or forcing the retirements of conservative justices by fiat, would be a blatant rigging of the court. If a portion of the country thinks that it no

longer needs to abide by the Court's decisions, that obviously creates the predicate for serious civil strife. The same is true if Congress is no longer seen as legitimate after it is packed with newly minted Democratic senators.

Democrats feel justified in embracing any means to match and exceed Trump's comprehensive aggressiveness. Trump's provocations – the lawfare, the executive overreach, the wars without congressional authorization, the gerrymandering – all have ample precedent among prior Democratic presidents. Democrats, of course, don't see it that way, and they fear and loathe Donald Trump more than they have any other Republican president.

In reaction, should they sweep in 2028, they may try to push the American constitutional order past an event horizon from which it will never return. In other words, 12 years after the GOP was told to charge the cockpit or die, the stakes for our system really could be existential.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. ©2026 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Drinking water: Volume and other considerations

DEAR DR. ROACH: Please write about the correct amount of water that people should drink. There's so much misinformation! – E.N., MD



There's so much misinformation because a simple answer like "more is always better" is easier than a nuanced answer. It depends on your age, activity level, the temperature and humidity, any medications you might be taking, and whether your kidneys have any issues. However, the simplest answer, which is true for most people, is that your body has a built-in system called the thirst reflex to make sure that you're getting enough fluid. There are only a few times when you should override this system.

The most important exception is in older people who sometimes have a decreased thirst mechanism. This is particularly the case in people who live in long-term care facilities or those who have physical or cognitive disabilities. As such, reminders to drink a reasonable amount (1.6 liters or about seven 8-ounce glasses for women; 2 liters or eight 8-ounce glasses for men) of all liquids during the day can be helpful. (Alcohol, of course, isn't helpful and can be harmful to a person's fluid status.)

People who are taking diuretics don't need more water. In fact, excess water drinking while on most diuretics can lead to abnormally low sodium levels. Another way to tell if you're getting enough water is the volume and concentration of your urine. People should generally void every few hours, and the color of the urine shouldn't be dark.

Needing to urinate less frequently or having concentrated urine should be an indication for a person to drink a few glasses of water.

DEAR DR. ROACH: What's a good general wellness supplement to take? I'm a 47-year-old female, and I've always taken a multivitamin, collagen with biotin, probiotics, decaffeinated green tea pills, and my usual prescriptions (losartan, levothyroxine and metformin). I'm looking for more natural ways to lower my weight and cholesterol. Sometimes I take oregano oil and apple cider vinegar. Any good suggestions? – C.A.

I don't know of any over-the-counter supplements to lower weight or cholesterol that are both effective and safe, so I don't recommend any of them specifically for these purposes. You might be taking decaffeinated green tea extract for this, but a clinical trial didn't show significant changes in weight or waist size (although green tea extract with caffeine did show a small benefit).

Metformin, which is normally used for diabetes, has much larger effects in promoting weight loss, but it does have a higher potential for side effects, particularly gastrointestinal ones.

I'm concerned about the combination of biotin and levothyroxine. My concern isn't an interaction between them; it's that the blood tests to check thyroid levels can be misleading in people who take biotin. I hope your doctor has advised you to stop taking biotin at least a couple of days before receiving your blood tests.

A recent study on multivitamins did show an improvement in "global cognition," but there wasn't a reduction in the incidence of mild cognitive impairment or dementia during the time period of the study. Previous trials haven't shown an improvement in cognition. A mostly plant-based diet and moderate exercise has larger effects on the body than any supplement, and most people would benefit more from a diet change over a supplement.

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. ©2026 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Archives: www.wtxcc.com



Moore Texas by Roger Moore

June 16, 1838: John Quincy Adams began a 3 week filibuster in the House of Representatives against the annexation of Texas.

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **V** equals **C**

SNWRAQRKO VWNWRJ
 VHTORPTPTC VGETAK KGRXWB
 JPAW KIRJJ KPTCJW-IRKOWB
 KRPJSHROK: QNEPO KJHHXK.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| 3 | | | 4 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| 4 | 5 | | | 7 | | | 9 | 6 |
| 7 | | | 5 | | | 9 | 4 | |
| | | | 1 | 9 | | | | 4 7 |
| 2 | | 6 | | 4 | | | | 9 |
| | | | 8 | 6 | | | | 5 |
| | 9 | 5 | | 3 | 4 | 1 | 7 | |
| | | | 9 | | 7 | | 6 | 4 |
| | | 4 | | | | | | 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
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Volunteering at a Stand Down



by Freddy Groves

The summer and fall of 2026 could well be the most rewarding you've had in a long time, especially if you want to step up and help other veterans at a Stand Down.

Stand Downs are often the highlight of the year for homeless veterans. Begun in 1988, these are one-, two- or three-day events in numerous places around the country. At a Stand Down a homeless veteran can get a haircut, clean clothes, legal advice, a hot shower, a visit to a dentist, something to eat, help with a VA claim or housing and mental health counseling. Add to that employment search assistance and help from veteran service organizations.

And they always need volunteers. That's where you come in, if you're willing.

Many of the homeless veterans don't have a ride to

the event. You might volunteer to drive the van and pick up a half dozen veterans to get them to the Stand Down in your area. Maybe you'll want to work in the food area and feed the hundreds of people who show up.

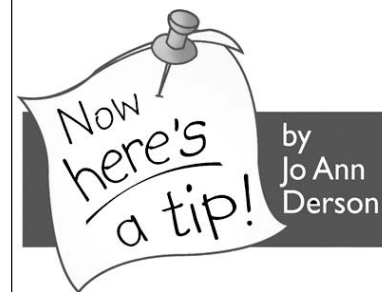
If you have special skills and training, such as dental assistant, attorney or barber, speak up when you call to volunteer. If you're not sure what you can contribute, ask what they need. Even if it's sorting the clothing that's been donated, dashing to the store to pick up another 50 lbs. of ground beef to grill another 200 hamburgers or standing at the entrance and directing veterans to the various areas, your help will be most appreciated.

The best place to look for Stand Downs in your area is online at www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp. You'll find a long list with contact names, phone numbers and email addresses. Also search online for Stand Downs in your state.

Whether you want to volunteer or you are a veteran in need of the services at a

Stand Down, make the call. You'll be most welcome no matter your status.

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• "Clean and save takeout food containers rather than purchasing commercial plastic containers. They are all the same basically, and you will not be at a loss if you need to throw one away, leave it behind or send leftovers home with a guest." – M.W. in Nevada

• To preserve your battery life on your smartphone, remember to close out applications that you are not using. Shut down and restart your phone from time to time as well.

• "Got too many coffee cups? Add potting soil and a small flower to give as gifts to brighten someone's day!" – B. in North Carolina

• In a pinch, you can use liquid correction fluid to cover up nail holes in a white wall. Dot and smudge as it dries.

• "After you clip the coupons you want to keep from your Sunday paper inserts, pass them along to your neighbors. They may use different products and so may want your coupons!" – I.L. in Georgia

• Freshen stuffed animals by securing a few in a pillowcase and adding a fabric softener sheet. Put in the dryer on low heat for 20 minutes, then remove and brush out the fur if necessary while still warm.

• "I have an extra coffeepot, which I brew a pot of hot water in. I use the water for both tea and instant oatmeal packets in the morning." – M.S. in Nevada

• Want to eat your nine servings of fruits and veggies a day? Keep fresh fruit out and in view to increase the amount you eat. Cut and otherwise prepare vegetables and store them front and center in your refrigerator. Plan your meals around the vegetables instead of the protein!

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. ©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

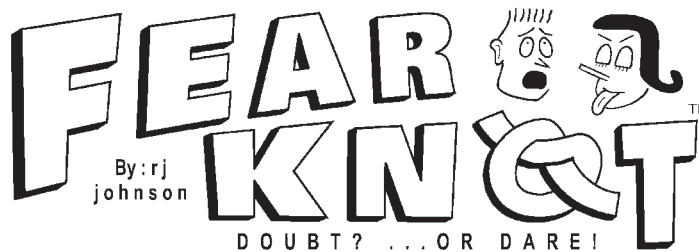
GO FIGURE!

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.

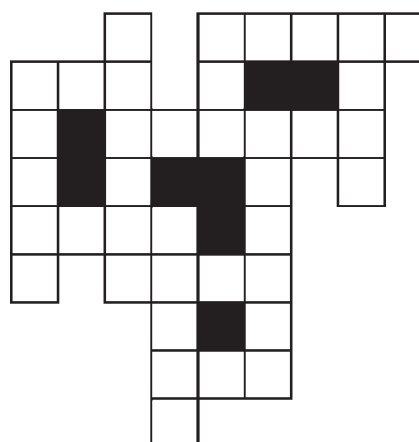
| | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|
| | + | | + | | = | 16 | | |
| - | | + | | - | | | | |
| | + | | + | | = | 11 | | |
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| = | | = | | = | | | | |
| 24 | | 13 | | 48 | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

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- RFU
- NAVTE
- OYGFO
- NTGO
- NARVLE
- ♥ ODT
- ODGL
- ♥ ATYOD
- ♥ ADG
- ANTHUG
- RFGEO
- TFNO



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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