



## West Texas' history in America's semi-quincentennial



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

**TRADITION** – The San Elizario Chapel was incorporated into the Spanish presidio site that was established in 1788. Tigua tribe members, above, perform a ritual dance at the entrance to the iconic chapel. The Tiguas (Tiwas), of the Pueblo Nation, have maintained their cultural identity through various traditions including language, art, religious customs, dances, crafts, and agricultural practices.

**By Alfredo Vasquez**  
*Special to the Courier*

**WEST TEXAS** – As Americans proudly commemorate the birth of a nation that emerged along its eastern shores 250 years ago, it is interesting to contemplate what was happening in this continent's southwestern prairie lands during that same period.

Specifically West Texas, where its vastness was a harsh, semi-arid expanse untouched by Anglo settlers two and a half centuries ago. Instead, the sprawling pristine plains were inhabited by various Native American tribes, primarily the Comanche, Apache, Kiowa, and Pueblo.

The West Texas desert expanse was part of these indigenous clans' realm, and they reigned over it with highly developed know how regarding the construction of shelters, defense of their hunting grounds, and the use of acequias to irrigate their crops.

Meanwhile, a handful of Spanish outposts and trade centers existed along the Rio Grande and Big Bend region. Initially, Spanish colonial settlements were mostly concentrated in South and East Texas and gradually began to expand into Far West Texas. Around that time, the roots of the Mexican American and Spanish American were born. For when the Spaniards arrived at the new world, they came as conquistadores and left their progeny in those small settlements and trade networks that sprung up along the Rio Grande – such as El Paso del Norte, Presidio, and the Big Bend area.

Today, while this nation celebrates its 250th birthday, the recounting of America's resilience must also include the stories of the people who



**SYMBOLIC WORK** – This sculpture stands in front of Speaking Rock Entertainment located in the historic Mission Valley.

originally populated West Texas – the inhabitants who lived in this part of the continent before the Anglo set foot onto the southwestern terrain; because it was these native ancestors who taught the newcomers how to navigate through this unforgiving region, how to live off the land, and how to work parched fields to produce crops.

So, as the United States of America celebrates its founding fathers – George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin,

See 250th, Page 2

## Servin selected for Aspen Policy Academy

**By Beau Bagley**  
*Special to the Courier*

**EL PASO COUNTY** – El Paso Community College (EPCC) Professor of Computer Science Dr. Christian Servin has been selected to participate in the 2026 Aspen Science and Technology Policy Academy.

Servin is one of 15 members of the 2026 Science and Technology Policy Fellowship and recently traveled to San Francisco for an intensive, month-long policy boot camp which will run until June 26. Together, the cohort is learning the foundational skills needed to drive

policy impact, meet leaders in the policy space, and exchange ideas across their areas of expertise. From startup founders to academics, each Fellow has brought a unique point of view to the cohort and our broader Academy community.

“I am deeply honored and excited to participate in the Aspen Policy Academy in Science and Technology. This experience has already been incredibly meaningful, especially as I learn from experts across policy, science, technology, and public service,” Servin said. “As a community college computing educator, I see

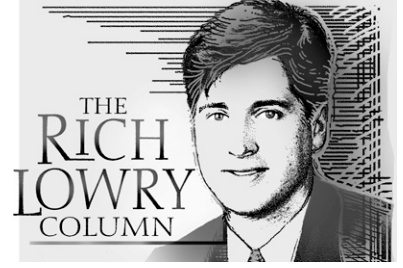
See **SERVIN**, Page 5



— Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

**TECH SAVVY** – Dr. Christian Servin is instrumental in “Hack the Border”, a computer challenge, held annually at El Paso Community College.

# Why Trump couldn't bring Iran to heel



Iran, a second-rate power in a state of economic collapse, just fought the U.S. to a standstill in a major military conflict. The disappointing outcome has echoes of Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, in that a major world power hasn't been able to impose its will on a militarily inferior foe.

The problem comes when we run into an enemy that has a high threshold for pain and is determined to outlast us, while we make what we hope will be a time-limited commitment, seek to avoid escalations that carry unpredictable risks and operate from a tenuous base of domestic political support in the United States.

This is why we can utterly dominate our adversaries and still succumb to asymmetric campaigns of attrition; it explains, in short, why in the post-World

War II era, we haven't lost battles, only wars.

It's extraordinary to think that, in the struggle over control of the Strait of Hormuz, the country that has carrier fleets and advanced fighters effectively lost to the country that has drones and fast boats. We didn't lack the capability to reopen the strait; we lacked the stomach for a risky and protracted operation.

The famous Taliban adage was, "You have the watches, but we have the time." George C. Marshall once said the U.S. couldn't fight a Seven Years' War; the outcome of the Iran conflict suggests we can't even tolerate a seven-month one.

Trump pushed back against impatience about the pace of the war by saying that Vietnam lasted years. True enough, but Trump was almost as eager

to see an end to the war as his critics.

He originally conceived of it as a four- to six-week operation, and when it dragged on, he could only tolerate high gas prices ahead of the midterm elections for so long.

We tend to believe that our ability to missile, bomb and shell our enemies at levels never before seen in human history guarantees military success.

As Max Boot notes in his book on America's small wars, "The Savage Wars of Peace," when queried by a reporter about how the Americans would defeat

See LOWRY, Page 7



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

1973  
**53**  
Years  
2026

## WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLIVE, FARENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO

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

**COPYRIGHT:**  
Entire contents © 2026 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the West Texas County Courier may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:**  
Letters must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right to edit or reject letters to the editor or other submitted material it considers inappropriate.

**AD DEADLINE:**  
Friday 4 p.m. for the next Thursday.

**PERSONAL CLASSIFIED RATES**  
\$15 for 25 words, \$20 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right not to publish advertising it considers inappropriate.

**DISPLAY RATES:**  
Open rate — \$40 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right not to publish advertising it considers inappropriate.

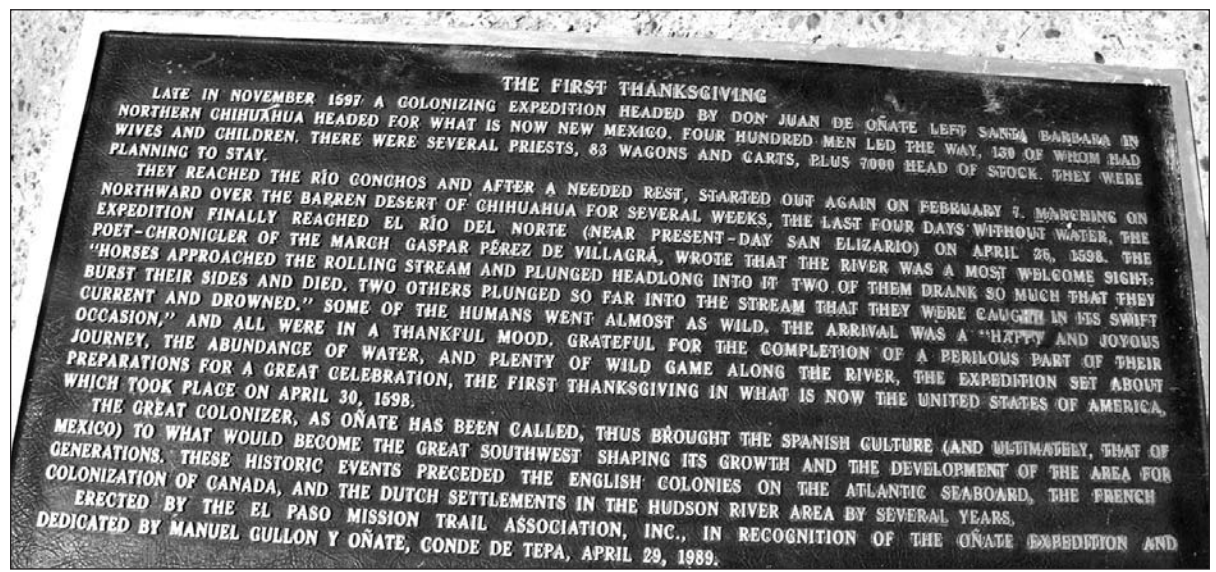
**MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**  
Minimum 50 issues for \$50. Delivery via 1st class mail.

**MAIL:**  
15344 Werling Ct.  
Horizon City, TX 79928

**STILL THE SAME** – The West Texas landscape 250 years ago looked much like it does today – rugged desert mountains, deep canyons, and vast grasslands – as shown in photo above of the Davis Mountains.

**250th**  
From Page 1

among others – and their accomplishments, it is important to remember that all Americans benefit from a deeper and fuller understanding of the vital part that Native Americans, Mexican Americans, and Spanish Americans played in this nation's history and will continue to be an essential part in shaping its future.



**COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE** – San Elizario, TX, is recognized as the location of the first Thanksgiving celebration on American soil, as noted on the Texas Historical Commission marker above. Held on April 30, 1598, by Spanish explorer Don Juan de Oñate and his expedition, this event predates the famous 1621 Pilgrim feast in Plymouth Colony by over two decades.

Phone: 852-3235  
E-mail: [wtxcc@wtxcc.com](mailto:wtxcc@wtxcc.com)  
Website: [wtxcc.com](http://wtxcc.com)

**Publisher**  
Rick Shrum

**Contributors**  
Alfredo Vasquez  
Steve Escajeda

**Homesteader**  
Est. 1973  
News, Inc.

**To Advertise Call 852-3235**  
**Archives: [www.wtxcc.com](http://www.wtxcc.com)**

# Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

## Are you okay?

The weather is always news. Most of the national morning and evening shows have a segment about the weather. Often, the weather is the lead story. We spend hours of our lives inquiring about the weather. Will it be hot today? Will there be tornadoes or floods today? Will it be rainy today? The weather report is always news regardless of the weather.

We talk about the weather a lot. If you can't find anything else to talk about you can always talk about the weather. For example, if you are ordering a soft drink at the local five and dime snack bar and you are sitting next to a stranger, you can always say something like, "It sure is hot today." Or you can say something like, "I think we are supposed to have a lot of wind today." If the stranger wants to talk, they will likely chime in and say, "Yes, it's really hot out there or it's been windy." You can usually go from there and talk more specifically. You can say something like, "Those people out there in Kansas just about got blown off by the tornadoes." Or you can say, "Those people over in Texas are burning up in the heat." From there your conversation can go other directions. You can ask, "Did you get much rain over where you live." They will respond by saying, "No, I live over at Turkey Creek or Big Rock and we missed all that." From there you can say, "Oh, I know John Smith over at Turkey Creek." The conversation can go on and on.

The weather is a good conversation starter. It's even better if you can just have surface talk about the weather. What I mean is, the

talk isn't really personal. Hopefully you don't have to say, "Well, my house got blown off by the tornado." Or, "My house was burned down by the fires." Or, "My house was flooded or destroyed by the hurricane." Hopefully, you will never have to say, "We lost a family member due to that horrific storm." Such a conversation would be gut wrenching.

The news none of us want is bad news about someone being hurt or killed due to the weather, or due to anything. Bad news is never welcomed.

During times of harsh weather or community tragedies, give thanks for anyone who checks on you. We had a tornado in our town years ago. Many lives were lost. Our community was devastated. A good friend drove across town to knock on our door to ask, "Are you okay?" The telephone rang. A family member was calling to ask, "Are you okay?" Most of the time, those same people will not be able to do much to help us but the thought goes a long way.

It's nice to know there are one, two or a few people who check on us from time to time when they are concerned. It's simply nice to know that someone cares. Maybe one of the best things you can do for a friend or just an acquaintance is to check on them and ask, "Are you okay?" It might mean more than you can imagine. Most likely you already know.

*Dr. Glenn Mollette is a syndicated columnist read in all fifty states. He is also the author of numerous books and can be heard each weekday morning on XM Radio 131.*

## King Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19			20	21				
			22			23					24	25
26	27	28				29				30		
31					32				33			
34				35				36				
37			38				39					
		40					41			42	43	44
45	46					47	48			49		
50						51				52		
53						54				55		

**Average Solve Time 25 Minutes**

### ACROSS

- 1 Mule, for one
- 5 Unruly group
- 8 Bygone fliers
- 12 Lawman Wyatt
- 13 Stop \_ dime
- 14 Ornamental jug
- 15 Heart charts
- 16 Business card no.
- 17 Calf-length
- 18 Stop
- 20 Son of Erik the Red
- 22 "War and Peace" author
- 26 Violin stroke
- 29 Cyclades island

30 British verb ending adjective

- 31 Subject, usually
- 32 Fellow
- 33 Healthy
- 34 Internet address
- 35 Continent north of Afr.
- 36 Disinfectant brand
- 37 Oscar-winning actress in "The Fighter"
- 40 Arizona tribe
- 41 Prisoner
- 45 Conspiracy
- 47 Corn core
- 49 Big-screen format
- 50 \_ song (cheaply)
- 51 Lincoln nickname
- 52 Zilch
- 53 Swindles
- 54 Dogpatch

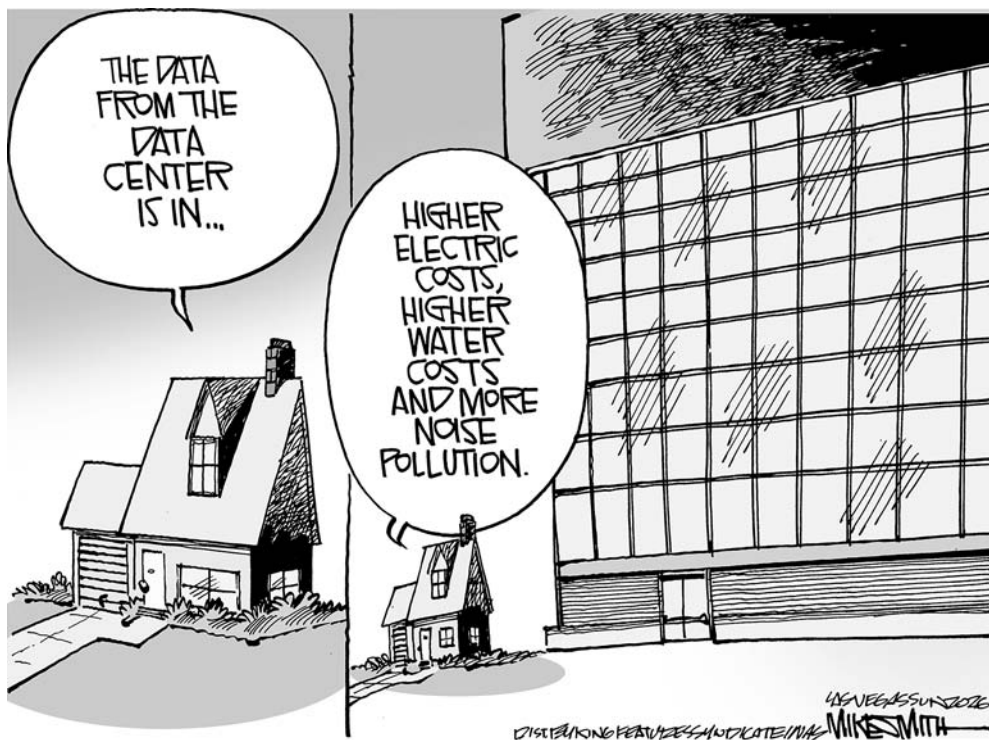
55 Musician's jobs

### DOWN

- 1 Future flower
- 2 Cod cousin
- 3 PTA and NEA, e.g.
- 4 Delta follower
- 5 Slogan
- 6 Count starter
- 7 Inflated party prop
- 8 Big rigs
- 9 Fans of pop icon Taylor
- 10 \_ Talks (online lecture series)
- 11 Lanka lead-in
- 19 Stitch
- 21 Golf's Ernie
- 23 Pageant crown
- 24 City on a fjord

- 25 Holler
- 26 "E Pluribus \_"
- 27 Skin opening
- 28 Megaphone's kin
- 32 "Suffs" or "Rent," e.g.
- 33 Cheyenne's state
- 35 Mentalist's gift
- 36 Cariou of "Blue Bloods"
- 38 Smidgens
- 39 Slander in print
- 42 Mine, in Marseille
- 43 Tart flavor
- 44 Alimony recipients
- 45 USMC rank
- 46 Privy
- 48 Japanese sash

Answer Page 4



**Senior moment** By Matilda Charles

# Keeping cool

Here we are again, in the heat of summer. We seniors are the ones most at risk for serious health problems because of the high temperatures. Many of us take prescription drugs that can keep us from being able to regulate our body's temperature, and there are chronic medical conditions that do the same thing. Add to that our reduced ability to sweat and therefore keep cool.

It falls to us to take steps to be sure we stay cool enough.

Those of us lucky enough to have central air conditioning need to turn it on and leave it set between 72 and 78 degrees. This is not the time to worry about the electric bill! That temperature range is suggested by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as being one that can not only keep us cool but save money.

Humidity plays a part in our comfort level: Running the air conditioning can reduce the humidity in the air and help us to feel

cooler. Even window air conditioners can go a long way to keeping temperatures down. If necessary, shut doors to block off an area that you can keep as a cool zone.

If you don't have air conditioning, call your town office to find cooling centers. They might be at the rec center, the library, the school gym or the senior center.

Meanwhile, keep the drapes closed, wear light clothing, drink plenty of water (ask your doctor how much), stay indoors during the hottest part of the day and keep an eye on the weather news to know what temperatures are expected.

This year LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) was allocated \$4 billion for help with utility bills. In most states the qualifying income level is capped at 150% of the federal poverty level. Call the National Energy Assistance Referral at (866) 674-6327 to find out how and where to apply in your area.

©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



## Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On June 29, 1967, Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards faced charges stemming from the raid of his Redlands estate five months earlier. No drugs were found but he was sentenced to a year in prison, spending just one night there, however, as he was granted bail the next day. His conviction was later overturned.

- On June 30, 1908, a fiery explosion flattened 800 square miles of forest in Siberia's Tunguska region, believed to have been caused by an asteroid or comet. It remains Earth's biggest recorded cosmic collision.

- On July 1, 2003, a female employee at a Colorado resort filed sexual misconduct charges against basketball star Kobe Bryant. Bryant was questioned by authorities, provided a DNA sample and eventually admitted to what he insisted was a consensual encounter. In early March 2005, he and the accuser settled her civil lawsuit for an undisclosed sum.

- On July 2, 1977, Hollywood composer Bill Conti, a relative unknown in Hollywood, scored

a No. 1 pop hit with the single "Gonna Fly Now" (the theme from "Rocky"). The film went on to launch both his and Sylvester Stallone's careers.

- On July 3, 1988, during U.S. naval operations in the Persian Gulf, the U.S. Navy cruiser Vincennes shot down an Iranian passenger jet that it mistook for a hostile military aircraft, killing everyone aboard. The U.S. Navy report blamed crew error caused by psychological stress on men in combat for the first time, and in 1996 the U.S. agreed to pay \$62 million in damages to the families of those who died.

- On July 4, 1965, more than two dozen LGBTQ activists showed up in front of Philadelphia's Independence Hall for the first "Reminder" gay rights demonstration. While it drew little media coverage, it is now considered a precursor to the wider gay liberation movement.

- On July 5, 1937, George A. Hormel & Company debuted a canned luncheon meat called Spam, which not only gained rapid popularity for its convenience and affordability, but eventually launched annual festivals such as the wittily named Spam Jam and Spamarama.

©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Take the First Step to a Heart-Healthy Life.

### Start! Walking. Start! Something.

Heart disease is the number one killer of men and women in America. But did you know that just 30 minutes a day of physical activity can improve your health and decrease your risk of heart disease? An easy way to work physical activity into your regular routine is to start walking. For every single hour of regular, vigorous exercise, you can add two hours to your life expectancy.

It's easy to Start! whether you're by yourself or with friends, family and co-workers. You'll all feel a difference and live longer, heart-healthier lives.

Join the movement.

[heart.org/start](http://heart.org/start)



©2010, American Heart Association 1/10DS3493

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

7	-	1	-	4	=	2
+		+		+		
6	-	3	+	8	=	11
-		+		÷		
9	+	5	÷	2	=	7
=		=		=		
4		9		6		

S	H	O	E	M	O	B	S	S	T	S
E	A	R	P	O	N	A	E	W	E	R
E	K	G	S	T	E	L	M	I	D	I
D	E	S	I	S	T	L	E	I	F	
	L	E	O	T	O	L	S	T	O	Y
U	P	B	O	W	I	O	S	I	S	E
N	O	U	N	M	A	N	W	E	L	L
U	R	L	E	U	R	L	Y	S	O	L
M	E	L	I	S	S	A	L	E	O	
	H	O	P	I	I	N	M	A	T	E
P	L	O	T	C	O	B	I	M	A	X
F	O	R	A	A	B	E	N	O	N	E
C	O	N	S	L	I	L	G	I	G	S

A	P	B	B	O	S	U	N	M	A	D	E	S	T	A	C	H	E			
P	R	E	F	E	C	T	G	E	A	R	E	D	T	I	T	L	E			
R	E	L	O	A	D	I	N	G	T	H	E	F	I	N	E	P	R	I	N	T
P	I	N	T	L	E	A	S	T	E	E	R	A	C	N	E					
J	A	Z	Z	C	O	L	O	M	B	O	E	N	D	H	E	R				
I	R	E	O	N	E	S	L	A	L	O	M	D	U	N	K	E	R	S		
B	E	A	S	P	O	R	T	T	R	E	V	I	M	A	R					
E	D	N	A		S	E	E	V	E	N	I	O	P	I	E					
C	T	S		S	L	O	W	I	N	G	D	A	N	C	I	N	G			
S	T	A	C	I	E	S	A	Y	A	B	R	O	U	S	A					
M	E	L	O	D	I	C	A	L	L	Y	S	U	P	E	R	V	I	S	E	D
A	L	I	A	K	A		I	T	G	O	A	U	D	I	T	S				
S	C	A	L	L	O	P	M	A	S	S	A	G	E	Y	S	L				
H	O	S	E		S	A	V	E		S	T	P		E	S	T	A			
G	E	E		L	E	A	S	H		S	L	A	N	D	E	R	S			
S	C	H	O	O	L	B	L	O	U	S	E	S	A	L	B	N	A	H		
T	A	E		N	E	E		E	X	A	C	T	S	A	L	O	M	E		
U	R	A	L		C	A	C	A	O		L	E	O	G	A	R	R			
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	D	E	C	O	L	O	R	A	T	I	O	N
C	O	Y	O	T	E		S	T	O	L	E	N		N	A	M	E	T	A	G
O	P	E	N	E	D		T	O	R	S	O	S		S	H	E		A	D	O

## CryptoQuip Answer

If a dad refrains from making a big stink about a task, how is it done? Without father ado.

L	U	R	K					
A		A						
M	I	N	G	L	E			
O	E			E				
C	U	D		G	M			
E			C	A	N	O	E	D
L	U	N	A	R		N		
O			M					
T	A	K	E					

## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Unlike some genocides in which victims could sometimes avoid persecution by converting to another religion, Nazi Germany generally defined Jews by ancestry rather than personal belief. Under the Nuremberg Laws, a person's classification depended largely on the religious affiliation of parents and grandparents, so conversion to Christianity usually did not exempt someone of Jewish ancestry from anti-Jewish persecution.

- Turtles can see well underwater, but on land they are nearsighted.

- In one of his occasional efforts to improve public relations, Chicago gangster Al Capone opened a soup kitchen during the Great Depression.

- During the pre-WWII drafts, an illiterate gentleman hoping to avoid military service asked his wife to write the draft board and explain how much he was needed at home. The plan backfired when his lady instead requested that her husband be taken because he was a "no-good" alcoholic

who didn't help around the house.

- Beer is the third-most popular drink on Earth, after water and tea.

- An Ohio State University study found that women who reported stress in the previous 24 hours burned 104 fewer calories than unstressed women after a high-fat meal.

- Geneticists believe that the same segment of DNA in the human genome is responsible for the development of both schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.

- In the U.S., graduating nurses take an oath called the Nightingale Pledge, named after Florence Nightingale and adapted from the Hippocratic Oath taken by doctors.

- After his first son's birth, Claude Monet attempted suicide by jumping into the Seine. He was poor, estranged from his father and disappointed in the French art scene. Surviving, he later helped found the Impressionist movement.

Thought for the Day: "When obstacles arise, you change your direction to reach your goal; you do not change your decision to get there."

- Zig Ziglar

©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Servin**

From Page 1

this as a powerful opportunity to translate classroom, workforce, and student experiences into policy ideas that can strengthen AI reform in computing education and cybersecurity. Community colleges play a critical role in preparing the nation's technical workforce, and I hope to use this experience to help advance policies that expand access, support responsible AI education, and create stronger cybersecurity pathways for students across the country."

Servin has served in a faculty role at EPCC for over ten years and developed the nationally renowned *Hack the Border*, embarking on its' fifth year engaging students in AI and Cybersecurity tactics in an ethical manner.

In 2025, Servin was named the HI-TEC Educator-of-the-Year at the HI-TEC Conference in Minneapolis, and later, was awarded the King-Sun Fu Award by the North American Fuzzy Information Processing Society (NAFIPS) at its international conference.

The Science and Technology Policy Fellowship teaches science and technology experts with limited policy experience on how to impact policy. The Fellowship consists of a mandatory full-time policy boot camp that teaches Fellows the basics of policymaking, including practical exercises, and an optional, remote, and part-time final project.

The cohort will soon embark on developing Academy supported final projects that delve deeper into the specific policies that matter to them.

This program is for US-based individuals with subject-matter expertise in the science and technology field. Any science and technology professional can apply, however, for the upcoming program, we will prioritize admitting those who work in one of three priority areas: emerging technology, cybersecurity, and the environment.

**If you're not covered, you'll be discovered.**

An estimated 1 in every 5 vehicles on our Texas roads has no automobile insurance, but that's about to change. • TexasSure Vehicle Insurance Verification matches vehicle registration information to insurance policy data to immediately tell law enforcement officers and tax assessor-collectors who's driving without insurance. • So, if you're not covered, better get insured! • To learn more, visit: [www.TexasSure.com](http://www.TexasSure.com)

**TexasSure catches drivers without insurance.**

**Tornillo Independent School District  
Public Notice of Nondiscrimination**

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

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

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Myrna Lopez, Director of Administrative Services, P.O. Box 170, Tornillo, TX 79853; [LopezMy@tisd.us](mailto:LopezMy@tisd.us), or call (915) 765-3000.

**Notificación Pública  
No Discriminar en Tornillo ISD**

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

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

Para mas información acerca de sus derechos favor de comunicarse con Myrna Lopez, Directora de Servicios Administrativos, PO Box 170, Tornillo TX 79853; [LopezMy@tisd.us](mailto:LopezMy@tisd.us), o llame al (915)765-3000.

WTCC: 07-02-26

**Tornillo Independent School District  
Public Notice**

**Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education Programs at Tornillo ISD for 2026-2027 School Year**

1) Tornillo Independent School District offers Career and Technical Education programs in Business Marketing & Finance, Education & Training, Health Science, Information Technology, Law & Public Service, Manufacturing, STEM and Transportation, Distribution & Logistics. Admission to these programs is based on current enrollment in the Tornillo ISD and completion of any necessary prerequisites.

2) It is the policy of Tornillo ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act for 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

3) It is the policy of Tornillo ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

4) Tornillo ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator, Myrna Lopez, Director of Administrative Services, at P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Avenue, Tornillo Texas, 79853; [LopezMy@tisd.us](mailto:LopezMy@tisd.us), or call (915) 765-3000.

**Noticia Pública**

**Notificación Publica de No Discriminación en Programas de Educacion Tecnica y Vocacional en Tornillo ISD por el año escolar 2026-2027**

1) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tornillo ofrece programas de Educación Técnica y Profesional en Mercadotecnia y Finanzas de Negocios, Educación y Capacitación, Ciencias de la Salud, Tecnología de la Información, Derecho y Servicio Público, Manufactura, STEM y Transporte, Distribución y Logística. La admisión a estos programas se basa en la inscripción actual en Tornillo ISD y la finalización de los requisitos previos necesarios.

2) Es política de Tornillo ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o discapacidad en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales como lo requiere el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado; Título IX de las Enmiendas a la Educación de 1972; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmendada.

3) Es política de Tornillo ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, nacionalidad, sexo, discapacidad o edad en sus prácticas laborales, según lo requiere el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmendada; Título IX de las Enmiendas a la Educación de 1972; la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975, según enmendada; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmendada.

4) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tornillo tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

5) Para mas información de sus derechos y procedimiento de quejas, comuníquese con la Coordinadora del Titulo IX y del Programa 504, Myrna Lopez, Directora de Servicios Administrativos, P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Avenue, Tornillo, TX 79853; [LopezMy@tisd.us](mailto:LopezMy@tisd.us), o llame al (915) 765-3000.

WTCC: 07-02-26

# With months to go, MLB season passes midseason

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

Everything right now in the world of sports is evolving around the World Cup soccer matches and the way the event has brought the entire planet's people closer than they have possibly ever been.

But in America, we can't forget that very quietly, the Major League Baseball season has just crept over the halfway mark and it's a good time to see what's what.

Every team in the league has played their 81st of a grueling 162-game schedule and just like last year and the year before that, the Los Angeles Dodgers are the best team in the land.

And let's be honest, the Dodgers (53-30) have built their franchise the old-fashioned way – with money. The Dodgers have spent the most money to get the better players and like college teams with the most NIL money, it's paying off on the field.

Los Angeles is one of five super teams that have stood above the rest at least through the first half of the season. The New York Yankees and the Tampa Bay Rays are the class of the American League, while L.A., the Atlanta Braves and the Milwaukee Brewers are tops in the National League.

But the way they've been playing lately, we may have to add the Philadelphia Phillies to the National League list.

In the American League, the Yankees and the Rays are in the same East division and are tied for first place.

Amazingly, the Yankees have kept winning despite missing two starters and their superstar due to injury. Slugger Giancarlo Stanton, Trent Grisham and 3-time MVP Aaron Judge aren't expected back until maybe mid-July.

The trio of Wandy Diaz (98 hits, .334 batting average), Jonathan Aranda (13 HRs, 57 RBI) and Junior Caminero (21 HRs, 47 RB I) should keep Tampa Bay near the top all the way through the playoffs.

The other two American League divisions are kind of weak with the Chicago White Sox and the Cleveland Guardians leading the Central, while four teams, Seattle Mariners, the Texas Rangers, the Oakland A's and the Houston Astros are all within two games of first place in the West.

All six of these teams are playing around .500 and some even have losing records to show how dismal

the rest of the league is.

The National League is much simpler, the Braves lead the East, the Brewers lead the Central and the Dodgers are way up in the West.

Those are the three teams that were expected to be on top.

On offense, the Braves are led by Matt Olsen (20 HR, 52 RBI), Ozzie Albies (51 runs, 86 hits) and Michael Harris (14 HR, .300). Atlanta also has one of the best pitchers in the game with Chris Sale (2.14 ERA).

The Brewers have the best pitcher in the league with flamethrower Jacob Misorowski. The second-year pitcher is 9-3 with a 1.45 ERA and leads baseball with 146 strikeouts.

The Dodgers, of course. Are loaded with Shohei Ohtani, Freddie Freeman (88 hits, .291), Mookie Betts (11 HR), Kyle Tucker (45 runs, 16 doubles), Andy Pages (15 HR, 58 RBI) and Max Muncy (50 runs, 16 HR).

Ohtani, who has won four MVP awards (2 AL with

the Angels and 2 NL with the Dodgers) is batting .296 with 84 hits and 17 homeruns. He's also pitched 13 games with an 8-2 record and 1.58 ERA.

As far as the awards for the first half of the season, the American League's MVP has to go to Houston's Yordan Alvarez, or Air Yordan as he is called. He is 3rd in runs (57), 2nd in hits (94), 2nd in batting (.314), 1st in homeruns (25), 4th in RBI (56) and 1st in total bases (185).

The AL's best pitcher has been the Yankees' Cam Schlittler. He's started 17 games with an 8-4 record and a 1.62 ERA.

In the National League, the first half MVP goes to who else – Shohei Ohtani. When you combine his hitting and his pitching, it isn't close.

But the NL's best pitcher hands-down is Misorowski, with some pitches thrown at over 105 mph.

Of course, there are still three months to go, it'll be interesting to see how much things change in the season's second half.



"OH, LOOK!...NEW YORK MUST HAVE WON ANOTHER CHAMPIONSHIP."

### "LO AND BEHOLD!"

- ACROSS**
- 1 Police dept. alert
  - 4 Celtics, on scoreboards
  - 7 Like messy beds
  - 13 Beard go-with, for short
  - 19 French department head
  - 21 Got ready, with "up"
  - 22 Epithets
  - 23 Refreshing a web page that has detailed contract wording?
  - 26 Half a quart
  - 27 Meadowland
  - 28 Navigate
  - 29 It might make you red in the face
  - 30 Annual bebop music festival in Sri Lanka's capital?
  - 34 Discontinue
  - 36 That girl
  - 37 It might make you red in the face
  - 38 Unbroken
  - 39 Basketball-stuffing pros taking part in a zigzag ski race?
  - 44 "C'mon, do me this favor"
  - 47 Fountain in Rome
  - 48 Spoil
  - 49 Writer Ferber
  - 50 Visualize
  - 52 "\_ , vidi, vici"
  - 54 Sheriff Taylor's son
  - 58 Dol. units
  - 61 Becoming less energetic at the disco?
  - 66 Barbie's little sister
  - 69 "I won't \_ word"
  - 70 Male bud
  - 71 D.C.'s land
  - 72 Having a boss who will only communicate with you by singing?
  - 78 Boxer Laila
  - 79 Wanted-poster abbr.
  - 80 "Let \_ already!"
  - 81 IRS probes
  - 82 Technique of kneading bivalve mollusks before cooking them?
  - 87 Big inits. in fashion
  - 88 Watering aid
  - 89 Rescue
  - 90 Big inits. in fuel additives
  - 92 This, in Lima
  - 96 "Golly!"
  - 99 Dog tether
  - 102 Maligns
  - 105 Girls' shirts worn as part of a classroom dress code?
  - 110 Province west of Sask.
  - 111 "Nope"
  - 112 \_ kwon do
  - 113 Born as
  - 114 Strauss opera performed correctly in every detail?
  - 117 Europe-Asia border river
  - 119 Tree yielding chocolate
  - 123 Zodiac feline
  - 124 Actress Teri yuletide ornaments black and white?
  - 131 Prairie canine
  - 132 Taken illicitly
  - 133 ID attached to luggage
  - 134 Unfurled, e.g.
  - 135 Trunks
  - 136 That girl
  - 137 Hurly-burly
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Spring mo.
  - 2 Got ready
  - 3 Native of Belmopan
  - 4 Officer patrolling an area
  - 5 Condition with rituals, in brief
  - 6 Ben and Jerry of comedy
  - 7 "Roots" actress Leslie
  - 8 After-tax
  - 9 \_jongg
  - 10 War god
  - 11 Masterful
  - 12 Falco of TV
  - 13 Breastbone
  - 14 Gratuity
  - 15 Razor option
  - 16 Trite phrase
  - 17 "Taxi" actress Marilu
  - 18 Acid-alcohol compounds
  - 20 "Happy Days" cool guy, with "the"
  - 24 Natal lead-in
  - 25 Requirement
  - 30 Agree (with)
  - 31 Yoko of art
  - 32 Deli classic
  - 33 Rowing blade
  - 35 Genetic ID
  - 40 \_ Strauss
  - 41 Pizza cooker
  - 42 Very valuable vase
  - 43 Ray of McDonald's
  - 45 Vanzetti's old partner in crime
  - 46 Actress Thompson
  - 51 Israeli airline
  - 53 "\_ happy to!"
  - 55 Second-century pope
  - 56 Map extra
  - 57 "By Jove!"
  - 59 Kind of wave
  - 60 Japanese watch brand
  - 62 Olive of old comics (1977 comedy film)
  - 64 Orderly lineup
  - 65 "\_ ordo seclorum" (phrase on a dollar bill)
  - 66 Break to bits
  - 67 Verizon, e.g., in brief
  - 68 Pseudonym
  - 73 Salary limits
  - 74 Depot: Abbr.
  - 75 Trendy Aussie boots
  - 76 Bards
  - 77 Did nothing
  - 83 Toy brick brand
  - 84 Galleria
  - 85 2004 Chevy debut
  - 86 Football Hall of Famer Junior
  - 91 Military units
  - 93 Mexican miss
  - 94 Mine railway
  - 95 Tennis star Arthur
  - 97 Untold eras
  - 98 Voted in
  - 100 Boise-to-Vegas dir.
  - 101 Witch's spell
  - 103 Gore and Hirt
  - 104 Heat-vs.-Suns matchup, e.g.
  - 105 Wall plaster
  - 106 Drive-in restaurant server
  - 107 Cry from a town crier
  - 108 Sunlight ray
  - 109 Hair parlors
  - 115 Cartoon pic
  - 116 Tardy
  - 118 Jungle cat
  - 120 Put in a role
  - 121 Regarding
  - 122 Stench
  - 126 Holy Mlle.
  - 127 Raised rails
  - 128 Co. bigwig
  - 129 Cheering cry
  - 130 Many an intl. charity

## Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19			20				21					22						
23						24					25							
	26				27				28					29				
30					31			32	33			34		35		36		
37				38			39		40	41	42				43			
44			45			46		47					48					
49						50		51		52		53		54	55	56	57	
				58	59	60		61		62	63			64	65			
66	67	68					69					70				71		
72						73				74	75	76				77		
78				79						80				81				
82				83				84	85	86				87				
88						89					90		91		92	93	94	95
					96	97	98		99		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				129		130
131									132					133				
134									135					136				137

Comix

**OUT ON A LIMB** By Gary Kopervas



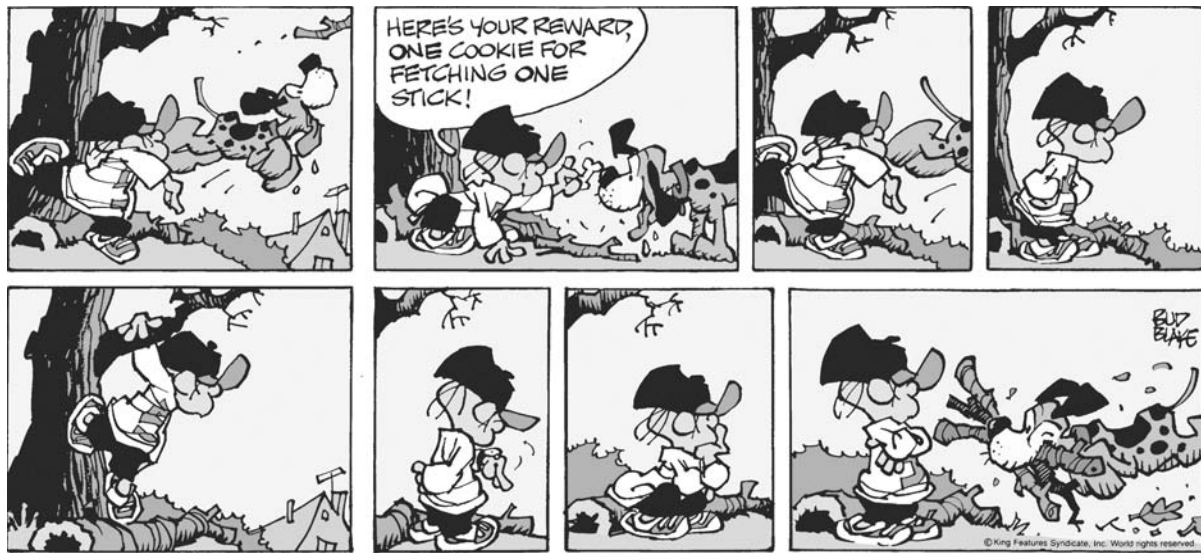
**AMBER WAVES** By Dave T. Phipps



**THE SPATS** By Jeff Pickering



**TIGER** By Bud Blake



**Lowry**

From Page 2

the Viet Cong, Gen. William Westmoreland responded simply: "Firepower."

We possessed it in abundance, then as now. Boot writes: "The U.S. side had sensors, ground radar, infrared equipment, defoliants, herbicides, cluster bombs, missiles of various varieties, tanks, armored personnel carriers, artillery of various calibers, naval vessels ranging from small patrol boats to giant nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and, of course, all the aircraft – everything from B-52 bombers to UH-1 Huey helicopters to specially fitted C-47 airplanes known as Puff the Magic Dragon equipped with automatic machine guns capable of spitting out 6,000 rounds a minute."

All told, LBJ's bombing campaign, Rolling Thunder, unloaded roughly 800 tons of ordnance a day for three and a half years, according to Boot. Throughout the entire war, the U.S. dropped 8 million tons of bombs, far eclipsing what we used in World War II. Much of this was the equivalent of Joseph Conrad's

gunboat futilely firing into the jungle in "Heart of Darkness."

The target list in Iran was more discriminating and achieved concrete goals of degrading the regime's military and industrial capacity. But the idea that simply listing the number of targets hit, or saying we were "ahead of schedule," proved that we were close to achieving strategic goals – toppling the regime, or getting it to give up its highly enriched uranium, or reopening the Strait of Hormuz – smacked of the empty bean-counting that characterized the U.S. government's defense of the conduct of the Vietnam War.

Every war depends on a combination of capability and will. In Iran, we demonstrated that our weapons systems and warfighters are world-class, but that our staying power and willingness to bear costs are limited. That's why we're allowing a cruel and deranged enemy that absorbed untold punishment to win significant benefits at the negotiating table, and live to fight another day.

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

**Seizures, as strokes, can take a long time to heal**

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** My husband suffered a grand mal seizure about six months ago. He was in the hospital for seven days. When he came out of the seizure, he was very combative and experienced memory loss. He still deals with short-term memory loss, and his neurologist says that it could take up to a year for him to get back to normal. Is there anything I can do to help him? – L.H.



Seizures can happen for many reasons, and there are different types of seizures. When a person has the type of seizure that is often shown on TV or in movies, where they have uncontrollable shaking movements and aren't conscious, it's called a generalized tonic-clonic seizure, which used to be called "grand mal."

Most people have memory loss in the minutes before and after a generalized seizure, and they are often confused for a period of time afterward. However, prolonged memory loss and personality changes can happen due to damage to the brain during the time of the seizure, because of low oxygen and excess brain activity.

What happened to him is similar to a stroke, and the recovery period is variable. Being older and being male will cause him to have a slower recovery period, but I agree with the neurologist that recovery is possible for up to a year after the event.

You can help him recover by making sure that you discuss any treatment he might be getting for his seizures with his neurologist, as some treatments are more likely than others to cause memory problems. Of course, preventing further seizures is critically important. You can also ask about memory rehabilitation programs, although these are specialized and aren't easy to find.

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** You mentioned in a recent column that prospective randomized controlled trials (RCTs) are a powerful type of study. Can you tell me if the original COVID vaccine or any of the boosters were part of a trial like this? – C.W.

There have been 33 RCTs that looked at the effectiveness of vaccines for COVID-19, including over 50,000 people who were given the vaccine and almost just as many who received a placebo. Studies on the initial vaccines and boosters are included.

A 2021 review of all trials that were published at the time found strong evidence that the vaccines had high efficacy and low rates of serious adverse effects. There's no such thing as a perfect vaccine, and the rate of mutation in the virus has led to challenges in making sure that the vaccines are effective against the types that are currently circulating.

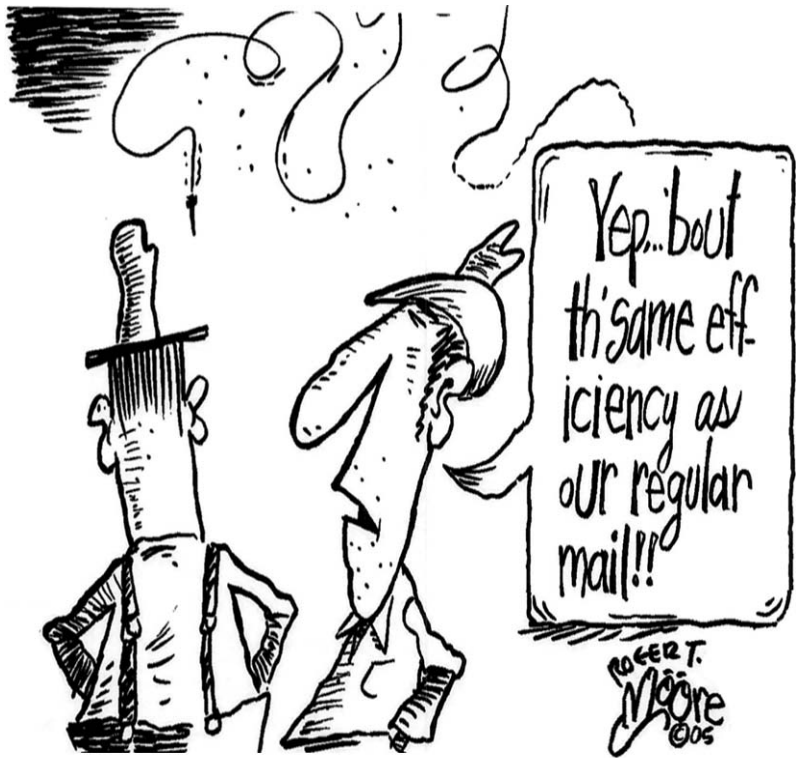
It's the same case with the flu vaccine. However, public health officials have decades of experience predicting flu strains, whereas the changes in the COVID-19 virus are harder to predict.

An infectious disease doctor, Dr. Jake Scott at Stanford Medicine, and his colleagues have made an easily accessible list of RCTs of vaccines, a link to which is on my page at Facebook.com/KeithRoachMD. As of the day I write this, there are 1,683 vaccine trials on the spreadsheet, and all are available vaccines.

Not all RCTs are placebo-controlled. A placebo-controlled vaccine trial is ethical when a safe and effective vaccine doesn't exist (as was the case at the beginning of the pandemic). RCTs may also be ethical when populations who weren't included in the previous trials get tested or when there's limited access to the existing vaccine. In 2026, further placebo-controlled RCTs for COVID-19 would be unethical.

A new vaccine should be tested against the best available treatment, including any of the COVID-19 vaccines like Moderna or Pfizer.

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](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu). ©2026 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.



**Moore Texas by Roger Moore**

July 2, 1936: Keith Rumbel sends international mail via rockets from McAllen. One hits a bar, one explodes, but a few get to Mexico.

**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 F

RE F QFQ BZEBFRIX EBJA  
 AFYRIO F HRO XPRIY FHJKP  
 F PFX Y, UJN RX RP QJIZ?  
 NRPUJKP EFPUZB FQJ.

Answer Page 4

©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Weekly SUDOKU**

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

Answer Page 4

©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Fiduciary rules and thieves**



by Freddy Groves

Fiduciary fraud is one of the lowest scams that can be perpetrated against a disabled veteran. Not only is the thief taking taxpayer money, but, he (or she) is stealing the money directly from the veteran.

There are so many examples of fiduciary fraud – and when caught, the thieves end up in prison.

There's the woman who stole from her own disabled veteran son for five years. Against the rules, she commingled his VA money with her own bank account and proceeded to spend it on trips, bills and even a vehicle. And of course she didn't file the required paperwork.

Then there was the thief who swindled a very elderly disabled veteran, spending the money on himself for vacations, jewelry and more.

If you agree to become a fiduciary for a veteran, be

sure you understand the rules. Here are a few:

That money is for the sole use and benefit of the veteran – medical care, internet, taxes, travel, telephone, food, housing, clothing, monthly bills and anything else – and that money is to be kept in a separate account.

You'll be expected to file paperwork and reports, keeping track of where every dime has gone and noting any changes to the circumstances such as a new address, medical condition or income. Keep all receipts and bank statements.

You may not pull cash out of an ATM or cash checks just made out to "cash."

You may be awarded a small fee for fiduciary duties. You cannot take more than that amount, and fees are not paid if you are related to the veteran.

If you're a fiduciary or if you've been asked to be one, be certain you know what you're doing. The rules are quite specific. If you have questions, call (888) 407-0144.

To learn all that's involved

in being a fiduciary, check [benefits.va.gov/FIDUCIARY/docs/fy-25-docs/va-fiduciary-guide-march-2025.pdf](https://benefits.va.gov/FIDUCIARY/docs/fy-25-docs/va-fiduciary-guide-march-2025.pdf) (or [tinyurl.com/yjrskc8a](https://tinyurl.com/yjrskc8a)), a 36-page VA file. Take a close look at the instructions for the accounting forms that you're required to fill out.

If you suspect fiduciary fraud, report it at (800) 488-8244.

©2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



- "The best way to get a bloodstain out of clothing is by dousing the stain with hydrogen peroxide and washing as usual. For clay stains, you absolutely must have a Fels-Naptha bar. It looks like a bar of soap, and you wet the material and rub in the soap. It's magical. This, coming from a softball mom whose daughter loves to slide." – A.A. in Florida

- Add these to the list of items to eliminate the odor of cooking cabbage: a heel of bread, a whole walnut or a pinch of baking soda.

- It's easy to make your own spreadable butter. Simply whip 1 pound of softened butter and 1/2 teaspoon of salt. Slowly add 1 cup of olive oil. Beat up to 5 minutes to add air and increase volume. Pour into two 1-pint containers and refrigerate. It's economical, spreads like soft margarine, tastes great and you get the benefits of olive oil in a natural product.

- To save money on electricity costs, hang jeans and other heavy clothing to dry first. White or light towels and garments especially love the sun. When it is mostly dry, pop it in the dryer to fluff.

- "Always be on the lookout for sale items that can be given as gifts. You can also check the sale rack for children's clothes. Sometimes, I buy up to a year in advance for my child, since the deals can be so good. Just be sure that the clothing is the right season when your child will be able to wear it." – Matt in New Mexico.

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.

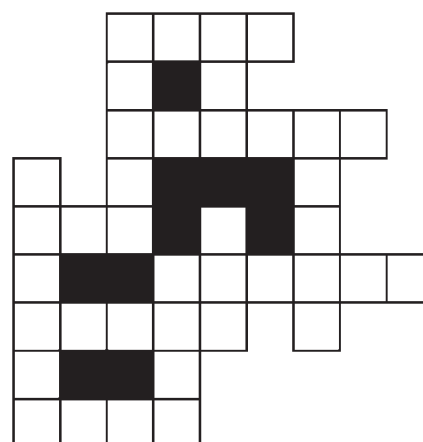
	-		-		=	2		
+		+		+				
	-		+		=	11		
-		+		÷				
	+		÷		=	7		
=		=		=				
4		9		6				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Answer Page 4

©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



- CDU
- GEMLIN
- URNAL
- ♥ EKTA
- ♥ ADONCE
- ARN
- ♥ AMEC
- ♥ OMNLE
- ♥ ARG
- COOTLE
- ♥ ADMLE
- KULR



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.

©2026 King Features Syndicate. All rights reserved.