



– Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

SITTING PRETTY – Miss Sun City Teen Scarlett Warnock, above left, and World Boxing Association (WBA) lightweight Champion Stephanie Han, right, greet the crowd lining the street.



OLD RIDES, NEW RIDES – Sheriff's Posse of El Paso stagecoach and horse riders, above, and the El Paso Sheriff's Officer Motorcycle Patrol, below, accompanied the parade along its route.

Westside Rotary Club sponsors independence day parade for 28th year

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

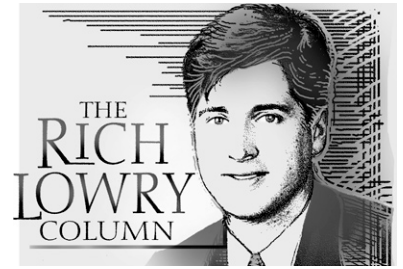
EL PASO COUNTY – “Honoring Our Past, Developing our Future” was the theme for the 28th Annual Rotary Independence Day Parade that was held on a beautiful Saturday morning to herald this year’s Fourth of July celebration.

Led by the Sheriff’s Posse of El Paso, parade participants leisurely marched west along Mesa Street from Thunderbird Drive to the Coronado

See PARADE, Page 2



Trump's power checked by political limitations



President Trump has been musing about whether he's the most powerful man in world history, and judging by the results lately, the answer is definitely "no."

It's certainly true that Trump has technical tools at his disposal that would have astounded famous pre-20th-century contenders for the title of most powerful man, whether Caesar, Alexander the Great, Charlemagne or Napoleon.

Trump's power, though, isn't defined by, say, the precision and explosive punch of the Tomahawk missile. As the leader of a constitutional republic that disperses power and depends ultimately on democratic consent, Trump is operating under constraints that routinely blunt his ambitions.

If the theme of the first year of his second term was aggression on all fronts, his second year has so

far been defined by significant retreats.

Late last year, Trump surged DHS forces into Minneapolis, seeking to make an example of the Twin Cities after Somali immigrants were implicated in welfare fraud schemes. When the operation was met by fierce opposition from city and state leaders and resistance in the streets, the Trump administration steeled itself for a gargantuan test of wills – before Trump, realizing he was losing the battle of political optics, sent Tom Homan to Minneapolis to unwind the operation.

Last month, the Department of Justice settled Donald Trump's \$10 billion suit against the IRS over the leak of his tax returns. The department agreed to create a \$1.8 billion fund for the compensation of victims of Democratic lawfare, a slush fund for his allies, presumably including Jan. 6 rioters.

Faced with adverse legal rulings and opposition in the Senate, the administration abandoned the scheme that it had initially touted as a means to "right the wrongs that were previously done while ensuring this never happens again."

Then, of course, Trump signed a ceasefire with Iran that wasn't close to the "unconditional surrender" that he had once demanded. The 14-point agreement included more U.S. than Iranian concessions, and Trump admitted that the Iranian closure of the Strait of Hormuz had forced his hand.

None of these were incidental initiatives. They all

See LOWRY, Page 7

View from here By Dr. Glenn Mollette

A deal with Iran is never really a deal

I give our President Trump, Vice President Vance, Marco Rubio and everyone else an "A" for effort. They have worked hard to try to bring about Peace in the Middle East. The negotiations have gone on now for a long time. The problem is Iran is incapable of keeping an agreement. The Iranians are all about kicking the can down the road. They love the stall tactics. They are big talkers. They love to keep the conversation going and everyone engaged in deliberation. While all the talking is going on than this gives them time to build a few more missiles or plot an attack on a neighboring country.

I want to see peace in the Middle East. You want to see peace in the Middle East. Most of the world wants to see peace in the Middle East. The

main players who do not want peace in the Middle East are the evil leaders of Iran. The majority of the population of Iran want's peace. Can you imagine how disruptive to their everyday lives war has to be? There have

There have been some deals throughout the years. In 2979 there was the Israel-Egypt Peace treaty 1974-1978, Disengagement Agreement between Israel and Syria and Israel and Egypt. However, these periods of peace have been interrupted by conflicts.

Unfortunately, Middle Eastern Conflicts date back thousands of years to Ancient Mesopotamia (modern day Iraq). There were conflicts between Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians and the Assyrians around 4500-539 BCE.

Ancient Egypt and Nubia, modern day Egypt, and Sudan conflicts around 2500-656 BCE. The Persian Empire, modern day Iran, vs. Babylonian empire. These conflicts lasted around 550-539 BCE. Arab -Israel conflicts date back to the 7th century CE. The Ottoman empire, modern day Turkey. Persian Empire around 1514-1821.

If you want to go back further you must go back to the beginning when two Old Testament brothers linked to the Middle East conflict are Esau and Jacob. They were the sons of Isaac and their conflict began when Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of lentils. This led to a perpetual hatred between the two brothers and their descendants. Esau's descendants, the Edomites

becoming a source of constant affliction for Jacob's descendants, the Israelites.

Who are the Edomites today? They have been absorbed into various cultures and their direct descents are unclear. However, they are believed to be among modern day Jordans and Palestinians as well as some Jewish people, especially Sephardic Jews. They are also believed to be among some Bedouin tribes in Jordan and the Arabian Peninsula. These descendants have never gotten along well.

In 1979 Iran took United States hostages violating the Algiers Accords. In 1995 they violated the Iran Libya Sanctions Act by purchasing Russian arms. In 2005 They resumed uranium enrichment, violating the Paris Agreement. In 2018 they violated the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action after US withdrawal. In 2019 they attacked Saudi oil facilities

violating the September 2019 Saudi Iran talks agreements. In 2020 they violated the 2015 JCPOA by enriching uranium to 4.5%. In 2024 they violated the 2015 JCPOA by enriching uranium to 84 %.

A deal with Iran is just an opportunity for them to buy time so they can do what they what to do. A deal with Iran is never really much of a deal.

Sources: Bible Gateway
History.com
BBC News

Dr. Glenn Mollette is the author of 15 books. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville Kentucky, Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, Kentucky, and is the founder of Newburgh Theological Seminary, Newburgh, Indiana. His column is published in over 600 media outlets nationally.



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— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

BEEP BEEP – El Maida Shriners in their mini parade cars are crowd favorites.

Parade

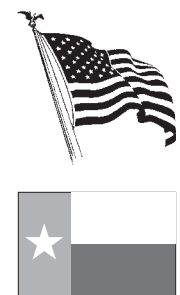
From Page 1

High School parking lot as thousands of spectators lined the route to view the annual spectacle.

Grand Marshall for this year's Rotary Club

of West El Paso patriotic event was the Han family – featuring Jennifer, Stephanie, and Abraham "Abie". The three siblings have excelled in the sport of boxing and are well known throughout the region. Their father, Bae Hyun Han, was a martial arts trainer

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Parade

From Page 2

who introduced the family to combat sports.

Jennifer is the former IBF World Featherweight Champion and a member of the International Women's Boxing Hall of Fame. Stephanie is the current WBA lightweight titleholder. Abraham, who also boxed professionally, now helps train and coach his sisters.

This year's parade, which also highlighted America's 250th anniversary, was sponsored by Hunt Companies, Peter Piper Pizza, and the City of El Paso, and the U.S. flags given out during the parade were provided by Citizen's Bank, Marathon, and Jobe Concrete.

"Thanks to the people of El Paso, this parade has enabled West Rotary Club to help every year at least 16 local nonprofits that support children and health initiatives in El Paso and Juarez," stated Jeff Alley, president of West El Paso's Rotary Club.

Send Your News To:
wtxcc@wtxcc.com

Public Notice San Elizario Independent School District 504 Child Find

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the District has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate and if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to disabled students. For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible children, or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation and placement into Section 504, please contact the District's Section 504 Coordinator, Richard Salcido, at 872-3926, or mail at P.O. Box 920, San Elizario, Texas 79849.

Aviso de Identificación de Estudiantes Incapacitados Bajo la Sección 504

Bajo la Sección del Decreto de Rehabilitación de 1973, el Distrito Escolar esta obligado a identificar, referir, evaluar, y proporcionar servicios educativos apropiados y gratuitos a los estudiantes incapacitados que califican bajo esta ley. Si usted desea mas información sobre los derechos de padres de niños incapacitados, o si tiene preguntas sobre la identificación, evaluación, y colocación de niños en el programa de Sección 504, favor de ponerse en contacto con la Coordinadora de 504 del Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario, Richard Salcido, al numero 872-3926, o por correo a la siguiente dirección: P.O. Box 920, San Elizario, Texas 79849.

WTCC: 07-09-25

King Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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15			16						17			
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29				30						31		
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			35					36				
37	38	39					40					
41					42	43					44	45
46					47					48		
49					50					51		

Average Solve Time 26 Minutes

ACROSS

- 1 "Caught ya!"
- 4 Spring meltdown
- 8 Baby's bed
- 12 Barbecue seasoning
- 13 Meditative exercise
- 14 Verdi heroine
- 15 Muffin-like treats
- 17 General _ Chicken
- 18 Couturier Christian
- 19 Bracelet site
- 20 Liniment targets
- 22 "Arrivederci _"
- 24 One-named supermodel

- 25 Castle features
- 29 Unruly group
- 30 Ram
- 31 Solidify
- 32 Short extracts
- 34 Taj Mahal site
- 35 TV host Kelly
- 36 Analyze
- 37 Poultry choice
- 40 Humdrum
- 41 Honker
- 42 Marching band section
- 46 Scrambled wd.
- 47 Gumbo need
- 48 Language akin to Thai
- 49 Sleep phenomena
- 50 Whig rival
- 51 Bagel topper

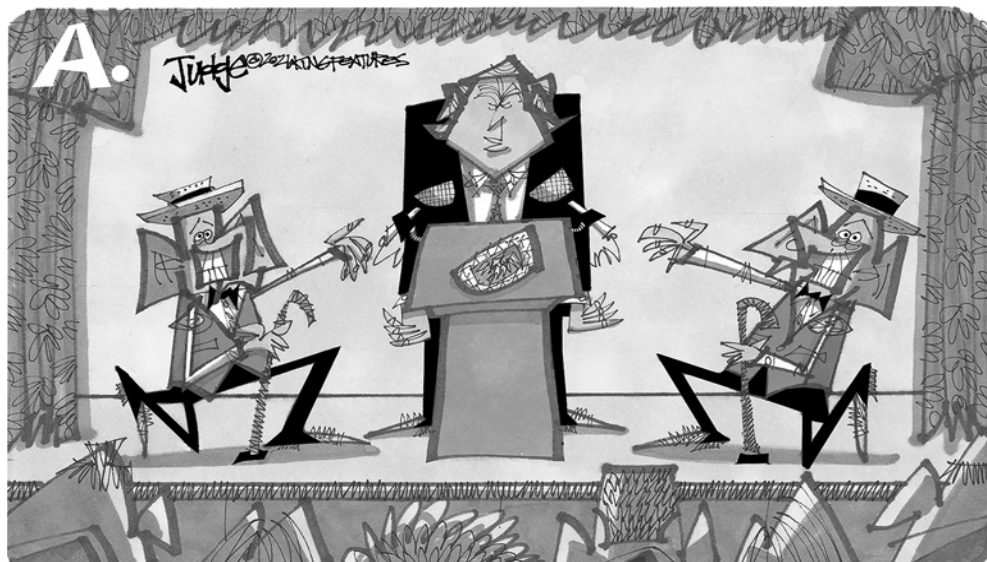
DOWN

- 1 Curved line
- 2 "Ben_"
- 3 Middle Eastern capital
- 4 Printing errors
- 5 Farmer, at times
- 6 Literary rep
- 7 Existed
- 8 40 winks
- 9 Jeopardize
- 10 Teen fave
- 11 Pyramid part
- 16 Carriage
- 19 You love (Lat.)
- 20 Goals
- 21 "Let's go!"
- 22 Indian yogurt dish
- 23 Unrefined metals
- 25 Get ready, briefly
- 26 Paint finish
- 27 Prefix with byte
- 28 Do in
- 30 Neat as _
- 33 Plug parts
- 34 Now, on a memo
- 36 Makeup brand
- 37 Scorch
- 38 Highly rated
- 39 Baby carriage
- 40 Duelist Aaron
- 42 Youngster
- 43 MGM rival
- 44 Eastern path
- 45 Boston team, for short

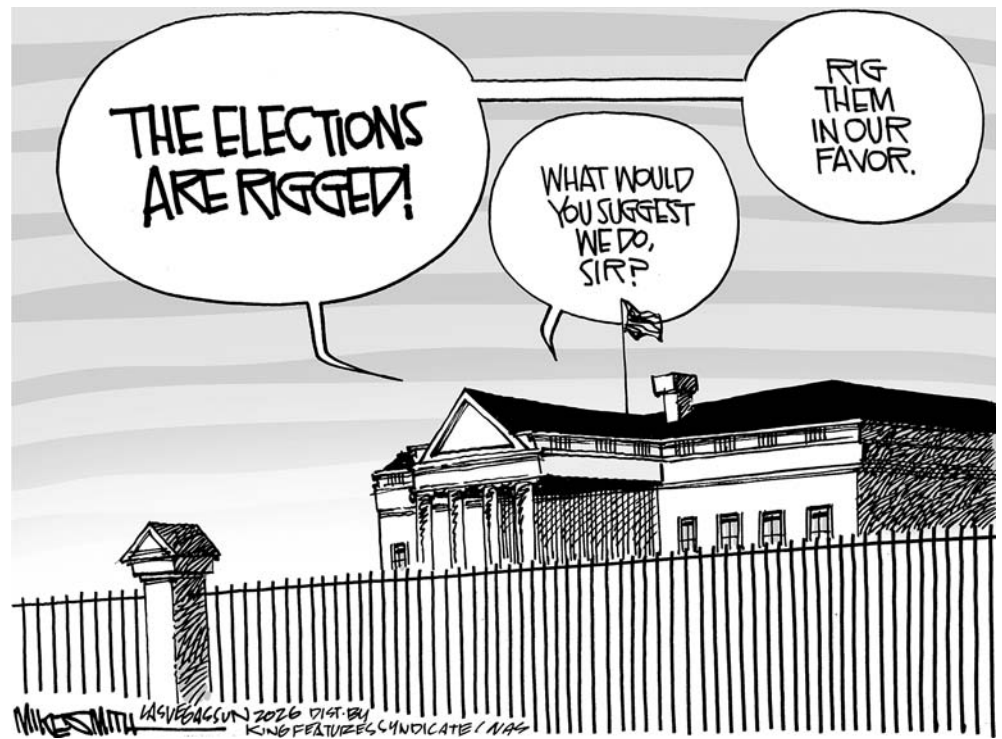
Answer Page 4



Q. WHAT DO YOU CALL IT WHEN CONGRESS PRETENDS IT'S STILL SERVING AS A CHECK ON THE PRESIDENT?



THE WAR POWERS ACT.



REMEMBER WHEN GRAHAM PLATNER SAID... THAT WHITE, RURAL AMERICANS... ARE RACIST... AND STUPID?... AND TURNS OUT HE WAS RIGHT!



HITCH

San Elizario Independent School District SPECIAL EDUCATION / CHILD FIND

The San Elizario Independent School District provides services for children who are eligible for special education. Eligible special education students will be afforded a free, appropriate public education beginning on their third birthday and continuing through their 21st year. Children who are identified as auditorially impaired, visually impaired or deaf-blind may be served from birth through 21 years of age. The San Elizario Independent School District provides special education and related services to students residing within the District boundaries. A student with a disability must meet eligibility guidelines in one or more areas including physical disability, intellectual disability, emotional disturbance, learning disability, autism, speech impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual or auditory impairment. This impairment must significantly affect the student's ability to progress adequately without support services.

If a child is experiencing learning difficulties, the parent may contact the person listed below to learn about the district's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options including referral for special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other support services that are available to all students. At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services. Within a reasonable amount of time, the district must decide if the evaluation is needed. If the evaluation is needed, the parent will be notified and asked to provide consent for the evaluation. The district must complete the evaluation and the report within 45 school days of the date the district received the written consent. The district must give a copy of the report to the parent. If the District determines that the evaluation is not needed, the district will provide the parent with a written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a statement that informs the parent of their rights if they disagree with the district. Additionally, the notice must inform the parent how to obtain a copy of the Notice of Procedural Safeguards-Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities.

For more information, contact the Director of Special Education, Richard Salcido, (915) 872-3926 at 13680 Socorro Rd., San Elizario, TX 79849. Mailing address: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

Educación Especial / Programa De Identificación De Niños (Child Find)

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario provee servicios a los niños que califican para recibir educación especial. Los estudiantes que califiquen recibirán una educación pública gratuita y adecuada comenzando con su tercer cumpleaños hasta el fin de su vigésimo-primer año (21). Los niños que son identificados con problemas auditivos, visuales, sordos o ciegos pueden ser atendidos desde su nacimiento hasta los veintinueve años de edad. El Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario provee servicios de educación especial y otros servicios relacionados a los estudiantes que vivan dentro de los límites del distrito. Un estudiante con una discapacidad debe cumplir con las guías que reúnen los requisitos en una o más áreas incluyendo: discapacidades físicas, discapacidad intelectual, alteraciones emocionales, discapacidad de aprendizaje, autismo, discapacidad del habla, daño cerebral por trauma, o discapacidad visual o auditiva. Esta discapacidad debe afectar significativamente la habilidad del estudiante para progresar adecuadamente sin asistencia.

Si un alumno está teniendo dificultades en su aprendizaje, los padres pueden contactar a la persona encargada (ver información al final) para que les informe acerca del programa general de derivación (referral) del distrito o sistema de detección para servicios de asistencia. Este sistema enlaza a los estudiantes con una gran variedad de opciones de apoyo que incluyen la derivación para que se le practique una evaluación de educación especial. Los estudiantes que estén teniendo dificultades en un aula regular deber ser considerados para recibir tutoría, planes de compensación educativa y otros servicios de apoyo que estén disponibles para todos los estudiantes. Los padres tienen derecho, en cualquier momento, de pedir una evaluación para recibir servicios de educación especial. El distrito debe decidir, dentro de un plazo razonable, si dicha evaluación es necesaria. En caso afirmativo, el padre será notificado y se le pedirá permiso para realizar la evaluación. El distrito debe llevar a cabo la evaluación y el reporte sobre los resultados dentro de 45 días escuela a partir de la fecha en que el distrito recibió el permiso del padre por escrito. El distrito debe proporcionar una copia del reporte al padre. Si el distrito determina que la evaluación no es necesaria, debe proporcionar por escrito una notificación que explique el por qué. Esta notificación por escrito debe incluir una declaración que informe al padre sobre sus derechos si es que no está de acuerdo con la decisión del distrito. Además, la notificación debe informar al padre cómo obtener una copia del Aviso sobre Garantías Procesales-Derechos de los Padres de Alumnos con Discapacidades.

Para mayores informes, favor de contactar el departamento de Educación Especial, Richard Salcido, (915) 872-3926 at 13680 Socorro Rd., San Elizario, TX 79849. Mailing address: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

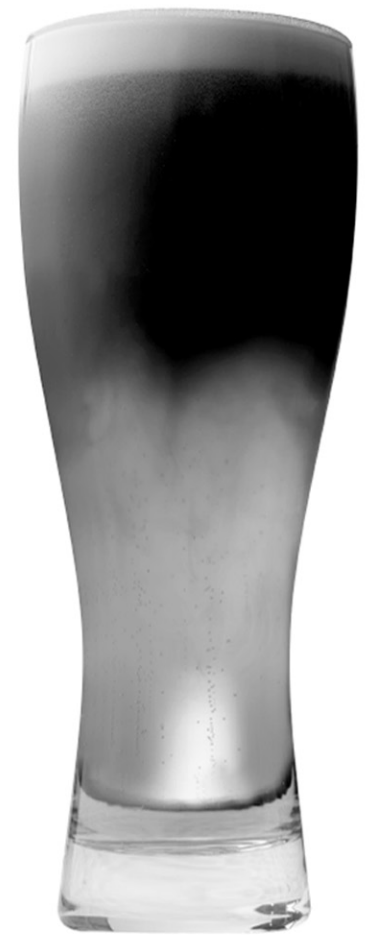
WTCC: 07-09-26

The "It's Only Another Beer"

Black and Tan

- 8 oz. pilsner lager
- 8 oz. stout lager
- 1 frosty mug
- 1 icy road
- 1 pick-up truck
- 1 10-hour day
- 1 tired worker
- A few rounds with the guys

Mix ingredients.
Add 1 totalled vehicle.



Never underestimate
'just a few.'

Buzzed driving
is
drunk driving.



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

6	3	9	4	2	7	8	1	5
1	5	7	8	3	6	9	2	4
8	2	4	1	5	9	7	3	6
3	9	6	2	7	8	4	5	1
7	4	2	3	1	5	6	8	9
5	1	8	6	9	4	2	7	3
9	6	5	7	8	3	1	4	2
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C	R	U	M	B		C	R	U	S	T		T	R	U	S	T	F	U	N	D	S
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N	Y	L	O	N		H	A	S	P		G	O									

**CryptoQuip
Answer**

When I see something really cute and get the urge to embellish it I cry, "How adorable!"

1	+	9	-	8	=	2
+		+		-		
4	+	5	+	7	=	16
x		+		x		
6	+	3	x	2	=	18
=		=		=		
30		17		2		



Moments in time
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On July 6, 1900, Warren Earp, youngest of the famous gunfighting Earp brothers, was murdered at the Headquarters Saloon in Willcox, Arizona, by John Boyett. Reportedly, Warren had imbibed too much alcohol and begun abusing some of the customers. While Boyett was tried for murder, he was declared innocent on the grounds of acting in self-defense.
- On July 7, 1456, Joan of Arc's conviction for heresy was overturned at an appeal proceeding held at the archbishop's palace in Rouen, France. Sadly, she had been burned at the stake 25 years earlier.
- On July 8, 1853, Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry sailed into Japan's Tokyo Bay with a squadron of four American vessels. At first officials refused to speak with him, but under threat of attack they accepted letters from President Millard Fillmore, making the U.S. the first Western nation to establish relations with Japan since the country declared itself closed to foreigners two centuries previously.
- On July 9, 1948, baseball

star Satchel Paige made his Major League debut with the Cleveland Indians, becoming, at age 42, the oldest rookie in the sport's history. As he notably remarked, "Age is a question of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it don't matter."

- On July 10, 1962, the United States Patent Office issued Swedish engineer Nils Bohlin a patent for his three-point automobile safety belt. Consisting of two straps joined at the hip level and fastened into a single anchor point, it reduced injuries by holding both the upper and lower body and decreasing the impact of the swift deceleration that occurred in a crash.
- On July 11, 1978, a truck carrying liquid gas crashed into a wall at a campsite of vacationers in San Carlos de la Rapita, Spain, resulting in an explosion that killed more than 200 people, with others suffering severe burns. The crash's cause was unknown, though some witnesses reported seeing a fire on the vehicle prior to the accident.
- On July 12, 1990, two days after Mikhail Gorbachev was re-elected head of the Soviet Communist Party, Boris Yeltsin, president of the Republic of Russia, announced his resignation from the party.

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By Lucie Winborne

- At the time of its release, Grand Theft Auto 5 is the most expensive video game ever made – \$265 million in production costs.
- Diet Coke isn't a modified form of Coke, but a totally different recipe.
- A brand of anti-chafing foot powder won a 1967 mayoral election in Picoaza, Ecuador. Its platform? The product was touted as potentially bringing hygiene and well-being to the town of 4,000.
- The youngest soldier in the American Civil War was a 9-year-old boy from Mississippi, while the oldest was an 80-year-old man from Iowa.
- After the 9/11 tragedy in 2001, cyclist David Hale Sylvester began bicycling-and-hugging tours all over the world and staged multiple "hug parties" on three continents. As of 2021, he had hugged more than half a million people.
- Australian tennis player Samuel Groth once served

a ball that was clocked at an astonishing 163.6 mph.

- Danish, Anglo-Saxon and Norman men were known for elaborate hairstyles and grooming, sometimes even before battle.
- According to practitioners, shiatsu massages should always be given with the recipient lying on the floor rather than on a table or chair.
- A Florida judge once called Elvis Presley "savage" for "undermining the youth."
- Tilapia are painted on ancient Egyptian tomb walls and included in a spell in the Egyptian Book of the Dead to help the deceased take their place in the sun boat.
- Up to 75% of people with Down syndrome have some hearing loss.
- Ancient Roman priestesses known as Vestal Virgins were required to remain virgins for 30 years; those convicted of breaking their vows could be buried alive.

Thought for the Day: "Time you enjoy wasting was not wasted."

– John Lennon

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PUBLIC NOTICE / AVISO AL PUBLICO
San Elizario Independent School District
2026-2027 Meal Policy

National School Lunch Program / School Breakfast Program

The San Elizario Independent School District announced today it will continue its policy to operate under the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for School Year 2026-2027 at all schools. In CEP schools, applications are no longer required. Schools that participate in CEP provide healthy breakfasts and lunches each day at no charge for all students enrolled in CEP schools during the 2026-2027 School Year.

For additional information, please contact:
San Elizario Independent School District
Attention: Agueda Reyes, Executive Director, Child Nutrition Services
1050 Chicken Ranch Road , San Elizario, TX 79849, or
P.O. Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849
Email: agreyes@seisd.net

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin (including English proficiency), disability, religion, sex, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

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San Elizario Independent School District is an equal opportunity provider.

Política sobre Alimentos para 2026-2027 del Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario

Programa Nacional de Comidas en las Escuelas

Nos complace informarle que el Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario continuara la Disposición de Elegibilidad Comunitaria (CEP) dentro de los Programas Nacionales de Almuerzo y Desayuno Escolar para el curso escolar 2026-2027 en todas las escuelas. En las escuelas CEP, no se requieren solicitudes. Los distritos que participan en el CEP ofrecen desayunos y comidas saludables cada día sin costo alguno para todos los estudiantes matriculados en la escuela durante el curso escolar 2026-2027.

*Para información adicional por favor comunicarse a:
El Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario
con: Agueda Reyes, Executive Director, Child Nutrition Services
1050 Chicken Ranch Road , San Elizario, TX 79849, o
P.O. Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849
Email: agreyes@seisd.net*

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Para presentar una queja por discriminación en el programa, el reclamante debe llenar un formulario AD-3027, formulario de queja por discriminación en el programa del USDA, el cual puede obtenerse en línea en: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027s.pdf>, de cualquier oficina de USDA, llamando al (866) 632-9992, o escribiendo una carta dirigida a USDA. La carta debe contener el nombre del demandante, la dirección, el número de teléfono y una descripción escrita de la acción discriminatoria alegada con suficiente detalle para informar al Subsecretario de Derechos Civiles (ASCR) sobre la naturaleza y fecha de una presunta violación de derechos civiles. El formulario AD-3027 completado o la carta debe presentarse a USDA por: (1) Correo: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; o (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 o (202) 690-7442; o (3) correo electrónico: program.intake@usda.gov.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades.

WTCC: 07-09-26

Miners having fun with their move to the MWC

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Something very big happened in the world of sports last week that will leave its mark for years to come.

Although it is very significant, I'm not talking about the fact that LeBron James is leaving the Los Angeles Lakers after eight years.

And no, it's not the awesome fact that Major League Baseball and the World Cup were going on during the nation's 250th birthday on the Fourth of July.

And believe it or not, I'm not even talking about the way-too-talked-about wedding of Travis Kelse and Taylor Swift at Madison Square Garden.

I'm talking about how the UTEP Miners are now officially members of the Mountain West Conference and how the school is making the best of it right away.

We all know the new league will reacquaint the Miners to some faces we haven't seen in a while. Faces like New Mexico and Wyoming and Hawaii and Air Force and UNLV and San Jose State and Nevada.

Like UTEP, there are four other first-year additions to the MWC, like Northern Illinois, North Dakota State, Cal Davis and Grand Canyon.

The MWC is a big step-up for UTEP compared to Conference USA. The Miners will be on TV more, they'll make more money from being on TV more, there are more opportunities to be in football bowl games and basketball tournaments.

And as I said earlier, UTEP has really done its part in the transition to this bigger conference.

One of the first things they did was to improve the bottom line; they went out and raised money. Because the Miners had to pay a fee to get into the MWC, and the fact that they had to go out and get better athletes, UTEP

needed more money. And they got it.

UTEP went from raising about 3.9 million bucks during its final year in CUSA, to over 10 million for its first year in the MWC.

The Miners athletic department has gone out of the way to get the fans excited, even to the point that they let the fans decide a game's start time.

That's right, El Pasoans have always debated over which they like better toward the end of the season when the weather starts to get colder, starting a game in the Sun Bowl at 1 p.m. or at 7 p.m.

So, they let the fans decide.

El Pasoans got a chance to vote on the starting time and overwhelmingly, UTEP's Oct. 17 game against San Jose St. will start at 7 p.m.

The Miners will have two more games in the Sun Bowl after that, Nov. 7 against Hawaii and Nov. 14 against Wyoming. There's no word yet on what time those games will start.

Another thing UTEP has done for

its fresh start is give Paydirt Pete a fresh look.

The school's mascot was re-created and merchandise with his new look is already being sold around town.

UTEP will not be reuniting with all its old friends from the past. A few of them left the Mountain West last year.

Colorado State and Boise State and San Diego State and Fresno State and Utah State all bolted for the new PAC-12, which will now consist of these teams plus Washington State, Oregon State, Gonzaga and Texas State.

Of course, Gonzaga will only compete in basketball.

It used to be that the PAC-12 (with former members like UCLA, USC, Arizona, ASU, Stanford, Cal, Oregon and Washington) was one of the big five conferences in America.

It wouldn't surprise me if the MWC is now even with, or maybe a little ahead of the new PAC-12, and that would be fantastic for UTEP.

The old saying warns us to be careful what we ask for – because we just might get it.

UTEP is in it now. More exposure, more money, more recruiting, more scrutiny, more responsibility, more opportunities.

Over the last 18 months since the announcement was made, UTEP's administration has stepped up and met the challenge.

Now it's time for the football and basketball and volleyball and soccer and track and field all the other teams to meet the challenge on the court, field and track.

And by the way, I wonder what kind of cake they had at the wedding?



REVAMPED – Paydirt Pete
– Image courtesy UTEP

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Skimmer scams

Scammers are creative, you have to give them that. They come up with ways to steal from us that we've never thought about. But, at their core, they are just thieves.

One new alleged scam involves a task we do frequently – pumping gas into our car.

One alleged scam has the thief inserting a tiny screw into the cradle where the nozzle rests on the pump. When you let go of the handle after pumping your gas and put it back in the cradle, it hasn't really released. The machine thinks it's still in the middle of a transaction. The minute you drive away, a scammer can come along and continue pumping gas into his own vehicle, leaving you with the bill for it.

The good news? This scam is a hoax. While it's all over the internet, it's (apparently) not a real scam.

However, there are genuine scams involving sales anywhere you put your credit card into a machine, including at the pump. Beware of the following:

• **Credit card skimmers.** Similar to what you'd look for at the ATM at your bank's drive-up, these little gadgets can read your card information or steal your PIN. Do an online search for "How to spot a credit card skimmer."

• **People who just want to help.** If you've finished pumping gas and someone approaches you saying they will put the handle back, don't fall for it. This person won't put the handle all the way back into the pump (similar to the screw scam), making the machine think it's still an active transaction. When you drive off, they'll fill their own vehicle.

• **Self-checkout at the big box store.** Before you start scanning your items, be sure there is nothing left on the screen from the previous customer. It's possible for them to scan an item and leave the transaction unfinished, until you come along and include their item in your own purchase.

As always, be aware.

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Super Crossword

Grid for Super Crossword with numbered squares for clues.

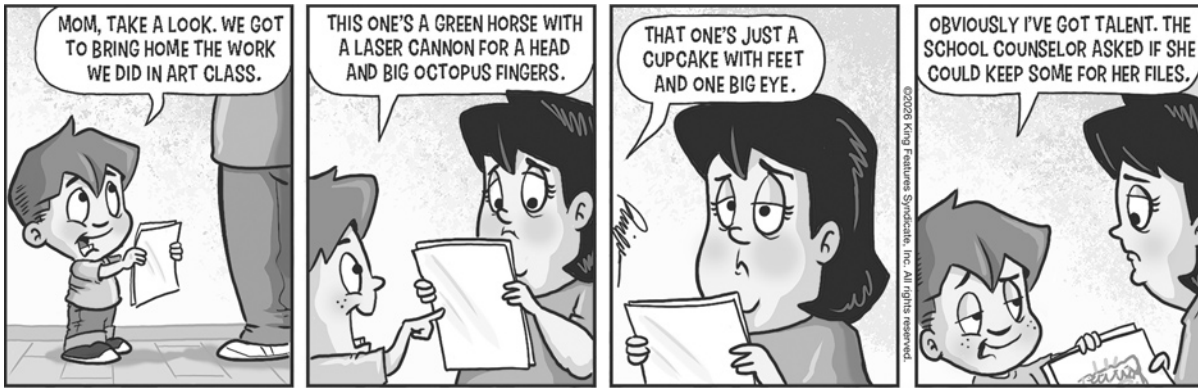
Clues for the crossword puzzle, organized by direction (Across and Down).

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

involved core commitments of this president – to mass deportation, to turning on its head the lawfare campaign against him and to denying the Iranian regime a nuclear weapon.

They were also overreaches that displayed a heedlessness born of hubris. Trump had already driven down overall migration when he surged into Minneapolis; already pardoned the Jan. 6 rioters when his DOJ created the weaponization fund; and already struck a punishing blow against the Iranian nuclear program via Midnight Hammer when he launched Operation Epic Fury.

Trump isn't one for incremental progress toward an objective. He prefers the grand gesture and big gamble. He's drawn to the bridge too far when a drive a couple of blocks down the street would do just fine.

The worry about Trump was that he'd be unconstrained in his second term, and indeed, he's fashioned a team that is loath to tell him "no." But he's subject to checks from the other branches of government and, even more, from

routine political pressures.

There was nothing that formally compelled him to remove DHS forces from Minneapolis or to relieve the military pressure on Iran, both of which were within his legitimate powers. It was the poor polling and the potential damage to Republican prospects in the midterms that obliged Trump to declare victory and go home.

The president may enjoy thinking of how he can do things that a Roman emperor never would have imagined, yet Marcus Aurelius wasn't hypersensitive to how stories were playing in the mass media, or to the latest public-opinion surveys.

As the creature of a democratic republic, Trump inherently is mindful of those considerations, which is one reason that it's been a year of retreats. Trump, surely, doesn't think of it that way. As Gen. Oliver Smith put it during the Korean War, he's merely attacking in a different direction – although not the one he'd intended.

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

Cortisone is critical to stress response

DEAR DR. ROACH: I've been feeling just awful. My doctor put me through the normal tests, and all were good. A neurologist recommended that I get a cortisol test. I did, and it showed a high cortisol level. I'd never heard of this. Would you explain what high cortisol is, how it's treated, and if there are any natural cures or therapies? – S.K.



Cortisol is a critical hormone that is needed for the function of many body systems. Without cortisone, the body can't respond to stress, and a stressful event can literally kill a patient.

A medical condition called Addison's disease is when the body can't make cortisol (a type of steroid called a glucocorticoid). People with this condition need to take replacement cortisol or a synthetic form daily, and they need to take higher doses when under stress to prevent this. Addison's disease was most often caused by tuberculosis, but the leading cause of Addison's is an autoimmune disease of the adrenal cortex (where cortisone is made). People usually feel weak and tired with Addison's.

Cushing's syndrome is the opposite, where the body makes too much cortisone. The most common cause for this is a benign tumor. In Cushing's syndrome, the list of possible symptoms is seemingly endless, but fatigue and muscle weakness, weight gain in the abdomen but muscle loss in the limbs, and skin and hair changes are common. People can experience the same problem when taking high doses of cortisol or similar steroids such as prednisone, hydrocortisone or dexamethasone.

A cortisol level of 18 isn't diagnostic of Cushing's but almost certainly excludes Addison's disease. Depending on the time of day, cortisol levels can be between 5-25 mcg/dL, so a level of 18 mcg/dL in the morning may be normal. People with high levels of stress tend to have high to normal cortisol levels.

In contrast, a level of 18 mcg/dL at bedtime would be a very concerning sign for Cushing's. If your doctors were worried about Cushing's, additional testing could be recommended such as a 24-hour urine cortisol test, a bedtime salivary cortisol test, or checking the blood cortisol after suppressing its release with medication.

An endocrinologist is the expert in making the diagnosis and treating diseases of the adrenal hormones, including Addison's and Cushing's.

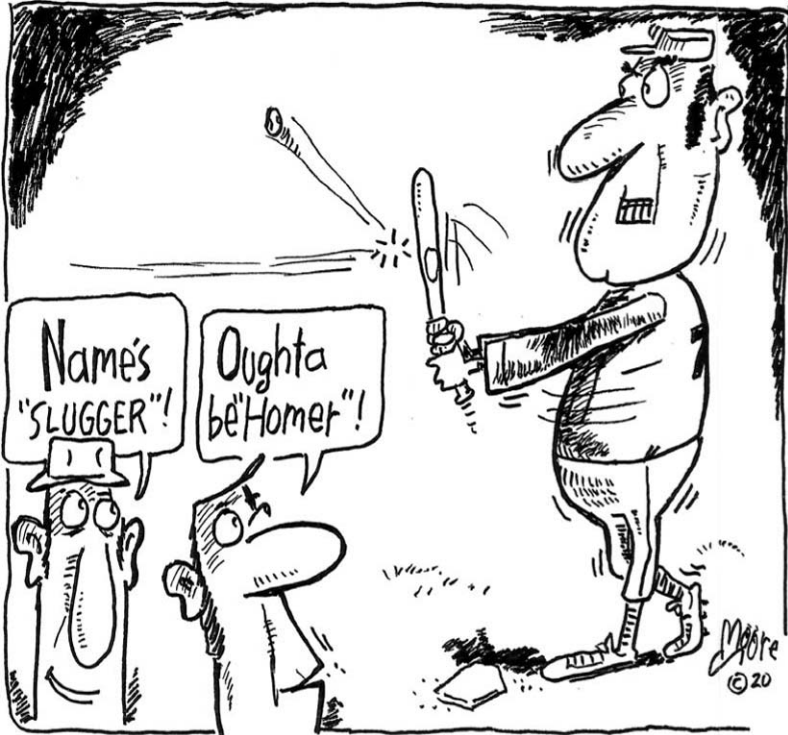
DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm 77 years old and concerned about getting a prostate biopsy. My last PSA test jumped from 2.25 to 3.75 ng/mL, and an MRI came back healthy and normal with a PI-RADS code of 2. My urologist suggested a biopsy to be sure that everything is OK, but he also felt comfortable if I wanted to wait six months and get another PSA test done. I am in good health, exercise regularly, and am not on any medications. Also, can strenuous bike riding affect my PSA score? – W.B.

A PI-RADS score of 2 means that there's a small chance of clinically significant prostate cancer. The best estimate of your risk is between 4% and 6%. One question I'd ask is whether you'd undergo surgery if a biopsy showed cancer. Surgery is associated with a worsened quality of life; erectile dysfunction and incontinence are common shortly after surgery and persist in many men.

The evidence suggests that in men over 75, surgery doesn't improve their length of life. In a large study, the length of life was actually decreased in men over 75. Radiation treatment is a reasonable alternative for men with symptomatic prostate cancer, so in the unlikely event that you develop symptoms from prostate cancer, this would be a reasonable approach.

Also, bike riding (250 miles over four days) had an increase of less than 0.1 ng/mL for a PSA test.

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.



Moore Texas by Roger MOORE

July 11, 1920: "Slugger" Clark of Corsicana hit eight straight homers in a game against Texarkana.

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 **S**

UPSY M VSS VNQSXPMYO
 ESBWWZ KLXS BYF OSX XPS
 LEOS XN SQGSWWMVP MX,
 M KEZ, "PNU BFNEYBGWS!"

Answer Page 4

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Veteran discounts



by Freddy Groves

Are you taking advantage of the discounts available to you as a veteran? Discounts let you keep cash in your wallet, and there are more deals out there than you might imagine.

One of my favorites is the 10% discount from Lowe's and Home Depot. With summer, there are always projects, always a new hardware item or tool I need, and that discount helps. As an FYI, there's no limit to how many discounts I can get at Lowe's, but there is an annual limit at Home Depot. (I've never hit it.)

There is a Bass Pro Shop discount on outdoor gear, as well as one for firearms and ammo. Look for discounts at L.L. Bean. T-Mobile will save you 40% on family phone lines and 50% off Paramount+, which will get you new movies, sports and Showtime.

Travel, restaurants, music

events, you name it, there's a veteran discount available.

One thing to consider is how you'll prove you're a veteran when you try to claim your discount. Many places will just accept your VA health card. Some will want your Veteran ID card, and all states have the veteran designation on your driver's license. To get this, check your state's requirements. You might need to show up at a DMV with a copy of your DD214 when you apply for the veteran designation. This is very handy to have, by the way, as many places will take that as proof of your veteran status.

Quite a few companies are going with SheerID as a means of proving your veteran status and getting a discount. SheerID handles identification for all types of groups, including students, first responders, seniors and veterans.

Check out SheerID as best you can, which you should always do before giving anyone your private information (support.sheerid.com/en-US/help-

center). Check out their webpage on military verification to see what documents you'd have to show. Be sure you're comfortable with it before you sign up.

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• Having a yard sale? Here's a great way to put out extra signs when you don't have a way to stake them into the ground: "Write your sign advertising your yard sale on the sides of a big box. Place it where you want it, and add a large rock to the inside, then tape shut. We did this when we had no poles to tape signs to or any other way to get them to stand up. It worked really well!" – D.R. in Georgia

• Avoid calling the pediatrician's office on Monday mornings for routine business. Wait until the afternoon. All the parents with mildly sick children over the weekend will be calling to consult with the doctor and nurses first thing when the office opens.

• If you drop an egg, sprinkle with salt before you attempt to clean it up. The salt binds the whites, which will not spread, making pickup easier!

• "My kids had kind of an obsession with colorful duct tape in the past year, and we made some "beach bags" to keep our electronics safe at the pool, lake and beach. We carefully covered a variety of sizes of zip-top self-sealing bags with the tape, creating tough, colorful pouches in which we can store cellphones, etc., to keep them safe from water damage." – W.L. in North Carolina

• You can sharpen scissors by cutting folded aluminum foil into small strips.

• The best time of day to water your lawn is the evening. The cooler temperatures allow the water to sink into the soil instead of evaporating with the heat of the day. Always follow your city or county guidelines on watering times for your area.

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			
+		+		-				
	+		+		= 16			
x		+		x				
	+		x		= 18			
=		=		=				
30		17		2				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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: ♦♦

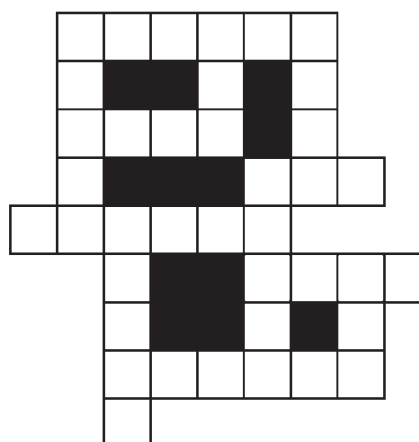
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Answer Page 4

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- AYG
- ♥ AGREEN
- ♥ SNOAR
- ♥ AEMS
- NYS DUA
- NEH
- ♥ ANLE
- ♥ DIGLE
- ♥ NYA
- HAMENT
- ♥ ARTSO
- ♥ NSGI



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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