



NEWSBRIEFS

Hospital needs votes

El Paso Children's Hospital is up against over a hundred of other hospitals across the United States to win the top prize in a \$100,000 national online contest. The Credit Unions for Kids Vote for Miracles is a three-week contest that runs through Dec. 18 and allows people to vote online for their favorite Children's Miracle Network Hospital. The hospital with the most votes at the end receives \$50,000, second place will receive \$20,000, \$15,000 for third place, \$10,000 for fourth place and \$5,000 for fifth place. For the last two years, El Paso Children's has finished in the top three. People can submit their vote by visiting voteformiracles.org, click on vote now, complete once and you will receive a daily email reminder with your info auto-filled ready to vote every day until 12/18.

— Omar Ropele

SEISD meeting

The San Elizario ISD Board of Trustees will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 5 p.m. at the Administration Offices at 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd. in San Elizario, TX.

— Hector Gonzalez

For movie buffs

Looking for something special for the film lover in your world this holiday season? How about a 2019 Plaza Classic Film Festival Pass? Festival Passes for the 2019 edition of the El Paso Community Foundation's Plaza Classic Film Festival are now on sale for the discounted price of \$175. The 12th annual Plaza Classic will be August 1-11, 2019 in and around the Plaza Theatre. A Festival Pass includes admission to all ticketed events, reservations for PCFF movies in the Philanthropy Theatre, invitations to special events, discounts at nearby eateries and a jump-the-line express lane. And the pass is transferable, meaning you can loan it to a friend or family member. Festival Passes are for sale year-round, but this special sale ends at 11:59 p.m. Monday, December 31, 2018. Go to plazaclassic.com/tickets or call 915-533-4020 to purchase yours now.

— Doug Pullen

Financially sound

The Canutillo Independent School

See BRIEFS, Page 4



— Photo by Rick LoBello

RELIEF NEEDED – The mission of Tree of Hopes is to support humanitarian efforts to help needy families living along the United States-Mexico border along the Ciudad Juarez and County of El Paso region, like the children above that live in a makeshift shelter with family members in one of Mexico's poorest communities along the local border.

Helping families in need this Christmas

Tree of Hopes seeks donations to help struggling families

By **Alfredo Vasquez**
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Tree of Hopes has embarked on a special Christmas food and toy distribution project in far northwest

Ciudad Juárez near the Santa Teresa, New Mexico Bridge border crossing. The project's organizers have targeted December 22nd as their distribution date.

With the support of Rotary Clubs of El Paso, Tree of Hopes advocates plan to help struggling families living in one of

the poorest areas along the Texas-New Mexico border with Mexico.

The mission of Tree of Hopes is to support humanitarian efforts to help needy families living along the United

See **HELP**, Page 4



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

Students seek help to play Carnegie Hall

Student musicians from Canutillo Middle School have the opportunity to perform at the world famous Carnegie Hall in New York City this April 17-21, 2019, but they need the public's help getting there. The Canutillo Middle Honor Band qualified to play at Carnegie Hall by earning a Gold First Place Finish at the WorldStrides Heritage competition in California this past May. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our students and we want to make sure they have the chance to experience this honor," said Christian Rodriguez, the band director at Canutillo Middle. "We know that with the support of the community, we will be able to give each one of these students the experience of playing on a world-class stage like Carnegie Hall." Canutillo Middle School is partnering with the El Paso Community Foundation to collect donations that will help for travel expenses to New York. They need to raise \$117,000 by March 31, 2019. Please visit epcf.org/canutillo to donate.

Two fools: One doubts nothing, the other doubts everything.

— Quips & Quotes



– Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

THE ART OF DANCE – Students at Alfonso Borrego Sr. Elementary are learning the traditions of folklorico.

Ballet Folklórico arrives at Alfonso Borrego Sr. Elementary

By Hector Gonzalez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Griselda Ramos is a 4th grade bilingual teacher at Alfonso Borrego Sr. Elementary and also the instructor of the new after school folklorico club called Miztli Folklorico.

“I am really excited to have the opportunity to introduce the art of folklorico to the students of Borrego Elementary,” Ramos said. “These type of programs help build their self-esteem and also teaches them about respect and responsibility.”

The club consists of 10 boys and 10 girls of grade levels 1st through 6th and practice is held twice a week after school for about an hour each day.

Their latest performance was at the school’s annual Thanksgiving Luncheon where they performed in front of a large crowd of parents.

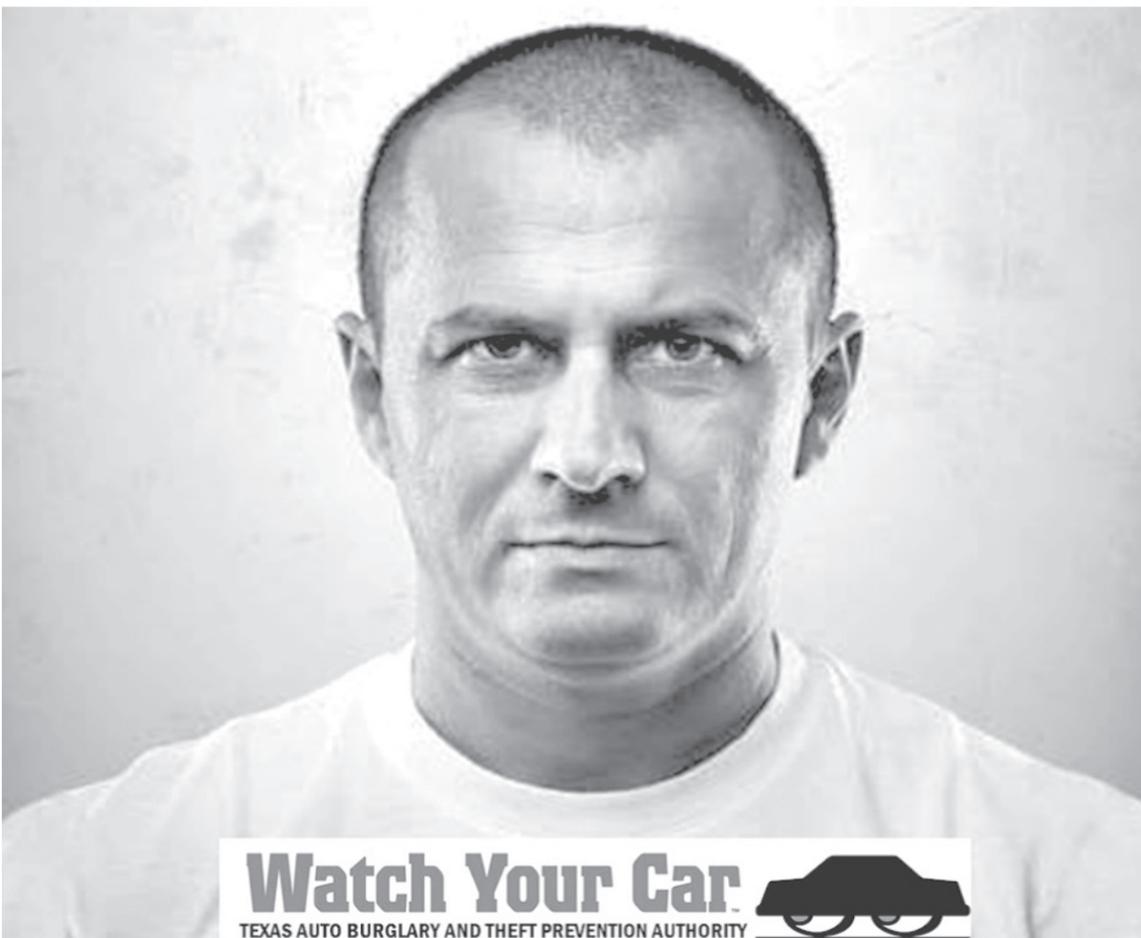
“You should have heard the round of applause they received,” said Norma Casillas, Principal at Borrego Elementary. “I am so proud of them. It took a lot for them to get up on stage and dance in front of so many people. I am delighted to have a folklorico club at our campus because I know it is going to be very popular with our students in the years to come.”

“When you dance folklorico, it is all about having fun. It is a form of entertainment,” Ramos said. “I always tell my students to try new things because they never know how good they are until they give it a try. Once they see that anything is possible, they become more confident.”

Miztli Folklorico’s next performance will be on Dec. 18th for Borrego Elementary’s Holiday Extravaganza event.



CALL 1-800-CAR-WATCH TO REQUEST A FREE VEHICLE CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION PACKET



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

COPYRIGHT:
Entire contents © 2018 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:
Letter 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:
Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

CLASSIFIED RATES
\$10 for 25 words, \$15 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 — \$25 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 \$45. Delivery via 1st class mail.

MAIL:
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928



Phone: 852-3235

E-mail: wtcc@wtcc.com
Website: wtcc.com



Member Texas Community Newspaper Association

Publisher
Rick Shrum
Contributors
Alfredo Vasquez
Steve Escajeda



Homesteader
Est. 1973
News, Inc.

The media was wrong about the caravan

It's roughly the one-month anniversary of CNN reporter Jim Acosta repeatedly telling President Donald Trump at a press conference that the migrant caravan is "hundreds and hundreds of miles away" and "not an invasion," and objecting to a campaign ad that showed migrants climbing border walls – "they're not going to be doing that."

Now, thousands of migrants from the caravan have arrived in the border city of Tijuana, Mexico, and hundreds of them stormed a border crossing, climbing the fence and throwing rocks. U.S. border agents used tear gas to repel the mob. If the throng was too small to constitute an invasion, it certainly wasn't a rules-bound group of asylum-seekers.

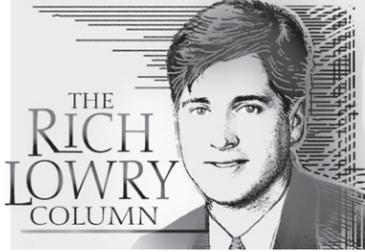
It was conventional wisdom in the press that the caravan was a concoction of Trump's fevered imagination. It soon would dissipate and even if not, take months to reach the United States. This widely repeated factoid was based on calculations of its movement on foot (it apparently didn't occur to anyone that the caravan also would travel by bus or truck).

The latest border incident again puts the left's radicalism on display. It's not just that Immigration and Customs Enforcement should be abolished; border agents can't defend themselves from an aggressive rabble.

Hawaii Sen. Brian Schatz wondered on Twitter if the use of tear gas violated the Chemical Weapons Convention (the answer is an emphatic "no," and he deleted the tweet). Rep. Barbara Lee of California described the gassing of "women and children" as an atrocity and called for U.N. inspectors.

All of this rending of garments, despite the fact that the tear gas was directed at the adult males who led the charge, similar crowd-control tactics were used at the border during the Obama administration and, of course, cops use tear gas during disturbances involving fellow U.S. citizens all the time.

The larger issue at the border is the set of rules for Central American migrants. It allows adults with children and minors into the country while their (almost always rejected) asylum claims are adjudicated.



They can easily abscond once admitted, and the laxity of the system is an incentive for more Central American family units to come.

By working out a possible deal with the Mexican government for migrants to stay in Mexico while they apply for asylum – and forbidding migrants who enter the U.S. illegally from applying – the administration has hit on an approach to tighten up the current loopholes. But a California district judge, in what looks like another instance of resistance jurisprudence, has put an injunction on the policy regarding illegal entrants.

Trump has been wrong to portray the migrants as inherently threatening – the overwhelming majority just want a better life – but we have the sovereign right to decide who does and doesn't come to this country, and demand that it be an orderly, lawful process.

If any significant portion of

See LOWRY, Page 8

NEW HOUSES

Self-Help Built Starting At:

\$75,000

Lower Valley Housing Corporation

590-4511

LVHC is an equal opportunity affordable housing provider and employer that does not discriminate against anyone based on race, color, sex, disability, familial status, national origin, marital status or age.

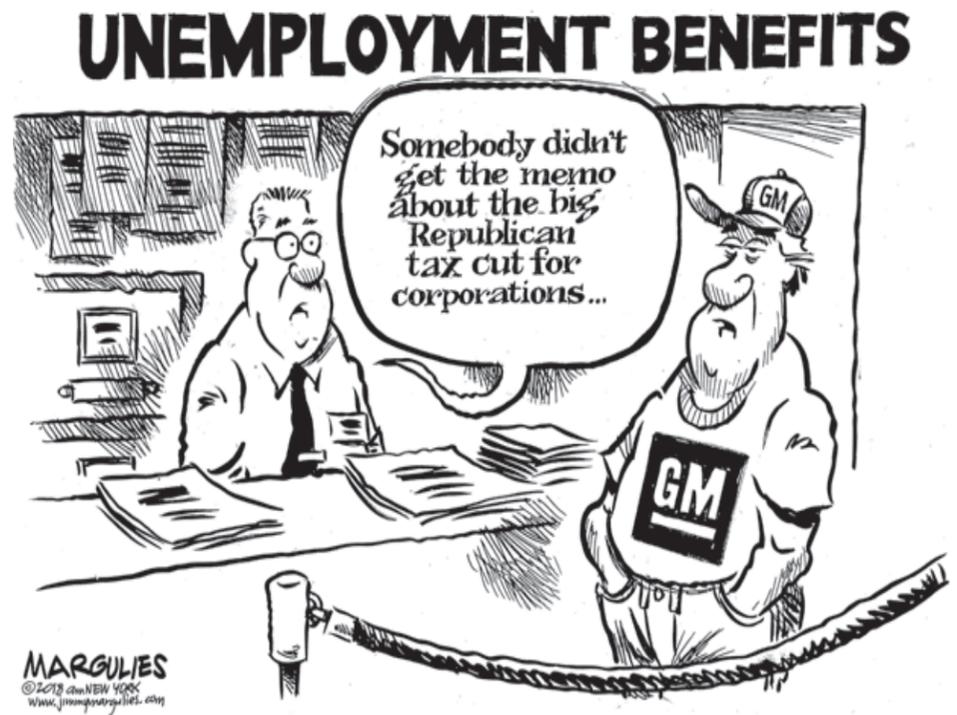
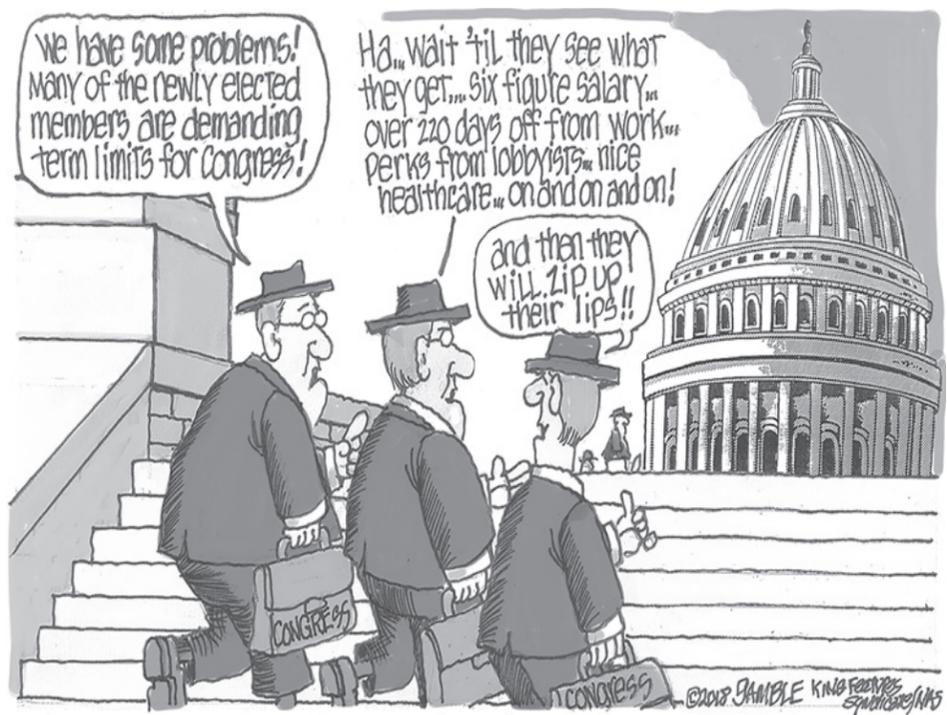
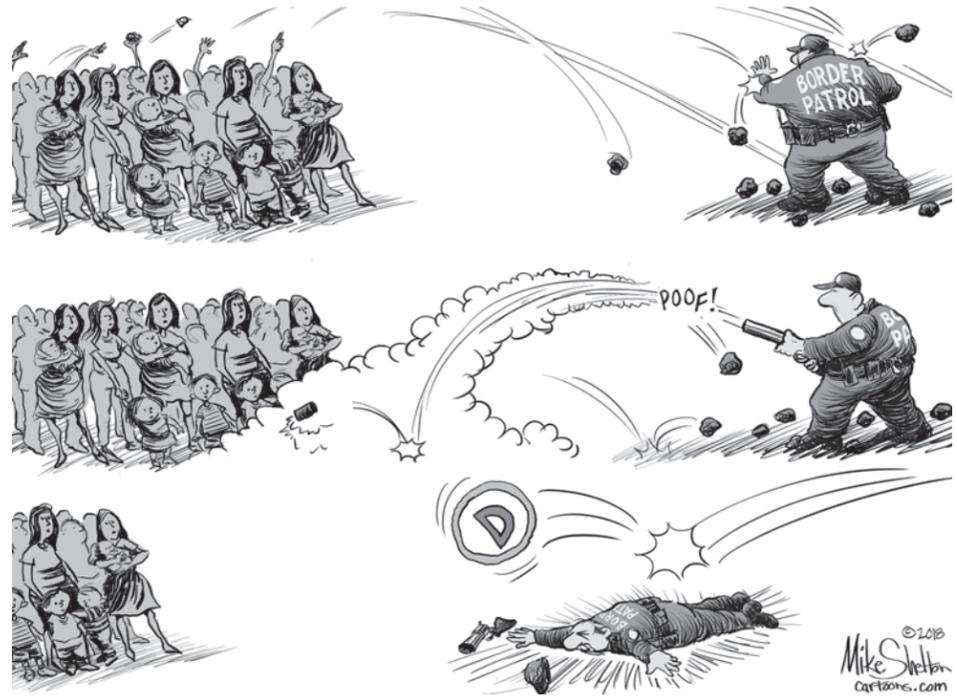
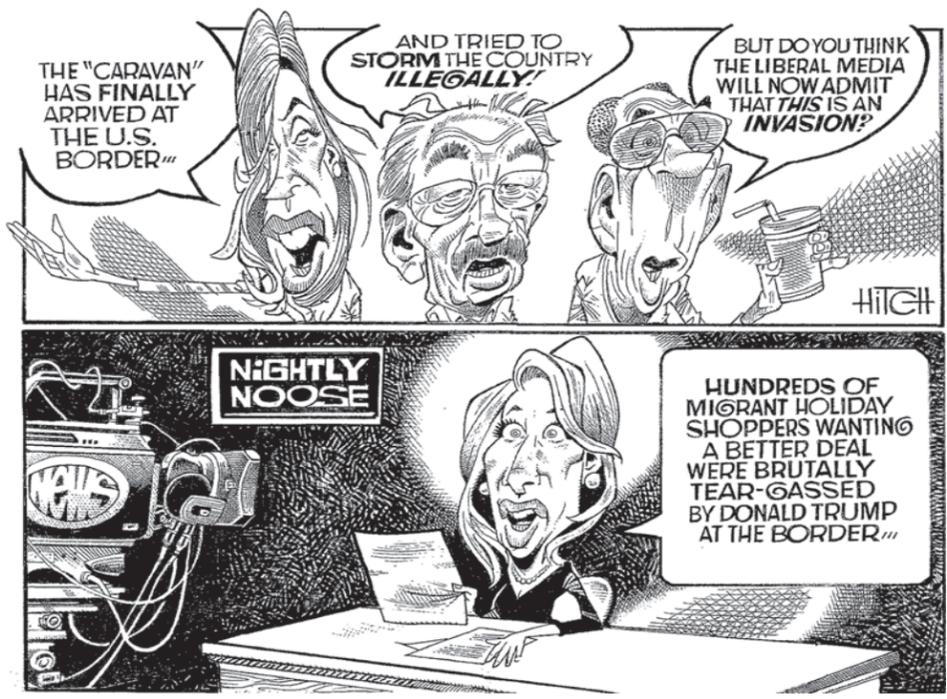
Archives: www.wtxcc.com

PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

The West Texas County Courier office will be closed from Friday, December 14 to Friday, December 28, 2018.

The last issue for 2018 will be December 13, 2018. Our next publication will be January 3, 2019.

The office will open again on Monday, December 31, 2018.





— Photo courtesy Village of Vinton

13th Annual Christmas in the Village

The Village of Vinton is hosting its 13th Annual Christmas in the Village on Saturday, December 8, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Dr. Applegate Park located at 7966 Quejette Road, Vinton, TX 79821. Christmas in the Village is a community event that welcomes guests of all ages for live music, entertainment, food trucks, vendors and a visit from Santa. The event will feature free activities such as games, face painting, hayride, inflatables and more. There is no cost for admittance and there will be free hot chocolate, cookies and a gift for the first 200 children under the age of 12 that register at the event. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. The Village of Vinton would like to thank Vinton Steel, Tropicana Homes and Tropicana Properties for being key sponsors and valuable community partners. For more information contact Josh Luna at jluna@vintontx.us or (915) 886-5104.

EPAS hosts annual party

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Archaeological Society (EPAS) will hold its annual Christmas Party, beginning at 1 p.m., Saturday, December 15, at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain Road.

The party, primarily for members and their close friends and relatives, is also open to individuals interested in joining EPAS. “This year, we will continue the custom of asking those attending to bring a main dish, salad, side dish, hors d’oeuvres, or dessert to share. The Society will provide the plates, napkins, utensils, and cups as well as punch,” stated Danielle Hoffman, EPAS member.

The Christmas party is a good time to renew your membership or become a new member as the fiscal year runs from January to December, stated Hoffman.

Membership includes the monthly newsletter and a copy of the annual publication, *The Artifact*. To become a member, click on the “Join Us” tab on the EPAS website, at <http://www.epas.com/>.

EPAS, founded in 1922, is a non-profit group. Membership is open to individuals and organizations interested in anthropology, archaeology, and in the preservation of prehistoric and historic cultural resources. Membership information can be found on the EPAS website <http://www.epas.com/membership.htm>.

EPAS members currently take part in archaeological tours and volunteer field work organized by the non-profit Jornada Research Institute of Tularosa, New Mexico.

For more information about EPAS and/or about the upcoming potluck party, contact EPAS media consultant Fernando Arias, at (915) 449-9075, or send email to: nando79935@gmail.com.

Help

From Page 1

States-Mexico border in the Ciudad Juarez and County of El Paso region, according to Rick LoBello, Tree of Hopes El Paso founder and a Rotary Club of El Paso past president.

LoBello stated that he saw

firsthand the great need so many people in this area experience when he helped the *Comedor Aposento* center last Christmas. He said that volunteers distributed blankets and food baskets and toys donated by Service Systems company and the Associates Safari Outfitters gift shop at the El Paso Zoo.

This year, Tree of Hopes supporters are reaching out to friends, Rotarians, and others who are interested in being a part of the group’s expanded effort. The service organization needs help in raising funds to purchase food supplies and other items like toys and blankets, LoBello acknowledged. He said that his group will be accepting

donations of toys, food items, clothes, and blankets through December 20.

To learn more about the charitable project, interested individuals may visit its website, at treeofhopes.com; send a text message to LoBello, at (915) 474-1456 (Send a text to arrange for a call); or forward an email to: ricklobello@gmail.com.

Briefs

From Page 1

District financial department is operating effectively and transparently, a recent independent audit found. Canutillo ISD received excellent marks on its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ended June 30, 2018. The audit encompassed all facets of CISD’s fiscal operations and was conducted by Gibson Ruddock Patterson, LLC. Dr. Pedro Galaviz, Superintendent of Schools says that the positive results are due to continued strong internal controls, further enhancements to the purchasing process and financially sound management. “We have been standing on solid financial ground the last few years with

a great sense of accountability to our stakeholders,” Dr. Galaviz said. “Thanks to the leadership of the Board, and the hard work of all district administration and personnel, we’ve maintained our commitment to serving our students with integrity.” Martha E. Piekarski, CPA, and Chief Business Officer of Canutillo ISD believes the entire team contributes to the District’s success. “Receiving a clean audit is the result of what every staff member does every day from the teachers, principals, custodians, bus drivers, and food service personnel,” Piekarski, said. “I’m very proud of our team and appreciate the hard work of everyone involved in this important annual effort.”

— Lisa Rodriguez

Sports cities

With the College Football

Playoff selection committee to release its final Top 25 ranking on Dec. 2 and the North American sports industry expected to pull in nearly \$69.3 billion this year, the sports-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *2018’s Best Sports Cities* as well as accompanying videos. To determine the cities where the game is always on regardless of season, WalletHub compared 419 small to large cities across the five largest sports in the U.S.: football, basketball, baseball, hockey and soccer. El Paso ranked 186th overall, 50th among large cities. Other stats:

- Cookeville, Tennessee, has the lowest minimum season-ticket prices for a college football (FBS and FCS) game, \$36, which is 31.9 times lower than in South Bend, Indiana, the city with the highest at \$1,150.
- New Orleans has the lowest

average ticket price for an NBA game, \$30.20, which is 3.2 times lower than in New York, the city with the highest at \$97.77.

- NHL fans in Pittsburgh are 28.3 times friendlier and more engaged than their New York counterparts.

- Dallas has the highest NFL team popularity-index, whereas Los Angeles has the lowest.

- Phoenix has the lowest average MLB ticket price, \$19.65, which is 2.9 times lower than in Boston, the city with the highest at \$56.97.

- Atlanta has the highest attendance rate for MLS games, 113.41 percent, which is 2.8 times higher than in Minneapolis, the city with the lowest at 40.43 percent.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-sports-cities/15179/> to view the full report.

— Diana Polk

Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was Kurt Vonnegut, one of the most influential writers of the 20th century, who made the following sage observation: “There is no reason why good cannot triumph as often as evil. The triumph of anything is a matter of organization. If there are such things as angels, I hope they are organized along the lines of the Mafia.”

- If you received all of the gifts in the song “The Twelve Days of Christmas,” you’d have 364 presents.

- The period between Thanksgiving and Christmas is an apt time to consider the word “crapulous,” which means “sick from excessive eating or drinking.”

- Ireland’s Porterhouse Brewing Company has what might seem to be an unlikely hit on its hands: the Oyster Stout. During the brewing process, raw oysters are shucked directly into the conditioning tank. This unlikely combination is popular, though, selling out quickly whenever it’s available.

- Those who study such things say that while shaving, a person removes about as much skin as hair.

- As the holidays approach and you’re out shopping for gifts, you might want to keep this in mind: According to survey results, siblings are the worst holiday gift-givers, getting the lowest marks from 21 percent of respondents. However, they weren’t far behind in-laws, who were rated the worst by 20 percent.

- Unless you’re from Central Florida, you’ve probably never heard of the small town of Ocoee. So you might be surprised to learn that during World War II, Ocoee earned the distinction of sending more men, per capita, to serve in the military than any other town in the United States.

Thought for the Day: “Fame is very agreeable, but the bad thing is that it goes on 24 hours a day.”

— Gabriel Garcia Marquez

(c) 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

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

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

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

CryptoQuip Answer

If someone makes a dish of carrots, radishes and yams, could you call that root cocktail?

8	-	4	x	7	28
÷		x		-	
1	+	3	+	2	6
+		+		x	
9	-	5	x	5	20
17		17		25	



Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On Dec. 17, 1944, Public Proclamation No. 21, declares that, effective Jan. 2, 1945, Japanese American "evacuees" from the West Coast could return to their homes from internment camps.

• On Dec. 18, 1620, the British ship Mayflower docks at modern-day Plymouth, Massachusetts, and its passengers prepare to begin their new settlement, Plymouth Colony. By spring, 50 of the original 102 Mayflower passengers were dead of illness and starvation.

• On Dec. 19, 1917, the National Hockey League opens its first season with five franchises: the Canadiens and the Wanderers (both of Montreal), the Ottawa Senators, the Quebec Bulldogs and the Toronto Arenas.

• On Dec. 20, 1957, rock-and-roll star Elvis Presley receives his draft notice for the U.S. Army. Fans sent tens of thousands of letters asking that he be spared, but Elvis would have none of it. He was sworn in as an Army private in Memphis, Tennessee, on March 24, 1958.

• On Dec. 21, 1988, Pan Am Flight 103 from London to New York explodes in midair over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing all 243 passengers and 16 crew members. A bomb hidden in an audio cassette player detonated in the cargo area when the plane was at 31,000 feet.

• On Dec. 22, 1900, the first car to be produced under the "Mercedes" name is delivered to its buyer: Emil Jellinek, the Austrian car racer. Jellinek was so confident it would win races that he bought 36 of them, and the company agreed to name its new machine after Jellinek's daughter, Mercedes.

• On Dec. 23, 1968, the crew and captain of the U.S. intelligence-gathering ship Pueblo are released after 11 months' imprisonment by the government of North Korea. The Pueblo and its 83-man crew had been seized by North Korean warships and charged with intruding into North Korean waters.

(c) 2018 Hearst Communications, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



ASSESSING HOUSING OPTIONS

UNDERSTANDING BENEFITS

Find articles, tips and tools from experts and others who have been in your place.

aarp.org/caregiving
Caregiving Resource Center
Care for your loved one. Care for yourself.



Drivers

Drivers: CDL-A
LOCAL AVAIL!! In El Paso, TX.
Competitive Wages! Full Benefits.
CALL 844-452-7902

Most NFL teams take hard stance on domestic abuse, but not all

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

One of the most famous novels of all time is Charles Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities.

It begins with the line, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..."

For some teams like the Los Angeles Rams, the New Orleans Saints and the Kansas City Chiefs, it may seem like the best of times; with the possibility of even better things to come when the playoffs start.

For other teams like the New York

Giants, the Arizona Cardinals and the Oakland Raiders, things couldn't be worse and plans are already being made for next year.

But all that has to do with the play on the field. I'm talking about the stuff that's been going on off the field of play.

Last week was not only a bad week for a couple of NFL players, it was a particularly bad week for an NFL franchise located in probably the country's most important city.

The two players were San Francisco 49ers linebacker Reuben Foster and Chiefs' running back Kareem Hunt.

The bad news is that they were both

involved with domestic abuse cases in which they were accused of slapping, kicking and pushing women around.

The good news is that the 49ers and Chiefs released both players.

We all know that the league has received a lot of grief over the last few years for the way they've dealt (or not dealt) with domestic abuse cases.

Heck, you can even throw in their handling of drug abuse, weapons, alcohol, assault, theft, fraud, DUI, insider trading and even animal cruelty cases.

So the league is taking a tougher stand on anything related to domestic violence; and it's about time.

It used to be that the league, and its teams, were only tough on the players at the end of the bench. When it came to the star players... let's just say that those in charge had no problem looking the other way.

This particular time it was the teams who took swift action and got rid of two star players.

But earlier I mentioned that one important city was looking pretty bad in this whole scenario.

Almost immediately upon hearing that Foster was cut from the 49ers – the Washington Redskins swooped in and claimed the linebacker for themselves.

I don't know who made the final decision to bring Foster in, but they obviously weren't concerned with how it would look or what kind of a message it would send to the players, the league or the fans.

Or how about the message it sends to women all over the nation?

Now we all know the Redskins can claim that everyone is guaranteed due process in this country and an accusation is just that – an accusation.

But this is not the first time Foster has been accused of beating up a woman.

In fact, over the last year Foster has been arrested for illegal drugs, a separate domestic abuse charge, assault weapons charges and making threats.

I guess it comes down to this – either the Redskins brass never received all that damning information, or they just decided to ignore it.

It's great to see two teams like the 49ers and the Chiefs get rid of lousy individuals like that even though it hurts their respective teams on the field.

But all of us mere mortals who wish we could be as talented as those players, and make as much money as those players, know how lucky all those NFL athletes are.

If they can't stay out of trouble, it's hard to feel sorry for them.

And if the only way for them to show their true manhood is to beat up someone a foot shorter and 100 pounds lighter than they are – then they should lose the privilege of being in the NFL.

Maybe they should spend some time in a jail cell with someone half-a-foot-taller and 80 pounds heavier than they are – you know, just to be fair.

Oh, and before I forget, shame on the Washington Redskins for looking the other way.

It wouldn't surprise me if they were making a call to Kareem Hunt's agent right about now.



Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore
Dec. 4, 1892: A New York newspaper reports a rain making failure by the Dept. of Agriculture... high explosives were discharged near Midland and San Antonio to no avail.

To Advertise Call 852-3235

AT SHOPPING MALLS, PARKING LOTS, THEATERS, APARTMENT COMPLEXES & CITY STREETS

WHERE YOU ARE, THEY ARE!

YOU ARE BEING SHADOWED. But you're not the only one. Every year in Texas, car thieves steal close to 100,000 cars and trucks, and burglarize thousands more. Surprised? Don't be any longer. When you leave your vehicle, **HIDE** your things, **LOCK** your car, and **TAKE** your keys. Remember... **YOU HOLD THE KEY.**

Watch Your Car
TEXAS AUTO BURGLARY AND THEFT PREVENTION AUTHORITY

Health

From Page 7

Benadryl) and sprays (Nasacort, Beconase), and although they help me breathe better, I still fill up with tears and mucus. I'd like to know if you've ever run across these symptoms. – S.R.M.

These symptoms are not only common, they are nearly universal. One of the body's protections against cold weather is to increase fluid flow to the eyes and nose, as the cold, dry air evaporates their protective moisture. Almost everybody has had the experience of a runny nose after being out in the cold, especially when first coming into

a warm room. In some people, the normal response is so strong that it becomes very annoying. It's a type of nonallergic vasomotor rhinitis.

I have had frequent success in prescribing nasal antihistamines, such as azelastine, or an anticholinergic drug like ipratropium, if the treatments you have tried haven't worked.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. (c) 2018 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Archives: www.wtxcc.com

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: A equals Y

QG NMBKMCK BPJKN P VQND
 MG LPWWMON, WPVQNDKN PCV
 APBN, LMEUV AME LPUU ODPO
 WMMO LMLJOPQU?

Answer Page 4

©2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

Answer Page 4

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

© 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

When VA doctors aren't doctors



by Freddy Groves

Consider this: A Department of Veterans Affairs medical employee, whose salary is paid for by the taxpayers and who is on the VA list of employees, doesn't actually work any hours at the VA because that employee is union and spends all his time doing union business.

Like that? No, I don't either. It gets worse. During the last fiscal year for which this record was kept (2016), those VA union employees pulled over a million hours on union business, to the tune of \$49 million in salary, which we paid for. Officially, it's called "Taxpayer Funded Union Time."

Who are these people? Dentists, nurses, physicians, chiropractors – people from the whole list of medical professions – were pulled aside, away from doing actual medical work. (And people wonder why we can't get a timely medical appointment and we're told they're understaffed.)

This collective bargaining agreement mess happened during the previous presidential administration and involved four different medical unions. Here's an example given in a VA.gov press release: A VA nurse was elected as a union official, getting 100 percent of her \$90,000 salary paid for by the taxpayers while doing zero medical work.

Now, fingers crossed, those employees will be coming back to their real jobs when the VA stands up to some of those collective bargaining agreements.

The VA will pull those union employees back under Title 38 of the U.S. Code for medical employees, and this will apply to all of their 104,000 employees. No longer will taxpayers fork out dollars to pay for those people to do union work.

I honestly don't get it. If I had gone to all the time and trouble of getting a medical degree, I would be embarrassed to spend my time not taking care of patients and instead work for a union.

(c)2018KingFeaturesSynd.,Inc.

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

	-		x		28
÷		x		-	
	+		+		6
+		+		x	
	-		x		20
17		17		25	

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
 ★★★ GO FIGURE!

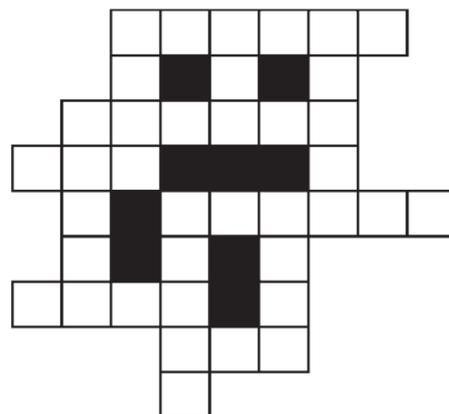
1 2 3 4 5 5 7 8 9

©2018 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Answer Page 4



- DOL
- OCTERN
- AKBIT
- ♥TUSL
- ♥KNISLE
- ♥NWA
- ODOF
- ♥NALEC
- ♥UTP
- FEBMAL
- TWESP
- ♥ENEK



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.



• If you are serving hot rolls on a buffet, line the basket with aluminum foil before you line it with a towel. The foil will help reflect heat, keeping the rolls warmer longer.

• Metal skewers are great for a barbecue, but the tip also can be used to create fancy designs on an iced cake, just like a pencil.

• "If you get stuck in the snow, try using your car mats to get a little traction. Keep some kitty litter or sand in the trunk too just in case you run into trouble."

– D.C. in Michigan

• "Running the heater is expensive, especially when there's only one person in a house. I find that I can get by with a much cooler overall temperature by using my space heater for about 15 minutes in the bathroom and lounging on the couch and in bed with my electric blanket. Those two things cut down on the need to have the house toasty warm, and truly keep my heating bill in check."

– B.J. in Pennsylvania

• A pot of mulling spices on the stovetop will both fill your house with a lovely holiday smell and add a respectable amount of humidity. Simply keep a watch on the kettle or pot, and add water as necessary.

• "Here's a clothing tip on a very cold day: Today's running tights are fantastic under pants as a liner. They are warm, wicking and cut a flattering silhouette as well. Much better than old-fashioned thermals."

– M.E. in Montana

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

Lowry

From Page 3

the caravan gains entry, it will send a message that large-scale movements of people are better than small groups. This could lead to even more pressure at the border, no matter how much it will be dismissed by the same people who insisted the caravan would never arrive.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2018 by King Features Synd., Inc.