



## NEWSBRIEFS

### SISD report cards

The 2017-2018 Federal Report Cards for the State of Texas, the Socorro Independent School District, and SISD schools are available on the district website, school websites and the Texas Education Agency website.

• Visit <https://www.sisd.net/Page/20776> for the state, district and schools' reports.

• Visit <https://tea.texas.gov/FRC.aspx> for the report cards.

The report gives information such as STAAR performance results, student achievement and teacher quality data. Hard copies of the report may be made available upon request at SISD schools or the District Service Center. Please contact your child's school if you have any questions concerning the federal report card.

— Christy Flores-Jones

### City health

With health care costs rising and U.S. life expectancy declining for the third year in a row, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *2019's Healthiest & Unhealthiest Cities in America* as well as accompanying videos. To identify the places where health is a priority, WalletHub compared more than 170 of the largest U.S. cities across 42 key metrics. The data set ranges from cost of medical visit to fruit and vegetable consumption to fitness clubs per capita. The study ranked El Paso at 131 and Las Cruces, NM at 145. Brownsville, TX finished last at 174. Other stats:

• Overland Park, KS has the lowest share of physically unhealthy adults at 7.10 percent, which is 2.7 times lower than in Detroit, MI, the city with the highest at 19.10 percent.

• Laredo, TX has the lowest cost per doctor's visit at \$58.33, which is 3.3 times less expensive than in Boston, MA, the city with the highest at \$190.52.

• Portland, ME has the lowest share of adults eating fruit less than once daily at 28.20 percent, which is 1.8 times lower than in Gulfport, MS, the city with the highest at 51.80 percent.

• Amarillo, TX has the lowest average monthly cost for a fitness-club membership at \$13.67, which is 6.2 times less expensive than in San Francisco, CA, the city with the

See BRIEFS, Page 5

*It's possible that a college education won't always pay off, but the debt can be felt for a lifetime.*

— Quips & Quotes

## Harrison is new San Eli ISD board member

By Hector Gonzalez  
*Special to the Courier*

SAN ELIZARIO – The San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) has a new board member—he is Staff Sergeant Norman B. Harrison. He was sworn in on Wednesday, Feb. 13th, during San Elizario ISD's Board of Trustees meeting. He is originally from Charleston, South Carolina and first moved to San Elizario, Texas in 2010 but due to military assignments, he was constantly moving around. It was not until 2017 when he and his wife settled permanently in San Elizario to raise a family.

Harrison served in Active Duty Army from February 2008 to July 2017 then transitioned to the Texas Reserves where he currently serves in the 83rd Military Police Company as a Military Police Squad Leader. He is married to wife Karina Harrison and are the proud parents of five young boys: Dominic, Nathan, Justin, Jaden, and Devin – all of whom attend schools in San Elizario ISD.

"It feels great to be back in San Eli," Harrison said. "I love the

quiet nature and the community has made me feel welcomed. It truly is a nice place to live in."

He enjoys the culture, the family-oriented feel of the town, and the food. He looks forward to serving his community as SEISD's newest board member.

"I want to try to bring my experiences from all over the country and the world to influence positive change in the educational needs of the children in the community as well as my own children," Harrison said. "My goal is to bring forward some new ideas and changes that will make a positive impact on our children's lives and help them to be successful in their future endeavors."



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD  
**Norman B. Harrison**

## Veterans can apply for next Habitat for Humanity home

By Alfredo Vasquez  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – A recent donation to the local Habitat for Humanity organization will help provide a new home for a veteran and his/ her family.

Habitat for Humanity has built 62 homes in El Paso since 1981 and has done repairs to about 35 homes, according to the organization's executive director Dave Driscoll.

The organization, which requires homeowners to put 400 hours in sweat equity, is now taking applications for a veteran to receive the Habitat's next home. Habitat officials estimate the value of the next project to be about \$85,000 for a three-bedroom, two bath home.

Veteran qualifiers for the upcoming project, which offers a zero-percent interest rate on the mortgage, must meet four main criteria: Habitat homes are

not free but are sold to partner families at cost (land plus construction) with a 30-year no-interest loan, so applicants must show an ability to pay; applicants must meet with Habitat Family Selection volunteers to determine housing needs and may not currently own a home, but owning land does not eliminate someone from consideration; applicants must be willing to work on the construction site; and the applicants must have served honorably in the United States military.

The location for the next home project has not yet been determined, but Habitat volunteers are looking into the possibility of the property being donated by a municipality, company, or an individual.

Interested veterans are encouraged to the call the local Habitat office, at 755-6633, to request an application. Organizations may also call on behalf of an eligible veteran and request that an application be mailed or emailed.

## Recent phone scam involves 'impounded' cars

By Alfredo Vasquez  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – Local law enforcement officials recently put out a warning for El Paso County residents to alert them of a new phone scam that is currently making its rounds. The hoax, officials said, is linked to vehicles.

The new phone scam apparently involves a caller who contacts an unsuspecting resident and says that a vehicle registered in his or her name has been stored by the law enforcement department but that it can't be released because of outstanding warrants. Then, the scammer provides information on how to pay the warrants to have the vehicle released, according to officials.

The local law enforcement departments reported that they were made aware of the scam when residents who had been contacted by the scammers tried to verify the warrant information through the El Paso municipal courts. That is when they found out that the scammers were lying.

Police said that there are numerous variations of this scam that could involve a jailed or hospitalized relative or friend, or money needed to satisfy court warrants. Scammers use various scenarios but always will pressure people to send money, a check or cashier's check, or provide personal information, law officials explained.

Law enforcement officials remind all local area residents that they should never share Social Security, credit card, checking or savings account

## Choose water over diet drinks

NATION – An American Heart Association (AHA) study, which examined data on 81,714 women ages 50-79 tracked for an average of 11.9 years beginning in the mid-to-late 1990s, apparently now complicates attempts to promote low-calorie alternatives to regular sodas as a way to keep from gaining weight.



Even women with no history of heart disease or diabetes are considerably more vulnerable to increased health risks if they drink multiple diet beverages a

The results of the study, which examined data on 81,714 women ages 50-79 tracked for an average of 11.9 years beginning in the mid-to-late 1990s, apparently now complicates attempts to promote low-calorie alternatives to regular sodas as a way to keep from gaining weight.

For women trying to keep a healthy weight after menopause,

See WATER, Page 2

See SCAM, Page 6

**Food for thought** By John Grimaldi

# Expand your lifestyle and your lifespan

Exert yourself! It's easier than you think. And, says the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC), new research shows that by just moving around for a cumulative 30 minutes a day will help you live longer.

"The good news is that the study showed you do not have to go to extremes; you reap the benefits even if you just get up off the sofa or your chair and walk around, which is particularly good news for all those seniors out there who abhor the thought of organized exercise," says Dan Weber, president of the senior advocacy organization.

The research was conducted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University in New York. The lead investigator was Dr. Keith Diaz who says: "If you have a job or lifestyle that involves a lot of sitting, you can lower your risk of early death by moving more often, for as long as you want and as your ability allows—whether that means taking an hour-long high-intensity spin class or choosing lower-intensity activities, like walking."

The study showed that if you engage in even low-intensity activities, such as taking a swim, riding a bike, doing a simple stretching routine or

even walking down the street, it will help you live longer by as much as 17%. And, if you want to get frisky – like doing a few push-ups or sit-ups – it can cut the risk of an early death by 35%. And, you don't have to do it all at once; you simply need to get up a few times a day and log in a total of half-an-hour of activities.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), more than 30 million men and women 50-years-old and older apparently dismiss the benefits of exerting themselves. And, the CDC says you'll reap benefits even if you do "moderate-intensity aerobic" exercises for less than 21 1/2 minutes a day, or 150 minutes a week.

Weber says you don't have to train as if you seek an Olympic medal. "Simple chair squats, which call for you to stand in front of a chair, spreading your legs, bending your knees and alternately sitting and standing a few times. Or you can stand up and for a few minutes at a time balance yourself on one leg and then the other. The idea is to keep moving, but you don't have to do whole half hour at once. Just do it for several minutes at a time

See LIFESTYLE, Page 5

**View from here** By Jeff Szymanski

# One nation under debt

Yoga classes for bureaucrats. Brown snake eradication program. Congressional pensions. Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund. Those are actual lines in recent federal budgets totaling \$150,000, \$668,000, \$38 million, and \$65 million respectively.

All are "chump change" compared to \$363 billion (with a "b") to be spent this year on interest on the debt. That's \$53 billion higher than last year, a 17% increase. Interest payments are now 8% of the budget and increasing, crowding out vital programs and priorities.

What do Americans get for \$363 billion? Absolutely nothing. Interest is the price paid for decades of spending beyond revenues, as finance charges on credit cards pay for privileges to spend beyond one's income.

The federal budget deficit will hit \$984 billion for the year ending September 30 and could top \$1 trillion. Add interest to spending on the four largest programs – Social Security, Defense/Veterans, Medicare, and Medicaid, and you reach 82 percent of the entire budget. These are precisely the programs politicians say must not be touched. Even Social Security, self-funded through payroll taxes, ran a deficit in 2018. That will continue until it reaches insolvency in 2034. Past surpluses are allowing it to continue without benefit cuts now.

What if you eliminated every item other than "The Big Four"? While no one would advocate that, you still could not reach balance. And "everything else" is a lot – air traffic controllers, parks, disease research, FBI, and federal courts and prisons, to list a pittance of programs and agencies. The Congressional Budget Office projects the U.S. will pay more in interest to service debt than it will spend on Defense in five years.

All past deficits equal today's \$22 trillion national debt, \$66,000 for every citizen and \$178,000 per taxpayer. Tax cuts, wars, and economic stimulus have each added trillions. Both parties deserve blame.

The insanity cannot continue much longer. Consider a mortgage where a borrower pays interest only and keeps passing the loan down generation to generation such that no one pays back principal. What bank would ever agree to never getting its money? Or, picture lending money to an individual or business that comes back for more funds each year. At some point any sane person would fear not getting back what

was lent (let alone interest owed) and put a stop to further lending. Creditors of the U.S. government will reach the same conclusion. Fully 45 percent of debt held by the public is owned by foreign investors. China is the largest single holder. Creditors will demand higher interest rates as the risk increases to loan the U.S. money. The catastrophe to our entire financial system will be when investors simply have no confidence in lending to the U.S. government at all.

What then? "Then" is too late. AMAC advocates for reducing federal spending now and has even taken the tough but necessary stand to preserve and modernize Social Security. AMAC now calls for the creation of a fund to eliminate the debt and strengthen our nation.

First, Congress and the President must do their part and balance the budget. That stops adding to the \$22 trillion. Second, citizens can do their part. The debt cannot be eliminated in years or even decades. But we can start with "America's Security Fund".

AMAC urges America's Fortune 500 companies help save the country. A "we didn't cause this problem" is no excuse. As an integral part of the economy, companies must be involved. If each contributed \$1 million, \$500 million would be collected. A \$2 million contribution yields \$1 billion. Individuals could contribute on tax forms with an added line.

Contributions to "America's Security Fund" would not be tax deductible and could be spent for debt reduction only after the federal budget is balanced. The fund would be overseen by a Board, chaired by the Treasury Secretary and prominent Americans from the public and private sectors, academia, unions, large corporations, and business.

Publicity is vital. Research shows people donate to causes if they know others are doing so. AMAC will inform its membership. We look to government, civic and religious groups, and businesses to aid in this enterprise. America's future depends on it.

*The Association of Mature American Citizens is a senior benefits organization with 1.7 million members. Jeff Szymanski works in Political Communications and taught economics for 15 years at Walpole High School in Walpole, MA.*

## Water

From Page 1

especially those who are overweight or obese and drink low-calorie sweetened drinks to cut calories in their diet, should

revisit their options and choose water over diet drinks, the study suggested.

"Our research and other observational studies have shown that artificially sweetened beverages may not be harmless and high consumption is

associated with a higher risk of stroke and heart disease," stated Yasmin Mossavar-Rahmani, the study's lead author.

Compared to other postmenopausal women who drank less than one diet drink a week, regular consumers had a 23 percent enhanced likelihood of any kind of stroke, 31 percent higher chance of a stroke caused by a blocked artery, and a 29 percent increased possibility of a heart attack. Their chances of dying from any cause increased by 16 percent.

– Alfredo Vasquez

## Classified Ads

### LEGALS

#### Public Notice

Village of Vinton, Texas

#### Variance Request

A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT WILL BE HELD AT 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 5th, 2019 during the City Council Meeting at Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas. The Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item:

located at 7810 Doniphan Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821 (Alejo Delgado Survey 175, Abstract 2792 Tract 11B & 18) contingent on specific conditions and terms of compliance.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Village Administrator at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915) 886-5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Andrea N. Carrillo  
Village Administrator

WTCC: 01-21-19

A request for a variance from the requirements of Sec. 9.03.03C.4. of the UDC to allow the Building Official to issue a temporary certificate of occupancy for a period of one year for the property

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# The bonfire of the Democrats

If Democrats are held to their own standards, then all three embattled state officials in the Commonwealth of Virginia should resign.

Even if Gov. Ralph Northam didn't appear in blackface in an image in his medical-school yearbook, he confessed to once darkening his face as part of a Michael Jackson costume.

Attorney General Mark Herring, who called Northam's conduct indefensible, also used blackface once. Meanwhile, Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax has been accused of sexual assault.

If ever wearing blackface—even in the 1980s, as both Northam and Herring did — is a career-ender, and if we are supposed to "believe all women," then all three Democrats have to go.

Virginia is an indication of an inflamed and unforgiving Democratic mood that will define the party's battle for the 2020 presidential nomination.

Democrats are about to embark on the first "woke" primary, a gantlet of political correctness that will routinely wring abject apologies out of candidates and find fault in even the most sure-footed. The passage of time will be no defense. Nor the best of intentions. Nor anything else.

Any lapses will be interpreted

through the most hostile lens, made all the more brutal by the competition of a large field of candidates vying for the approval of a radicalized base.

Being a progressive hero of long-standing doesn't afford any protection. Consider Elizabeth Warren. She certainly deserves all the grief she gets for her laughable identification of herself over the years as an American Indian. But for the identity-politics left, her fault runs deeper.

After taking a DNA test to prove her (distant) Native American ancestry, she stood accused, in the words of a member of a tribe in South Dakota, of "privileging nonindigenous definitions of being indigenous."

According to The New York Times, she had also tread "too far into the fraught area of racial science — a field that has, at times, been used to justify the subjugation of racial minorities and Native Americans."

Yes, Warren stood exposed as implicitly in league with the oppressors of Native Americans — and here she had just wanted Donald Trump to stop calling her Pocahontas. She apologized, and presumably will keep on doing it as long as she's running.

It's a season of apologies. When



candidate Kirsten Gillibrand went on "The Rachel Maddow Show," the MSNBC host hit her for having in the past used the term "illegal alien," although

it was standard and technically correct usage. Gillibrand allowed that she was embarrassed by her past positions on immigration.

In every presidential campaign, candidates have to explain and backfill to get with the party's latest program. What will make this so much more intense for Democrats is the belief that even past mistakes involving the choice of words or symbolism are affirmatively injurious of other people. And that such mistakes represent deep sins to be repented of.

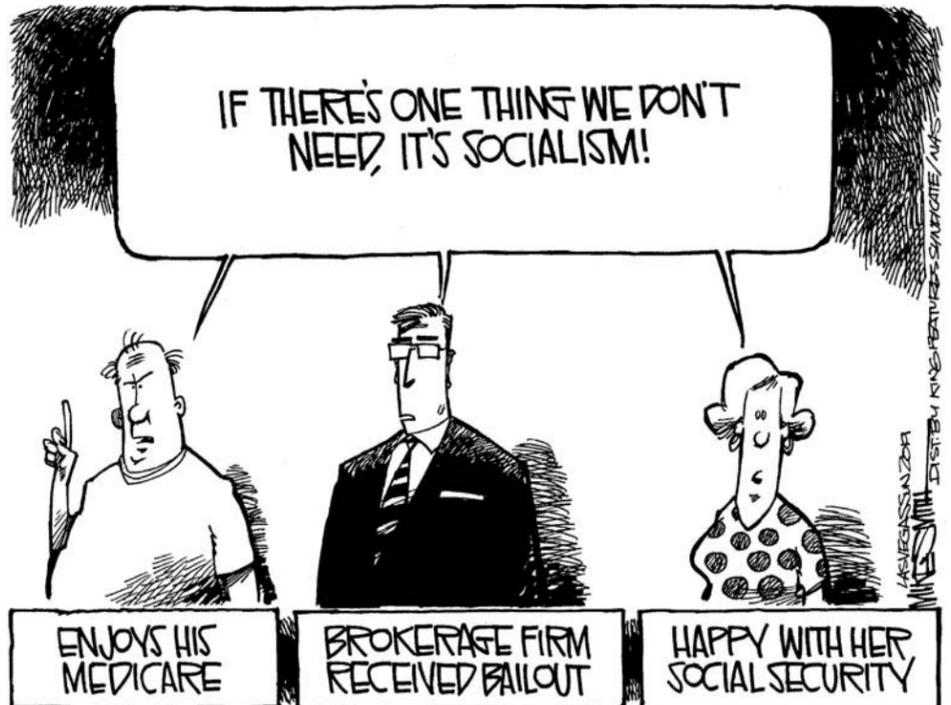
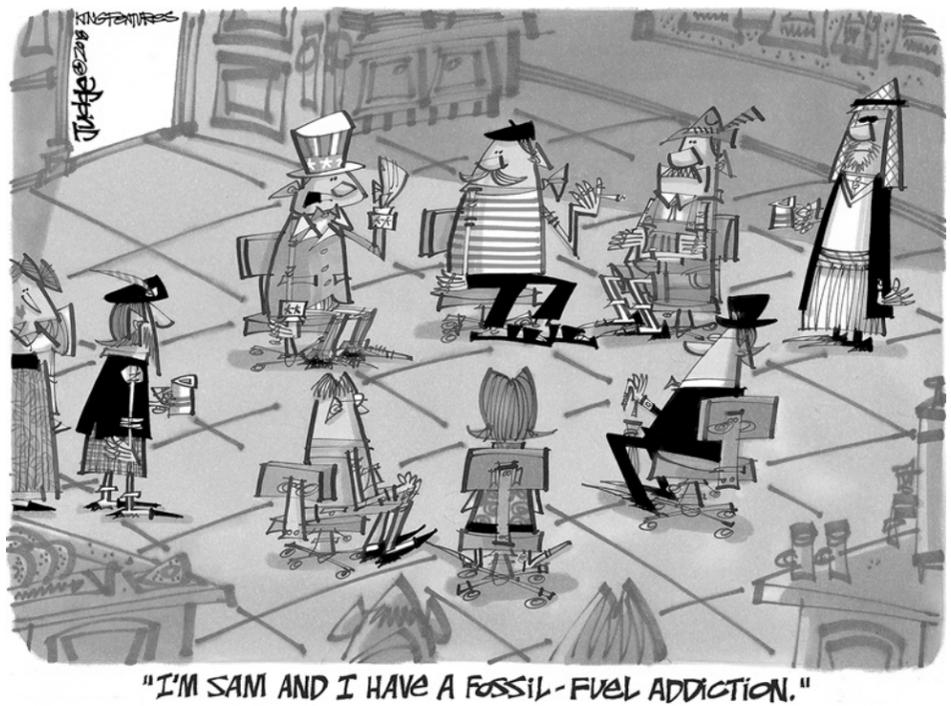
Even Kamala Harris, who calls racism, sexism and transphobia matters of "national security," isn't safe. She was once a prosecutor, after all. Reviewing her record, a New York Times op-ed writer said that "she needs to radically break with her past."

Who doesn't? No one will be woke enough to emerge from this process unscathed.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2019 by King Features Synd., Inc.



YES, SANTA CLAUS, THERE IS A VIRGINIA.





– Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**TRIPPING** – Nine National Honor Society students, with their adviser, from San Elizario High School went to the Leadership Experience and Development (LEAD) conference in Washington, D.C. earlier this month. They are, top row from left, Ashley Armenta, Juliana Gandara, Nubia Galvan, Melissa Blanco and Anahi Morales. Bottom row from left are Lorenzo Leyva, Jorge Lazo, Wendy Valdes (LEAD adviser), Alexis Gurrola and Armando Silva.

## San Elizario HS students attend D.C. conference

By Hector Gonzalez  
Special to the Courier

**SAN ELIZARO** – A group of National Honor Society (NHS) members from San Elizario High School (SEHS) had the privilege to attend the Leadership Experience and Development (LEAD) conference in Washington, D.C. from Feb. 1st through Feb. 3, 2019. The primary focus of the conference is to help students and advisers sharpen their leadership skills, improve school culture and community, and network with peers from all over the U.S.

The LEAD conference is open to NHS

members from across the country. Initially there were 15 students from SEHS that were eligible to attend but due to athletics, academics, or other prior commitments, only nine were able to go.

“This is the first time our NHS students [went on] a trip like this,” said Wendy Valdes, Physics teacher at SEHS. She accompanied the students on the trip. “As an adviser, it was wonderful to see my students take part in this conference and also experience the history and culture of Washington, D.C. I know this group of students will remember this trip for the rest of their lives,” Valdes said.

Students had the opportunity to attend individual workshops that focused on topics such as leadership, student voice, civic

engagement, and service.

“This was an eye-opening experience for me,” said Lorenzo Leyva, junior at SEHS. “I met and collaborated with peers from different states, explored the city, rode the subway for the first time, and realized that decisions made in D.C. can affect us here at home in San Eli. I came back with some really good ideas that can help out our school and community.”

After the conference, the group got to visit the National Archives, the Smithsonian Museum of U.S. History, the Washington and Lincoln Memorials, and the Holocaust Museum. They also got free tours of the Capitol and the White House courtesy of Congressman Will Hurd.

## Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was French-German physician, philosopher and humanitarian Albert Schweitzer who made the following sage observation: “In everyone’s life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit.”

- You might be surprised to learn that famed lover and heartbreaker Casanova eventually became a librarian.

- If you’ve ever yelled out a warning in panic – “Stop!,” “Run!,” “Don’t!” – you’ve used a monepic sentence; that is, one that is complete with just a single word. Of course, at the time you probably weren’t concerned about the grammatical nature of your utterance.

- If you’re like the hypothetical average person, your mouth will create 10,000 gallons of saliva over the course of your lifetime.

- It’s been reported that the country’s first pizza parlor was in New York City – naturally. It opened in 1885, but barely got by. In 1895, it was sold for a mere \$200 – small change even in those times.

- The bearded vulture is the only known animal whose diet is made up almost exclusively of bone.

- It’s a well-worn trope that men refuse to stop and ask for directions when they’re lost. That point of view might seem to be supported by the results of a survey conducted by the American Automobile Association, which found that just 34 percent of male drivers admit to stopping to ask for directions. However, the same survey found that only 37 percent of women did the same.

Thought for the Day: “It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society.”

– Jiddu Krishnamurti

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EDS YOLO ASSENTS RAPS

**CryptoQuip Answer**

That fellow never turns the light switch off when it’s not in use. He’s got a watt of noise!

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## Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On Feb. 18, 1930, Pluto is discovered at the Lowell Observatory in Arizona by astronomer Clyde W. Tombaugh. He discovered the tiny, distant planet using a new astronomic technique of photographic plates combined with a blink microscope.

• On Feb. 19, 1847, the first rescuers reach surviving members of the Donner Party, a group of California-bound emigrants stranded by snow in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Of the 89 original members of the Donner Party, only 45 reached California.

• On Feb. 20, 1986, France and Britain announce the Chunnel, a tunnel to be built under the English Channel. Construction began in late 1987 and the chunnel was finally completed in 1994. Attempts to dig a channel tunnel date back to 1883, and Napoleon drew blueprints for a tunnel in 1802.

• On Feb. 21, 1994, CIA operative Aldrich Ames is arrested for selling secrets to the Soviet Union. At least 10 U.S. spies in Russia were killed after Ames revealed their identities, and more were sent to Russian gulags.

• On Feb. 22, 1918, swept along by hysterical fears of German spies, the Montana legislature passes a Sedition Law that severely restricts freedom of speech and assembly. The law made it illegal to criticize the federal government or the armed forces during time of war.

• On Feb. 23, 1940, folksinger Woody Guthrie writes one of his best-known songs, "This Land is Your Land." Many of his songs reflected a strong commitment to the common working people.

• On Feb. 24, 1836, Texan Col. William Travis sends a desperate plea for help when the Mexican army of 5,000 soldiers badly outnumber the several hundred defenders of the Alamo. His message ended with the famous last words, "Victory or Death." "Remember the Alamo" quickly became the rallying cry for the Texas revolution.

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## Lifestyle

From Page 2

until you've logged in 20 to 30 minutes."

The AMAC chief says that even activities such as walking your dog or taking out the trash qualify. "It's that easy but exceptionally rewarding as you feel yourself getting just a bit stronger by the weeks, by the months and by the years you'll be adding to your life."

*The Association of Mature American Citizens (<http://www.amac.us>) is a senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. We act and speak on their behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today.*



## Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore

Feb 8, 1836: The famous Davy Crockett arrives to entertain and defend at the Alamo.

## Briefs

From Page 1

highest at \$84.36.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/healthiest-cities/31072/> for the full report and more city rankings.

– Diana Polk

## Diversity

With immigration reform remaining one of the most prominent political issues, suggesting that the U.S. demographic landscape may soon change, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2019's Most & Least Ethnically Diverse Cities as well as accompanying videos. To identify the most ethnically diverse places in America, WalletHub compared more than 500 of the largest U.S. cities across three key metrics: ethnoracial diversity, linguistic diversity and birthplace diversity. El Paso was ranked 263rd.

Other stats:

• Oakland, CA has the highest racial and ethnic diversity, which is four times higher than in Hialeah, FL, the city with the lowest.

• Hialeah, FL has the highest concentration of Hispanics or Latinos, at 96.44 percent.

• Laconia, NH has the highest concentration of whites, at 94.81 percent.

• Jackson, MS, has the highest concentration of blacks, at 81.44 percent.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/cities-with-the-most-and-least-ethno-racial-and-linguistic-diversity/10264/> the full report and your city's rank

– Diana Polk

## Wedding cities

With couples spending an average of over \$33,000 on their wedding and the industry growing to \$81 billion in revenue, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2019's Best Places to Get Married as well as accompanying videos.

To help couples find the most wedding-friendly destinations, WalletHub compared more than 180 of the biggest U.S. cities across 27 key indicators of cost-effectiveness, convenience and enjoyment. The data set ranges from average wedding cost to venues and event spaces per capita to weather. El Paso ranked 23rd in this study. Others stats:

• El Paso, TX has the lowest average wedding cost at \$13,220, which is 3.2 times lower than in Bridgeport, CT the city with the highest at \$42,711.

• Washington DC has the most event planners per capita at 99, which is 24.8 times more than in Baton Rouge, LA, the city with the fewest at 4.

• Yonkers, NY has the most photographers per capita at 202, which is 40.4 times more than in Laredo, TX, the city with the fewest at 5.

• San Francisco, CA has the most musicians per capita at 17, which is 81 times more than in Kansas City, MO, the

city with the fewest at 0.21. Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-places-to-get-married/18721/> the full report and rankings for other cities.

– Diana Polk

## One more please

Three citizens of Kutztown, PA will imbibe for free at an event sponsored by the Kutztown Police Department. A call for volunteers "willing to drink hard liquor to the point of inebriation" was posted on the department's Facebook Page recently and produced instant results. The volunteers will be part of a training exercise designed to demonstrate how to administer Standardized Field Sobriety Tests during suspected DUI incidents. There were quite a few responses when the police announced they had selected the three volunteers. Most of them lamented that they weren't picked, and many asked to be considered for future such "drinking exercises."

– John Grimaldi

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# Kucher finally pries open his wallet, does the right thing

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

One of the reasons, not the main one, but one of the reasons guys like sports so much is the same reason women love soap operas – the drama.

You watch any soap opera and the entire hour is filled with love, and hate, and vengeance, and blackmail, and scandal, and victories, and defeats, and criminal behavior, and intrigue, and rumors, and cheating, and much more.

You find all that drama in the sports world every day.

You especially find it in sports like soccer, football, basketball and baseball. Of course, sports are made up of a bunch of guys who are together every day, like a family at Thanksgiving.

The proximity alone can cause incidents to flare up that could result in some disagreements.

But I guess because it's an individual

sport, you rarely see any drama in the world of golf.

Oh, occasionally you'll get the "Tiger Woods is having an affair" story, or the "Phil Mickelson is under investigation for insider trading" news, but for the most part, golf is pretty boring drama-wise.

But a little drama made its way to the golf world last week for something that actually happened in November.

It so happens that veteran golfer Matt Kucher was playing a tournament in Mexico.

Kucher went into the tournament without his full-time caddie, who was substituted by local caddie David Giral Ortiz.

Normally, full-time caddies make about 10-percent of whatever the golfer makes in a tournament. Substitutes make less, depending on what he and the golfer agree on.

Before the tournament began, Kucher said he told his new sub that he would pay

him \$1,000 if he missed the cut, \$2,000 if he made the cut, \$3,000 if he finished in the top 20 and \$4,000 if he was in the top 10.

Well, in the end he paid his caddie \$5,000 for a week's work. Not bad for a caddie who usually makes about \$200 a day.

The only problem is that Kucher won the tournament and earned \$1.3 million.

Now I don't know about you, but paying a caddie \$5,000 after winning \$1.3 million seems a little cheap to me.

A full-time caddie would have pocketed about \$130,000.

Giral Ortiz said after the tournament that he didn't expect to collect full-time wages, but thought he had earned more than the \$5,000 he was given. In fact, he asked Kucher for \$50,000.

Amazingly, not only did Kucher think the \$5,000 was appropriate, he said he had actually gone above and beyond by paying him \$5,000.

"I ended up paying him \$5,000 and I thought that was more than what we agreed upon," Kuchar told golf.com. "I kind of think, if he had the chance to do it over again, same exact deal, that he'd say 'yes' again."

As more fans and fellow golfers heard about this, they started to voice their displeasure in Kucher's actions. He was

hammered as being a cheapskate on social media.

Things got so bad for Kucher that fans at last week's Genesis Open at Riviera Country Club started heckling him about his cheapness. Some fans yelled out, "cheeeep." One barked, "Pay your man!" Another yelled, "Go Kuch! I always root for the villain."

After the first round of the tournament, Kucher had had enough and made the announcement that he was going to pay the caddie \$50,000 after all.

It's good that Kucher finally decided to do the right thing. It's bad that it took all this time and all this bad publicity to finally realize that he should do the right thing.

It's amazing what a little public pressure can do.

But it does seem that Kucher really does realize his mistake.

He described his comments as out of touch and insensitive, and added that he really wasn't that kind of a person.

Well, it's obvious that he was that kind of a person, but hopefully he's learned and isn't that kind of a person anymore.

And in case any of you are wondering whether Kucher could afford the \$50,000; he's made over \$45-million in his career. Can you really blame the fans for calling him "cheeeep?"

## Scam

From Page 1

numbers with a caller whom they do not know and should never confirm

information with someone who has called them. Also, residents should never pay for a "free gift". Don't send cash by mail or messenger, overnight mail, money transfer or money order, officials emphasized.

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## Super Crossword

### "SO THERE!"

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mrs., in Munich
  - 5 Spa offering
  - 12 Tartan wearer
  - 16 Second afterthought in a letter, for short
  - 19 Work for
  - 20 Barber's tool
  - 21 Made cloth
  - 22 Arena cry
  - 23 Ghost of a bricklayer?
  - 26 A bit more than zero
  - 27 Kitchen range brand
  - 28 "\_ never fly"
  - 29 Toronto's prov.
  - 30 Fall bloomer
  - 32 Passport stamp
  - 35 Put herbs and spices on a James Bond actor?
  - 38 Greek vowels
  - 42 Mr., in Mysore
  - 43 Ideal
  - 44 Deicing stuff
  - 45 Stable baby
  - 47 JFK's veep
  - 50 Suffix with final or novel
  - 51 Comfort given by the last Stuart monarch?
  - 56 Sponge (up)
  - 59 Yeats' "\_ and the Swan"
  - 60 Tyne of TV

- 61 108-card party game
- 62 Gray shade
- 64 Weaken
- 65 609-homer Sammy
- 68 Lovers' deity
- 70 Person hugging, say
- 72 Has an affinity for people who are calming influences?
- 76 Food, archaically
- 77 "\_ it a pity?"
- 78 "Cheerio!"
- 79 "Norma\_" (1979 film)
- 80 Pencil wood
- 81 Lilt syllable
- 83 Backpack fill
- 85 Fine spray
- 87 Naval acad. grad
- 88 More rational hunch?
- 93 Decide on, with "for"
- 95 See 64-Down
- 96 Henchman helping Hook
- 97 Blogger Klein
- 98 Grassland
- 102 Certain hosp. test
- 105 Most meager
- 107 Hasty, sloppy application of talc?
- 111 Arduous walk
- 112 Taunting remarks
- 113 Eternally, to bards
- 114 Post-op areas, often

- 116 Qdoba dip
  - 120 Year, to Pedro
  - 121 Stupefying someone with liquor away from a horse-racing venue?
  - 126 Sea, to Pierre
  - 127 Gloomy
  - 128 Entered furtively
  - 129 Ohio or New York county
  - 130 'Zine team
  - 131 Modern "Seize the day!," for short
  - 132 Gives a nod
  - 133 Performs like Kanye West
- DOWN**
- 1 Cheese that crumbles
  - 2 Chicago mayor \_ Emanuel
  - 3 Territory
  - 4 Like surprise guests
  - 5 "Siesta Key" channel
  - 6 Shapiro of radio
  - 7 "Yes, yes!," to Pedro
  - 8 "24: Legacy" actor Jimmy
  - 9 Saunters
  - 10 Actress Sarah Michelle \_
  - 11 Poetic "prior to"
  - 12 Football player Lynn
  - 13 Sam's Club

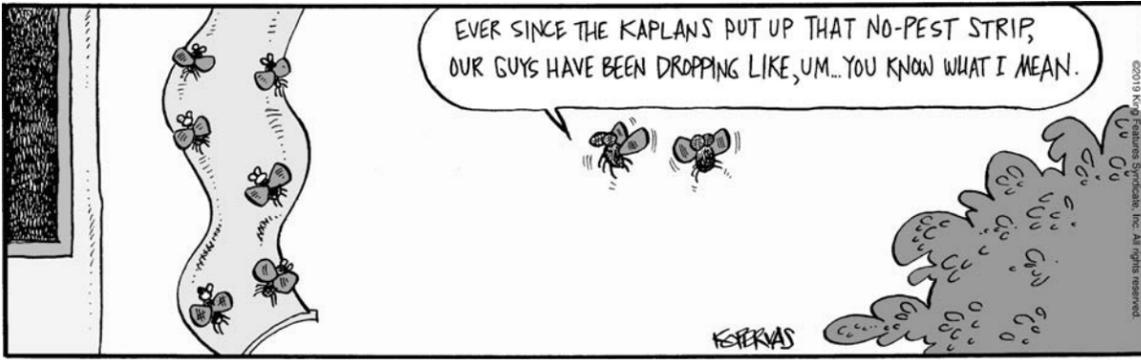
- alternative
- 14 \_lacto-vegetarian
- 15 Lessees
- 16 For the time being
- 17 Chain of bakery-cafes
- 18 Singer Crow
- 24 Finger part
- 25 Bovine noise
- 31 Sulky mood
- 33 Den fixture
- 34 After a while
- 36 Grain tower
- 37 Sheriff Taylor's kid
- 38 Atty.'s name follower
- 39 He co-founded Microsoft with Bill Gates
- 40 Somninx and Nytol, e.g.
- 41 Light shoe
- 46 Grassland
- 48 Pink wine
- 49 Mo. #1
- 52 Suez Crisis figure
- 53 Tons
- 54 Serum injector
- 55 Winter drink
- 56 Really big
- 57 Collect-call connectors
- 58 In itself
- 62 Dojo mat
- 63 Gray shade
- 64 With 95-Across, wide keyboard key
- 66 Fess (up to)
- 67 Brief quarrel
- 69 River romper

- 71 Ton
- 73 Singer Sumac
- 74 Forest vine
- 75 Does some harping?
- 82 Polish, e.g.
- 84 Stubborn equine
- 86 Rink athlete
- 88 Move slightly
- 89 Attracted
- 90 Mo. #9
- 91 Bosc, e.g.
- 92 Rebellion figure Turner
- 93 Seine feeder
- 94 Study of poetic rhythm
- 98 Minecraft, e.g.
- 99 Wrecked
- 100 Shady spots
- 101 Impressive sight
- 103 Mandates
- 104 Some lizards
- 106 Repose
- 108 \_Canada (oil biggie)
- 109 Bruins great Bobby
- 110 Russian money
- 115 Not masked
- 117 Turkish money
- 118 Cut, as hair
- 119 Many years
- 122 Egg \_ yung
- 123 Simile center
- 124 Grab a chair
- 125 Put\_ (deceptions)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
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126				127					128							129		
130				131					132									133

**Comix**

**OUT ON A LIMB** By Gary Kopervas



**AMBER WAVES** By Dave T. Phipps



**THE SPATS** By Jeff Pickering



**R.F.D.** By Mike Marland



**No Caffeine After 50?**

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I recently heard that after age 50 you should not take in any caffeine. I do enjoy a cup of regular coffee with breakfast. Is this dangerous? – Anon.*

The majority of people over 50 continue to drink and enjoy caffeine in coffee, tea and other drinks. At reasonable doses it is very safe, and previous studies showing links to cancers have been pretty thoroughly discredited. I am all in favor of maximizing enjoyment of life in ways that aren't harmful, and a cup of coffee in the morning is not harmful and is a big source of enjoyment to many.



As we age, many drugs (I'll consider caffeine a "drug" for this purpose) are metabolized more slowly by the body, so some people may find that the same "dose" affects them more. This may occasionally cause a problem with sleeping for people who drink caffeine later in the day or at night, in which case the solution is to drink less or drink earlier.

Finally, age 50 seems pretty young, to me, to be concerned about changes in drug metabolism.

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I think I may have herpes, but I'm not sure. What are the symptoms of the virus? When I go to the doctor, what do I say? When I was there last time, I was given a urine test for STDs, which was negative, but now I urinate a lot and have a bump on my penis. – M.G.*

When we are discussing herpes as a sexually transmitted disease, we usually refer to herpes simplex virus type 2. Even though other herpes viruses can be transmitted sexually, HSV-2 is the most prevalent, with approximately 50 million people in the U.S. infected. HSV-2 usually is asymptomatic, but in both men and women it can be associated with periodic outbreaks of blisters, classically filled with clear fluid and painful. During this time, the virus can be accurately identified by a laboratory. However, it is often not a classic appearance, and it's wise to consider the diagnosis of HSV for any genital lesion. The quality of the herpes blood test has improved in recent years, and it is a good way to make the diagnosis in someone who doesn't have a lesion at the time they see the doctor.

Two other STDs – gonorrhea and chlamydia – can be diagnosed using a urine test, but not HSV. When you go to the doctor, ask

See HEALTH, Page 8

1973 **46** WEST TEXAS COUNTY **COURIER** 2019

**CLASSIFIED AD FORM**  
25 words - \$15 per week; 40 words - \$20 per week

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
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25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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**Health**

From Page 7

for a blood test to rule out herpes definitively.

Urinating a lot is not a usual symptom for STDs, but painful or uncomfortable urination is.

sugar as whole fruit, and easily can be overeaten. The second is that you should beware of dried fruits with added sugars. Some dried fruits are preserved with sulfites. Sulfites, as I have mentioned, cause allergic symptoms in some people, but are tolerated by most.

*DEAR DR. ROACH: We often are advised to get plenty of fruit in our diet. Is dried fruit (apricots, dates, figs, prunes) considered healthy? – N.M.G.*

Most dried fruit is healthy; however, there are two concerns: The first is that they have about the same amount of calories and

*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](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu). (c) 2019 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.*

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**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

RPMR ESOOKC WSHSF RVFWB

RPS OTZPR BCTRLP KEE CPSW

TR'B WKR TW VBS. PS'B

ZKR M CMRR KE WSFHS!

Answer Page 4

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆**

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

Answer Page 4

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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**Vacations for vets**



by Freddy Groves

If you're still digging out from all the snow last month, chances are you're thinking about taking a vacation when the weather warms up. Here are a few ideas:

- Purple Heart recipients from Iraq and Afghanistan: Vacations for Veterans ([www.vacationsforveterans.org](http://www.vacationsforveterans.org)) has sent over 500 veterans and their families on vacation since 2007. It's a non-profit, which means it relies solely on donations, including vacation homes and timeshare weeks. Visit the website for more information.

- Veterans Holidays ([www.veteransholidays.com](http://www.veteransholidays.com)), a sister site to the Armed Forces Vacation Club, has low-cost vacation packages (starting at \$349 for a week) in 100 countries.

- Expedia.com ([www.expedia.com](http://www.expedia.com)) has vacation deals with airfare and hotel. Put

in your location and destination, and then select a hotel, your room and your flight. At this writing, there is a bundle saving of \$583 for the trip.

- Cheap Caribbean ([www.cheapcaribbean.com](http://www.cheapcaribbean.com)) offers a discount to military, reservists and veterans, as well as police and fire personnel. Call 800-869-2710 to redeem your discount for its all-inclusive vacation packages.

- Sandals ([www.sandals.com](http://www.sandals.com)) is another all-inclusive site with locations in Jamaica, Lucia, Antigua, the Bahamas, Grenada and Barbados. If you can leave without much notice, click on Specials By Resort and Last Minute Deals.

- One of the sites owned by the Department of Defense is Shades of Green ([www.shadesofgreen.org](http://www.shadesofgreen.org)), an Armed Forces Recreation Center next to Disney World in Florida. It has 600 rooms, golf, tennis, reduced rates to Disney World... and site security, since it's owned by the military. Click on the Special Offers button for extra benefits at different times of the year.

On all of these, do your

homework and read reviews and ratings. Check them out before you commit. If you need to submit paperwork to verify your veteran status, don't wait until the last minute.

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- Corral kids' books in a traveling library by repurposing an old wagon. All you need to do is store the books spine side up for easy selection. This also makes it a snap to move it to just the right place to encourage reading, whether it's the garden path or a blanket fort. If you don't have a wagon to repurpose, installing some caster wheels on the bottom of a crate works, too.

- Replace mascara frequently. But if you need to freshen a tube of dry mascara, just add a few drops of contact solution to the brush and bottle.

- "Use mismatched socks as wiper blade covers when you are expecting inclement weather. It will keep your wipers from freezing to your windshield, and if they get all yucky, you can just pitch them."

– N.G. in Ohio

- Make doctor's appointments on or near a major holiday every year. That way you don't end up forgetting when your last annual exam or dental cleaning was.

- If you seriously need to remove a color polish from your nails, but ran out of remover, try this trick: Paint the nail generously with clear polish, then use a dry cotton ball to swipe it off. Repeat as needed.

- "This tip is for gardeners who live in areas that don't often freeze. I'm safe most of the year, but when temperatures do dip, I cover my vulnerable plants. In addition to the freeze cloth, I also add a string of twinkle lights, which can add a surprisingly margin of heat. And they look pretty as well."

– M.M. in Georgia

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.

**GO FIGURE!** by Linda Thistle

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

**DIFFICULTY: ★★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
 ★★★ GO FIGURE!

	x		-			22
+		÷		-		
	+		x			9
x		+		x		
	x		-			27
24		15		15		

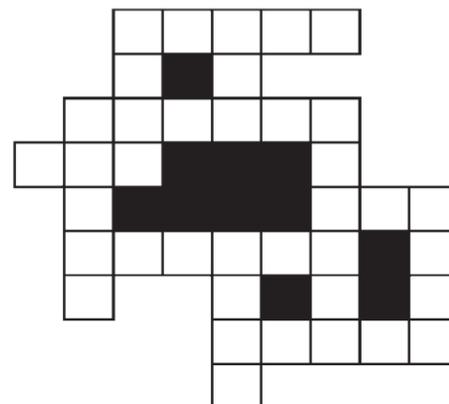
1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 8

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Answer Page 4



- IBS
- ALDNAS
- ♥ IDEMA
- ♥ AHGS
- ♥ DILSEM
- ♥ ETN
- BDMU
- ♥ SABLA
- ♥ DGA
- AMBNAT
- NEESS
- ♥ ETBA



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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.

Answer Page 4