



NEWSBRIEFS

TP or not TP

With toilet paper in short supply, paper products that clog pipes and damage pumps are turning up in the sewer system, according to local water district officials. They are urging area residents to stop flushing the non-flushable, such as paper towels and so-called flushable wipes, because these items are being found in the system. Water service employees continue to work to ensure safe and reliable water services but they need customers' assistance to protect the sewer system, officials stated. "Only human waste and toilet paper should be flushed down the toilet," they advised.

— Alfredo Vasquez

San Elizario ISD extends closure

San Elizario ISD has extended the district's closure until further notice. The continued closure is due to COVID-19 and will remain in effect until City/County Order 019036 and Amended Order 019045 allows school districts to operate.

— Jeannie Meza-Chavez

Water sneaks

El Paso Water has discovered multiple instances of meter tampering and illegal water connections during the last few weeks. Using water without an active water service is against the law and may be grounds for disconnection and penalty. EPWater would like to emphasize that in accordance with the city emergency order issued on March 13, 2020 and to protect the health and safety of the community, it has suspended disconnections due to non-payment. Unlawful activity, however, continues to be grounds for disconnection. Inactive accounts – or those that have been shutoff prior to this order – are encouraged to contact Customer Service at (915) 594-5500 or customer.service@epwater.org to make arrangements to have service restored. Such arrangements may require a good faith deposit. All customers will continue to be responsible for the full bill amount accrued. We will work with customers on payment plans or other arrangements. EPWater is committed to ensuring customers have access to clean, reliable water during this unprecedented time.

— Carlos A. Briano



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

IT'S ON THE WAY – Greg Ferrara, chief executive officer of the National Grocers Association (NGA) said recently that the nation's food supply and supply chain are very strong. While customers are seeing empty shelves at area stores, like in the Walmart above, the NGA will continue to work at the highest capacity to keep stores supplied.

Local businesses struggle with effects of stay-at-home orders

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Americans began stocking up on toilet paper and other items, such as cleaning agents and water products, after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the coronavirus a pandemic in March.

At first, the stockpiling of toilet paper seemed kind of peculiar, but now that most cities have issued stay-at-home orders, it has become a bit clearer.

Both El Paso city and county officials issued the order that instructed all citizens

to remain at their residences except to obtain essential services or engage in essential activities or work, and for essential business and government services. The mandate went into effect on March 24 and will remain until further notice.

El Paso Mayor Dee Margo, County of El Paso Judge Ricardo Samaniego and Health Authority Dr. Hector Ocaranza came together to announce publicly that those individuals found in violation of the order could face a fine of not more than \$1,000 or be jailed for up to 180 days.

And, they provided an email address – COVIDCompliance@elpasotexas.gov – so that the public could report

non-compliance incidents. Consequently, because of the Coronavirus-related government restrictions and virus fears restaurants, bars, hotels and other service-oriented businesses are hurting financially and are having to cut jobs, at least temporarily.

However, other local employers are actually hiring right now. For instance, Walmart officials announced plans to hire about 250 individuals for its El Paso stores including its El Paso and Las Cruces Sam's Clubs. Officials of the national retail chain stated that plans are to hire about 150,000 temporary workers nationwide, including about 15,000 in Texas for Walmart stores, Sam's Clubs, and its distribution centers.

Workforce Solutions Borderplex, the

See ORDERS, Page 4

Social Security benefits to be paid on time

By Ray Vigil
Special to the Courier

NATION – Andrew Saul, Commissioner of Social Security, is assuring the public that Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit payments will continue to be paid on time during the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency also reminds everyone to be aware of scammers who try to take advantage of the pandemic to trick people into providing personal information or payment via retail gift cards, wire transfers, internet currency, or by mailing cash, to maintain Social Security benefit payments or receive economic impact payments from the Department of the Treasury.

"Social Security will pay monthly

benefits on time and these payments will not be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic," Commissioner Saul said. "I want our beneficiaries to be aware that scammers may try to trick you into thinking the pandemic is stopping or somehow changing your Social Security payments, but that is not true. Don't be fooled."

The Department of the Treasury will soon provide information about economic impact payments under the recently enacted law, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, or CARES Act. Treasury, not Social Security, will be making direct payments to eligible people. Please do not call Social Security about these payments as the agency does not have information to share.

The agency continues to direct the public to its online self-service options

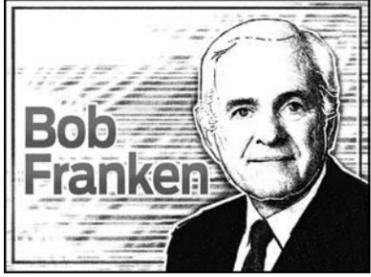
whenever possible. Local offices are closed to the public but are available by phone. People can find their local field office phone number by accessing the Field Office Locator.

To allow available agents to provide better phone coverage, the agency is temporarily changed the National 800 Number hours starting on March 31. The hours changed from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. local time to 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. local time. The agency is experiencing longer than normal wait times on the 800 Number and asks the public to remain patient, use its online services at www.socialsecurity.gov, or call their local office.

Please visit the agency's COVID-19 web page at www.socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/ for important information and updates.

The faults we see in others are like headlights on a passing car. They seem more glaring than our own.

— Quips & Quotes



Hippocratic Oath appreciation

We still have shreds of civility left. I love it when people walk up to those in uniform and say, "Thank you for your service." It is a recognition of their courage and sacrifice. And now we should add gratitude for those in the medical profession.

Many of them are risking their lives on the front lines of the battle against the coronavirus. They are living up to the ethical standards of their public health calling. The precise phrase "First do no harm" is not really in the original Hippocratic Oath. In fact, Hippocrates probably didn't even write it back in 3 to 5 B.C., when he was a physician. But whoever did jot it down or chisel it established a grand tradition of medicine: "I will use treatment to help the sick according to my ability and judgement."

They are doing so by the thousands, even though our

politicians and other leaders aren't equipping them with the protective gear necessary to shield them from this invisible but vicious attacker. To those inept klutzes, the ones making our crisis worse, we should walk up to them and say, "Thank you for your DISservice."

Nevertheless, our doctors, nurses, technicians and ambulance drivers are selflessly trying to restore health to the afflicted. Some of these men and women are forced to improvise when they don't have the PPE (personal protection equipment) gowns and masks they need. In some cases they have resorted to garbage bags, in the hope that some corrupt supplier won't gouge them by raising the price of garbage bags.

"Neither will I administer a poison to anybody when asked to do so, nor will I suggest such a course." That's also in the Hippocratic Oath, which Donald Trump did not take because he is not a physician. But he is out there as

president advocating the use of pharmaceuticals that, until they are proven safe and effective, are the equivalent of poison.

Perhaps at his swearing-in he took the "Hypocritic Oath."

Although he claims to care about public safety, he is ignoring the physicians who are combatting this scourge, threatening to prematurely end social distancing, which experts say is the only hope to avoid being struck down as individuals and as a country. Happily, this nation is governed by a constitution that allows state and local authorities

to make such decisions, painful that they are.

Some of them are acting responsibly and shutting down whatever commerce is not essential, and closing schools for the real duration of this crisis. Others, however, are heeding the Trumpian siren call to irresponsibility, and are willingly putting their population in danger.

They would be well advised to recall the Hippocratic Oath promise that "I will abstain from all intentional wrong-doing and harm." Unintentional harm is

just as bad, particularly when it's driven by political opportunism. It's still harm. The time would be better spent setting up the protective armor our health care first responders need to treat and give comfort to the human casualties of this biological war.

We should say, "Thank you for your service" to every medical protector we encounter. But we can really show our appreciation by insisting that every one of their leaders, up to and including the president, equip them with the tools they need to wage this war.

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Food for thought By John Grimaldi

Social Security recipients will get stimulus checks

"It's the ONE question nearly all Social Security recipients are asking: Will I get a Coronavirus stimulus check? If yes, do I get one even if I haven't filed a tax return in recent years? The answers are YES and YES!, says Jeff Szymanski, political analyst at the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC).

The "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act" (CARES Act) passed by Congress provides for substantial stabilization of America's economy during the unprecedented medical crisis now sweeping the country. The Act provides critically needed funding in key areas like expanded unemployment benefits and specific aid to many business segments facing

extraordinary disruption, along with financial relief payments to most Americans, subject to income guidelines below.

"Under the Act's provisions, Americans having a valid Social Security number will receive direct cash assistance, specifically including those who receive welfare and Social Security benefits. Relief payments will be \$1,200 for individuals, \$2,400 for couples, and \$500 per child, for individuals with incomes at or below \$75,000 (\$112,500 for heads of household) and couples with income at or below \$150,000. Individuals earning up to \$99,000 and couples up to \$198,000 will receive a reduced payment, prorated according to their higher income level," according to Szymanski.

The procedural details on how the approved payments will get into the hands of recipients are still being finalized, but these are the general elements:

- According to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, most payments should be in the hands of recipients within three weeks;
- Eligibility for cash payments is based on income as reported in your most recent income tax return (note: adjusted gross income is the figure used);
- If you did not file tax returns and are receiving Social Security payments, the IRS can use your Form SSA-1099 Social Security Benefit Statement or your Form RRB-1099 Social Security Equivalent Benefit Statement to

See CHECKS, Page 3

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

StarRfoam Manufacturing, Inc., has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit No. 45016, which would authorize continued operation of a Foam Manufacturing Facility located at 1004 Omar Street, Anthony, El Paso County, Texas 79821. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

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Breaking down a \$2.2 trillion bill

By John Grimaldi
Special to the Courier

Forget big talk, big numbers, big politics. What exactly does the "2.2 trillion dollar" rescue bill do? How can we get access to needed relief? When will it arrive? Here are solid answers about what matters most to you.

"This bill puts wind in our sails, but in the end — recovery will be on us," says Robert Charles, National Spokesman for the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC).

First of all, the bill contains big money for "frontline health care" workers and equipment, test kits, masks, gloves, respirators, ventilators, veteran homes, hospitals, disaster relief funds for states and localities. And, perhaps just as important, it offers aid to individuals and small businesses, explains Charles.

Having read every title, section and subsection, key things stand out. Once Congress "appropriates" money, it must be "apportioned" by OMB to departments, down to agencies, assistant secretaries, program managers, and procurement officers to let contracts. That takes time.

"The good news," says Charles, "is this law will accelerate 'real-time research' on a vaccine — DOD already has six trials up, civilian agencies more. Government is working hand-in-glove with companies. It also supports 'domestic manufacturing of biopharmaceuticals,'

disinfectants, quarantine services, supercomputers, laboratories, and telehealth. It helps military service members, transit systems, food banks, educational institutions, farmers, and homeless shelters."

That said, the rubber meets the road with individuals and the small businesses, which employ 80 percent of America. Consumers and small employers drive the economy. That is why relief to them — is critical.

The "CARES" Act — a clever acronym for the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act — starts here: Many individuals will "within three weeks," according to the Treasury, receive a check "in their bank accounts." Adults who earn less than \$75,000 should get a \$1200 payment, joint filers earning less than \$150,000 should get \$2400, with gradual reductions up to \$99,000 for individuals and \$198,000 for joint filers.

Provisos: Adults need no regular income and can be SSI beneficiaries. Seniors are included. They must have a Social Security number, so no illegal aliens. If eligible, checks should arrive by end of month. (Title II, Section 2201).

On retirement accounts, the law waives "10 percent early withdrawal penalty" for "distributions up to \$100,000 from qualified retirement accounts" after January 1, 2020 — so is retroactive. The waiver requires only a corona-related "adverse financial consequence," for example quarantine, layoff, childcare costs or reduced hours. (Section 2200).

See BILL, Page 5

Trump impeachment now a distant memory



On Jan. 20, the United States confirmed its first case of the coronavirus. The nation's political and media elite obsessed over Mitch McConnell's just-announced resolution governing the impeachment trial of Donald Trump.

On Jan. 23, China locked down the city of Wuhan. Cable news in America lit up with praise for the epic, nay historic, performance by House impeachment manager Adam Schiff in the trial's opening arguments.

On Jan. 30, the World Health Organization declared a world health emergency. The U.S. Senate prepared to vote on impeachment witnesses.

On Feb. 5, the cruise ship Diamond Princess quarantined thousands of passengers after a major outbreak on board. Mitt Romney announced that he'd vote to convict Trump on one of the two counts against him, and the Senate voted to acquit on both.

Trump closed off travel from China while the trial was still ongoing, the day after senators asked their final questions of the impeachment managers and the White House defense team. Only two and a half weeks after the trial, the White House

requested \$1.25 billion in emergency coronavirus funding from Congress.

If the trial hadn't ended expeditiously, the Senate easily could have been still seeking the testimony of, say, former White House counsel Don McGahn about the details of the non-firing of special counsel Robert Mueller – at the same time everyone expected the administration to be shifting into wartime footing against the virus.

In that circumstance, the impeachment trial obviously would have been immediately shelved, because a discretionary national crisis can't compete with a real, unavoidable one. Political melodrama must give way to a potential public-health catastrophe.

For more than three years, American national politics has been constantly on a crisis footing over presidential tweets, two-day controversies, dubious storylines whipped up by the media and Trump's genuine outrages. Little of it has been enduring, or nearly as important as the intense, wall-to-wall attention suggested.

After all the energy devoted to inflating the Russians into a clear-and-present danger to the workings of America here on our

shores, that threat has instead proved to be China, which loosed a virus on the world that has temporarily crashed the American economy and shut down much of American life, including elections.

After we spent months pretending that Trump would somehow be ousted from the presidency by his own party in the Senate, not only is he still the president, all people of good will are rooting for him to perform as ably as he can in this crisis.

After acting as though we had

endless time and energy to waste on nonsense because the stakes were so small in what was until the day before yesterday a time of peace and prosperity, we have been jolted into a period when our national decisions really matter, and time and resources are of the essence.

In short, the epidemic has put in stark relief the pettiness and absurdity of much what has transpired in our national life since Trump won the presidency. This crisis is the unmistakable punctuation mark on that post-

2016 era and the beginning of something new.

How Trump performs now – finally without Mueller or impeachment, artifacts of another time, dogging him – will determine how it's remembered.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2020 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Checks

From Page 2

send your check;

- If you have received a tax refund in the last two years by direct deposit, that's where your money will be sent. If not, the IRS will mail a check to your "last known address";
- The IRS will mail a notice confirming distribution of your payment, along with IRS contact information if you haven't actually received the confirmed payment; and
- You do not need to do anything in advance. For many recipients, the IRS has your

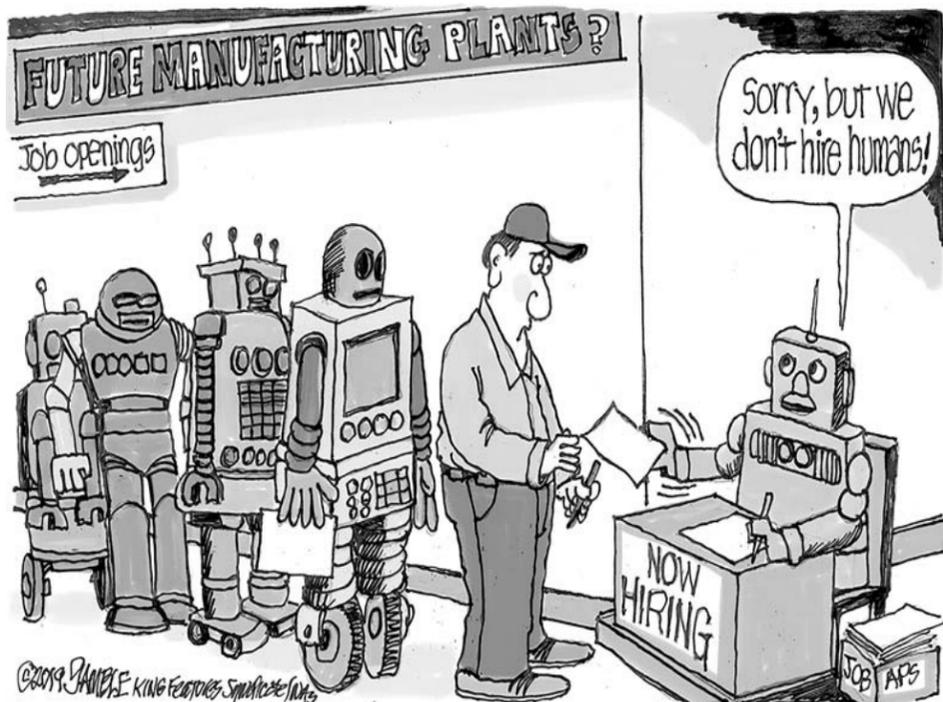
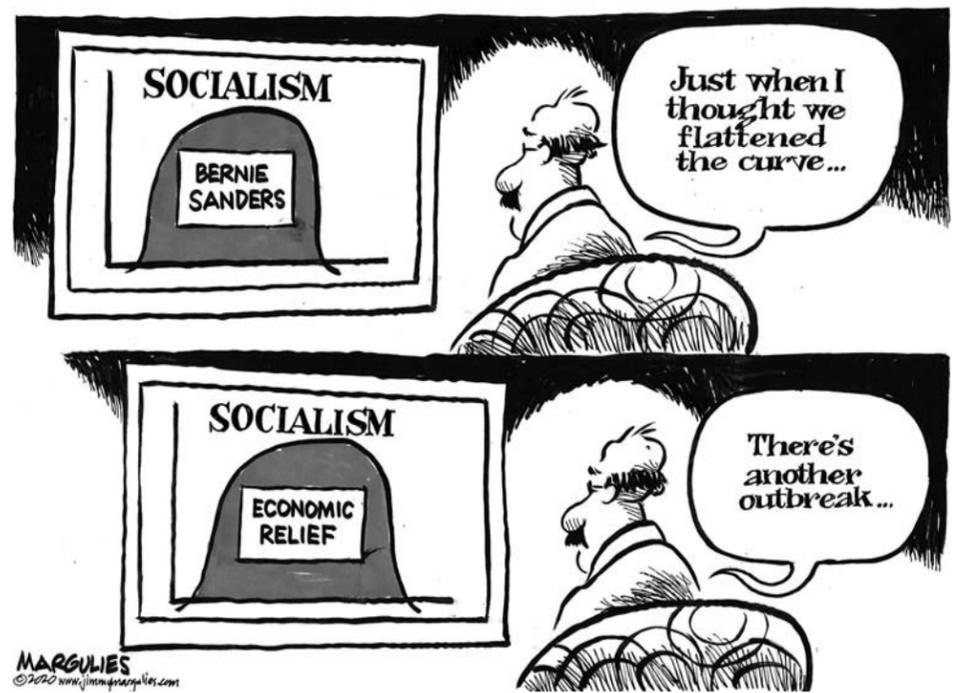
banking information and will likely execute direct transfers to your account.

AMAC's sister organization, The AMAC Foundation, updates a site five days a week entitled The Social Security Report. For the absolute latest daily information on this vital program, visit www.socialsecurityreport.org. Many of this week's headline and latest news posts on The Social Security Report deal specifically with The CARES Act (Stimulus Bill), and those seeking more detailed information will find it a valuable resource.

But to reiterate, reports Szymanski, "YES, Social

Security recipients are eligible and need do nothing at all to receive their \$1,200 per person relief payments due them. If you are required to file a tax form, it is likely that having done so already may speed up delivery of the payment."

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.





– Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

FAMILY DOLLAR TOO – Grocery store customers are finding empty shelves where paper merchandises, cleaning supplies and water products have sold out in the midst of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Orders

From Page 1

local public employment agency, reported also that another 500 or more job openings were currently available throughout the El Paso

and Las Cruces region.

Area businesses that have posted hiring announcements this month include grocery stores, like Albertsons, Vista Markets, and Valley Supermarkets; call centers, such as Alorica and the Texas Workforce Commission tele-

center; retail suppliers including Lowe’s home improvement stores; construction companies, like Spartan Construction and Roof Toppers El Paso; trucking operators, such as Sky

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CryptoQuip Answer

What could a prior president’s dentures be called? The George Washington bridge.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

• In 1883, Bill Kinsman of Tombstone, Arizona, was the subject of a practical joke when the Tombstone Epitaph announced his intention to marry one May Woodman. The surprised future groom countered with a notice of his own that he had no such plans whatsoever – and was soon after shot to death by the deeply humiliated Ms. Woodman.

• “Cenosillicaphobia” is the fear of an empty beer glass. (Use this one to impress your friends during Happy Hour.)

• Turning back the giant hands on Big Ben’s four clock faces takes an astonishing total of five hours.

• Alexandre Dumas, best known for “The Three Musketeers” and “The Count of Monte Cristo,” felt very strongly that all his works must be presented on colored paper. He wanted all his fiction presented on blue paper, his articles on pink paper and his poetry on yellow paper.

• The tea bag was an accidental invention. In 1908,

tea merchant Thomas Sullivan distributed his samples in small silken sacks. His customers, not realizing they were samples, dunked them in hot water, and Sullivan soon found himself swamped with orders for his “tea bags”!

• Golf balls were originally made from dried cow eyeballs.

• In his travels, Marco Polo believed at one point that he had stumbled across unicorns, writing that “They are very ugly brutes to look at. They are not at all such as we describe unicorns.” Not surprising, considering that he was actually viewing rhinoceroses.

• Ancient Romans created black hair dye by fermenting leeches in vinegar.

• The game of marbles is estimated to be about 5,000 years old. Through most of their history, the toys were made of stone, bone, clay or whatever material was available, with truly round marbles being both rare and expensive.

Thought for the Day: “At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet.”

– Plato

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Why should a service like air medical require a membership?

During an emergency, is this the first thing on your mind? What if the membership service is not the closest? What if they don't have the necessities that our flying ICU can provide? What if these differences could save your life?

Air Methods doesn't have memberships. And we have you covered in Texas. We concentrate on working with your insurance company to manage your out-of-pocket costs. When you consider how often you use air medical, the savings become very apparent. We think it's a better model for everyone, especially you.

Stop paying for an air medical membership you really don't need and start living.

Details at AirMethodsNMR.com

Average out-of-pocket cost for Texas patients using Air Methods:

\$197*

(includes co-pays and deductibles)

*2018 data. Average out-of-pocket costs vary slightly by state. Get the facts at airmethodsNMR.com





Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On April 6, 1917, the U.S House of Representatives endorses a Senate declaration of war against Germany, and America formally enters World War I. Some 50,000 American soldiers would lose their lives before the war ended on Nov. 11, 1918.

• On April 7, 1891, American showman Phineas T. Barnum dies in Bridgeport, Connecticut, at age 81. Barnum had requested that a New York paper run his obituary before he died so he could enjoy reading it, and the paper obliged.

• On April 8, 2005, Eric Rudolph agrees to plead guilty to a series of bombings, including the fatal bombing at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, in order to avoid the death penalty. A 40-pound pipe bomb that exploded in Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park killed one woman and injured over 100 people.

• On April 9, 1959, NASA introduces America's first astronauts to the press: Scott Carpenter, Gordon Cooper Jr., John Glenn Jr., Virgil "Gus" Grissom, Walter Schirra Jr., Alan Shepard Jr. and Donald Slayton. The seven men, all military test pilots, were selected from a group of 32 candidates.

• On April 10, 1933, President Franklin Roosevelt establishes the Civilian Conservation Corps to put thousands of Americans to work during the Great Depression. The CCC hired unemployed, unmarried U.S. male citizens between the ages of 18 and 26.

• On April 11, 1814, Napoleon Bonaparte, emperor of France, abdicates the throne and is banished to the Mediterranean island of Elba. Napoleon is credited with reforms that had a lasting impact on European society, including rights for all men and the end of feudalism.

• On April 12, 1908, a fire at the Boston Blacking Company in Chelsea, Massachusetts, leaves 12 dead, 85 missing and presumed dead and more than 17,000 homeless. Due to high winds, a good portion of the city burned.

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Orders

From Page 4

Transportation Services; and government agencies including Doña Ana County Detention Center in Las Cruces and the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Walmart and Sam's Club jobs are temporary, but many of those are expected to convert to permanent jobs in the future, John Furner, Walmart U.S. chief executive officer, said in a public statement.

"To quickly hire these individuals, we will temporarily reduce our usual two-week application cycle to be just 24 hours," the Walmart official stated. To apply for the Walmart and Sam's Club jobs, which start at \$11 per hour, job seekers can apply online, at careers.walmart.com.

Another large retailer, Target, announced that it was temporarily increasing hourly employees' wages by \$2 per hour to \$15 per hour until at least May 2; but company officials did not stipulate whether they would be hiring more workers at this time.

Persons interested in finding immediate employment, should call Workforce Solutions office, at (915) 887-2600 for more information. The agency is open weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Businesses with jobs to offer can call the agency at (915) 887-2332 weekdays at the same hours. Also, information is available online at borderplexjobs.com, and individuals can search for jobs using the state's website, at workintexas.com.

Meanwhile, local grocers, like Lowe's and

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Bill

From Page 2

In short, if you need money – the odds are with you.

In a nod to AMAC, the law offers "temporary relief of required minimum distribution rules" for various "contribution plans and IRAs" during 2020, in effect allowing seniors to avoid forced sales that forfeit savings in a down market. (Section 2300).

Under Section D, health saving

accounts (HSAs) with high deductibles can cover "telehealth services" before reaching that deductible. (Section 3701). HSAs also can buy over-the-counter medical products (Section 7202), virus-related home "telecare" (Sections 3703-08), and incentivize telecare by "boosting payments for hospital, physician, nursing home, and home health costs." (Section 3709).

For seniors, a "Medicare add-on" for inpatient hospital costs and "post-acute care,"

including equipment at home, will be useful. Important is elimination of Medicare Part B "cost-sharing" and "allowing up to 3-month fills and refills of covered Medicare Part D drugs." (Sections 3710-14).

As coronavirus tests become available, the law assures that "uninsured individuals" will receive the test "with no added cost-sharing" under state Medicaid programs – same under Medicare Part B. (Sections 3716-17). On the flip side, "hospitals, especially

those in rural and frontier areas" get "reliable and stable cash flow" (Section 3719), plus enhancement of Medicare and Medicaid (Sections 3801-3841).

Small measures add up. One allows an added \$300 deduction for contributions to "churches and charitable organizations" (Section 2400), others lift "limitations on deductions" for "itemizing" and building a "food inventory" (Section 2205).

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Classified Ads

LEGALS

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT RENEWAL

PERMIT NUMBER 45016

APPLICATION

Star Foam Manufacturing, Inc., has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 45016, which would authorize continued operation of a Foam Manufacturing Facility located at 1004 Omar Street, Anthony, El Paso County, Texas 79821. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to

application. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=31.991177&lng=-106.606749&zoom=13&type=7>. The existing facility is authorized to emit the following air contaminants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, organic compounds, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less and sulfur dioxide. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on March 12, 2020. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, TCEQ El Paso regional office, and the City of Anthony Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, El Paso County, Texas beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the El Paso regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the application is administratively

complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. Information in the application indicates that this permit renewal would not result in an increase in allowable emissions and would not result in the emission of an air contaminant not previously emitted. The TCEQ may act on this application without seeking further public comment or providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

PUBLIC COMMENT

You may submit public comments, or a request for a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. The deadline to submit public comments is 15 days after newspaper notice is published. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will prepare a response

to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the TCEQ's jurisdiction to address in the permit process.

After the technical review is complete the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If only comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who is on the mailing list for this application, unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING

You may request a contested case hearing. The applicant or the executive director may also request that the application be directly referred to a contested

case hearing after technical review of the application. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 15 days from this notice, the executive director may act on the application. If no hearing request is received within this 15 day period, no further opportunity for hearing will be provided. According to the Texas Clean Air Act § 382.056(o) a contested case hearing may only be granted if the applicant's compliance history is in the lowest classification under applicable compliance history requirements and if the hearing request is based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission may only grant a hearing on those issues submitted during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative),

mailing address, daytime phone number; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility; and (7) a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period. If the request is made by a group or association, one or more members who have standing to request a hearing must be identified by name and physical address. The interests the group or association seeks to protect must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing within 15 days following this notice to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. If any requests for a contested case hearing are timely

filed, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for a contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. Unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing, the executive director will mail the response to comments along with notification of Commission meeting to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application. The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material air quality concerns submitted during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST

In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk

at the address below. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk for this application.

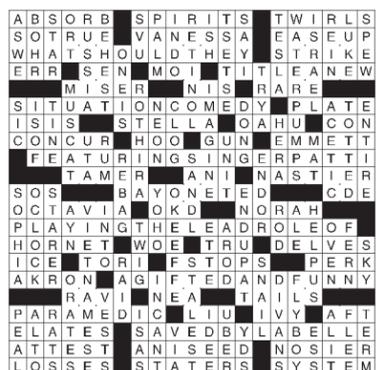
AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Star Foam Manufacturing, Inc., 3220 Avenue F, Arlington, Texas 76011-5220 or by calling Mr. Michael Stanley, Vice President at (817) 654-4688.

Notice Issuance Date: March 16, 2020

WTCC: 04-09-20



Send Your Newsbrief To: wtxcc@wtxcc.com

After a lost season, the Miners are losing players

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

When the UTEP athletic department went through a complete overhaul three years ago, there was an instant optimism that hadn't been seen there in years.

The hiring of a new football coach (Dana Dimel), basketball coach (Rodney Terry) and athletic director (Jim Senter), ushered in what fans thought would be the start of a new winning era.

Well, maybe not a winning era, but at least an era in which El Pasoans wouldn't be so frustrated during, and embarrassed after the games.

Football certainly hasn't shown any improvement. In Dimel's first two years, the Miners have been at the very bottom of the country's ranked football teams

with a combined 2-22 record.

In Terry's first season at UTEP, his team finished with an 8-21 record, but more unbelievably, finished dead last in Conference USA and didn't even qualify for the conference tournament at the end of the season.

However, fans weren't as worried about the basketball program because they knew help was on the way.

Deemed the best practice squad in the country, UTEP had a bunch of talented transfers who were ready to turn the program completely around this season.

And in the early going, they did. This new batch of Miners got off to an 8-1 start and there was even talk about the possibility of being ranked in the nation's top 25 polls.

But like we're experiencing now, things can go south in a hurry.

It turned out, except for junior forward Bryson Williams, the rest of the players were either disappointing or inconsistent.

The Miners finished the year with a lack-luster 17-15 record. A winning record in deed, but not at all what they expected.

So, with the worst behind them, the basketball Miners would turn their attention to next season. The goal was to bring in better talent to go along with the returning players.

Only one problem, many of the returning players aren't returning.

Less than three weeks after their final game of the season four players have already entered the NCAA transfer portal. That's a fancy way of saying they want out of UTEP.

Jordan Lathon, Nigel Hawkins, Anthony Tarke and Deon Stroud have all

decided to wave bye-bye to the Miners. All were expected to play a role on next year's team.

It's tough enough to lose that many players at one time, but it's even tougher when the whole world is dealing with a dangerous disease and no one is allowed to travel, congregate or workout.

In other words, Terry will have a difficult time replacing these players. He and his coaches can't go out and scout athletes who are all stuck at home.

Of course there will be fans and reporters, who will ask what is was about coach Terry that caused these players to want to transfer.

Sometimes players just think (or are told) they are better than they are, and believe they'll be able to make the NBA via different program.

The one coach who may come out of all this looking a little better is former UTEP basketball coach Tim Floyd.

When Floyd was here, players were transferring away from the Miners left and right.

Though Floyd tried to explain that this was the new norm all over the country, the thought locally was that the players were leaving for one reason and one reason only – Floyd.

The NCAA estimates that an average of 40 players a day, have entered the transfer portal since the end of the basketball season. The season ended on March 12.

We can't forget that UTEP started the season on the other end of the portal, gaining a number of transfers. Sadly it didn't turn out to be positive, but the Miners have tried to use the NCAA's revolving door to its advantage.

So how upset can Miner fans be, when they were happy as could be about the transfers coming in?

The only equalizer is that all the other teams are in the same boat as far as being able to recruit new talent. But with everything being equal, it's much harder for a team at the bottom to catch up with those at the top.

And UTEP is at the bottom.

Orders

From Page 5

Vista Markets and other independently operated grocery stores, which get most of their grocery products from Affiliated Foods Inc. – a grocery distributor based in Amarillo, Texas and owned by operators of independent grocers in several states – collectively agreed to continue to work with federal, state and local government officials to maintain a resilient food supply chain and support the local economies.

Laura Strange, a spokesperson for the National Grocers Association which represents independent grocers not tied to big corporate chains, stated recently that the food supplies are plentiful throughout the supply chain and that the supply chain is working to catch up to the increased consumer demand, as stores are being restocked daily, she commented.

Nonetheless, grocers, including Walmart and Food King which is part of

Lowe's Supermarkets and also operates Lowe's Big 8 stores, have put limits on some high-demand items, like paper products, water, milk, and eggs. In recent days, even meat, chicken, bread, beans, rice and some canned food products have been wiped out at many El Paso stores.

Additionally, although Vista Markets stores haven't reduced their operating hours, Walmart, which dominates the El Paso grocery market, has slashed its hours, as well as Albertsons supermarkets and Target stores.

"We know communities are counting on us more than ever, and we are determined to serve the broadest number of customers to ensure they have access to the key items they are looking for," Dacona Smith, Walmart chief operating officer, said in a recent statement.

Suketu Gandhi, partner and digital supply chain leader at Kearney (a global strategy and management consulting firm), stated in a recent news story that fear typically makes people want things right away. That demand, coupled with

delays in product deliveries, are making shelves go empty, he purported. "We get trucks every day, but the trucks usually don't contain full amounts of what was ordered, and high-demand products sell out quickly," he added.

Before the coronavirus shopping spree, Vista supermarkets needed shipments only three to four times a week, noted Mike Peña, Vista Markets chief executive officer and part-owner. Although manufacturers are producing at full capacity and continue to send out as much supplies as possible, it's taking longer to get shipments than before the coronavirus outbreak because of the huge increase in consumer demand for bottled water, toilet paper, cleaning products and certain food items, Peña explained.

"Customers should be buying only what they need for about a week," Peña advised. He projected that supplies should improve in two to three weeks, adding that grocery stores have no intention of going out of business anytime soon.

Super Crossword

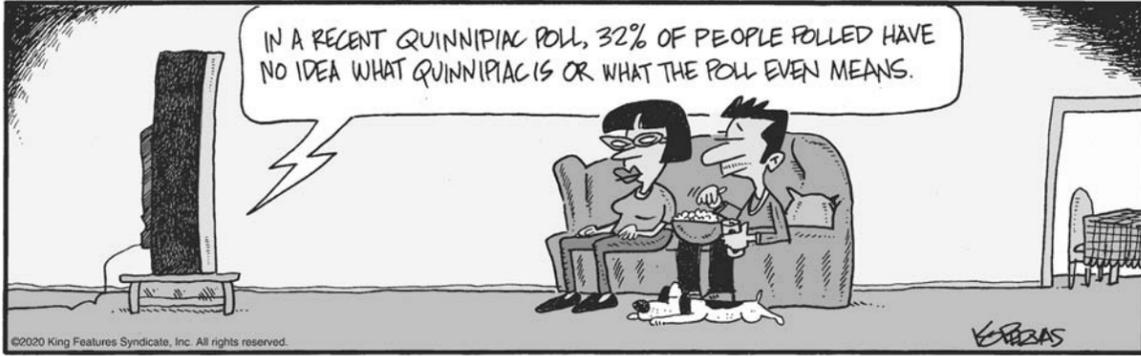
- | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SOUL RESCUER | 69 Used a daggerlike weapon on | 129 More prying | 37 "Time _ the essence" | 86 Yankees slugger, to fans |
| ACROSS | 73 B followers | 130 Sports team letdowns | 38 Rake part | 87 It's often preheated |
| 1 Sop up | 74 Wife of Mark | 131 Red _ (many Republicans) | 39 Inert element | 88 Nonflowering plant |
| 7 Liquor | Antony | 132 Modus operandi | 40 Pipe problem | 93 Sun setting |
| 14 Spins | 78 Consented to | | 41 Ringing sound | 96 Sortie, say |
| 20 "Amen to that!" | 79 "Nick and _'s Infinite Playlist" (2008 film) | DOWN | 43 _ acid (vinegar flavorer) | 98 Most musty |
| 21 Actress Hudgens | 83 Riddle, part 5 | 1 "Even _ speak..." | 44 Added (up) | 99 Fishtank pest |
| 22 Abate | 89 Wasp variety | 2 Atom studier Niels | 45 Not broken | 102 Speaks bombastically |
| 23 Start of a riddle | 90 Suffering | 3 Movie draw | 49 Zeus' sister and wife | 104 Recite ritually, as a spell |
| 25 Batter's miss | 91 Capote, to his buddies | 4 Meal leftover | 52 Stage actress Hagen | 105 Large sofas |
| 26 Do wrong | 92 With 77-Down, does thorough research on | 5 Putin's land | 53 Pirate's quaff | 106 Air Force pilot, in slang |
| 27 Pol with a six-yr. post | 94 Freezer trayful | 6 Command | 56 Syllabus segment | 108 Three-piece pieces |
| 28 Me, to Michel | 95 TV's Spelling | 7 "Law & Order: _" | 58 Gym floor covering | 111 Ringing sound |
| 29 Riddle, part 2 | 97 Camera lens settings | 8 Hand part | 60 Put in a different sack | 112 Choir range |
| 31 Pinchpenny | 100 Exec's benefit | 9 _European languages | 61 Mortgage-issuing inst. | 113 Slum vermin |
| 33 Sue Grafton's "for Noose" | 101 Ohio tire city | 10 Another name for vitamin A | 62 Ewoks' forest moon | 114 "Pretty _ pretty does" |
| 35 Steak order | 103 Riddle, part 6 | 11 Suffix with fool or owl | 66 "El Cid" co-star Loren | 116 Notion, to Jean-Luc |
| 36 Riddle, part 3 | 107 Sitarist Shankar | 12 Fearsome fly | 67 Five _ shadow | 117 "Deutschland - alles" |
| 42 Food holder | 109 Org. for teachers | 13 "Don't _ didn't warn you!" | 68 Person eyeballing | 119 Landed (on) |
| 46 Goddess with a cow's head | 110 Coin toss call | 14 Inventor Nikola | 70 Pirate chant starter | 120 Cut and run |
| 47 McCartney of fashion | 111 End of the riddle | 15 Radiator hoses may lead to them | 71 Artist Georgia | 121 Time in office |
| 48 Kailua Bay locale | 115 Lucy of "Kill Bill: Vol. 1" | 16 Haifa's land | 72 Ultimately reach | 124 By the agency of |
| 50 Scam | 118 - League college | 17 Harness part | 75 Author Rand | 125 Football field units: Abbr. |
| 51 Agree (with) | 119 Toward a boat's back | 18 Leia's twin | 76 From Hanoi | 126 Letter for Superman |
| 54 "Yoo-!" ("Hey!") | 122 Makes glad | 19 Spurt out | 77 See 92-Across | |
| 55 Paintball need | 123 Riddle's answer | 24 "No _ to blame" | 80 Lightning - | |
| 57 Circus clown - Kelly | 127 Declare under oath | 30 "_ little kindness" | 81 Heady drink | |
| 59 Riddle, part 4 | 128 Source of licorice-flavored oil | 31 Capital of Oman | 82 "We need assistance!" | |
| 63 Big-top star | | 32 Alternative to a 401(k) or a Keogh | 84 Small branch | |
| 64 DiFranco of folk rock | | 34 Envision | 85 Ending for major | |
| 65 More spiteful | | 36 [not my error] | | |
| 66 "We need assistance!" | | | | |

Answer Page 5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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127								128						129				
130								131						132				

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



TIGER By Bud Blake



Bill

From Page 5

Providers of credit are encouraged to forebear (Section 4021), while it also puts in place a “foreclosure moratorium... [the] forbearance of residential mortgage loan payments” for 90 days, and it mandates a “moratorium on eviction filings” for 120 days. (Sections 4022-24).

The law focuses on small employers. SBA loans are available – ask at your local bank – for those with less than 500

employees, forgiveness if employees are not laid off. In Title 4, Sections 4001 et seq., emergency relief of all kinds is offered to businesses large and small. Tens of billions are directed to transportation, banks and specific sectors (Sections 1101-1114, 2301-08, 4001-4114).

Title II, Section C, offers “a refundable payroll tax credit for 50 percent of wages paid by employers,” if “operations are fully or partially suspended” – think restaurants, retailers, manufacturers, services – or if “gross receipts declined by more than 50 percent” compared to

same quarter last year (Section 2301).

Provisions allow “delay of payment of employer payroll taxes” and “modifications for net operating losses,” relaxing limitations on a small company “losses.” Importantly, deductions apply to “pass-through businesses and sole proprietors” – allowing them to recoup losses for keeping people employed.

Other tax modifications include tax-based increases in liquidity, write-offs, suspended depreciation timetables, and tax-free sanitizer expenses – for small businesses. (Sections 2302-2308).

Emphasis is also placed on telehealth, rural access, reducing liability and increasing flexibility for healthcare workers.

Odds and ends: Federal nutrition requirements are waived for seniors expanding their food options, while HHS can “extend older adults’ participation in community service projects ... to facilitate their continued employment.” (Section 3223). In this way, seniors won modest accommodations.

Students get special assistance.

Does ulcerative colitis preclude pregnancy?

DEAR DR. ROACH: I need some hope. My 24-year-old granddaughter, recently married, came down with ulcerative colitis. Right now, she is getting two Humira injections a month. She has lost so much weight and her diet is so limited. Do things normally get better? Will she ever be able to become pregnant? It has been about four months. She is presently seeing a GI doctor. Should she be under the care of a specialist? – L.M.O.S.



Ulcerative colitis is one of the inflammatory bowel diseases. The underlying cause is not known, but there is a familial predisposition. Women are more often diagnosed, and the leading time of diagnosis is in the 20s.

There is a wide range of severity, with some people doing well with topical treatments (suppositories or enemas), some needing oral medication, and people with more severe disease needing much more powerful agents, such as the adalimumab (Humira) your granddaughter needs. Fortunately, those kinds of drugs have approximately a 60% to 70% success rate.

Diet is important for people with UC of any severity; however, as the disease becomes better controlled it is likely that she will have a less restricted diet.

AGI doctor is a gastroenterologist, the specialist for inflammatory bowel diseases. There are some gastroenterologists who specialize even further, making IBD their area of particular expertise.

Pregnancy is certainly possible in women with IBD. However, they should be in remission before attempting pregnancy, and her medications may need to be adjusted for maximum safety.

There are many places to get additional information, but I recommend the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation website as an excellent starting point. It can be found at www.crohnscolitisfoundation.org.

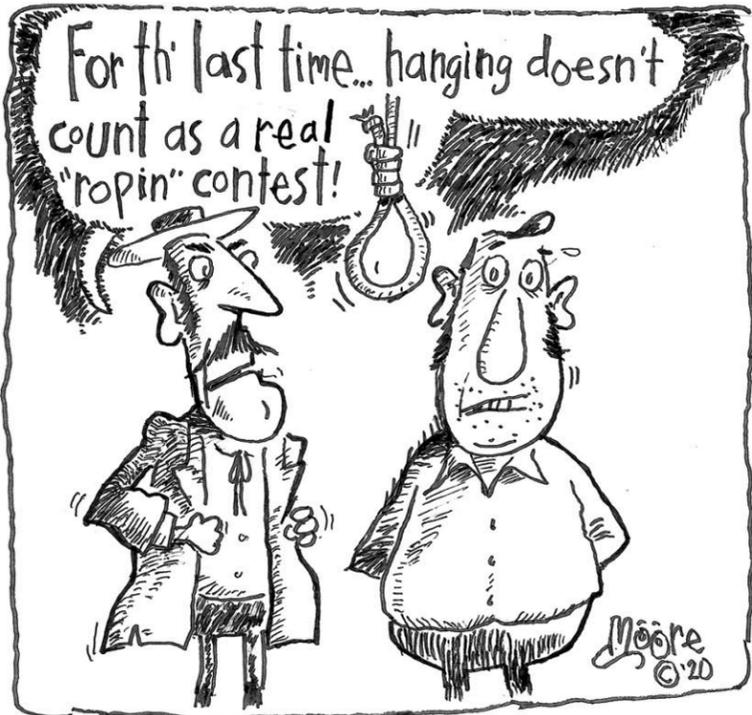
DEAR DR. ROACH: Last year, I started getting Raynaud’s. I can remember from my youth that my father had it, so it didn’t seem too terrible. It’s not just the fingertips that turn white, but also some of my toes are affected. I asked people who know of it or have it how one gets this. What is the cause? No one knows. So I asked my doctor. Even he said he did not know. How do I get these episodes, and what can I do to prevent them? – R.S.

Raynaud phenomenon is an exaggerated response to cold or stress, causing color changes in the skin of the fingers and toes. There is a long list of causes of Raynaud phenomenon. Often, no cause is ever found (in which case it is called primary Raynaud, which just means we don’t know what’s causing it). The most common known causes are the autoimmune rheumatic diseases, especially scleroderma, lupus and Sjogren’s syndrome. Hypothyroidism is an unusual cause, and some drugs can cause it as well.

The current thinking is that primary RP is caused by abnormalities in the alpha receptors in blood vessels (alpha receptors respond to adrenaline and similar molecules).

Keeping the whole body – and especially the hands – warm is the first step. Sudden temperature changes can trigger the effect. Warming the hands in warm water at the onset of an attack can stop it. Anxiety makes it worse, so a positive attitude can really affect this condition. Medications, such as amlodipine, may be necessary for prevention in more severe cases.

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. (c) 2020 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
March 28, 1905: The state legislature passed a law banning roping contests.

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: L equals D

FABK WTZNL B XYGTY
 XYQEGLQDK'E LQDKZYQE VQ
 WBNNQL? KAQ OQTYOQ
 FBEAGDOKTD VYGLOQ.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Stay safe with virtual VA medical visits



by Freddy Groves

President Donald Trump calls it a war, and he might be right. The fight against this coronavirus has taken nearly all the country's resources, as well as personal sacrifice. The Department of Veterans Affairs is on top of things, administering thousands of tests to veterans to prevent the transmission of the virus.

The VA wants you to limit your exposure, especially when it involves going to a medical setting. If you've never used the telemedicine feature of VA care, become familiar with it now to make sure you're set up should you need it. Now, with the virus everywhere, you can make a telehealth appointment and talk to a medical provider electronically, without having to appear at the facility.

To have a video appointment, you'll need either a computer,

a tablet or a smartphone, as well as the VA Video Connect App. (See mobile.va.gov/app/va-video-connect.) Scroll down to the yellow bar to test your device to be sure it's compatible with the app. If you need tech help, call them at 866-651-3180 or 703-234-4483 on Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. ET.

To sign up on MyHealthVet, go online to www.myhealth.va.gov and follow the instructions. Click on Register and enter your information. You can make appointments, refill prescriptions, send secure messages to your care team and download or view your medical records.

You know what the virus symptoms are – we've all heard them a thousand times on television – but if you have a cough, fever or shortness of breath, call your medical provider. Don't just show up. Call to warn them you're coming because they might have a special entrance for you to use, with staff in protective gear to greet you. Following their instructions will

protect not only the staff but other veterans.

And no, it's not a joke: Wash your hands multiple times per day. The coronavirus enemy is sneaky and vicious.

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Bill

From Page 7

Colleges can offer more financial aid, with federal backing. "Matching requirements" are waived (Section 3503), "SEOG funds" boosted. "Federal work-study" payments can be made if students are unable to work (Section 3505). At the same time, grant limits are raised, and – with foresight – academic performance decoupled from grant eligibility for one term. (Sections 3506-08).

Looking ahead, small employers are relieved of burdens as unemployment insurance ramps up. Unemployment insurance is expanded to covers "gig" and contract workers.

"In short, this bill is an adrenaline boost for consumers, workers, small businesses, students, and hard-hit sectors, plus those battling the virus on the front lines. The goal: Get us over the hump, as fast and efficiently as possible," Charles notes. Does the bill assure our economy "roars back?" No, that is on us. Average Americans must dig in, work hard, help each other get up, get by, and get on with being what we are – resilient.

Charles makes the point that "big talk, numbers and politics are not where rubber meets the road. We meet the road – make our future – as individuals, families, small businesses, and never-say-never Americans. The bill is a nice gust, but the rudder ours."

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.



Now here's a tip will return next week.

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!

Answer Page 4

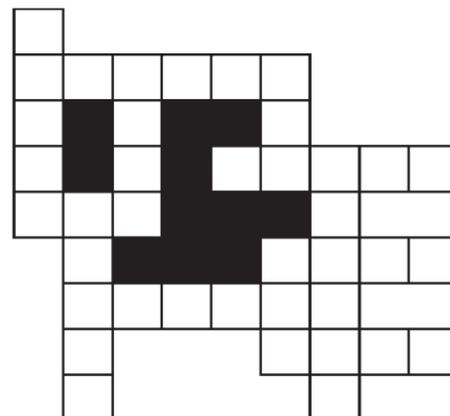
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- LARYER
- ♥ORNAS
- LYPA
- PECUAT
- RYP
- ♥LATI
- CRYIL
- ♥TMA
- NESDUA
- ♥ASMET
- MRAC



Answer Page 5

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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