



NEWSBRIEFS

San Elizario ISD board nominated

The Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) chose San Elizario Independent School District on July 20 as one of the regional nominees for the 2020 Texas Association of School Administrators Board of the Year in the large district category. A TASA Committee composed of Texas Superintendents will have the task of selecting five Honor Boards. The top five Honor Boards will then proceed to interview for the honor of TASA Outstanding School Board of the Year.

— Jeannie Meza-Chavez

Tornillo ISD board nominated

The Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) chose Tornillo Independent School District on July 20 as one of the regional nominees for the 2020 Texas Association of School Administrators Board of the Year in the small district category. A TASA Committee composed of Texas Superintendents will have the task of selecting five Honor Boards. The top five Honor Boards will then proceed to interview for the honor of TASA Outstanding School Board of the Year.

— Rachel Aguilar

School systems

With in-person learning this fall hinging on how well states handle the COVID-19 pandemic, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2020's *States with the Best & Worst School Systems*, as well as accompanying videos. In order to determine the best school systems in America, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 33 key measures of quality and safety. The data set ranges from pupil-teacher ratio and dropout rate to median standardized-test scores and school closures due to COVID-19. Texas was rated 28th in the report, ranking (1-Best; 25-Avg.):

- 21st – Math Test Scores;
- 45th – Reading Test Scores;
- 30th – Pupil-Teacher Ratio;
- 40th – Median SAT Score;
- 27th – Median ACT Score;
- 31st – % of Licensed/Certified Public K–12 Teachers;

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Superior to a kind thought is a kind word; better than both is a kind deed.

— Quips & Quotes



— Internet stock photo

THE NEW CLASSROOM – El Paso County school districts' new school year will lean on computer devices, above, to provide remote learning instruction beginning in August. The first four weeks of classes will consist of 100 percent online teaching. Then in September, most parents may be given a choice between on-campus instructional settings and continued remote instruction.

El Paso County schools start classes online

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Texas leaders agreed recently that the state government would provide about \$200 million from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act to school districts for computers and internet access. This is welcomed news for the seven El Paso County school districts that are located outside the El Paso city limits, because they all- Anthony ISD, Canutillo ISD, Clint ISD, Fabens ISD, San Elizario ISD, Socorro ISD, and Tornillo ISD- announced recently that their new school year would begin using online instruction... a sign that the districts want to do a much better job this fall when they reopen virtually than they were able to do in March and despite new guidance from

the Center for Disease Control (CDC) that give strategies for opening schools in-person. As COVID-19 cases continue to rise in the local region, the prospect of in-person learning this fall looks like it will not happen until, at least, the middle of October. The biggest factor is whether the community where the school is located is seeing infection rates decrease. In the new guidance documents, the CDC urged that students of all ages and abilities should wear masks, wash their hands frequently and socially distance in school buildings to protect against COVID-19. However, most parents are still going to want to see transmission levels at near zero before their children go back to school. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) also recently issued additional guidance for the reopening of schools to start the

2020-21 school year. According to the TEA announcement, the virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages, and school system leaders should do everything feasible to keep students, teachers, staff, and communities safe. “That said, research from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19 and some severe outcomes have been reported in children, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized or have severe symptoms,” TEA officials asserted. “Furthermore, the American Academy of Pediatrics notes that COVID-19 risks must be balanced with the need for children to attend school in person, given that lack of physical access to school leads to a number of negative consequences, placing

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Canutillo ISD to donate laptops in El Paso region

By Liza M. Rodriguez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – To help ensure every child in the region has equal access to an education, the Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) Board of Trustees, approved the donation of 1,500 plus laptop computers to other school districts at a special meeting July 16, 2020,. COVID-19 has exposed the dire need for adequate technology

resources. Nationwide, technology companies are experiencing shortages in production and unexpected delivery dates. Many districts in Region 19 have had to react to the situation and place orders for hardware systems that will very possibly go unfulfilled by the anticipated start date. CISD has paved the road for an expanded remote learning environment by moving to a 1:1 initiative through Apple and a

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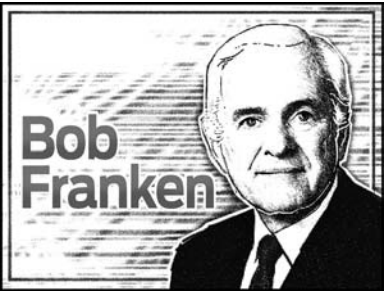
De La Rosa heads for Harvard

OFF TO THE IVY LEAGUE – Tornillo Intermediate School Principal Nadia De La Rosa was selected as one of 62 educators to attend the summer institute at the Principals' Center at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. De La Rosa will be participating in workshops focused on developing leadership skills. The goal of this program is to empower Texas school leaders and the districts they serve

— Rachel Aguilar



— Photo courtesy Tornillo ISD



1-800-GRIFTER

with Goya products. This, after Goya CEO Bob Unanue stood in the Rose Garden and gushed, “We’re all truly blessed at the same time to have a leader like President Trump.”

As one can imagine, that caused an uproar in the Latino community, where Trump is not all that popular. How’s that for understatement? At any rate, it set off a major boycott of Goya products. And that’s what inspired President Trump to make his pitch. Not only that, but daughter and senior White House adviser Ivanka modeled her own promo for Goya, posing flashing her pearly whites while holding a can of Goya beans.

Both of those might be violations of the Hatch Act,

which prohibits a federal employee from endorsing commercial products, but since when do the Trumpsters pay attention to laws? Just add that to the list of legal reckonings. But setting all that aside, it reveals what we can expect out of Donald Trump if he fails in his effort to be U.S. ruler-for-life. He can copyright an 800 number, like 1-800-HAS-BEEN, or in the case of Goya, 1-800-HAS-BEAN, and sell his alleged heart out. For that matter, Ivanka could become his Vanna White. Melania shouldn’t be a problem. Once she leaves the White House, she’ll just ignore Trump.

There’s no end to the products he can sell. Certainly, there

would be Dr. Trump’s Magic Coronavirus Elixir. He’s had a lot of experience with that one. As part of that TV commercial, Dr. Trump would take a dose, just like he maintains he did with hydroxychloroquine, which can literally make you crazy. By the way, I don’t need to tell you where he got his doctorate, do I? From Trump University.

He will certainly sell Confederate flags. They will come as a combo deal in sets that include a MAGA hat. For a premium, you can buy one personally autographed by Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee or Donald Trump.

Next, he will write his memoir where he describes all the personal wealth he made as president. The working title will be “The Art of the Steal.” Consistent with his intelligence briefings, it will

contain few words and lots of pictures. It will be a bestseller. And if it isn’t, Trump will just claim it is. Of course it will be closely vetted by his lawyers; not for classified material, but for disclosures that might hurt him in all the litigation.

It should be made clear that all of this speculation is based on the premise that he doesn’t get re-elected, that the Democrats and Joe Biden somehow manage to not blow their overwhelming lead, which is all too often what they do. In that case, President Trump’s second term will be even worse than the first, where he will complete the job of running this country into the ground.

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View from here

By Marilyn M. Singleton, M.D., J.D.

COVID chaos: A prison without bars

The COVID-19 lockdown has its benefits: a chapter a day of the unabridged version of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn’s The Gulag Archipelago, a study in fear and redefined “normal” values, among many other lessons.

Lately I’ve seen face coverings stenciled with “I can’t breathe.” The beauty of the statement is its dual meaning. It can be a nod to George Floyd, an arrestee who apparently suffocated at the hands of a rogue law enforcement officer or it can be a statement of the wearer’s condition behind the mask. More generally, it can be a statement about the suffocation of society as a whole.

Freespeech is the bedrock of our politics, but media manipulation

is now rampant. Under the guise of fact-checking, our modern day newspapers – have become the arbiters of what constitutes a worthy opinion or fact in contrast to “misinformation.” Scientists were certain that something heavier than air could not maintain flight. The misinformed Wright brothers proved them wrong.

Vladimir Lenin recognized that the media are propagandists and their information presented should be “easy to digest, most graphic, and most strongly impressive.” With COVID-19, the media create irrational fear with daily charts of deaths and case numbers without corresponding recoveries. They

fail to mention that many deaths were of patients with serious underlying conditions or who were already in hospice and had weeks to live and coincidentally tested positive. The raw numbers are unaccompanied by the CDC’s instruction to classify a death as COVID-19 even if merely suspected or, in some cases, with a negative test. There is no corresponding warning with blinking lights that the tests have false positives or that the daily report of “increases” includes old tests that were not previously reported.

As Lenin noted, “ideas are much more fatal than guns.” Thus, where propaganda and media bias do not succeed, censorship will. Currently, a vocal physician is being silenced and investigated for questioning the motives and possible over-reporting of COVID-19 as the cause of death. Censorship is our polite version of “disappearing” dissidents. We are not Communist China and cannot allow the treatment of Dr. Li Wenliang, a Wuhan

ophthalmologist to be the “new normal.” In December 2019, he courageously warned his colleagues on social media about the new SARS-like pneumonia cases but knew that he “would probably be punished.” Indeed, Chinese officials forced him to sign a letter accusing him of “making false comments” that had “severely disturbed the social order.” Fortunately for scientific advancement of our relentless search for COVID-19 treatments and mitigation, many questioned the official story about the novel coronavirus coming from a pangolin at a Wuhan wet market.

Censorship, corrupt scientific inquiry, and media bias have no place in medicine. It is not clear that lockdowns are scientifically sound. Curiously, social justice protests are allowed despite lockdowns. One epidemiological analysis concluded lockdowns in Western Europe had no effect on COVID-19 deaths. Additionally, studies show severe psychological effects of quarantines. The 5 states with the most COVID-19 deaths from March through April showed a 35 to 400 percent

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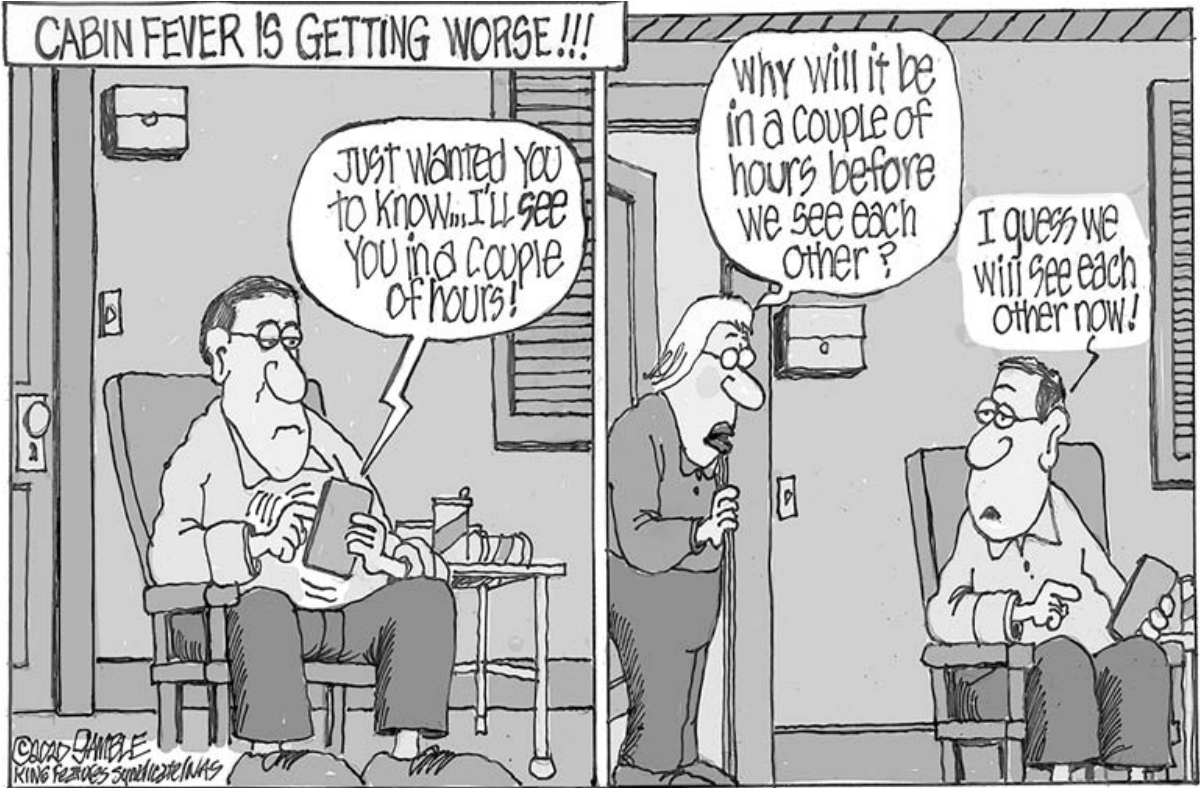
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Joe Biden’s shockingly adequate campaign

The Biden campaign has been lucky most of all, but it’s also been smart, at least smart enough.

To go, as Joe Biden did, from left for dead to sweeping to the Democratic nomination and quickly thereafter emerging as the favorite in November is a run of success that would be the envy of any national politician.

It’s easy to consider this a mere accident given the weakness of Biden’s opponents, first a socialist in the Democratic primaries who had a ceiling on his support and now an incumbent president whose ratings have sagged.

The Biden team certainly isn’t going to rewrite any campaign playbooks or dazzle anyone with its brilliance, but it has avoided serious mistakes and demonstrated an understanding of the basic political terrain and its candidate’s strengths. It hasn’t asked Biden to do anything out of his comfort zone or beyond his capabilities and has been content for President Donald Trump to dominate all the attention, so long as Trump is not advancing his cause, and often setting it back, with all the airtime and headlines.

Above all, the campaign has avoided the most politically perilous ideological excesses

throughout. This has required some discipline, given how influential woke Twitter is on the left.

Biden’s theory of the Democratic Party, even if it seemed doubtful at the outset, proved correct – that the center of gravity of the party was still with, as he put it, Obama-Biden Democrats rather than with the avowed socialists and social justice warriors.

Biden hewed to this line when other candidates went the other way. It might seem obvious that endorsing “Medicare for All,” which involves yanking away the private health insurance of more than a 100 million Americans, is foolish and politically indefensible, but several candidates in the Democrat race did it anyway.

He’s steered clear of other pitfalls since locking up the nomination. He’s said he wouldn’t ban fracking. He didn’t endorse defunding the police. He defended the statues of America’s founders.

He’s indisputably slid left. This has been his MO his entire career – to stay smack in the middle of whatever is the consensus position of the Democratic Party at any given time.

His campaign knows that

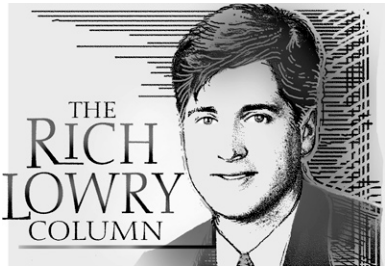
it benefits if the election is a referendum on Trump – and is acting accordingly.

Why should Biden try to take the mic from Trump if the president is using it to feud with Bubba Wallace and Dr. Anthony Fauci? Not only do these diversions do nothing to dent Biden, they serve to validate the former vice president’s case that the county needs a return to normalcy.

Still, nothing is decided in July. Biden’s record and agenda give

Trump targets to shoot at, and he should obviously take every opportunity to make the election, to the extent he can, about the radicalism of the Democratic Party.

Finally, there’s the fact that Biden is an unsteady performer at best. The strictures around COVID-19 have relieved him of the rigors of the typical presidential campaign, but he’s going to have to emerge to participate in a debate or debates in the fall, and no one can rule



out some catastrophic failure.

So, Trump can’t be counted out. But the Biden campaign is canny enough that it isn’t going to make it easy for him.

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

View from here By John Grimaldi

WEP needs reforming

Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) Action is calling for reform of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). “It does a disservice to public service employees who paid into the Social Security fund when they took up a second private sector career or who needed to take a second job by shortchanging them when they retire,” says Bob Carlstrom, president of the advocacy affiliate of the 2.1 million-member AMAC.

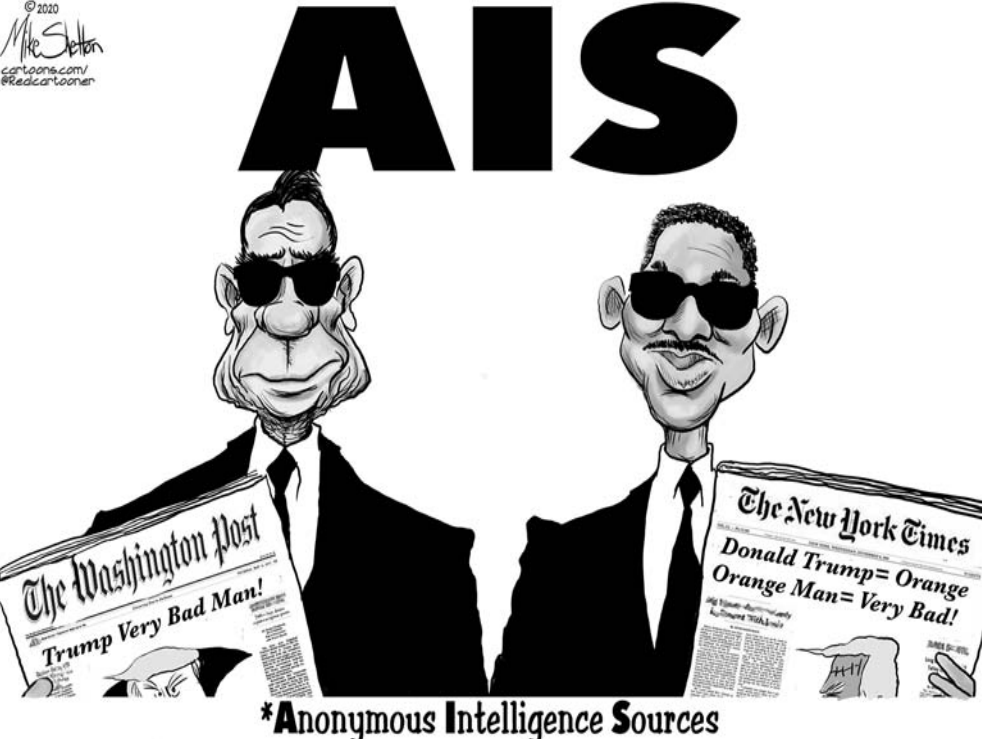
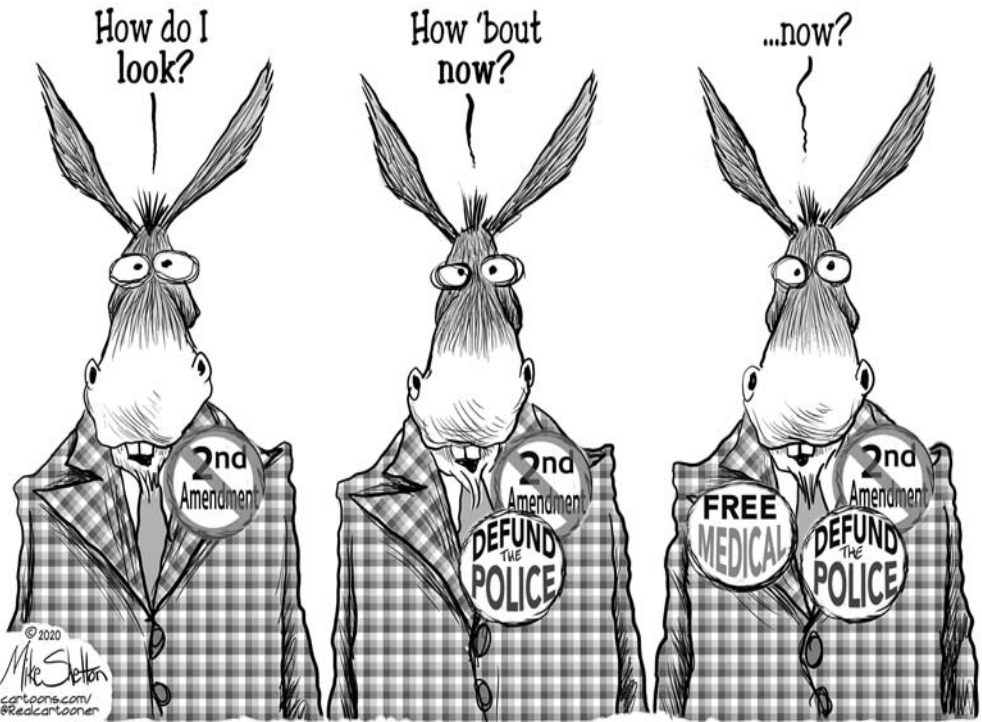
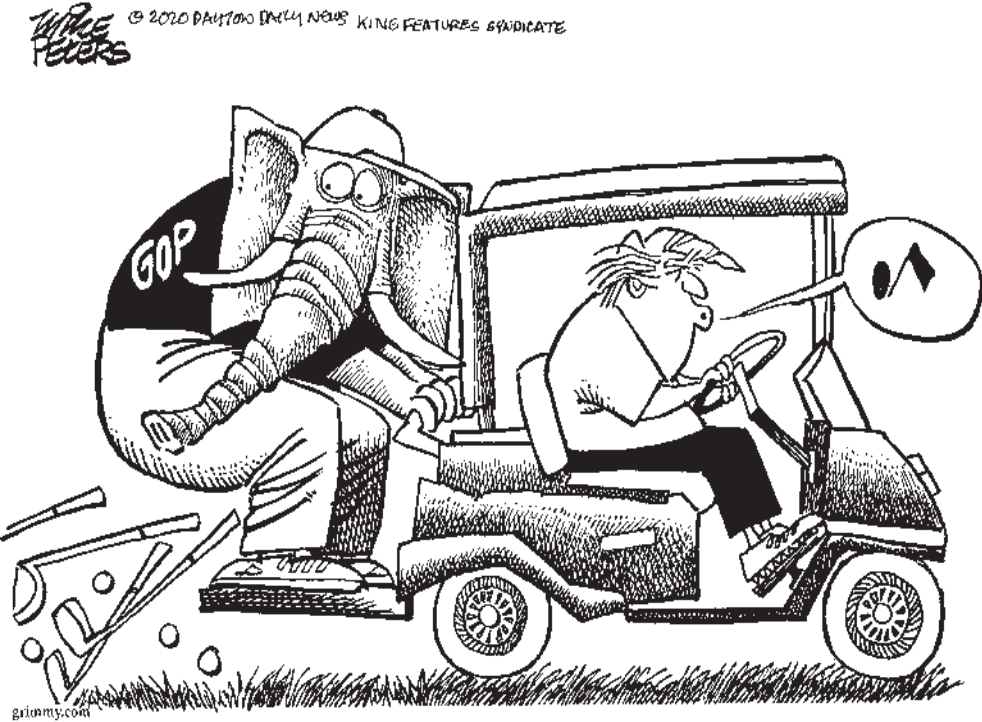
Carlstrom and AMAC are putting their support behind legislation the Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act to remedy what he calls “the unfair” impact that WEP has on those who chose public service as a primary career.

“WEP reduces Social Security benefits for a worker who receives a public pension. This is

problematic for public service employees that work another job on the side, or for individuals who want to transition into a public service profession such as teaching. Both would receive reduced benefits even though they have already contributed money into the system. Educators, police officers, and firefighters should not be in the position for weaker benefits after they have already contributed to the Social Security fund for many years.”

According the AMAC Foundation’s Social Security advisor, Russell Gloor, “It’s not unusual for individuals who work in the private sector to transition into second, public sector careers. It is also commonplace for those working in the public sector to make ends meet by moonlighting in second, private-sector jobs. Either way they wind up making contributions into the Social

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Schools

From Page 1

‘children and adolescents at considerable risk of morbidity, and in some case, mortality’. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families significantly when at school,” TEA officials claimed.

The TEA guidance document contains information on four sets of suggested practices that minimize the likelihood of viral spread, including some that are requirements for all schools and others that are recommendations including 1) Requirements for parental and public notices; (2) Required practices to prevent the virus from entering the school; (3) Required practices to respond to a lab-confirmed case in the school; and (4) Required practices to reduce likely spread inside the school.

TEA officials explained that some of these practices are required for all school systems, some are required in areas with high levels of community spread, and some are recommendations. “Consistently implementing recommendations to the extent feasible is the best way to reduce the potential negative impact of infection on students’ educational experiences. Additionally, systems should consider stringently applying recommended practices to adults on campuses, even when it might not be feasible to do so for students, to more

fully protect adult teachers and staff who are generally at greater risk from COVID-19 than students,” officials pointed out.

TEA also acknowledged that there will almost certainly be situations that necessitate temporary school closure due to positive COVID-19 cases in schools. “Parents, educators, and school administrators should be prepared for this in the event that it occurs, while actively working to prevent it through prevention and mitigation practices,” TEA officials stated.

Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galaviz affirmed that the well-being of Canutillo’s students, parents and staff will always be the driving determinant of decisions. And, the district’s actions will continue to be based on local, state, and federal education and health authority guidance.

“We have had to be flexible in terms of our planning for a return to school, and, COVID-19 is once again affecting the schedule in the greater El Paso region,” Galaviz stated. “With a substantial increase in rates of infection in this area, we are having to change the date for the first day of school.”

Virtual instruction for El Paso County

school districts is slated to begin in August. At Fabens ISD, students will begin on August 10th. Fabens ISD officials stated that the updated order limits face-to-face instruction and requires school buildings to remain closed to non-essential personnel until, at least, September 8th.

“The first four weeks of school will be conducted virtually for all students. Fabens ISD has ordered laptops for all students, Pre-K through 12th grade to ensure vibrant, connected virtual instruction for all students,” Fabens ISD officials said.

“Due to high demand, some technology device shipments have been delayed for several districts,” stated Fabens ISD officials. “Our deepest thanks go out to Canutillo

ISD for providing laptops to districts, including Fabens ISD, to ensure devices are available for the start of school. We will resume with on-campus instruction for families who choose this option on Sept. 8, or once local health authorities deem it safe to do so. We will continue to follow the guidance and directives from health and government authorities to ensure we are doing our part to reduce the rate of infection and subsequent risk of exposure to COVID-19,” they added.



– Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

Dr. Pedro Galaviz

Laptops

From Page 1

universal wireless connectivity program, Canutillo Connect. CISD is stepping up again and practicing social responsibility.

The district will enter an agreement to provide technology hardware to local children in need. Starting this school year, CISD will transfer technology to other districts in the region to include Fabens ISD, San Elizario ISD, and Sierra Blanca ISD and any other districts that are in need of technological devices.

“When a child succeeds, our community succeeds because we are responsible for all of them,” said Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galaviz. “The superintendents in the region have always created partnerships and collaborate rather than compete. And during this unprecedented time, we will all come together to make sure every student has access needed for a quality education.”

The district has been working to close the gaps in computer and internet access among students that have presented barriers to instruction. It’s a problem that the district addressed and sought to avoid at the outset of the pandemic.

“We understand one of the challenges to remote learning has been ensuring all students have laptops and an internet connection to connect to digital classes,” said CISD Board President Sergio Coronado. “These initiatives aim to give every child a chance to succeed.”

On April 28, 2020, the Trustees approved a \$4.8 million request to purchase Apple devices for every student in the district. As a result, students from Pre-Kinder through 12th grade will have access to their own device for the 2020-2021 school year.

At a June 25, 2020, special board meeting, the Canutillo ISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved the initial allocation of \$300,000 to fund the Canutillo Connect initiative, which will bring universal internet connectivity to the school district’s community through an outside wireless mesh network. The district is the first in the region, and third in the state to take on this broad initiative.

Chaos

From Page 2

which had been favorably studied during the 2003 SARS epidemic, as a prophylactic or an early treatment. Numerous reports of

HCQ’s efficacy on thousands of patients continue to mount. Once the media labelled it “Trump’s drug,” the fix was in. The long-awaited randomized clinical trial showing no benefit was gleefully reported by the media. However, the media were silent when the study was found to be so corrupt that it had to be retracted. Detroit’s Henry Ford Hospital’s large 3-month observational study that showed a significant reduction in mortality in hospitalized patients with HCQ and validated HCQ’s over 60-year record of safety garnered little media attention.

These (purposefully) chaotic times are an opportunity for a movement toward government control and the suppression of individuality. Lockdowns keep us apart and stifle the free exchange of ideas and social communion. As Eric Hoffer explained in True Believer, a mass movement deliberately makes the present “mean and miserable... . People whose lives are barren and insecure seem to show a greater willingness to obey than people who are self-sufficient and self-confident.” Becoming a psychological cripple is not an option.

Is this chaos a new form of plastic surgery? When the bandages (masks) are removed will you be a changed person?

Marilyn M. Singleton is a board-certified anesthesiologist. She is the immediate past President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS). She graduated from Stanford and earned her MD at UCSF Medical School. While still working in the operating room, she attended UC Berkeley Law School, focusing on constitutional law and administrative law. She teaches classes in the recognition of elder abuse and constitutional law for non-lawyers.

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CryptoQuip Answer

I invited the woman to help me use the crowbar because I didn't want to lever alone.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

• As Shakespeare said, what's in a name? A duck is called a duck because it ducks its head under the water to feed. The animal was named after the verb, not the other way around.

• You won't be surprised to learn that the most dangerous device that is common in the modern world is the automobile. You might be surprised to learn, though, that the second most dangerous is the stair step.

• What's in a name? Part 2: The French name for cotton candy is "Barbe a papa," or "dad's beard."

• Mary Babnik Brown generously donated 34 inches of her natural golden locks to the United States military during World War II after they determined that blond hair that had never been treated or exposed to heat was the most resilient material to use as the crosshairs in bombsights.


• A 7-year-old boy had long complained about his swollen and aching jaw, and small wonder: Surgeons at the Saveetha Dental College and Hospital in Chennai, India, found 526 teeth crammed inside his mouth! After removing a seven-ounce, "well-defined bag-like mass" from his jaw containing hundreds of miniature teeth, it took the team five hours to carefully search for and count all of them. The hospital asserted that it was "the first ever case to be documented worldwide, where so many minute teeth were found in a single individual."

• Led Zeppelin let Ben Affleck use their song "When the Levee Breaks" in the movie "Argo" on one condition – that they digitally alter the record player's needle drop to the correct spot on the vinyl.

Thought for the Day: "The greatest weapon against stress is our ability to choose one thought over another."
– William James

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On July 27, 1974, the House Judiciary Committee recommends that President Richard Nixon be impeached and removed from office. The impeachment proceedings resulted from a break-in at the Democratic Party's national headquarters in the Watergate apartment-hotel complex in Washington, D.C.
- On July 28, 1945, an American B-25 Mitchell bomber crashes into the Empire State Building, killing 14 people. The freak accident was caused by heavy fog. When the plane swerved to avoid the Chrysler Building, it flew straight into the north side of the Empire State Building, near the 79th floor.
- On July 29, 1958, the U.S. Congress passes legislation establishing NASA, a civilian agency responsible for coordinating America's activities in space.
- On July 30, 1999, "The Blair Witch Project," a low-budget, independent horror film that will become a cult hit, is released in theaters. Shot with shaky, handheld cameras, the documentary-style movie told the story of three student filmmakers who disappeared into the woods and were never heard from again. The story was entirely fake.
- On July 31, 1916, future racing legend Louise Smith, the first woman inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame, is born in Barnesville, Georgia. In her first race, unaware that a checkered flag meant the finish line, Smith kept going until someone threw out a red flag.
- On Aug. 1, 1961, Six Flags Over Texas opens. The park was the first to feature log flume, 360-degree looping roller coaster and modern parachute drop. The park also pioneered the concept of an all-inclusive admission price.
- On Aug. 2, 1876, "Wild Bill" Hickok, one of the greatest gunfighters of the American West, is murdered in Deadwood, South Dakota. Hickok was playing cards with his back to the saloon door when a young gunslinger named Jack McCall shot him in the back of the head.

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Send Your Newsbrief To: wtxcc@wtxcc.com

Briefs

From Page 1

- 5th – Dropout Rate;
- 16th – Bullying Incidence Rate;
- 31st – % of Threatened/Injured High School Students; and
- 1st – Statewide School Closure due to COVID-19.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-the-best-schools/5335/> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

Best rent cities

With the COVID-19 pandemic keeping rental prices close to 2019 levels,

the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *2020's Best & Worst Places to Rent in America*, as well as accompanying videos. To help prospective renters get the most bang for their buck, WalletHub compared more than 180 U.S. cities based on 24 key indicators of rental attractiveness and quality of life. The data set ranges from historical rental-price changes to the cost of living to job availability. El Paso was rated 23rd in the report. Other stats:

- Cedar Rapids, IA has the highest rental affordability, with the lowest median annual gross rent divided by median annual household income at 15.24 percent, which is 2.7

WEP

From Page 3

Security pool. But many of them wind up having their Social Security benefits severely reduced because of the WEP clause. Current estimates are that nearly two million American workers are impacted by the Windfall Elimination Provision and it can have a particularly onerous bearing on police officers, firefighters and teachers.“

The Bipartisan Policy Center has also thrown its support behind WEP reform. As that influential think tank put it: “Many state and local government workers are not covered by Social Security, meaning that employees and their employers do not contribute payroll taxes on their earnings from those positions. Yet many of these workers also work part of their careers (or work part-time) in covered employment and will still be eligible for Social Security benefits. The WEP was originally designed to prevent these individuals from receiving unintentionally large Social Security benefits, but its methodology is overly complex and does not allocate benefits equitably.”

AMAC’s Gloor says it is understandable that workers who transitioned from a private sector job to public sector, Social Security-covered employment view WEP as unfair. “Even with 20 years of earnings from which Social Security taxes have been paid, their benefit can be reduced by as much as half simply because they had another career during which they didn’t contribute to Social Security. Similarly, civil servants who moonlighted at a second job during their careers in order to get by and paid into the Social Security fund can get shortchanged. Nevertheless, WEP still applies today, amid the cries of unfairness by nearly two million affected Americans. Though several bills have, in recent years, been introduced to either repeal or reform the WEP provision, none have made it past being “referred

1973

47 Years

2020

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times lower than in Hialeah, FL, with 40.42 percent.

- Little Rock, AR has the highest rental vacancy rate, 14.30 percent, which is 11 times higher than in Garden Grove, CA, the city with the lowest at 1.30 percent.
- Newark, NJ has the highest share of renter-occupied housing units, 77.30 percent, which is 3.3 times higher than in Port St. Lucie, FL, the city with the lowest at 23.20 percent.
- Brownsville, TX has the lowest cost-of-living index, 74, which is 2.7 times lower than in San Francisco, CA, the city with the highest at 197.
- Irvine, CA has the fewest violent crimes (per 1,000 residents), 0.56, which is 35.9

times fewer than in Detroit, MI, the city with the most at 20.08. Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-cities-for-renters/23010/> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

Never too old

Growing old is not what it used to be. Take, Gordon Precious of Ontario, Canada. He celebrated his 95th birthday recently by taking a helicopter ride to the summit of a snow-capped mountain in the Cariboo Mountains in British Columbia and skiing back down the slope. It was his way of letting the kid inside of

See BRIEFS, Page 7

Anthony Independent School District Public Notice Of Non-Discrimination

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

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

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Notificacion Publica

Es la norma de conducta del Distrito escolar de Anthony prohibir la discriminación en base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad ó deshabilidad en la admisión ó el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios ó empleo.

El distrito escolar de Anthony esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975 como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.

Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuniquese con el Oscar Troncoso, Superintendente, 840 Sixth Street, Anthony Texas, 79821, (915) 886-6500.

WTCC: 07-30-20

It’s been a week of some really bad ideas in sports

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Over the decades, the world of sports has come up some very good ideas to improve things. They’ve also come up with some horrific ones.

Some of the good ideas included adding the 3-point shot to the NBA, adding the 2-point conversion to the NFL, and the steady improvement of graphics at the bottom of the TV screen so that we know what the entire situation is – although if they keep adding more info we’ll barely be able to see what the players are doing.

Some of the incredibly dumb ideas include baseball having a designated hitter in one league and not in the other. That’s like having four downs in the NFC but only three in the AFC.

Some other beauties were the NBA’s three free throw attempts to make two. There was a time in the NBA where instead of being awarded two free throws in a bonus situation, a player had three chances to make two. If he only made one of the first two, he received a third try. Can you imagine how that slowed the game down? They got rid of that one pretty quickly.

There were also the four pitches to intentionally walk a batter.

Instead of just telling the ump that you wanted intentionally walk a batter and put him on first base; a pitcher had to actually throw four bad pitches to walk the guy. It took baseball decades to fix that one.

And the one that still gets me to this day is the fact that professional baseball managers (head coaches) have to wear the same uniform as the players. I don’t want to see Greg Popovich in a pair of shorts, I don’t want to see Bill Belichick in shoulder pads and a helmet. Then why would I want to see Los Angeles Angels manager Joe Maddon in a baseball uniform? He’s 66 years old and it’s not even Halloween!

Anyway, you would think that these sports guys would learn from their

mistakes, but no, bad decisions are still being made and here’s proof:

Here’s a question, was does WAR, PER, DVOA, FEI, FPI, VORP, LIPS, UBR or BABIP stand for?

It doesn’t matter. These are meaningless stat algorithms that sports nerds have come up recently. It doesn’t matter the sport, a person can come up with any scenario and create a statistic to go along with it. The real crime here is that many sports outlets are using them.

How about the Washington Redskins? Oh wait, they’re changing their name. And to many, that’s a good thing. But while that’s being decided, the guys from D.C. came up with a temporary name: Washington Football Team.

Really? That’s the best they could come up with?

But what do I know? The way things are going, pretty soon the name “Washington” won’t be acceptable either.

By now, everyone knows that Major League Baseball is up and running with no fans in the stadiums.

But is that really the case? Fox Sports carries most of the national games and they are going to fix the no-fans problem. What Fox is going to do is generate fake fans. Yes, digitized fans will fill the seats and they will cheer and boo and even do the wave.

Like in any realistic video game, they’d rather generate fake fans than show the real thing. Sounds like a lot of news media outlets, doesn’t it?

And finally, there’s an old saying, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.”

NBA games provide a lot of action in a relatively short period of time.

But the league wants to trim even more time.

The NBA’s minor league, the G-League, is experimenting with a new foul-shot rule. Currently, if you take a 2-point shot, miss it, but are fouled you get two free throws. Same thing for a three-pointer, you get three free throws.

The new rule is that you just get one free throw, but if you make it – you get the two points. If you took a three-point shot, you’d get the three points.

I wish the NBA would just concentrate on calling traveling.



Super Crossword

TRIPLE OVERLAP										1868	128 Floral wrist	37 Poker variety	85 Pups' complaints
ACROSS										68 Play dumb	accessory	40 Like the giant	90 The world over
1 Boater, e.g.	73 Bloom-to-be	129 Rolling car part, to	41 Occurrence	93 That, in Peru	94 Karachi's nation: Abbr.	95 Kin of .com	96 Ukraine port	97 Fabric with a soft nap	98 2002 Cesar winner for Best Film	99 Popular thesaurus, familiarly	100 Really cold	101 Models on walls, maybe	102 Smelting slag
4 Poker chip, for one	74 Clichy's river	Brits	42 Lymphoid throat masses	43 Lymph _	44 Christmas verse starter	45 Ice cream maker	46 Kylo of "Star Wars"	47 Breakfast meat	50 Sharif of movies	51 Peru's capital	53 Spot-on	54 With 55-Down, Paris edifice housing several universities	55 See 54-Down
8 Uncorks again	77 Radio booth notification	DOWN	1 Female seal group, e.g.	2 Amtrak bullet train	3 Get thinner at one end	4 Persian Gulf emirate	5 Ailing	6 Sword type	7 Funny Imogene	8 Classic detergent brand	9 Complete	10 California's San Luis _	11 Speaking platform
15 Liven (up)	78 Mattel guy	81 Company not	reliant on a parent, e.g.	86 Actress Kazan of "My Favorite Year"	87 MRI's kin	88 _de-France	89 Branchlet	91 Krone spenders	92 Breakfast brew	94 Ones who love making others happy	96 Egg-making organs	101 Many a pro bono	TV ad
19 Mexican resort	port	21 To-do trays	22 Actor Bates	23 GOP race runner	25 At midnight, say	26 Justice Kagan	27 Planet near Earth	28 "Attack, dog!"	30 "Dirty" drink	32 Data entry device	36 Ewoks and Na'vi, in brief	38 Actor DeLuise	39 Strengthens in volume
40 Large insectivores with long snouts	47 Recycling	48 Support financially	49 Unmannerly	50 Suffix with pay	52 Nissan, formerly	58 Mop brand	60 Common bit of onstage audio equipment	63 Writer Isak	65 Pago Pago's home	66 Pied-a-_	67 Tokyo, prior to	120 They include	Advent and Eastertide
124 Be fitting for	125 Ideal spots	126 Appeases	127 Warlike god	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137
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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



Briefs

From Page 5

him out for a day. To be fair, Precious says he has been skiing all of his life and it is not the first time he has gone heli-skiing. But, this time he set a record, according to the folks at Guinness.

— John Grimaldi

Another fish story

Fishing is one activity that appears to comply with safe-distancing rules during the year of the

COVID. And, as James Lukehart can attest, it can be a rewarding activity. Lukehart, who hails from Edmond, OK recently broke a state record when he landed a 146.7 pound paddlefish. It happened at Keystone Lake about 15 miles west of Tulsa. The previous paddlefish record was held by another local fisherman, Jeremiah Mefford who landed a 143 pounder about a month or so ago and was on hand to watch Lukehart break his record. It turns out Mefford was Lukehart's guide on the day he landed his monster-size catch.

— John Grimaldi

Fructose intolerance is rarely diagnose

DEAR DR. ROACH: What can you tell me about fructose intolerance and/or malabsorption? Is there a genetic predisposition to this? Can it develop later in life? What are the symptoms, and how is it diagnosed? What type of doctor can best make a diagnosis? I've read conflicting reports online regarding the breath analysis test. Can it be treated, or must one eliminate foods containing fructose completely from one's diet? My father was diagnosed with some sort of fructose problem



years ago. I have no other information about his condition as he has passed away. I have developed some intestinal issues over the past year and have noticed I frequently experience stomach cramps after eating grapes and green apples, specifically. I am a vegetarian, and my diet consists of lots of fruits and vegetables. I'm wondering if I may have an issue with fructose. I hope not! What are your thoughts? – D.K.

Fructose intolerance is common, but it is seldom diagnosed. One cause, hereditary fructose intolerance, is a genetic disorder that can cause serious symptoms in infants and children, but it is usually mild in adults. The symptoms of fructose intolerance are very similar to another sugar intolerance -- lactose, the sugar in milk. Many people cannot tolerate lactose and if they eat too much of it will have cramping and diarrhea. Unlike lactose intolerance, which has a simple diagnostic breath test, there is no commonly available test for fructose intolerance.

Fructose is a simple sugar, called a monosaccharide, and is found in many fruits, especially apples, pears, cherries and dates. Fructose is also found in honey and is part of the disaccharide sucrose (table sugar), where it is combined with glucose. What is fascinating yet poorly understood is that when fructose is consumed with glucose, it is absorbed better by people with fructose intolerance. Therefore, the goal in someone with inability to absorb fructose is to reduce or avoid fructose by itself. That means reducing foods and beverages sweetened with high-fructose corn syrup, which is present in many products; eating high-fructose fruits only with meals; and reducing honey intake.

Sorbitol, a sugar alcohol used as a sweetener in “diet” or “sugarless” foods, tends to worsen fructose intolerance and should be avoided.

A vegetarian diet is very healthy for most people, and you shouldn't have to give up your fruits. Just following some simple rules should reduce or eliminate your symptoms.

DR. ROACH WRITES:

A recent column on burning mouth syndrome generated a lot of letters, including several from physicians and dentists.

The advice I heard over and over is that some dental products seem to worsen the symptoms, and changing toothpaste or dental rinse can help with symptoms. However, the culprit was not consistent. Some writers told me it was mint, others said cinnamon, while others thought it was the sodium lauryl sulfate that is in many toothpastes. Baking soda (or toothpastes based on them) seemed to be well-tolerated for many.

Other irritants that made symptoms worse included spicy foods, carbonated beverages, caffeine and acidic foods (like citrus or tomato).

Other advice I heard was soaking the tongue in a solution of Splenda and water; others recommended biotin supplements.

The sheer number of letters leads me to suspect that this is a more common problem than I would have thought. Very few of my own patients have ever asked me about this in my practice.

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.

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Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
The Spanish explorers tried teaching the Jumani indians their games and 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: R equals D

D DMFDKOR KGO PVJEM
KV GOTX JO QBO KGO
SUVPC EU COSEQBO D RDRM'K
PEMK KV TOFOU ETVMO.

Answer Page 4
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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American Legion needs your help



by Freddy Groves

I came across an unusual confab outside the coffee shop today. What was different this time was the presence of younger veterans.

“We’ll help you,” a young vet said to the group. “All you have to do is contact us and we’ll be here. Or there. Or wherever you are.”

I pieced together what was going on. The senior veterans were concerned about being able to form a funeral detail. One of their group was in the hospital and it wasn’t looking good, either for the veteran or the local American Legion Post itself. The younger veterans, probably Sandbox era, had come down to offer assistance (and home phone numbers) should they be needed for a funeral.

I stepped up next to the one who seemed to be in charge and went into my spiel.

“Join the American Legion

here in town,” I suggested.

I explained that senior veterans make up the biggest percentage of membership in the American Legion nationwide. And they’re not getting younger. Day by day we lose more of them. Maybe a Post will have 20 members... on paper... but only three are active. They’re physically unable to pull off most of the fundraising events like they used to, and many Posts are likely to lose their meeting facility.

Therefore, I finished, if young blood doesn’t come in and beef up declining membership, the groups would disband, gone forever.

Is this the situation in your area, Legions closing and disbanding due to declining membership? Here’s a thought: Go to a couple meetings. Find out what the Legion can do for you and your family, and what you can do for the it. It might be more than you ever imagined. Visit legion.org for details.

NOTE: If you tried to join before and weren’t eligible, try again. If you served at any

point since Dec. 7, 1941 and were honorably discharged, you’re covered, courtesy of the LEGION Act signed in 2019 by President Donald Trump.

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• Consumer advocacy experts say that it’s best to communicate your service issues with a company by email. This way, there is a ready paper trail that you can refer to. If you have to call a customer service line, ask for an email address that you can correspond with.

• If your scallions are growing like crazy, you should know that you can freeze them to use later. Snip into smaller portions and freeze in a single layer for a couple of hours. Transfer to a container and store in freezer. When a recipe calls for scallions, just take what you need and use immediately.

• Save energy and heat by using an electric kettle to make hot water for tea. It uses less energy than a stovetop kettle, and it won’t heat up your kitchen.

• Stuff a musty cooler with crumpled up newspaper and seal. Remove and replace daily until the musty smell goes away.

• When making cookie dough, make extra and freeze it in balls or slices. You’ll have an easy source of ready-to-bake fresh cookies!

• “You can use dishwasher detergent to clean your bathtub. I moved into a place with a very stained and dirty bathtub. I filled the tub with very hot water, put a cup of detergent into the water (the kind you put in a dishwasher, not soap) and stirred it to dissolve the powder. After letting it sit until it was just warm, I used a scrub brush to lightly lift away the soapy grime. It lifted stains out, too.”
– G.G. in South Carolina

• To keep dirt from sticking to your dustpan, spray it lightly with furniture polish. Buff with a cloth so that it’s not wet. Floor dirt will slide right off.

Send your tips to Now Here’s a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2020 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!
Answer Page 4

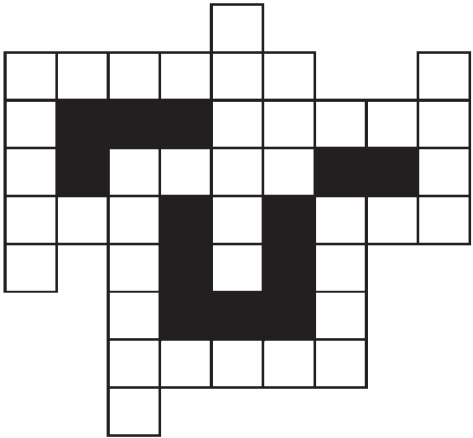
	x		-		6
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1 2 3 4 5 7 7 8 9

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OST
CREMIT
♥TUSOG
ETTS
♥CATSEN
DTE
TMSE
SUMEO
MCU
SIGTED
♥ATCER
DRCO



Answer Page 4

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string’s word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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