

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Summer jobs

With summer approaching and the leisure and hospitality sectors gaining 331,000 jobs in April, entertainment and tourism that were restricted during the pandemic, the personal-finance website WalletHub took an in-depth look at 2021's *Best Places for Summer Jobs*, as well as accompanying videos. To help job seekers find the best summer employment opportunities, WalletHub compared more than 180 markets in the U.S. across 23 key metrics. The data set ranges from the median income of part-time workers to the availability of summer jobs to COVID-19 cases. Some of the stats:

- Orlando, FL has the most part-time job openings per 1,000 people aged 16 to 24 in the labor force, 317.59, which is 23.4 times higher than in New York, NY, the city with the fewest at 13.59.
- Scottsdale, AZ has the highest median income for part-time workers (adjusted for cost of living), \$27,317, which is than 3.5 times higher than in New York, NY, the city with the lowest at \$7,817.
- Portland, ME has the highest labor-force participation rate of people aged 16 to 24, 78.12 percent, which is 2.1 times higher than in Irvine, CA, the city with the lowest at 37.25 percent.
- Portland, ME has the lowest unemployment rate for people aged 16 to 24, 4.57 percent, which is 6.2 times lower than in Detroit, MI, the city with the highest at 28.31 percent.
- Gilbert, AZ has the lowest share of people aged 16 to 24 living in poverty, 6.91 percent, which is 8.1 times lower than in Burlington, VT, the city with the highest at 55.81 percent.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-places-for-summer-jobs/21137> for the full report.

— Diana Polk

### Clutter or treasure

The previous owners of a small bowl may have thought they were lucky to have gotten \$35 for it at their New Haven, CT yard sale. But the anonymous buyer must have been more than delighted when the folks at the Sotheby's auction house identified the bowl as "an exceptionally rare 15th-century Chinese antique" from the Ming dynasty. At auction the bowl sold for \$721,800. Sotheby's Angela McAtee reported that the seller "didn't haggle over the \$35 asking price" at the yard sale.

— John Grimaldi

**A criminal doesn't care who makes the laws of a country so long as they are not enforced.**

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**STUDENT AID** — The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) is a R-1 designated research university by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, which means students and faculty are among the most elite research institutions in the country that include Harvard, Stanford, and Georgetown universities. One of UTEP's newest facilities is the science complex, above. UTEP will use at least half of the funding it receives from the American Rescue Plan Act to provide emergency assistance grants for students who are facing financial hardship.

## Emergency funds for higher education students

*Less than 25 percent of El Paso County residents have a college degree*

By Alfredo Vasquez  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso area students, who are enrolled or plan to enroll in one of El Paso County's higher education institutions for the fall semester and need financial assistance, should contact the institution of their choice to

apply for the emergency funds assistance that has been made available through the recently authorized American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The ARPA, which is designed to offer COVID-19 relief funding, was signed into law by President Joe Biden in March and earmarked over \$36 billion to be distributed by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to nearly 3,500 public and

private nonprofit colleges and universities across the country.

Higher education institutions in El Paso County are slated to receive more than \$142 million in COVID-19 relief funding for college students through the rescue plan. According to a spokesperson for U.S. Representative Veronica Escobar,

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## Carmona named Socorro ISD interim superintendent

By Christy Flores-Jones  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY — The Socorro Independent School District Board of Trustees named Marta C. Carmona as the interim superintendent for the district on May 25, 2021 at a special board meeting. Before being named interim superintendent, Carmona served as the internal auditor for curriculum and instruction in SISD.

"I am honored to accept the position and thank the SISD Board of Trustees for entrusting me with this important role for our SISD schools and community," Carmona said. "I look forward to continuing instruction and operations at optimal levels for a smooth transition for all of our students, employees and community members. As we forge ahead with planning for the 2021-2022 school year, I am prepared and eager to help SISD in this critical juncture to successfully transition students and staff back into classrooms. We are excited about the likely prospect of welcoming students and families back to SISD campuses for the upcoming school year."

Carmona is a proud graduate of the Socorro Independent School District having completed her studies at service for the parents and community members in SISD."



Marta C. Carmona

Socorro High School in 1988. She obtained her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at El Paso in 1994 and her Master of Educational Administration degree from Sul Ross State University in 2003. Her superintendent certification was obtained in 2016 from Lamar University and she is currently pursuing her doctorate degree in Learning and Organizational Change from Baylor University.

Within her 28-year career in education, Carmona has been a successful bilingual educator, bilingual instructional facilitator, assistant principal, and principal at the elementary and secondary levels. Her strong background, experience, and knowledge of curriculum, instruction, and special populations were the guiding principles behind her role as the internal auditor for curriculum and instruction in SISD. Her work as an internal auditor entailed monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of curriculum and instruction programs and district operations.

"The SISD community is dear to my heart," Carmona said. "I will proudly take on this leadership role to ensure we provide exceptional, transparent service to give students the best education they deserve, to support employees with an enriching work environment and deliver outstanding customer

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Socorro Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM. on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 in the District Service Center, Board Room, 12440 Rojas Dr., El Paso, Texas 79928. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.905825/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.398954/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

### Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	3.45% Decrease
Debt Service	1.61% Increase
Total Expenditures	2.86% Decrease

### Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 14,843,274,168	\$ 17,158,227,419
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 446,000,171	\$ 583,735,663
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 11,705,428,288	\$ 13,415,304,526
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 385,945,030	\$ 550,631,726

\* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.

\*\* "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.

\*\*\* "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

### Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$824,171,789

\* Outstanding principal.

### Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.944400	\$ 0.398954*	\$ 1.343354	\$ 3,484	\$ 7,237
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.239580	\$ 0.422950*	\$ 1.662530	\$ 4,168	\$ 7,117
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.905825	\$ 0.398954*	\$ 1.304779	\$ 3,522	\$ 7,180

\*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

### Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 144,553	\$ 169,750
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 119,371	\$ 136,574
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.343354	\$ 1.304779
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,603.57	\$ 1,781.98
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 178.41

**Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.**

**Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.304779. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.304779.**

### Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) \$ 53,177,994

Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) \$ 16,212,288

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

## Human cicadas

Think of us as cicadas, the insects you've heard about ad nauseam, that live underground for 17 years and then surface to get it on. Well, we humans in the U.S. have sheltered in place for 17 months, give or take, tucked away from the ravages of COVID. And now we are about to find out how bawdy our bodies have become.

Now millions of hibernating Americans will emerge, courtesy of the vaccine, to discover how the world has changed. The absence of masks – prima facie evidence of a return to "normal" – might reveal a metamorphosed society.

True, the millions of workers who got used to upper-half masquerades during Zoom meetings, or those who were forced into babysitting the kiddies at home as the family urchins struggled with school, will now come trickling back to the office – if they have an office to which they can return. Many desperate employers discovered the financial advantages of having less real estate, and some have turned to machines to make their employees flat out obsolete. Fewer jobs mean fewer restaurants or food trucks, fewer hotel rooms, fewer shopping opportunities, fewer entertainment venues and, most importantly, fewer workers downtown to staff those facilities.

And what about those precious little delicate flower kiddies, who are going back to in-person school, or will return this fall? Will they be like the cicadas and have forgotten all they had learned, or will at least some of the virtual instruction have actually taken? Probably a bit of both. Chances are they will have some catching up to do. Will colleges and universities have to lower their admission standards, or will higher education change now that we've discovered that you don't have to go to a boring lecture from a pompous junior instructor in a decrepit building at exorbitant tuition prices when you can get that same pomposity from your Zoom room at home?

How will the politicians respond to all these changes? The easy answer is poorly or not at all. They're dinosaurs anyway, mired in extinct issues, ready for some meteor to obliterate them before they even deal with reality – as opposed to the cliched issues of yesteryear. They are most preoccupied with keeping their jobs, which makes them vulnerable to the demagogues and influence peddlers who will pay good – or should I say bad? – money to keep things the way they were. That is to say unfairly distributed. We never learn or, if we do learn, it's the wrong lesson.

The pandemic provided proof. Since the beginning of the United States, we have been stained as a nation by our oppressive treatment of people of color. Even today, as we undeservedly gloat about each tidbit of progress we've made, we are faced with statistics that minorities have been disproportionately felled by the coronavirus. Why? Because of crippling discrimination, that's why. We are still

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# The GOP future is bright

Republicans have had a brutal news cycle over the past month, between the ouster of Liz Cheney from leadership and the intraparty jousting over a January 6 commission.

The overwhelming sense of the coverage is that the party is descending into madness and civil war and is a husk of its former self.

There's no denying that much of the party has been too willing to indulge or look away from wild theories about the 2020 election and the Capitol riot, but this shouldn't obscure the fact that the Republicans are well-positioned to take the House next year.

All indications are that GOP voters are united and energized and the party is doing what's necessary to make Kevin McCarthy the next speaker, which would instantly squash the never-very-plausible talk of Joe Biden being the next FDR.

The foundation of the GOP's unity, of course, is that Donald Trump effortlessly maintained his control of the GOP. The anticipated civil war came and went with barely a shot fired.

Cheney is certainly a casualty, although she is now less a leader of a significant faction of the party and more a voice crying

in the wilderness. That is an honorable role, and she may well be vindicated in the fullness of time.

But the party will pay no electoral price for the drama over her leadership role or, likely, for its continued loyalty to Trump.

Despite Trump's grip, he's not front and center for average voters. He isn't president and he isn't on the ballot. The focus inevitably will be on Biden and his agenda, which will loom larger than anything the former president can do from Mar-a-Lago.

The Democratic polling outfit Democracy Corps just did a battleground survey that confirmed this picture. As Stanley Greenberg writes in a memo about the poll, among Republicans: "the percent scoring 10, the highest level of interest in the election, has fallen from 84-68%. But Democrats' engagement fell from 85-57%."

Greenberg calls

the GOP base "uniquely unified and engaged."

More evidence is the boffo fundraising by the National Republican Campaign Committee so far. Meanwhile, GOP candidate recruitment is ahead of the pace of prior midterm cycles, whereas Democrats are seeing worrisome retirements.

It's not as though there's a high bar for the GOP. Republicans will need to flip about half-a-dozen seats in the House, when in the post-World War II era the president's party has lost on average 27 seats in midterms.

On top of this, the playing

field is tilting the GOP's way. Reapportionment gave more seats to Republican states and based on its strength in state legislatures, the GOP also has the upper hand in redistricting.

The Biden theory is that \$6 trillion in spending will deliver a roaring economy that diminishes any midterm losses. But the latest jobs and inflation numbers show that it might not be so simple, and there is considerable doubt whether Biden can get his spending.

Greenberg derives some comfort from his belief that, in contrast to 2020, "this time, Democrats cannot fail to see



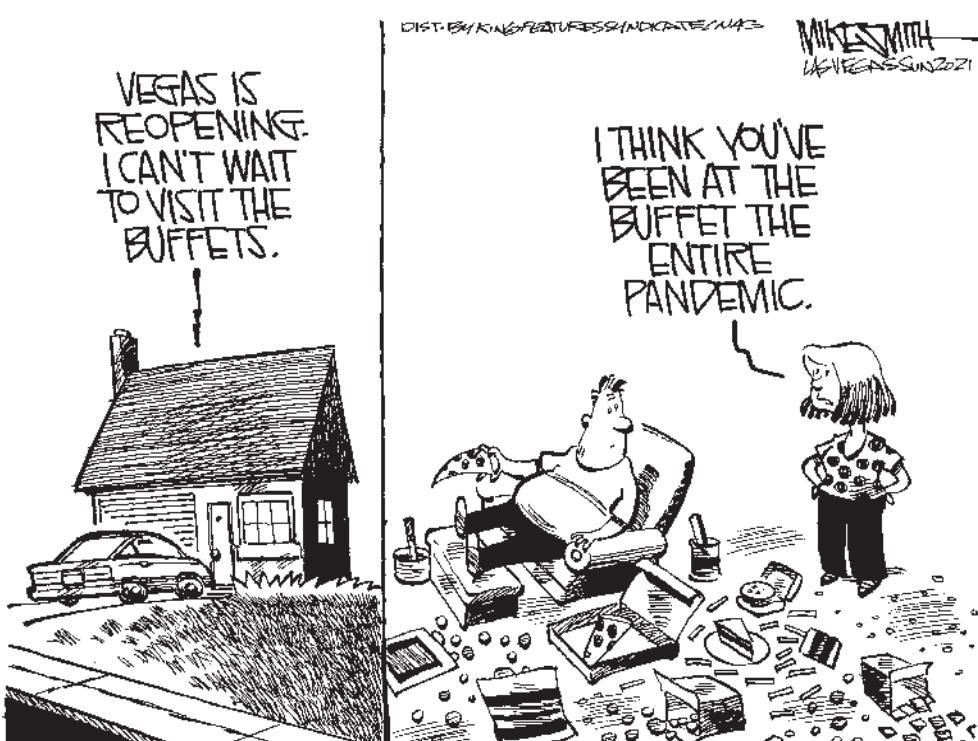
how early Trump's party is fully engaged with its ongoing culture war, focused on crime, open borders, and defunding the police."

Yet, there is no indication of any effort to seriously defuse these issues. Biden's policies have needlessly created a crisis at the border, and murder rates continue to climb in major cities, even as much of the left still talks of the police as if it's a racist occupying force.

There are miles to go before November 2022. Biden might find a way to thread the needle of cooperating with Republicans on infrastructure and police reform without alienating his own base, and unforeseen events always take a hand.

But the story of 2021 is not a Republican meltdown. Despite what you read, the party stands a good chance to end its bout in the wilderness after two short years.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2021 by King Features Synd., Inc.*



## View from here By Marilyn M. Singleton, M.D., J.D.

# Covid-19 craziness proves that Einstein was right

One of Albert Einstein's many aphorisms<sup>1</sup>, "three great forces rule the world: stupidity, fear and greed," is particularly apt in the Covid era.

Our government's duty is to warn the public of a possible pandemic and recommend precautions. However, the initial Covid tactic was to strike fear into our hearts and minds. The constant display of Covid "cases" on the nightly news suggested certain death awaited those who ventured out of their homes.

During the Diamond Princess cruise ship's outbreak in early February 2020, we had a real world demonstration of the behavior of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Trapped in a floating Petri dish, the crew performed their duties and passengers were quarantined in their rooms. With a ventilation system without special high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters, only 17 percent of the 3,711 occupants became infected with SARS-CoV-2 – only half of whom had symptoms. Because 80 percent<sup>2</sup> of those infected were in cabins that didn't have a previous confirmed case, the likely mode of infection was transmission of aerosols (in contrast to large droplets that quickly fall to the ground) through the ventilation system<sup>3</sup>. Locking people in proved counterproductive.

We also learned from the Diamond Princess episode that the median age of symptomatic folks was 68 years – 50 percent of whom had underlying medical conditions, and the deaths were in those over 70 years of age.

Despite this real world clinical experience, the CDC and Dr. Fauci advised state governments to quarantine every living human being in the country. The lessons of the Diamond Princess faded from the news while a never-ending campaign of fear persisted. Only the well-informed realized the news was presented through agenda-colored glasses.

It's not smart to keep people indoors when by May 2020 we knew 66 percent<sup>4</sup> of New York's new cases were in folks who stayed home. Scientific consensus was leaning toward emerging evidence<sup>5</sup> that the SARS-CoV-2 virus was spread by tiny aerosols, which could be reduced by good ventilation<sup>6</sup>.

After more than a year, the CDC finally acknowledged real world evidence and "the science," and announced that "less than 10 percent"<sup>7</sup> of transmission occurred outdoors. Data shows the actual outdoor transmission is somewhere between 0.1 and 1 percent<sup>8</sup>. While technically true, one wonders whether the CDC used purposefully misleading wording to cover its tracks after

mask recommendations for children outdoors at summer camp<sup>9</sup> and mandates for seafaring commercial fisherman<sup>10</sup>.

Fear fuels stupidity. By June 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) had announced that asymptomatic transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus is "very rare"<sup>11</sup>. And study<sup>12</sup> after study<sup>13</sup> after study<sup>14</sup> have shown that cloth masks do not prevent transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and other similar viruses. When political pundits see unmasked people as a threat<sup>15</sup> and a fully vaccinated physician Covid expert found it "psychologically hard"<sup>16</sup> to dine unmasked with a vaccinated friend, masking has become not "following the science" but an obsession.

Greed knows no bounds. Hospitals are charging<sup>17</sup> up to \$1419 for a \$50 test. Designer drugs are the new cash cow. Regeneron's stock price was up more than 60 percent in 2020<sup>18</sup>. Who would have thought Covid would be justification for a manufacturer to release TV ads for drugs that are not fully FDA approved? Regeneron's ads<sup>19</sup> instill fear, then present their drug as the solution. Covid diagnosis? Oh my! Isolate and call the doctor to get monoclonal antibodies (at \$1,250<sup>20</sup> per dose).

Wall Street predicts that in 2021 Pfizer and Moderna will generate \$32 billion<sup>21</sup> in Covid-19 vaccine revenue. Thanks to vaccines, Moderna's stock soared 700 percent in 2020. And Pfizer plans for vaccines to be a long-term business plan by roping children<sup>22</sup> into the vaccine corral.

Was the drug and health product manufacturers' \$92 million<sup>23</sup> to lobbyists in the last 3 months intended to ensure the federal government's cooperation?

Patients and physicians have a choice. Despite the vaccine über alles narrative, only 60 percent of Dr. Fauci's staff<sup>24</sup> have taken "the shot." The NIH's Covid-19 Treatment Guidelines<sup>25</sup> are not mandates. Patients can opt for early treatment at a cost of \$10 to \$125 per entire course with effective repurposed generic drugs<sup>26</sup> supported by real-time worldwide evidence. Sadly, as Kaiser Health News<sup>27</sup> noted, despite being a "godsend" to reduce death and hospitalizations, "drug companies have no incentive to spend millions to test new uses for cheap, off-patent drugs."

The people are not stupid, merely ill-informed. Media outlets were increasing ratings at the expense of the truth, the drug companies were rolling in dough, researchers were letting politics guide their outcomes<sup>28</sup>, and social media was censoring<sup>29</sup>

experts who disagreed with the wizards at WHO, NIH, and CDC, and medical journals funded by big Pharma.

Could we have avoided lockdowns with repurposed drugs, improved air circulation, and HEPA filters? Could we have saved millions of lives lost not only to Covid-19 but from suicide<sup>30</sup>, overdoses<sup>31</sup>, violence<sup>32</sup>, and cancer<sup>33</sup>?

*The links in the digital copy of this issue, at [www.wtxcc.com](http://www.wtxcc.com), are clickable.*

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- 3 – <https://aaqr.org/articles/aaqr-20-07-covid-0495.pdf>
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- 7 – <https://news.yahoo.com/cdc-director-defends-agency-inflated-200906002.html>
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### CryptoQuip Answer

If somebody totally runs out of breath mints, could you say he's un-Cert-ifid?



## Moments in time THE HISTORY CHANNEL



On May 31, 1859, the famous tower clock known as Big Ben, located at the top of the 320-foot-high Elizabeth Tower, rings out over London for the first time. At night, all four of the clock's faces, each one 23 feet across, are illuminated. A light above Big Ben is also lit to let the public know when Parliament is in session.

On June 1, 1980, CNN (Cable News Network), the world's first 24-hour television news network, makes its debut. CNN signed on at 6 p.m. EDT from its headquarters in Atlanta.

On June 2, 1953, Queen Elizabeth II is formally crowned monarch of the United Kingdom in a ceremony steeped in traditions that date back a millennium.

On June 3, 1965, 120 miles above the Earth, Major Edward White II opens the hatch and steps out of the Gemini 4 capsule, becoming the first U.S. astronaut to walk in space. Attached to the craft by a 25-foot tether, White remained outside the capsule for 20 minutes.

On June 4, 1876, a mere 83 hours after leaving New York City, the Transcontinental Express train arrives in San Francisco. First-class passengers rode in beautifully appointed cars with plush velvet seats that converted into snug sleeping berths. Third-class passengers sat on narrow wooden benches.

On June 5, 1922, George W. Carmack, the first person to discover gold along the Klondike River, dies in British Columbia. In 1896, near the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike River, Carmack stumbled across a deposit of gold so rich that thumb-sized pieces of gold lay scattered along the creek bed.

On June 6, 1933, eager motorists park their automobiles on the grounds the first-ever drive-in movie theater, in New Jersey. Inventor Richard Hollingshead had come up with the idea in his driveway with different projection and sound techniques.

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## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- The rarest shape for a human nose is the bulbous type, exemplified by former U.S. President Bill Clinton.

- Smuggling a cat out of ancient Egypt was punishable by death.

- A variety of corn grown in Peru has kernels so large that they're eaten individually.

- After impressionist painter Claude Monet developed cataracts, he agreed to have surgery on his right eye only. It is believed that afterwards he could see and paint a wide spectrum of colors usually not seen by the human eye.

- Dinosaurs often swallowed large rocks, which stayed in their stomachs and helped them grind up food.

- One in 23 million people have an allergy to water.

- In 1631, royal printers Robert Barker and Martin Lucas published a Bible containing the typo "Thou Shalt Commit Adultery." As if that weren't embarrassing enough, another misprint, in Deuteronomy, substituted the word "greatnesse" with "great-assee." Barker and Lucas were fined 300 pounds and lost their printing license. Less than a dozen copies of what came to be known as the "Wicked," "Sinful" and "Adulterous" Bible are known to exist today and are highly prized by collectors.

- On average, a person's eyes make 15 to 30 gallons of tears a year.

- A rainbow's arc is relative to the position of the person observing it, so it is impossible for two people to actually see the exact same one.

- The air around a lightning bolt is five times hotter than the surface of the sun.

- While rare, there have been enough reported cases of strokes triggered by spa massage treatments that the medical community has nicknamed the phenomenon "beauty parlor stroke syndrome."

- Altocalciphilia is a fetish for high heels.

Thought for the Day: "Ambition is the path to success. Persistence is the vehicle you arrive in."

– Bill Bradley

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## Funds

From Page 1

of El Paso, six colleges and universities within Texas's 16th Congressional District, which includes El Paso County, will receive funds ranging from nearly \$102,000 to more than \$76 million.

El Paso County's higher education institutions receiving relief funds and their amounts include Tri-State Cosmetology Institute- \$101,966; Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso- \$581,610; Western Technical College - \$1,048,519; Southwest University at El Paso- \$1,305,845; El

Paso Community College - \$62,889,441; and the University of Texas at El Paso- \$76,772,356.

ARPA guidelines stipulate that half of the funding received by each institution should be used in emergency cash assistance grants for students facing financial hardships. Escobar, who pushed for the relief funds, stated in a recent news release, "The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the lives of millions of students seeking higher education in El Paso and across the country. The American Rescue Plan makes a historic investment in our nation's education system to guarantee our colleges and universities can continue to serve our community and ensure



- Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**MONEY HERE –** El Paso Community College (EPCC) is among the local area higher education institutions that will receive COVID-19 relief funding from the American Rescue Plan Act. EPCC Valle Verde campus, above, is one of five campuses in El Paso County.

students are able to further their careers critical support." and continue to provide their great skills and talent to El Paso. Help is here, and I am proud to have worked to secure this

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## Craziness

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com/2021/05/11/briefing/outdoor-covid-transmission-cdc-number.html  
9 – https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/25/health/covid-summercamp-cdc.html  
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15 – https://twitter.com/benshapiro/status/1393226869735149570?cn=ZmxleGlibGVfcMVjcw%3D%3D&refsrc=email  
16 – https://twitter.com/andrewboston/status/1384284197305544712  
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18 – https://www.cbsnews.com/news/what-is-regeneron-covid-antibody-cocktail-trump-covid-19/  
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20 – https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/10/28/928841997/government-signs-deal-for-covid-19-treatments-from-eli-lilly  
21 – https://edition.cnn.com/2020/12/11/business/pfizer-vaccine-covid-moderna-revenue/index.html  
22 – https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/other/pfizer-sees-dollar26-billion-from-covid-shot-big-potential-ahead/ar-BB1gm5is  
23 – https://www.opensecrets.org/federal-lobbying/industries/summary?cycle=2021&id=H04&utm\_campaign=wp\_the\_health\_202&utm\_medium=email&utm\_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl\_health202  
24 – https://twitter.com/kerpen/status/1393022731373973504?ref\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etwembed%7Ctwterm%5E1393022731373973504%7Ctwgr%5E%7Ctwcon%5Es1\_&ref\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.americanthinker.com%2Fblog%2F2021%2F05%2Ffauci\_says\_that\_only\_a\_little\_bit\_more\_than\_half\_of\_his\_employees\_are\_vaccinated\_for\_covid.html  
25 – https://files.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/guidelines/covid19treatmentguidelines.pdf  
26 – https://trialsitenews.com/do-the-nih-and-who-covid-treatment-recommendations-need-to-be-fixed/  
27 – https://khn.org/news/article/fluvoxamine-antidepressant-covid-treatment-repurposed-drugs-generics/

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*Marilyn M. Singleton is a board-certified anesthesiologist. She is 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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# Tampa Bay Lightning dump unbelievable dress code

**By Steve Escajeda**  
Special to the Courier

There are a lot of stories being reported out there that are hard to believe.

There are the stories about UFOs captured on video and radar by Navy ships and planes. It's also hard to believe almost anything having to do with Covid-19, the immunizations and whether it's safe to wear masks or not.

Let's face it, it's not called fake news for nothing. Facts are left out of stories or manipulated to change the entire meaning of an event.

But then there are stories that actually happened... but are still hard to believe.

The National Hockey League's Tampa Bay Lightning are the defending Stanley Cup champions and are in the middle of the playoffs right now trying to defend their title.

One of the reasons they've been so tough in recent years is thanks to their winning play at home.

Since 2016, the Lightning have compiled a 152-61 record at the Amalie Arena.

And the home fan base has been amazing. They pack the 19,000-seat arena regularly whenever the Lightning play at home.

In fact, the home-ice advantage is so intimidating that you won't even see a single jersey of the opposing team anywhere in the arena premium seats and club lounges.

Now this is where the story becomes difficult to believe.

It's not that Tampa Bay fans are so enthusiastic that fans of opposing teams don't dare wear the other team's jersey... it's that they aren't permitted to.

Beginning in 2016, the Tampa Bay franchise instituted a policy of not

allowing anyone in these seats to wear jerseys of the opposing team.

Can you believe, in this day and age, a professional sports franchise in the United States could dictate what team jersey a fan can wear? They should have called this the Joseph Stalin-Adolf Hitler-Fidel Castro rule.

Well, it turns out that this ridiculous rule has been lifted and fans can wear whatever jersey they want to Lightning games.

What caused the sudden change?

A Florida Panthers fan and his 11-year-old son attended a game in Tampa Bay last week, wearing their Panthers jerseys.

They were immediately confronted by a pair of arena representatives who explained that the father and son would have to either switch their apparel (the team would provide them with T-shirts) or they would be given a refund and asked to leave their seats.

When the father calmly argued his case, the team employee threatened to have Tampa police remove them from both the arena.

The biggest problem for the Tampa Bay franchise is that the entire confrontation was recorded and then put on social media.

You can imagine the negative publicity the team got after threatening a father and his 11-year-old son for, essentially, wearing the *wrong* jersey.

At one point the father is seen on the video asking the attendant if he would be asked to leave for wearing a T-shirt with a swastika on it, since that wasn't against their "arena policy."

The Tampa Bay Lightning put out this statement an hour after the video was made public,

"After careful consideration the Lightning have elected to relax its visiting team apparel policy in the premium clubs for playoff games at Amalie Arena. The policy was originally instituted in 2015 at the request of our valued ticket holders in those areas, but we realize we have grown as an organization and as a hockey market since that time and it is no longer necessary."

Wow, that statement is hard to believe; "After careful consideration," and "for playoff games," and "at the request of our valued ticket holders?"

Really, Tampa Bay is blaming the fans for their idiotic policy? And the statement says nothing about next year and the future.

The truth is, Lightning officials looked really bad on video asking a man and his little boy to leave the expensive seats they paid for, because of the clothes on their backs.

The scariest thing of all is that six years ago, supposedly smart people in a room in Tampa actually sat down and thought this was a great idea.

I know a lot of our freedoms are slowly disappearing, but at least in Tampa Bay, the freedom of a fan to cheer his team has been reinstated.

## Funds

From Page 5

recover from the severe financial challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 health and economic crisis and will ensure that students in this region will get the assistance they desperately need to continue their education, higher education officials concurred.

UTEP officials pointed out that almost 70 percent of undergraduate students at UTEP hail from zip codes with per capita incomes of less than \$20,000 per year, as compared to about ten percent of students across the country come from households earning less than \$20,000 annually.

"We know for many of our students, including our students who are Latino, they've experienced learning loss because they have interrupted learning. So, the funds are here to provide that additional support, close those gaps that were created in this past year, and to get them back toward finishing their

degrees," stated Miguel Cardona, U.S. Secretary of Education.

Texas is set to receive close to \$3 billion in higher education COVID-19 relief funding, and at least 50 percent of which will go to direct student aid. Consequently, education leaders and lawmakers in the El Paso region are designing policies that not only support students, but also the families of first-generation college students who may not know where to turn when it comes to steps like filling out FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) forms or navigating admission application requirements.

"The most important part of the fund is aid to students," said UTEP President Heather Wilson,

"... our students have been really impacted by the pandemic."

Both U.S. Secretary Cardona and UTEP President Wilson agreed that it is important to support students who are considering whether to continue to pursue their degrees after setbacks like

illness and job loss derailed their paths toward degrees.

Stipulations in the distribution of funding for colleges and universities are giving schools the opportunity to cater to students' needs, Wilson noted. "We're taking an approach of dealing with each student as an individual, understanding what their situation is, and determining how we can help them be on track," she stated.

The funding will also help remove barriers to higher education by improving educational equity in the Borderland, according to Sec. Cardona. "It really is intended to provide support and equalize the playing field. As we know, if we give those opportunities to all students, then all students will rise," he asserted.

"Higher education, we know, is a key to entering the middle class and to prosperity. And so, we need to do everything possible to open these pathways. We want to remove as many barriers as possible. Help is on the way," Congresswoman Escobar affirmed.

## Super Crossword

### REPEATED NOTES ACROSS

- 1 Synagogue leader
- 6 Mojave plant
- 11 Pinnacle
- 15 Czech-German river
- 19 Island (former immigration gateway)
- 20 Carpentry rod
- 21 With 71-Across, act all-powerful
- 22 Usual thing
- 23 Many supermarket entrances
- 25 Glass sheet
- 26 Large mop
- 27 Ruhr article
- 28 With gusto
- 29 Chilean money
- 30 Kagan on the high bench
- 31 Big hit
- 32 Collect deserved benefits
- 34 Crime boss John
- 37 Roll out, as a flag
- 40 Flood zone protections
- 41 Long strip of high-end shops along a road
- 44 -fi
- 46 Water swirl
- 47 Pottery base
- 48 Satire device
- 49 "Beetle" of comics
- 52 Jewel box
- 53 1986-2001 space station
- 54 Swell out
- 55 Lock horns
- 60 Mauna Observatory
- 61 Uncles, e.g.
- 62 "Charlie's Angels"
- 65 Notwithstanding
- 67 Jungle jaunts
- 68 More cruel hit song)
- 69 Many a metal alloy, chemically
- 71 See 21-Across
- 72 Turin-to-Milan dir.
- 73 Tendency
- 74 Like ruled paper
- 75 Part of ABA
- 76 24/7 care ctrs.
- 77 "Goodness!"
- 79 Singer Cole
- 81 Meat cut
- 83 Magnetism
- 87 Ireland's Lingus
- 88 Bright blue gem
- 90 Book before Jeremiah
- 92 Semi engine
- 94 beat (falter slightly)
- 95 What you can hear from an audible clock
- 101 Put in a tomb
- 102 Torchiere, e.g.
- 103 Ineffective

### contents

- 105 Block of history
- 108 Fashion's von Fuerstenberg
- 109 Cakewalk
- 110 Yoga pose with hands and feet on the floor
- 112 Artful dodge
- 113 Son of Adam and Eve
- 114 Fuse
- 115 "Meenie" (2010)
- 116 Floored it
- 117 Nothing but alloy, chemically
- 118 Swamp critter
- 119 Repeated musical sequence in this puzzle

### DOWN

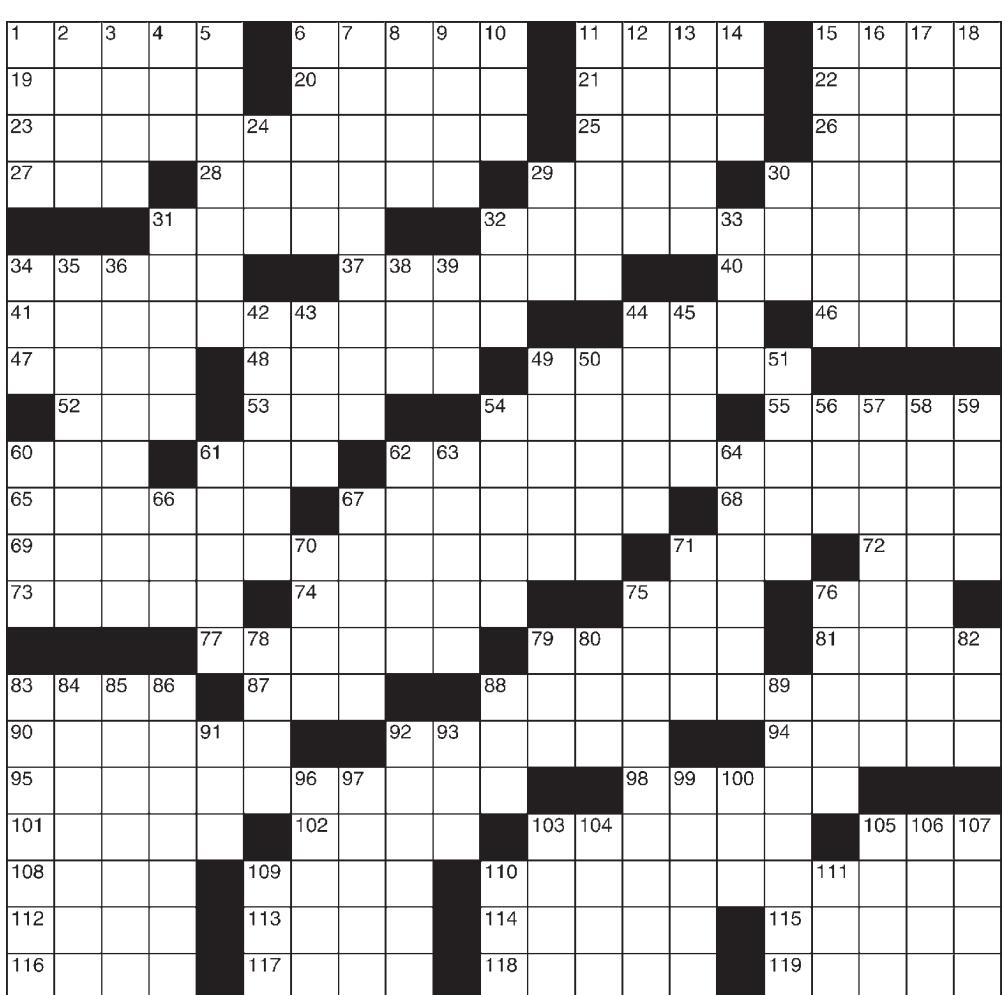
- 1 Funny Foxx
- 2 First-aid plant
- 3 Make fuzzy
- 4 Spill-catching neckwear
- 5 Like Iran's religion
- 6 Ababa, Ethiopia
- 7 A genial mood
- 8 Missing Gl
- 9 Really
- 10 Overhead trains
- 11 Magnetism
- 12 Purse part
- 13 Estate house
- 14 Face part
- 15 Place in bondage
- 16 Devalued

### 17 Not generic

- 18 Emissary's residence
- 24 Mendes of "Hitch"
- 29 For every
- 30 She-sheep
- 31 Doesn't go
- 32 Feel regret about
- 33 Novelist Wiesel
- 34 Truck and SUV maker
- 35 Common painting medium
- 36 Suitable to be bartered
- 38 Diarist Anais
- 39 Aviate
- 42 Restricts
- 43 Journalist Burnett
- 44 Audible exhalations
- 45 Musical symbol
- 49 Donkey
- 50 Writer Locke
- 51 Swerved
- 54 Interweave
- 56 Big TV brand
- 57 Bighearted
- 58 Knives, e.g.
- 59 To be, in Arles
- 60 Make it
- 61 Little buddy
- 62 Animal life
- 63 Succeeding
- 64 Ethically indifferent
- 65 Ruhr article
- 67 More artful
- 70 Antique, quaintly

### 71 Lasses

- 75 Made an intrinsic part of
- 76 "Popeye" cartoonist Segar
- 78 Violinist Hilary
- 79 Step in ballet
- 80 Oafish type
- 82 Actress Vardalos
- 83 People showing sympathy
- 84 Exhausting
- 85 Milk sugar
- 86 Analogized
- 88 Actor Bruce
- 89 Electric current units
- 91 Be televised
- 92 Chin feature
- 93 Bratty tot
- 96 Small world?
- 97 Less feral
- 99 Oar wielder
- 100 "This\_ surprise!"
- 103 Actress Chaplin of "Game of Thrones"
- 104 Tease
- 105 Saucy Aussie "Dame"
- 106 Stir up, as waters
- 107 "The African Queen" scriptwriter James
- 109 He-sheep
- 110 Used a shovel
- 111 Yr. ender



Answer Page 4

## Comix

### OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



NEVER GO  
TO BED  
HANGRY

KOPERVAS

### AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



### THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



### R.F.D. By Mike Marland



### TIGER By Bud Blake



### Franken

From Page 2

badly burdened by inequality. The poor are stuck in menial jobs that require face-to-face contact with the infectious general public, forced to live far from health care as well as nutrition.

It's not hard to understand that. The reaction has been divided. Liberals talk a good game. They pretend they want to take meaningful steps to force police to stop killing minorities, going through the

motions of making schools better for all, giving lip service to the ways they'll achieve equal opportunity. Conservatives challenge what they call a "critical race" curriculum, attacking the way the history of prejudice in the United States is taught. All that frustration and futility begs the question that cicadas ask even if they succeed in making the big score after 17 years of anticipation: Was it really worth it?

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# There's no such thing as 'cure' for autism

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** A friend took her autistic son to a clinic in Mexico where he was fed a bleach solution that was supposed to cure his autism, but instead it made him very sick. He was deeply distressed and regressed in his behavior, and there was nothing my friend could do because in Mexico these kinds of clinics are allowed to operate with impunity. Isn't there some way to stop this kind of thing? — P.P.L.



Before I get into why this story makes me both sad and angry, I want to address autism. Autism is an increasingly diagnosed condition that includes difficulty with social interactions, stereotyped repetitive movements and delayed language skills, although there is a subset of people with autism with no language delay. It's absolutely critical to recognize that autism is a spectrum condition, ranging from people with profound disabilities to those who are so mildly affected that the diagnosis is very subtle. Correct diagnosis is complicated, even for an expert. Intellectual abilities in autism range from severe cognitive impairment to far above-normal intelligence. As such, the proper medical care of a person with autism depends on his or her unique situation.

Although most people on the autism spectrum need some extra empathy and understanding in order to have the best possible life, people with autism do not need to be "cured." There is no "cure" for autism, so when you hear a professed "cure," you should be deeply suspicious.

In the case of the bleach solution, it is sadly not just in Mexico where this happens. The Food and Drug Administration had to warn consumers against the use of a product called "miracle mineral solution," "chlorine dioxide" and other names. It is hard for me to believe the FDA has to warn people not to drink (or make your child drink) a powerful bleaching agent, but there are increasing reports of its use. It causes damage to the intestines, as you correctly note, but may also cause liver failure, nausea and vomiting, and dehydration. There is no evidence that this "treatment" is effective for any condition, even though it is marketed for cancer and HIV as well as autism. This is what makes me angry: I cannot imagine a crime much worse than profiting off of a treatment known to be both dangerous and ineffective.

What makes me sad is that I can empathize with parents who have a child with autism who want their child to be more like other children, more "normal." It takes time to come to grips with the fact that your child is not like others, but that he or she is a unique person who should be loved and accepted for who he or she is. That means finding creative ways to really help your child. There is a wide range of appropriate treatments for people with autism, preferably considered as early as possible, which is why it is so important to make the correct diagnosis quickly in a child with autism.

#### DR. ROACH WRITES:

After my recent column on mercury, a toxicologist wrote to remind me that metallic mercury can be absorbed through the skin and thus mercury, such as from a broken thermometer, should never be played with and should be properly disposed of.

*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](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu). (c) 2021 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.*

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





## Moore Texas by Roger MOORE

The Texas town of Ding Dong is in, where else, Bell County.

## 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: J equals F

LJ YZPBQZFC GZGEHHC  
WTXY ZTG ZJ QWBEGI  
PLXGY, SZTHF CZT YEC  
IB'Y TX-SBWG-LJLBF?

Answer Page 4

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

Answer Page 7

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## Still waiting on records?

### VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Weeks ago, I wrote about the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) being mostly closed due to COVID-19 with staff unable to process requests for information. I warned that unless you have one of a very short list of essential reasons for asking, your request is going back on the pile to be handled later.

Now, the Department of Veterans Affairs is going to work with the National Archives and Records Administration to get COVID-19 vaccines to on-site staff so that they can return to work to process compensation claims. The VA is going to provide enrollment specialists and medical staff with vaccines provided by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The short list of requests the NPRC is able to handle are true emergencies: records

information so veterans can get medical treatment, burials and homeless veterans trying to get into homeless shelters.

And, no, in answer to one Missouri veteran who asked if he could just show up in St. Louis and do his own research. All National Archives research rooms are closed. All museums are closed. No tours, no school visits, nothing involving the public strolling in.

If you have a genuine emergency, you'll need to fax them Standard Form 180, Request Pertaining to Military Records. The NPRC's website says its fax machines are down, but here are alternate fax numbers to send your emergency request: 314-801-0764, 314-801-0762, 314-801-0569, 314-801-0984, 314-801-9195. Include an email address.

On the off chance the records you need have already been digitized online, check www.archives.gov, click Veterans' Service Records. Unfortunately, at this point, all records digitizing has come to a halt.

One has to wonder about the

true size of the records request backlog. A letter signed by 185 members of Congress gave the number as 480,000. It also mentions the \$15 million given to NPPRC to help get the backlog cleared, the emergency number that isn't answered and the call center that isn't staffed.

What did we get for that \$15 million?

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by  
Jo Ann  
Derson

- C.S.R. in Florida sends this reminder: Pull out the plugs on toasters, microwaves, etc. Appliances still draw a bit of power when not in use but plugged in.

- Fasten buttons, zippers and other closures before laundering a garment. This is especially important for any item that includes a hook-and-loop closure. The hooks will catch on other garments, and best case will be filled with lint. Worst case: They can tear at the threads of other items of clothing.

- If you have a bunch of your family's historical documents, make sure you scan them and preserve them for future generations. It's always nice to forward copies to relatives – you never know when someone will get involved in genealogy and really want to see those birth records, baptism certificates and baby photos.

- You can sharpen knitting needles with a pencil sharpener. You also can use an emery board. Sharp needles work best!

- "If you have two pairs of similar slacks – one navy and one black – you can put a safety pin through the tag on one of them so you can tell them apart. I have a pin in the navy slacks. They really do look similar until you're out in the light." – T.L. in Virginia

- Make chopping walnuts easier: Put some in a bowl, and nest another bowl into it, then rock the top bowl back and forth to crush the walnuts.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2021 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!

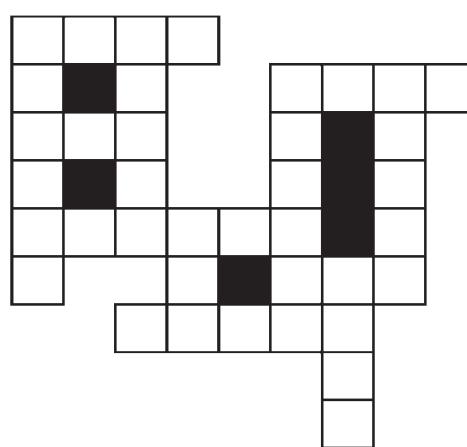
Answer Page 4

	÷		+		15
+		+		+	
	÷		×		20
-		×		÷	
	×		-		13
10		15		2	
1	2	4	5	6	7
8	9	3	7	5	6
7	2	1			5
3	5	2	8		

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TSA  
IRYFAT  
TESLY  
♥ DAIE  
♥ TEFRAS  
RYT  
♥ TISF  
♥ IDEST  
NIF  
ITSafe  
INFEG  
RYSO



Answer Page 7

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