



NEWSBRIEFS

State economies

With certain state economies hurt more than others during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as Hawaii, which has a 9-percent unemployment rate, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on *2021's Best & Worst State Economies*, as well as accompanying videos. In order to determine America's top economic performers, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 29 key indicators of economic performance and strength. The data set ranges from change in GDP to startup activity to the share of jobs in high-tech industries. Texas was rated 15th in the report, (1-Best; 25-Avg.):

- 24th – Change in GDP;
- 1st – Exports per Capita;
- 10th – Startup Activity;
- 21st – Percent of Jobs in High-Tech Industries;
- 9th – Annual Median Household Income;
- 15th – Change in Nonfarm Payrolls;
- 38th – Government Surplus/Deficit per Capita;
- 37th – Unemployment Rate; and
- 32nd – WalletHub's States that are Recovering the Quickest from COVID-19 Rank.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-the-best-economies/21697> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

Unemployment recovery

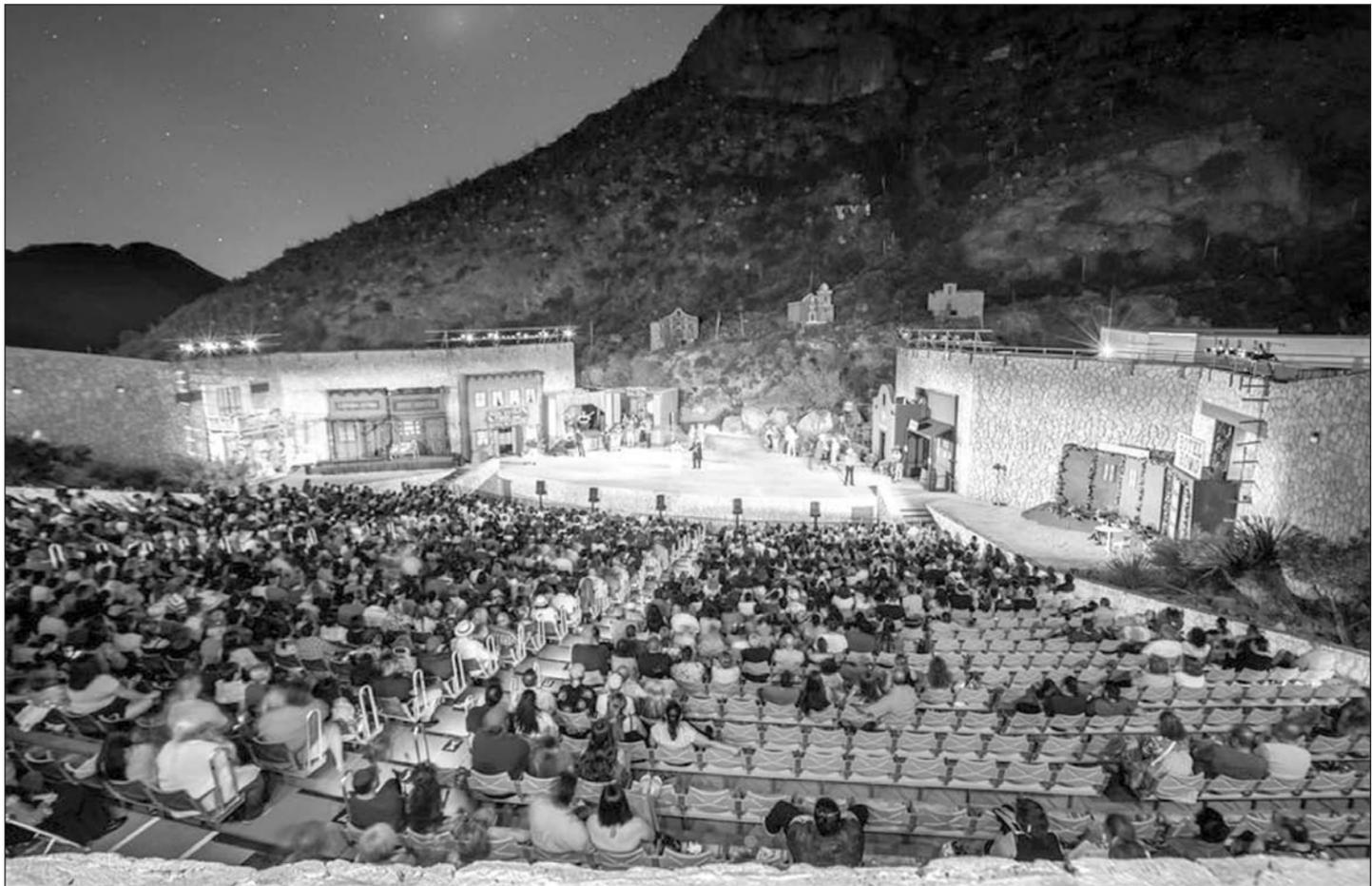
Texas is struggling to recover from new unemployment claims, with last week's claims higher than at the start of 2020, according to WalletHub's updated rankings for the *States Whose Unemployment Claims Are Recovering the Quickest*, along with accompanying videos and audio files. Texas was rated 26th in the report. Other stats:

- Weekly unemployment claims in Texas increased by 72.83% compared to the same week in 2019. This was the 16th smallest increase in the U.S.
- Weekly unemployment claims in Texas increased by 78.51% compared to the start of 2020. This was the 16th biggest increase in the U.S.
- Weekly unemployment claims in Texas decreased by 79.31% compared

See BRIEFS, Page 6

How would a person ever know whether his faith was weak or strong unless it has been tried and tested.

– Quips & Quotes



– Photo courtesy El Paso Live

GRATIS – The free McKelligon Canyon concert series presentations, titled *Cool Canyon Nights*, are slated for 6 to 9 p.m., every Thursday, beginning June 17 and continue through September 2.

Thursday night concerts at McKelligon Canyon are free

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Are you looking for something cool to do Thursday evenings this summer?

Consider the concert series in El Paso's McKelligon Canyon Amphitheatre (1331 McKelligon Canyon Road), which is nestled in the foothills of the Franklin Mountains.

The concert series presentations, titled *Cool Canyon Nights*, are slated for 6 to 9 p.m., every Thursday, beginning June 17 and continue through September 2.

The family-friendly concerts will start with live performers on the patio followed by the main act in the amphitheater. Along

with the music, food and drinks will be available for purchase during the evening activities.

The popular outdoor concerts, which were cancelled last summer due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will be free to the public this year. So, interested individuals are encouraged to get to the amphitheater early because space is limited.

The free music series hosted in the beautiful McKelligon Canyon Amphitheatre, will feature local performers on the patio stage starting at 6 p.m. with the Amphitheater doors scheduled to open between 6:30 and 7 p.m., event coordinators announced.

The series, in its tenth year, is sponsored by WestStar and produced by Townsquare Media and El Paso Live.

Cool Canyon Nights 2021 schedule: (MS – Main Stage; PS – Patio Stage)

June 17	MS: Mariachis Los Arrieros PS: Tony Ramirez
June 24	MS: Mainstreet PS: The Retroz
July 1	MS: Dusty Low PS: Ray Arreola
July 8	MS: Broken Dime Band PS: Radio Altivo
July 15	MS: Soul Sacrifice/Soul El Paso PS: The Retroz
July 22	MS: Azucar PS: Tony Ramirez
July 29	MS: Locomotion PS: The Retroz
Aug. 5	MS: Radio La Chusma PS: Ray Arreola
Aug. 12	MS: Tribes PS: Radio Altivo
Aug. 19	MS: Ooh La La PS: The Retroz
Aug. 26	MS: Prime 80'Z Experience PS: Feline Fox
Sept. 2	MS: Fungi Mungle PS: Feline Fox

El Paso County receives funds to renovate parks

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

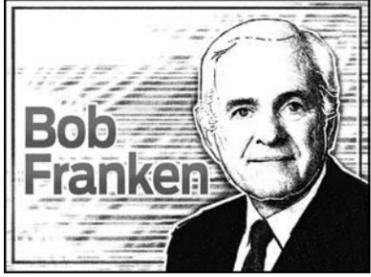
EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso County commissioners court announced recently that its six county parks will be getting significant improvements soon, thanks in part to an approximately \$1.3 million



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

GRANTS – Six El Paso County parks including Gallegos Park, above, will benefit from an urban outdoor grant awarded by the Texas Park and Wildlife Commission.

See PARKS, Page 2



Prosecuting Trump

Trump out of your mind might ask.

You and the fam might be deep in planning a summer vacation – perhaps a ballgame. The spotlight on COVID and that other disease, the deadly Trump blight, has faded.

Still, it could flare up again. Right now, he's not rattling around the White House, so the walls protecting him from prosecution have come tumbling down. As a result, now Trump can face legal jeopardy, the serious criminal

kind that potentially carries with it incarceration. A step closer, and the investigations cannot be deflected as “fake news.”

The two main issues have focused on business practices of the Trump Organization that were simmering beneath the surface mainly as a civil matter. Now they have seeped into reality with a criminal grand jury and all its awesome subpoena power.

And the Don is squirming. He blasted in a statement: “There is nothing more corrupt than an

investigation that is in desperate search of a crime.”

The crimes that prosecutors may be exploring are the fraud type. The Trump Organization may have intentionally cooked the books when describing the value of its assets, but poorly-mouthed those same assets when listing them for tax purposes. That's a serious violation, fraud, and while the company had many individuals who could theoretically make those types of big decisions, few of them were carried out without Trump personally signing off on them.

But it's a long way from here to

there, “there” being an indictment of Donald Trump, 45th president of the United States. And a huge problem for the 46th, Joe Biden.

Suppose Trump is officially accused of criminal actions. There is only so much Biden can do. These are state charges; they would be tried in state courts, which is not in Joe Biden's direct chain of command. However, Biden could decide whether the feds get involved by instructing his Department of Justice to begin a process of investigations.

Actually, it's an open

See FRANKEN, Page 7



Nancy Moriel

– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

Moriel faced international challenges for degree

By Ismael De La Rosa
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – For many international students, their life consists of crossing the border every day to go to school, work and even clinics. This is the case of Nancy Moriel, an El Paso Community College (EPCC) Surgical Technology student. Spending hours at the international bridge, cultural and language barriers, and not spending as much time as she would want with her loved ones, are some other obstacles Moriel had to face.

“One of my most recent obstacles was when the

pandemic started. Due to the restrictions on the borders, it was very difficult and intriguing to see how the laws changed at the border,” Moriel said. “As an international student you have to have everything in order, because laws can also change our visa status from one moment to another and that involves more stress and concern.”

The EPCC International Students Office helps international students to stay in compliance with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regulations while attending EPCC. “Nancy developed a strong sense of commitment and determination to complete her degree,” Dr. Dora Perez,

EPCC Admissions Registration Assistant said. “EPCC listened to and recognized the barriers Nancy encountered and worked to reduce and remove them so she would have a successful path.”

EPCC has a dedicated staff at each campus serving the needs of the international student from the admission application process through transfer or graduation. Moriel graduated in May with an Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology. Her plans are to continue in the medical profession, to provide help in the community of El Paso, continue with her studies and be able to finish a bachelor's and later a master's degree.

Parks

From Page 1

urban outdoor grant awarded by the Texas Park and Wildlife Commission (TPWC).

The county's new grant monies will go towards proposed renovations of sport court, skatepark, and playground facilities in its county parks which include Agua Dulce, Westway, Estrella, Sparks, Gallegos, and Ascarate Lake.

TPWC recently approved more than \$21.6 million in competitive local park grants to help fund projects that will create and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities like nature trails, native gardens, playgrounds, splash pads, dog parks, and sports fields at 38 community parks state-wide.

The grants, allocated to local governments, provide state and federal funding dedicated for the acquisition and development of public recreation areas and facilities in Texas on a 50/50 reimbursement match basis, TPWC officials said. Once funded, all grant-assisted sites must be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public, officials noted.

The commission, which administers the local park grants program for the state of Texas, awarded projects based on community population size and

scope in three basic categories—urban outdoor recreation, non-urban outdoor recreation, and small community recreation.

Urban Outdoor Recreation Grants are reserved for local units of government having populations exceeding 500,000, with projects in five communities receiving grants.

The Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grants are dedicated to funding park projects in municipalities under 500,000 and

the commission-approved awards to projects in 21 communities.

The Small Community Recreation Grants are for park projects in towns of less than 20,000 and were awarded to 12 communities.

“The parks maintained by El Paso County can always use some improvements,” stated Jose Luis Quinones, a resident of the county's upper valley. “I hope the renovations are done right and in a timely manner,” he added.



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

Gallegos Park in Canutillo will be one of the six El Paso County parks that will be getting renovation work as part of the \$1.3 million Texas Park and Wildlife Commission's urban outdoor grant program.

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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Letters must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right to edit or reject letters to the editor or other submitted material it considers inappropriate.

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Friday 4 p.m. for the next Thursday.

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\$15 for 25 words, \$20 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right not to publish advertising it considers inappropriate.

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Yes, Democrats should fear the crime wave

On the anniversary of the death of George Floyd, dozens of gunshots rang out in the middle of the day at George Floyd Square in Minneapolis, forcing reporters and bystanders to duck and cover.

The symbolism was unmistakable – the yearlong bout of protest after Floyd’s killing has coincided with a surge of urban crime that has made gunplay dismayingly common.

Indeed, the intersection where Floyd was killed, now a memorial blocked to vehicular traffic, has become a watchword for mayhem.

The issue of public safety may be about to play its most significant role in our politics since the mid-1990s, the beginning of a decades-long decline in crime that steadily eroded its political salience.

Donald Trump tried to make law and order a defining issue in 2020, but the rioting he so forcefully denounced was, in most places, too transitory to become an overwhelming issue.

Now, more than a year into a serious crime wave, Democrats are fooling themselves if they think they won’t be blamed for rising violence in Democratic-run cities.

Overall, murder increased by

more than 25% in the United States last year, the biggest jump in 60 years. Surely, the dislocations of the pandemic have been a factor, but it’s also obvious that anti-police agitation has put the cops on their back feet. Exhibit A is Minneapolis.

In the fevered aftermath of the Floyd killing, the City Council pledged to do away with the police department, among the most outlandishly unachievable and self-destructive promises ever made by an elected body. Of course, it couldn’t follow through on it any more than it could have followed through on a promise to eliminate traffic lights or municipal snow removal.

Still, cops have fled the force while crime has soared. The impeccably progressive mayor of Minneapolis, Jacob Frey, who desperately wanted to ingratiate himself at a tribunal-like anti-police rally last summer, but, to his credit, wouldn’t commit to defunding the police, now occasionally sounds like he’s channeling Rudy Giuliani circa 1993.

Another dyed-in-the-wool progressive, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, faced with ongoing unrest that once was blamed on Trump, has called for the city’s residents to “take the city back,”

and for unmasking, arresting and prosecuting rioters.

Los Angeles cut its police budget by 8% in the wake of the Floyd protests, and now is adding it right back. In South Los Angeles, the LAPD is increasing patrols and vehicle stops to search for guns and gang members.

Irving Kristol famously said a neoconservative is a liberal who has been mugged by reality. If progressive politicians who are now sounding friendlier to the police haven’t been mugged, they at least have been alarmed by the sound of approaching gunfire.

The turnabout isn’t universal. White House press secretary Jen Psaki was asked the other day whether there’s a crime problem and, sounding as evasive as when she discusses the border, would only say there is a “guns problem.” This was a reference to the completely unconvincing argument that increased gun sales have led to the spike in crime when surges in gun sales since the mid-1990s never before led to higher crime.

The problem that Democrats have is that they have accepted – and celebrated – the people making a comprehensive case against the police as



systematically racist.

This argument doesn’t naturally allow for nuance. In fact, it logically entails calling for fewer cops and less police funding, an agenda that will be hard to sell to most people in the best of circumstances but is toxic in an environment of rising crime.

Black Lives Matter has already been losing support in the polls, while trust in the police has been rising. Things would have to get much worse for crime to become as central an issue as it was in the 1970s. But Democrats who aren’t alarmed that reporters are dodging bullets at the George Floyd memorial are tempting political fate.

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

Send Your Newsbrief To:
wtxcc@wtxcc.com



EL PASO COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Public Notice Salvage Sale

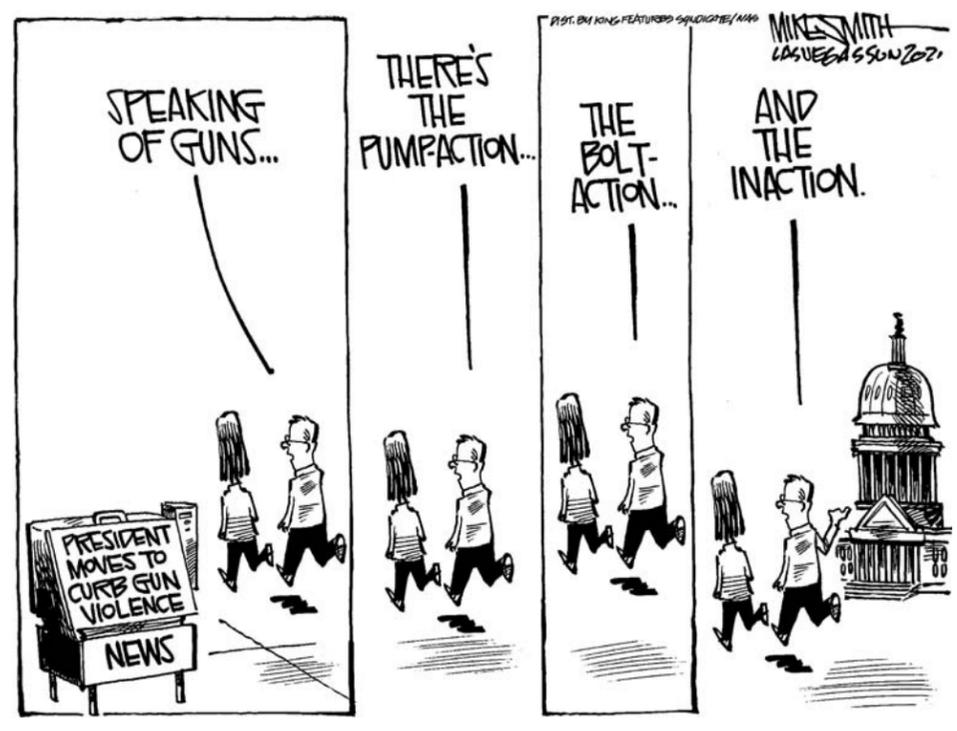
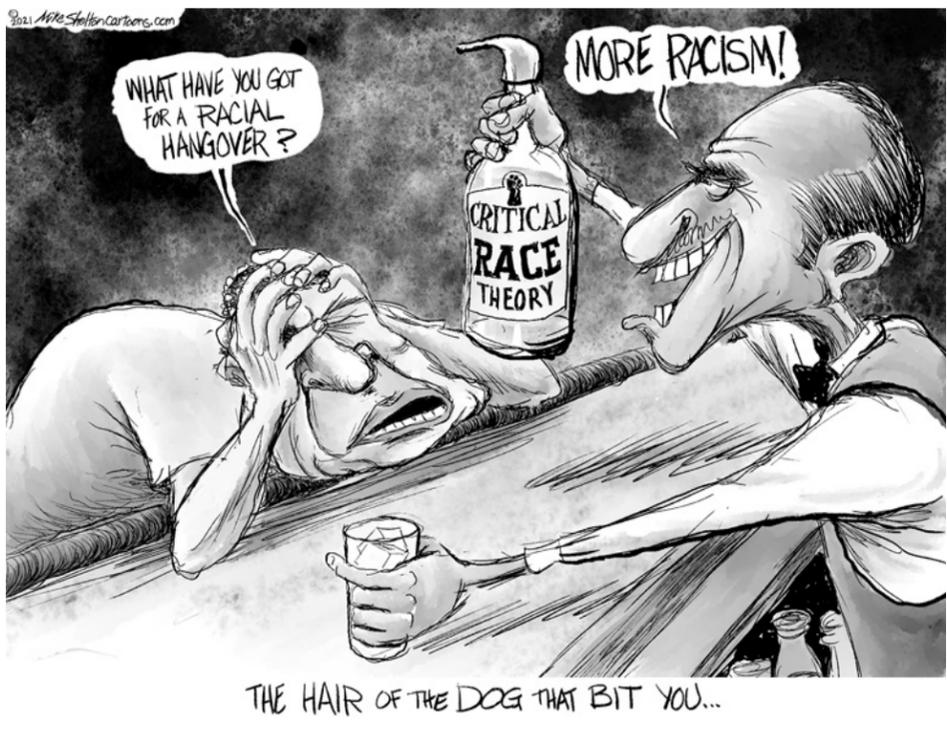
A sealed bid auction will be held for items to be sold consisting of used water heaters, refrigerators, and ranges. All payments must be made in the form of money order or cashier’s check. All items will be sold “as is”. Items are sold in lots, no exceptions. Winning bidders will have until end of day to pick up items.

Rules, procedures and terms of the sale will be provided upon arrival. The El Paso County Housing Authority makes no written or implied warranties of the items.

Date, Time and Location:
Friday, June 11, 2021
8:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
1101 Yann Road
Fabens, TX 79838

(As a precaution, face coverings are required for everyone’s safety.)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY:
Call the office at (915) 764-3559.
WTCC: 06-10-21

Canutillo ISD board approves pay raise for all employees

By Liza Rodriguez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO—The Canutillo ISD (CISD) Board of Trustees unanimously approved a two percent general pay increase for all CISD employees for the 2021-22 school year. The compensation plan,

approved on May 25 at a regular board meeting, keeps Canutillo ISD competitive and one of the highest-paying school districts in the region.

“Our faculty and staff are the backbone of our District,” said Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galaviz. “Their work in educating and supporting our students

See RAISE, Page 5



By Lucie Winborne

• Are you one of those folks who paces while talking on the phone? Psychologists believe this may be a kind of coping mechanism to make up for lack of body language and nonverbal cues that normally accompany conversation.

• A chef traditionally wears white because the chef of the first prime minister of France (1815) believed it was the most hygienic of all colors.

• The shape of the Coca-Cola bottle is patterned after a cacao seed pod.

• In 1995, Chris “Fenderman” Black got hitched to his Fender Stratocaster guitar that he’d purchased 35 years earlier, after his real wife quipped that he spent so much time with it, he should marry it.

• Early Hoover vacuum cleaners were hard to sell because potential customers refused to believe they could have that much dirt in their carpets.

• Plane exhaust kills more people than plane crashes. Approximately 10,000 people die annually from toxic airplane pollutants.

• “Hurkle-durkle” is an old Scottish word meaning to lie in bed after it’s time to get up and get going.

• A New Jersey man bought a \$5 bottle of orange juice, which his wife deemed too expensive and sent him back to return. He bought two Powerball lottery tickets with the refund and ended up winning the jackpot worth \$315.3 million.

• The first documented use of toilet paper dates to 6th century A.D. China.

Thought for the Day: “I think that you have to believe in your destiny, that you will succeed; you will meet a lot of rejection and it is not always a straight path, there will be detours – so enjoy the view.”
—Michael York

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• On June 7, 1893, Mohandas Gandhi, a young Indian lawyer working in South Africa, commits his first act of civil disobedience when he refuses to comply with racial segregation rules on a South African train and is forcibly ejected at Pietermaritzburg.

• On June 8, 1948, a hand-built aluminum prototype labeled “No. 1” becomes the first vehicle to bear the name of one of the world’s leading high-performance automakers: Porsche. Over the next two decades, the German manufacturer would build more than 78,000 vehicles.

• On June 9, 1954, in a dramatic confrontation, Joseph Welch, special counsel for the U.S. Army, lashes out at Sen. Joseph McCarthy during hearings on whether communism has infiltrated the U.S. armed forces. Welch’s verbal assault marked the end of McCarthy’s power during the anticommunist hysteria of the Red Scare in America.

• On June 10, 1979, actor Paul Newman, driving a red Porsche 935, roars into second place in the fabled 24 Hours of Le Mans endurance race in France.

• On June 11, 1989, in the wake of the Tiananmen Square Massacre, China issues a warrant for a Chinese dissident who had taken refuge in the U.S. embassy in Beijing. The diplomatic standoff lasted for a year before astrophysicist Fang Lizhi was given free passage out of the country.

• On June 12, 1920, Man O’ War wins the 52nd Belmont Stakes. His only career loss came in 1919 when his back was to the starting line at the start. Before the advent of starting gates, a rope was all that held horses back from starting their run.

• On June 13, 1905, pitcher Christy Mathewson of the New York Giants throws the second no-hitter of his career to lead his Giants to a 1-0 win over the powerful Chicago Cubs. Mathewson would go on to win 31 games that year.

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Socorro Independent School District PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Meeting to Review Federally Funded Programs

The Socorro Independent School District will conduct a public information meeting to review the following 2021 – 2022 ESSA Federal Grants:

- Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs
- Title I, Part C – Migrant Education Program
- Title II, Part A – Preparing, Training and Recruiting High Quality Teachers, Principals or Other School Leaders
- Title III, Part A – English Language Acquisition
- Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment

A Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Socorro ISD will be held June 15, 2021, beginning at 6:00 PM in the District Service Center Board Room, 12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928. All persons in physical attendance may choose to wear face masks, maintain at least 3 feet of social distance from one another, and remain in compliance with any other state and local public health orders issued in connection with the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The meeting will also be made available to the public at the following live stream link: <https://youtu.be/Q8ijydxF4XU>

S.I.S.D does not discriminate against any individual with regard to race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, marital or veteran status, the presence of a medical condition, disability, or any other legally protected status. 42 U.S.C 2000e-2(a); 20 U.S.C. 1681: Labor Code 21-051.

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Socorro AVISO PUBLICO

La junta Pública para Revisar los Programas de Fondos Federales

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Socorro llevará a cabo una junta pública para revisar los siguientes programas federales:

- Título I, Parte A – Mejorando Programas Básicos
- Título I, Parte C – Programa Educativo Migrante
- Título II, Parte A – La Preparación, la Capacitación y la Contratación de Maestros, Directores de Escuelas de Alta Capacidad u Otros Dirigentes Escolares
- Título III, Parte A – Adquisición del Idioma Inglés
- Título IV, Parte A – Apoyo Estudiantil y Enriquecimiento Académico

El 15 de junio de 2021 se llevará a cabo una reunión regular de la Mesa Directiva de Socorro ISD a partir de las 6:00 p. m. en la sala de juntas del Centro de Servicios del Distrito, 12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928. Todas las personas que asistan físicamente pueden optar por usar cubrebocas, mantener al menos 3 pies de distancia social unos de otros y cumplir con cualquier otra orden de salud pública estatal y local emitido en relación con la pandemia Covid-19.

La reunión también estará disponible para el público en el siguiente enlace de transmisión en vivo: <https://youtu.be/Q8ijydxF4XU>

S.I.S.D no discrimina a ningún individuo a causa de su raza, de su color, de su nacionalidad, de sus creencias religiosas, de su género, de su estado legal, o de veterano, ninguna condición médica o incapacidad, o ningún otro estado legal. 42 U.S.C 2000e-2(a); 20 U.S.C. 1681: Labor Code 21-051.

WTCC: 06-10-21



CryptoQuip Answer

Our waiters haven’t yet served German sausage. You could say the wurst is yet to come.

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Send Your Newsbrief To: wtxcc@wtxcc.com

Raise

From Page 4

is recognized as one of the most important factors in determining a student's success in life."

For several years CISD has been in a sound financial position to continually implement salaries and pay structure adjustments to compete with local school districts and maintain equity. The starting teacher pay will now be \$54,150 a year.

Included in the compensation plan was the approval of the funding for the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) provided to eligible teachers by the Texas Education Agency to be considered as Teacher Retirement System (TRS) creditable compensation. The TIA was created by the Texas Legislature as part of House Bill

3 in 2019 to provide a realistic pathway for top teachers to earn higher salaries and to help attract and retain highly effective teachers in high-need areas at rural district campuses.

The Teacher Incentive Allotment will be dispersed to the District's ten National Board-Certified teachers and will also be utilized for training and support of the system, administrative expenses, and professional development. This year, 20 additional CISD teachers will begin the National Board Certification process.

"Our teachers and staff have not waived through the challenges brought by the pandemic," said CISD Board President Sergio Coronado. "We are pleased to be able to increase their compensation for working so hard for our children."

Classified Ads

LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Sale of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held at Fabens Self-Storage at 16289 Alameda Ave, Fabens, TX 79838 on July 3, at 9:00 a.m. Unit items sold for cash to the highest bidder. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenants: Lorena Avila, Alvaro Montes, Delia Esquivel, and Celene Trejo: Items of units include tools, furniture, and miscellaneous household items.

WTCC: 06-10-21
06-17-21

Village of Vinton, Texas

PUBLIC NOTICE

DUE TO HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS RELATED TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS all Village of Vinton Public Meetings will be conducted virtually through the zoom.us platform until further notices. This is in accordance with the Texas Attorney General's guidance temporarily

suspending certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act that allows for telephonic or videoconference meetings. The procedure for joining the meeting by telephone or computer using Zoom will be posted on the Village of Vinton website (vintontx.govoffice2.com). Scroll down the Village of Vinton homepage and select the meeting for a PDF containing instructions, links, and access numbers. Each meeting has a distinct link and access numbers.

Two public hearings will be held at 6:30p.m. on Tuesday, June 29th and Thursday, July 1st 2021, during the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas.

A third public hearing will be held at 6:30p.m. on Tuesday, July 6th, 2021, during the City Council Meeting at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas.

The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item:

1) Consider and take action on a request for a Special Permit ton 550 Vinton Road (front) and 570 Vinton Road (back), Vinton, Texas 79821.

Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Andrea Nichole Carrillo, Village Administrator at the City Hall. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915) 886-5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Andrea N. Carrillo
Village Administrator

WTCC: 06-10-21

Village of Vinton, Texas

PUBLIC NOTICE

DUE TO HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS RELATED TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS all Village of Vinton Public Meetings will be conducted virtually through the zoom.us platform until further notices. This is in accordance with the Texas Attorney General's guidance temporarily suspending certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act that allows for telephonic or videoconference meetings. The procedure for joining the meeting by telephone or computer using

Andrea N. Carrillo
Village Administrator

Zoom will be posted on the Village of Vinton website (vintontx.govoffice2.com). Scroll down the Village of Vinton homepage and select the meeting for a PDF containing instructions, links, and access numbers. Each meeting has a distinct link and access numbers.

A public hearing will be held at 6:30p.m. on Tuesday, July 6th, 2021, during the City Council Meeting at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item:

1) Consider and take action on request for a Variance on 550 Vinton Road (front) and 570 Vinton Road (back), Vinton, Texas 79821.

Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Andrea Nichole Carrillo, Village Administrator at the City Hall. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915) 886-5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Andrea N. Carrillo
Village Administrator

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The San Elizario Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:30 P.M. on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 in the SEISD Administrative Office, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas. **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	\$0.920700/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.189300/\$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	1.42%	Increase
Debt Service	33.22%	Decrease
Total Expenditures	0.72%	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	\$ 358,654,100	\$ 447,799,875
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 6,774,462	\$ 5,652,219
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 257,215,950	\$ 313,937,751
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 6,728,351	\$ 5,363,314

* "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* \$25,755,000

* 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	\$ 1.015100	\$ 0.154900*	\$ 1.170000	\$ 968	\$11,491
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.549840	\$ 0.225680*	\$ 1.775520	\$ 1,794	\$10,573
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.920700	\$ 0.189300*	\$ 1.110000	\$ 1,194	\$10,621

*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	\$ 80,725	\$ 103,789
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 50,175	\$ 63,416
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.170000	\$ 1.110000
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 587.05	\$ 703.92
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 116.87

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 \$1.110000. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.110000.

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)	\$ 10,653,774
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 164,274

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.

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



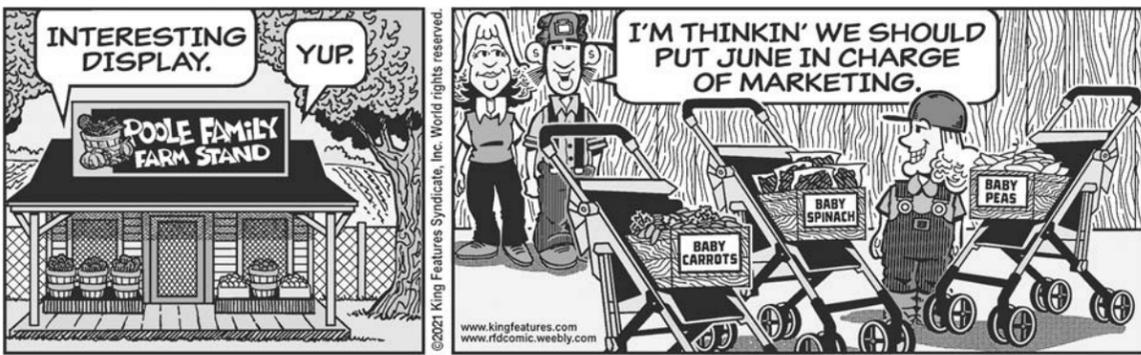
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



TIGER By Bud Blake



Franken

From Page 2

question of semantics, whether it's "his" Department of Justice or whether it is responsible to "the people." Tradition calls for a president to stay out of such DOJ matters, tradition that Trump, as president, routinely ignored. And Biden would have to decide whether he could get personally involved and credibly pull it off.

Whether he does or not, Biden could

face the spectacle of a former chief executive standing trial in criminal court, something that has never happened before. Not only would that be a disgrace to Trump, it would disgrace the United States of America.

Furthermore, our leaders would loudly insist that they would not be intimidated by the violence of huge crowds of Donald Trump supporters, whipped into a frenzy by opportunistic white supremacists and other extremists. Yes, the feds could be intimidated, if nothing else than by the prospect of watching

the collapse of our nation.

Remember, the mobs were the same revved up Americans, persuaded by Trump's ridiculous lies that he had the election stolen from him. They were willing to shred the most sacred U.S. tradition, the vote, on the word of one man, a known liar. They invaded the U.S. Capitol building, and they could take over other buildings, possibly bringing the government to its knees. Not only would the country not be "exceptional," it might be rubble, with a deranged authoritarian bent on revenge

taking charge, the same one who was previously charged with violating the law.

It would be a test of democracy, a test that this country might fail. Given the cynicism that nearly everyone has about politics and politicians, America is weakened. We are a fragile country, so Donald Trump's biggest crimes of all may be yet to come.

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Removal is best option for tumor inside kidney

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 62 years of age and in excellent health. I run or hike 3 miles or more on most days, and road bike, swim and weight train. I eat sensibly, and I don't drink, smoke or take drugs. I don't drink coffee or even take aspirin for pain. My last physical exam showed no problems, and my blood and urine tests were fine. Recently, I was diagnosed with a small tumor inside my right kidney. It's about a 2.5 cm solid mass with no rough edges at this time. The MRI showed "a 2.4 cm mildly enhancing solid mass concerning for a renal neoplasm." It also showed that the left kidney has a single 1.2 cm cortical cyst over its upper pole aspect. Please explain what this means. The options for treatment are to completely remove the kidney and see if it is cancerous or just monitor the tumor and see if it continues to grow and remove later. The doctor said the whole kidney has to be removed, because of the central location of the tumor. The doctor also said a biopsy is not a good idea where the mass is located for fear of releasing cancerous cells within the kidney that could move quickly throughout the body. Removal is a drastic measure, no doubt, to test for kidney cancer. Should I just monitor and wait to see what the tumor does or operate and have the kidney removed. What medical action do you suggest that I do? – B.J.R.



I am sorry to hear about your kidney tumor. A solitary kidney mass in a man in his 60s is always suspicious for kidney cancer. A 2.4 cm tumor is large enough to provoke serious concern: In a recent study, in people who had their tumors removed, 83 percent of tumors that size were kidney cancer.

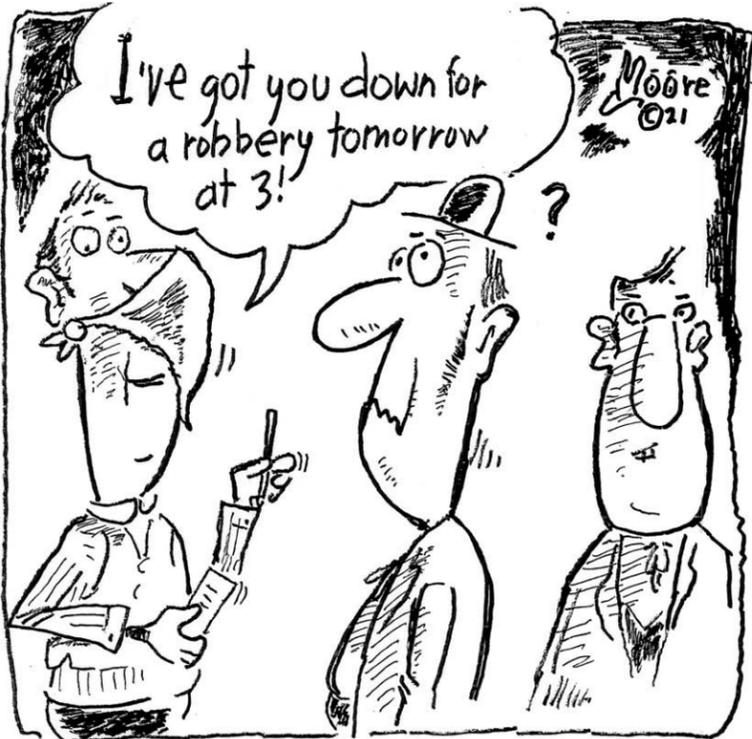
Because of the location, a partial removal of just the mass is impossible, so the choice between watching and waiting versus taking the whole tumor out should take into consideration the very high likelihood that this is cancer. Kidney cancer can spread to other organs. If you were my patient, I likely would advise surgery. If you were not a good risk for surgery (say, in your 80s with multiple medical problems), then I might consider watchful waiting. In your case, I think going for surgery is the wiser course. Being so healthy will make your treatment much less risky.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Does BPH increase the possibility of prostate cancer? – A.L.

Benign prostatic hypertrophy is a common condition in men. About half of men in their 50s have an enlarged prostate, and the proportion gets even higher as men age. The major symptoms of enlarged prostate are difficulty with urine flow, a sensation of decreased emptying, difficulty initiating urination, and increased frequency of urinating, including at night. As symptoms worsen, incontinence can occur and even kidney damage may result due to the high pressure in the bladder.

The first word in "BPH" is "benign": It is not a cancerous condition. It does not protect against developing cancer, but there does not appear to be an increased risk for cancer among men with symptoms of BPH, according to the most recent studies.

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) 2021 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Moore Texas by Roger Moore
Silly state statute: Criminals must give their intended victim 24-hours notice.

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: Y equals N

JVM NPBLZMR CPHZY'L FZL
RZMHZG UZMWPY RPVRPUZ.
FJV XJVEG RPF LCZ
NVMRL BR FZL LJ XJWZ.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 5

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Once-homeless vets test job market



by Freddy Groves

In the month since the homeless veterans had moved into the attic dormitory, three of them had gotten jobs of one kind or another. Sarge had gone banging on doors up and down the main street, looking for available work within walking distance.

The accountant-to-be, he of the formerly long hair and a face hidden by an immense beard, was keeping books and answering phones afternoons at a real estate office, wearing a clip-on tie and a collared shirt with the sleeves rolled down to cover the tattoos on his arm.

Another veteran was only working three nights a week washing dishes at a restaurant. "But he's trying," said Sarge.

"He was out on the streets a long time, has PTSD, and a noisy restaurant kitchen is hard on him. He goes outside a couple times each shift and

does breathing exercises with the stress app on his phone. He's really trying. Restaurant owner loves him."

The third dormitory veteran was working the building supplies pro desk at the hardware store, quietly mulling his options. "Store manager called me," said Sarge as we stood outside the coffee shop's back door. "Asked if I knew my veteran had once owned a construction company. I did not know that."

Sarge had looked the guy up online and found an old website full of what he said were the most beautiful, high-end kitchens he'd ever seen, along with additions and custom playhouses. "And our boy was the company owner. He never said a word. Never says much of anything."

"But here," he said, pulling some pages out of his pocket and handing them to me. "I found these drawings in the trash."

The sketches were floor plans for tiny homes with storage built-ins and loft bedroom space. At the top of the pages was the notation Veterans

Village. The veteran's initials were penciled in the lower corner.

Sarge smiled. "At least we know what he's thinking about."

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- There are many fancy cleaners for sale for wood and laminate floors. Truth is, all you need is regular sweeping and a clean, damp mop. Never use harsh cleaners on wood, and do not use too much moisture.

- D.D. in Missouri keeps morning cereal crisp by using two bowls. Bite by bite dipped in milk is the perfect remedy for avoiding a soggy spoonful!

- Use white chalk to fill pin holes in the wall before painting. You can also use this tactic to hide holes if you are unable to paint the white walls of a rental. It simply fills the hole, making it "disappear."

- Save prescription medicine bottles and use them to sort beads or findings for beadwork or jewelry making. Bonus: Store the bottles upside down in a plastic storage bin so you can see what's in the bottles without having to sort through all of them.

- Add chocolate syrup to your cake mix for a deliciously deep flavor when making a chocolate cake.

- Check your pillows: Press into the pillow at the spot where your head rests. If the pillow doesn't spring back when you remove your hands, it's time to replace it.

- Add these to the list of items to eliminate the odor of cooking cabbage: a heel of bread, a whole walnut or a pinch of baking soda.

- "If you have dogs, keep a towel near your door. Then you can wipe off muddy paws before they have a chance to get the carpets dirty!" – T.Y. in Mississippi

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

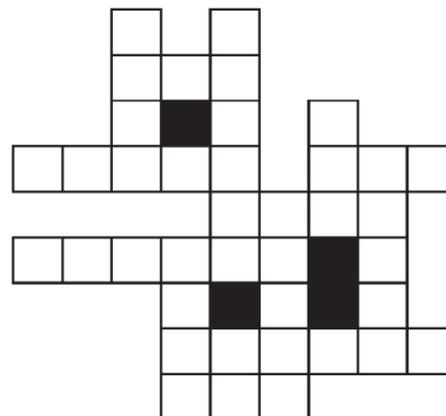
	÷		+		17
-		+		-	
	-		×		15
×		×		×	
	+		+		14
16		8		16	

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 8 9

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- NIO
- MOVUEL
- LUVEA
- ♥ DWEA
- ♥ TADHER
- OAV
- ♥ VREO
- MOUDI
- IVE
- ♥ TACVEA
- HEWLO
- ♥ ENLO



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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