



NEWSBRIEFS

Canutillo ISD gets Comptroller's Star

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that Canutillo ISD (CISD) is the latest government entity in El Paso, and one of three school districts, to achieve specific transparency goals through the Comptroller's Transparency Stars program. CISD received a star in the area of Traditional Finances, which recognizes entities for their outstanding efforts in making their spending and revenue information available. "This is a great accomplishment for the CISD Finance team. It demonstrates the district's commitment to transparency and to working collaboratively with our stakeholders," said Martha Piekarski, Chief Business Officer. "By providing meaningful financial data in addition to visual tools and analysis of its revenues and expenditures, Canutillo ISD has shown a true commitment to Texas taxpayers. This effort achieves the goals set by my office's Transparency Stars program," Hegar said. "I am pleased to award CISD a star for its accomplishments." The Comptroller's office launched the Transparency Stars program in March 2016 to recognize cities, counties and school districts making important strides to greater government transparency. Local government entities can apply for stars in the areas of:

- Traditional Finances;
- Contracts and Procurement;
- Economic Development;
- Public Pensions; and
- Debt Obligations.

— Liza Rodriguez

Fireworks

With Americans planning to collectively spend \$7.5 billion on 4th of July celebrations this year, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2021's Best & Worst Places for 4th of July Celebrations, as well as accompanying videos, to go along with interesting stats about the holiday in its 4th of July Facts & Figures infographic and Coronavirus and 4th of July Survey. To determine the best places to celebrate the most star-spangled occasion, WalletHub compared the 100 largest U.S. cities based on how well they balance holiday cost and fun. The data set of

See BRIEFS, Page 3

Those who are rooting up the tree of liberty will certainly be crushed by its fall.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

MARK THE DATES – The Trans-Pecos Festival of Music + Love is scheduled to return Wednesday, September 22 through Sunday, September 26, at El Cosmico campgrounds, which is located at the edge of town along the highway that leads to Presidio.

Marfa's events offer unique getaway experience

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

About 200 miles, or about a three-and-a-half-hour drive east, from El Paso lies the quaint town of Marfa, TX. This unassuming community of old timers and outsiders is steadily transforming into West Texas' version of Santa Fe NM with

its growing number of art galleries, food places, and entertainment venues.

Today, Marfa is a thriving, vibrant settlement that is made up of about 2,000 souls – some whose great grandparents walked the dirt streets of this poor cattle and oil town in the olden days and others who have recently escaped from their hectic urban living in cities throughout the country if not the world.

Consequently, the combination of the old and new Marfa inhabitants has evolved into a unique demonstration of cultures, traditions, and values that have come together through art and music amid vast mountain landscapes and spacious skies.

This desert oasis has become an interesting getaway location for city dwellers from all over the country, but especially from the Southwest. Marfa's cool weather, magnificent star-filled night skies, and proximity to Ft. Davis, Balmorhea, and Alpine's various attractions offer West Texas families a memorial weekend getaway experience.

Three special events that having been attracting people to Marfa – and returning after a year hiatus due to the coronavirus pandemic- are the Marfa Lights Festival, the Trans-Pecos Festival of Music + Love, and the Chinati Weekend party.

The 34th annual Marfa Lights Festival was canceled last year along with most public events in town, but for its 35th year, Marfa's Chamber of Commerce is planning to bring the festival back in full force over Labor Day Weekend, Friday, September 3 through Sunday, September 5.

The popular festival celebrates the



YOU'VE ARRIVED – A sign welcomes visitors to Marfa.

See MARFA, Page 6

Seigel named principal of Sambrano Elementary

By Jeannie Meza-Chavez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – The San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) has named Ernesto Siegel as the new principal at Sambrano Elementary School. During a recent special meeting, the SEISD Board of Trustees voted unanimously to make Siegel the new principal for Sambrano Elementary School. The school is home to all the district's students in grades kindergarten through second-grade.

Siegel begins his new post on July 1.

Siegel's experience in public education has been steady for 24 years in SEISD. He taught students in grades 1 through 5. Siegel's experience also includes administrative roles. He moves from his role as an assistant principal at Alarcon Elementary School. Siegel holds a Bachelor's Degree in Bilingual Education and a Master's Degree as an Instructional Specialist in Educational Technology. Sambrano Elementary School is home to the district's new dual-language program. Assistant Superintendent Dr.

Rogelio Segovia said, "Mr. Siegel has demonstrated a focus on improving young student learners' abilities, which compliments the dual language support we are already providing at Sambrano Elementary School."

Siegel states, "My vision for all children is for them to have the necessary resources, materials, best educators, and support so they can continue on a path to success." He adds, "All children can learn and succeed if, given all of the above, we

See SEIGEL, Page 3

Classified Ads

LEGALS

TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Town of Anthony has received an allocation from

the American Rescue Plan Act program from the U. S. Department of Treasury and is soliciting proposals to provide administration services for the ARP Act eligible projects. Proposals must be received no later than July 14, 2021 at 4:00 pm. Please

electronically submit your proposal in .pdf format via email to ncastillo@townofanthony.org and submit your proposal to The Town of Anthony At: Norma Castillo, 401 Wildcat Anthony Texas, 79821 on a thumb drive to the address provided. It is the

responsibility of the submitting firm to ensure that the proposal is received in a timely manner. The Town reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals and may award one or more contracts to one or more service provider(s). Section

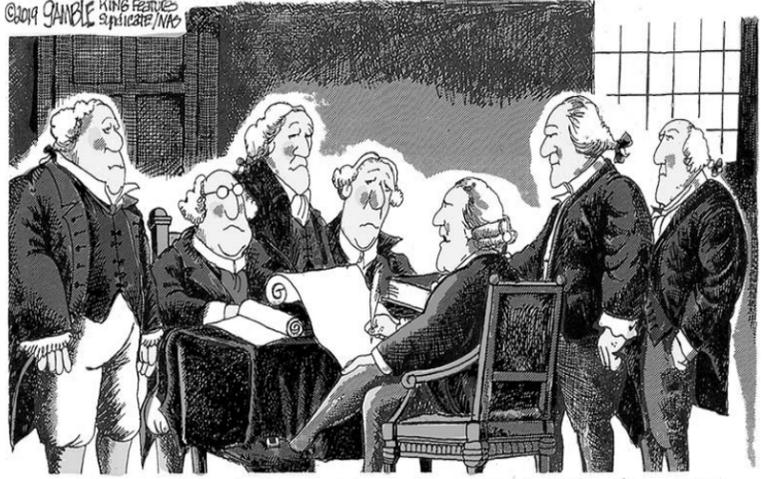
3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals. The Town of Anthony is an

Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer.

Servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

Norma Castillo
Town Clerk

WTCC: 07-01-21



"No... we cannot include free healthcare, free college tuition, free everything for everybody... because that is not what this country was founded on!"



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

1973 48 Years 2021 SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HOBBS, SOCORRO, CLINE, FAHNS, SAN ELIZABO AND TORNILLO

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Tornillo Independent School District Public Notice

Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education Programs at Tornillo ISD for 2021-2022 School Year

- 1) Tornillo Independent School District offers Career and Technical Education programs in Architecture & Construction, Arts, A/V, Technology & Communications, Business Marketing & Finance, Education & Training, Health Science, Information Technology, Law & Public Service, Manufacturing, STEM and Transportation, Distribution & Logistics. Admission to these programs is based on current enrollment in the Tornillo ISD and completion of any necessary prerequisites.
- 2) It is the policy of Tornillo ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act for 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 3) It is the policy of Tornillo ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 4) Tornillo ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.
- 5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator, Lizeth Carroll, Human Resources Manager, at P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Avenue, Tornillo Texas, 79853, carrolll@tisd.us, or call (915) 765-3000.

Noticia Pública

Notificación Pública de No Discriminación en Programas de Educacion Tecnica y Vocacional en Tornillo ISD por el año escolar 2021-2022

- 1) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tornillo ofrece programas de Educación Técnica y Profesional en Arquitectura y Construcción, Artes, A / V, Tecnología y Comunicaciones, Mercadotecnia y Finanzas de Negocios, Educación y Capacitación, Ciencias de la Salud, Tecnología de la Información, Derecho y Servicio Público, Manufactura, STEM y Transporte, Distribución y Logística. La admisión a estos programas se basa en la inscripción actual en Tornillo ISD y la finalización de los requisitos previos necesarios.
- 2) Es política de Tornillo ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o discapacidad en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales como lo requiere el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado; Título IX de las Enmiendas a la Educación de 1972; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmendada.
- 3) Es política de Tornillo ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, nacionalidad, sexo, discapacidad o edad en sus prácticas laborales, según lo requiere el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmendada; Título IX de las Enmiendas a la Educación de 1972; la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975, según enmendada; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmendada.
- 4) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tornillo tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.
- 5) Para mas información de sus derechos y procedimiento de quejas, comuníquese con la Coordinadora del Titulo IX y del Programa 504, Lizeth Carroll, Directora de Recursos Humanos, P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Av. Tornillo, TX 79853. carrolll@tisd.us, o llame al (915)765-3000.

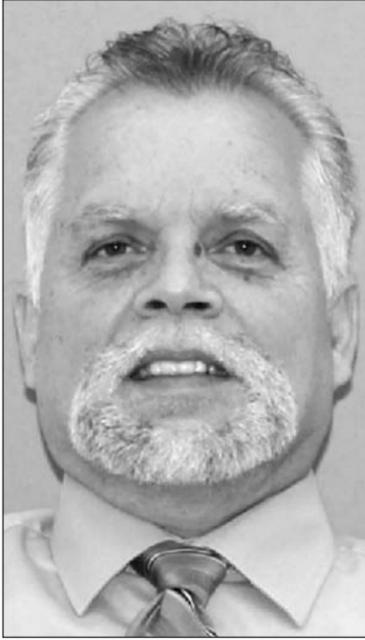
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Seigel

From Page 1

make time for them, and inspire them to believe in themselves.”

Seigel attributes his success to his wife of 32 years, his three children, Irma, Andre, and Noah. He glad to start his 25th year of service in SEISD. Seigel said, “I am grateful because it has allowed my wife and my two eldest children to complete their college careers.” His dream is for his entire family to hold college degrees. His youngest son Noah still needs a few more years before he begins his college career.



Ernesto Seigel

Briefs

From Page 1

23 key metrics ranges from average beer and wine prices to duration of fireworks shows to the Fourth of July weather forecast. El Paso was rated 85th in the report. 4th of July facts and figures:

- \$7.5 Billion: Amount Americans plan to spend on 4th of July food.
- 150 Million: Number of hot dogs eaten each 4th of July.
- \$1.4+ Billion: Amount Americans plan to spend on 4th of July beer and wine.

- 80%: Share of community fireworks displays that were canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic.
 - \$1.5+ Billion: Estimated amount spent on fireworks in 2020 (73% of fireworks injuries occur within a month of July 4).
 - \$6.7 Million: Value of American flags imported annually.
 - 48 Million: Number of people who travel 50+ miles from home for the 4th of July.
- Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-4th-of-july-celebrations/4651> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

**Send Your Newsbrief To:
wtxcc@wtxcc.com**

**Public Notice
Tornillo Independent School District
504 Child Find**

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the District has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate and if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to disabled students. For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible children, or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation and placement into Section 504, please contact Georgina Miramontes at 915-765-3040 or Anna Brew at 915-765-3041. Address: P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, TX 79853.

Aviso de Identificación de Estudiantes Incapacitados Bajo la Sección 504

Bajo la Sección del Decreto de Rehabilitación de 1973, el Distrito Escolar esta obligado a identificar, referir, evaluar, y propocionar servicios educativos apropiados y gratuitos a los estudiantes incapacitados que califican bajo esta ley. Si usted desea mas información sobre los derechos de padres de niños incapacitados, o si tiene preguntas sobre la identificación, evaluación, y colocación de niños en el programa de Sección 504, favor de ponerse en contacto con la Georgina Miramontes a 915-765-3040 o Anna Brew a 915-765-3041. Dirección: P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, TX 79853.

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**Public Notice
Tornillo Independent School District**

SECTION 504 SERVICES

The Tornillo Independent School District provides the following educational services/options to identified students with disabilities who reside within the district.

- ◆ Child find activities to notify students with disabilities and their parents of their rights and the district’s obligation to provide a free, appropriate public education.
- ◆ Referrals to Sections 504 when it is believed the students have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities and the students are in need of educational accommodations.
- ◆ Procedural safeguards under Section 504.
- ◆ Evaluations of students to determine eligibility for the Section 504 program.
- ◆ Placement into the Section 504 program, which means the student may receive:
 - ✓ individually planned modifications in the regular classroom,
 - ✓ health services from the school nurse,
 - ✓ accommodations regarding access to any part of the campus, or
 - ✓ assistance in reading for students with dyslexia in a reading program which meets the state’s standards for a dyslexia reading program.
- ◆ Special education services are available to Section 504 students, if the students qualify for one of the specific disabilities under special education.
- ◆ Nondiscrimination protections of 504.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact Georgina Miramontes at 915-765-3040 or Anna Brew at 915-765-3041. Address: P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, TX 79853.

SERVICIOS DE LA SECCION 504

El distrito escolar independiente de Tornillo provee los siguientes servicios/ opciones educacionales a los estudiantes con discapacidades identificados que residen dentro del distrito.

- ◆ Actividades para encontrar a niños para notificar a los estudiantes con discapacidades y a sus padres de sus derechos y de las obligaciones del distrito a proporcionar una educación publica que sea gratuita y apropiada.
- ◆ Referimientos a la Sección 504 cuando se cree que el estudiante tiene una discapacidad mental o fisica que limita substancialmente una o mas actividades vitales importantes y los estudiantes necesitan modificaciones en su educación.
- ◆ Derechos legales garantizados bajo Sección 504.
- ◆ Evaluaciones de estudiantes para determinar si califican para el programa de la Sección 504.
- ◆ Colocación dentro del programa de la Sección 504, lo que significa que el estudiante puede recibir:
 - ✓ modificaciones en el salon de educación regular planeadas individualmente,
 - ✓ servicios de salud por la enfermera de la escuela,
 - ✓ cambios que garanticen el acceso a cualquier parte de la escuela,
 - ✓ ayuda en lectura para estudiantes con dislexia en un programa de lectura que cumpla con los requisitos que pide el estado a un programa de lectura de dislexia.
- ◆ Se ofrecen servicios de educación especial a los estudiantes Sección 504, si los estudiantes califican para una de las discapacidades especificas bajo educación especial.
- ◆ Protecciones de no discriminación de 504.

Si usted desea mas informacion o sabe de un niño/niña incapacitado que vive en el Distrito Escolar de Tornillo y que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con Georgina Miramontes a 915-765-3040 o Anna Brew a 915-765-3041. Dirección: P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, TX 79853.

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**To Advertise Call 852-3235
Archives: www.wtxcc.com**

Tornillo Independent School District PUBLIC NOTICE

The Tornillo Independent School District Special Education Department will be destroying confidential student information on special education students who have graduated, moved or were dismissed in 2011. Parents of these students may come to the Special Education Department located at 19200 Cobb Avenue in Tornillo on Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to claim their child's file. The remaining files will be destroyed as per state directives 30 days from the date of this notice. If you have any questions, please call Georgina Miramontes, M.Ed Special Education/504 Coordinator at (915) 765-3040 or Anna Brew at (915) 765-3041.

AVISO

El Departamento de Educación Especial del Distrito Escolar de Tornillo va a destruir los archivos confidenciales de estudiantes que estaban en el programa de educación especial que han graduado, se han movido, o fueron despedidos en el año escolar de 2011. Los padres de estos estudiantes pueden venir a la oficina del Departamento de Educación Especial del Distrito Escolar de Tornillo en 19200 Cobb Avenue, de lunes a viernes de 8:00-5:00 de la tarde a recoger los archivos de sus hijos. Los archivos que no sean recogidos van a ser destruidos como manda el estado en 30 días después de este aviso. Si tienen preguntas, llamen al teléfono Georgina Miramontes, M.Ed Coordinador de Educación Especial/504 al (915) 765-3040 o Anna Brew a (915) 765-3041.

WTCC: 07-01-21



By Lucie Winborne

- Want to test how ripe your cranberries are? Drop them on the ground! Cranberries are nature's bouncy ball – farmers even use this technique to see if the fruit is ready for shipment.
- In Las Vegas, it's against the law to pawn your dentures.
- Near the end of World War I, the French built a "fake Paris" designed to throw off German bombers and fighter pilots, complete with a replica of the Champs-Elysees and Gard Du Nord. It even included a fake railway that lit up at certain points, creating the illusion from the sky of a train moving along the tracks.
- Allergy sufferers, take note: One ragweed plant can release as many as 1 billion grains of pollen.
- Adolf Hitler helped design (with Ferdinand Porsche) the Volkswagen Beetle, as part of an initiative to create "the

people's car" – an affordable, practical vehicle that everyone could own.

- Tablecloths were originally designed for use as one big, communal napkin.
- Each of the suits on a deck of cards represents the four major pillars of the economy in the Middle Ages: hearts for the Church, spades for the military, clubs for agriculture and diamonds for the merchant class.
- A person who plays the bongo drums is known as a "bongosero."
- According to research done by MIT, the number 17 is the most common randomly chosen number between one and 20.
- Henry Ford produced the Model T only in black because the black paint available at the time was the fastest to dry.

Thought for the Day: "Good communication is just as stimulating as black coffee, and just as hard to sleep after."
– Anne Morrow Lindbergh

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Moments
in time
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On June 28, 1997, Mike Tyson bites Evander Holyfield's ear in the third round of their heavyweight rematch. Though Holyfield was in obvious pain, the fight resumed after a brief stoppage, and then Tyson bit Holyfield's other ear. Tyson was disqualified from the match and later suspended from boxing.
- On June 29, 1613, the Globe Theatre, where most of Shakespeare's plays debuted, burns down. The Globe was built by Shakespeare's acting company, the Lord Chamberlain's Men, in 1599 from the timbers of London's very first permanent theater, Burbage's Theater, built in 1576.
- On June 30, 1936, Margaret Mitchell's "Gone with the Wind," one of the best-selling novels of all time and the basis for a blockbuster 1939 movie, is published. Scarlett's name was originally Pansy, but a change was requested by the publisher.

• On July 1, 1979, the Sony Walkman goes on sale. Only 3,000 were sold in the first month, but after a massive advertising campaign, available stocks quickly sold out.

• On July 2, 1776, the Second Continental Congress, assembled in Philadelphia, formally adopts Richard Henry Lee's resolution for independence from Great Britain. The vote was unanimous, with only New York abstaining.

• On July 3, 1989, Martha Ann Johnson is arrested in Georgia for the 1982 murder of her oldest child after an Atlanta newspaper initiated a new investigation into the suspicious death. Her three other children had also mysteriously died. Johnson's case sparked a trend in which authorities look closely into the sudden deaths of young children.

• On July 4, 1884, in a ceremony held in Paris, the completed Statue of Liberty is formally presented to the U.S. ambassador as a commemoration of the friendship between France and the United States. The statue was then disassembled and shipped to New York City, where it would be reconstructed in 1886.

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Tornillo Independent School District Public Notice - Child Find

The Tornillo Independent School District has a duty to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities ages 3-21 who reside within the district, including those attending private schools. This process is called Child Find, and all eligible students may receive services, at no cost, under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Information: Georgina Miramontes at 915-765-3040 or Anna Brew at 915-765-3041. Address: P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, TX 79853.

Noticia Pública

Identificación De Niños (Child Find)

El distrito escolar independiente de Tornillo tiene que identificar, localizar y evaluar todos los niños con discapacidades que viven dentro del distrito comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta los 21 años de edad, incluso niños que asisten escuelas privadas. Este proceso se llama Identificación de Niños (Child Find), y todos los estudiantes elegibles pueden recibir servicios sin costo, a través de La Ley para la Educación de Individuos con Discapacidades (IDEA). Información: Georgina Miramontes a 915-765-3040 o Anna Brew a 915-765-3041. Dirección: P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, TX 79853.

WTCC: 07-01-21



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

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Deadline: Monday, 4 p.m.
Please print. Send form and payment (no cash) to:

West Texas County Courier
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

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CryptoQuip Answer

If you go to a highly regarded podiatrist, I suppose your feet are in good hands.

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AYUDA, INC. PUBLIC NOTICE

HOUSING PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM – STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

AYUDA, Inc. **intends to apply** to the Rural Housing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, for the rural Housing Preservation Grant program. AYUDA's intent is to provide very low-income homeowners with necessary repair and rehabilitation work on their homes through a deferred loan program. **No funding is available at this time.**

Who may get this work done?

- Homeowners who meet all of the following conditions may obtain assistance in the form of deferred loans.
- The homeowner must occupy the home.
- The home must be located in San Elizario, Fabens, Tornillo, Clint, Agua Dulce and Homestead Meadows.
- The home must be a single-family dwelling.
- Household income may not exceed very low-income limits established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for each county.

AYUDA, INC makes efforts to assist applicants to complete applications. If an applicant is rejected, the client is sent a letter by mail explaining the status and the reason for the rejection. Applicants have the option to appeal a rejection.

What does very low-income mean?

- Very low-income – household income at or below 50% of El Paso County, Texas.

What kind of work can be done?

- Funds can be used to cover costs of materials and labor that contribute to the structural integrity or longterm preservation of the unit, such as:
- repair or replacement of heating systems;
 - electrical wiring;
 - plumbing;
 - repair or provision of structural support and foundations;
 - repair/replacement of roofs and windows;
 - replacement of severely deteriorated siding, porches or stoops;
 - alterations to provide handicap accessibility; and
 - additions to dwellings only when necessary to alleviate overcrowding or eliminate a health hazard.

How much work will be done?

The amount of the work will be determined based on the repair and rehabilitation needs of each individual home, dollars available, severity (urgency) of the situation, and availability of other funds.

ADULTS AND YOUTH UNITED DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. USDA – SECTION 533 - 2021 HOUSING PRESERVATION GRANT PROPOSAL STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

A (1) Type and Condition for Financial Assistance for Housing Preservation – Adults and Youth United Development Association, Inc. (AYUDA) is requesting \$103,626.00 USDA Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) Funding to provide grants to low- and very-low income homeowners to assist with critical repair and rehabilitation of their homes. A 2021 HPG award will enable AYUDA to allocate up to \$8,000 HPG funds per household, leveraged with an additional \$2,000 from our own funds to assist eight households. Assistance will be provided in the form of a grant to fund health and safety related repairs. We intend to assist 6 very-low-income households and 2 low-income households with this grant, using HUD's median income guidelines for our area to qualify the applicants. Specifically, this means that applicants must have monthly-adjusted household income that falls at or below HUD median income guidelines for 50% (very low) and 80% (low) AMFI). AYUDA will assure and document that applicants meet USDA homeowner requirements by reviewing their legal ownership documents relating to their homestead. Prior to providing assistance, AYUDA will require the recipients to sign a statement that they plan to continue living in the home as their primary residence. AYUDA will not retain any type of security instrument or impose any deed restrictions on the assistance. Having worked in this area for more than 20 years, and having gained extensive knowledge of the residents, we do not anticipate that recipients will sell their homes to profit from the assistance the program will provide. AYUDA's HPG Program will be limited to homeowners; rental units will not be included in this project. The total amount AYUDA will leverage from its own funds for the HPG Project is \$22,450.

A (2) Process for Selecting Recipients for HPG Assistance – AYUDA will announce the program upon notification of award. The announcement will be posted in prominent places frequented by residents such as municipal offices, stores, health clinics and other community venues. It will also issue a press release to local media entities. Additionally, AYUDA will revisit the waiting list for assistance from its other housing programs who meet HPG requirements. Applicants will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. All recipients will be screened to meet the income and one-year minimum homeownership requirements and the applicant must intend to continue to live in the property at the time assistance is provided. Applicants with incomplete applications will be notified in writing as to the reason their application is incomplete and will be given the opportunity to complete it. Determination letters will be sent to applicants within 30 days. Persons with eligible applications will be notified as to whether the applicant was selected for the program, placed on a waiting list, or disqualified based on the criteria established for the program. An applicant not selected for assistance will be given the specific reason(s) for rejection and given the opportunity to have their determination reviewed by the Executive Director.

Determining Housing Preservation Needs in the Dwelling – Preliminary inspections of the homes will be conducted by Program Director and a procured licensed home Inspector for each selected HPG recipient to determine the rehabilitation needs of the home, and to develop a Scope of Work and Cost Estimate. AYUDA will use the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs' (TDHCA's) Work Write-Up Tool for the home assessment. Eligible repairs include, but will not be limited to: repairing or replacing electrical wiring, roofs, windows, insulation, heating system, water and waste disposal system, and installing handicap accessibility features. The Work Write-Up tool will be accompanied by photographs of the existing deficiencies and/or conditions. From this, the licensed Inspector will develop a detailed Scope of Work and Cost Estimate. Applicants with homes that are in need of repairs and rehabilitation beyond the scope of the HPG Program will be considered for the HUD HOME Program. (AYUDA has consistently been awarded funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for approximately 20 years.)

Performing the Necessary Work – The Program Director, Inspector, and the homeowner will meet in-person to discuss the Scope of Work which will be given to the homeowner for review, approval and signature(s). The homeowner will be provided with a copy. AYUDA will solicit contractors for the project from those who have previously performed satisfactorily on its other housing programs but will also make the announcement available with the Workforce Development Office and the local housing authorities to assure that Section 3 eligible individuals have the opportunity to participate in the program. Bids will be reviewed by the Program Director and by the Executive Director to assure that the bids align with the Scope of Work and are reasonable and appropriate. The lowest, most reasonable bid will be awarded the project. Selected contractors will be required to sign a contract that will include specifications, materials and time for completion, and a one year warranty among other things.

Monitoring/Inspecting Work Performed – Monitoring will include a pre-construction walk through, progress monitoring and a final inspection. The Inspector will monitor and approve construction at intervals stated in the contract. Inspections will be required and work must be satisfactorily performed before AYUDA pays the contractor's invoices. Inspections will include photographs of work in progress. Ten percent of the contract amount will be retained and will be paid within ten days of a satisfactorily completed punch list.

A (3) Process for Coordinating with other Housing Rehabilitation Organizations Regarding Preservation of Historic Properties – AYUDA will submit the addresses and other relevant information to the Texas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) upon qualifying selected applicants and will await their response as to whether the property is classified as historic or not. AYUDA will only begin working on a property upon receipt of a letter from the SHPO declaring "no significant impact" on historical or archeological concerns or whether the address is registered in the National Register. Should a selected property be eligible for the National Register, AYUDA will follow the SHPO's direction for use of materials and

A (4) Development Standards – AYUDA will use the Rural Development Standards for Existing Dwellings for this project and will assure that all activities will meet the Thermal Standards for Existing Structures per RHS Subpart A of Part 1924.

A (5) Tentative Time Schedule *

A (6) Staffing **

A (7) Estimated Number of Low- and Very-Low Income Individuals and non-minority individuals the HPG Will Assist – if given an award, AYUDA will allocate six of the eight recipients for very-low income households and two for low-income. Given the demographics of the target area, we anticipate that all of the recipients will be minority individuals. AYUDA will give full and equal consideration to ALL applicants, regardless of their race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, religion, sex, or disability.

A (8) Geographical Area to be Served – AYUDA will implement the HPG Program in the USDA designated rural areas of eastern El Paso County, TX. These areas lie east of the City of El Paso and include the following: Agua Dulce CDP, Homestead Meadows South, Homestead Meadows North, Clint, San Elizario and Fabens. Until recently, these areas were designated as *colonias* by the Texas Attorney General's

Office, but recently, the office has discontinued updating or posting the changes. These areas, while inside the El Paso MSA are distinctly rural in nature and population, and are not eligible for HUD CDBG funds for housing programs for which City residents may qualify. At the time of this writing the County of El Paso has no resources available for home repairs for its residents.

A (9) Annual Estimated Budget ***

Proposed Schedule of HPG Draws and Amounts ****

A (10) Indirect Cost Proposal – Not Applicable

A (11) Description of Accounting System – AYUDA uses QuickBooks accounting software for paying invoices, balancing bank accounts and developing financial reports. It undergoes annual audits as required by law and its grantors. Its accounting policies conform to OMB Circular A- 122 Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations. If given an award, a separate unit accounting will be conducted for each of the eight HPG assisted units. AYUDA's Program & Fiscal Manager and has 12 years of experience with government-funded programs. Both the Executive Director and the Board of Directors review both internal financial statements and the annual audit.

A (12) Method of Evaluation – AYUDA will evaluate its effectiveness by having recipients complete a satisfaction survey upon the completion of repairs. It will also use the information from the quarterly reports to USDA/RD. The program will be considered successful when it meets the number of completed projects described in the Statement of Activities and the majority of recipients provide positive reviews.

A (13) Source and Estimated Amount of Other Financial Resources – AYUDA will contribute \$22,450 of its own funds to leverage the HPG program. The source of these funds is program income generated from its rental properties. AYUDA obtained five single family homes which are used as rental properties as a result of participation in its HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2). The program was closed in 2015 and since five years have passed since close-out, the income generated from these rentals has been re-classified as unrestricted funds.

A (14) Use of Program Income – Not Applicable as no program income will be received – USDA funds are on a reimbursement basis, therefore no interest will be earned on federal funds. Additionally, AYUDA will not charge any fees to applicants or participants.

(15) Plan for Disposition of Security Instruments – No security instruments will be held for the HPG Program as the assistance will be provided in the form of a grant.

A (16) Other Useful Information – AYUDA will adhere to all applicable local, State, and Federal regulations during the implementation of the HPG Program. AYUDA has been implementing housing programs for nearly 20 years and has developed the expertise and experience needed to implement this program. It has a long-standing relationship with Housing Assistance Council (HAC) and has access to technical assistance, if needed. It also has relationships with other non-profit organizations who frequently call AYUDA to cross-refer clients. This positions AYUDA to implement a highly successful HPG project in El Paso.

A (17) Outreach Efforts – AYUDA will announce the availability of the program at the County of El Paso's Self Help Center, local municipal offices, health centers, local stores and with community partners such as Texas A & M Colonia Program and on local radio stations as PSA's, and of course, at its own community center. It will also publish an announcement in the West Texas Courier, a paper with readership in the outlying county areas.

* A (5) Tentative Time Schedule

Task	Mo 1	Mo 2	Mo 3	Mo 4	Mo 5	Mo 6	Mo 7	Mo 8	Mo 9	Mo 10	Mo 11	Mo 12
Notify public of award/Develop Application/	x											
Conduct outreach activities/ Accept/screen/select applications		x	x	x								
Conduct preliminary inspections/Contact SHPO		x	x	x								
Complete Scopes of Work/Bid projects/ review bids/select contractors				x	x	x	x					
Repairs/rehab of homes/Conduct inspections				x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Submit quarterly performance reports			x			x			x			
Close Out Program Submit Final Report												x

** A (6) Staffing

Title	Responsibilities	Qualifications	% of Time on Project
Program Director	Conduct outreach; pre-screen and recommend applicants; solicit contractor bids; conduct preliminary assessments with Inspector; prepare, review and evaluate bids; prepare contractor contracts; process invoices for payment; prepare quarterly reports; request federal funds; perform general accounting functions	Recent experience with housing programs (programmatic and fiscal); experience certifying and documenting income and other applicant requirement; general knowledge of environmental issues; accounting skills	22%
Executive Director	Review and give final approval of applicants, bids, and quarterly reports; oversee the program; approve federal fund requests	Recent experience in overseeing housing programs and nonprofit management	10%
Program Assistant	Assist with outreach; coordinate application process; collect documentation; maintain client and program files; compile grant reports;	General office and computer skills	20%

*** A (9) Annual Estimated Budget

	% Direct	Total	% Admin	Total	Total HPG Funds	Non HPG Funds	Total Costs
Salaries	65%	16,250.00	35%	8,750.00	25,000.00		25,000.00
Fringe	65%	2,835.95	35%	1,527.05	4,363.00		4,363.00
Initial Assessments/Inspections	100%	6,400.00			6,400.00		6,400.00
Mileage to client homes	100%	363.00			363.00		363.00
Consumable Supplies			100%			600.00	600.00
Maintenance/Repairs	100%	64,000.00			64,000.00	16,000.00	80,000.00
IT Contract			100%			600.00	600.00
Copier Lease Contract 20% prorated			100%			840.00	840.00
Annual Audit 20% prorated			100%			3,400.00	3,400.00
Insurances 20% prorated			100%			1,010.00	1,010.00
Sub-Total		\$89,848.95		\$10,277.05	\$100,126.00	\$22,450.00	\$122,576.00
Indirect Costs				\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00		\$ 3,500.00
Total Direct Cost and Admin Costs		\$89,848.95		\$13,777.05	\$103,626.00	\$22,450.00	\$126,076.00

**** Proposed Schedule of HPG Draws and Amounts

Description	Mth 1	Mth 2	Mth 3	Mth 4	Mth 5	Mth 6	Mth 7	Mth 8	Mth 9	Mth 10	Mth 11	Mth 12	Total
Hard Costs	1,590.00	1,590.00	1,590.00	15,490.30	14,231.84	10,435.38	10,435.38	10,435.38	10,435.38	1,590.00	1,590.00		89,849.04
Admin	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	1,148.08	13,776.96
Total	2,738	2,738	2,738	16,638	15,380	11,583	11,583	11,583	11,583	2,738	2,738		103,626.00

NBA playoffs have produced a whole new crop of stars

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

When the 2021 version of the NBA playoffs got underway, we were all aware of the superstars who would be involved.

We all knew the names of guys like LeBron James, Kawhi Leonard, Chris Paul, James Harden, Kevin Durant, Anthony Davis, Russell Westbrook, Kyrie Irving, Damien Lillard, Paul George, Giannis Antetokounmpo and Joel Embiid.

But one of the best things about this season's playoffs, has been the emergence of young players who are undoubtedly the future of the league.

Though some of them have been in the league for two, three, or four years, these playoffs are the first time they've been in

the national spotlight, and they're making the best of their opportunities.

And the most amazing thing of all is that they're all between 21 and 24 years of age.

The one player who I'd say about 95 percent of the country hadn't seen before is Memphis Grizzlies point guard Ja Morant. And though Memphis was knocked out in the first round, everyone knows who Ja Morant is now.

Morant, who is only 21 years old, averaged 30.2 points and 8.2 assists in his five playoff games. In his two years in the NBA, Morant had averaged 18 points a game, but if the rest of his career is similar to this year's playoff performance, you're looking at a perennial all-star.

The Boston Celtics were bounced in the first round by the Brooklyn Nets. But that doesn't take anything away from the play

of Jayson Tatum.

The 23-year-old Tatum averaged 30.6 points in his five playoff games.

And talk about improving every year, in his first four seasons in the NBA, Tatum's scoring has gone from 13.9 to 15.7 to 23.4 to 26.4; his rebounding has gone from 5.0 to 6.0 to 7.0 to 7.4, and his assists from 1.6 to 2.1 to 3.0 to 4.3.

Imagine what he'll be doing when he's 30.

The Dallas Mavericks lost to the L.A. Clippers in the first round, but the star of that series was Luka Doncic.

At just 22 years of age, Doncic is already an NBA star, but nobody had really seen him on the big "playoff" stage.

Doncic averaged 35 points a game in his seven games and went over 40 three times.

Luka, who finished sixth in this year's

MVP voting, should keep the Mavs in the championship hunt for a long time.

The Utah Jazz had the best regular-season record in the league but were knocked out of the playoffs by the Clippers.

Even so, it feels like the Jazz will be one of the top NBA teams for years to come, mainly because of star guard Donovan Mitchell.

Though he's only 24, Mitchell is already the vocal leader of the team. He averaged 32.3 points a game in his 10 playoff games and 26.4 during the season.

The best thing about Mitchell is that he isn't afraid of the moment and wants the ball in his hands with the game on the line.

The surprise team of the playoffs has been the Atlanta Hawks. And where would the Hawks be without star point guard Trae Young?

At just 22, Young's star has risen the most during these playoffs.

Because the Hawks weren't very good, they were never on TV. But during these playoffs, we've all finally had the chance to see Young and he hasn't disappointed.

He's averaged 29.4 points and 9.9 assists a game in the playoffs.

I've saved the Phoenix Suns for last because they have two young guns. Devin Booker, 24, and Deandre Ayton, 22, may lead the Suns to an NBA title this year.

Though Booker has emerged as a top scorer, averaging over 20 points for five straight seasons, nobody even knew what he looked like because the losing Suns were never on TV.

Of course this year has been different.

Then there's the 6-11 Ayton, who has averaged 16.6 points and 11.4 rebounds in these playoffs.

With Booker hitting from the outside and Ayton cleaning up around the basket, don't be surprised if the Suns take it all this year and are favorite again next season.

As a kid I saw guys like Jordan and Magic and Bird rise to their Hall of Fame status. I feel like I'm doing it again.

Marfa

From Page 1

mystery lights, or ghost lights, that have been appearing over the years in the West Texas desert plains. The favorite place from which to view the lights is a widened shoulder on Highway 90 about nine miles east of Marfa. The lights are most often reported as distant spots of brightness, distinguishable from ranch lights and automobile headlights on Highway 67.

The Friday through Sunday event will be centered around the Presidio County Courthouse with various specialty vendors, food stands, and live music providing the entertainment for the anticipated large crowds.

Consuelo Chavez, the chamber's treasurer, stated during a recent meeting that the group is currently ironing out festival details about tickets and performances and will announce that information as soon as possible.

The Trans-Pecos Festival of Music + Love is also slated to return in the fall. The eclectic celebration is scheduled



— Internet photo

RUSTIC AMBIENCE – The Marfa Lights Festival, scheduled for September 3-5 Labor Day weekend, will be centered around the Presidio County Courthouse, above, with various specialty vendors, food stands, and live music providing the entertainment for the anticipated friendly crowds.

for Wednesday, September 22 through Sunday, September 26, at El Cosmico campgrounds that are located at the edge of town along the highway that leads to Presidio.

The 15th Annual Trans-Pecos

Festival of Music + Love will offer a weekend of live music, sandlot baseball, workshops, arts and crafts vendors, and more. Information on tickets, lodging

See MARFA, Page 7

Super Crossword

- CITY HITS**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Shoe statistic
 - 6 ExxonMobil, BP, Chevron and such
 - 12 "Lemme think about that..."
 - 15 "This looks bad"
 - 19 New Olds in 1999
 - 20 Get excited
 - 21 Lead-in to classical
 - 22 Cuban money
 - 23 1964 Elvis Presley hit
 - 25 Native of France's capital
 - 27 Retired NBA star Ming
 - 28 Ellipsis part
 - 29 Article in many rap song titles
 - 30 Printer insert
 - 31 1974 Paper Lace hit
 - 35 Copy and Paste setting
 - 37 Demand (of)
 - 38 '60s prez
 - 39 Horn blast
 - 40 Stocking-holding band
 - 44 "It's my turn now"
 - 45 Throw softly
 - 48 Rear target in bowling
 - 51 1985 Jan Hammer hit
 - 55 Equine animal
- 56 _ Moines
 - 58 World Series org.
 - 59 Cry of epiphany
 - 60 Pie's place
 - 61 Zest and Coast
 - 63 Dangling bit of jewelry
 - 65 Tip over
 - 66 1959 Freddy Cannon hit
 - 69 Battle reminders
 - 71 Missionary
 - 72 "Mother"
 - 72 "Sands of Iwo Jima" director Dwan
 - 73 Raines of old films
 - 74 Riverbed sand
 - 75 Suffix with duct or project
 - 77 Big klutz
 - 78 Pig's place
 - 81 1969 Glen Campbell hit
 - 85 Rich Italian ice cream
 - 87 Rescue request
 - 88 Note after fa
 - 89 Time pieces?
 - 91 Noted times
 - 92 Move to and _
 - 93 Droop down
 - 95 Carrier to Milan
 - 98 1975 Elton John hit
 - 105 Atlas feature showing altitude
 - 106 Former big record gp.
 - 107 Ultrasecret govt.

- org.
 - 108 Big klutz
 - 111 Quick web ordering option
 - 112 1986 John Cougar Mellencamp hit that summarizes this puzzle?
 - 115 Friendly bat of the eye
 - 116 Mr. _! (Clue-like board game)
 - 117 Cry of epiphany
 - 118 Some upscale hotels
 - 119 Some jeans
 - 120 G.P.'s field
 - 121 Looks hard
 - 122 Occupy, as a desk
- DOWN**
- 1 Like tildes
 - 2 Figure skater Kulik
 - 3 Private prayers
 - 4 "-la-la"
 - 5 Poker variety
 - 6 Moistening while cooking
 - 7 Hip-hop mogul
 - 8 "Pride _ before destruction"
 - 9 Need (to)
 - 10 Son of Abraham
 - 11 Guitar maker Paul
 - 12 Empty a suitcase
 - 13 Comic Anne
 - 14 Home loan offerer
 - 15 Good aspect

- 16 Klum on many covers
- 17 Inedible type of orange
- 18 Fine-tuned
- 24 Top-caliber
- 26 Asimov classic
- 30 Lead-in to gender
- 32 URL lead-in
- 33 Apra Harbor locale
- 34 Mata _
- 35 Bluesy James
- 36 Performs
- 41 Cup part
- 42 "Writer Gay or editor Nan
- 43 Diplomats' residences
- 44 Winter fight projectile
- 45 Flood barrier
- 46 Ill sign, say
- 47 Be flexible
- 49 Huge heroes
- 50 Sci-fi writer
- 52 Sensed feeling
- 53 Land in the water, in Livorno
- 54 Cabbie's cry
- 57 Of positional relations
- 61 Wife of Abraham
- 62 Turtle topper
- 64 Purviews
- 65 Consumption
- 66 Shower powders
- 67 Intro drawing class, maybe

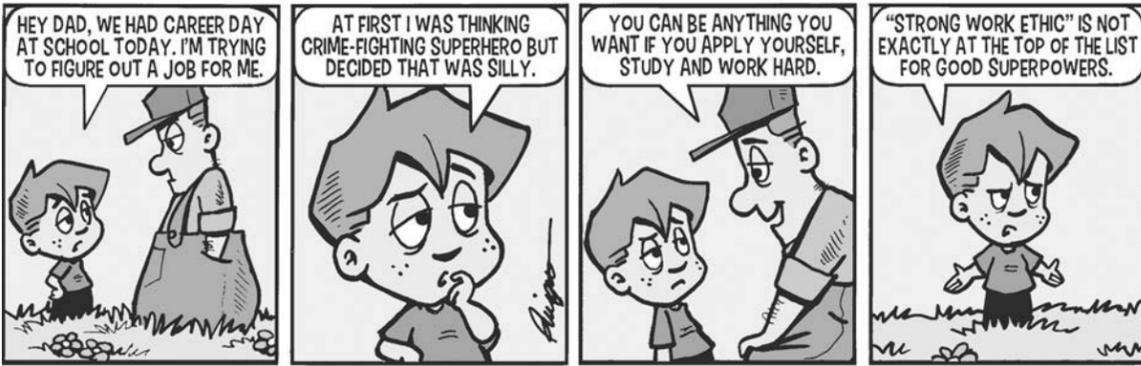
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105										106			107			108	109	110
111									112			113				114		
115							116			117						118		
119										121						122		

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



Marfa

From Page 6

options, and volunteering is now available on their website (events@elcosmico.com), stated festival organizers. “An extra day has been added and capacity has been drastically reduced for Covid-19 safety this year,” organizers noted. They added that masks and social distancing will be required of all

guests and vaccines are strongly recommended.

Tickets went live without a lineup announcement, and people are still buying, according to Monika Bernstein, the general manager of El Cosmico. “Ticket sales are good so far because after such a trying year, people need something to travel for and look forward to,” she stated.

The third festival that promises to provide a rare experience is the

Chinati Weekend activities that will be held from Friday, October 8 through Sunday, October 10. Paying visitors will be able to join in on brunches, cocktails, and tours through the restoration of the Chamberlain Building. The project encompasses the renovation of the former Marfa Wool & Mohair Company building in downtown Marfa into an art gallery where twenty-two sculptures by artist John Chamberlain are permanently

Commercial lab tests vs genetic counseling

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have a daughter (almost 31 years) who is concerned about Charcot-Marie-Tooth syndrome. Her maternal grandmother has been diagnosed with that condition. She is interested in seeking out a genetic test for the condition to learn if she is susceptible. She was referred to a commercial, direct-to-consumer laboratory for the test. How likely is it that a lab test for this specific condition would be accurate? Should she be doing all of this through either a particular type of genetics counselor or her private physician (internist) rather than an independent effort? – R.C.



Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease is the eponym given to a family of hereditary motor sensory neuropathies: diseases that affect the nerves that carry the impulses necessary for movement and sensation. The initial symptoms are most commonly weakness and atrophy in the feet, followed by similar problems in the hands and sensory changes.

The diagnosis may be made by EMG testing (electromyography, a needle study of the electrical activity of the muscles), but genetic testing is another way of making the diagnosis. If her grandmother has a known mutation, then genetic testing is likely to give her confirmation of her own status.

Commercial genetic testing is certainly available, and probably accurate. However, I would still recommend a visit to a genetic counselor. This may require a referral from her primary-care doctor. The correct test to order, and its interpretation, depends on the exact diagnosis of her grandmother’s condition, since there are many genetic variations of Charcot-Marie-Tooth. It is likely that your daughter will have questions after the test results, and the benefit of having an experienced clinician there to answer them would be invaluable.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I’m an 81-year-old man. About two years ago, I began to realize that my testicles were shrinking, and they are now about the size of a marble. I have asked my primary care doctor and urologist about this, and the reply is that nothing can be done about it. I have read that boxer shorts are recommended to keep the testicles cooler and healthier. I am wondering whether my extensive time sitting at a desk and reading could be related to my shrinking testicles. Or is it related to erectile dysfunction, which is caused by decreased blood flow? I have ED. My last testosterone result was about 500. Is there nothing that can be done, not even any exercises? – L.D.

The medical term for what’s happening to you is “testicular atrophy,” and it has several possible causes. Age alone is one: At age 81, many men have noticed some shrinkage in testicular size, but yours is beyond the norm. You are right that cooler temperatures are healthier for the testicles, but again, I am a little surprised by the severity of your description.

Among the other common causes are a history of trauma or infection. However, any underlying cause can also affect the ability of the testicles to make testosterone. Your blood testosterone level is surprisingly normal for your age (400-500 is the average for a man in his 80s). A low testosterone is a common cause of erectile dysfunction (poor blood flow is only one cause of ED).

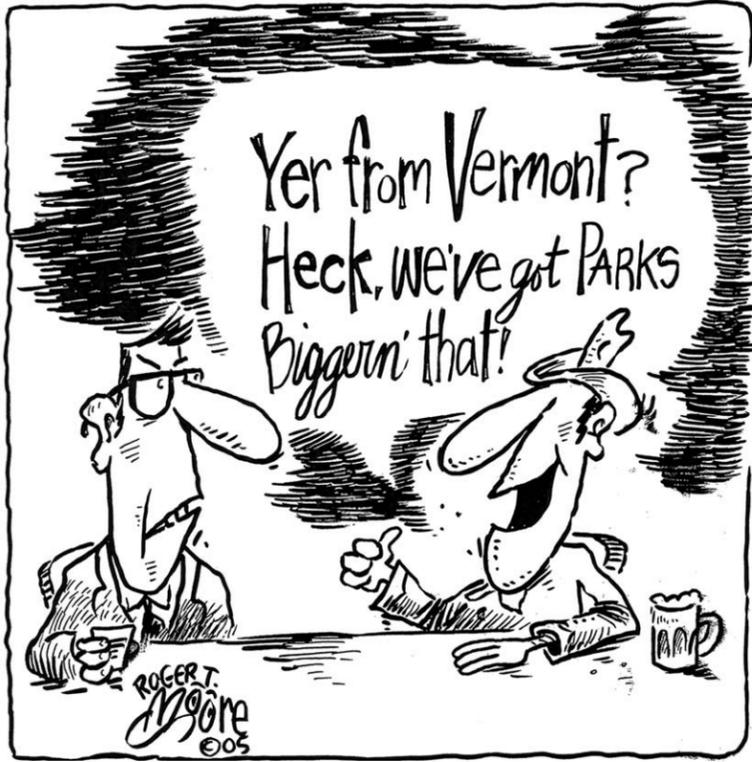
After two years, it is very unlikely that any treatments will affect the testicles now, unfortunately.

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.

installed.

Chinati Weekend participants will also be able to come together again for the Open House Dinner at the arena on the ranch for the free Sunday event that will include mariachi music and shots of tequila.

“It seems like right now in Marfa, everything is back to normal,” Bernstein surmised. “It just feels so good to be able to gather again, and of course I think it’s also important to note that we’re following whatever the CDC recommends,” she added.



Moore Texas by Roger Moore
Big Bend State Park is our largest park at just over 700,000 acres.

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: C equals P

DS MQA ZQ FQ T WDWVM
BXZTBJXJ CQJDTFBDFP, D
PACCQPX MQAB SXXF TBX
DL ZQQJ WTLJP.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

Answer Page 4

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Volunteering at the VA



by Freddy Groves

The Department of Veterans Affairs just celebrated its 75th year of using volunteers to run programs for veterans. In that time they've toted up 1 billion hours of volunteer time. Last year alone, 46,000 volunteers worked 4.4 million service hours and gave \$108 million worth of gifts and donations.

That's huge, and it's a credit to all those volunteers that they found ways to support veterans despite COVID and all the restrictions it brought to our lives.

We can make this year even better.

Go to Voluntary Services at www.volunteer.va.gov and see how you can help. On the left side look at Volunteer or Donate Now. Pick your state and the facility you want to support.

If you want to donate money, you can do that online with a

credit card. Be sure to identify the facility you'd like the money to go to.

If you want to volunteer in person, select the facility and check the list for slots that need filled. It might be parking-lot shuttle driver, mealtime companion, maintenance help or any other type of service. If the facility has a hospice unit, look at the list and consider the families that are staying there.

If you're a member of a service organization such as the American Legion and want to make a group donation, look at the list of wish items they need. Right now at my medical facility, they're looking for store gift cards, sneakers, underwear, canteen coupon books and gas cards. Other facility lists are more specific, down to the actual size of pants and shoes that are needed or the type of paperback books that are preferred.

If there is a large homeless population in your area, facilities often try to put together care packages for those veterans or apartment

start-up kits for those moving into housing.

Call the Voluntary Services department at a facility near you and ask how you can help.

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- "Instead of baking soda, I use three or four charcoal briquettes in a bowl to control odor and moisture in my refrigerator. I place the briquettes in a shallow dish, then cover the top of the bowl with a small piece of cheesecloth and secure it with a fat rubber band. The best thing is that I can still use these briquettes on the grill. In the summer, they get changed very regularly." – M.L. in Virginia
- To ripen a green tomato, wrap it in a sheet of newspaper or place it in a paper bag. It can then be left on the counter for several days to ripen.
- "After a hard day's work in the garden, I soak in a rosemary bath. It's a natural anti-inflammatory, and it smells wonderful. I just add a few sprigs from my plant out back to very hot water, and then let the water sit for a while until it's just warm. Then I get in. Heaven!" – U.A. in Ohio
- Keep laundry baskets in your automobile's trunk for easier organization. You could even add a small cooler to hold cold items if you need to make a stop somewhere on the way home from the grocery store.
- "Here's my tip: Use a muffin pan to make big ice cubes for drinks." – A.L. in Missouri

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

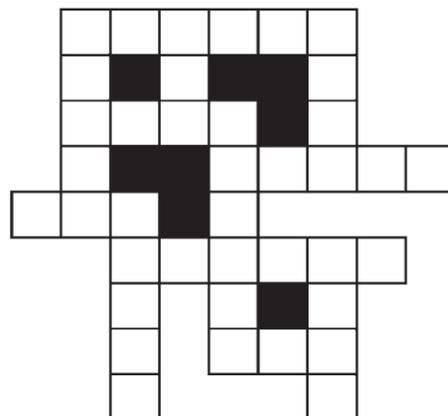
	÷		+		13
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1 1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9

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- GOH
- HORGUT
- ♥ HORET
- ♥ RBDA
- NIGLEO
- TYE
- GHHI
- OBGEL
- ARO
- GUYHOD
- OBTOA
- NOOT



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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W	I	D	T	H	B	I	G	O	I	L	U	M	M	U	H	O			
A	L	E	R	O	A	R	O	U	S	E	N	E	O	P	E	S	O		
V	I	V	A	L	A	S	V	E	G	A	S	P	A	R	I	S	I	A	N
Y	A	O	D	O	T	T	H	A	C	A	R	T	R	I	D	G	E		
T	H	E	N	I	G	H	T	C	H	I	C	A	G	O	D	I	E		
E	D	I	T	M	E	N	U	A	S	K	A	B	E						
T	O	O	T	G	A	R	T	E	R	I	G	O	L	O	B				
T	E	N	P	I	N	M	I	A	M	I	V	I	C	E	T	H	E	M	E
A	S	S	D	E	S	M	L	B	I	S	E	E	O	V	E	N			
S	O	A	P	S	E	A	R	B	O	R	U	P	E	N	D				
T	A	L	L	A	H	A	S	S	E	L	A	S	S	I	E				
S	C	A	R	S	T	E	R	E	S	A	A	L	L	A	N				
E	L	L	A	S	I	L	T	I	L	E	L	U	G	P	E	N			
W	I	C	H	I	T	A	L	I	N	E	M	A	N	G	E	L	A	T	O
S	O	S	S	O	L	I	S	S	U	E	S	E	R	A	S				
F	R	O	S	A	G	A	T	R	I	T	A	L	I						
P	H	I	L	A	D	E	L	P	H	I	A	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	
R	E	L	E	F	M	A	P	M	C	A	N	S	A	O	A	F			
O	N	E	C	L	I	C	K	R	O	C	K	I	N	T	H	E	U	S	A
W	I	N	K	R	E	E	E	U	R	E	K	A	O	M	N	I	S		
L	E	E	S	M	E	D	S	T	A	R	E	S	S	I	T	A	T		