



NEWSBRIEFS

Socorro ISD has TEA report cards

The 2020-2021 Federal Report Cards for the State of Texas, the Socorro Independent School District, and SISD schools are available on the district website, school websites, and the Texas Education Agency website. Visit <https://www.sisd.net/federalreportcards> for the state, district, and schools reports. People can also visit https://tea.texas.gov/Finance_and_Grants/Grants/Federal_Report_Card/ for the reports. The report gives information such as student achievement, graduation rate, school quality, student success, civil rights data, and teacher quality data. Hard copies of the report may be made available upon request at SISD schools or the District Service Center. Please contact your child's school or the District Service Center if you have any questions concerning federal report cards.

— Christy Flores-Jones

El Paso rated 6th best big U.S. wedding city

With many weddings planned for summer and the average wedding costing \$22,500, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2022's Best Places to Get Married, as well as accompanying videos and expert commentary. To help couples find the most wedding-friendly destinations, WalletHub compared more than 180 of the biggest U.S. cities across 28 key indicators of cost-effectiveness, convenience and enjoyment. The data set ranges from average wedding cost to venues and event spaces per capita to wedding vendors. El Paso was rated 6th in the report. Other stats:

- Brownsville, TX has the lowest average wedding cost, \$13,071, which is 2.6 times lower than in Bridgeport, CT, the city with the highest at \$34,241.
 - Washington D.C. has the most event planners per capita, 91, which is 13 times more than in Baton Rouge, LA, the city with the fewest at 7.
 - San Francisco, CA has the most musicians per capita, 20, which is 76.9 times more than in Wichita, KS, the city with the fewest at 0.26.
- Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best->

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The secret of success and happiness lies not in doing what you like, but in liking what you do.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

ON THE LINKS – A foursome of El Paso golfers shot a morning round of golf at Ascarate Park. There is an 18-hole (par 72) golf course and a nine-hole executive course, called the Delta 9. The El Paso County Commissioners Court's recent action to eliminate the weekend admission fee, except for special events and holidays, offers the park's amenities to more people throughout the year. The Franklin Mountains are in the background.

Master planning sessions held for Ascarate Park

Park is largest public-use recreational facility in the county

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Use of El Paso County parks and outdoor recreational areas has increased steadily during the pandemic and indications are that their popularity will continue to grow, according to county officials.

To bring that growth to the county's Ascarate Park, El Paso County commissioners voted during a recent meeting to end the \$2 cost to enter the park on weekends; no admission fee is charged on weekdays. A fee, however, will be charged on holidays and for major events.

Commissioners stated that the elimination of the fee is intended to help the park attract more visitors and unanimously directed staff to prepare plans to end the weekend fees by April.

The 408-acre park includes a lake and boardwalk, picnic facilities, playgrounds, concert areas, a golf course, the club restaurant, sports fields, the aquatics center, and a healing garden that commemorates the victims of the Aug. 3, 2019 mass shooting at an East Side Walmart.

Ascarate Park is the largest public-use recreational park in the county and offers space for sports, picnicking, fishing, and other recreational activities. The park currently features an 18-hole (par 72) golf course with a nine-hole executive course, called the Delta 9; a fully equipped aquatic center; playgrounds near picnic facilities, and a 48-acre

surface lake with a long boardwalk.

The lake boasts some of the best fishing in the Southwest. It is home to trout (winter), catfish (summer), largemouth bass, black bass, sun perch, blue gill, carp, shad, crappie hybrid sunfish and minnows. County regulations restrict anglers to two fishing poles each, with a limit of five fish per visit to the lake. And individuals 17 years and older are required to obtain a fishing license, which are available at most sporting goods stores. The lake is also open to boating enthusiasts who are allowed to use kayaks and boats with trolley motors.

In a recent news release, Commissioner David Stout stated that he was glad county commissioners court supported the elimination of the weekend fee. "This is El Paso's Central Park, and should be as accessible as possible to the public, especially given the light the pandemic has shined on both the importance of health and wellness and on equity," Stout stated.

"Making the park more accessible for

the vast majority of weekends will help our ongoing efforts to raise Ascarate Park's profile and draw people, which will have a multiplying effect as we move toward

our master planning and concessions development efforts," Stout said.

In October, El Paso County Parks & Recreation Department officials adopted a master plan that included an assessment of existing conditions in the current parks and recreation system. Then in February, city officials held public meetings, both virtually and in-person, on the parks master plan and to discuss the possible re-naming of the park. Next will be more planning sessions that are scheduled for Saturday, March 12 and Wednesday, March 16.

Stout urged county residents to get involved in the master plan process and invited community members to join the planning sessions scheduled for March 12 and March 16.

Interested individuals can visit epcountyparks.com or @epcountyparks (on Facebook) to get more information on the upcoming master planning sessions.

Ascarate Park

- The more than 400-acre Ascarate Park in central El Paso was originally part of a banco, or river loop, on the Rio Grande. The park land was deeded to the county by the federal government after an international boundary commission rectification project straightened the river in the early 1930s. The National Park Service designed the park for the county when nearly three-quarters of El Paso county residents voted in 1937 for a special tax to help fund its construction.

- Ascarate Park opened in December 1940. More than 200 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) workers planted thousands of trees; built baseball fields, tennis courts, a recreation center, and golf course and removed millions of cubic yards of sand to create the 48-acre lake. The project was the CCC's largest in Texas.

- The park is named for the Ascarate family, El Paso del Norte pioneers, who owned a large ranch alongside the park. El Paso County has operated and maintained Ascarate Park since its construction.

Durham's righteous investigation

From the perspective of several years ago, it's the stuff of an implausible political thriller or a conspiratorial YouTube account.

One presidential campaign spies on another as part of a broad effort to get government agencies to pick up the baton and launch a high-stakes investigation of the new president that hampers his first years in office and consumes massive public attention.

Where could such a thing happen? Maybe Brazil or Equatorial Guinea? Well, we now know it happened in these United States.

The latest from Special Counsel John Durham is that a tech executive connected to the Clinton campaign mined internet contacts between Russia and the entities connected to Donald Trump in a search for material to try to, as Durham put it in a court filing last week, "establish 'an inference' and 'narrative' tying then-candidate Trump to Russia."

Durham's probe is a righteous effort to get to the bottom of a matter that deranged American politics for two solid years but has been derided or ignored by the mainstream press, with baleful consequences.

Russiagate did more than its share to undermine the norm that losing campaigns should accept the result of free and fair elections and to erode confidence in institutions at the highest levels of our government. One way to minimize the harm is to insist on accountability. The people who were most invested

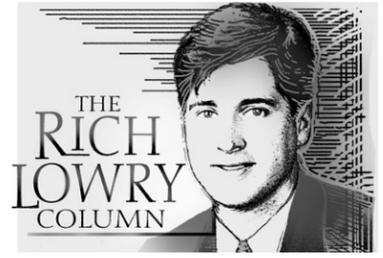
in Russiagate for the longest, though, are least interested in revisiting its origins, let alone in apologizing for their own credulousness or malice.

According to Durham, a tech executive named Rodney Joffe engaged in the information operation against Trump and his campaign. He allegedly coordinated with Michael Sussmann, a lawyer for the Clinton campaign, and his highly connected law firm, Perkins Coie LLP, that did work for both the Clinton campaign and the Democratic Party.

Durham notes that Joffe also joined up with an investigative firm that Perkins Coie hired on behalf of the Clinton campaign, numerous cyber researchers, employees at various internet companies, and researchers at a U.S.-based university. He sought, he said, to please VIPs in both the Clinton campaign and Perkins Coie.

One can only guess that he succeeded. According to Durham, Joffe "exploited his access to non-public and/or proprietary internet data," and the university researchers he tapped "were receiving and analyzing large amounts of internet data in connection with a pending federal government cybersecurity research contract."

Joffe analyzed so-called domain name system internet traffic connected to Trump Tower and Trump's Central



THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

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SPEAKING OF WEARING MASKS...



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Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

We all face challenges

Everyone will face insurmountable challenges in life. The price of longevity is heartache, opposition, failures, grief and life events that come out of nowhere. Life is filled with the death of loved ones, financial ups and downs, daily health challenges and world events that impact us whether we like them or not.

Russia is going to invade Ukraine. Most of us don't like Russia anyway but we have to sit here and watch what they are

doing to someone else while it negatively affects our energy, financial stability, our military, and our everyday lives. We don't like it; we don't want it but we will be impacted by the evil decisions of Russia's leadership. Can you imagine how the people of Ukraine feel?

We despise what Covid-19 has done to all us. Mask wearing, vaccinations and the fear of gathering have tormented us. The loss of family and friends who went into Intensive Care Units

and never came home haunts us. Can we begin to imagine how they felt as they struggled to breathe on respirators their last few days of life?

We have all faced news that a loved one was killed on the battlefield, or someone died suddenly of a heart attack, or received news of terminal cancer.

Typically, we ask why? We ask God, "Why has this happened?" or "Why me, God?" Often there is rarely a good answer. We can analyze and say, "This could have been prevented. Or, this is how he or she should have lived their lives." Sports fans making suggestions from their recliners while watching reruns always see how the play could have been run better.

Life is always in motion. We make decisions. We react to situations differently. We don't always do the right thing

and emotions often overturn commonsense.

The reality is that we all face and walk through fires. Most of the time we're hopeful that everything will work out all right. Often, things do. Unfortunately, everything doesn't always work out all right. If we manage to survive, that's when we have to help others who are crushed in spirit, who can't see the light of day for the darkness in their lives.

Ukraine needs their allies or they will never be the same. It can't be all the United States. We can't save everyone and have proved it over and over again from Afghanistan to Iraq to Vietnam.

There are always those around you who need your emotional and spiritual support. If nothing else, friendship and a word of kindness and support are always meaningful.

Most of the time, we feel as if we face our greatest challenges alone. A lonely place of desperation is a dark place to be.

Don't ever go there. Look to God. When money, friends, education, hospitals, doctors and the church can't fix what you are facing God can see you through. He never leaves us or forsakes us. His hand is strong and nothing can pull us out of his mighty hand.

Glenn Mollette is a graduate of numerous schools including Georgetown College, Southern and Lexington Seminaries in Kentucky. He is the author of "Uncommon Sense" and 12 other books. His column is published weekly in over 600 publications in all 50 states. Learn more at www.glennmollette.com or www.facebook.com/glennmollette.



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Briefs

From Page 1

places-to-get-married/18721 for the full report.

What experts say

What factors should couples consider when setting a budget for their wedding?

"In my premarital counseling practice, I tell couples to determine what they can afford for their wedding without sacrificing their future. In other words, do not mortgage your future to splurge on your wedding. No research indicates an expensive wedding leads to a happy long-term marriage. In fact, the opposite seems to be true. Know what you can afford, set priorities, and keep to your budget."

— Bill Walkup, Assistant Professor;
Southwest Baptist University

"Couples need to have realistic and honest conversations about the type of wedding they want and can afford. As appropriate, they also

need to talk with parents or others who will also be involved with planning and paying for the wedding. Many potential costs are surrounding the event. Major ones can include the dress for the bride as well as apparel for the groom and the attendants, the reception location and food, the photographer, flowers, wedding rings, and the honeymoon. Additionally, there may be travel and lodging for some of the guests. It is important to have a full picture and plan for the day and a detailed timeline for when each of these expenses will be incurred. Always consider who will be paying for these expenses and carefully consider and discuss the expectations from the source."

— Paula Tripp, Ph.D, Teaching Professor and
Sissy R. Osteen, Ph.D, CFP®, Associate
Professor; Oklahoma State University

How should a couple decide where to get married?

"This is a discussion point where emotions

See BRIEFS, Page 4

Food for thought By John Grimaldi

‘Senior moments’ are normal

Dementia is a medical issue for your doctor

Dementia is not an inevitable part of growing old. On the other hand memory issues are, indeed, a part of the aging process.

A new study published in the journal, *Trends in Cognitive Science*, reveals that perhaps forgetfulness is a result of an overabundance of information we have stored in our brains, according to the authors of the review, Tarek Amer at Columbia and Harvard Universities and Jordana Wynn at Harvard. Their assessment asserts that: “Healthy aging is accompanied by declines in control of attention. These reductions in the control of attention result in older adults processing too much information, creating cluttered memory representations. Cluttered representations can impair memory by interfering with the retrieval of target information but can also provide an advantage on tasks that benefit from extensive knowledge.”

In other words, the older you are the more information you have stored in your brain – so much information that it can interfere with your ability to remember. However, as someone once explained, it is normal to forget where you left your glasses, it is not normal to forget that you wear glasses. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) says that forgetting things that can disrupt your life is not part of growing old.

The CDC says the risk factors for dementia include smoking, high blood pressure, not getting enough exercise, being overweight, trouble sleeping, isolation and blood sugar levels and cites the British medical journal, *The Lancet*, which suggests that dealing with these risk factors can “prevent or delay” 40% of dementia cases.

There is a distinct difference between being absent-minded every so often and serious cognitive problems, according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The NIH notes, “It’s normal to forget things once in a while as we age, but serious memory problems make it hard to do everyday things like driving, using the phone, and finding your way home.”

One can only report on the differences between “senior moments,” normal occasions of forgetfulness, and the potential of dementia. So, if you are having too many forgetful moments, you should consult your health care provider.

The Association of Mature American Citizens (<http://www.amac.us>) is a senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. We act and speak on their behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today.

Ten tips for a fire-safe home

The Hartford

Home fires can be a catastrophic event for any household. A lifetime of memories can be lost before your eyes in an instant. Or worse: 74% of all fire-related deaths occur in the home. Older Americans (age 65+) face even higher risk. Despite only making up 15% of the population, they account for 35% of all fire-related deaths. But the good news is that a little advance planning can greatly reduce your fire risk. Here are some easy safety tips to have a fire-safe home.

1. Make an escape plan and practice it

Schools and office buildings hold regular fire drills for a key reason: They work. Why wouldn’t you put in at least as much effort where you and your family sleep? Plot out both main and backup escape routes that take into account the physical abilities of every family member. Then get everyone in your household to practice to make sure the routes work as planned. Play a loud alarm sound on your phone to prepare everyone for the type of trigger they would hear in a real emergency.

2. Create fire-safe spaces

Most fires, whether caused by cooking, heating equipment, smoking or other sources, are a result of a flame or spark coming in contact with nearby flammable materials. At each area of your home where there is potential for fire danger – stove, fireplace, furnace, space heaters – take the time to clear a three-foot radius of any materials that could catch fire, especially paper, wood or fabric.

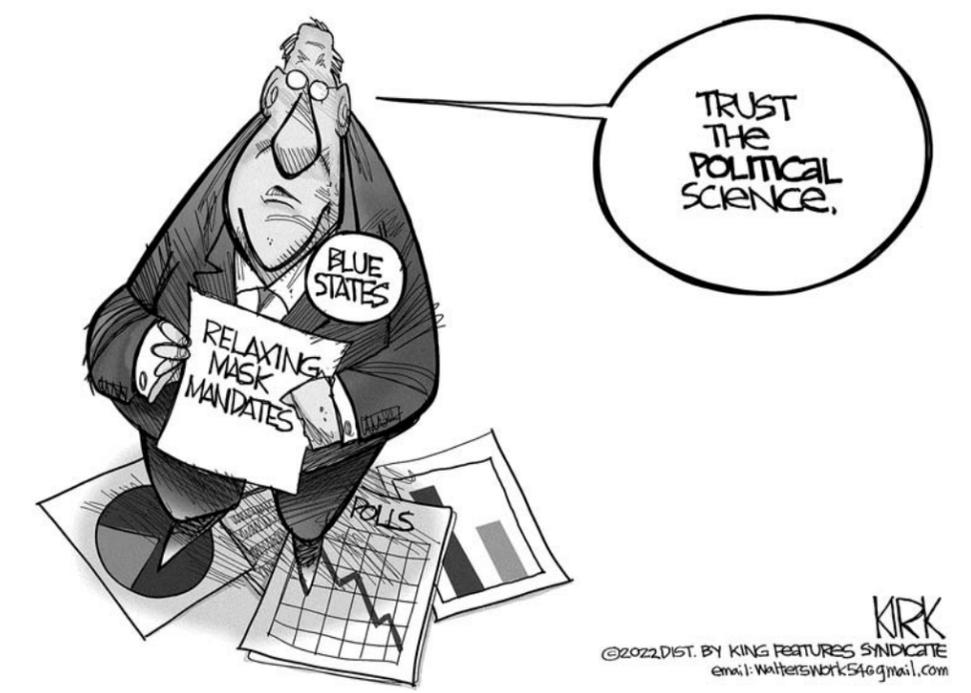
3. Don’t skip out on prep time

Many of us are in a hurry, especially when cooking, but with many house fires starting in the kitchen, rushing to get a meal on the table can prove to be a real fire danger. Take the time to concentrate on the task at hand and avoid distractions. Consider your recipe and prepare all ingredients and supplies before you start cooking. Make sure your phone is already nearby, so there’s no reason for you to leave the room while cooking. If you do have to step away, be sure to turn off the stove first. Don’t cook while overtired or when under the influence of alcohol or medications that can slow reflexes or make you drowsy.

4. Get alarmed

The early warning given by smoke alarms is critical. Almost 60% of all house fire fatalities occur in homes without functioning smoke detectors. Make sure you

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SISD offers free income tax preparations

Socorro ISD Career and Technical Education students to assist community

By Christy Flores-Jones
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Career and Technical Education students in the Socorro Independent School District, through a partnership with GECU Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), are offering free tax preparation services to the SISD community through April 14 at Americas, Socorro, Pebble Hills, Montwood, Eastlake, and Mission Early College high schools.

The high school students are enrolled in various CTE courses in business and financial fields. The students and their instructors have earned advanced certification to be qualified and prepared to help community members file their taxes free of charge.

To receive services, taxpayers with an annual income of \$58,000 or less can show up to one of the sites between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to file their 1040 EZ, 1040A and 1040 forms. Tax preparers ensure confidentiality and security of all documents.

Individuals must have:

- Original and current proof of identification (photo ID) for individual and spouse (VITA cannot file taxes for married couples filing separately);
- Original social security card for everyone listed in the income

SISD income tax preparation sites and dates:

Americas High School
12101 Pellicano Dr.
February 17, 22, 24
March 1, 3, 22, 24, 29, 31
April 5, 7, 12, 14

Montwood High School
12000 Montwood Dr.
February 17, 22, 24
March 1, 3, 22, 24, 29, 31
April 5, 7, 12, 14

Socorro High School
10150 Alameda Ave.
(access through Rio Vista)
February 21, 23, 28
March 2, 23, 28, 30
April 4, 6, 11, 13

Eastlake High School
13000 Emerald Pass
February 22, 23
March 1, 2, 22, 23, 29, 30
April 5, 6, 12, 13

Pebble Hills High School
14400 Pebble Hills Blvd.
February 17, 21, 24, 28
March 3, 24, 28, 31
April 4, 7, 11, 14

Mission Early College HS
10700 Gateway Blvd E.
February 17, 22, 24
March 1, 3, 22, 24, 29, 31
April 5, 7, 12, 14

tax return or a social security number verification letter issued by the Social Security Administration;

- All W-2 wage and earnings statements;
- 1099-SSA, 1099-R and 1099-G;
- Work expenses;
- Direct deposit information (account number and routing number);
- Form 1098 for any student loans;
- Both spouses must be present to sign required forms to file taxes electronically on a married filing jointly tax return;
- Proof of child or dependent care expenses;
- Property tax statements;
- Forms 1095-A, B or C, affordable health care statements;
- Current IRS PIN letter if individual is an identity-theft victim;
- Notice 1444-C, Economic Impact Payment for 2021; and
- Advance Child Tax Credit letter 6416 or 6416-A.

Briefs

From Page 2

and reasoning will undoubtedly both be present. Sometimes, the couple will choose a spot where they share a meaningful experience. Other times, the location is determined based upon where most of the relatives live. Another common option is to get married in the area where the bride and/or groom is from. Before the final decision is made, the couple should investigate to determine if the products and services they want to be included in the wedding and reception are available in that locale or can be obtained elsewhere while also staying under budget. Making the location convenient to as many attendants and probable guests as possible will cut costs for guests and family. Make sure that adequate housing is within driving distance, as well.”

– Paula Tripp, Ph.D, Teaching Professor and Sissy R. Osteen, Ph.D, CFP®, Associate Professor; Oklahoma State University

“If they want their hometown friends and families to attend, it should be there. Destination weddings look great on Instagram but are often a financial burden on the guests. So think about who you are inviting and what makes sense.”

– Bahira Trask, Ph.D., Professor, University of Delaware

Weddings can often be an economic boost to local businesses. What measures can local authorities undertake in order to stimulate weddings in their respective communities?

“[Local authorities should] encourage wedding-related services (catering, florists, etc.) to locate in their jurisdictions so they are seen as wedding-planning friendly; use social media to advertise the advantages of their location; perhaps even set a special tax rate for wedding-related service (might be hard to enforce).”

– Naomi R. Cahn, Professor; University of Virginia

“They can promote some more ‘unconventional’ venues - museums, parks, large public spaces like meeting halls, etc. If they offered incentives, couples would be inclined to use a place they may not have considered previously.”

– Bahira Trask, Ph.D., Professor; University of Delaware

– Diana Polk



Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
In the Roman calendar, March was generally considered the first month of the new year. Ceasar must have been a Texan.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

• Leona Woods was the only woman physicist on the team that built the world's first nuclear reactor as part of the Manhattan Project. She became a mother during the project, but hid her pregnancy as not to miss work. Afterward, as a professor, she authored more than 200 papers in physics and astrophysics.

• A 10-second French kiss spreads around 80 million bacteria between the two smoochers.

• Director Michael Bay (“Transformers”) traced his interest in action films to when he attached firecrackers to a toy train and filmed the ensuing fiery disaster with his mother’s 8 mm camera. The fire department was called, and Bay was grounded.

• The African country of Zambia entered the Space Race in the 1960s with a plan to visit Mars and convert aliens to Christianity. The plan unraveled when one of the “Afronauts” got pregnant, another pulled out to join a local dance group and a third went missing.

• Libyan revolutionary Moammar Gadhafi had a serious obsession with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, showering her with over \$200,000 in gifts and having a famous local composer write a song for her called “Black Flower in the White House.”

• As if job interviews weren't stressful enough, some notably head-scratching questions asked by employers include “If Germans were the tallest people in the world, how would you prove it?” (Hewlett-Packard), “Why is a tennis ball fuzzy?” (Xerox), and “Are you exhaling warm air?” (Walker Marketing)

Thought for the Day: “Few people know how to take a walk. The qualifications are endurance, plain clothes, old shoes, an eye for nature, good humor, vast curiosity, good speech, good silence and nothing too much.”

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

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CryptoQuip Answer

If Elmer Fudd is being heavily teased by Bugs Bunny, he might be having a bad hare day.

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Moments in time
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On Feb. 21, 1952, men's figure skater Dick Button wins his second Olympic gold medal. Button captured his first gold prize at the 1948 Olympics, becoming the first American to ever take home the men's title. Button retired from amateur skating in 1952 and went on to perform with the Ice Capades as well as graduate from Harvard Law School.

• On Feb. 22, 1946, George Kennan, the temporary American ambassador in Moscow, sends an 8,000-word telegram to the Department of State detailing his views on the Soviet Union, and U.S. policy toward the communist state. Kennan's analysis provided one of the most influential underpinnings for America's Cold War policy of containment.

• On Feb. 23, 1885, a 19-year-old man named John Lee is sent to the gallows in Exeter, England, for the murder of a rich, older woman. However, the gallows equipment malfunctioned three times and Lee was not dropped. He was then sent back to prison.

• On Feb. 24, 1969, after a North Vietnamese mortar shell rocks their Douglas AC-47 gunship, Airman First Class John L. Levitow throws himself on an activated flare and tosses it out of the aircraft just before it ignites. For saving his fellow crewmembers and the gunship, Airman Levitow was later awarded the Medal of Honor.

• On Feb. 25, 1890, Vlacheslav Skryabin, foreign minister for the Soviet Union who took the revolutionary name Molotov, is born in Russia. Molotov advocated the use of throwing bottles filled with flammable liquid and stuffed with a lit rag, and the famous "Molotov cocktail" was born.

• On Feb. 26, 1903, Alexander Winton, driving his Winton Bullet, sets the first speed record ever achieved at Daytona Beach, Florida. Built in 1902 the "Bullet Number 1" drove a measured mile at over 65 mph.

• On Feb. 27, 1860, President Abraham Lincoln poses for the first of several portraits by noted Civil War-era photographer Mathew Brady. A relatively new art form, the photograph (or daguerreotype) showed a beardless Lincoln just moments before he delivered an address at Cooper Union.

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Fire

From Page 3

have smoke alarms installed on each level of your home and in rooms where

people sleep. Replace the batteries twice a year when you have to reset your clocks for Daylight Saving (set a calendar reminder if you need to).

5. Have the right firefighting tools

Having a fire extinguisher on hand is a great idea, but it helps to have the right kind for the type of fire you'll likely face:

- Class A is great for ordinary combustibles like wood, paper and plastic.
 - Class B is for liquids like gasoline, oils or solvents.
 - Class C works for electrical fires.
 - Class D is best for combustible and reactive metals.
- At home you'll likely face one of the first three



— The Hartford

OVERLOADED – If your home was built before 1974, you should have a licensed electrician inspect your wiring to protect against electrical fires.

See FIRE, Page 6

**Socorro Independent School District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021**

Data Control Codes	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects 2018-2021	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:					
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 109,589,238	\$ 45,831,802	\$ 383,016	\$ 373,090	\$ 156,177,146
5800 State Program Revenues	319,127,203	16,232,775	–	3,899,865	339,259,843
5900 Federal Program Revenues	6,030,016	–	–	66,573,005	72,603,021
5020 Total Revenues	434,746,457	62,064,577	383,016	70,845,960	568,040,010
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	273,222,729	–	331,485	36,440,937	309,995,151
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	5,475,365	–	–	311,914	5,787,279
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	2,713,262	–	–	3,412,012	6,125,274
0021 Instructional Leadership	5,084,015	–	–	1,515,467	6,599,482
0023 School Leadership	28,013,718	–	23,113	345,802	28,382,633
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	12,585,557	–	–	4,134,764	16,720,321
0032 Social Work Services	928,166	–	–	820,515	1,748,681
0033 Health Services	5,664,456	–	16,444	2,401,662	8,082,562
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	14,291,370	–	–	1,412,531	15,703,901
0035 Food Services	207,876	–	1,456,863	21,275,036	22,939,775
0036 Extracurricular Activities	9,530,769	–	–	350,217	9,880,986
0041 General Administration	10,336,593	–	–	274,713	10,611,306
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	40,120,063	–	–	624,961	40,745,024
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	8,882,100	–	–	405,093	9,287,193
0053 Data Processing Services	6,493,160	–	532,964	62,260	7,088,384
0061 Community Services	814,898	–	–	1,404,740	2,219,638
Debt Service:					
0071 Principal on Long-Term Debt	2,883,011	26,504,105	–	–	29,387,116
0072 Interest on Long-Term Debt	256,139	35,313,362	–	–	35,569,501
0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	–	734,357	–	–	734,357
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	12,227,935	–	154,114,029	27,383	166,369,347
Intergovernmental:					
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	1,894,286	–	–	–	1,894,286
6030 Total Expenditures	441,625,468	62,551,824	156,474,898	75,220,007	735,872,197
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(6,879,011)	(487,247)	(156,091,882)	(4,374,047)	(167,832,187)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):					
7901 Refunding Bonds Issued	–	61,239,993	–	–	61,239,993
7912 Sale of Real and Personal Property	164,383	–	–	–	164,383
7913 Capital Leases	4,798,554	–	–	–	4,798,554
7915 Transfers In	–	–	–	39,310	39,310
7916 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	–	11,193,967	–	–	11,193,967
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	(4,539,310)	–	–	–	(4,539,310)
8940 Payment to Bond Refunding Escrow Agent (Use)	–	(71,721,296)	–	–	(71,721,296)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	423,627	712,664	–	39,310	1,175,601
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	(6,455,384)	225,417	(156,091,882)	(4,334,737)	(166,656,586)
0100 Fund Balance – July 1 (Beginning)	116,106,607	65,091,181	349,735,923	6,802,486	537,736,197
1300 Prior Period Adjustment	–	–	–	172,554	172,554
3000 Fund Balance – June 30 (Ending)	\$ 109,651,223	\$ 65,316,598	\$ 193,644,041	\$ 2,640,303	\$ 371,252,165

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



Lowry

From Page 2

Park West apartment building. Shockingly, the data effort continued after Trump was inaugurated. Joffe took advantage of his company's "sensitive arrangement" to provide services to the executive office of the president "for the purpose of gathering derogatory information about Donald Trump."

Meanwhile, Sussmann used the deceptive work product from all of this sleuthing to try to convince the FBI and apparently the CIA that Trump was colluding with Russia. (Durham has indicted Sussmann for lying to the FBI to try to hide his connection to the Clinton campaign.)

Durham pointedly refers to what Sussmann was hawking as "purported data." This operation was of a piece with the spurious Steele dossier that helped launch

the FBI probe of the Trump campaign that morphed into the Mueller investigation.

Or, to use Durham's terms, purported data drove purported investigations and ungodly amounts of purported journalism, all building toward purported collusion that eventually, under the weight of facts and logic, came to absolutely nothing.

If anyone involved in this investigative and journalistic fiasco is embarrassed by it, they

'Brittle' diabetes is hard to control

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 74 years old and have been a brittle Type 1 diabetic for 50 years. I have no history of heart disease. My doctor of 40 years recently retired and had me control my hemoglobin A1C to a range of 5.9-6.2. My new doctor, who is in her mid-30s, wants me to elevate my hemoglobin A1C to 8.0. Is this the new way of controlling blood sugar? I am confused! Can you please explain the difference in opinion? – E.S.



"Brittle" diabetes is when it is hard to control too-high and too-low blood sugars.

The A1C is a blood test that looks at average blood sugar over the past few months. A normal A1C is between 4% and 5.6%. People with normal A1C levels are at very low risk of complications from diabetes, especially of the kidneys (leading to dialysis), eyes (which ultimately leads to blindness) and nerves (diabetic neuropathy is painful and predisposes to injury).

On the other hand, low A1C levels put people at higher risk for low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), which can be very dangerous. People with Type 2 diabetes and blockages in blood vessels (or at very high risk) were shown to have higher risk of heart attack. For this reason, recent guidelines for older adults with Type 2 diabetes have had more relaxed goals, in the range of 7 to 8, although these do need to be individualized. For Type 1 diabetes, most guidelines still recommend an A1C goal of less than 7%. However, for a person with Type 1 diabetes who also has other medical problems that are likely to impact mortality, and for those at high risk for severe hypoglycemia, a more relaxed goal is not unreasonable.

Hypoglycemia is too-low blood sugar, with risk of confusion. This is a big problem in people with brittle diabetes.

A lower A1C is associated with a lower risk of damage to small blood vessels, which is what is responsible for nerve damage, eye disease and most diabetic kidney disease. If you have been able to keep your A1C in the range of 5.9 to 6.2, which is not an easy feat, and have not had any serious episodes of low blood sugar recently, I would wonder why your new doctor feels your blood sugar needs to be substantially higher than it is.

Finding the right balance between good control and freedom from hypoglycemia isn't always easy, but these are the risks and benefits your doctors have been considering.

DEAR DR. ROACH: My husband required frequent antibiotics, which resulted in C. diff infections with diarrhea. I found that adding some dry powdered fiber in his drinks helped to prevent the diarrhea, or to treat it if caught early enough. I hope this will help someone else. – M.M.

I appreciate you writing.

Clostridium difficile is a cause of antibiotic-associated diarrhea, which can occur with almost any antibiotic. As such, the best prevention is not taking antibiotics. Unfortunately, though, sometimes antibiotics are absolutely necessary.

There are some data that fiber supplements, as you have kindly suggested, can help prevent C. diff. Although many have used probiotics for the same purpose, the data does not support their effectiveness.

Because lack of acid is a risk for development of C. diff, it's wise to temporarily hold off antacid therapy, such as omeprazole.

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) 2022 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

haven't shown it. If any of them thinks it's bad practice to spy on a campaign and a newly elected president to use the resulting information to try to gull U.S. government agencies, they haven't said so. If any of them are thinking "never again," they won't admit it.

Until they do, maybe they should temper their preachiness about threats to our system and norms.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2022 by King Features Synd., Inc.



Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
 March 2 is Texas Independence Day! Drink a toast, have a party, eat some Chili, or AT LEAST throw your hat in the air and thank God you're in Texas!

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 B

QP GFWGU PTBB QX CGQVS
 YGHDQFM EGHXGB CM CTSX
 CTVVM, YG WQSYE CG
 YHDQVS H CHB YHUG BHM.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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A veteran comes in from the cold



by Freddy Groves

The dormitory veterans had made their way down to the railroad tracks in the woods, battling buffeting winds and sleet. There, it was rumored, they'd find a young homeless veteran living in a tent.

The rumor was true. The veteran was given a choice: accept a basket of food and dry socks or come back to town and warm up until the snow stopped.

He accepted the offer of warmth and came back to the coffee shop to wait out the storm. Sarge watched as he was escorted in, parked at the counter and given hot coffee and sandwiches.

"Son," he said to the new arrival, "Did I see you limping?"

"Yes, sir, probably."

"Let's pull off those boots and take a look."

Turned out the veteran had a case of first-stage frostbite

across all of his toes. Sarge hooked a thumb toward the kitchen, where he warmed up a pan of water and had the veteran soak his feet.

Meanwhile they talked, the veteran and Sarge. He'd never gone home, the veteran said, after getting out. Was certain he wouldn't be welcome, being the first in a large family of "damn pacifists" to serve in the military. His parents' home was mere miles away, and sometimes he crept up to watch them through the window, he said, but no, he'd never even called them the whole time he was away.

An hour and several sandwiches later, the toes looked better and Sarge handed the young veteran a cellphone.

"I want you to call your mother," he said.

"I did the unforgivable," the veteran replied, shaking his head.

"Call. Tell your mother you have frostbite on your toes. She'll know exactly what to do."

The next morning, once the roads were plowed, Sarge drove the young veteran home,

watching from a distance as 30 exuberant people came rushing out, scooped up their wayward boy in a hero's welcome, and carried him inside.

Sarge smiled.

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• If you store nail polish in the fridge, it will dry more quickly and last longer.

• "In cold winter months, keep your robe (and slippers or whatever else) under the covers with you when you sleep. Pull it next to or over you a few minutes before you get up. It'll be toasty and will help make the transition into the cold a little less harsh." – G.G. in New York

• As tax time draws ever closer, try taping a large manila envelope to the fridge, leaving the top open. Immediately place all tax-related forms and receipts in the envelope as they come in. This way, when you are ready to start your taxes, all items will be together and easy to find.

• "To help moisten really dry feet, slather on lotion, wrap feet in plastic wrap, then slip on some socks overnight – or for as long as you can stand it." – B.H. in Michigan

• "My no-iron tip: I toss the wrinkly garment into the dryer for about five to 10 minutes with a damp washcloth, and it steams most wrinkles out. It won't look starched and pressed, but it's good enough for casual wear or running-late mornings. I haven't ironed in years." – E.W. in Florida

• Don't forget to clean your washing machine every so often by running it on the highest-temperature cycle empty after adding a gallon of vinegar. This will clean out the hoses and get rid of stuck-on detergents.

• To remove soot from your carpet, sprinkle it with salt, let sit and then vacuum. Repeat as many times as necessary to remove all traces.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2022 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.

	-		x					10
+		x		+				
	-		x					7
÷		-		÷				
	x		-					4
6		3		2				

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult

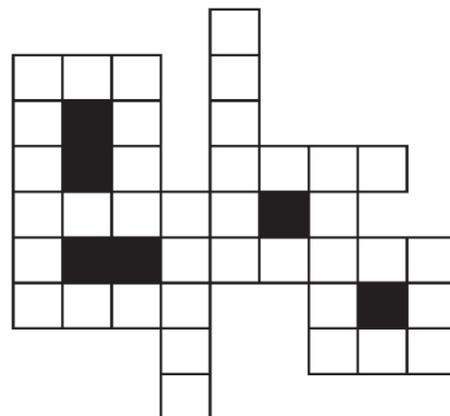
★★★ GO FIGURE!

Answer Page 4

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- ♥ NBI
- LUNICE
- ZAMOT
- VOAN
- ♥ SNITEL
- ♥ BOR
- ♥ EDRO
- ♥ ABZER
- ♥ ITN
- ♥ BRIMET
- TOZYL
- ♥ MBLA



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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