



## NEWSBRIEFS

### River bed cleaned up

El Paso Water and its partners have completed 100 percent of the riverbed clean-up effort following the Frontera Wastewater Emergency, when wastewater was diverted to the Rio Grande. Work remains to continue the characterization and removal of soils from the banks of the river. "As agreed upon with our partners, when the water is released from Elephant Butte, the river will be ready," said Gilbert Trejo, Interim Chief Operations Officer for Production and Treatment. Approximately six to twelve inches of impacted soil has been removed from portions of the riverbed. The piles are stockpiled on the riverbank to dry out so they can be tested and transported for proper disposal. This work will continue for weeks as thousands of truckloads remove the piles. Water quality sampling shows that river flows have returned to pre-discharge conditions.

– Denise Parra

### Financial advice

Around 62 percent of people feel that they currently don't get comprehensive financial advice, according to WalletHub's new 2022 Financial Health Survey. In response to this consumer need, WalletHub launched WalletScore, a free feature that diagnoses your overall financial health based on your credit, spending, emergency preparedness and retirement funds. Key Stats include:

- Young people want more in-depth financial advice. Young people are nearly 3 times more likely than those over 59 to say a complete look at their financial health would be very helpful.
- A credit score is one piece of the puzzle. 55% of people think a credit score alone is not sufficient for managing their finances.
- There is demand for a free WalletScore. 52% of people would like to get their WalletScore for free.
- Emergency preparedness is lacking. 30% of people say they are not prepared for a financial emergency.
- Retirement plans are in trouble. More than half (53%) of people say they are not on track for retirement.
- A complete financial picture is much needed. 40% of people think a complete look at their financial health would be very helpful.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/blog/financial-health-survey/104845> for the complete survey results.

– Diana Polk

**No matter whether you are on the road or in an argument, when you begin to see red, STOP!**

– Quips & Quotes

## Corral Jr. to play in AT&T Stadium

By **Adriana Candelaria**  
*Special to the Courier*

ANTHONY, TX – Anthony Elementary School fifth grade student Sebastian Corral Jr. will represent Southern New Mexico and West Texas at the National Dream All American Team at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, TX this June.

Sebastian was picked out of hundreds of candidates nationwide. His impressive accomplishment is a dream come true for the 11-year-old who attended his first Dallas Cowboys game just a few years ago.

"It was my first [Cowboys] game and his first game," Sebastian Corral Sr. said.

"He was excited, and he told me 'Dad, one day I'm going to play here'", Corral Sr. said.

That statement seemed like a long shot at the time since Corral Sr. said his son did not play football yet.

The family says they were often stopped out in public by coaches who saw Corral



– Image courtesy Anthony ISD

**CONFIRMATION – Sebastian Corral Jr. received this invite to play in the National Dream All American Team game in AT&T Stadium in Arlington, TX.**

Jr. and believed his body build was ideal for football. When he was about nine years old, his parents enrolled him in tackle football. He previously played flag football.

"What I like about football is the defense, when I [reach] the quarterback,"

Corral Jr. said.

After playing for a series of teams, his mom submitted his best highlights to the National Dream All American Team committee. When Corral Jr. was accepted

See CORRAL JR., Page 6



– Internet

**TEACHERS NEEDED – The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is bringing together public education leaders – who come from a variety of districts, geographies, and student populations statewide – to participate in a newly formed Teacher Vacancy Task Force (TVTF). The initiative is designed to better understand the significant staffing challenges facing Texas public schools and to make comprehensive recommendations to address these issues. TVTF members will rely heavily on input of current teachers, like the one shown above.**

### TEA establishes task force

## Texas faces teacher shortages in public schools

By **Alfredo Vasquez**  
*Special to the Courier*

TEXAS – To help alleviate staffing shortages currently facing Texas public schools, a Teacher Vacancy Task Force (TVTF) has been formed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). In El Paso County alone, the nine public school districts, combined, will need hundreds

of additional teachers and staff personnel for the next school year.

TEA officials stated recently that the new task force is a way to find solutions that address the serious staffing challenges. They said that the continued population growth of Texas was already contributing to a staffing shortage in some of the state's urban, suburban, and rural public school districts, as well as in schools that required teachers who specialized in

certain programs, like special education and English as a second language. But the COVID-19 pandemic has amplified these challenges as spikes in COVID cases have led to many public schools across Texas being short-staffed and unable to find substitute teachers.

The staffing shortages are occurring, TEA officials pointed out, despite the

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# A shocking assault on the Supreme Court

Despite what you might have learned in high school civics, the Supreme Court really only has one role in our system of government – to uphold *Roe v. Wade*.

That's the animating sentiment behind the furor over the leak of a Supreme Court opinion drafted for a majority by Justice Samuel Alito overturning the abortion decision.

Left-wing commentators have hailed the shocking

leak of the opinion and said that the Court deserves to be burned down and even ended altogether for the offense of finding no constitutional warrant for one of the court's most controversial and consequential decisions of the last half-century.

The leak, assuming it's legitimate (there's little reason to doubt it) and assuming it came from someone on the left of the court (which seems most likely), is a brazen

breach of the Court's rules in an attempt to sabotage its deliberations.

The Court has been one of the few institutions in our national life that has managed to maintain a measure of self-respect and integrity. Its oral arguments aren't televised, which always tempts people to play to the cameras. The arguments are invariably civil and substantive, even if intense – in contrast to what is heard on cable news, social media, or on the floor of Congress. The Court has honored confidentiality as it considers a case and justices

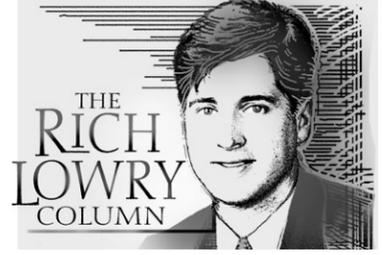
write and share their opinions among one another. The leaker, whether a justice, a clerk or a staffer, clearly intended to engender a huge reaction to try to intimidate a member of the majority into changing his or her mind.

This is how hardball politics works in Congress or in the executive branch, where strategic leaks are the norm and very often no one trusts nobody. It's completely inimical to the spirit of the Supreme Court, which is supposed to decide its cases as a strict matter of law free of political influence.

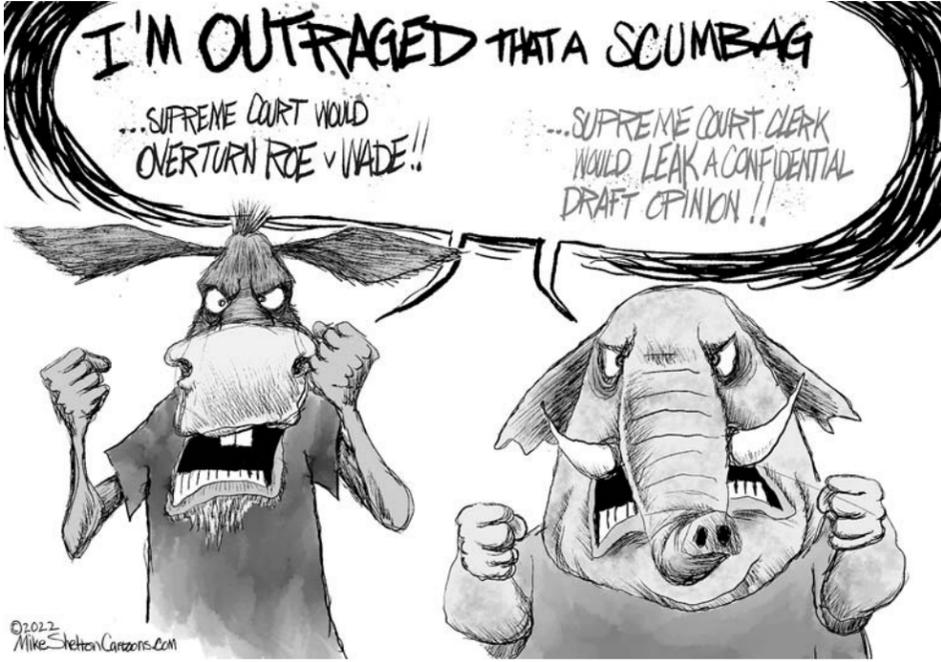
Tellingly, almost no one on the left criticized the leak. Instead, many praised it as an act of brave defiance that reflects the gravity of the moment.

This is yet another sign of the hypocrisy of all the Trump-era lectures from progressives about the importance of norms and neutrally applied rules. As soon as a Supreme Court decision might go against them, they abandon all pretense of believing any of that and attempt to bludgeon the Court into submission.

The leak, in its own way, brings home how one of the key assumptions in the Court's abortion jurisprudence has been wrong all along. It imagined itself settling



See LOWRY, Page 7



## Food for thought By John Grimaldi

### Surprising study shows Washington state is where older citizens are 'living better lives'

The isolation triggered by the pandemic has caused many seniors to re-evaluate their living conditions, particularly those who are living alone. "To be sure, the lack of nearby or live-in family members ranks high in considering a move to a more senior-friendly locale," according to Rebecca Weber, CEO of the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC).

And Weber points out that the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) estimates there are currently some

10.6 million seniors 65 and older who are still in the workforce and if you are one of them you'll want to seek out worker-friendly locales. By the way, she says, the BLS estimates that the number of 65-plus seniors still working is expected to increase to 16 million by 2030, including 32% in the 65 to 74 age range and nearly 12% in the over-75 range.

So, if you're a senior and looking to make a move, how do you pick a place that can address your needs? Many of you, if not

most of you, would probably pick Florida as the ideal destination. If nothing else, Florida is noted for its climate and has long been considered the place to go when you retire. But a new study conducted by the senior housing experts at Seniorly.com put Florida in 28th place in its list of states where older citizens are "living better lives."

"Florida, for example, which has long been thought of as a primary retirement destination, was in the middle of the pack. This is likely due to the nuances of our analysis, which sought to determine which states have made the most progress when it comes to improving the lives of older adults. So, that means a state like Florida probably didn't have as far to go as others," explain the folks at Seniorly.

Seniorly's analysis compared all 50 states and the District of

Columbia and had a potential top score of 306 across four main categories: physical health, mental health, finances, and social lives. "While no states reached that lofty goal, a couple of them got fairly close. Washington was the top state overall, scoring 248.8, just two points ahead of second-place finisher, North Dakota. Washington's winning performance was powered by its strength across three of the four categories, ranking second in physical health and social factors and fifth in finances." Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont ranked third, fourth and fifth.

As for the states with the lowest scores, they were Hawaii, Arkansas, Utah, Michigan and Nevada, in that order.

AMAC reached out to Seniorly for a pre-publication comment on this article. Their reply: "Much

of what you read about seniors is often negative. In our work with seniors and their families we've seen remarkable improvements in quality of life, health and happiness. We conducted this study to show where in America the outlook for seniors has improved the most. Even the states that ranked lower in our analysis are still better off than they were 10 years ago. While COVID-19 was devastating, the lives of seniors as a whole are improving."

*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.*

## Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

### Naomi Judd, suicide and life's appointment

We've all heard of people who have taken their lives by suicide. We typically wonder why? We wonder what was so bad about their lives that they could not cope another day?

We were shocked by the sudden death of Naomi Judd. She was a country music star and legend. She and her daughter Wynonna had racked up 14 number one hits. They had five Grammy awards and twenty million plus album sales. A new tour was planned for this Fall and the day after her death an induction ceremony was scheduled for the Country Music Hall of Fame. She apparently had it all. She had a long-term 30-year marriage, successful daughters and fame and fortune. What more could a human being want? Apparently, something was still wrong.

Depression and mental illness apparently can

become a hole so deep and so dark that once someone is in it, they don't feel they are emotionally able to survive or escape the darkness.

We have seen other personalities that took their lives such as comedian Robin Williams and Anthony Bourdain who traveled the world tasting and showing various lifestyles and cuisines.

Mental illness comes in various forms and affects people in different ways and on different levels. Everyone has down days, the blahs and feelings of unhappiness. The weather affects us. Rainy or snowy days may eventually get to us. Too many bills and not enough money to pay them can work on our minds. A sick or troubled family member may worry us or make us feel bad. Our

See SUICIDE, Page 4

1973  
**49**  
Years  
2022

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# Gomez receives Minnie Stevens Piper Award

By Ismael De La Rosa  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Community College (EPCC) Professor of Philosophy, Manuela Alejandra Gomez was announced as a 2022 Piper Professor for the state of Texas. After receiving and carefully reviewing nominations of top professors submitted by colleges and universities across the State, the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation awarded 10 professors for their superior teaching and extraordinary academic, scientific, and scholarly achievements, and for their remarkable dedication to the teaching profession.

This is one of the most prestigious, statewide awards for teaching excellence in higher education. It is not often this recognition goes to a community college professor, so EPCC officials say they are especially proud of Gomez’s work and the important role of faculty. EPCC professors not only teach in the classroom as accomplished academics but they are also successful in their respective professional fields. “EPCC is proud of Professor Manuela Gomez for being competitively selected a Minnie Stevens Piper Award recipient,” Dr. Steven Smith, Vice President of Instruction and Workforce Education said. “Her extraordinary efforts are seen both inside and outside of the classroom as she makes a powerful impact on students and has become a transformative voice in the field of philosophy.”

Gomez is currently the EPCC District-wide Coordinator for Philosophy, Coordinator of Faculty Development, Faculty Campus Coordinator at Valle Verde, and is a Faculty Senator. She is an award-winning professor, journalist, and author who has been widely cited, quoted, and interviewed for her expertise on U.S.-Mexico border education and politics in the international and national media. She specializes in philosophical pedagogy, ethics, feminism, and Latin American

philosophy. Gomez has 17 years of teaching experience and is a doctoral candidate in Teaching, Learning, and Culture at the University of Texas at El Paso.

As someone who learned English as a second language while studying at EPCC herself, Gomez is committed to being a role model for students, is aware of the importance of her voice as a woman of color and being actively engaged with the community. She says that through the years, she has found that philosophy is a dynamic tool for healing and transformation. “Being selected as one of the best professors in the state of Texas is a huge honor to me because there are not many women in philosophy, much less women from the U.S.-Mexico border,” Gomez said. “As a philosophy professor at EPCC, I get to encourage my students to be critical, to seek justice, and to discover the power of putting philosophy into action to improve our community. Most of my academic research and philosophical pedagogy focus on creating a representation of diverse voices in philosophy and including those who have been neglected.”

Her students describe how Gomez has positively influenced their lives. Rocio Fierro, a former EPCC philosophy student of Gomez and former EPCC Student Government President said, “Representation and visibility are critical for students to see themselves accomplishing their own goals. As a Mexican American woman, teaching philosophy, Professor Gomez embodies hope, resilience, hard work, and excellence.”

Not only does Gomez lead students in the classroom,

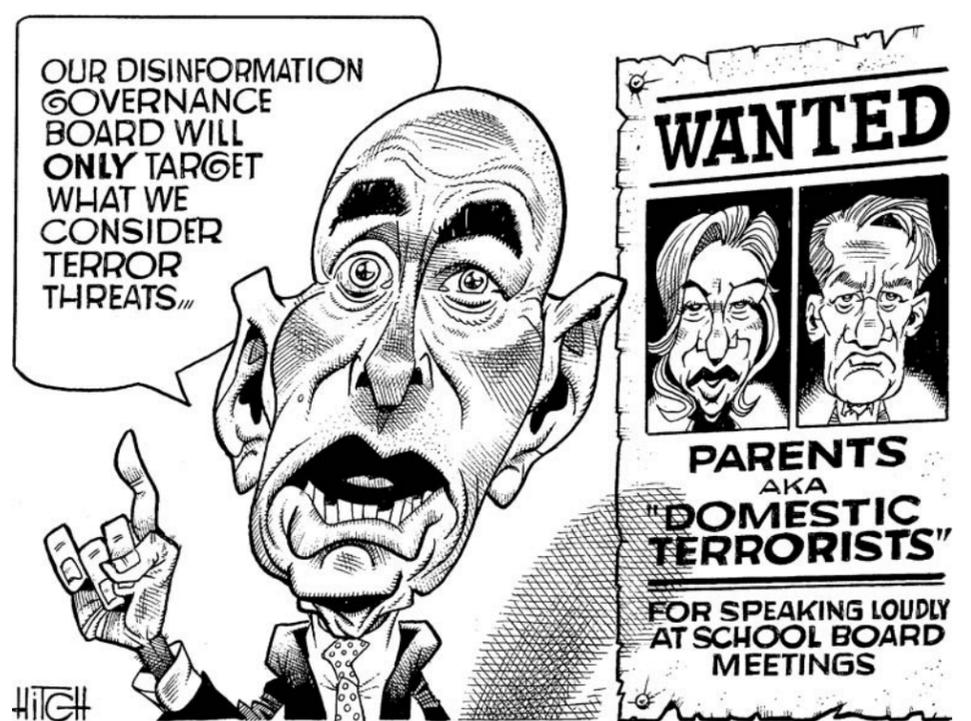
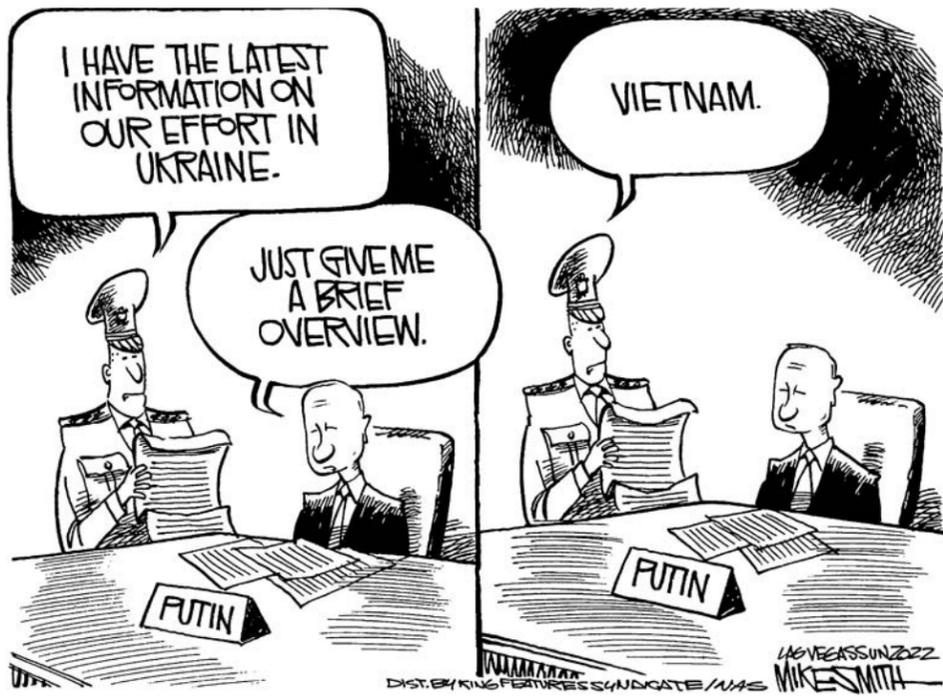
but she also helps them outside of the classroom with community work and is the faculty sponsor for the extracurricular student Philosophy Club. Gomez and her students have raised more \$40,000 for community projects as well as held drives for clothing, sewn masks during COVID and other projects. “From her unique and participatory curriculum, commitment to the flourishing of the active and life-changing and potentially life-saving EPCC Philosophy Club, to her publications of articles and books, or national and international presentations given to other members of the community or academics in conferences, to her active involvement as a respected member of multiple academic committees, Professor Gomez is undoubtedly a phenomenal example for us, students, and community members, here in the borderlands,” Daniel Avitia, EPCC Philosophy student said.

Additionally, Gomez was recently a guest lecturer at Harvard University. She is a book and textbook author and has published multiple academic articles and book reviews throughout her career. She has also received many regional national awards for her teaching and academic scholarship. In addition to her professional and academic endeavors, she also volunteers within the community and is a passionate advocate for the U.S.-Mexico border region.

EPCC will honor Gomez at this year’s faculty recognition dinner. Through the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation, she will receive an official certificate of merit, a gold pin, and a \$5,000 honorarium.



– Photo courtesy EPCC  
Manuela Alejandra Gomez



# Canutillo High School Chamber Choir earns high praise

By Liza Rodriguez  
Special to the Courier



– Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

**HARDWARE** – Though the photo is a little grainy, the trophy garnered by the Canutillo High School Chamber Choir can be seen in the center of the choir just over the ladies.

CANUTILLO – “It will be one of the most memorable concerts in three days of contest. Bravo to your outstanding choir and superb director. You knocked it out of the ballpark! Canutillo Choir’s got it goin’ on. BRAVO! BRAVO! BRAVO!”

That rave review given to the Canutillo Independent School District’s Canutillo High School (CHS) Chamber Choir by one of the judges at the 2022 University Interscholastic League (UIL) Regional Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation held on April 21, at Montwood High School, where the CHS ensemble under the direction of Guillermo Adame Jr., earned Sweepstakes for their performance.

Sweepstakes is the highest achievement under the evaluation. The state of Texas, through UIL, has established a rating system to measure music programs statewide. Choirs across the region were rated in two different categories – stage concert performance and music literacy, called sight-reading. CHS Chamber Choir achieved the highest possible rating, which is Division I or “Superior” from all judges, in both categories, resulting in the distinction of Sweepstakes for the ensemble.

“When the judges judge a group, they

seldom put down their pencils because they are writing critiques. I saw something I have never seen before,” said Dr. Regino Ramos, Canutillo ISD School of Music director and CHS band director. “The head judge, even before the final song was over, raised his hands above his head and began clapping for the choir. Then as the choir cut off the last note, the judge’s clapping turned into two thumbs up.”

In this year’s listing, there were 75 performing choirs, including middle and high schools. The participating choirs do not compete against each other, instead, performances are based on an evaluation against the statewide rubric to ensure that a Sweepstakes program in one part of the state matches up to a Sweepstakes program in any

other part of the state.

This is the third Sweepstakes earned by the CHS Chamber Choir but for the group, this one is a bit more memorable since it was the first time performing at UIL since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Coming off of COVID, not having performed at UIL for two years, and not having met live with the students for 1.5 years, this is quite an achievement,” Ramos said. “The choir program began with very few singers with any UIL experience, so earning this is a great accomplishment. A testament to the hard work of the students and choir director Mr. Adame. The program is also indebted to the great support that CHS Principal, Ms. Teresa Clapsaddle, and her administrative staff offer.”

# SISD offers High School Equivalency classes

By Christy Flores-Jones  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – The Socorro Independent School District began a High School

Equivalency (HSE) Fastrack initiative in April 2021. The initiative has resulted in a more than doubling of the number of students that have earned their GED® compared to last year, from 48 to 100. The district is on

track to graduate 120 students by June 30 compared to 64 for all last year.

The HSE summer classes will begin June 13 and will be only in the evening from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Adult students are

encouraged to get back on track and become SISD Community Education’s next success story. Registration will be from 4:30 to 6 p.m. May 17, 18, 24, and

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## Suicide

From Page 2

own personal health battles can make us feel down. Too much to do is troubling. Terminal illness that is rapidly getting worse puts us in a state of desperation to escape the outcome sooner rather than later.

There is more to depression than snapping our fingers to get out of it as proven by Judd. She openly talked about her illness. She wrote a book about it and reportedly had spent years medically dealing with her diseases. Severe mental illness can end sadly end tragically.

Reviewing her life, it seems there would be a counter argument for everything we are supposed to do. Get help. Take medication. Have a good doctor and a good counselor. Talk about the disease. Find meaningful things to do. Have hobbies. Stay busy. Pursue life. Be involved in meaningful relationships, have faith in God, etc. Judd appeared to do all of this and more.

Does this mean we have no hope if we have mental illness? We always have hope but we must be very aware of the seriousness of depression. Our mental state is serious and can be terminal.

Keep in mind that people successfully deal with mental illness every

day. It does not have to be the end. People seek counsel, medical help, faith in God and find coping solutions to dealing with depression and mental illness. Mental illness does not have to end badly.

Try to think of those left behind. Try to think about the spouse, the children and the loved ones who are left to go on. I have known people who were so physically sick that I understood their pain and desire to escape their bodies. Try to keep in mind that God made us and we all have an appointment with death. We don’t have to push the appointment. It’s coming to us all. Try to find a way to find purpose and peace with the brief life God has given to you. It will end soon enough.

*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](http://www.glennmollette.com) or [www.facebook.com/glennmollette](http://www.facebook.com/glennmollette).*

### National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – (800) 273-8285

After July 16, 2022 the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline’s designated three digit dialing code – 988 – will be in service nationwide. 988 will work for calls, texts and chats with trained counselors. The well known 800 number will still be active as well.

Visit [www.hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/mental-health-crisis-services/suicide-prevention](http://www.hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/mental-health-crisis-services/suicide-prevention) for Texas Suicide Prevention resources available in English and Spanish.



## CryptoQuip Answer

Device that was given to Adam to help him with soil maintenance in the Garden of Eden: A first-person aerator.

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## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Queen Elizabeth II is the only person in all of Britain allowed to legally drive without a license.

- Charles Darwin once conducted a study to discover whether more people with brown hair existed because they were more dependable and likely to settle down and get married. The results were inconclusive.

- In Australia, Speedos are called “Budgy Smugglers.”

- In the 1940s during World War II, interest in continental knitting, or knitting with the yarn in one’s left hand, decreased because of its origins in Germany, while English knitting, or knitting with the yarn in the right hand, gained popularity.

- Many of us will not be surprised to learn that approximately five months of a person’s life is spent waiting in a car at red lights.

- Looking to retire at age 65? You might want to reconsider, as scientists have noted that employees should keep working until they turn 80, but the good news is that for optimal productivity, they should also only work 25 hours a week.

- The Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan denounced the Beatles as atheistic, and Klan members picketed the band’s concerts during their 1966 U.S. tour.

- 7UP was originally called “Bib-Label Lithiated Lemon-Lime Soda” and, until 1948, contained the mood-stabilizing drug lithium citrate. One theory claims its abbreviated moniker originated from its seven ingredients – sugar, carbonated water, essence of lemon and lime oils, citric acid, sodium citrate and lithium citrate, with “UP” referring to the lithium-induced mood lift.

- Speaking of product name changes, L’Oreal was founded as the French Harmless Hair Dye Company.

- A 1991 study revealed that female politicians who employed Hollywoodmakeup artists were 30% more likely to win their elections.

Thought for the Day: “A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery while on a detour.”

– Anonymous

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## Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On May 9, 1960, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approves the world's first commercially produced birth-control pill, Enovid-10, made by the G.D. Searle Company of Chicago. Clinical tests of the pill had begun in 1954.

• On May 10, 1980, Treasury Secretary G. William Miller announces the approval of nearly \$1.5 billion in federal loan guarantees for the nearly bankrupt Chrysler Corporation, at the time the largest rescue package ever by the U.S. government to an American corporation. The loan terms required Chrysler to raise another \$2 billion on its own.

• On May 11, 1997, chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov resigns after 19 moves in a game against Deep Blue, a chess-playing computer developed by IBM scientists. It was the sixth and final game of their match, which Kasparov lost two games to one, with three draws.

• On May 12, 1932, the body of aviation hero Charles Lindbergh's baby is found, more than two months after he was kidnapped from his family's Hopewell, New Jersey, mansion. Kidnapping was made a federal crime in the aftermath of this high-profile crime.

• On May 13, 1607, some 100 English colonists arrive along the east bank of the James River in Virginia to found Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in North America. Dispatched from England by the London Company, they had sailed across the Atlantic aboard the Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery.

• On May 14, 1796, Edward Jenner, an English country doctor, administers the world's first vaccination as a preventive treatment for smallpox. Scientists following Jenner's model developed new vaccines to fight diseases such as polio, whooping cough, measles and tetanus.

• On May 15, 1942, gasoline rationing begins in 17 eastern states to aid the American war effort during World War II. By the end of the year, President Franklin Roosevelt had made gas rationing mandatory in all 48 states.

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## Teachers

From Page 1

fact that over the last two years nearly \$18 billion in COVID-19 government relief funding has been distributed to school systems throughout the state to help support the increase in the number of teacher, staff, and other support personnel positions that are needed for the 254 public school districts in the state.

“Teachers are the single most important school-based factor affecting student outcomes,” said TEA Commissioner Mike Morath. “The Teacher Vacancy Task Force will further ensure our ability to provide the best guidance, support, and resources to help schools find and retain the teachers they need for all their students.”

The TVTF committee is being tasked with developing a comprehensive set of strategies to address the vacancy challenges that districts are currently facing. With the force's input, TEA plans to identify best practices for addressing critical teacher vacancy and shortage areas, to explore opportunities for certification, placement, and hiring flexibilities, and to review regulatory and other policies for update revisions.

The task force is comprised of leaders in public education, who come from a variety of districts, geographies, and student populations from around the state, and is chaired by a teacher. TEA officials stated that the task force will meet every other month for one year, with Commissioner Morath and agency leadership regularly facilitating discussions with task force members.

Following its first meeting in April, TVTF members recommended expanding membership to more classroom teachers across the state. Members agreed that the motion was necessary to ensure that the perspective of current classroom teachers was fully represented in all future task force discussions and recommendations. In response a few days later, TEA expanded the task force to include an equal number of teachers as school system administrators.

Josue Tamarez Torres of Forney, a 4th and 5th grade math teacher from Dallas Independent School District, is serving as chair of the new initiative. Additionally, the TVTF is being organized into several workgroups that will be responsible for tackling

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

the different challenges already identified.

“I am honored for the opportunity to lead this task force focused on assuring that we have great teachers in every classroom,” Torres stated. “The reason I got into education is because I believe that a student's zip code shouldn't determine his or her fate, and this task force has the ability to recommend the needed changes and innovative

solutions necessary to ensure all Texas students have access to the high-quality educators they deserve,” Torres asserted.

“It is imperative that we include the insights and recommendations of current classroom teachers as the task force works to identify strong recommendations that can address the staffing shortages facing school systems across Texas,” stated Morath in a

recent news release. He added that by expanding the task force to include an equal number of teachers and administrators, it strengthens the group as more perspectives will be considered for solving the schools' mounting challenges.

For more information about the initiative, visit the new Teacher Vacancy Task Force webpage on Texas Education Agency's website (tea.texas.gov).

## HSE

From Page 4

25 at Options High School, 12380 Pine Springs Dr. Registration takes from 1-3 hours and will be conducted in person. Students may earn an HSE in one, two, four or eight weeks based on student readiness.

GED Ready® practice scores are used to place students in targeted classes after completing the 12-hour evaluation week

used to determine test readiness at the end of each module. Face-to-face and online tutoring provides personalized support for students who need additional support.

In addition, Texas residents, 21 years of age and older, who

do not already hold a secondary education diploma can qualify for free GED® testing. The SISD Community Education program offers free GED® test vouchers to qualified students through a Texas Workforce Commission grant.

## Registration Documents

- Texas Photo ID that includes a date of birth;
- Proof of residency will be required for non-Texas ID's;
- Social Security Card (preferred); and
- 17 and 18-year-old students must be accompanied by a parent and must bring withdrawal forms of last school attended.

## San Elizario Independent School District PUBLIC NOTICE

### Public Meeting to Review Federally Funded Programs

The San Elizario Independent School District will conduct a public information meeting to review the following SEISD Programs funded by Federal funds:

- Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs
- Title I, Part C – Education of Migratory Children
- Title I, Part C - Perkins V: Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century
- Title II, Part A – Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title III, Part A – English Language Acquisition (ELA)
- Title IV, Part A – Subpart 1 Student Support and Academic Enrichment
- Special Education Grant (IDEA B – Formula and IDEA B Preschool)

The meeting will be held:

**Friday, May 20, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Offices, Board Room. 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd. San Elizario, TX 79849.**

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

## San Elizario Independent School District AVISO PÚBLICO

### La Junta Pública para Revisar los Programas de Fondos Federales

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario llevará a cabo una junta pública para revisar los siguientes programas, fondos federales:

- Título I, Parte A – Mejorando Programas Básicos
- Título I, Parte C – Educación de niños migrantes
- Título I, Parte C – Perkins V: Fortalecimiento de las carreras y educación técnica para el siglo XXI
- Título II, Parte A – Apoyando la instrucción eficaz
- Título III, Parte A – Adquisición del idioma inglés (ELA)
- Título IV Parte A – Subparte 1 Apoyo estudiantil y enriquecimiento académico
- Beca de educación especial (IDEA B-formula y IDEA B preescolar)

La junta se llevará a cabo:

**viernes, 20 de mayo del 2022 a 9:00 a.m. en el salón de juntas en las oficinas de administración. 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd. San Elizario, TX 79849.**

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

WTCC: 05-12-22

# Say goodbye to those 4 p.m. high school football games

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

I've had the extreme pleasure of being able to cover El Paso sports for 27 years and I'm not ready to quit anytime soon.

Over the years there have been great games and players and events to report on, as well as a wide range of sports like boxing, tennis, wrestling, fishing, horseracing, martial arts, bull riding, cycling and bowling.

But of course, it's the more popular sports like football, basketball and baseball that I cover the most.

The levels of sports have also been diverse, ranging from peewee leagues, to high school, to college and the pros.

One of the sports that I enjoy reporting

on the most is high school football. That goes for most of the local sports reporters in town.

I've not only written about high school football for years, I've also broadcasted high school football games over the radio for 600 ESPN for about 24 years.

In all the years of announcing high school games on radio there is only one thing about it that I've grown to dislike. We cannot cover a football game during our 7 p.m. Friday night show because it started at 4 o'clock.

I mean seriously, why do some local high school football games start as early as 4 o'clock?

I'll tell you.

While almost every high school in the area has its own football stadium, the Socorro Independent School District

plays all its home games at one stadium, at Socorro's Student Activities Complex - the SAC.

With only one stadium and six teams to share it, well, even I can do the math.

If Montwood is playing a home game against Franklin and Eastlake is schedule to have a home game against Eastwood, both can't be played at the SAC at the same time.

So, the district schedules one game at the regular time of 7 p.m., while the other game is played at the unusual time of 4 p.m.

Why unusual? Players, band members, cheerleaders and many other supporting students get out of class early to make the 4 p.m. start. Also, many parents get out of work at 5 p.m., race against traffic to eventually enjoy only half of

the game.

Well, I'm happy to say that those problems are about to be a thing of the past.

Though it's been rumored for quite a while, the Socorro district announced recently that it has already broken ground on a second SAC stadium that will be built right next to the current one.

The SAC II, as it will be known, will be a little smaller than the first one, 6,500 seats compared to 11,000, but the new facility will include a new athletic field, concession areas, locker rooms, offices and conference rooms for fine arts.

Originally the plan was to start construction a couple years ago. Then Covid happened and the project had to be put on hold... until now.

The new facility was made possible through a voter-approved 2017 Bond program.

All that being said, the best part of this new stadium is that it will do away with those afternoon games no one was able to enjoy.

And for our football radio show, I can't tell you how many times the best game of the night was actually being played during the day. No one in El Paso was able to hear it on the radio.

We'll still have to suffer through a couple more years of afternoon football. The new stadium won't be ready until the start of the 2024 season.

Socorro district officials said the new facility will cost approximately \$58.9 million and is being overseen by HKS Architects Inc. out of Dallas.

Without a doubt, the SAC is the best high school football venue in the city and it's a good bet that the SAC II will soon be the second best venue to watch and cover games from.

This addition will ensure that every big game will be covered in the future and that will make both the fans and us media members very happy.

Now if we can only get Chapin High and Cathedral High their own stadiums, everything will be perfect.

## Corral Jr.

From Page 1

to the team, he brought immense pride to his family.

"I felt great [to be selected] because I always wanted to play at the AT&T stadium," Corral Jr. said.

Despite developing a passion for a rough sport, his parents describe him as a sensitive young man who is very caring of others. He has prioritized his grades to ensure he is eligible to play the sport, and his next dream is to earn a college scholarship through football.

"Anthony Elementary School has been tremendous because the small group of kids that they have in the classrooms allows them to pay more attention to every kid," Corral Sr. said.

"His grades have improved tremendously because of football," Corral Sr. said.

Recruit Nation and Dream

Scouting Network sponsor live stream by Recruit Nation the Dream All-American Live TV. Players will receive national audience thanks to a

from higher-level coaches.

Corral Jr. will be #76 on the offensive line. The game is set for June 12 at 10 a.m.



## Super Crossword

### MUDDLED FEELINGS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Outlook
  - 7 Opponents
  - 13 Rolling Stones frontman's family
  - 20 Despise
  - 21 Funny in a twisted way
  - 22 Shrinking salt lake in Asia
  - 23 "Does this medication act as a sedative at all?"
  - 25 French painter Henri
  - 26 Pops
  - 27 Dark warrior Kylo of sci-fi
  - 28 Magical elixir that turns people into mouselike rodents?
  - 30 Sun or moon
  - 32 People using paste
  - 35 \_ Moines
  - 36 26th letters, to Brits
  - 37 The singer of "Kiss an Angel Good Mornin' " was nosy?
  - 41 Caustic liquid
  - 44 Mogul
  - 45 Football field
  - 47 Loss of the sense of smell
  - 52 Out of kilter
  - 53 Upkeep of a kitchen stove?
  - 57 Peter of Herman's Hermits
  - 59 Freeman of "Angel

- Face"
- 60 "... roughly"
- 61 Landscaping tool used by a large company?
- 68 Culinary mushroom
- 69 Not ingested
- 70 Coll. in Lower Manhattan
- 71 First letter
- 73 Follies show
- 74 Question to someone who rudely interrupts a chat?
- 78 Ruckuses
- 79 Teeny power source
- 81 Nation in "The Hunger Games"
- 82 Captured during a revolt?
- 87 Frosting tools
- 92 Bit of conjunctivitis medicine
- 93 Ballesteros of golf
- 94 Pages transmitted by PCs
- 95 Gave the heave-ho to
- 97 Cost to buy an airline ticket?
- 101 FBI workers: Abbr.
- 105 Cooke of soul
- 107 Actor Chuck
- 108 Small child
- 109 Arsons?
- 113 Some refinery input
- 114 Bummed
- 116 Emilio of

- Hollywood
- 117 Apt things to feel when solving this puzzle?
- 123 Really dumb
- 124 6-Down plus one
- 125 State tree of New Jersey
- 126 \_ Pilate (biblical official)
- 127 Most tender
- 128 Wisenheimer

### DOWN

- 1 \_ Baba
- 2 "Mayday!"
- 3 Avenged
- 4 Kett of comics
- 5 Neighbor of Sudan
- 6 What X may mean
- 7 Creep higher, as shorts
- 8 Wrinkle remover
- 9 "I do," e.g.
- 10 Sothern of "Kid Millions"
- 11 Actor Schreiber
- 12 Young cod
- 13 "Misery" star
- 14 Give \_ (care)
- 15 Cat, to Juan
- 16 Ostentatious showiness
- 17 "Charlotte's Web" actress Davis
- 18 Turf anew
- 19 Camille Saint\_
- 24 Annual: Abbr.
- 29 Meadow
- 30 Eight: Prefix
- 31 "Wide Sargasso

- Sea" novelist Jean
- 32 With 118-Down, child of a boomer
- 33 Emma Peel player Diana
- 34 Withered
- 38 Jane in court
- 39 Something hit by a basso
- 40 Lightly lit
- 42 Swenson of "Benson"
- 43 John in court
- 46 Title for 33-Down
- 48 Not rough
- 49 \_ Melodies (old toons)
- 50 Pant-leg line
- 51 Coral rings
- 53 Bicolor horse
- 54 Busy insect
- 55 Once named
- 56 Fish-fowl link
- 58 Some refinery input
- 61 Run, as an art exhibition
- 62 In the future
- 63 Rescind
- 64 Waited a bit
- 65 Ltr. holder
- 66 Henna or anil
- 67 Chap
- 68 Orange Bowl loc.
- 71 Motels
- 72 San Francisco's \_ Valley
- 74 Astros, on scoreboards
- 75 Rock blasters
- 76 Unseal, in poetry

- 77 Old Egypt-Syr. alliance
- 79 "Life is like \_ of chocolates"
- 80 They're large in large-print materials
- 83 Pro-gun org.
- 84 Sports arbiter
- 85 Tennis' Lendl
- 86 Blood fluid: Prefix
- 88 Coral islet
- 89 Way out of a building
- 90 Nevada city on I-80
- 91 USAF NCO
- 94 Bad grades
- 96 Flow barrier
- 98 Wears away
- 99 Set straight
- 100 Movie
- 101 Tons
- 102 Painter's undercoat
- 103 Tarte \_ (apple treat)
- 104 Artery insert
- 106 Some viral trends
- 110 Roman
- 107
- 111 Brand of lens solution
- 112 Farm tower
- 114 Banana part
- 115 Verdi opera
- 118 See 32-Down
- 119 Eden evictee
- 120 Hosp. areas
- 121 Cable TV's \_ Geo Wild
- 122 Cloud's place

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20								21						22									
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69											70					71	72						
73									74	75				76	77								
78															81								
82						83					84	85	86					87	88	89	90	91	
92																							
101	102	103	104					105		106		107										108	
109							110	111				112			113								
116											117	118	119						120			121	122
123												124											
126																							

# 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

once and for all a highly contested social issue. In reality, by attempting to take the issue out of politics, it made the fight over abortion even more divisive, while making itself a political football. Now, the issue that it sought to settle has blown back on the Court, perhaps changing how

it operates forever.

The leak speaks of the desperation of pro-abortion forces to preserve Roe, and its guarantee of a radically pro-abortion regime everywhere in the United States. It doesn't matter if it requires a breach of trust at the Supreme Court – indeed, for many of them, the Court as we know isn't worth having if it doesn't uphold Roe.

Never mind if, as Alito's draft opinion devastatingly demonstrates, there's no

constitutional basis for Roe whatsoever. The leak must fail. The Supreme Court justices in the prospective majority should get 24/7 security in case the intimidation campaign reaches another level. Alito's opinion, assuming it's final and speaks for a majority, should be released as soon as possible – to send a message that the Court isn't going to bend to pressure. And everything possible should be done to ferret out

and punish the leaker.

The Supreme Court's loyalty isn't to Roe, but to the Constitution, and it can show it by issuing the Alito opinion that its critics want to foil by any means necessary.

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

# There's no magic bullet to put belly fat in check

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I am a 70-year-old woman, mostly healthy (apart from well-controlled high blood pressure). Looking at me, people assume I am skinny, but I have a well-concealed HUGE belly along with my thin arms and legs. I look like an olive stuck with toothpicks. My diet is healthy for the most part: I eat snack foods, deep-fried fast foods or sweets only rarely. I have read about how to eliminate belly fat, but there is so much contradictory info, each claiming to be the best. What are truly effective ways to help eliminate belly fat? – M.H.



First, I would want to be sure what you have really is belly fat. While there are men (and a few women) who have that body shape due to fat, I have seen far too many cases of liver disease (where the abdominal cavity is filled with fluid due to high pressure in the liver) and ovarian cancer (where the abdomen is filled with fluid due to tumor). I would want to be sure you had been evaluated for these (and other) concerns, especially if this is a change in your normal body shape.

If it is abdominal fat, there is no magic diet. What works for someone else (even your twin sister, if you had one) might not work for you. For this reason, one single type of diet does not fit all. It may take patience and trying several different options before finding what works for you.

General advice includes avoiding the foods you noted you eat sparingly. Eat lots of vegetables and whole grains with fiber; modest amounts of fruits; several servings of nuts and fish weekly; and no more than modest amounts of meats. Advice from an expert in weight management may be of great benefit.

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I have a lot of moisture in my eyes. I have to keep wiping them. My previous doctor gave me a prescription eyedrop that helped. After I moved, my new doctor didn't give me the same thing. I got "dry eye" drops, which didn't help at all. Do you have a solution? – W.L.

It is not intuitive that watery eyes can be a symptom of dry eyes, but it is indeed often the case. Eye lubrication may come from several parts of the eye, including the conjunctiva (a tissue that lines the insides of the eyelids), which secretes a mucus that lasts a long time and keeps the eyes comfortably moist. When the mucus production is inadequate in quantity or quality, the eyes get dry. When they become dry and irritated, one of the body's responses is to increase tear production from the lacrimal gland, which is what you are wiping away. The fluid from the lacrimal gland is not as long-lasting nor comfortable.

There are many different kinds of treatments for dry eyes. Artificial teardrops (these can be used every few hours) are a great place to start and perfectly adequate for most. Since those have failed, it's time to try something new. I'd recommend going back to the eye doctor with the name of the prescription medicine you had from your previous doctor. If you don't recall what it was, call your old pharmacy.

*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.*



**Moore Texas by Roger Moore**  
 May 19, 1836: Comanche Indians kidnap 9 year old Cynthia Ann Parker.

## 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: N equals R

VUYGPU CMEC JEO KGYUX CZ  
 EVEI CZ MUBR MGI JGCM OZGB  
 IEGXCUXEXPU GX CMU KENVUX ZA  
 UVUX: E AGNOC-RUNOZX EUNECZN.

Answer Page 4

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

Answer Page 5

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## More VA scammers nabbed by OIG



by Freddy Groves

The Department of Veterans Affairs investigative arm has been busy.

Thanks to the VA's Office of Inspector General, a group of Georgia men have been convicted of stealing monthly Social Security and disabled veterans benefits and diverting them to their own accounts, starting in 2012. Some of the cash was put on prepaid credit cards and mailed to the creator of the scheme in Jamaica. Using personal information gathered from their victims, the scammers contacted the VA and Social Security to have the monthly benefit money redirected to their own accounts.

In all, 18 thieves were nabbed, and so far, they've been sentenced to over 600 months in prison. Several of

them will be paying back \$1 million apiece in restitution. The maximum penalty for each could have been 30 years in prison. Unfortunately, it wasn't.

Then there was the Rhode Island woman (a VA employee) who held herself out as being a wounded Marine Corps veteran and – you guessed it – a Purple Heart recipient. When will they ever learn? Genuine Purple Heart recipients are known. This particular thief forged military discharge documents (DD-214) and committed wire fraud for the purpose of cashing in on the benefits and help that would come to her. She used her personal VA email account to order a Purple Heart, which she wore on a Marine Corps uniform.

Then she started in on her cash collection endeavors, which included \$207,000 from the Wounded Warrior program; \$18,472 from another group for mortgage payments and a gym membership; and \$4,700 from a web fundraising for her alleged cancer, which she

claimed she got from burn pits in Iraq.

Meanwhile, as her schemes and scams unfolded, she served as commander at the local VFW, wearing her uniform (and the Purple Heart) at many events. She was tripped up when she asked for more money from another organization, and someone thought to (finally) check her info in the VA database.

Nope, it didn't exist.

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• A good non-slip bathmat is essential in the tub to prevent accidents. Grab an extra one to drape over the edge of the tub for help when entering and exiting.

• "To remove residue left over from price tags, use hairspray. Remove as much paper as possible, and then give it a good squirt. Use a plastic scraper to lightly scrape off the adhesive." – L.P. in Ohio

• "Guacamole is a precious commodity at my house, but sometimes I want a snack, not a whole bowl. I have struggled with how to save the leftovers, because once it browns, it's done. I learned a new trick, though. Simply put the leftovers in the smallest container possible and tamp down to press out all the air. Then carefully add a thin layer of water. Seal and refrigerate for up to three days. When you're ready to dip, pour off the water and stir!" – C.D. in California

• "I have an old cedar chest from my grandmother that had lost its smell. My husband removed all the contents and sanded it with superfine grit sandpaper. It smells wonderful now." – J.K. in Iowa

• Got bread ends? Store in a bag in the freezer until you need breadcrumbs for a recipe. Pulse frozen chunks in a chopper or blender for instantly useable crumbs.

• Need a quick measure? A dollar bill (or other U.S. paper currency) is exactly 6 inches long.

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.

**DIFFICULTY: ★★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult

★★★ GO FIGURE!

Answer Page 4

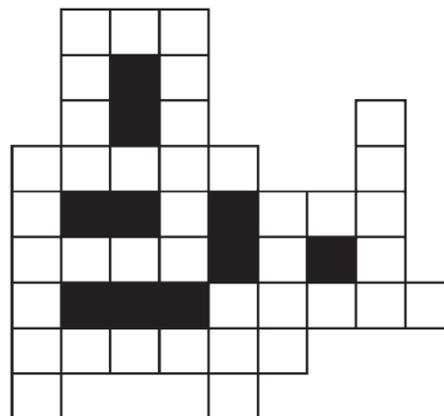
	+		+		20
×		+		+	
	×		÷		14
÷		+		×	
	×		+		19
20		22		13	

1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9 9

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- ODC
- ♥ SNOTIC
- HUCER
- RIST
- ORNOID
- WHA
- RUCL
- ♥ EREST
- ASC
- ELASEW
- ♥ VECTI
- EHVI



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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