



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Women's equality

With Women's Equality Day around the corner and the U.S. ranking as only the 27th best country for gender equality, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2022's Best & Worst States for Women's Equality, as well as accompanying videos and expert commentary. In order to determine where women receive the most equal treatment in American society, WalletHub compared the 50 states across 17 key metrics. The data set ranges from the gap between female and male executives to the disparity in unemployment rates for women and men. Texas was rated 42nd in the report, ranking (1-Best; 25-Avg.):

- 38th – Executive Positions Gap;
- 22nd – Work Hours Gap;
- 42nd – Educational Attainment Gap (among Advanced Degree Holders);
- 15th – Entrepreneurial Rate Gap; and
- 43rd – Political Representation Gap.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-and-worst-states-for-women-equality/5835> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

### To long life

What's in your bucket list? Perhaps you'd like to see the Pyramids In Egypt, go white water rafting or write a book. Not for Bertha Komor. This resident of Farmington, CT says she has always wanted to pet a penguin. They're not so easy to find in that part of the world, but the local chapter of the Twilight Wish Foundation made it happen in time for the celebration of her 104th birthday. She was thrilled and kind of cuddled with the flightless seabird saying, "I didn't expect this. It's wonderful. Just petting the penguin and seeing him close up."

– John Grimaldi

### To long life II

And then there is Ruth Larsson of Motala, Sweden. It wasn't enough of a feat having made a tandem parachute jump two years ago when she was a mere 101 years of age, so she did it again – this time at the age of 103 years and 259 days. A Guinness World Record official was on hand to watch and declared her to be the oldest woman ever to make the jump. She replaced the previous record holder, Kathryn Hodges of Snohomish, WA who was 103 years and 129 days old when she won the title in 2019.

– John Grimaldi

*The bank of friendship will not exist long without deposits.*

– Quips & Quotes

## El Paso County Commissioner Stout heads immigration reform task force

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – "Counties have an important role to play in welcoming immigrants and managing issues that may arise, from health and public safety to economic development," El Paso County Commissioner David Stout stated when announcing that he had been recently named chair of the National Association of Counties' (NACo) Immigration Reform Task Force.

NACo's Immigration Reform Task Force is charged with presenting immigration-related policy positions and resolutions to the national organization to be added to its official platform. Stout believes his experience living along the border is an asset for the group.

Stout asserted that serving in this new post will help amplify El Paso's voice on border issues across the nation. "We've got lots of work to do to lead discussions when it comes to immigration and immigration reform on the national level," he said. "El Paso's perspective is very important in the national conversation," he added.

NACo, which was established to support and advocate for counties at the federal

level, uses the Immigration Reform Task Force to provide a forum for county officials across the nation to discuss the impact of federal immigration policy on local governments and communities.

Stout, who pushed for El Paso County to be a part of NaCo when he took office in 2014, noted that since joining, the local county has benefited from \$100,000 in NACo grant funds which are helping administer certain American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) initiatives and maintaining a strong partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

"I feel like because of our presence in that organization, we've been able to highlight and uplift El Paso's voice and change the narrative nationally," Stout said.

Two examples that Stout gave as proof of El Paso County's leadership role in NaCo are the establishment of the Office of New Americans and the introduction of community IDs.

El Paso's Office of New Americans works to integrate immigrants into the community, providing them with opportunities to further their education and launch new businesses and educate them on the benefits of U.S. citizenship, according to the commissioner. And the



– Internet

**COVERING A LOT OF GROUND – David Stout is El Paso County Commissioner for Precinct 2, which encompasses parts of the county's northwest, central, and south-central communities.**

community ID program was launched as a way to ensure that immigrants, as well as the elderly and homeless population, have access to identification cards in the

See STOUT, Page 5

## Anthony ISD earns 'A' rating from TEA

By Adriana Candelaria  
Special to the Courier

ANTHONY, TX – The Anthony Independent School District earned an Exemplary Performance "A" rating in



– Photo courtesy Anthony ISD

Dr. Oscar A. Troncoso

the Texas Education Agency's 2022 state accountability ratings for public schools in the state.

AISD earned an overall score of 91 that measures how much students are learning in each grade and whether they are ready for the next grade level. The rating also reflects how well a district prepares students for success after high school with college, workforce or military opportunities.

"Even though the pandemic hit us hard, especially among our most vulnerable student populations, we were not deterred or discouraged. Instead, we were resilient and determined to commit ourselves to the challenge before us. While there is still much work to do, this rating demonstrates that we are clearly headed in the right direction academically. This is a reflection of our staff and teachers' renewed focus on learning outcomes so that we can begin the long road of closing gaps caused by the pandemic," said AISD Superintendent Dr. Oscar A. Troncoso.

All AISD campuses received an overall score of A or B in the latest accountability ratings. AISD schools were also recognized with Distinction Designations that include top 25 percent comparative academic growth, postsecondary readiness and top 25 percent comparative results to close gaps.

"A distinction designation for academic growth is awarded to campuses whose school progress is ranked in the top 25 percent of campuses in its campus comparison group," said Troncoso. "That means that the amount of academic growth among Anthony ISD students was significantly higher when compared to other schools similar to ours. Our students are also prepared when they leave our high school for whatever path they choose. More than anything it shows a commitment by our school board, our community and staff that our students deserve the very best education possible."

Anthony ISD was one out of four traditional independent school districts, out of a total of twelve, in Region 19 to earn a TEA "A" rating. The accountability ratings are the first to be published since 2019 due to COVID-related pauses.

According to TEA, 18 percent of high-poverty campuses in Texas were rated an A, continuing to prove that demographics do not equal destiny.

Established by House Bill 22 during the 85th Texas Legislature, the A-F accountability system provides educators, parents, and communities with a transparent view of the academic performance of Texas public schools based on three domains: Student Achievement, School Progress, and Closing the Gaps



# Merrick Garland is on a path to the abyss

Does Attorney General Merrick Garland know that he is investigating the man most likely to be the opponent of the president he serves? Does he realize that the intense political pressure campaign that he’s under to indict that man has been plainly visible to everyone? Does he care?

If we can’t know where Garland is ultimately heading in his probe of Jan. 6 and the documents seized from Mar-a-Lago, all indications are that he is preparing the ground for an indictment of Donald J. Trump.

The former president is inflammatory and mendacious as a matter of course, but in this case, it is the mild-mannered former judge who came within a hair’s breadth of a lifetime appointment to the Supreme Court who is rehearsing for the role of arsonist.

An indictment of Trump would be one of the most consequential acts by the Justice Department in decades, and Garland has a flagrant conflict of interest and is

likely to have to use an adventurous legal theory to try to nail Trump – at the same time, the legitimacy of his institution is increasingly in doubt.

This is not a promising formula. An attorney general shouldn’t consider the prospect of reaping the whirlwind and think, “Bring it on.”

The Jan. 6 committee, elected Democrats, and the media have been braying for Garland to move against Trump. President Biden himself has reportedly told aides in private that Garland should indict Trump. “Garland Faces Growing Pressure as Jan. 6 Investigation Widens,” The New York Times reported earlier this year.

It would take truly cursed independence and enormous moral and political courage not to take the path of least resistance and give in to these voices. Garland appears to be bending, presumably on his way to breaking.

It is amazing that he’s gotten this far without feeling a prick of conscience about his own status. I have no

use for special counsels as a general matter, but how can an attorney general make highly sensitive determinations that will quite probably affect the state of play of the next presidential election without realizing he has a profound conflict of interest?

It’d be one thing if Trump had shot someone on Fifth Avenue – a clean, no-doubt crime that wouldn’t require any novel theories or difficult-to-probe contentions about his state of mind to prosecute.

In contrast, Trump’s Jan. 6 offenses involve alleged crimes, like obstructing Congress or defrauding the U.S., that are going to involve tricky questions about his motives and where the legitimate exercise of his



See LOWRY, Page 7

View from here

By Jane M. Orient, M.D.

## What does ‘gender affirming’ mean for your child?

The Biden Administration is planning to reinstate rules withdrawn by the Trump Administration that add gender identity to nondiscrimination protections. It would also expand requirements to include any providers who accept Medicare Part B.

It’s not altogether clear what this will mean. There is no evidence that transgender or gender-nonconforming persons are failing to get prenatal care or delivery of babies, treatment for heart attacks, gall bladder surgery, trauma care, or other types of care that all types of patients might need – though it is possible that some caregivers might use the “wrong” pronouns. The issue seems to be “gender-affirming” care.

Physicians might be pressured to provide care they think is

morally objectionable or harmful to a patient. This was the reason why the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) objected to the rule in the first place.

But exactly what kind of care? Language is the tool we use for thinking, and the meaning of words is critically important. “Affirming” sounds like a good thing, a positive thing. It’s replacing the term “sex change.”

Unarguably, it is impossible to change biological sex, to switch out the Y or the second X chromosome present in every cell of a person’s body. Also, advocates claim that people “know” themselves “really” to be of a gender different from the one “assigned at birth,” so the gender is essentially not being changed.

Puberty confirms and exhibits biologic sex, but in Newspeak this is not called “affirming.” After going through natural puberty, the vast majority of gender-confused children accept the biological reality that their bodies constantly manifest. So, many transgender activists insist that “affirming” therapy must be started before puberty, using a puberty blocker such as Lupron™ (leuprolide). It works by stopping production of the pituitary hormone that tells the testicles to make testosterone or the ovaries to make estrogen. Its main approved use is in cancer chemotherapy. It is also used in infertility treatments and to delay precocious puberty. Using it to suppress normal puberty is an unapproved, “off-label” use.

Lupron has numerous severe adverse effects. It stops the maturation of sex cells, and may result in sterility. It stunts growth and reduces bone density, among other consequences. It is not a harmless on-off switch that can delay a child’s development to give the child time to “explore” gender identity. While it may prevent or diminish irreversible

changes such as a deepening voice, it causes its own, probably irreversible changes in many body systems.

The next step is cross-sex hormones to “affirm” (cause) the development of some secondary sex characteristics of the nonbiologic gender, such as facial hair, voice changes, and breast development. But sex hormones are not magic potions; many characteristics of the biological sex will persist despite years of therapy.

The next and clearly irreversible step is surgery.

Surgery does not affirm body parts. Surgery merely removes functional organs and replaces them with non-functional imperfect replicas. For example, a skin-covered wound that requires constant dilatation to remain open will never have the functionality of female genitalia.

Transgender extremists may try to steer a child into this course, even without the knowledge or consent of a parent.

Female-to-male transgender people might enjoy showing off

See GENDER, Page 4

1973  
49  
Years  
2022

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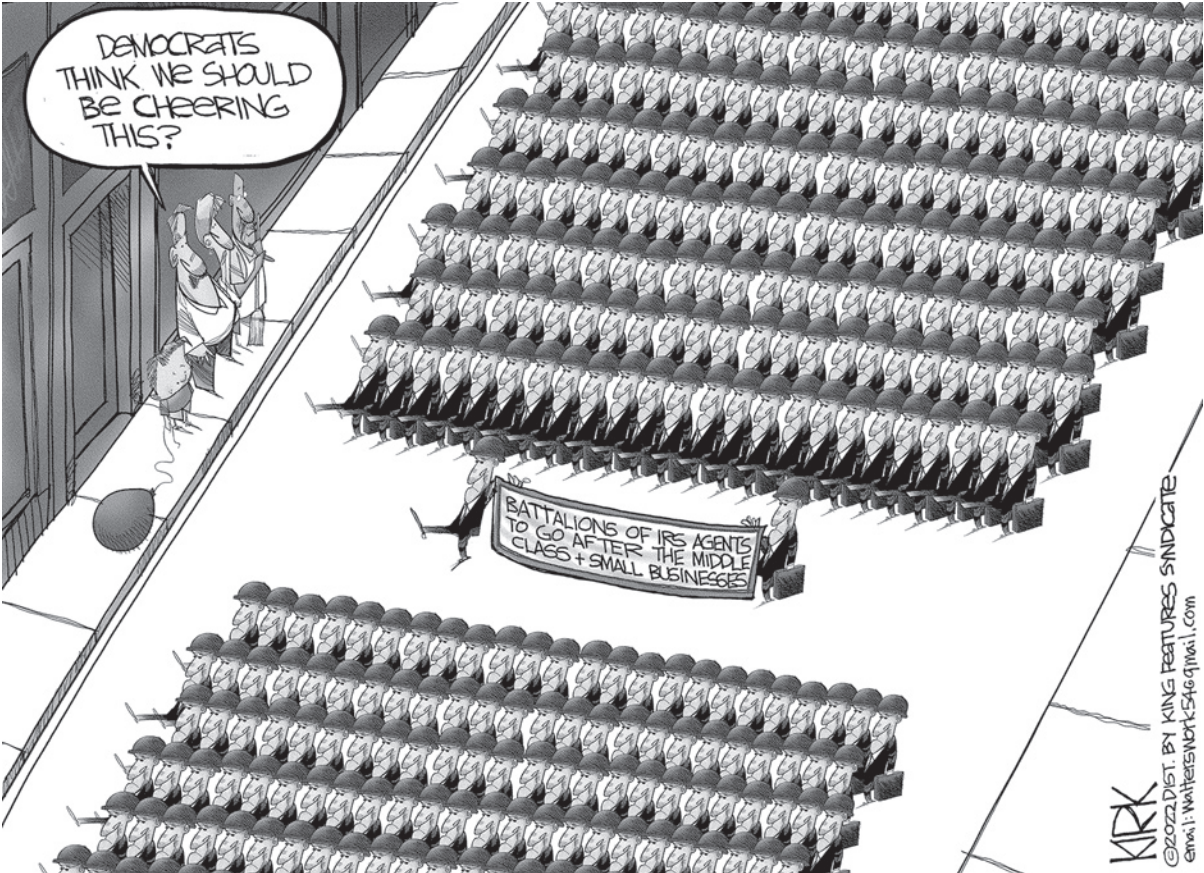
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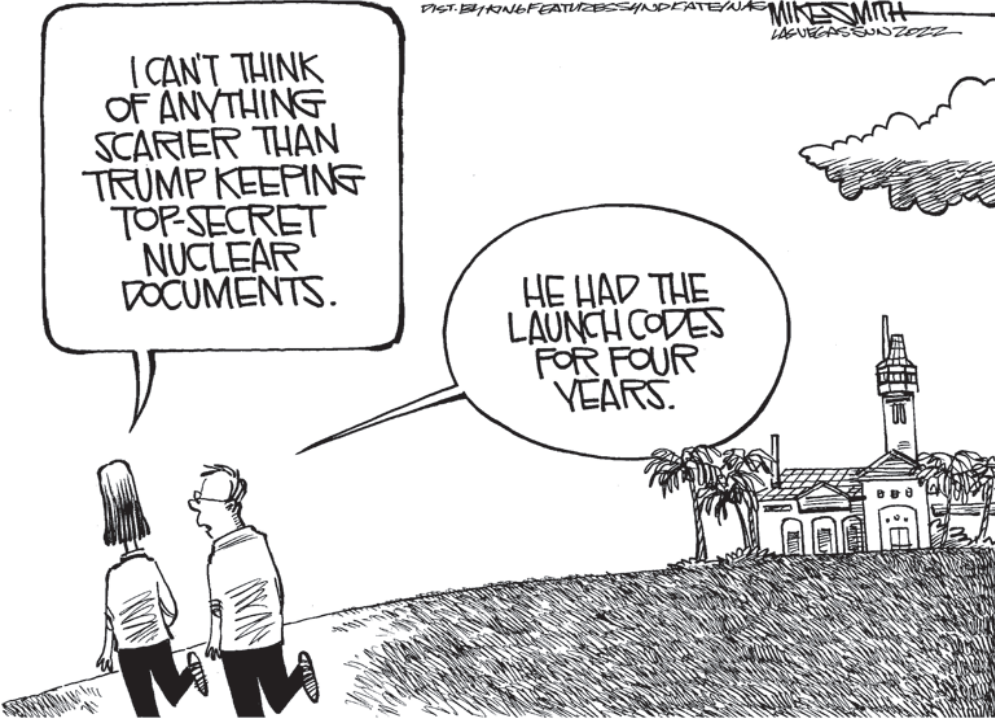
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# Haciendas del Norte Water Improvement District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Haciendas Del Norte Water Improvement District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2022 on September 6, 2022 at 13931 Sagebrush Circle, El Paso, TX 79938 at 7:30 p.m. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](http://Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

- FOR the proposal: Joseph McCandless, Daniel Diaz, Ed Brown, Michael Spicer, and George Gibson
- AGAINST the proposal: NONE
- PRESENT and not voting: NONE
- ABSENT: NONE

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	\$ 0.196931	\$ 0.175894
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	– \$ 0.021037	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– 10.682%	
Average appraised value	\$ 250,202	\$ 274,010
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 250,202	\$ 274,010
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 492.72	\$ 481.97
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	– \$ 10.75	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	– 2.18%	

## NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.



READING					
Grade	Performance	Spring 2019	Spring 2021	Spring 2022	
3	Approaches	75%	66%	75%	↑
	Meets	43%	37%	50%	
	Masters	27%	19%	30%	
4	Approaches	73%	62%	76%	↑
	Meets	43%	35%	52%	
	Masters	21%	17%	28%	
5	Approaches	77%	72%	80%	↑
	Meets	51%	45%	56%	
	Masters	28%	30%	36%	
6	Approaches	66%	61%	69%	↑
	Meets	35%	31%	42%	
	Masters	17%	14%	22%	
7	Approaches	74%	68%	78%	↑
	Meets	47%	44%	54%	
	Masters	28%	25%	36%	
8	Approaches	77%	72%	82%	↑
	Meets	53%	45%	56%	
	Masters	27%	21%	36%	

– Charts courtesy of Texas Education Agency

BY THE NUMBERS – The spring 2022 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) results show improvements across the board (see charts) with significant gains in reading. Visit <http://tea.texas.gov/staar/rpt/sum> for the full STAAR results for grades 3-8.

MATHEMATICS					
Grade	Performance	Spring 2019	Spring 2021	Spring 2022	
3	Approaches	78%	61%	70%	↑
	Meets	47%	29%	41%	
	Masters	24%	14%	20%	
4	Approaches	74%	58%	68%	↑
	Meets	46%	34%	41%	
	Masters	27%	21%	22%	
5	Approaches	83%	69%	75%	↑
	Meets	55%	42%	45%	
	Masters	35%	24%	23%	
6	Approaches	79%	66%	72%	↑
	Meets	45%	34%	37%	
	Masters	20%	14%	15%	
7	Approaches	73%	54%	59%	↑
	Meets	41%	25%	29%	
	Masters	16%	11%	12%	
8	Approaches	81%	60%	69%	↑
	Meets	55%	35%	38%	
	Masters	16%	10%	13%	

# TEA releases 2022 grades 3-8 STAAR results

By Alfredo Vasquez  
*Special to the Courier*

TEXAS – Texas Education Agency (TEA) recently released the spring 2022 State of Texas

Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) results for Grades 3-8. The statewide results include exams in mathematics and reading for grades 3-8, fifth and eighth grade science, and eighth grade social studies.

This year’s STAAR results show across-the-board improvements in all grades and subjects from 2021, with significant gains in reading.

TEA Commissioner Mike Morath stated that the investments that the state is making in reading academies and accelerated instruction are clearly paying dividends for students, and the results are a testament to the hard work of teachers across the state. “While we still have much work to do to recover from COVID-related learning loss in mathematics, the improvements our students have made in reading are clear,”

Morath said.

Several pieces of legislation passed in recent years have focused on improving academic support programs for Texas students in both reading and math including House Bill 3, passed in 2019, which established a requirement for all K-3 educators to participate in reading academies, built around evidence-basedreadingpractices; House Bill 1525, passed in 2021, whichlaunchedTexasCOVID-19 Learning Acceleration Supports (TCLAS), which provided districts with \$1.4 billion in learning acceleration services and grants for strategic planning, instructional materials, teacher pipelines, more instructional time, and innovative school models; and House Bill 4545, also passed in 2021, which provides targeted tutoring for the students who need it most- thirty hours of additional instruction for each test a student did not meet grade level.

TEA officials pointed out that state policy changed one aspect of STAAR testing this year. Per HB 4545, which passed during the last legislative session, the fifth and eighth grade promotion requirement associated with STAAR was eliminated so there are no longer any high-stakes for elementary and middle school students taking the STAAR.

School systems, however, may have local policies related to how students are promoted to the next grade or retained.

TEA officials also stated that next year, more changes will be coming to the STAAR. “TEA will be implementing changes from House Bill 3906 (86R), which requires the STAAR test to be redesigned to better align with classroom instruction. The STAAR will also transition to a full online administration. Writing will also be assessed as part of the reading/language arts assessment in grades 3-8 for the first time. These changes aim to improve student engagement and reduce teaching to the test. These changes will fully take effect in spring 2023,” according to TEA officials.

In June 2022, TEA released this year’s STAAR EOC assessment results, which showed progress in the three tests that saw a decline during COVID-19. In these three tests, Algebra I, Biology, and U.S. History, Texas student performance in the “meets grade level” category improved. As the percentage of high school students meeting grade level is moving closer to pre-pandemic levels, these improvements are a welcome sign that Texas students are moving in the right direction in their post-pandemic academic recovery. In the two tests that did not show a negative impact

See STAAR, Page 6

## End of Course Assessments

Both federal and state laws require school systems to offer end-of-year assessments like the STAAR. State law requires that students take the assessment. Additionally, STAAR fulfills the federal requirements as established in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Laws have been adopted at both the state and federal level as evidence shows that using common assessments aligned to rigorous state standards helps improve the quality of education students receive. Similarly, data shows that without a common statewide system to determine student mastery, certain groups of students disproportionately received educational opportunities that were consistently at a lower rigor level than their peers.

## Gender

From Page 2

their full height and strength and their potency, fertility, and attractiveness to women who desire a lifelong male partner and protector and father to their children. Post “transition” they will probably still have a distinctly male bone structure and other typically male coarser features.

“Affirmative treatment” negates the ability to experience intimacy in relationships in the way that normal women or normal men do. All patients will need lifelong medical care

– continuous hormones and management of adverse effects.

But will the “affirmed” people be happy with their identity and less likely to commit suicide? We have very little long-term follow-up, and for now well-funded Woke activists are in control of research and treatment, and in a position to punish or cancel all non-affirming opinion.

“Affirming” a delusion, and denying reality can only lead to harm.

Jane M. Orient obtained her M.D. from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1974. She has been in solo

private practice since 1981 and has served as Executive Director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) since 1989. She is currently president of Doctors for Disaster Preparedness. More than 100 of her papers have been published in the scientific and popular literature on a variety of subjects including risk assessment, natural and technological hazards and nonhazards, and medical economics and ethics. She is the editor of AAPS News, the Doctors for Disaster Preparedness Newsletter, and Civil Defense Perspectives, and is the managing editor of the Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons.

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## CryptoQuip Answer

The guy working out at the gym wouldn’t take the time to talk to people. He had too many pressing concerns.

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# Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Aug. 22, 1851, the U.S.-built schooner America bests a fleet of Britain’s finest ships in a race around England’s Isle of Wight. In the 53-mile race, the America trounced the competition, beating the cutter Aurora by 22 minutes.
- On Aug. 23, 1947, the first Little League World Series championship game – the culmination of a three-day tournament in Williamsport, Pennsylvania – features teams from Pennsylvania. Maynard, a team from Williamsport, defeated Lock Haven, 16-7, to win the title at Original Field. Although it was called the World Series, 11 of the 12 teams in the tournament were from Pennsylvania.
- On Aug. 24, 1814, during the War of 1812 between the United States and England, British troops enter Washington, D.C., and burn the White House in retaliation for the American attack on the city of York in Ontario, Canada, in June 1813. When the British arrived at the White House, they found that President James Madison and his first lady Dolley had already fled to safety in Maryland.
- On Aug. 25, 1939, “The Wizard of Oz,” which will become one of the best-loved movies in history, opens in theaters. Though the scenes in Kansas were shot in traditional black and white, Oz appears in vivid Technicolor, a relatively new film process at the time.
- On Aug. 26, 1959, the British Motor Corporation (BMC) launches its newest car, the small and affordable – at a price tag of less than \$800 – Mark I Mini. At only 10 feet long, the Mini could sit four adults and had a trunk big enough for luggage.
- On Aug. 27, 1908, future President Lyndon B. Johnson is born on a farm near Stonewall, Texas. As president, Johnson pushed through the creation of Medicare/Medicaid, Head Start, the Voting Rights Act, the Civil Rights Act and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- On Aug. 28, 1972, the U.S. Air Force gets its first ace designation since the Korean War when Capt. Richard S. Ritchie and his “backseater” (radar intercept officer), Captain Charles B. DeBellevue, shoot down his fifth MiG near Hanoi.

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# Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- A fan of the Detroit Pistons who also happened to design the video game NBA Jam detested the Chicago Bulls so much that he embedded a special code causing them to miss last-second shots when playing the Pistons in the game.
- Heat waves kill more Americans than tornadoes, hurricanes, or floods.
- In nuclear physics, a “shake” (10 nanoseconds) is an informal unit of time measuring events in a nuclear explosion.
- Calling a man bald qualifies as sexual harassment in the United Kingdom.
- Fans of the Philadelphia Eagles have a longstanding reputation for rowdiness, but when a 1997 game between the team and the San Francisco 49ers saw around 60 fistfights in the stands, with someone even shooting a flare gun, the response from both worried families and local law enforcement prompted the installation of “Eagles Court,” a functional courtroom and jail at Veterans Stadium.
- Folks who enjoy collecting ties are known as grabatologists.
- When Salvador Dali bought a castle for his wife, Gala, in 1968, she accepted it with one condition – that the artist would gain written permission from her before visiting.
- There is a Fictitious Athlete Hall of Fame. Inductees include Rocky Balboa, Mr. Miyagi and Happy Gilmore.
- The movie term “blockbuster” was originally a military term to describe bombs in World War II that could destroy an entire city block.
- You’ve undoubtedly watched the Oscars at some point, but have you heard of the Pawscars? That’s an annual show put on by American Humane, celebrating the “furry, winged, and scaled” actors of TV and film, both past and present.
- As he lay dying of blood poisoning, the last words of whiskey distiller Jack Daniel were, fittingly, “One last drink, please.”

Thought for the Day: “The past is the only dead thing that smells sweet.”  
– Cyril Connolly

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## Stout

From Page 1

absence of a state-issued card, he explained.

“We’ve really been able to help influence the creation of some of those policies through our work on the task force,” Stout stated.

“I want to make sure my peers around the country understand the realities of the border,” Stout said. “That is the best way to work towards federal policies that treat migrants with dignity and respect. Local decision-makers often simply don’t know enough about the issues and end up relying on national talking points from people who have misrepresented or outright lied about migrants and their impact on our country,” he pointed out.

“NACo is a strong organization and I think the White House pays attention to our positions, so I want to use that platform to its fullest effect,” he continued. “The challenge will be to get the policies identified by the task force onto the overall NACo policy platform.”

Stout, who represents Precinct 2, worked

as a bilingual communications specialist and binational affairs liaison for former Texas State Senator Jose Rodriguez before being elected to the county commissioners court. He has also worked in the communications field for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington, D.C., and has nearly a decade of experience in broadcast journalism, having worked with NBC, Telemundo and Univision.

Though Stout is originally from Wyoming, he stated that he fell in love with the El Paso area after spending a semester in the borderland as part of the master’s degree in Latin American Studies that he received from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He always wanted to come back to this amazing community, he said, and was finally afforded the opportunity to do so in 2010, when he took a job as a news reporter with Noticias 26 Univision.

Stout stated that as a county commissioner he has prioritized issues such as access to affordable healthcare, attention to veterans’ needs, economic development, competitive salaries, and quality of life.

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# High school football brings excitement, hope and change

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

It’s hard to believe that the high school football season kicks off this weekend. And as always, students, parents, relatives, staff members and exes will make their way to high school stadiums all over town for an evening of fun football action. This season is a little different for a couple reasons, 2022 will feature more Division-1 college football recruits than ever. I mean players who are already signed to play with big universities will be seen in El Paso football stadiums this fall. And second, there were some changes in alignment this season. That means some teams are playing in different districts than they’re used to. Among the players who have signed

with the big guys are Parkland’s wide receiver DJ Crest (Texas Tech); Austin’s running back/linebacker Jayden Wilson (New Mexico); Canutillo’s star running back LJ Martin (Stanford); Andress’ do-everything wide receiver Malcolm Anderson (Army); Parkland’s offensive lineman Tyron McDuffie (Colorado) and Riverside’s quarterback Angel Munoz (Army or Navy). El Paso always has its share of players going on to play in college, but the numbers going to Division-1 schools is on the rise. And while most players sign at the end of their senior year, it’ll be more exciting watching these guys play one last high school season knowing what their exciting futures already hold. What’s better is these six players will be joined by a few others who will sign with D-1 universities after this season is over. As far as the second change, a number

of schools will be playing in new districts, against new competition. When it comes to the big schools in town, District 1-6A will jump from eight teams to nine. The El Dorado Aztecs will go from District 1-5A back to 6A where they were for years. El Dorado will find the going tough against the other eight schools, Montwood, Eastwood, Eastlake, Franklin, Coronado, Pebble Hills, Americas and Socorro. District 1-5A (Div.1) that only had four teams in it in 2021, will now have six teams. Only Del Valle and Bel Air remain. They will be joined by Hanks, Horizon, Parkland and Ysleta. In District 1-5A (Div. 2), so many changes have occurred that it’s almost an entirely new district. The only team returning is the Canutillo Eagles. The other five brand new teams are the Andress Eagles, Burges Mustangs, Chapin Huskies, Jefferson Silver Foxes and the El Paso High Tigers. Some of the more shocking moves came when it was announced that, because of the decreases in enrollment, three teams dropped to the District 1-4A level. The Austin Panthers, Bowie Bears and Irvin Rockets will now join the Riverside Rangers and San Elizario Eagles in District 1-4A (Div. 1). In District 1-4A (Div. 2), three of the same teams will face each other, the

Clint Lions, the Fabens Wildcats and the Mountain View Lobos. However, making their chances for the playoffs a little tougher, they will be joined by three out-of-town teams. Fort Stockton, Monahans and Pecos will join the lower valley teams at least for the next two years. Of course every year football season brings with it a time of change. The weather starts to get a little cooler, everybody is either going back to school or returning from a lengthy vacation. So, getting back to work, I’ll make my picks for the upcoming season. The teams to watch this year are pretty much the same as a year ago. In 1-6A, look for Eastwood, Americas and Pebble Hills to lead the pack. In 1-5A (Div. 1), Parkland is the class of this league, but watch out for an improved Hanks team. In 1-5A (Div. 2), Canutillo and Andress should battle it out for the title. In 1-4A (Div. 1), this may be the easiest division to pick, Riverside and Austin are far and away the best teams here, as far as the best? I think Riverside. In 1-4A (Div. 2), it looks like one of the three El Paso teams will fight it out for the fourth and final playoff spot. I say it goes to Clint. However these predictions go, one guess that can’t lose: El Pasoans are ready for a great high school football season.

## San Elizario Independent School District Public Notice

### NOTICE OF VACANCY ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given that Trustee Place No. 6, an unexpired term, is vacant. All registered voters who are residents of the School District and who are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Trustees should pick up a packet of information in the Superintendent’s Office at 1050 Chicken Ranch Road, P.O. Box 920, San Elizario, Texas 79849-0920.

The packet must be submitted to the Superintendent’s office by: Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. The School District reserves the right to waive any formalities or extend the deadline for this information.

The Board of Trustees will consider all applicants and reserves the right to conduct interviews of some or all of the applicants before making a decision. The person appointed by the Board to the vacant position shall serve to fill the unexpired term until the election held in May 2023.

For additional information please contact the Superintendent’s office at (915) 872-3900 Ext. 3515.

WTCC: 08-25-22

## STAAR

From Page 4

from COVID-19, English I and English II, results stayed largely consistent from last school year. TEA conducted additional analysis on this year’s data as part of an enhanced due diligence process. More information on that process may be found at <http://tea.gov/staar/rpt/sum>, as well as more information about all state-level results. Parents are encouraged to log in and

learn more about their child’s results by going to [TexasAssessment.gov](https://TexasAssessment.gov). Parents can view a variety of resources and assessment components, including each STAAR question and answer, along with their child’s answers. The website also provides resources designed to help parents adequately prepare their sons and daughters as they progress from grade level to grade level. Resources include tools to support a student’s ability to read and write, as well as tips and questions to help prepare for parent-teacher conferences in the 2022-23 school year.

## Super Crossword

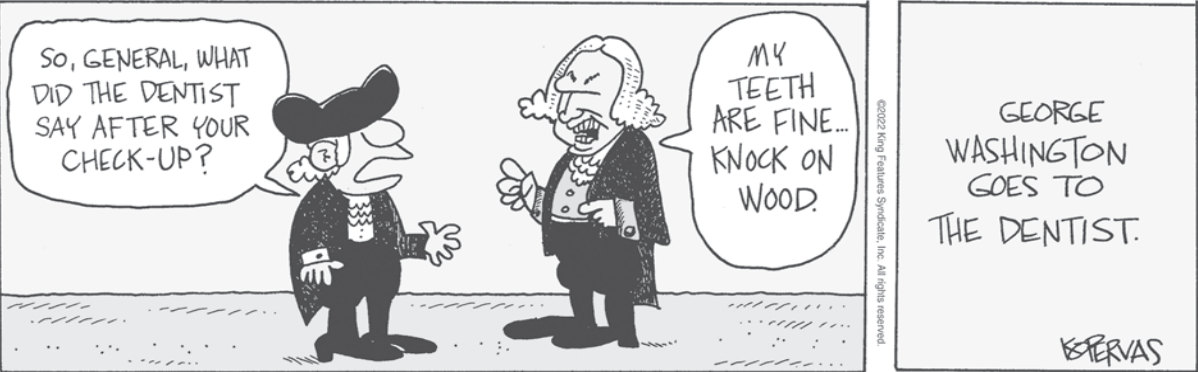
EVASIVE		191	Tic-tac-toe winning	202	Riddle's answer	253	Chicago-to-	304	Turned in
STATEMENT		row		131	Atoll unit	Memphis	dir.	81	Spanish men
ACROSS		62	Waikiki souvenir	132	Trip in a "stretch"	30	Frightened	82	Some NCOs
1	Capital of Kenya	63	Rejoinder to "Not	car		31	Fails to	83	Hit the horn
8	Cleared up some	so!"		133	Stacked messily	32	Plains tribe	84	Routines to
space		64	Capital of Qatar	134	It may grow on a	34	_vez (again, in	determine who's	
16	Link up	65	In Minnesota or	rock		Spain)		present	
20	Brought into	Montana		135	Reduces to a fine	35	Teri of "Tootsie"	85	Append
harmony		69	Extra NHL periods	mist		36	Disney mermaid	87	Snaky letters
21	Sign of a warm	71	Riddle, part 4	136	Capable of being	name		88	Be snaky
welcome		78	Supersecret govt.	stretched out		37	Old hat	91	Mishmash
22	Meara of comedy	group				39	Etchers' liquids	93	7'6" cager Ming
23	Start of a riddle	79	Tetley tidbit	DOWN				94	"Witness" actor
26	Cock-a-doodle-_	80	Quite a long time	1	Rural refusal	42	Bake-off entry	Lukas	
27	Safecracker,	82	Fine violin,	2	Sports-related:	43	That, in Oviedo	95	Novelist Tan
informally		informally		Abbr.		45	Small iPod	96	Dits' partners, in
28	Vinyl albums, for	86	Stage design	3	Suffix with Seattle	46	Big name in	Morse code	
short		89	New Year in Hanoi	4	"Walk This Way"	waffles		101	Biofuel option
29	Chose, as on a	90	Election turndown	rap trio		51	Jewish deli treat	105	Birdbrain
survey		92	Riddle, part 5	5	Aware of	53	Rugged cliff	106	Fiery lecture
30	Batman player	97	Allow entry	6	Looks upon	55	Zero	107	Antipasto morsels
West		98	"Ha! I was right!"	7	Suffix with cyan-	56	Way in or out	108	Carry
33	Peter of	99	Thailand, formerly	8	Lawn-Boy	57	Most awful	109	Annoying sorts
"Casablanca"		100	Pal, in Caen	products		58	New York county	111	Pistons' org.
35	Stare in disbelief	102	_Magnon	9	Orbital point	whose seat is Owego		115	Be fishy?
38	Baby's cry	103	French WWII	farthest from Earth		60	Syllables of rebuke	116	Coin of Cali
40	Riddle, part 2	battle city		10	C-H linkup	66	Lunar stage	118	Fitzgerald of song
44	Filmdom, in	104	End of the riddle	11	Suffix with butyl	67	_kwon do	119	Phenom
France		110	"Wolf" cable	12	Jogged	68	Hilton rival	121	Tehran's land
47	Stephen of	channel		13	Hobbit's foe	70	Texter's "Catch ya	123	French article
"Utopia"		112	Followers: Suffix	14	Brunch staple	later"		124	Spanish for "I love"
48	Old Russ. state	113	"You beat me"	15	Abbr. on a new	72	Not finish later	125	_ Kippur
49	Spring flower	114	Gum globs	car's sticker		than		126	_ Lanka
50	Downhiller's gear	115	Facility with hot	16	Face part	73	"_ Three Lives"	127	Plum center
holder		tubs		17	Being displayed	74	_pot (sinus	128	Half of VI
52	Humane U.S. org.	117	Gamble	18	Pertaining to	clearer)		129	Pipe fitting
54	Riddle, part 3	119	Subpoena, e.g.	19	Require	75	Roof feature	130	Visualize
59	Routine-bound	120	Go fast, quaintly	24	Novice	76	"Yeah, understood"	Answer Page 4	



Comix

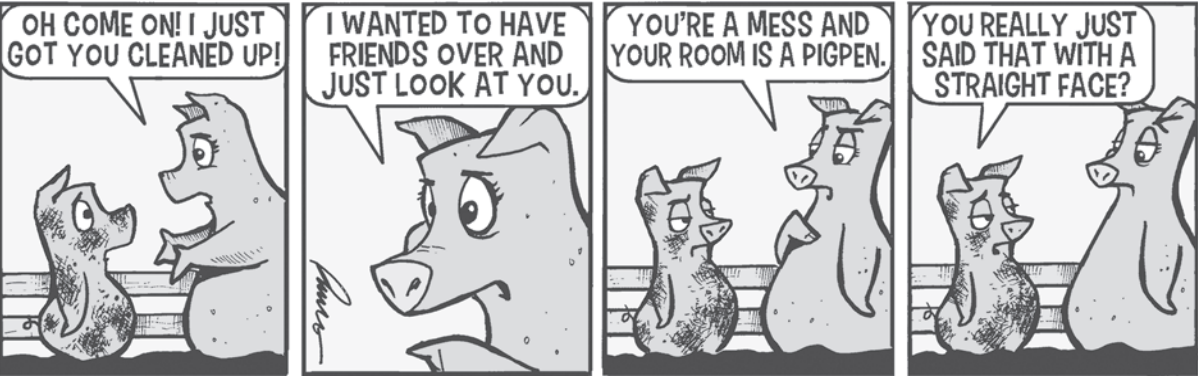
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



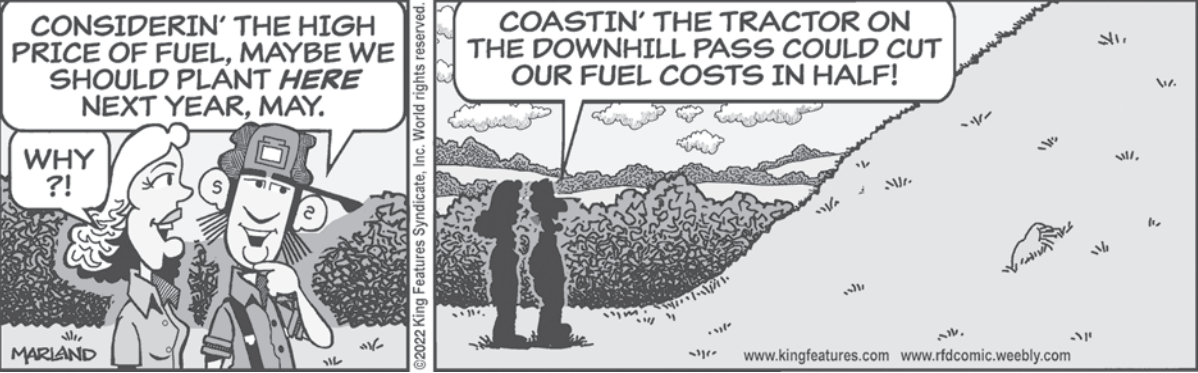
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



TIGER

By Bud Blake



Lowry

From Page 2

powers ends and the supposed criminality begins.

Needless to say, the country is not prepared to adjudicate such questions in a calm, high-minded manner. It will be the O.J. Simpson trial meets the Hiss-Chambers

case, with a presidential race not in the background, but very much in the foreground.

The fact of the matter is that while Trump's moral blameworthiness for Jan. 6 is not in doubt, his legal culpability is. It's easy to write an op-ed or say on cable TV that Trump incited an insurrection. As a legal matter, though, Trump didn't come close

to crossing the line to incitement, which has very specific and high standards under law.

Even his infamous Georgia phone call looks different on the close reading it would get as part of any court case – by the end of the call, his lawyers were only asking that the secretary of state's office tell them why their count of suspected fraudulent

False positives plague lung cancer screening

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm a 74-year-old female who smoked a pack a day for 40-plus years, having quit smoking about 18 years ago. As a precaution, I asked my primary doctor to order a screening CT scan, knowing that I'm a candidate for lung cancer. The results showed a 3-mm nodule in one lung, and I was advised not to worry and that my doctor would order another CT scan in six months. I can't help but wonder if this is cancer and if an oncologist, after six months, will ask me why I waited so long to see him. – T.W.*



Medical professionals have been attempting to screen for lung cancer for decades. Chest X-rays proved insensitive: By the time cancer could be seen on X-ray, it was usually too late to do anything about it. CT scans are much more sensitive (maybe too sensitive; see below), and studies have shown that some lives will be saved with a screening program. However, the number of people who would benefit is relatively small. 256 moderate-to-heavy smokers would need yearly screening for three years in order to prevent one lung cancer death.

There are two other significant concerns about lung cancer screening. The first is the issue you have now: an abnormal result and what to do about it. It's extremely common. Almost 25% of scans will be abnormal, and 96% of the abnormal results will be false positives. But it will require multiple scans, and sometimes an invasive procedure, to prove it. This means a great deal of anxiety among people who get the type of result you did.

The small size of your nodule means the risk that this nodule is cancerous is much lower than 1%. A follow-up scan is the usual recommendation, and if the nodule is the same size or smaller, the chance of it being cancerous is very close to zero. You should have had a careful explanation of the likelihood of false positive results before getting the scan. You also should have been warned of the possible need for a biopsy and the possible financial costs associated with follow-up testing.

The second concern is that current smokers who consider screening should receive intensive advice and help in quitting smoking. A negative CT scan is not a "clean bill of health" for a smoker, and quitting remains to be the single most important thing most smokers can do for their overall health.

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 90 years old. My husband and I donated blood as often as needed – over 100 times – but last week, my doctor said I tested positive for syphilis. I about fell off my chair. I haven't slept for four nights. Have you ever heard of this? – E.*

The screening test for syphilis, called the VDRL or RPR test, is not particularly accurate. About 1-2% of people will have a false positive result, meaning that the test is positive, but they do not have syphilis. There are many possible causes, such as infection and autoimmune diseases like lupus, but some people, particularly older people, will have a positive test for no identifiable reason.

In your case, I am sure it is a false positive, but your doctor may do a more specific test, such as an FTA-ABS, to be 100% sure. You shouldn't let it keep you awake at night.

*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.*

votes was off.

In an environment of ever-spirling political conflict, it's difficult for anyone to exercise forbearance – to realize the most emotionally satisfying course isn't necessarily the correct one and to be constrained by the public interest, even if that

enrages his or her own side.

Merrick Garland can still err on the side of statesmanship. He looks set, though, to choose the abyss.

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





**Moore Texas by Roger MOORE**  
A law outlawing Jack Rabbit roping was enacted in 1978 although it was wildly popular with the humans.

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: X equals C

GYN ZJT IFEMHDZ FJG RG GYN ZTU  
IFJCQD'G GRMN GYN GHUN GF  
GRCM GF LNFLCN. YN YRQ GFF  
URDT LENKKHDZ XFDXNEDK.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

Answer Page 4

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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New number for suicide intervention: 988



by Freddy Groves

Across the country there is a new mental health suicide and crisis line phone number: 988. The Department of Veterans Affairs has merged services with that number to provide an additional resource for veterans to call when they're in crisis.

A result of the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020, the bill was passed and signed off as law. It's startling, however, to learn that this bill was first created and sponsored by 34 U.S. senators in 2019. (You can go here to learn whether your state's senators were among those supporting this legislation: [www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2661](http://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2661).) Additionally, it was signed into law in 2020.

But these things take time. It wasn't until the middle of this

year, 2022, that the 988 number was hooked up to the VA crisis line. During the two years, the VA beefed up the number of employees and responding staff by the hundreds. It hooks up 500 suicide prevention coordinators at the VA, which ensures that follow-up care is part of the care a veteran receives.

You can call that 988 number, then press 1 for the Veterans Crisis Line. Or you can call the original number: 800-273-8255. Or you can text to 838255. And you also can instantly chat at [www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat).

There are a number of options to help veterans who need suicide crisis help, and it's immediate. Somebody will answer 24/7, and you'll be asked a couple of quick questions, such as whether you are the veteran or if you're calling for a veteran who is at risk of suicide or is in immediate danger. It's all confidential and free. By the next day someone local (your suicide prevention coordinator) will contact

you and get you lined up for continued support.

Go to the "Get Help Now" link above and click around, especially on "How It Works."

Remember, you don't have to be enrolled in any VA programs for health care or benefits. If you are a veteran, this service is for you. You're not alone.

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• M.F. in Washington writes: "For taking to a party: Melt vanilla chips in the microwave, adding by handfuls and heating for about 15 seconds at a time. After 15 seconds, stir and repeat until chips have melted. Then dip small clusters of green grapes into the melted vanilla chips."

• "I read your tips in a Rochelle, Illinois, newspaper. The paper is sent to me by a friend, and I love the tips. Here is mine: For homemade spray and wash, mix 2 cups of water, 2 tablespoons of white vinegar, 1 tablespoon of baking soda and 1 tablespoon of dish soap." – K.W. in Tennessee

• When purchasing school supplies, remember that paper, pencils, etc., typically aren't on sale mid-year, so stocking up is a good idea. Just make sure the deal you are getting is a good one. Then put it away for distribution later!

• I lay out my school clothes and even my hairbrush and stuff to get ready. I put my shoes and socks by the front door. I am always ready before my sister, and I get to watch TV while she is running around. – R.G. in Florida

• Pint-size water bottles are great for refilling with milk. The milk boxes at the grocery store are so expensive, and this way, I can control how chocolatey the chocolate milk is. – C.C. in Oregon

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

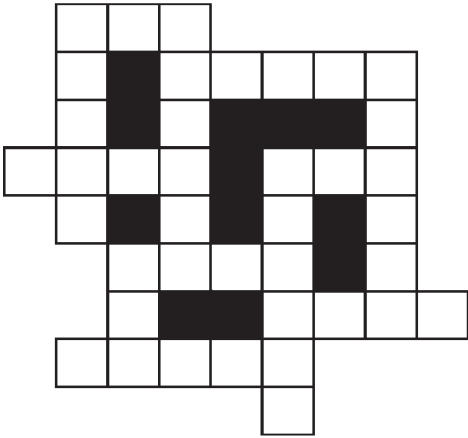
	÷		+		9
+		×		÷	
	-		×		5
÷		-		+	
	+		-		10
3		4		10	

1 3 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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URF  
UTMIDE  
TAFBA  
♥ERFE  
♥DRATEC  
BCU  
LDFE  
CARFN  
IRD  
AFGLUB  
♥LUREC  
♥EMCA



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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