



## NEWSBRIEFS

### SISD job fair

Socorro ISD is seeking highly qualified instructional aides to assist teachers for the 2022-2023 school year. The district will have an instructional aide job fair from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. Sept. 19 in the District Service Center Boardroom located at 12440 Rojas Dr.. Candidates should have 48 credit hours from an accredited college or university approved by TEA and must qualify for required paraprofessional certificate. Candidates should have a copy of their unofficial transcript(s) and a resume with three references and be prepared for the opportunity to interview with school principals. Please email Angelica Herrera at [aherre18@sisd.net](mailto:aherre18@sisd.net) or Celina Stiles at [cstile@sisd.net](mailto:cstile@sisd.net) for more information or questions regarding the SISD Instructional Aide Job Fair.

— Christy Flores-Jones

### Quite the appetite

Does the name Joey Chestnut ring a bell? He's the guy who keeps winning those hot dog eating contests that take place in Coney Island each Fourth of July. Apparently frankfurters aren't the only tasty delight that piques his interest. He holds 55 eating records having devoured record breaking amounts of pork brain tacos, Jalapeno Poppers and even Twinkies, to name a few. And, no, he apparently does not hold the record for eating chestnuts. However, most recently he broke the record for popcorn when he downed 32 twenty-four ounce servings of popcorn in just 8 minutes at a contest held in Indianapolis.

— John Grimaldi

### One big moth

The state of Washington's Department of Agriculture (WDA) is on a moth hunt but it's not your normal, pesky moths that eat holes in your favorite woolen sweater. This moth is the humongous, giant Atlas moth with a nearly 10-inch wing span. Despite the fact that the Atlas moth has never before been seen in the U.S. and that it makes its home in tropical climates, one was spotted in Bellevue, WA recently. WDA entomologist Sven Spichiger is quoted in a department news release

See BRIEFS, Page 7

*Experience is often what you get when you were completely expecting something else.*

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo by Rick Shrum

### The tank is up

Progress continues on the newest water storage tank for Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District 3 (HRMUD 3). The 1.5 million gallon tank was raised at the end of July. Since then workers have been busy preparing the tank for water. HRMUD 3 expects the tower to be in service by January 2023.

## Canutillo ISD to start Montessori program

By Gustavo Reveles  
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – The Canutillo Independent School District will be the home of the first public Montessori program in the El Paso region at Gonzalo & Sofia Garcia Elementary School starting next month.

Canutillo will offer free, full-day and dual-language Montessori pre-kinder classes for students who will be three years old during the 2022-23 school year. The program will start on Sept. 19 and will be limited to 11 students. Preference will be given to students who live within the Canutillo ISD boundaries, but open slots will be available to students who live anywhere else in El Paso County.

“Canutillo continues to show why it is the Best Small School District in Texas and the region’s only Triple-A Rated District by being the first to offer this innovative educational opportunity to our families,” said Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galaviz. “The Montessori Program will allow us to further diversify our curriculum and reach an even greater number of students seeking more educational opportunities.”

The Montessori method was founded with the belief that students learn at their own pace using self-directed activity, hands-on learning and collaborative play that relies on auto-education rather than traditional lesson plans. The five key principles of the Montessori method are:

- Respect for the child;
- The absorbent mind;
- Sensitive learning periods;
- The prepared learning environment; and
- Auto-education.

Students who will be considered for the program should be 3 years old, be potty-trained, have basic communication skills already developed and be able to get dressed independently. The District’s Montessori guides will be assessing students for potential success in the program.

An open house for interested parents is scheduled for 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at Garcia Elementary. Contact Garcia Elementary at (915) 877-1200 or [ges@canutillo-isd.org](mailto:ges@canutillo-isd.org) for more information.

## TxDOT: Drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists must follow traffic laws

*Pedestrians and bicyclists account for 1 in 5 traffic deaths in Texas*

By Jeff Salzgeber  
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – It’s a simple and undisputed fact: Following traffic laws and staying focused can prevent unthinkable tragedy on the road. Yet, in Texas, pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities continue to rise.

In 2021 in Texas, 841 people died in pedestrian-related traffic crashes, an increase of 15% from 2020. Crashes involving bicyclists claimed the lives of 92 people. These 933 deaths account for 20% of the 4,490 fatalities on Texas roadways last year.

“Year after year, we’re seeing fatalities from traffic crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists climb,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. “Each of us has a shared responsibility to help reverse this trend. Whether you’re behind the wheel, on foot or riding a bicycle,

we’re asking all Texans to be safe and smart, and that starts with obeying traffic laws.”

TxDOT’s “Be Safe. Drive Smart.” campaign urges all Texans to know and follow the laws for safe driving, walking and biking.

Those life-saving laws include the Lisa Torry Smith Act, which went into effect in 2021. Named after a Texas mom who was struck and killed in a crosswalk while walking her six-year-old son to school, the law requires that drivers stop and yield the right of way to people in crosswalks. Motorists who fail to stop and yield and cause serious injury to someone in a crosswalk can face criminal penalties.

#### Texas law states if you’re driving:

- Stop and yield for pedestrians, bicyclists and other vulnerable road users in crosswalks.
- When turning, yield the right of way

to pedestrians and bicyclists.

- Pass bikes at a safe distance and give bicyclists room to ride.

#### If you’re walking:

- Cross the street only at intersections and crosswalks.
- Obey all traffic and crosswalk signals.
- Use sidewalks. If there’s no sidewalk, walk on the left side of the road, facing oncoming traffic.

#### If you’re riding a bike:

- Always stop at red lights and stop signs.
- Ride in the same direction as traffic and use bike lanes or ride as near as possible to the right-hand curb.
- Use hand signals when turning or stopping.
- At night, make sure your bike has a white light on the front and a red light or

See TXDOT, Page 6



# The joy of 61

Baseball is a game of numbers, and one of the most iconic of them, 61, is now in play.

New York Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge may match or eclipse the single season home-run mark set by Roger Maris in 1961.

Technically, a trio of sluggers obliterated the Maris record in the late 1990s and early 2000s. But their gaudy totals are a testament to performance-enhancing drugs and baseball’s willingness to look the other way rather than genuine achievement.

The legitimate record is still held by Maris, an irony since the standing of his own feat was called into question at the time. He hit 61 in the American League’s first 162-game season,

whereas Babe Ruth had hit 60 in the traditional 154-game season.

This pettifogging line of attack led to commissioner Ford Frick suggesting what became the infamous asterisk for Maris. This slighting treatment wasn’t given to any other record, though, and reflected more a protectiveness of Ruth and his handiwork – and an unfounded belief that Maris wasn’t worthy – than a commitment to static purity.

Baseball doesn’t have the hold it once did on the national imagination, yet the home run is arguably still the signature American sports play. The sound of the ball off the bat, the rising anticipation as it traces its path, the roar of the crowd, the excited call of the broadcasters, the home-run trot – the home run has retained its power even as baseball itself has changed.

It was, of course, Babe Ruth who gave us the home run as we know it. Prior to him, no one had hit more than 27 home runs in a season. From 1919 to 1933, he hit more than 27 every year save one. He’d hit more home runs than entire teams.

Ruth launched 60 for the famous “Murderer’s Row” Yankees in 1927. This record stood for decades when along came this .260 hitter recently traded to the Yankees from the Kansas City Athletics named Roger Maris to challenge history from out of nowhere.

It didn’t go well. Maris encountered a wave of derision and abuse as his long balls piled up. Shy and self-effacing, he wasn’t mediagenic enough for the media, at least not after the press got through with him.

Such was the pressure on Maris

that his hair began falling out and he wanted to sit out games near the end. All the focus was on what he could do in 154 games and when he’d “only” hit 59 by that juncture, he was deemed a failure.

The season hadn’t ended, though, even if the air had come out of the balloon. Maris pulled No. 61 into the right-field seats the last day of the season in front of a small Yankee Stadium crowd of roughly 23,000. The TV broadcaster Red Barber called the home run with only slightly more enthusiasm than a sacrifice fly in the middle of May. But the crowd warmly greeted the landmark, and his appreciative teammates pushed Maris out of the dugout for a curtain call.

In theory, 60 home runs shouldn’t be an untouchable record like Joe DiMaggio’s 56-game hitting streak. Hitting 10 home runs a month for six months sounds very doable. There have been dozens of 50-homer seasons (Yankee slugger Giancarlo Stanton hit



59 with the Miami Marlins back in 2017). But the grind of the long season, the inevitability of slumps, and the factor of injuries make 60 a formidable barrier.

Now, Aaron Judge is in a position to challenge the record. If he keeps gaining on it, he won’t have a mediagenic problem. He’s 6-foot-7 with a million-watt smile playing for the most storied franchise in the sport. A Yankee gaining on two other Yankees – it couldn’t be cued up better.

Sixty-one has, cheating aside, lasted more than half a century. Time for a new number.

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

## Public Notice / Aviso al Público

### Canutillo Independent School District

#### Dinner Meal Program 2022-2023 / Programa de Servicio de Cena 2022-2023

The Canutillo Independent School District announces its participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and will serve free meals to all participants, 18 and under. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation or all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

*El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo anuncia su participación en el Programa de Alimentos para Adultos y Niños (CACFP). Se les servirá comida sin costo alguno a /os participantes menores de 18 años de edad. El Departamento de Agricultura de Estados Unidos (USDA) prohíbe la discriminación en contra de sus clientes, empleados y solicitantes de empleo en base a su raza, color, origen nacional, edad, discapacidad, sexo, identidad de genera, religión, represalia, y donde aplique, creencias políticas, estado civil, estado familiar o parental, orientación sexual, o la totalidad o parte de los ingresos de un individuo se derive de cualquier programa de asistencia pública, o información genética protegida en el empleo o en cualquier programa o actividad llevada a cabo o financiada par el USDA. (No todas las prohibiciones se aplicarán a todos /os programas y/o actividades de empleo.)*

#### Campus Address and Phone Number

#### Direccion de la Escuela y Numero de Telefono

Canutillo High School 6675 South Dessert Blvd. 877-7800	Jose Alderete Middle School 801 Talbot Rd. 877-6600	Canutillo Middle School 7311 Bosque Rd. 877-7900
Canutillo Elementary School 651 Canutillo Ave. 877-7600	Bill Childress Elementary School 7700 Cap Carter Rd. 877-7700	Con. Silvestre & Carolina Elem. Sch. 7440 Northern Pass 877-1301
Jose Damian Elementary School 6300 Strahan Rd. 877-7655	Deanna Davenport Elem. Sch. 8401 Remington Rd. 886-6400	Gonzalo & Sofia Garcia Elem. Sch. 6550 Westside Dr. 877-1200

Monday - Thursday Only, Closed Holidays, Contact the Campus for Dates and Times.  
*Solo lunes a jueves, feriados cerrados, comuníquese con el campus para conocer las fechas y horas.*

**To file a complaint of discrimination, write or call immediately to:**  
***Para presentar una queja sobre discriminación, escriba o llame inmediatamente a:***

USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication  
1400 Independence Avenue S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Or call toll free (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY) USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

*O llamar gratis al (800) 795-3272 o (202) 720-6382 (TTY) USDA es un proveedor de igualdad de oportunidades y el empleador.*

WTCC: 09-08-22

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

The *West Texas County Courier* will publish two editions early. The October 13 and October 20, 2022 issues will go to press on Monday, October 3, 2022.

All material for these publications must be submitted to the *West Texas County Courier* no later than Thursday, September 29, 2022.

The *West Texas County Courier* office will close beginning Friday, October 4, 2022. The office will open again on Friday, October 21, 2022.



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

**AD DEADLINE:**  
Friday 4 p.m. for the next Thursday.

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

**DISPLAY RATES:**  
Open rate — \$30 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right not to publish advertising it considers inappropriate.

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Minimum 50 issues for \$50. Delivery via 1st class mail.

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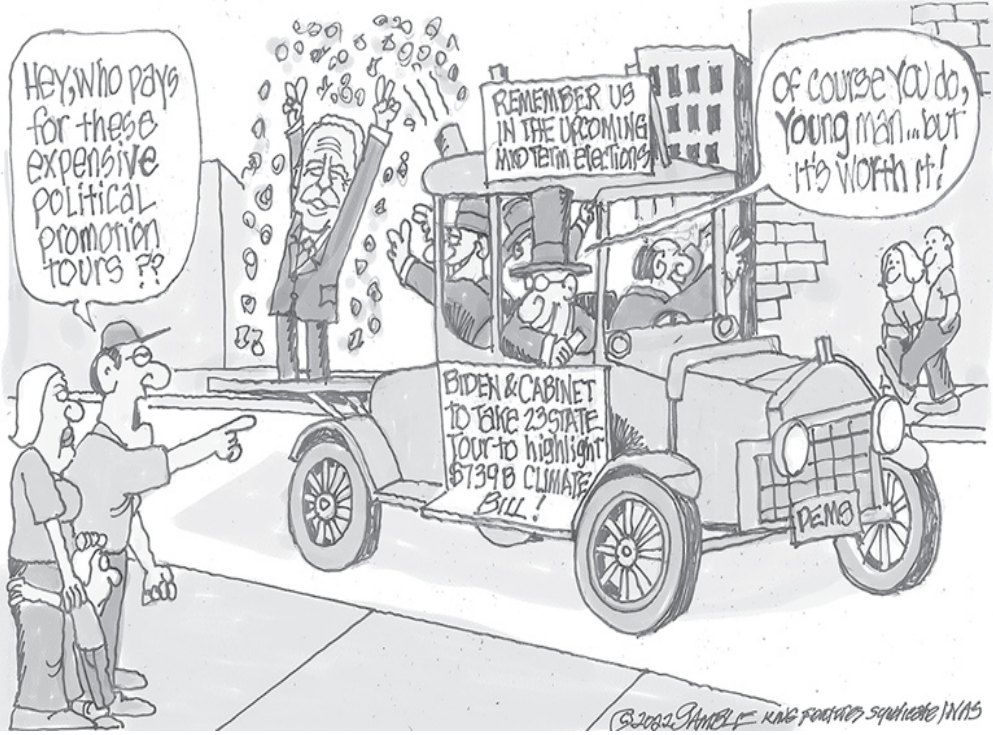
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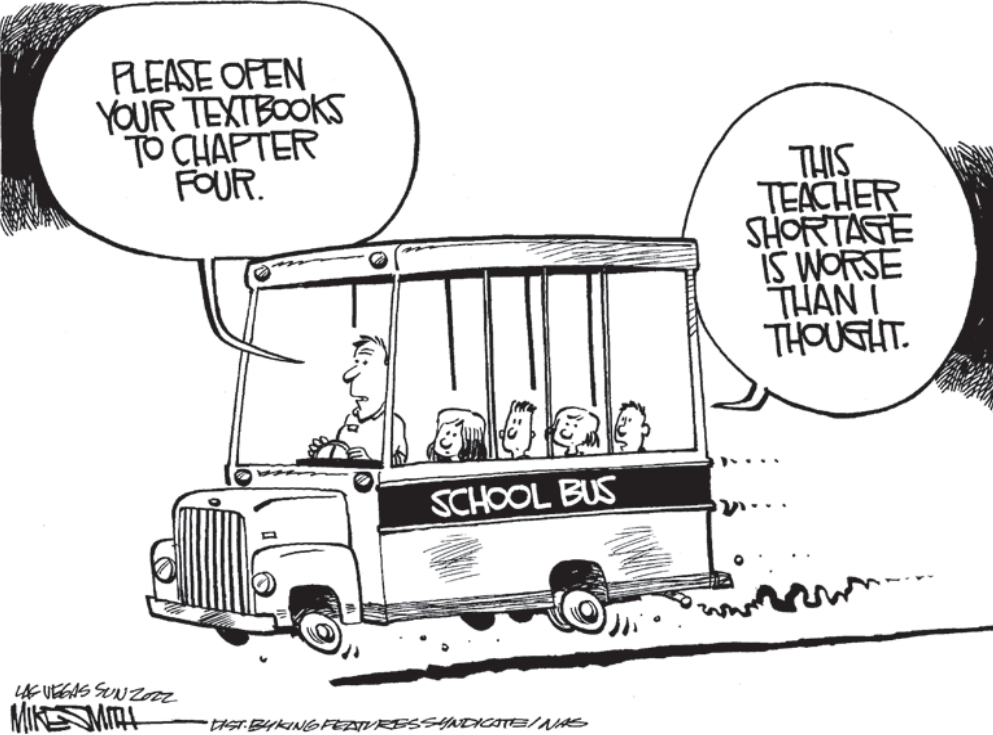
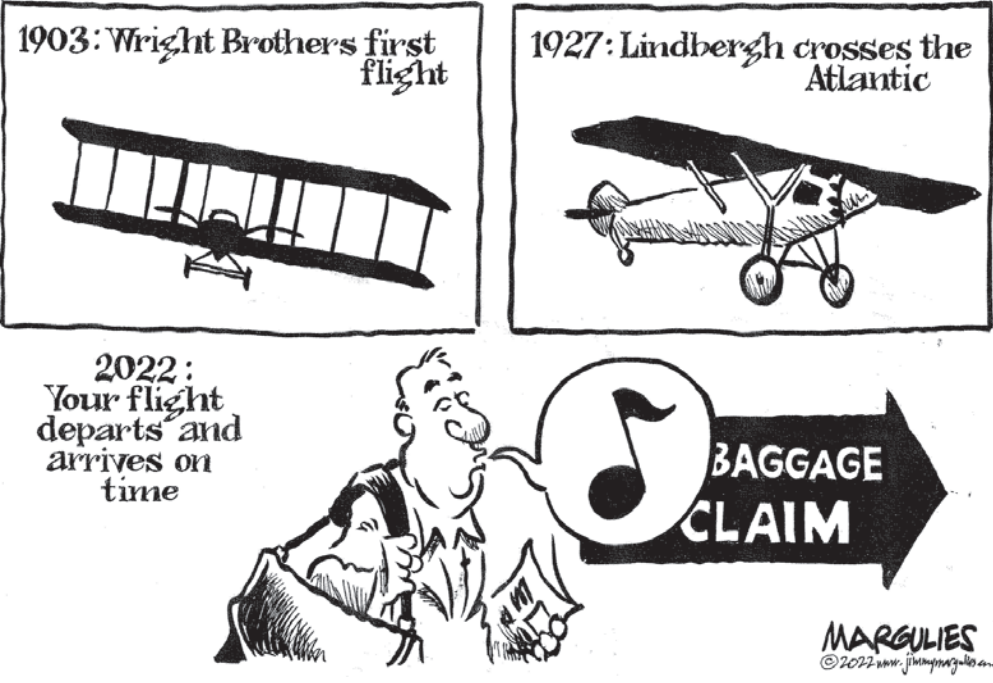


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Aviation Milestones



El Paso County Water Control and Improvement District No. 4  
Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The EL PASO COUNTY WCID NO. 4 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2022 on September 27, 2022 at 5:30 PM at El Paso County Water Control and Improvement District #4 Office at 117 E. Main Fabens, Texas 79838. 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 value 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](https://www.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: Magda C. Flores, Thelma Quinonez and Juana Gutierrez
- AGAINST the proposal: NONE
- PRESENT and not voting: NONE
- ABSENT: Samuel Madrid and Jorge Carrasco, Jr

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)	\$0.177129/\$100	\$0.157857/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	– \$0.019272	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	– 10.88%	
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$ 79,709	\$ 90,010
General exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 79,709	\$ 90,010
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 141.19	\$ 142.09
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	+ \$ 0.90	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	+ 0.64%	

If the proposed combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires or authorizes an election to approve or reduce the tax rate the governing body of EL PASO COUNTY WCID NO. 4 proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of the combined debt service.

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.



Food for thought

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

# Your new normal, resetting life

People who have lost their houses and cars and everything they’ve worked for all their lives may feel like giving up. Some do. After thirty or forty years they don’t feel like they have it within them to rebuild and try again. Some have no choice but to live the life they’ve been handed. Financially they don’t have an option.

I was sitting in a hotel lobby in Pikeville, Kentucky a few

Sundays back talking to FEMA workers. Several of them were preparing to go to areas devastated by the East Kentucky floods. One of the men said, “We are trying to get everyone registered. There is some assistance available but it is small and limited in comparison to what they need. These families have nothing. They have lost everything. Many of them have no means to rebuild what they have lost. ‘Sadly,’ he

said this is their new normal.”

We all face and deal with the “new normals” of our lives. Aching knees, the death of a spouse, the loss of friends who have moved or died. Financial changes and health challenges force us to learn how to reset our lives.

Resetting life is easier said than done. Too often, all we have is the energy to stare out the window, if we have a window.

Life’s disasters set us back. Mentally, physically, relationally, and financially such an event may require another lifetime of building your life back, if you

have a lifetime. Your lifetime may be five or ten years, and if you are lucky your lifetime will be more. It’s certainly a little easier to try to climb back up the mountain at the age of 35 than at 65, but to some extent you can if you have the will and physical ability to do so.

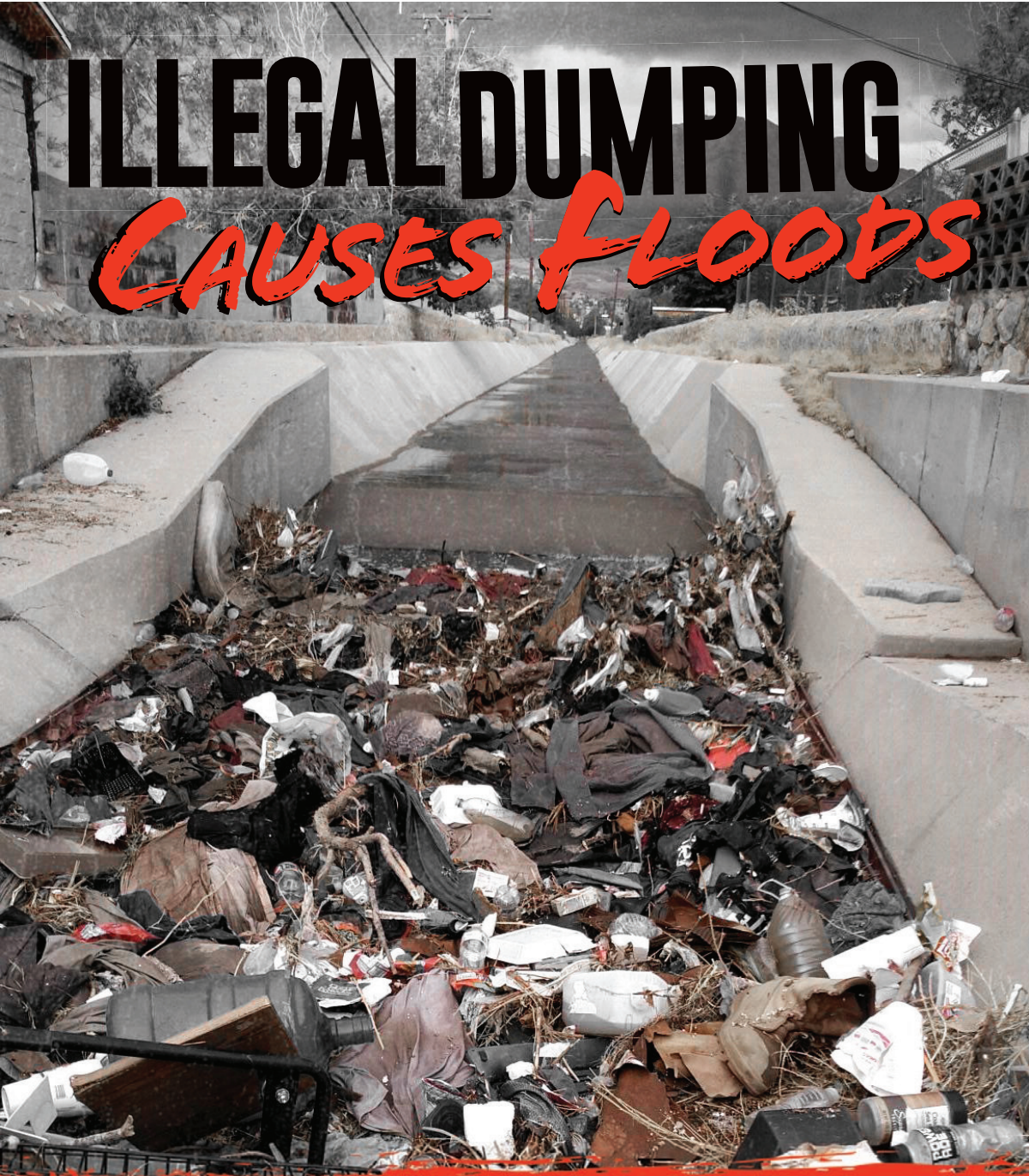
There is a time in life when you either quit or dramatically change gears. You don’t feel like standing and teaching a class another ten years. You can’t go back into the coal mine another five years. You’ve stood in the assembly line for 35 or 40 years and you are done. There is nothing wrong with withdrawing from one life you enjoyed and resetting to do something else. This could simply be fishing, golf, traveling, walking by the river or local lake, or sleeping late every morning and enjoying your coffee late in the day. There’s nothing wrong with that.

The old Apostle Paul had been through a lot in his life. Shipwrecked, stoned and left for

dead, escaped being murdered, whipped cruelly and placed in a jail cell. His life was often far less than glamorous. He once said, “Let us not get tired of well-doing, we will reap a harvest if we don’t quit.”

Many years ago, a friend of mine restarted his life at the age of 50. He had nothing to show for his years of work and life. Old age was looking grim. He and his wife found an old abandoned hamburger stand in a small town. He rented the building for almost nothing and cleaned it up and he and his wife worked twelve hours a day for the next 17 years and he retired with a couple of million dollars in the bank. Even this would be out of reach for many today but keep in mind that if you have the mental wherewithal to think it and the physical stamina to put it into action, you can reset your life and try again.

Your current normal doesn’t have to be forever, if you don’t quit.



When trash is illegally dumped in canals, stormwater channels, ponds and other waterways, it can flood homes and result in expensive repairs or worse.

CALL 311 to report it and visit [DONTTRASHER.COM](http://DONTTRASHER.COM) to learn more!



Strange  
BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Only 2% of the world's population have green eyes, but they weren't born with them. The hue takes from six months to three years to show up in children.
- Donnie Dunagan, who as a child actor supplied the voice of Disney's Bambi, went on to become a highly decorated major in the U.S. Marines – and kept his movie role a secret for his entire 25-year military career.
- An Australian ground bird known as the lyrebird can mimic just about anything, from a crying baby to machinery.
- About 6,000 years ago, the barren Sahara Desert was actually a lush green forest.
- “Loganamnosis” is a word to describe an obsession with recalling a specific word that has been forgotten.
- In 2016, the NFL returned more than \$700,000 of taxpayer money it had been paid by the U.S. Defense Department to honor the military at games.
- A Colombian man died after a parasitic worm that had invaded his gut developed

cancer, which in turn spread through the man's body.

- Legend has it that Tate's Hell State Park, a 202,000-acre forest/swamp in Florida, got its curious name from a man who was lost in its wilderness and after finally emerging told a passerby, “My name is Cebe Tate, and I just came from hell” before collapsing.
- According to a 2014 survey by the Christian retailer LifeWay, 7% of Christian Americans pray for a parking spot.
- Donkey Kong got his curious moniker because his creator, Shigeru Miyamoto, believed “donkey” meant “stupid” in English and wanted to convey the impression that the character was a “stupid ape.”
- Wildlife technician Richard Thomas took the famous tongue twister, “How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?” and calculated a rough estimate of the actual answer. It came out to around 700 pounds!

Thought for the Day: “No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars or sailed an uncharted land, or opened a new doorway for the human spirit.”

– Helen Keller

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CryptoQuip  
Answer

After the paleontologist finished digging up that valuable fossil, he gave it the brush-off.

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# Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

Over the next five years, even American households stopped buying grapes in support of the farmworkers.

- On Sept. 5, 1972, at the Summer Olympics in Munich, Germany, a group of Palestinian terrorists, known as Black September, storms the Olympic Village apartment of the Israeli athletes, killing two and taking nine others hostage. In an ensuing shootout at the Munich airport, the nine Israeli hostages were killed.
- On Sept. 6, 1995, Baltimore Orioles shortstop Cal Ripken Jr. plays in his 2,131st consecutive game. Ripken went on to play 2,632 games in a row before ending the streak by voluntarily removing himself from a game against the New York Yankees on Sept. 19, 1998.
- On Sept. 7, 1936, Charles Harden Holley is born in Lubbock, Texas. Performing under the name Buddy Holly, he left behind a rock 'n' roll legacy that includes "That'll Be the Day" and "Maybe Baby" after his death in 1959 at the age of 22.
- On Sept. 8, 1965, the five-year Delano Grape Strike begins as over 2,000 Filipino American farmworkers refuse to go to work picking grapes near Bakersfield, California.

On Sept. 9, 1942, in the first and only air attack on the U.S. mainland during World War II, a Japanese floatplane drops incendiary bombs on Oregon's Mount Emily, setting fire to a state forest. The president immediately called for a news blackout for the sake of morale.

On Sept. 10, 1897, a 25-year-old London taxi driver named George Smith becomes the first person ever arrested for drunk driving. A true breath test didn't come along until 1931 with a device called the Drunkometer. It involved a blow-up balloon and a tube filled with a purple fluid (potassium permanganate and sulfuric acid). Alcohol on a person's breath changed the color of the fluid from purple to yellow; the quicker the change, the drunker the person.

On Sept. 11, 1857, Mormon guerrillas, stoked by a deep resentment of decades of public abuse and federal interference, murder 120 emigrants at Mountain Meadows, Utah. The conflict apparently began when the Mormons refused to sell the emigrants any supplies.

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# 21 Socorro ISD schools earn A-rating in 2022 TEA accountability ratings

*All district schools receive a passing grade*

By Christy Flores-Jones  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – With a continued focus on helping all students achieve their highest potential, 21 schools in the Socorro Independent School District earned an A-rating in the first state accountability ratings released by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) since 2019. All 47 rated schools in SISD received a passing grade, including 23 B-rated campuses. Overall, the district earned a B+ with a numerical rating of 88.

The ratings reflect the dedication of educators and support staff who have worked purposefully to address students' academic, social, and emotional needs to get them back on track after two years of challenges due to the pandemic. Parents can visit TXSchools.gov for detailed information on SISD's district and campus ratings.

"There is no doubt that Socorro ISD teachers, staff and administrators are incredible educators and have been delivering outstanding instruction with excellent support systems to assist students to excel in their studies and readjust during this most challenging time in education," said SISD Superintendent Nate Carman, Ed.D. "I appreciate the resiliency, hard work and commitment of our teachers that has led to this achievement. I also am proud of our students for their determination and focus to achieve their best in and out of the classroom."

Socorro ISD has maintained its commitment to deliver endless opportunities for students to succeed in academics and beyond by providing innovative, successful programs to prepare students for college, careers, and life. The state ratings cap off results from a highly successful 2021-2022 school year for Socorro ISD students.

In May, Team SISD celebrated 3,600 graduates in the Class of 2022 who, together, earned more than \$61.8 million in scholarships, grants, and military awards. Twenty-one SISD athletic teams won championships and 92 students signed to continue their athletic and academic career at

See SISD, Page 7

## Socorro ISD A-rated schools

- Bill Sybert School
- Cactus Trails Elementary School
- Campestre Elementary School
- Col. John O. Ensor Middle School
- Dr. Sue Shook Elementary School
- Helen Ball Elementary School
- Horizon Heights Elementary School
- Jane A. Hambric School
- John Drugan School
- Loma Verde Elementary School
- Lujan-Chavez Elementary School
- Mission Early College High School
- Myrtle Cooper Elementary School
- O'Shea Keleher Elementary School
- Options High School
- Robert R. Rojas Elementary School
- Sgt. Roberto Ituarte Elementary School
- Sgt. Jose F. Carrasco Elementary School
- Spec. Rafael Hernando III Middle School
- Vista Del Sol Elementary School

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# The wrong way to deal with racism in sports

By Steve Escajeda  
*Special to the Courier*

There’s no doubt that the United States is the most diverse country on this great big planet. The U.S. has the greatest mix of religions and cultures and races and skin tones of any other nation by far. And a vast majority of this country’s citizens are proud of it. I say only a “vast majority” because there are always going be some ignorant people out there. They don’t like the idea of living or interacting with anyone who looks, thinks, or is just simply different than they are. There is probably no other place where people of different backgrounds get together as much as they do in the world of sports. Athletes of all races and origins

are thrust together for a common cause, to work as one to be as successful as possible. By spending so much time together in locker rooms, practicing, studying and competing, players begin to realize that any notions they had about other races go away. They begin to learn that we are all human beings and very similar to each other. But there will always be weak individuals who see race first and very little else. At a Duke-BYU volleyball game about a month ago, one of the Duke players said she heard someone in the BYU crowd yell racial slurs at her. She is the only black player on the team. She said she heard some fan shouting out the N-word whenever she was going to serve.

Duke player Rachel Richardson said she was the victim of slurs and she felt unsafe as the fan continued. When questioned, BYU officials who were asked to stand close to the Duke bench, say they never heard any slurs coming from the crowd. In fact, no one else on her own team, coaches or players, ever heard anyone shout anything indecent during the match. Either way, it’s hard to believe that someone would shout the N-word loud enough for a player on the court to clearly hear – as she said – and not think they’d be noticed or identified by other witnesses. There was one individual who was identified as the culprit. But when police investigated video of the man, they never saw him yelling anything while Richardson was serving. That means the

person who was yelling still hasn’t been caught. So what can we do about this kind of behavior? Did it actually happen? People need to get together and talk so that they have the opportunity to get to know one another. How many times have you heard stories about people changing their minds about anything once they are exposed to it? It’s the same with people of different colors. What you shouldn’t do is exactly what South Carolina coach Dawn Staley decided to do. The South Carolina women’s basketball coach has canceled a home-and-home series with BYU scheduled to start the season at home on Nov. 7, and then play at BYU during the 2023-24 season. She actually cancelled a series scheduled for two months from now, and then a year from now.

The incident didn’t even happen to her team. It isn’t even the same sport. The coach has decided that the only thing to do is to quit. She’s not providing a right example for everyone that says this kind of behavior will not detour these young women in their quest to put camaraderie and sportsmanship above racism and bigotry. The coach has basically said that racism is too strong a battle to deal with. Instead, like much of today’s society, instead of standing up for what is right – she’s just decided to “cancel” BYU. The BYU basketball players had absolutely nothing to do with this. You would think that as a coach, she would do everything she could to entitle women. But no, she’s penalizing them. In the end, is the Duke player lying? Who knows? Maybe she lied. Or maybe she heard something that sounded like the N-word and she misinterpreted. But there’s no doubt that coach Staley, who is black, penalized a whole school and team, for the possible act of one person. She should know better – as a coach, a teacher and a leader.

## TxDOT

From Page 1

reflector on the back. Raising awareness of these rules of the road is an important part of TxDOT’s efforts to encourage Texans to do their part to prevent pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities and injuries. TxDOT’s “Be Safe. Drive Smart.” campaign and pedestrian and bicycle safety initiative are key components of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel to help end the streak of daily deaths. Nov. 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on Texas roadways.

www.wtxcc.com

## Senior moment

By Matilda Charles

### Getting ready for Medicare Open Enrollment

Before we know it, that yearly event will be here – when we have to decide what to do about our Medicare plans between Oct. 15 and Dec. 7 for coverage that will begin Jan. 1. There are several things we have to consider. Do we take on a prescription drug plan or change to a new one, or stay with original Medicare? Do we go with an Advantage plan or change Advantage plans or go back to original Medicare? All these take time to think about. Thoughts to consider: What will Social Security look like in 2023? We won’t know the Social Security increase until it is announced in October. There have been guesses that we might receive as much as a 10.5% increase, which calculates to \$175 for the average beneficiary. The Part B premium will be deducted from that. We’re likely looking at an 8.5% increase in Medicare Advantage and Part D drug plans costs. Check the costs of your prescriptions over the past three years, because for some of us, that’s

where the big-ticket expenses are. Chances are the drug costs have gone up, possibly even significantly. And chances are they’re not coming down. What to do, what to do... Two options are worth looking at: GoodRx (www.goodrx.com) and Marc Cuban CostPlus Drug Company (costplusdrugs.com). Both offer discounted prices on prescription drugs. Investigate and see what you think. A Kaiser study concluded that seven out of 10 people did not research the plans during open enrollment. Because of the rising costs of everything in our lives, this needs to be the year that we compare, compare, compare. When in doubt, look into SHIP, the State Health Insurance Assistance Program, which is in every state, staffed by volunteers who can help you wade through the Medicare information. Call them at 877-839-2675 for the one near you.

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## Super Crossword

**NFL MIX-UP ACROSS**  
1 Cheddar-like cheese  
6 Pointy heel  
14 Catching with a lariat  
20 Love to bits  
21 Decorative park shelter  
22 Intro  
23 NFL team whose logo is a red planet?  
25 Canadian metropolis  
26 Guitar ridge  
27 Manning of the Giants  
28 Co. kingpins  
30 Cookout raiders  
31 NFL team whose logo is a prairie?  
38 President of Syria  
41 Small-time  
42 Actresses  
Longoria and Mendes  
43 NFL team whose logo is a bracelet?  
48 Poet Jonson  
51 Estrada of “CHiPs”  
52 D-Day invasion river  
53 Here-there link  
54 Opposite of staccato  
56 Headed up  
57 Thurman of “Robin Hood”  
58 NFL team whose logo is a steak?

61 “\_ Fideles” (yule carol)  
63 Go by ship  
65 Pre-takeoff abbr.  
66 Biblical “ark-itect”  
67 NFL team whose logo is a Lipitor pill?  
72 Gillette razor  
75 Rhinoplasty doc  
76 Nix from Nixon, say  
77 Like most slasher films  
81 NFL team whose logo is a sword?  
85 Diving seabird  
86 Wood chopper  
87 Venus \_ (Louvre statue)  
88 Brian of electronica  
89 Super-close buds  
91 Where a goatee grows  
92 Just-OK mark  
93 NFL team whose logo is a cheese curd?  
98 Old film critic  
James  
99 Justice Kagan  
100 Oscar winner  
Witherspoon  
101 NFL team whose logo is an amoeba?  
108 Arkin of film  
109 San \_ , Italy  
110 L-P link  
111 Final Four org.  
115 “Honor Thy Father” author Gay

117 NFL team whose logo is a perfume bottle?  
123 Lounging  
124 Board, as a train  
125 Slabs  
126 Alleviate  
127 Half a school year  
128 Really vexed  
**DOWN**  
1 Baby cow  
2 Smell  
3 Be defeated  
4 “St. Elmo’s Fire” bunch  
5 Longing  
6 Kind of wheat  
7 Lucky charm  
8 “\_ done it!”  
9 Fleur-de-\_  
10 “A Nightmare on \_ Street”  
11 Carrere of “True Lies”  
12 Illuminator on a dime  
13 Advent  
14 President on a dime  
15 Choose  
16 Floral parts  
17 Nonsensical  
18 Pond wrigglers  
19 Lawn stuff  
24 Catch on to  
29 Baseballer  
Hershiser  
32 Tyrant Amin  
33 Light meal

34 Prefix with cycle  
35 Burglarize  
36 Actor Hugh  
37 Artist’s stand  
38 Amtrak train  
39 Fathered  
40 Sarcastic  
44 Ladies’ club policy  
45 Target of the Million Mom March, for short  
46 What the weary have, in a saying  
47 Little cave  
48 Chachi player  
Scott  
49 Volcano in Sicily  
50 Light meal  
55 “Who ya \_ call?”  
57 Colorado tribe  
58 Affront, informally  
59 Pupil, in Paris  
60 Suffragist \_ B. Wells  
62 “My Two Dads” actress Keanan  
63 Karate teacher  
64 Former name of Kazakhstan’s capital  
68 Prefix with 101-Down  
69 Ending for auction  
70 Bridge beam  
71 Rile  
72 “Moneytalks” rock band  
73 You, quaintly  
74 “The \_ of the Ancient Mariner”  
78 Western lake

79 Leaves  
80 Concentrated  
82 Put straight  
83 Taken eco-friendly measures  
84 Like fillets  
85 Movie-archiving org.  
89 U2 vocalist  
90 Apartment sharer, to a Brit  
91 Neat and wholesome  
94 Nixing mark  
95 High peak  
96 For every  
97 Old PC screen  
98 Trojan hero  
101 Birth-related  
102 Thrill  
103 Swansea locale  
104 Stockpile  
105 Opposite of day, in Italy  
106 Soon to receive, as a treat  
107 Fa follower  
112 Traffic marker  
113 Singer Paul  
114 Office helper: Abbr.  
116 Iceland-to-Ireland dir.  
118 NASA lander  
119 Chimp, e.g.  
120 Denials  
121 Blast creator  
122 “Eureka!”

Answer Page 4

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126								127									128				



Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



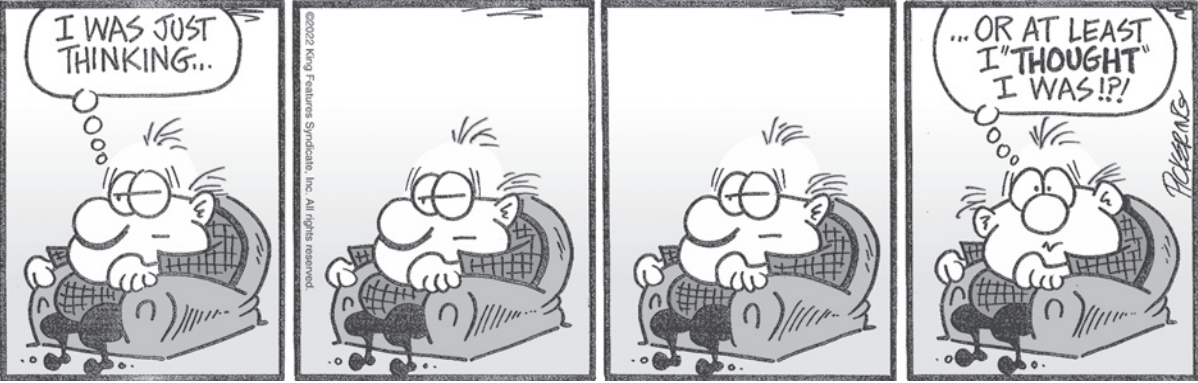
AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



TIGER

By Bud Blake



SISD

From Page 5

the collegiate level. The SISD Fine Arts department earned the Best Communities for Music Education Award from the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation for the sixth consecutive year, and a list of performing and visual artists/groups won regional and state recognition for

their talents.

This district also has expanded opportunities to engage and provide specialized instruction for elementary students by opening a new STEAM academy and a fine arts academy, which will enhance their overall learning experiences. Read more about the Escontrias STEAM Academy and Paso Del Norte Fine Arts Academy at [www.sisd.net/elementaryacademies](http://www.sisd.net/elementaryacademies). “This great Team SISD hasn’t

skipped a beat in its work to continuously improve our function and ultimately provide more opportunities for all students and team members to reach their goals,” Dr. Carman said. “I am grateful for all our employees’ efforts and the remarkable support from our Board of Trustees, parents, volunteers, and partners in education who are critical in helping us deliver endless opportunities for all our students to succeed.”

Consuming collagen is not proven to reduce wrinkles

*DEAR DR. ROACH: Several months ago, I started adding 25 grams of whey protein to an afternoon smoothie each day. I was worried about muscle loss after reading an article. I have seen the sagging muscles and skin in my arms and thighs. I am a 71-year-old woman, who plays tennis twice a week and goes to the gym about once a week. I have friends my age who have started adding collagen powders to their smoothies to improve their skin and prevent further facial wrinkles. After researching collagen supplements, I learned that they contain collagen peptides and protein. The dosage and ingredients vary by vendor. What is the correct collagen dosage and ingredients I should be looking for? Is the protein in collagen the same as the protein in whey? – R.K.*



All proteins, such as whey and collagen, are long strands of amino acids. A “peptide” is two or more amino acids connected, while a “polypeptide” is 20 or more amino acids. A protein is a polypeptide that has a function in the organism. Proteins are broken down by acid and enzymes in your stomach, back into their component amino acids, to be used anyplace the body has need for them. Part of the reason that skin wrinkles is loss of collagen, but it is not at all clear that consuming more collagen, or any protein, will increase the collagen in the skin and therefore reduce wrinkles. You can save a great deal of money by consuming collagen, if you decide you want to, from time-honored sources like chicken broth. Some collagen supplements are made from parts of animal carcasses that contain heavy metals and other toxins, so I would be wary of supplements. Medicated creams like vitamin A derivatives (such as retinol or tretinoin) work by increasing collagen production in the skin. Vitamin C creams help prevent the breakdown of the existing collagen in the skin. Vitamin C breaks down quickly, so these creams need to be handled sparingly. Moisturizing the skin makes it appear fuller and helps prevent further damage, especially when a daily sunscreen is included.

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I have been diagnosed with acid reflux for 20 years, but have never been on any antacid medication until recently, when my doctor prescribed Prilosec. My concern is whether it’s safe for long-term use. Is there an ingredient in Prilosec that causes cancer? – A.M.*

Omeprazole (Prilosec) has been safely used for decades by many people. Long-term risks include an increased propensity to bacterial pneumonia; gastrointestinal infections, such as C. diff; and poor absorption of vitamin B12 and calcium. When this class of medications was first introduced, there was concern about an increase in a type of tumor called gastric carcinoid, based on laboratory animal studies. This has not been shown to be of concern in humans. Many people who have been on omeprazole and similar anti-ulcer drugs for years or decades do just fine if they are slowly tapered off the drug. Some people need them to keep their symptoms under control. I try to taper them off, but if a person needs them, it’s safe to continue them long-term.

*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](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu). (c) 2022 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.*

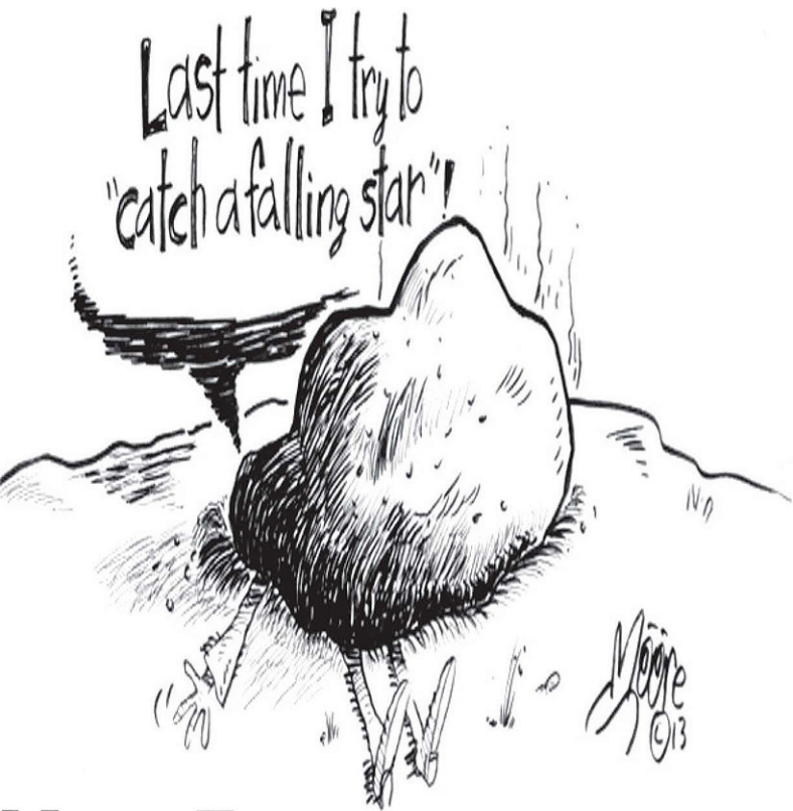
Briefs

From Page 1

saying “This is a ‘gee-whiz’ type of insect because it is so large. Even if you aren’t on the lookout for insects, this is the type that people get their phones out and take a picture of – they are that striking.” In fact, that’s exactly what a University of Washington professor did when he found the behemoth of a moth clinging to the wall of his garage one day. He pulled out his phone and snapped away.

– John Grimaldi





**Moore Texas** by Roger Moore  
Sept. 9, 1691: A meteorite falls in Grayson County.

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: Q equals F

WQRGM RNG HWVGXZR XVXSJKR  
QJZJKNGE EJSSJZS FH RNWR  
IWVFWPVG QXKKJV, NG SWIG JR

RNG PMFKN-XQQ.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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The OIG never stops



by Freddy Groves

The Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General has saved us a potential \$1.8 billion. When it comes to nailing scammers who steal from the VA, they just never give up.

A nurse at the VA pleaded guilty to Covid vaccination card fraud and theft of government funds. Her scam involved stealing authentic vax record cards, right from the beginning when the vaccines first came out, and included snagging the lot numbers to make it appear legit. Then she went online to sell her wares, charging anywhere from \$150 to \$200 for each fake card.

The scammer wasn't too bright to peddle these cards that way. The Department of Justice has a whole department dedicated to disaster fraud, and you know that watching the internet

was probably the first thing they did when Covid hit. When she was nabbed, the scammer was investigated by no less than three government agencies, plus the OIG.

Then there was the scammer, a habitual offender who, with two co-conspirators, defrauded the VA by creating aliases that made them appear to be heirs of veterans who had died.

By generating fake documents, they grabbed up survivor benefits and unclaimed property (to the tune of nearly a half million dollars). They have been charged with multiple offenses. It doesn't help that one scammer skipped out and didn't show for court, thus generating a bench warrant for her arrest.

Then there was the lowest of the low, a scammer who was in a position of responsibility as a fiduciary. His job was to receive payments on behalf of veterans, in his case, 10 disabled vets, and manage their money. The scammer, who ran his own fiduciary services company, stole more than \$300,000, including from the estate of a woman who'd

died a few years ago.

When sentenced, he could get as many as 50 years in the federal pen. He deserves every day of that.

They all do..

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• To clean out the drawers of my husband's tool cabinet without disturbing the tools, I tucked a knee-high panty hose leg over my vacuum cleaner wand. Most things stayed put, but the one or two small pieces of hardware that got sucked up were easily retrieved. I also did this on his workbench. I picked up all the dust and shavings along with the stray pieces of hardware. I pulled them out of the hose leg, and they were in a tidy pile for him to put away. – U.L. in Kansas

• You can keep ice cream from dripping out of the bottom of a cone. All you have to do is just place a small marshmallow or a piece of marshmallow in the bottom of the cone before you fill it with ice cream.

• Our family loves to make our own pizza, and we purchase dough from a pizzeria. On pizza nights, I pick up the dough first thing on the way home from work. I get it close to my work and let it sit in a bowl in the car while I pick up the kids and drive home. It takes about 45 minutes, so it's risen nicely while we've been on the go. – E.F. in New York

• If you've just purchased an expensive electronic item, take the packaging to a recycling center rather than advertise your purchase by putting the box at the curb. If you aren't able to take it somewhere, cut the box into uniform pieces and bind them together, nonprinted side facing out.

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

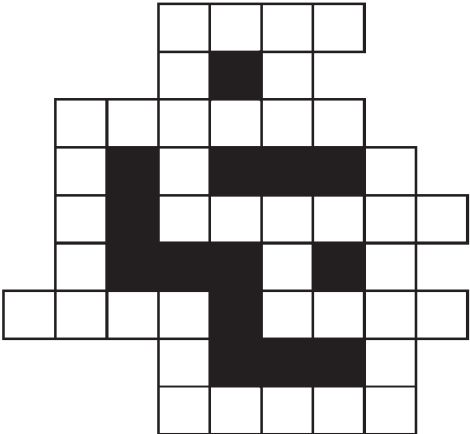
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÷		×		+	
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	+		×		22
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1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 9

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MRI  
TYNOBA  
LSLME  
♥ DABR  
MESNOR  
ONY  
SMSE  
♥ ULSTO  
♥ USB  
LONIST  
♥ ORBEN  
♥ LYSA



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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