



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Booster shots

Immunize El Paso received 1,800 Covid-19 Bivalent Boosters last Friday. The first booster was administered to a client that morning. “We expect a demand in El Paso for the Bivalent Booster. We have ordered 4-thousand more Bivalent Boosters to meet demand,” said Daniel Acosta of Immunize El Paso. This is the first Covid-19 vaccine to be created specifically for strains of Omicron, BA.4 and BA.5. This vaccine was created in the more traditional form, like hepatitis, where there is a live agent in the vaccine. Call (915) 549-1146 to schedule your appointment.

– Cristina Rodda

### What’s in a name

Every occupation has a vocabulary of its own; those whose business is to keep track of the weather are no exception. They come up with what is known as “wacky weather words” every once in a while. Take the term “frog strangler.” Meteorologists down south in 1870 are said to have come with the term when describing a particularly heavy downpours. More recently, just a couple of years ago, a meteorologist in Texas, Reed Timmer, dreamed up the term “Gorilla Hail” when he reported a particularly nasty hailstorm. And “Bear’s Cage” was first used to describe a tornado in the 1996 movie *Twister*.

– John Grimaldi

### What timing

The 39,000 citizens of the tiny 62 square mile principality of Liechtenstein, located between Switzerland and Austria, were a bit shaken by back-to-back earthquakes recently. But they weren’t as stunned as was parliamentarian Bettina Petzold-Maehr who at the time was discussing legislation regarding the need for you got it earthquake insurance. Bettina, at least, took it all in stride, chuckling at the timing of the two quakes. No one was injured.

– John Grimaldi

### Imbecilli!

Teen tourists from Australia decided to do some surfing in Venice’s famous Grand Canal not long ago; Mayor Luigi Brugnaro call them “imbecilli,” fining them to the tune of \$1,500 each for their miscreant behavior. Brugnaro

See BRIEFS, Page 3

*A man’s conscience tells him what he shouldn’t do – but it does not keep him from doing it.*

– Quips & Quotes



– Photo courtesy Rick LoBello

**HIGH FLYING** – Every year the Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta celebrates the natural wonders of the mountainous desert in El Paso County’s big backyard to encourage borderland residents to explore and discover the regions parks and other protected areas. The Harris Hawk, above, is among the many species of birds that live in the Franklin Mountains.

## El Paso Zoo and Franklin Mountains State Park to host the 18th Annual Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso County’s Chihuahuan Desert is one of the most biologically diverse eco-regions in North America.

The 18th Annual Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta will once again be a two-day event with Saturday, September 24, being held at the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens and Sunday, September 25, at the Franklin

Mountains State Park’s Tom Mays Unit. The public is invited to experience the unique exhibit presentations at the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

“Thanks to a City of El Paso bond election, the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens has a new \$16 million Chihuahuan Desert exhibit that features the flora and fauna of this amazing region,” stated Rick LoBello, education curator for the El Paso Zoo. “The exhibit includes an arroyo and a flash flood feature that helps

people better understand an important natural force helping to shape the desert landscape, plus common plants and animals including a number of endangered species,” he added.

Then on Sunday, the public is invited to enjoy the scenic surroundings at the Tom Mays section of the Franklin Mountains State Park and Castner Range, which are recognized globally as a hotspot for wildlife conservation. Interested individuals are

See FIESTA, Page 4

## Montoya, Romero, earn national academic honors

By Adriana Candelaria  
Special to the Courier

ANTHONY, TX – Two Anthony High School students have earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs.

Cruz Montoya, 12th grade, and Johanna Romero, 11th grade, earned the National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA) after achieving an excellent score on the Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/ NMSQT). The recognition helps students connect to colleges and stand out during the admissions process.

“I was very excited when I saw the results since I took my time to study for it,” Montoya said.



Cruz Montoya



Johanna Romero

identify students awarded National African American, Hispanic,

Montoya and Romero participate in an array of extracurricular activities that include band and robotics club. Montoya is considering an engineering degree while Romero is deciding on a career between music or engineering.

“I was surprised when I saw my score. The first time I took the PSAT I was nervous, but now this recognition will help me stand out on college applications,” Romero said.

The recognition helps students from rural areas or small towns stand out during the college admissions process. Colleges and scholarship programs

See HONORS, Page 5



# Republicans can’t run and hide on abortion

The Republican Party only had about a half-century to prepare for the end of Roe v. Wade yet is still scared and confused now that the late, unlamented decision is no longer with us.

It may be that the media is exaggerating the extent that the Dobbs decision has changed the trajectory of the midterms, but there is no doubt that it has energized Democrats and that pro-lifers suffered a signal defeat in a Kansas referendum in early August.

Some Republicans seem to think they can run and hide from the issue, a cowardly tack that won’t work. To the extent that Republicans are vague and non-responsive, Democrats will eagerly fill in the gaps with Handmaid’s Tale-level dystopian accusations of extremism.

Other Republicans apparently believe that they can act as if it is still the pre-Dobbs world when staking out maximalist positions – for instance, bans with no exceptions for rape or incest – had no significant downside because such proposals would never take effect. No more. Most places, this is politically deadly overreach.

The answer here is, to paraphrase Ronald Reagan, simple, if not necessarily easy. Pro-life Republicans should say that they ultimately seek sweeping protections for unborn life but realize that they have to do much more public persuasion and, in the meantime, support a compromise proposal of some sort, say a gestational limit of 15 weeks.

For pro-lifers, this falls painfully short. But it would be in keeping with the trajectory of successful past campaigns of moral and social reform – settle for progress in the right direction, occupy politically defensible ground, and then advance over time.

Meanwhile, abortion restrictions are under assault for allegedly not providing broad and clear enough exceptions for the health of the mother. In a viral video out of South Carolina last week, a Republican state representative said he regretted voting for a heartbeat bill, banning abortion after about six weeks, after he heard an excruciating story of a 19-year-old denied care for her miscarriage.

According to Rep. Neal Collins, a doctor told him the usual standard of care would have potentially involved removing the fetus immediately. But the heartbeat bill supposedly prevented that, and the woman went home to expel the fetus on her own and assume enormous health risk.

The South Carolina law, though, like most such restrictions around the country, stipulates that the prohibition “does not apply to a physician who performs a medical procedure that, by any reasonable medical judgment, is designed or intended to prevent the death of the pregnant woman or to prevent the serious risk of a substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman.”

This should have been ample warrant for the young



See LOWRY, Page 7

## View from here By Dr. Glenn Mollette

# Biden thinks too many Americans are dummies

If you worked hard for a or your family sacrificed for a big dummy. scholarship, paid your way you to go to school, President Don’tknockyourself out. Just through school, paid back loans Biden has shown that you were sit back and the government

will throw you some crumbs to take care of you.

In a move that Biden had promised during his campaign he erased between \$10,000 to \$20,000 of debt from millions of Americans college spending spree extravaganza. Years ago, Americans starting learning to spend money like it’s water. Maybe they thought, “I won’t have to pay it back”. Their dream has come true. You and I along with the rest of America’s tax payers will get to pay at least a half trillion dollars of this debt.

This is just what you had been hoping for! More taxes! Oh wait, just those rich people in America will have to pay this off, right? Every American on some level will share in this new financial burden.

Universities are legally raping America’s families because we sign up and agree to pay the tuition. We do it to ourselves. Universities don’t put a gun to the heads of Americans and make us pay. Americans foolishly agree to this debt. Yet, most universities are the last sector in America to feel the pain of the economy. In 2020-2021, most of them received millions of free government paycheck protection program money. This is more government money that will be eaten by you – the taxpayer. Millions of American

businesses also received tens of thousands to millions of dollars of free PPP money in the last two years that will also slam all Americans in more taxes.

Some tenured professors are making over \$200,000, a year. Many University Presidents across the country are making over one million dollars a year, plus major perks. Many coaches make a million or more a year. Universities spend money like its water. They are the ones who need to be lending and collecting or forgiving some of this debt. Not you.

You probably already paid once. Now we get to pay more for the students and the Universities who just kept spending money. Why are you responsible for the foolish people who borrow \$50,000 to \$100,000 and more?

I believe in helping people, but Biden needs to pass some of this lending and collecting burden to the Universities. You the taxpayer keep giving the money. The universities want \$30,000 to \$50,000 a year and more. American families foolishly swallow the poison. Next, their financial insanity becomes everybody’s problem. Does this seem right to you?

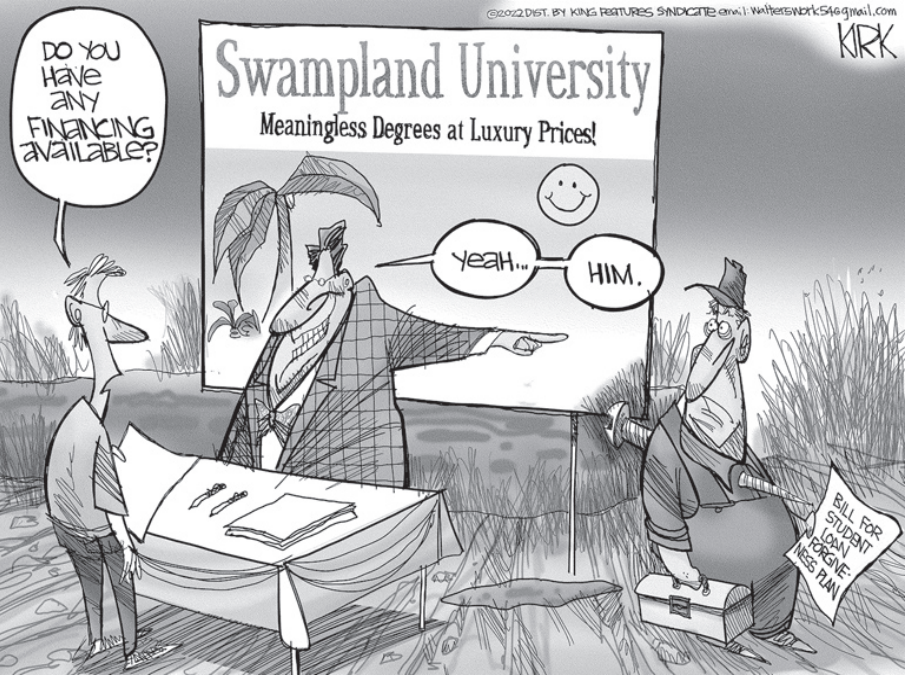
Sadly, millions of Americans

rack up college debt and never complete their degrees. Millions more get degrees they never use. You don’t need a college degree for a lot of jobs. Most jobs do require training that can be accomplished in far less time and money.

Congratulations if your debt is \$10,000 to \$20,000 lighter, but your debt will still have to be paid, by your friends, family, neighbors and others.

Consider spending the first two years in a community college or trade school. You can move on to the big-name school for your Junior and Senior years. The first two years are generally electives and classes you don’t enjoy that much anyway. You’ll save a lot of money and maybe grow up some before you land in a dorm room 200 miles away from home.

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



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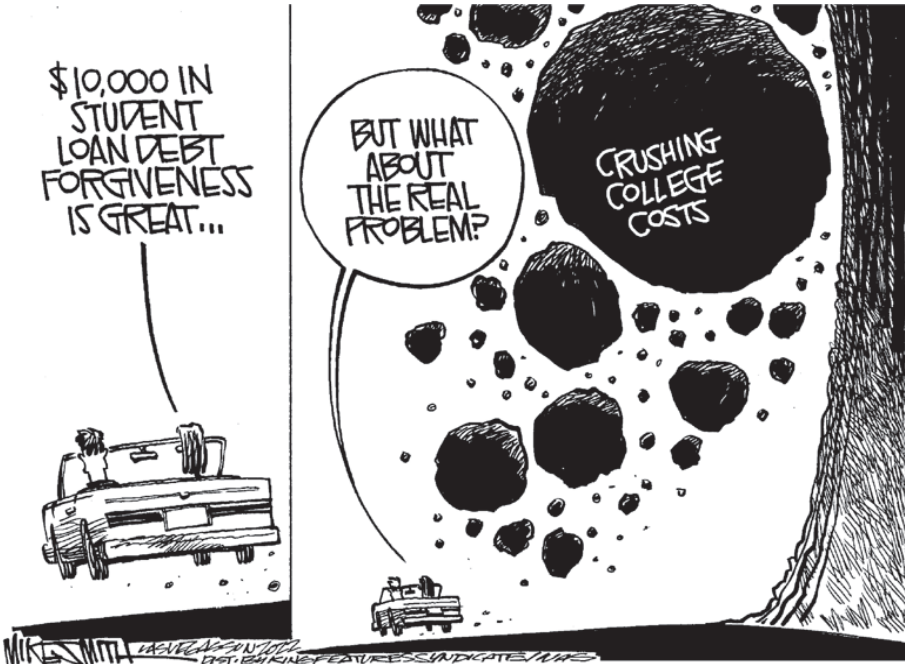
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Food for thought By John Grimaldi

Deciding the right to life

In a new episode of Association of Mature American Citizens’ (AMAC) Better for America podcast, host Rebecca Weber, CEO of the Association of Mature American Citizens, is joined by two colleagues in a wide-ranging discussion of abortion. They are Alexa Abela, associate editor of the AMAC magazine, and Bob Chartuk, a Financial Planner at the Association.

In part one of the podcast Rebecca asked Alexa what her perspective is, as a woman 23 years of age, when it comes to the issue of abortion.

Her response was, “it’s about not having faith in God and having this self-centered idea of yourself... (to those who have a pro-choice viewpoint). It’s like they are not realizing that it is a child inside of them. It is a disconnect. It’s just selfish. The left says ‘It’s my choice! It’s my body!’ It is not your body. You are now sharing your body. You’re sharing your uterus with another human being. You are still a mother. Regardless of if you birth that child, you are still a mother. Your hormones change your endorphins change. Your body is prepping you as a mother. And you will not see the left acknowledge that. And you don’t see enough people talk about that. They don’t want to talk about the trauma that comes with having an abortion. There are so many articles I’ve seen of people – women coming out and saying that Planned Parenthood,

which is government funded, coerced them into having an abortion. I mean, how many stories do you hear of doctors convincing people to get an abortion for selfish reasons because your life is going to be more difficult.”

When Bob joined the discussion he revealed a personal “what if” story.

We have all heard stories about the mom who gave birth only to discover her newborn son or daughter suffered from Down syndrome. There are those who are quick to say she should have had an abortion for her sake and for the child’s sake. Or they’ll say get tested. But, as the Centers for Disease Control says, “Screening tests do not provide an absolute diagnosis.”

One day Bob noticed a bump in his wife’s stomach. “We went to the doctor, and it turned out to be an ovarian cyst about the size of a tennis ball. The doctor wanted to remove it with a complete hysterectomy,” he said. That was not an option as far as he and his wife were concerned. They wanted a baby and so they wanted to find an alternative. The doctor offered a “risky” procedure. But, while thumbing through medical magazines in the MD’s waiting room, he came across a potentially safer option. He and his wife discussed it with their doctor, who agreed that it was, indeed, a way to remove the cyst without having to take out her reproductive organs and so

they made arrangements to undergo the procedure.

“Lo and behold, the cyst started to shrink to the point where it could be safely removed.” It worked. The cyst was removed. And “a couple of months later, my wife was pregnant, and we were on our way to having a child.” But two months into her pregnancy, there was another hurdle to overcome. Tests showed that the child would be a Down syndrome baby.

Their physician suggested that, “probably the best option would be to abort.” She told us, “You don’t really want to bring a child, you know, with birth defects into this world.” Bob says there was a lot of pressure at that point to terminate the pregnancy, “but there was no way we were going to do that.”

They had a baby girl. “We never went back to the Down Syndrome Support Group,” Bob said. “Our daughter started

to develop and we kind of kept a close eye on her, and then we realized it doesn’t seem like she was a Down’s child. So, we took her to get tested, and lo and behold, she was not. And today she is going into her sophomore year as a college student, studying math and physics.”

Abortion advocates might say that Mr. and Mrs. Chartuk simply got lucky. But that is not the point. Life is sacred whether a baby is a boy or a girl, has blue eyes or brown or has Down Syndrome or is a healthy son or daughter. They have a right to life.

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

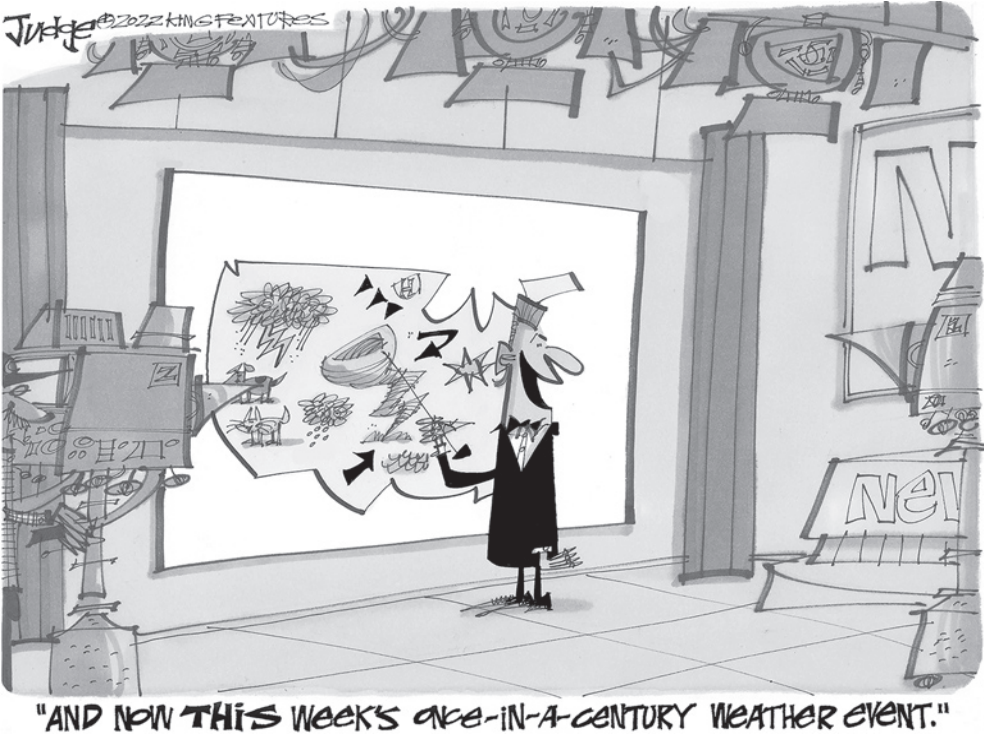
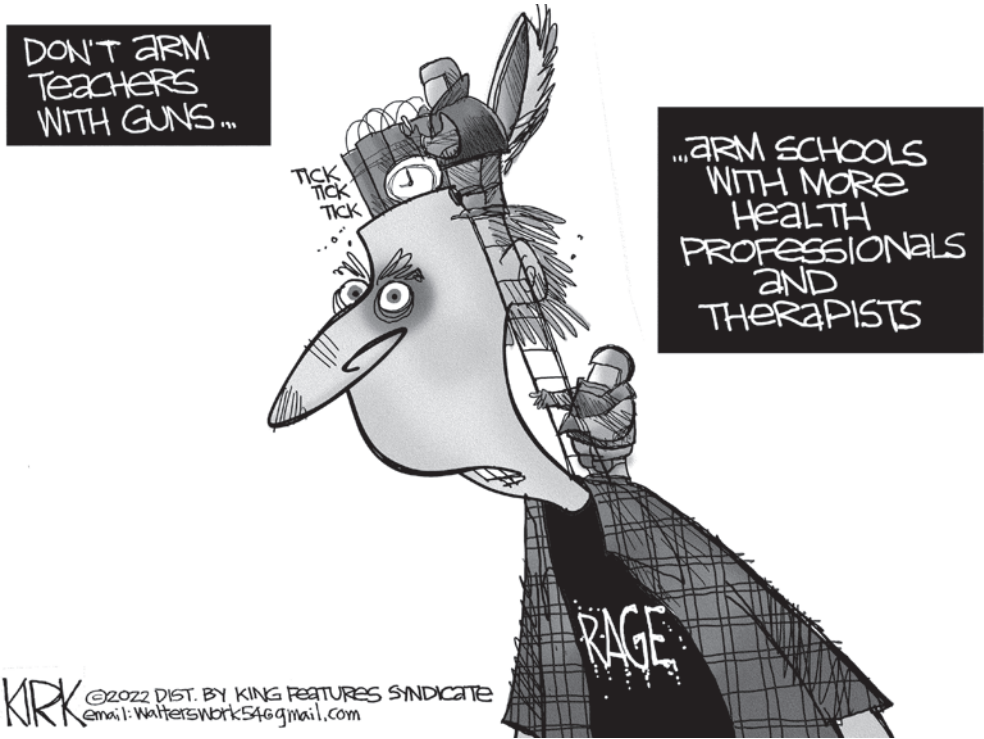
Briefs

From Page 1

also described them as “two overbearing idiots who make a mockery of the City.” Tourists and locals used their phones to videotape the boys on their motorized surfboards. To say that the mayor was upset by the incident is an understatement; he promised to find other reasons to prosecute them.

– John Grimaldi

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## Fiesta

From Page 1

being asked to pre-register for the Sunday event as it includes a variety of hiking trail excursions.

As part of the Sunday outing, Jason Ricketts, a geologist with the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), will be one of many local experts who have signed up to lead hikes in the Franklin Mountains. Ricketts, who specializes in the geologic history of New Mexico and West Texas, will also present interactive exhibits and lead a discussion on this region’s vast desert landscape.

Fiesta Committee Chair Dora Hernandez, who is the vice chair of the Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition, will be on-hand to coordinate the entertainment and presentations by the education partners participating in Saturday’s Zoo affair.

For more information about the Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta, individuals may contact Hernandez, at [cded.fiesta@gmail.com](mailto:cded.fiesta@gmail.com) or they can go online at [chihuahuandesert.org](http://chihuahuandesert.org) to view the fiesta’s information page.

### CHIHUAHUAN DESERT FIESTA HIKES

Sunday, Sept. 25th 2022

- **8:00AM LOWER SUNSET TRAIL**  
3 MILES, MODERATELY-DIFFICULT
- **9:00AM MUNDY'S GAP (GEOLOGY HIKE)**  
4 MILES, MODERATELY-DIFFICULT
- **9:00AM AZTEC CAVES**  
1.2 MILES, MODERATE
- **9:00AM BIRD TALK & HIKE COMBO**  
0.75 MILES, EASY
- **9:30AM INTRO TO THE CHIHUAHUAN DESERT TALK & HIKE COMBO**  
0.75 MILES, EASY
- **6:00PM CASTNER RANGE HIKE**  
EASY-MODERATE

FOR HIKE DETAILS AND OR TO REGISTER VISIT:  
[WWW.CHIHUAHUANDESERT.ORG](http://WWW.CHIHUAHUANDESERT.ORG)

— Schedule courtesy Rick LoBello

### Lower Valley Water District Public Notice

The LOWER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT is proposing a rate increase to the Residential Customer Base Rate and Volumetric Rate and the Commercial Customer Base Rate and Volumetric Rate.

The LOWER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on the proposed monthly Residential Customer Base Rate and Volumetric Rate and the Commercial Customer Base Rate and Volumetric Rate on Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at 1557 FM 1110, Clint, Texas 79836.

The governing body of the LOWER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT proposes to use revenue attributable to the monthly Residential Customer Base Rate and Volumetric Rate and the Commercial Customer Base Rate and Volumetric Rate to balance the budget.

#### MINIMUM RATE SCHEDULE

Meter Size	Commercial Water Minimum Monthly Rate	Residential Water Minimum Monthly Rate
¾" .....	\$31.65 .....	\$16.00 .....
1" .....	\$49.75 .....	\$29.75 .....
1 ½" .....	\$70.00 .....	\$35.00 .....
2" .....	\$90.00 .....	\$40.00 .....
3" .....	\$106.50 .....	
4" .....	\$123.00 .....	
6" .....	\$150.50 .....	
8" .....	\$182.00 .....	

#### VOLUMETRIC RATE SCHEDULE

##### Commercial and Residential Customers

Tier 1 (4.01 to 10 CCFs) .....	\$3.06
Tier 2 (10.01 to 50 CCFs) .....	\$3.85
Tier 3 (Over 50 CCFs).....	\$4.80

WTCC: 09-15-22

### 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 this publication 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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### CryptoQuip Answer

What is the term for someone who’s examining the life of president Gerald? A Ford explorer.

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## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne


- Venus rotates so slowly that a single day on the planet lasts longer than a year.
- While over 50 million Americans have signed up with a local gym, according to one study of 2,000 such members, 50% admitted they didn’t even exercise when they got there but instead preferred to spend their time hanging out with friends or checking out the opposite sex.
- Cherry farmers hire helicopter pilots to air-dry their trees after it rains so the fruit won’t split open.
- Speaking of feet, the overwhelming fear of those appendages is called podophobia.
- Cartoon canine Scooby Doo’s excessive use of the letter “R” is the result of a speech disorder known as rhotacization.
- The first public phone call on an Apple iPhone was a prank. On a San Francisco stage, Steve Jobs opened Google Maps, located a nearby Starbucks, and placed an order for 4,000 lattes, then told the surprised barista he was just joking and hung up.
- Classical composer Franz Schubert was nicknamed “Little Mushroom” for his short stature and wide girth.
- New York has been destroyed in more movies than any other city.
- A dating app called Hater that began as a joke in 2016 matched potential couples according to their dislikes. While it launched to respectable success, it only lasted a couple of years. Perhaps it was the name?
- Statistically, the most dangerous job one can hold in America is president.

Thought for the Day:  
“Sometimes the road less traveled is less traveled for a reason.”  
— Jerry Seinfeld

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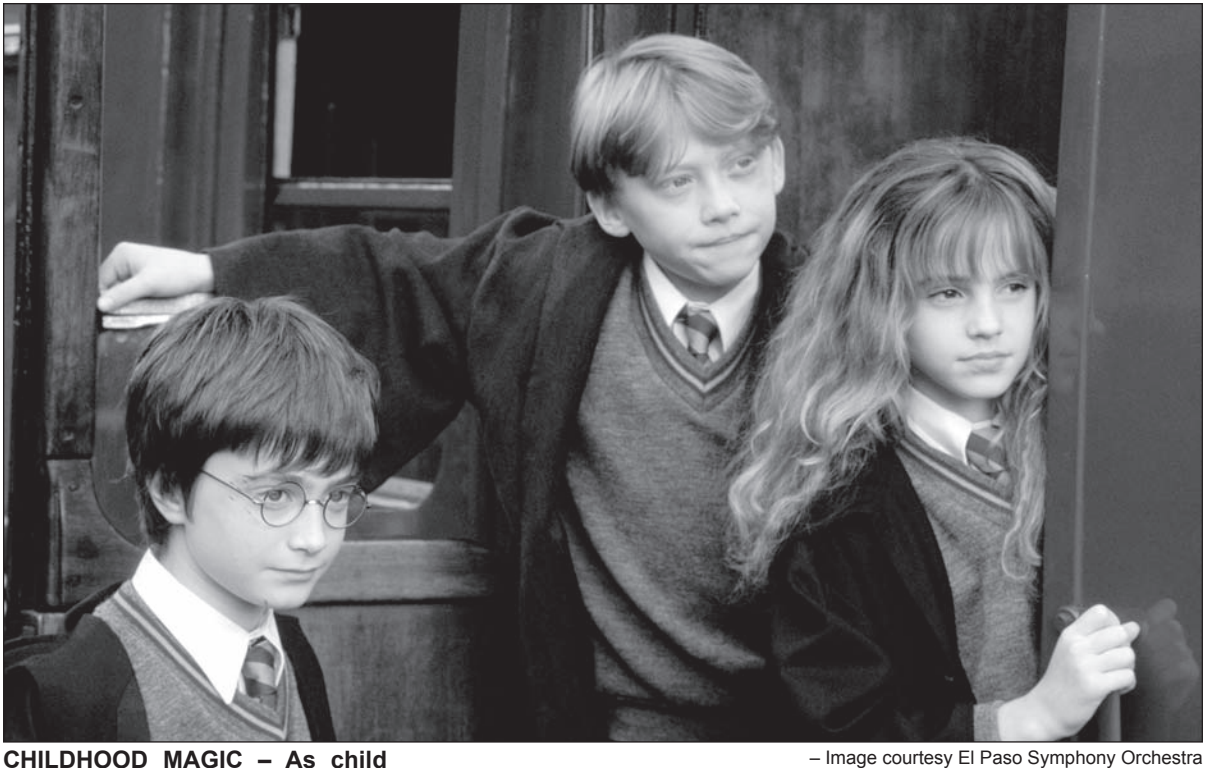


# Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Sept. 12, 1846, Elizabeth Barrett elopes with Robert Browning. Despite her father's dislike of Browning, calling him an unreliable fortune hunter, Elizabeth and Robert conducted a secret courtship. After a secret wedding at St. Marylebone Parish Church, the two moved to Italy, where Elizabeth's former weak health improved dramatically.
- On Sept. 13, 1963, Texas-born entrepreneur Mary Kay Ash launches a cosmetic company in Dallas. Mary Kay Inc. would become a cosmetic empire with revenue of more than \$3.5 billion and salespeople in dozens of countries. Mary Kay became renowned for an award system designed for women, including mink coats, diamond rings and pink Cadillacs.
- On Sept. 14, 1901, U.S. President William McKinley dies after being shot in Buffalo, New York. When McKinley was operated on, doctors had failed to find the bullet, and gangrene soon spread throughout his body.
- On Sept. 15, 1935, German Jews are stripped of their citizenship, reducing them to "subjects" of the state. German Jews were excluded from high-profile vocations, from public office to journalism and teaching, even farming. Jews found it difficult even to buy food.
- On Sept. 16, 1940, the first peacetime draft in the history of the United States is imposed on men between the ages of 21 and 36. There were 20 million eligible young men; 50% were rejected the very first year for health reasons or illiteracy.
- On Sept. 17, 1976, NASA publicly unveils its first space shuttle, the Enterprise, during a ceremony in California. In 1977, the Enterprise became the first space shuttle to fly freely when it was lifted to a height of 25,000 feet by a Boeing 747 airplane and then released, gliding back to Edwards Air Force Base on its own accord.
- On Sept. 18, 1981, the 20,000-car parking lot at Canada's West Edmonton Mall makes the Guinness World Records as the largest parking lot in the world. However, Dubai was said at the time to be building a 40,000-space parking lot at their mall, but it only has 14,500 slots today.

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– Image courtesy El Paso Symphony Orchestra

**CHILDHOOD MAGIC – As child actors, from left, Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson played key roles in the Harry Potter film series. Above is a 2001 image from *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*.**

## El Paso Symphony Orchestra adds extra Harry Potter film concert date

By Rosemary Flores  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – For the first time in El Paso, audiences will experience the El Paso Symphony Orchestra performing John Williams’ music to the entire first film live to picture from one of the most beloved film series in history.

The El Paso Symphony Orchestra is adding a new date to *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone™* in Concert on Sunday, November 13, 2:00 p.m. at the Plaza Theatre as part of the Harry Potter Film Concert Series. The concert will feature James O. Welsch conducting the orchestra – performing live to the picture, every note from *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*.

Tickets for the added show go on sale on Thursday, September 15 at 10:00 a.m. through [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or at the Plaza Theatre Box Office or (915) 532-3776.

In 2016, CineConcerts and Warner Bros. Consumer Products announced the Harry Potter Film Concert Series, a global concert tour celebrating the Harry Potter films. Since the world premiere of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone in Concert* in 2016, more than 3 million fans have enjoyed this magical experience from The Wizarding World, which is scheduled to include over 1,434 performances across more than 48 countries worldwide through 2022.

Visit [www.harrypotterinconcert.com](http://www.harrypotterinconcert.com) for more information on the Harry Potter Film Concert Series.

[www.wtxcc.com](http://www.wtxcc.com)

# Honors

From Page 1

Indigenous and/or Rural/Small Town Recognition through College Board.

“We’re thrilled that our students have earned this recognition. We are very proud of them for their achievements in their classrooms and on College Board assessments,” said Alicia O’Quinn, AHS counselor.

The College Board develops and administers standardized tests and curricula used by K–12 and post-secondary education institutions to promote college-readiness and as part of the college admissions process.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.729131 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of **VILLAGE OF VINTON**.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	<b>\$0.729131 per \$100</b>
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	<b>\$0.658987 per \$100</b>
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	<b>\$0.729131 per \$100</b>

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2022 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for VILLAGE OF VINTON from the same properties in both the 2021 tax year and the 2022 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that VILLAGE OF VINTON may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that VILLAGE OF VINTON is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2022 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 27, 2022 AT 6:30 PM AT City Hall 436 E. Vinton Rd, Vinton, TX, 79821 and streamed through zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2520023141?pwd=WVRDZDIFR3ZHR3FJVlJUL3ZLWTB6dz09;PersonalMeetingID2520023141andPasscode12345>.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, VILLAGE OF VINTON is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the City Council of VILLAGE OF VINTON at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

### YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount = ( tax rate ) x ( taxable value of your property ) /100

<b>FOR the proposal:</b>	Victor Carrejo Sonia Galindo	Alfredo Lopez Lourdes Cloud
<b>AGAINST the proposal:</b>	None	
<b>PRESENT and not voting:</b>	None	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mayor Manuel Leos	Santos Lucero

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.

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.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by VILLAGE OF VINTON last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by VILLAGE OF VINTON this year.

	2021	2022	Change
<b>Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)</b>	\$0.751541	\$0.729131	<i>Decrease of -\$0.022410, or -2.98%</i>
<b>Average homestead taxable value</b>	\$94,902	\$ 106,935	<i>Increase of \$12,033, or 12.68%</i>
<b>Tax on average homestead</b>	\$713.23	\$779.70	<i>Increase of \$66.47, or 9.32%</i>
<b>Total tax levy on all properties</b>	\$942,030	\$1,042,553	<i>Increase of \$100,523, or 10.67%</i>

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for **VILLAGE OF VINTON** at **915-212-0106** or [citytaxoffice@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:citytaxoffice@elpasotexas.gov), or visit [vintontx.govoffice2.com](http://vintontx.govoffice2.com) for more information.



# UTEP’s struggles continue in close win over NMSU

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

When things aren’t going your way it’s good to have a friend, and UTEP’s friend from just 45 miles away provided the Miners with all they needed to get their first win of the season.

After two lackluster showings against North Texas and Oklahoma to open the season, the Miners returned to the Sun Bowl last Saturday hoping to thoroughly and completely dominate the New Mexico State Aggies.

And why not? The Miners were favored by 17 points over an Aggie team that had been outscored 61-12 in their first two games.

After that disappointing showing in

their opener against North Texas in a sold out Sun Bowl, last Saturday’s crowd went home a little happier as UTEP beat the Aggies 20-13. They were also a little frustrated at how much of a struggle it was for UTEP to eke out this win.

In fact, the Aggies had a legitimate chance to tie in things up in the game’s final seconds as they traveled to the Miners’ 13-yard line with 15 seconds left.

But it wasn’t until UTEP sacked the Aggies’ quarterback and forced a fumble with three seconds left, could the Miners and the Sun Bowl crowd finally breathe a sigh of relief.

The victory was nice. However the game should never have been in doubt.

It looked very much like it was going to be a blowout – an easy night for the

orange and blue. UTEP jumped out to a 17-0 halftime lead and handled the Aggies in every stat category. It looked like the Miners were easily going to take this one by three or four touchdowns.

But then bands came off the field and the second half started. It’s as if nobody told the Miners this game was only half over.

It was like their first game against North Texas. The Miners trailed only 14-13 at half and then did absolutely nothing in the second half.

Up 17-0, UTEP could only manage a field goal after halftime and came close to giving this one away.

So what is the problem? The problem is the same one that’s existed since Dana Dimel became the head coach. They have horrible play calling and an inability to

adjust to... anything.

As always, Dimel and the UTEP offense just looked lost in the second half. They didn’t seem to know what to do. UTEP quarterback Gavin Hardison kept throwing incomplete pass after incomplete pass far down the field. That gave the Aggies both confidence and a chance.

It’s as if the Miners forgot that they were running the football fairly easily in the first half. Ronald Awatt rushed for 115 yards. Just as he was taking control of the game, the Miners stopped using him.

The 23,325 in attendance were only about half of what showed up on opening night. It will be interesting to see how many show up for their next home game against Boise State.

What won’t help is the fact that the game will be played on a Friday night. That’s when most El Paso fans are out watching their kids playing on the field or in the band or in cheer squads during high school football games.

## People know Pueblo for its...



### Famous Hot Salsa?

In Pueblo, the free government information is also hot. Spice up your life by dipping into the Consumer Information Center web site, [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov). You can download all the information right away. Sorry, salsa not available through our web site or Catalog.



## Senior moment

By Matilda Charles

# Exercise at the rec center

The senior center commandeered a large space at the rec center to use in an experiment. Their goal: to determine if we actually meant what we said about not coming in for exercise classes in a cramped senior center space where we’re all breathing on one another. Find more room, we’d said, room to spread out.

Hence, the borrowed space at the rec center (which had to cancel the Tots and Mommy Workout Hour... something about a stay-at-home father objecting to the name of the class).

The rec center space was nicely decorated with blue painter’s tape X spots across the floor, 10 feet apart. Then before we started, we got a little talk.

“How many of you haven’t taken an exercise class in two years?” asked the too-young male exercise coach we’d never met before.

Hands went up.

There was a knowing nod from the coach and the admonishment: “We’ll be taking this nice and easy. Do not push

yourselves. If you need to stop and rest, then do that. Nobody will judge you.” He cast a fierce look around the room as he said that.

The routine the coach put us through was a perfect combination of nearly everything, starting with mild stretching, moving into a few minutes of yoga poses, some cha-cha steps, a few ballet moves, leg lifts, toe touches and more.

During our cool down (although we hadn’t actually worked up a sweat) the coach inquired: “How many want to do this again? Twice a week, same time.”

Hands went up, because, yes, we wanted more of this.

We each took a handout at the door as we left, instructions for doing these exercises at home in case we didn’t like the rec center setup. But I have a feeling we’re all going to show up next week. It’s the first bit of normal in two years.

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## Super Crossword

- APT CITY SIGHTS**  
**ACROSS**  
1 Inexpensive  
8 Nazareth's ancient locale  
15 Carbo-loading food  
20 Conditionally free prisoner  
21 Ram into from behind  
22 Voices below mezzos  
23 Pooch in a Texas city?  
25 Vegas machines  
26 Certain snake  
27 Employ  
28 Margarine, quaintly  
30 Eight in front?  
31 "That's \_-brainer"  
33 Lock opener in an Oklahoma city?  
38 Display stand for curios  
42 Marked, as on a ballot  
43 Toothy tool  
44 See 56-Across  
45 Young lady in a California city?  
50 Song satirist Tom  
52 Stroll along  
53 Aegean, e.g.  
54 "Shrek!" writer William  
56 With 44-Across, "In all probability..."  
57 Cake alternative

58 Cake levels  
60 Subway in a Duke Ellington title  
63 West of film  
64 Long seat in a Kansas city?  
70 Year-by-year records  
72 AFL-\_  
73 Pooh's mopey pal  
74 Band gig in an Arkansas city?  
81 Playfully shy  
82 Hispanic woman  
83 Lines on street maps  
84 Plato's "T"  
85 "M\*A\*S\*H" co-star  
88 Microbe-filled  
91 Municipal law: Abbr.  
92 \_ Carlo  
94 "The Far Side" cartoonist Gary  
97 Opening for light in a Wisconsin city?  
100 Alias letters  
101 "... So Fine" (1963 #1 hit)  
103 Singer Yoko  
104 Anybody  
105 Boxy vehicle in a Virginia city?  
111 Scarlet, e.g.  
112 Casino game with 80 balls  
113 Ruinous end  
114 Banks do it  
116 Cooked in the style of  
119 Maya Angelou's
- 2121 Sluggard in a Florida city?  
127 Dr. Watson player Bruce  
128 As a help to  
129 Sign off on  
130 Disney Hall architect Frank  
131 Try  
132 Arrange in a different way

**DOWN**  
1 Links gp. for women  
2 Sculling tools  
3 Prepare a gift  
4 Cheat  
5 Aged  
6 Chain of cosmetics stores  
7 Actress Garr  
8 Rosey of the 1960s Rams  
9 \_ Lingus (Irish carrier)  
10 China's Chou En-\_  
11 Angry feeling  
12 Strung along  
13 \_ Gay (warplane)  
14 Yard tools  
15 Fathers  
16 Sign off on  
17 Actress Channing  
18 Walked unsteadily  
19 Ore analysts  
24 Wall St. opportunist  
29 Of speech  
31 Light-footed
- 32 Campbell of "Scream" films  
34 Acne care brand  
35 Ale barrels  
36 Emend  
37 Pile up debt  
38 That, to Lucia  
39 Orchestral drums  
40 Surrounding, as sound  
41 Cow on milk cartons  
46 Lustful look  
47 Noble Brit  
48 Get, as profit  
49 \_ fire under (roused)  
51 Sweetums  
55 Fido's threat  
58 Boob tube  
59 Large bag  
61 "Nine" Tony nominee Karen  
62 Cynical reply  
63 \_ de mer  
64 Earthen pot  
65 Actor Cage, to pals  
66 Entryway  
67 "Not possible"  
68 Toasted bread cube  
69 "Yo!"  
71 Map source  
75 Highway semi  
76 Blood type, for short  
77 Vocalist Vikki  
78 Net tyro  
79 "Fame" singer Irene

80 Singers Arnold and Grant  
84 Moderately muscular  
85 "Great Jewish Joke Book" writer  
86 Body of water off Buffalo  
87 Get closer, quaintly  
89 Kitty's call  
90 Yearnings  
92 Act silently  
93 Fleecy female  
95 "Well well!"  
96 Dweeby sort  
98 11th mo.  
99 Vocabulary  
102 "Enough!"  
106 Tough puzzle  
107 Opposite of  
104-Across  
108 Actresses Stone and Watson  
109 Off the ground  
110 Omaha loc.  
115 Get closer  
116 Between the sheets, say  
117 Mandolin kin  
118 Love god  
120 "Tarzan" star Ron  
122 Fruit stone  
123 Major fuss  
124 \_-TURN (street sign)  
125 \_-Magnon man  
126 That woman

Answer Page 4

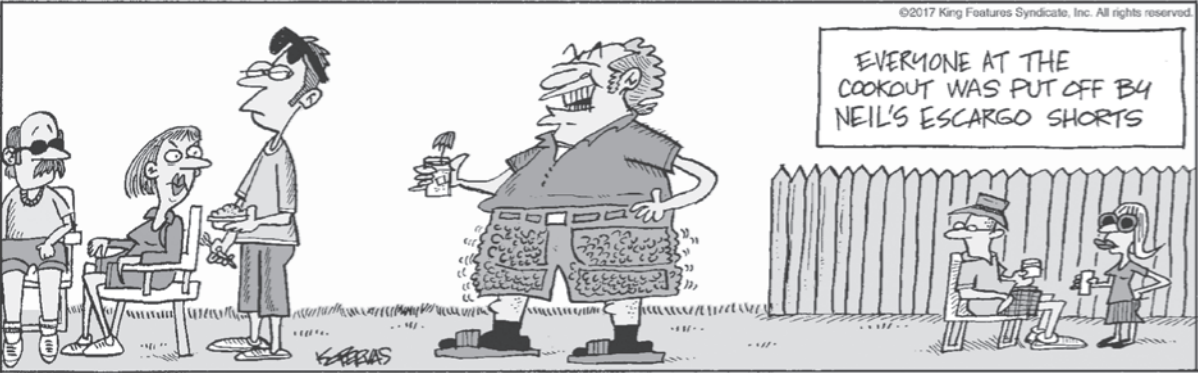
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	19	
20								21								22					
23							24									25					
26						27						28			29		30				
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38	39	40					41			42					43				44		
45								46	47				48	49		50		51			
52							53				54				55			56			
	57						58				59			60			61	62			
63					64						65	66							67	68	69
70				71						72					73						
74							75	76	77				78	79	80				81		
					82								83					84			
85	86	87					88			89	90		91				92			93	
94					95	96		97				98				99					
100					101		102			103					104						
105				106				107	108				109	110		111					
112							113						114		115				116	117	118
119																					



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

woman to get the appropriate care (and she did end up returning to the medical facility for the requisite treatment). This looks like a case of a bad reading of the law causing unnecessary medical distress and creating a horror story with considerable political resonance.

In a paper on health exceptions, the pro-life Charlotte Lozier Institute notes: “It would be prudent for state medical boards, state medical societies, state boards of pharmacy, hospital quality committees, and hospital attorneys to provide more detailed guidance to doctors on how to reach a determination that abortion is necessary. Tragically, this type of guidance appears slow in coming.”

It’d also help if Democrats stopped lying about these laws, although that’s not going to happen. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said the other day that the Texas pro-life law will “block medical providers from providing life-saving and health-preserving care,” a blatant falsehood. The Texas law has a clear life-of-the-mother exception and explicitly excludes treatment for miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies

from its definition of abortion.

At the moment, though, such falsehoods are carrying the day. To find their footing, Republicans will have to be courageous and shrewd, two qualities so far in short supply.

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

Continued use of Bactrim

creates resistance in treatment

*DEAR DR. ROACH: As a 90-year-old man in mostly good health, I have been taking one Bactrim (sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim) pill per day for several years now, preventatively for recurrent urinary tract infections. I am very pleased with this successful treatment. However, my urologist has mentioned that I might have to relinquish the Bactrim at some point without a full explanation of why. Is there any danger in the habitual use of Bactrim? – J.M.*



Both men and women who get recurrent urinary infections are sometimes treated with prophylactic antibiotics, such as the sulfa-based antibiotic you are taking. The main risk is not toxicity of the medicine, it is that you might acquire a bacterial strain that is resistant to the antibiotic treatment. You are fortunate that you have gone several years without this developing, and you may go many more successfully, but other people periodically need to change the antibiotic they are taking.

Prophylactic antibiotics are not the first-line treatment to prevent recurrent infection. Urologists, the specialists for the urinary tract, will evaluate the urinary system to try to identify a correctible condition. I trust your urologist has considered other options before prescribing your current treatment.

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I have a question about smoking. I smoke cigarettes, but now I want to stop. I want to use Velo to break this habit. Are Velo pouches harmful for health? Are there any side effects? – Z.*

Velo is a brand of synthetic nicotine (there are many now) designed simply to provide nicotine without smoking. The nicotine is derived from tobacco, but there is no actual tobacco in the product. The health risk is much lower compared to smoking tobacco, and much less than chewing tobacco. They come in lozenges and pouches (which are placed under the lip); many are flavored. Nicotine does not cause cancer, but there is still potential to harm your health, especially in the mouth, particularly for gum disease.

Unlike nicotine replacement products, such as patches, gum and inhalers, that are intended to help people quit smoking and then gradually taper off, these nicotine products are intended to be used long-term. These should never be used by a person who does not smoke or use other forms of nicotine, as nicotine can make a person very ill if they are not accustomed to it. It can cause nausea and vomiting, but also abdominal pain, headache, and irritation in the mouth.

I would strongly recommend you quit tobacco with the help of behavioral support through group sessions or counseling, as well as considering medications such as varenicline (Chantix) or bupropion (Wellbutrin or Zyban) in addition to nicotine replacement therapy. There is not enough information to say how effective a nicotine product like Velo would be to help you quit smoking. For people who successfully quit smoking but continue to need nicotine, long-term nicotine is not ideal, but it still has far fewer health risks than smoking.

*Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. (c) 2022 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.*





**Moore Texas by Roger MOORE**  
September 17, 1875: A deadly hurricane in Indianola kills 900. Although rebuilt another storm in 1876 finished it off.

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: Y equals X

PZNM AV MZX MXHO EQH  
VQOXQWX PZQ'V XYNOAWAWF  
MZX UAEX QE CHXVASXWM  
FXHNUS? N EQHS XYCUQHXX.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Veterans’ service organizations



by Freddy Groves

If you’re a veteran, are you in a veterans’ service organization? There are four groups, and while they differ in their origins, they all have the same goal: to help veterans.

The largest organization is the American Legion. Across the country are more than 12,000 posts and approximately 2 million members. The Legion is to be thanked for the GI Bill of Rights, which has helped many veterans get a college or trade education and a home with a low mortgage rate. But the Legion has done much more: The organization has also donated \$1 million to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and sponsored a study on the effects of Agent Orange. If you want to explore the Legion, read more online at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).

Like the name says, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) steps up to help disabled veterans with nearly anything

they need. Just last year, for example, they provided 163,000 rides for veterans to reach their medical appointments and helped file over 150,000 claims. They have 26 transition service offices, helping veterans make the change to civilian life by providing benefits counseling. For more information on the DAV, start with [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org).

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) changes lives. They push for better access to air travel, help veterans find employment and pay for adaptive housing and vehicles. So far they’ve invested over a half million dollars into spinal cord research. In one year alone, they helped veterans receive over \$78 million in benefits. Learn more at [pva.org](http://pva.org).

Started in 1899 by a few veterans during the Spanish-American War, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) has worked since then to get the rights and benefits that veterans deserve. They’ve assisted veterans with collecting \$10 billion in disability compensation and pension benefits with the help of over 2,000 accredited VFW reps. Today membership stands

at 1.5 million. To learn more about the VFW, check [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org).

To be considered: Many of the veterans groups are losing membership due to the age of their members. Your interest will be most welcomed.

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• To test the seals on your refrigerator and freezer, close a piece of paper in the door. If you can pull it out easily, it's likely that your seal is loose. Clean or replace door gaskets for a better seal.

• To keep vinyl seats bearable in summer heat, keep a few towels in your car and lay them over the seat. This also keeps the plastic parts of baby seats from burning little legs and arms.

• You can use plain white bread to get fingerprints and smudges off of wallpaper and semigloss painted walls. Just ball up the bread center (not the crust) and rub the smudge away.

• No prewash and looking at a nasty grease stain? Grab your dishwashing liquid soap (not the one you would put in your automatic dishwasher). It's designed to break down grease, and I just dab it on, scrub a bit, then let it set for about a quarter hour. After that, I launder in hot water. It's usually successful.

• Check bagged frozen vegetables with the squeeze test: A bag that's hard and solid has thawed and subsequently refrozen. You should choose another bag, one with loose, free-moving pieces.

• Remove cloudiness from a batch of tea with this trick: Let your tea cool before refrigerating it. You also can add a small bit of boiling water to a glass of iced tea if it is already cloudy.

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

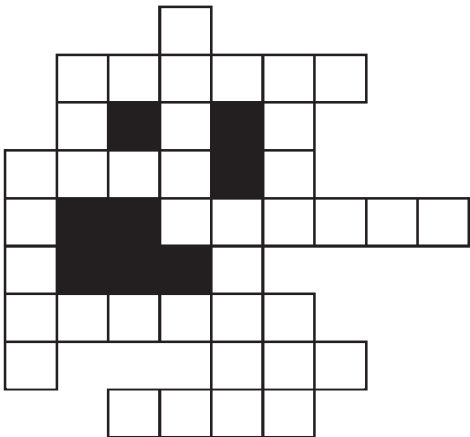
	-		x		14
x		x		+	
	x		-		21
-		-		÷	
	x		-		16
12		1		2	

1 3 4 5 6 6 7 8 9

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YAH  
UPSMYG  
♥ TUROE  
TESY  
EGSHUT  
♥ DMA  
♥ YERP  
♥ DEGOL  
♥ TGA  
EMTARD  
GUPYD  
♥ IDTE



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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