

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Talking turkey

With consumers having spent around \$300 per person in the period between Thanksgiving and Cyber Monday last year, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its 2022's *Best Places to Go for Thanksgiving* report, as well as accompanying videos and expert commentary. It also released fun and interesting stats about the holiday in its *Thanksgiving Fun Facts* infographic. To help Americans decide where to enjoy a Thanksgiving feast without breaking the bank, WalletHub compared the 100 largest U.S. cities across 20 key metrics. They range from the cost of Thanksgiving dinner and share of delayed flights to volunteer opportunities per capita and forecasted precipitation. El Paso was rated 64th in the report. Thanksgiving facts:

- \$301 – Average person's spending over the five-day Thanksgiving period.
  - 9 Hrs. 27 Mins. – Length of time the average American male would need to spend on the treadmill to burn the 4,500 calories consumed at the average Thanksgiving meal.
  - \$835 Million – Estimated amount Americans spend on Thanksgiving turkeys each year, with 46 million turkeys killed for the holiday.
  - \$26 Million – Amount of property loss caused by residential building fires each Thanksgiving.
  - 66% – Share of people celebrating Thanksgiving who try to avoid having to talk politics at the dinner table.
- Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-places-to-go-for-thanksgiving/67603> for the full report. Visit <https://wallethub.com/blog/thanksgiving-facts/28332> for the full infographic.

– Diana Polk

### Horizon City is a safe place

An article from *Moving Waldo* has named Horizon City the "safest city in Texas with the best quality of life". The ranking was based on the following criteria: the violent-crime rate, the property crime rate, and the total crime rate (the sum of property and violent crime rates. The article states that the statistics used come from the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR). This program "includes data from more than 18,000 city, university and college,

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*Secrets are problematic. Some are too good to keep and others are not worth keeping.*

– Quips & Quotes



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**A LOT OF SERVICE** – Nearly 1.4 million veterans – like the unidentified Viet Nam veteran above – reside in Texas. Texas has the largest veteran population in the country. The expansion of the VA services in Texas bucks what has been a national trend. Earlier this year the VA announced that 35 facilities would close or need restructuring. No VA facilities in Texas were affected. This photo was taken during San Elizario's annual Veterans Day Parade on November 5th.

## El Paso County's military veterans healthcare services to get new facilities

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – In keeping with the push to show military veterans that they are appreciated in Texas, El Paso County is in line to receive much needed upgrades. Although, it is going to take a couple of years to manifest the support.

First, El Paso County's Veterans Health Care system is slated to expand its services available to the community thanks to a \$150 million allocation included in a federal legislative bill recently signed into law by President Joe Biden.

With veterans comprising 8.2 percent, or over 71,000 of the local population's nearly 868,000 residents, the new facility is a welcomed relief. Also, of the 15 active duty military installations in the state, El Paso County hosts one of the largest Army bases, Fort Bliss, which in turn brings many soldiers to retire in this region.

President Biden signed the bipartisan bill that was introduced by U.S. Reps. Colin Allred, a Democrat from Dallas

and Jake Ellzey, a Republican from Waxahachie. The new bill will also direct more than \$293 million in upgrades to Veterans Affairs health care facilities in Dallas.

Both Allred and Ellzey are members of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Besides an entirely new health care facility in El Paso, the legislative bill- which totals \$442 million- will also pay for a 30-bed long term care facility for spinal cord injuries in Dallas.

"Investing in VA medical facilities in Texas and across the country is a commonsense thing we can do to ensure our veterans get the best quality health care in their community while strengthening local economies," Allred said in a recent public statement.

Secondly, veterans in the Borderland will soon have access to a holistic option to deal with mental and health issues. Endeavors, a national service organization, recently held a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Veteran Wellness Center, that will be located in East El Paso County, at 12135 Pebble Hills Boulevard.

The 42,000-square-foot center, which

is scheduled to open in 2024, will provide behavioral health and wellness services for veterans and their families. It is designed to fill the gap in mental health care and wellness services for veterans, regardless of service, discharge status, family relationship, and their families, according to a recent news release.

"Our approach shifts from a traditional 'sick care' model to one that prioritizes wellness and quality of life," stated Dr. Jill Palmer, Endeavors chief of behavioral health. "By integrating services, we can hopefully decrease suicide rates and help veterans live a more fulfilled life," she said.

The state-of-the-art facility will be the second Veteran Wellness Center built by Endeavors. The first is in San Antonio. The El Paso center will feature a unique wellness model that integrates mental health care, physical health care, holistic treatments and support services to improve quality of life, officials stated.

Endeavors President and Chief Operating Officer Chip Fulghum, an

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# Great art is not an enemy of the climate

Climate activists have found a new target – the greatest masterpieces in the history of Western art.

Heretofore, no one thought that Claude Monet’s “Haystacks” – a sublime series studying the changes in light and color on haystacks in a field – or Vincent Van Gogh’s “Sunflowers” – a painting that is instantly recognizable and forever associated these flowers with the troubled artist – had harmed anyone, let alone had anything to do with the alleged climate emergency.

But that was before activists showed up at museums to splatter these works with tomato soup or mashed potatoes, part of a trend of protests directed at some of the most recognizable works in the Western artistic canon.

The actions are a new low, which is saying something. The level of childishness involved makes Greta Thunberg look prudent and statesmanlike by comparison.

Fortunately, museums have had the forethought to idiot-proof their major works with special protective glass. The activists say they don’t seek to harm the art, although they are not people one would naturally nominate to make fine-grained decisions about the

consequences of their stunts involving spray paint, glue and foodstuffs in close proximity to delicate, priceless treasures.

Margaret Klein Salamon, the executive director of the Climate Emergency Fund, told Buzzfeed News that the protests only make sense because the activists are thinking things are “so bad that I’m gonna do this crazy thing and glue myself to a painting or a frame.”

In other words, they are channeling the famous line from Otter in the movie “Animal House” – “this situation absolutely requires a really futile and stupid gesture be done on somebody’s part.”

It’s not the Taliban blowing up the Bamiyan Buddha statues, but the nihilistic spirit is the same.

The protesters have asked, “What is worth more, art or life?” This is a particularly juvenile false choice. Art doesn’t hurt or kill anyone. To the contrary, representational art is part of the warp and woof of humanity – look no further than the 30,000-year-old paintings from the Chauvet Cave in southeastern France – and profoundly enriches life.

The juxtaposition of pieces of art of great subtlety and

power, whose value has stood the test of time, with often pale, ill-kempt kids ranting hysterically is comical. The beauty and mystery of Sandro Botticelli’s “Primavera” and the pathos of the statue Laocoön and His Sons – both works that have been targeted recently – inevitably diminish anyone using the art as a cheap platform for publicity.

The protesters make strained connections between the art and their causes. A copy of the Leonardo da Vinci painting “The Last Supper” at the Royal Academy in London was on the hit list, as a news report put it, “because people around the world are experiencing a food crisis.” Evidently, no one told the activists that the point of the last supper is not the food.

One of the protestors targeting the Monet painting in a museum in Potsdam, Germany, declared: “Science says we won’t be able to feed our families by 2050. This



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View from here By Dr. Glenn Mollette

# Billions spent on the election while Americans struggle

Total cost of 2022 state and federal midterm elections may have exceeded \$16 billion according to a OpenSecrets analysis. Federal candidates and political committees spent over

\$8 billion while state candidates, party committees, and ballot measure committees spent close to \$8 billion.

Here are the five most expensive Senate races this year according to OpenSecrets. This includes both general election and primary candidates together with the outside groups supporting them, such as the national parties and Super PACs:

- Pennsylvania: \$373.6 million
- Georgia: \$271.4 million (Georgia’s is growing)
- Arizona: \$234.6 million
- Wisconsin: \$205.8 million
- Ohio: \$202.1 million

Pennsylvania’s crucial U.S. Senate race has been the most expensive in the country this year – and it wasn’t even close. Georgia may end up close to \$300 million. Who in Georgia is happy about this? The television stations. If you own a television station during a highly contested election season, in a lucrative market, you’ll never have to work again when the election is over.

Democrat John Fetterman, Republican Mehmet Oz and their political allies have spent a combined \$312 million on

a race that ended up not even close. According to OpenSecrets, a nonpartisan group that tracks money in politics, money poured into Pennsylvania for Fetterman as he had over \$15 million dollars more to work with than Oz.

Many are wondering how Fetterman, a recuperating sick man with the worst debate performance ever on national television, beat Oz? The answer is not a simple sentence. The bottom line was they didn’t want Oz. Oz was seen as an outsider. Someone who moved to the state to further his career in politics. He is well known. That should have helped but it didn’t help him that much. He was well known for being rich, famous and still relatively good looking for an old guy. Fetterman on the other hand is the local state guy. He doesn’t look so good. They know who he is whether that is good or bad. He has been very sick and trying to rehabilitate. A lot of people feel sorry for him and didn’t see him as a rich, affluent personality but rather a down to earth guy they can relate to. People often cheer for the underdog. If you post something on social media saying you are sick, bad off,

down and out you’ll get many more “likes” or responses than if you post you have just received a career advance and a \$50,000 bonus.

Rand Paul of Kentucky raised \$26,410,677 and reportedly spent \$20 million. I hope he will use the remaining \$6 million to rebuild homes in East, Kentucky recently devastated by flooding. Or, even West, Kentucky that is still trying to rebuild from tornadoes that flattened that part of the state.

The money spent on this election and all national elections is insane. People all over America can’t afford to go the grocery store, fill up the gas tank or take care of their children’s school needs. Yet politicians, interest groups, political parties, and Political Action Committees are raising and spending mega millions trying to keep or gain a political seat. You can’t do anything about it either. We have so very little to say about anything in our country.

We have to depend on the people spending millions to get their seat. If the seat is worth millions to them and the special interest groups then do you really think they care about we think?

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Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

# Thanksgiving and a lifestyle of saying thank you

Thanksgiving is coming and it’s never out of season to say thank you.

Say thank you to your local politicians. The majority of those who pursue an office, lose. Losing is tough and usually expensive. Thank them for their interest in your community or state and for the time they gave making their case and pursuing votes.

Our world would be better if we all said thank you and please as often as possible. Amazingly many people don’t know how to say thank you, or please.

If someone does anything for you say thank you. Even if they haven’t necessarily done it for you but are helping others then say thank you. Thank your community leaders, teachers, politicians, clergy, this media source, family, friends and anyone who is somehow positively impacting your life.

Teaching our kids to say thank you and to say it often is well worth our time for us and them.

Here are some thank you notes from Reader’s Digest, RD.com June 2022

About 15 years ago, we purchased a dining set from an older couple after seeing their ad. When we went to pick it up, it was apparent to me that the lady was having a hard time seeing it go, although it hadn’t been used for many years. On Thanksgiving, I set the table, took a picture, and sent it to her, saying we were thankful to be enjoying the beautiful set. She sent a note back that read, *it looks like it was meant to be. It really has helped me, seeing it happy. Thank you from my heart.* – Diane Ensich, Mansfield, Texas

As a volunteer, I recorded several audiobooks for the blind. I received a braille card that said thanks for my

work. Fortunately, the sender also enclosed a reading chart for the braille words. It took me 90 minutes to figure out what the card said. It reminded me of how blessed I am and how much I can keep giving. – Yen Chou, Taipei, Taiwan

My coworker sent me this heartwarming e-mail after I was laid off: *Thank you for giving me a chance way back when. This position got me off state assistance, paid for my car, and has blessed me and my son in so many ways. You have been an amazing mentor and friend, Mike. The best! I’ve learned so much and not just about pest control. To speak up for myself. To be less emotional when things go wrong. To have patience with myself and others. Thank you for being so incredibly patient with me and my thousands of questions and mistakes! It has helped my confidence in so many ways. Thank you! Thank you!* It was humbling for me to know that I had that kind of impact on someone’s life by just being myself, doing my job. – Michael Shearing, Port Angeles, Washington.

After I had worked as a mail carrier for 30 years, it was time to retire. I put a note in each of my 436 customers’ mailboxes, thanking them for allowing me to serve them over the years. I never expected that on my last day so many would hang balloons on the boxes and put out so many beautiful thank-yous. I hope I delivered all the mail properly that day, as there were tears of gratitude filling my eyes. – Kay Scott, Bucyrus, Ohio

I was gram’s favorite, and she was mine. She passed away in September 2016, at 100½ – she always said you earned the “half” when you got to be her age. To my surprise, I received a card in the mail that my sweet grandma had tucked away for my aunt to send after she

passed. It read, *Melis, thank you for all the nice things you did for me. Remember, this is the year you’ll meet your man. Be cool and play it safe. Don’t screw it up. Be careful. I’ll be watching you. All my love, Gram.* – Melissa Wegman, Cincinnati, Ohio

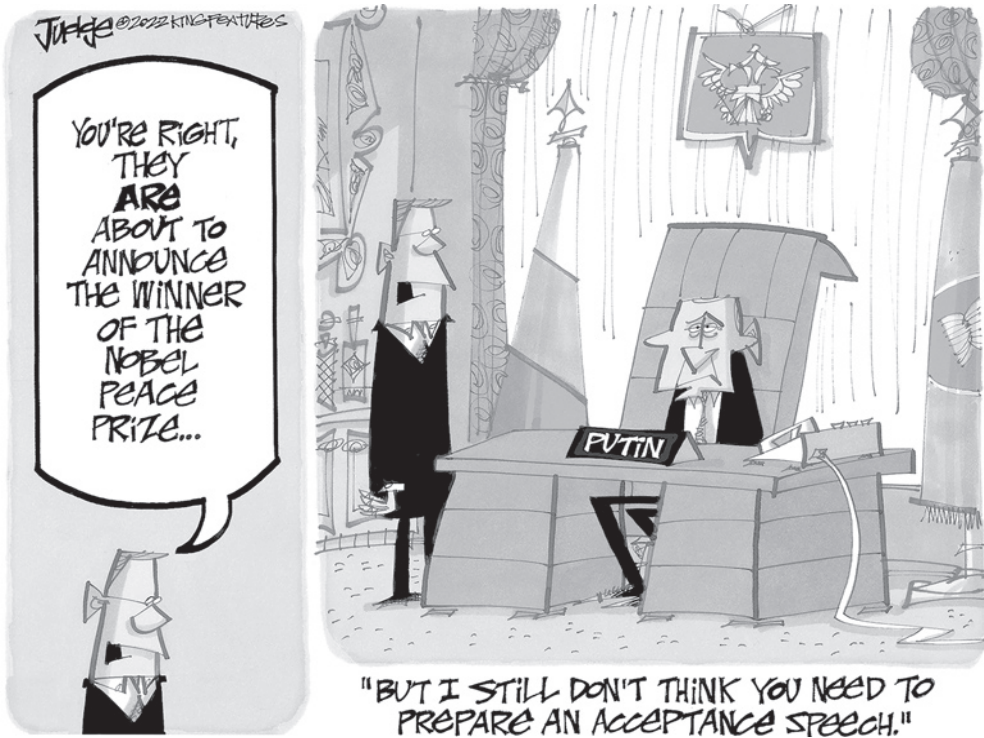
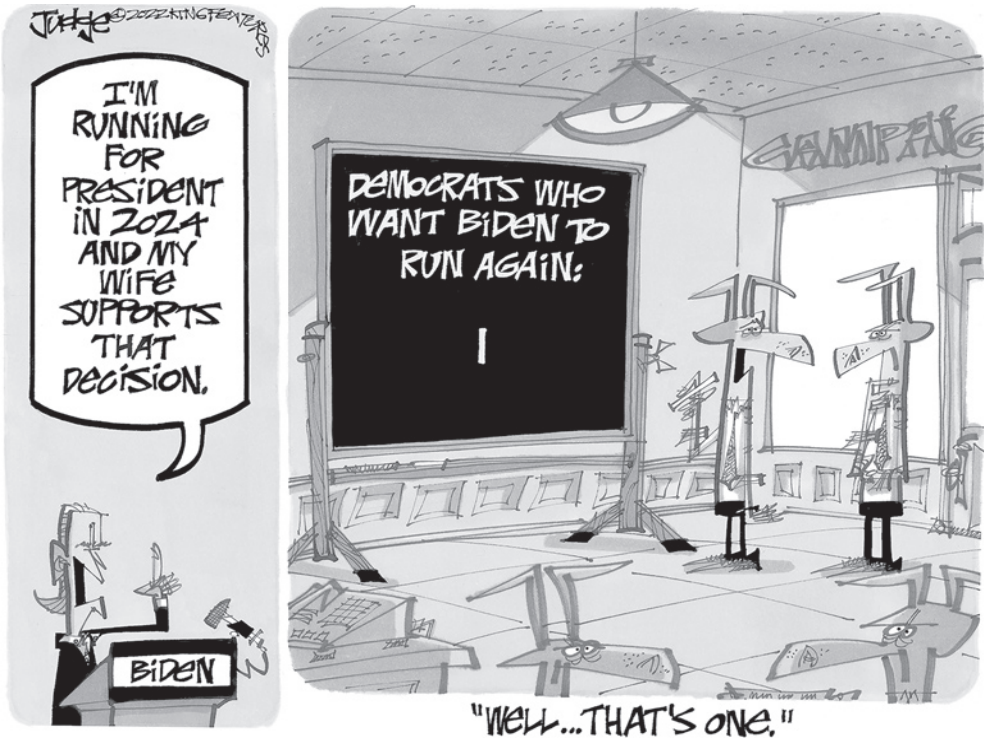
You can find these and other thank you notes on RD.com Reader’s Digest, June 3, 2022

Thanksgiving season is here. Let’s all aim for a lifestyle of saying thank you.

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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Briefs

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county, state, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies. Agencies participate voluntarily and submit their crime data either through a state UCR Program or directly to the FBI’s UCR Program.” Visit <https://www.movingwaldo.com/us/moving-states/top-10-safest-cities-in-texas/> for more information.

– Heli Sierra

**Rodriquez signs**

Socorro High School student-athlete Jesus Pablo Rodriquez will has signed to play baseball and continue his education at the University of the Southwest in Hobbs, N.M. Rodriguez is a four-year varsity player. He was a starter for three years and he is the team’s leadoff hitter. He is a right-handed pitcher, second baseman and occasional outfielder. Rodriguez is a tenacious player, who was named 2nd team All District Pitcher last year as a junior.

– Christy Flores-Jones

**Safe cities**

With the U.S. experiencing over 500 mass shootings this year and the COVID-19 pandemic persisting, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2022’s Safest Cities in America, as well as accompanying videos and expert commentary. To determine where Americans can feel most protected against life’s hazards, including nonphysical forms of danger, WalletHub compared more than 180 U.S. cities across 42 key metrics. The data set ranges from the percentage of residents who are fully vaccinated and assaults per capita to the unemployment rate and road quality. El Paso was rated 97th in the report. Other stats:

- Irvine, CA has the fewest aggravated assault incidents (per 100,000 residents), 22.22, which is 86.3 times fewer than in Memphis, TN, the city with the most at 1,917.08.
- Port St. Lucie, FL has the fewest thefts (per 1,000 residents), 8.26, which is 9.2 times fewer than in Salt Lake City, UT, the city with the

most at 75.93.

- Washington, DC has the most law-enforcement employees (per 100,000 residents), 624, which is 6.8 times more than in Chula Vista, CCA, the city with the fewest at 92.
- Gilbert, AZ has among the fewest pedestrian fatalities (per 100,000 residents), 0.40, which is 25.3 times fewer than in Little Rock, AK, the city with the most at 10.10. Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/safest-cities-in-america/41926> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

**Surgical music**

Strange as it may seem, surgeons in Italy recently performed brain surgery on a patient who performed on his saxophone during the operation. They explained that it helped them map the brain’s functionality was they cut away. Chief surgeon, Dr. Christian Brogna, explained that “Awake surgery makes it possible to map with extreme precision during surgery the neuronal networks that underlie the various brain functions such as playing, speaking, moving, remembering, counting.”

– John Grimaldi

**Best driving cities**

With Americans losing an average of \$564 per year in wasted time due to traffic congestion, the personal-finance website WalletHub today released its report on 2022’s Best & Worst Cities to Drive in, as well as accompanying videos and expert commentary. To determine the most driver-friendly places in the U.S., WalletHub compared the 100 largest cities across 30 key metrics. The data set ranges from average gas prices to annual hours in traffic congestion per auto commuter to auto-repair shops per capita. El Paso was rated 13th in the report. Other stats:

- Gilbert, AZ has the fewest car thefts (per 1,000 residents), 0.58, which is 26.4 times fewer than in Oakland, CA, the city with the most at 15.33.
- Honolulu, HI has the lowest traffic fatality rate (per

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Strange  
BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- A border collie named Saul took a leaf out of another (albeit fictional) canine’s book, being praised as a “real-life Lassie” when he led two members of a search party to his owner after the man was injured on a hike.
- Nutmeg can produce a hallucinogenic effect if taken in a high enough quantity.
- It’s not just trees that help provide uas humans with oxygen – about half of that in our atmosphere is a byproduct of photosynthesis from the microscopic sea algae known as phytoplankton.
- Rhubarb grows so fast you can actually hear it!
- Legend holds that when a pope dies, it’s the custom to strike him on the head three times with a silver hammer to ensure he’s really deceased.
- A survey revealed that nearly half of the unmarried gents polled washed their bedsheets a mere four times a year, instead of the recommended once per week. Singletons, there may be a lesson in there.
- Less than 14% of all M&Ms candies are brown.
- Proof that crime doesn’t pay... even in space! Earlier this year, Canada passed a law allowing prosecution of crimes committed by the country’s astronauts on the moon or on their way to it.
- The greatest number of people to play a single piano simultaneously is 23.
- For a reasonable \$19.95, you too can buy alien abduction insurance from a Florida agent. Of course, to cash it in, you’ll need to hand over a signature from an “authorized, on-board alien,” and who knows if they can even write in English?

Thought for the Day: “Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you.”

– Walt Whitman

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# Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On Nov. 14, 1889, journalist Nellie Bly took a page from Jules Verne’s novel “Around the World in 80 Days” by following in the footsteps of the book’s protagonist, Phileas Fogg, and embarked on her own adventure, starting in Hoboken, New Jersey. She chronicled the trip in her book “Around the World in 72 Days.”

• On Nov. 15, 1949, Nathuram Godse, Narayan Apte and six of their co-conspirators in the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi were hanged at the Ambala jail. Godse, unhappy over Gandhi’s accommodation of Indian Muslims, had shot Gandhi the previous January while Gandhi was out for his evening prayers.

• On Nov. 16, 1990, Fabrice Morvan and Rob Pilatus, known to the pop music world as Milli Vanilli, were humiliatingly stripped of their Grammy award for the “Girl You Know It’s True” album when it was revealed they hadn’t sung even a note of it.

• On Nov. 17, 1827, the Delta Phi fraternity, America’s oldest continuous social fraternity, was founded at Union College in Schenectady, New York. With just 10 active chapters today, it has resisted expansion in order to create an “intimate, personal experience” for its members.

• On Nov. 18, 1872, American civil rights activist Susan B. Anthony and 14 of her brave female cohorts were arrested for voting illegally in the United States presidential election of 1872. Though she was fined \$100, she refused to pay a cent of it.

• On Nov. 19, 1493, Christopher Columbus set foot on the island called Borinquen, which he had viewed for the first time the day before. He rechristened it San Juan Bautista, but today we know it as Puerto Rico.

• On Nov. 20, 1805, Beethoven’s only opera, “Leonore, or The Triumph of Marital Fidelity” (later known as Fidelio), premiered in Vienna – not to its originally intended audience of the aristocracy and Imperial court, who had fled before Napoleon’s advancing army, but a small audience of French officers. Their unsurprising lack of enthusiasm shelved the project for nearly a decade.

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– Photo courtesy El Paso Symphony Orchestra

**Bárbara Padilla**

# EPSO presents ‘Sounds of the Holidays’


**By Rosemary Flores**  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – Experience the magic of the holiday season with the El Paso Symphony Orchestra’s (EPSO) Sounds of the Holidays concerts December 2 and 3, 2022, 7:30 p.m. at the Plaza Theatre. The program, led by Maestro Bohuslav Rattay, will feature Bárbara Padilla and the Youth Opera of El Paso, singing holiday favorites like *Silent Night*, *Angels We Have Heard on High*, *Christmas Canon* (a song by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra), *Do You Hear What I Hear* and more. In addition, El Paso Symphony Orchestra will perform beloved pieces: *Carol of the Bells*, *Greensleeves*, and *Around the World at Christmas Time*. It is an evening of holiday cheer for the entire family to enjoy.

Padilla is an award-winning soprano that became a household name when she received outstanding reviews for her unforgettable performances on *America’s Got Talent* (AGT), achieving First Runner Up. AGT judge, Piers Morgan stated that Padilla’s performance was “The single greatest vocal performance we’ve ever had on *America’s Got Talent*...”

Join EPSO speakers prior to each event at Opening Notes (free), 6:30 p.m. in the Philanthropy Theatre, to get insights on the program, composers and artists.

Concert tickets are on sale now at [epso.org](http://epso.org), [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com), the Plaza Theatre Box Office or by phone (915) 532-3776.



– Photo courtesy Barracuda Public Relations

**TURNING DIRT – A groundbreaking ceremony was recently held to mark the construction of Endeavors’ new Veterans Wellness Center in East El Paso County. Along with company officials, taking part in the ceremony were special guests including Heather Wilson, University of Texas at El Paso president, third from left; Veronica Escobar, U.S. Representative from El Paso; and Cesar Blanco, state senator from El Paso. Visit [endeavors.org](http://endeavors.org) for more information about Endeavors.**

## Facilities

From Page 1

Air Force veteran, stated that organization officials are excited for the opportunity to bring a holistic approach to wellness to El Paso veterans and their family members.

“From mental health services to fitness and wellness needs, this facility will provide so much to improve the lives of those who have made so many sacrifices for our nation,” Fulghum asserted.

According to officials, the center will include a mental health clinic, a fitness center accessible to wounded veterans, a cafe, community rooms, and a wellness hub. Additionally, on-site childcare, transition support and assistance with VA benefits will be available, as well as an array of veteran-owned businesses focused on wellness. And the services will be offered free or at a low cost to veterans and their

families, officials emphasized.

Co-located at the center will be the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at El Paso, which Endeavors has operated since 2017. Created in 1969, Endeavors is a faith-based organization that serves vulnerable people in crisis through its innovative, personalized approach, according to the company’s recent news release.

“We are proud to bring a veteran wellness center to El Paso. As a veteran, I know firsthand that military service can have lingering effects that impact every aspect of life,” Endeavors Chief Executive Officer Jon Allman said in the news release.

“Housing all these comprehensive services under one roof allows us to provide much-needed services to the men and women who valiantly served our country, as well as their families. Building a Veteran Wellness Center in El Paso is part of our commitment to bring the highest-

quality behavioral health and wellness services to those who need it the most,” Allman noted.

“The two new facilities will definitely help us, veterans, cope with the struggles we face in our daily lives, because without good health it is difficult to lead productive lives after successfully completing our tours of duty to our country,” one local U.S. Navy veteran surmised.

## Notice of Public Hearing to Discuss Tornillo Independent School District’s State Financial Accountability Rating (FIRST)

Tornillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, Tuesday, November 29, 2022, in the boardroom of the W.E. Neill Service Center, at 19210 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, Texas 79853.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Tornillo Independent School District’s rating on the state’s financial accountability system.

WTCC: 11/17/22



# Bigger, badder Miners take care of NMSU Aggies

By Steve Escajeda  
*Special to the Courier*

When coach Joe Golding took over the UTEP basketball program he said his goal was to bring back the days of Don Haskins, tough defense, hustle, rebounding and renewed fan interest.

There’s no secret to the fact that the Miners, though they have a rich basketball tradition, haven’t exactly been enjoying a whole lot of success over the past decade.

But in last week’s column we talked about the UTEP-NMSU rivalry not being much of a rivalry lately because the Aggies had beaten the Miners 15 out of the last 17 times they’d played.

It had gotten to the point that the Aggies were probably looking at UTEP on their schedule and were penciling in two automatic victories.

And that’s what made last Saturday’s Battle of I-10 so important. Were the Miners going to start making this twice-a-year matchup with NMSU a heated rivalry again, or were the Aggies just going to trounce the Miners and keep things business as usual.

Well, by what I saw last weekend, I think we’ve got a rivalry again.

The Miners beat the Aggies 67-64 in a game that wasn’t even as close as the score indicates.

UTEP had an 8-12 point lead throughout the second half, but the Aggies hit a couple of 3-pointers in the closing seconds to make the game look a little closer than it really was.

The best thing about last Saturday’s game was the environment in the Don Haskins Center. It was filled to capacity with over 11,300 fans and the crowd was electric right from the starting tip.

There were plenty of Aggie fans in attendance, which made the atmosphere as loud and rowdy as it’s been in many years.

New Mexico State has been a beast in the Western Athletic Conference for years and consistently finds themselves in the NCAA Tournament, a place where the Miners haven’t won a game since 1992.

But UTEP looked like a March Madness contender against the Aggies and the main reason ocured under the basket.

What the Miners have been lacking for a number of years now is rebounding. Not only rebounding, but having guys on the

team that actually look like rebounders.

Over the last few seasons, the Miners have either been too small to compete on the boards, or they had size, but their big guys were so skinny that I could push them around.

This team is loaded with guys that are built like grown men with muscles on top of their muscles.

As I sit at courtside during games, the difference in size and body type has been obvious. The Miners have been tall and skinny, while their opponents like more like 6-foot-8 linebackers.

But it’s not this year. The Miners are the ones supplying much of the toughness with Calvin Solomon (6-7, 210-pounds), Ze’Rik Onyema (6-8, 230), Otis Frazier III (6-6, 210), Kevin Kalu (6-9, 240), Derick Hamilton (6-10, 285) and Jon Dos Anjos (6-8, 210).

This team reminds you of the Don Haskins teams with tough guys like Antonio Davis and David Lattin and John Tofi and Marlon Maxey and so many others.

The Miners look like a totally different

team. At times it looked like a dunk-fest as the UTEP big men slammed dunk after dunk with authority leaving the Haskins’ rims holding on for dear life.

Another way they remind us of Haskins’ teams is their tenacious defense. Golding has these guys chasing their opponent all over the court. They make every shot difficult for the other guys.

Haskins also had plenty of depth on his teams.

Well, the Miners only have 12 guys on their roster right now because Dos Anjos is injured. But of those 12 guys, 11 of them played against the Aggies and all 11 of them scored, and 10 of the 11 grabbed at least one rebound.

The similarities with this team and the Haskins teams of old is impressive.

Golding says the same thing Haskins used to say, defense will always keep you in the game, even when you’re having a bad shooting night.

This team will definitely have some tough shooting nights, but because they’re bigger, stronger and quicker, they have a chance to win every game.

## Senior moment

By Matilda Charles

## Two important product recalls

Several disturbing items have been in the news lately. Have you heard about these product recalls?

CPAP machines: Two dozen different CPAP machines have been recalled. The list includes Bilevel PAP, BiPAP or BPAP machines, as well as the CPAP. The reason is a bit frightening. Black foam pieces can come loose and be breathed in or swallowed.

While the recall was issued quite a long time ago, the Food and Drug Administration just updated that information with this alert: If you now have one of the repaired or replaced machines (due to the previous recall), testing is currently being done to ensure that the repair foam used is OK.

The reason for the concern and the current testing: There have been deaths, far too many deaths, from the breakdown of the foam used in the machines.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/hvy73j36> for more information on this recall.

You can also call the Philips company at (877) 907-7508.

The recall says not to stop using the machine until you talk to your doctor, whether you have an original machine or one that was repaired or is a replacement.

Bedrails on portable beds: The Consumer Product Safety Commission (and several companies) issued a warning for thousands of portable bedrails, the ones that attach to the sides of beds to keep someone from falling out. The problems are so serious that deaths were reported when people became wedged between the mattress and the rail.

These bedrails were made under various names. Your best bet is to call the Consumer Product Safety Commission and ask about bedrail recalls to be sure you learn about all possible brands. Contact them at (800) 638-2772.

For more information, go to the FDA website ([fda.gov](https://www.fda.gov)) and put “Safety Concerns about Bed Rails” in the search box.

Visit [www.cpsc.gov/recalls](https://www.cpsc.gov/recalls) for overall government recall information.

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## Briefs

From Page 4

100,000 residents), 2.30, which is 14.9 times lower than in Memphis, TN, the city with the highest at 34.26.

• Corpus Christi, TX and Reno, NV have the lowest average parking rate, \$1.00 per two hours, which is 38.4 times lower than in Boston, MA, the city with the highest at \$38.40 per two hours.  
Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-cities-to-drive-in/13964> for the full report.

— Diana Polk

## Super Crossword

SQUARE PHASE				61 Always, in poetry	121 Prep schools	32 Totally absorbed	78 Stereotypical
ACROSS				62 Hugs, in letters	122 "The Magic Flute,"	33 Outdated	working-class family
1 Work unit	64 Airline of Israel	e.g.	34 VI doubled	man			
6 Duo plus one	65 Pod fillers	123 Provided with a	35 PC support whiz,	80 Ace or deuce			
10 Orangutans, e.g.	66 Riddle, part 4	border	perhaps	81 "If _ be so bold..."			
14 Plot out, as an	71 Delilah player	124 Small equine	36 "Drink" for a	82 With 41-Down,			
equation	Lamarr	125 Film lioness	constantly critical sort	lotus sitters' cushion			
19 Desert refuge	72 Hotel furniture	126 Dot in the sea	37 Alternatively	83 Asia's _ Sea			
20 In an obliging	73 History unit		38 Fat-and-flour	84 "Spring ahead"			
manner	74 Suffix with strict		mixture	hrs.			
22 Evoking an earlier	75 Inedible type of	DOWN	39 Utah city	86 Ties down, as a			
style	orange	1 Droopy cheek	40 Oscar winner	boat			
23 Start of a riddle	77 Coiled length of	2 Waikiki Beach	Dunaway	90 Resembling a			
25 Rob of "Melrose	yarn	3 _-friendly	41 See 82-Down	hooting bird			
Place"	79 Riddle, part 5	4 Tackle, guard or	47 Have a hunch	91 Bundled, as wheat			
26 Enticement	85 Fleeced male	center	48 "On the Road"	92 High-_ (snubbing)			
27 "_ longa, vita	87 "The Walking	5 Supposed psychic	novelist Jack	94 Pull along			
brevis"	Dead" aier	6 gift	50 Cowboy cry	95 Khan who married			
28 March Madness	88 "Royals" singer	7 Thunder god	52 "Absolutely,	Rita Hayworth			
org.	89 Anti votes	7 Sales agents, for	sarge!"	96 "I'm OK with it"			
29 _ mama (rum	90 _ Kosh B'gosh	short	53 Big retailer of	98 Comedian Emo			
cocktail)	(kids' clothing brand)	8 Unsound	outdoor gear	100 It might be given			
30 Tarnish	93 1998-2008 Toyota	9 Like most sandals	54 Hawaii's Mauna _	by a flirter			
32 Rd. with a number	model	10 Saintly glow	55 Hither's partner	101 Way to serve ham			
33 Hormone released	96 Former Nintendo	11 Court declaration	57 Posh quality	or pastrami			
during childbirth	rival	12 Yale Daily News	58 Scooched over,	102 Cafe au _			
35 Riddle, part 2	97 Orlando theme	staffer	perhaps	107 Wheat husk			
41 Signified	park	13 Similarly defined	59 Devious	108 Water whirl			
42 Valentine's Day	99 End of the riddle	wd.	63 "Get Shorty" star	109 City in Iowa			
feeling	103 Lack of vigor	14 Enlarged	Chris	110 Plateau's kin			
43 Angle measure	104 Suffix with beat	15 Broadcast again	65 "Masterpiece"	112 Law school newbie			
44 History unit	105 "_ was saying..."	16 Briefcase variety	network	113 Folklore giant			
45 Pretend	106 "See ya!," British-	17 First-ever	67 Set-_ (brawls)	114 Exam for H.S.			
46 Particular printing	style	18 Christian cry of	68 Game akin to	juniors			
48 Lock go-with	107 Ernie's pal	praise	crazy eights	116 Brief snooze			
49 Marina del _	109 Pierre's pal	21 Stood up to	69 Dot-com address	117 _friendly			
51 Riddle, part 3	111 Lariat part	24 Wyatt at the O.K.	70 "Magnum, P.I." star	118 Fossil fuel			
56 Considers to be	115 Covered with vines	Corral	Tom	119 _ polloi			
60 Like unripe	116 Riddle's answer	29 To a large degree	76 Trapshooting				
bananas	120 Nairobi's land	31 Apparel	targets, informally				

Answer Page 4

Answer Page 4



Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



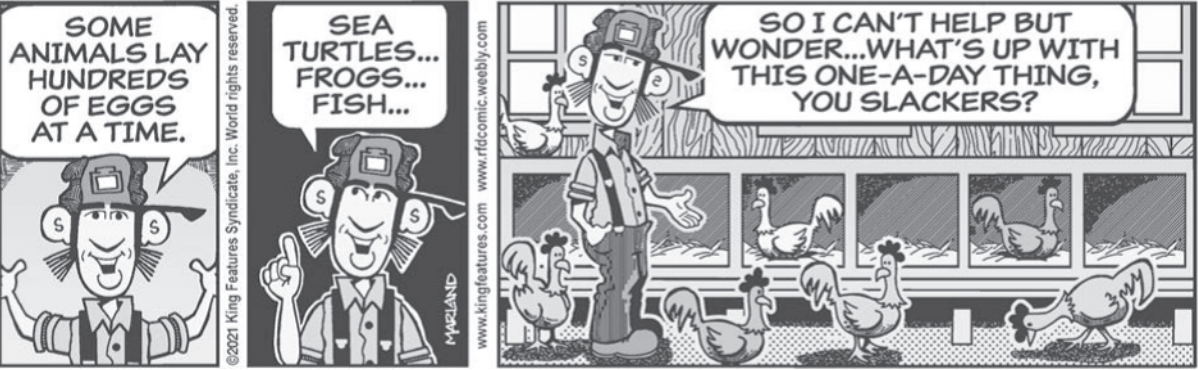
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



TIGER

By Bud Blake



Lowry

From Page 2

painting will be worth nothing if we have to fight over food.”

By that logic, there is no act of cultural desecration that isn’t justified. Why not sandblast the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, sledgehammer Michelangelo’s David, or bulldoze Notre Dame because they’ll all be worthless in the climate dystopia awaiting us?

The activists are quite pleased with the attention they are getting. It’s not true, though, that all publicity is good publicity. What they are really putting on

display is their own recklessness and fanaticism.

On their own terms, they should think about how having easy access to the most awe-inspiring works of arts ever fashioned by mankind is the ultimate privilege. There are no world-class art museums in, say, Micronesia.

So maybe some respect and gratitude for the timeless contributions of true geniuses is in order, but that would require some perspective and decency, wouldn’t it?

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

Enlarged pelvic veins not cause for concern

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I’m a 71-year-old female with no children, but I did have an ectopic pregnancy at age 43. Other than that, I have had no “female” issues. I was getting a CT scan for my spleen area, when it was discovered that I had enlarged pelvic veins in my groin. I don’t have pelvic pain, nor do I have pain with sex. So, the only symptoms I do have, which may or may not be related, are bloating and some constipation. I have seen a vascular surgeon and a urogynecologist to ask about this condition and if I need “treatment” for it. Both were rather vague, saying if I’m not experiencing pain, I should just get it imaged every year. Is that sound advice? Can the veins twist and cause blockage? Can they cause a blood clot? I can’t really get any info on it. – J.F.*



Although advanced imaging like CT and MRI scans have led physicians to be able to make more precise diagnoses than before, there is an issue of what to do with “incidental” findings. Many people have written to me about small tumors (which are far more common than we thought), but enlarged pelvic veins are another example of an incidental finding.

Some women do have a condition called “pelvic congestion syndrome,” which is a cause of pelvic pain that is worsened by prolonged standing or sexual activity. This condition is found in women in the reproductive age group, especially those who have had multiple children, but is not found in menopausal women. Since you aren’t in the age group and don’t have symptoms, you clearly don’t have pelvic congestion syndrome.

Dilated veins in the legs are simply called varicose veins, and they are often due to loss in function of the valves in our legs as we age. Pelvic vein enlargement is the same thing: Veins get bigger as we age.

There are cases of blood clots in the pelvic veins, but it is not clear whether a person like you is at increased risk. I don’t see the need to repeat the imaging studies.

*DEAR DR. ROACH: Why do multivitamins invariably provide some ingredients with more than 100% – and some with less than 100% – of the daily requirement? Why aren’t all ingredients 100%? – D.H.*

100% of the recommended dietary allowance (RDA) is intended to provide the nutrient requirements for about 98% of the population. Most people will get what they need from food. Many North Americans feel that more vitamins are better or decide to take a vitamin pill as an insurance policy against an inadequate diet. Both of these have been reasonable hypotheses, but many studies have been done and have not shown any convincing benefit of taking vitamins in absence of a clear medical reason for deficiency.

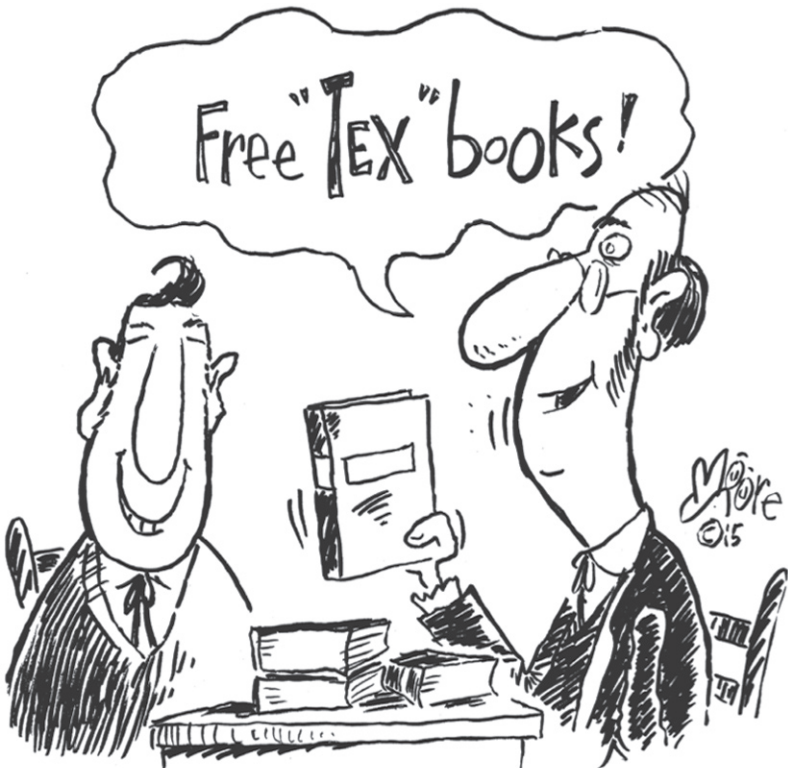
Vitamin manufacturers put in large amounts mostly for marketing: People are more likely to buy the pill that has 1,000% of B12, for example, since it must be better than the one with 500%. In fact, your body will simply excrete more B12 if you take more, so the supplement with 1,000% of a water-soluble vitamin like B12 is not any better for you.

However, a few nutrients in multivitamins are dangerous at high levels: Vitamin A has a high risk of causing birth defects at high doses, and beta carotene promotes lung cancer growth in smokers, as two examples. Responsible vitamin manufacturers don’t put in doses of vitamins that will be toxic if taken as directed.

*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.*

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**Moore Texas** by Roger Moore  
The first free Texas schoolbooks were issued by San Antonio schools in 1828.

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 R

MPFO PW FOD QPVHB SPIQF  
HFFDKRHKFG HQD UQDFFV  
GUAFDWIB, MIF FOHF PKD AG  
H SHFFADQ SPIQFADQ.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Changes for VA small businesses



by Freddy Groves

If you hope to set up a business as a service-disabled veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB) or a veteran-owned small business (VOSB), your verification will no longer be done by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Instead, as of the beginning of 2023, the Small Business Administration (SBA) will be in charge.

No new applications will be accepted after Oct. 24, 2022, for either verification or reverification, due to the transition to the Small Business Administration. If you currently have a business and wonder about your next steps, go to [vetbiz.va.gov](http://vetbiz.va.gov) and click on “See frequently asked questions concerning this change.”

The Vets First Verification Program, using the Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE), will be your go-to for all types of assistance,

including working through the initial steps: Intake, Assessment, Federal Review and Decision.

The benefits are worth the trouble to become VA-verified, if only for the set asides that are at the heart of how the VA helps small businesses – competition is limited, which helps veterans compete for federal contracts. At least 3% of those contracts are held for service-disabled veterans who own their businesses.

To be a SDVOSB or VOSB, a business must be owned 51% or more by a veteran who did not receive a bad conduct or dishonorable discharge, and be controlled on a daily basis by a veteran who has the managerial experience to run the business. In addition, the veteran has to be the highest paid person in the company, working full time and holding the highest position in the company. To qualify as a service-disabled business, the veteran must meet all of the above qualifications and also have a disability rating letter from the VA confirming a service-connected disability.

If you’re ready to start a business, check out [www.va.gov/osdbu/verification/index.asp](http://www.va.gov/osdbu/verification/index.asp) and scroll to the guides and forms.

If you’re still at the thinking stage and need direction and help in becoming an entrepreneur, go to [www.va.gov/OSDBU/entrepreneur/index.asp](http://www.va.gov/OSDBU/entrepreneur/index.asp) for information on finding financial backing, growing your business or doing business with federal agencies and more.

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by Jo Ann Derson

• If you have a beautiful planter that has no drainage holes, you can pot your plant in a second pot that will fit inside. Put a few pebbles in the bottom of the pretty planter, then put your potted plant in. This way, the roots won’t rot in any excess water. You can cover any gap between the pots with a bit of moss or more pebbles.” – K.D. in Georgia

• Consider this your fall reminder to schedule a visit from a chimney sweep, if you haven’t already. As temperatures drop, you’ll be tempted to light up the fireplace, and you’ll want it checked for any animal intrusion, creosote buildup or mortar that needs repairing.

• “My dresser came with a glass panel that sits on top to protect the surface, but I didn’t like the look of it and just use a table runner across the top. Well, my daughter likes to play with slime (made from glue and other materials), and the glass is the perfect size when set on a table to make a protected, defined work surface. It’s easy to clean up after and very portable. Even though it’s glass, it’s very sturdy.” – C.H. in Illinois

• “Puzzles are fun and rewarding, but you need a dedicated surface. Try using the back of a canvas. You can find one with a size big enough for your puzzle, and the frame keeps everything contained and portable from room to room.” – B.B. in Florida

Send your tips to Now Here’s a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2019 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

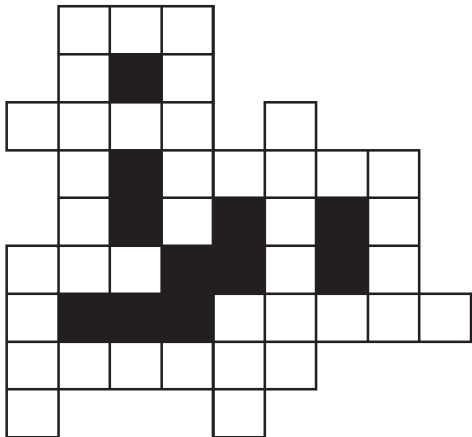
	÷		+		10
×		×		+	
	÷		+		11
–		+		–	
	–		×		15
15		10		11	

1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 9

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TTI  
♥ HOGTUS  
OTLAD  
♥ IGNR  
♥ IROTL  
GRE  
♥ ILTL  
GLANO  
ELD  
TRADIO  
♥ HIGTN  
♥ ANLE



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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