



NEWSBRIEFS

Pedestrian killed

A man was killed by a hit-and-run driver on Interstate 10 on El Paso’s Westside. Crime Stoppers of El Paso and the El Paso Police Department are asking for help to find the driver involved through the Crime of the Week. On Friday, February 10, 2023, at 8:37 p.m., 42-year-old Cesar David Rodriguez was crossing Interstate 10-West from north to south. As Rodriguez entered the roadway a vehicle traveling in the right lane of I-10 West struck him and fled. Rodriguez died at the scene. Investigators have found evidence suggesting that the vehicle involved is a maroon colored S.U.V. Investigators believe the vehicle could be a 2015 or 2016 Honda CRV and will have some damage. Anyone with any information on the driver responsible for the death of Cesar David Rodriguez should contact Crime Stoppers of El Paso at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org or 566-8477 (TIPS). You will remain anonymous, and if your tip leads to an arrest, you may qualify for a cash reward.

– Javier Sambrano

A fixer upper

When the U.S. Government put the Hooper Island Lighthouse in Chesapeake Bay up for auction the opening bid was set at a mere \$15,000. After all, said the Associated Press, it was in pretty bad shape. The AP wrote that, “The rusting lighthouse known locally as the ‘sparkplug’ has an outer ladder but no nearby dock for a boat to moor. A 2019 inspection also found lead-based paint, asbestos, benzene and other dangerous substances inside, where there is no water, electricity or other utilities.” Nonetheless, in less than two months five bidders drove the selling price up to \$192,000. The new owners will also have to spend quite a sum of cash on renovations and upkeep. However, “there are people out there that love lighthouses,” said General Services Administration spokesman Will Powell.

– John Grimaldi

Newsbriefs

Send your Newsbrief to wtxcc@wtxcc.com. Send at least two weeks early for upcoming events.

What is it about human nature that makes it easier to break a commandment than a habit?
– Quips & Quotes



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

SPREAD OUT – The Clint Independent School District (CISD) encompasses three major, separate and distinct communities – Clint, a farming and ranching town; Horizon City with its growing suburban neighborhoods; and Montana Vista, a sprawling unincorporated area along the district’s northern boundary. The CISD Administration Building, above, is centrally located on Horizon Blvd.

Children at Risk names El Paso County’s top schools

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Children at Risk, a nonprofit organization, has been ranking Texas public schools for the past 18 years to bring attention to how they are performing and to prompt discussions about the quality of public education statewide.

In its most recent research study, the organization analyzed public schools for the 2021-22 school year in several areas including student achievement on state standardized tests, test scores in schools with similar levels of poverty, and the State of Texas

Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) test improvement and college readiness data.

To announce El Paso County’s top schools, Children at Risk officials recently held a virtual news conference to recognize the top five high, middle, and elementary schools. They also named the Top Gold Ribbon high, middle and elementary schools in the county.

Gold Ribbon schools are high performing schools with more than 75 percent of the student body being from economically disadvantaged families. This special recognition features high-performing, high-poverty schools that are traditional neighborhood campuses

(magnet and charter schools are not included in the Gold Ribbon lists). Those campuses that receive an A or B in the Children at Risk rankings are considered high-performing, high-poverty schools.

The Children at Risk group ranked all Texas elementary and middle schools across three main areas and all high schools across four main areas: student achievement; campus performance; student growth; and college readiness for high schools only.

According to the Children at Risk findings, the top five high schools in the El Paso area are the Early College Academy in the Clint Independent School District (CISD); Silva Health Magnet and Transmountain Early College High School in the El Paso School District (EPISD); Valle Verde Early College High School in the

See SCHOOLS, Page 3

SISD students offer free income tax preparations

By Christy Flores-Jones
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Career and Technical Education high school students in the Socorro Independent School District, through a partnership with GECU Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), are offering tax preparation services to the SISD community from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. through April 13 at Americas, Socorro, Pebble Hills, Montwood, El Dorado, Eastlake, and Mission Early College high schools.

The students are enrolled in various CTE courses in the district. Instructors, along with the students, have earned advanced certification to be prepared to help community members file their taxes free of charge.

To receive services,

taxpayers with an annual income of \$85,000 or less can show up to one of the sites between 5 and 7 p.m. to file their 1040 EZ, 1040A and 1040 forms.

Tax preparers ensure confidentiality and security of all documents. Individuals must take with them:

- Original and current proof of identification (photo ID) for individual and spouse (VITA cannot file taxes for married couples filing separately);
- Original social security card for everyone listed in the income tax return or a social security number verification letter issued by Social Security Administration;
- All W-2 wage and earnings statements;
- 1099-SSA, 1099-R and 1099-G;
- Work expenses;
- Direct deposit information (account

number and routing number);

- Form 1098 for any student loans;

- Both spouses must be present to sign required forms to file taxes electronically on a married filing jointly tax return;

- Proof of child or dependent care expenses;

- Property tax statements;

- Forms 1095-A, B or C, affordable health care statements, Marketplace Insurance;

- Current IRS PIN letter if individual is an identity-theft victim;

- Notice 1444-C, Economic Impact Payment for 2022; and

- Advance Child Tax Credit letter 6416 or 6416-A.

Tax preparation sites (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.)

Americas High School	March 21, 23, 28, 30
12101 Pellicano Dr.	April 4, 6, 11, 13
Socorro High School	March 22, 27
10150 Alameda Ave.	April 3, 5, 10, 12
(access through Rio Vista)	
Pebble Hills High School	March 2, 23, 27, 30
14400 Pebble Hills Blvd	April 3, 6, 10, 13
Montwood High School	March 2, 21, 23, 28, 30
12000 Montwood Dr.	April 4, 6, 11, 13
Eastlake High School	March 21, 22, 28
13000 Emerald Pass	April 4, 5, 11, 12
Mission Early College HS	March 2, 21, 23, 28, 30
10700 Gateway Blvd E.	April 4, 6, 11, 13
El Dorado High School	March 22, 27
12401 Edgemere Blvd.	April 3, 5, 10, 12

Trump’s futile attack on DeSantis

Donald Trump hasn’t been impressing anyone with his political acuity lately, but at least he is fully aware of one of his own vulnerabilities.

His early attacks on the COVID-19 record of Ron DeSantis show that he knows the Florida governor has outflanked him on the populist right – indeed, outflanked him in general – regarding one of the most central issues of the last couple of years.

In typical style, Trump isn’t tiptoeing around the issue, but driving right at the governor in an attempt to take away one of his foremost strengths.

The “free state of Florida”? No, despite what you might recall, it was really the “shut down Sunshine state.”

“Florida was actually closed, for a great, long period of time,” Trump told reporters during his first campaign swing. “Remember, he closed the beaches and everything else? They’re trying to rewrite history.”

This is brazen even by Trump’s standards. It will take all of his powers as a political sloganeer, marketer and wrecking-ball to counter the DeSantis brand on the coronavirus, which has the advantage of being grounded in reality.

For Republicans, the DeSantis approach of getting out of shutdowns as soon as possible and resisting mandates and restrictions has been vindicated and has appeal to nearly all factions.

For populists, he resisted the elites and self-appointed experts. For limited-government conservatives, he (although this is complicated) lightened the heavy hand of government. For everyone right of center, he forged his own path in the face of conventional wisdom and got attacked for it in the media and the left – demonstrating the paramount GOP virtues of having courage and the right enemies.

DeSantis would have much to brag about in his

record in Florida absent COVID-19, but it is his response to the pandemic that sets him apart and makes him, for the moment, a near-legend for many Republicans.

Trump is correct that DeSantis issued shutdown orders like nearly everyone else at the outset of the pandemic. In March 2020, the governor issued statewide restrictions and then more far-reaching measures in Palm Beach and Broward counties. Beaches, as Trump said, were shut down.

The trouble Trump has is that DeSantis was initially acting in keeping with the guidance of the federal government that Trump led.

Despite some grouching, Trump had at his right hip during the entire pandemic the man that has come to



See LOWRY, Page 7

Food for thought

By John Grimaldi

Solomon: Censorship and the Biden documents

When Elon Musk took over the social media giant Twitter, he found what some might call an effort to silence conservative messaging. Award-winning investigative journalist John Solomon says Twitter had been turned into “a massive censorship machine that ramped to life in 2019 and has been living very well since then, all the way through the 2022 election.” Solomon went into detail of his findings in a recent interview with Rebecca Weber, CEO of the Association of Mature American Citizens, on her Better For America podcast.

As Solomon put it, “we now have the first and most overt direct confirmation that multiple federal agencies made requests to social

media companies to silence conservative opinion. The FBI had a full-time task force sitting out in San Francisco that was forwarding requests, according to the agent who ran it, Elvis Chan. He would take censor requests coming from FBI headquarters and send them to those companies, including Twitter. The requests came from the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Homeland Security, demanding that certain storylines, certain players, people like Alex Berenson, the former New York Times reporter, a respected reporter that dared to challenge the science of vaccines, need to be censored.”

The magnitude of what some might call a conspiracy

was enormous, he said. “The US government had a system of weekly meetings, a special communication system that was kept from the public, where censorship requests were coming in on a daily and hourly basis, particularly during elections, and they censored certain storylines, election integrity storylines, vaccination safety questions, questions about Hunter Biden and Joe Biden being corrupt, all censored, often with ironical misinformation being offered by the U.S. government.”

Solomon went on to note that something was amiss when the powers that be in D.C. told Facebook and Twitter that the Hunter Biden laptop revelations in 2020 was Russian disinformation. “There wasn’t an iota of evidence to support that claim. And today, we know the laptop is real. In fact, it is in the possession of the FBI and the focus of a criminal investigation. The fact that the government would call something disinformation that they knew wasn’t actually undercuts the whole claim of what they were trying to do. They said they were trying to root out misinformation in that case. And in some other cases we’ve documented, the government was the purveyor of misinformation. The outcome was Americans’ free speech was censored, was violated, was infringed upon, despite

the Constitution’s guarantee that wouldn’t happen.”

As for the recent admission that then Vice Presidents Biden and Pence took classified documents home, the fact that former President Trump admitted that he did the same thing does not even begin to justify their actions. Solomon pointed out that, as president, Mr. Trump had the power to declassify documents and vice presidents do not have that power. “That said, Joe Biden takes us in a second direction with his documents, something that doesn’t exist with President Trump or Vice President Mike Pence. There has always loomed over the Biden family the corruption question. We now know that these documents landed at the University of Pennsylvania and landed in the Biden Wilmington home, at a time when Hunter Biden was frequenting the house where the documents were stored. Some of the topics in the documents are topics of interest to countries where Hunter Biden had ongoing financial interest like Ukraine, and that Hunter Biden was deeply involved in soliciting and trying to arrange large payments to his family from China, a country that spends a lot of time in espionage.”

Solomon pointed out that there is legitimate concern that, for the Biden family,

possession of a classified document is more than just a case of mishandled classified documents. “These documents may have been taken and moved around the country to places where the family could access them because it would bring benefit to some of their foreign clients. And they want to investigate that. They want a damage assessment for that.

Even people like Adam Schiff, a Democrat who has often defended President Biden and who is very critical of Donald Trump, says we probably need a national security damage assessment for what happened with Joe Biden. That part of the story will probably live on. The House Oversight Committee will likely try to find out who had access to the documents. Were those documents valuable to Hunter Biden’s clients? And is there any evidence that some of the information that the president had in these personal locations got passed on to the foreign clients that Hunter Biden interacted with? Those are questions that may outlast the mishandling of documents.”

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.

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Classroom Fund grant applications being accepted

By Tess Passero
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Community Foundation is happy to announce that The Classroom Fund grant application cycle is now open for its 12th year. Full-time educators in the El Paso and Las Cruces areas are eligible for these resource grants for the 2023-2024

school year. Grants for \$1,000 or less will be available. Every year, about 50 educators are chosen to receive the grants.

The Classroom Fund was created in 2011 as a special project of the El Paso Community Foundation. It provides requested classroom materials directly to educators in the El Paso-Las Cruces area. Since then, over \$550,000

See GRANTS, Page 5

Schools

From Page 1

Ysleta School District (YISD); and the Northwest Early College High School in the Canutillo School District (CISD).

The top five middle schools in the El Paso area are Eastwood Knolls International and Young Women’s Leadership Academy in YISD; Hornedo Middle in EPISD; Harmony Science Academy; and Idea Mesa Hills College Preparatory.

The top five elementary schools in the El Paso area are Tippin Elementary in EPISD; North Star Elementary in YISD; John Drugan School in the Socorro School District; Marguerite J. Lundy Elementary and Hughey Elementary in EPISD.

The top Gold Ribbon high school in the county is Clint ISD Early College Academy. The top Gold Ribbon middle schools are General Douglas McArthur PK-8 in EPISD; Bill Sybert School in Socorro ISD; and Charles Middle School in EPISD.

The top Gold Ribbon elementary schools are Hughey Elementary in EPISD; and Glen Cove Elementary, Del Norte Heights Elementary, Vista Hills Elementary, and Ramona Elementary- all in the Ysleta School District.

In order to better understand what makes these schools successful, Children at Risk officials stated that they interviewed principals of Gold Ribbon schools. And from these conversations, they were able to identify common themes and practices that can be easily adopted by other campuses. “These are concrete practices that parents can advocate for, and campuses can use as a blueprint to improve academic performances,” stated Bob Sanborn, president and chief executive officer of Children at Risk.

Sanborn noted that the Clint Early College



– Photo courtesy Clint ISD

TOP RANKED – Children at Risk, a Texas research and advocacy nonprofit organization, recently announced El Paso County’s top five high, middle, and elementary schools – along with the “Top Gold Ribbon” high, middle and elementary schools. The Early College Academy, above, in the Clint Independent School District was recognized as the top high school in the El Paso area.

Academy not only improved in the 2020-21 school year, but also did better than many high schools that did not fare well during the pandemic.

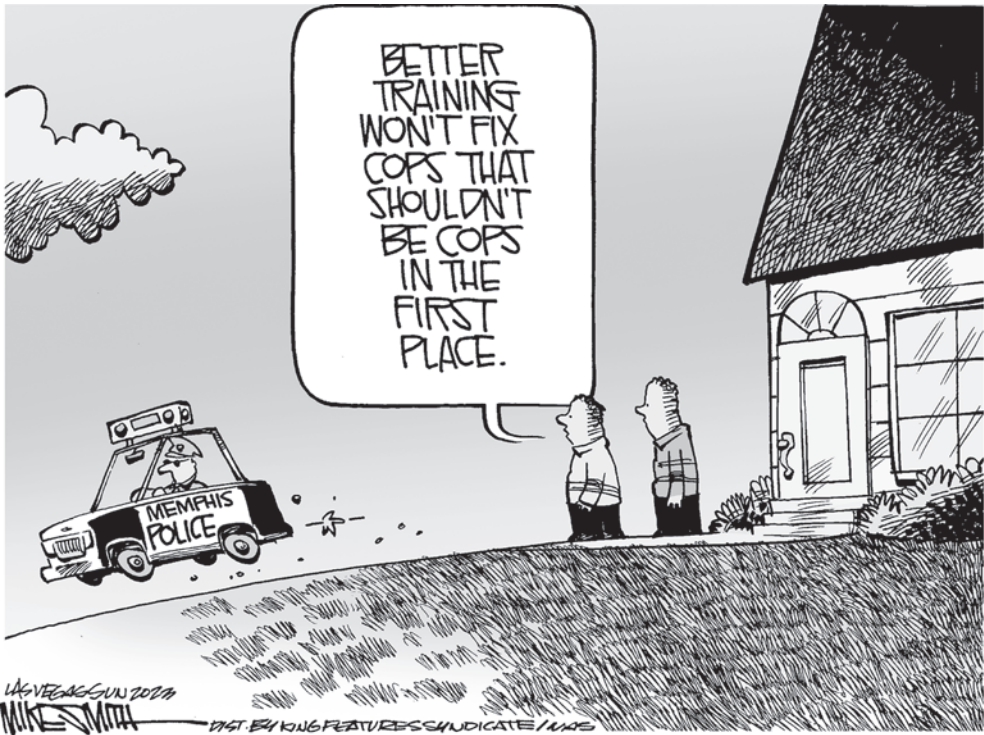
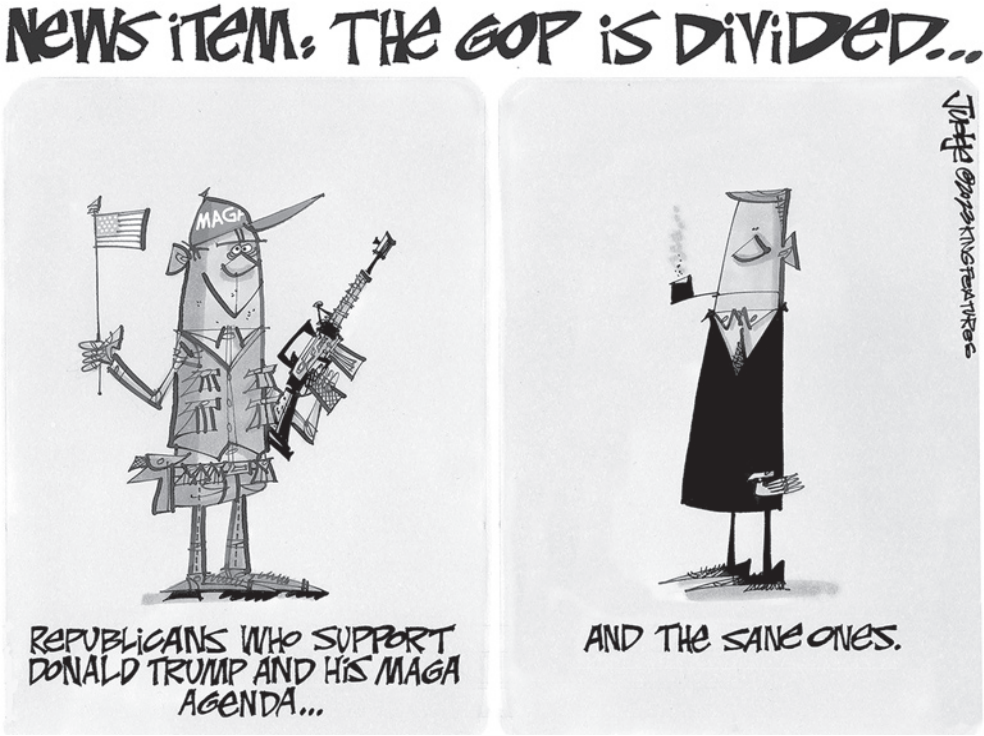
Holly Garza, principal of the Early College Academy, stated in a recent news story, that the school is focused on students who are at-risk, and that being a small campus allowed them to invite students back on campus during the pandemic.

Garza also credited her small faculty of 18 teachers. “They work very hard to individualize learning for students and work to include

mentorship for our students. I, myself, am mentoring 14 freshmen to make sure they have that desire to continue here at the campus,” she stated. She added that she hired three teachers, who are early college graduates and are from the community, and they are making a difference.

Visit Children at Risk’s Facebook and Twitter accounts or its official website (childrenatrisk.org) for more information on the research and advocacy nonprofit group that is dedicated to improving the quality of life for Texas’ children.

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– Photo courtesy EPWater

BIG JOB – EPWater is replacing portions of five critical metal water mains. The new high-strength plastic is resistant to corrosion. The project is expected to last two years. In the photos above large sections of pipe are fed into trenches by EPWater workers to replace older pipe that was subject to corrosion.

Archives: www.wtxcc.com



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CryptoQuip Answer

What would you call a group of certain small flatfish that start a company together? Co-flounders.

HIGHC	ARABS	SAM	MIATA
ISIAH	SERENGETI	UMBER	
VIRGINIA	ACREEPER	SPEAR	
EST	MEAD	RENTA	STELMO
FEW	BAR	UIMS	WALLOW
SAFER	WO	AIM	HAN
PRIVATE	CHAT	GANGSTER	
ABLE	ORTON	MALLE	AERO
COMRADE	COMMUTER	RAIL	
ERA	NONPC	NINO	EASEL
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ASTHE	EROO	TSLOT	DNA
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EURO	AHILL	BGAME	AAAS
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ATBAR	PLOTLINES	ERODE	
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New project will protect east El Paso water mains

By Denise Parra
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Water will invest more than \$10 million over the next two years to proactively replace metal water mains that cross major gas pipelines in East El Paso.

Gas pipelines use corrosion protection systems that run an electrical current through the gas pipeline, a process that helps fight off the corrosive chemical makeup of El Paso’s soil. Over time, however, exposure of metal water mains to that electrical charge can increase the chance of corrosion in the metal water mains, increasing the occurrences of leaks or breaks.

“EPWater is proactively completing this work before there’s a water main break, minimizing the impact to our customers,” Chief Technical Officer Irazema Rojas said.

EPWater is replacing portions of five critical metal water mains and replacing the pipe material with high-strength plastic, which is resistant to corrosion. Work is scheduled at each of the following locations over the next two years:

- Lee Trevino Drive at Vista del Sol;
- Yarbrough Drive at Kinross;
- Lee Trevino Drive at Pebble Hills;
- Airway Boulevard at Viscount; and
- Yarbrough Drive at Vista del Sol.

Lane closures on Lee Trevino Drive

The first phase will begin in late February at the intersection of Lee Trevino Drive and Vista del Sol. Traffic along Lee

Trevino from Pellicano to Vista del Sol will be impacted. There will be a complete closure of the northbound lanes between Armour Drive to the Chili’s restaurant.

Northbound traffic will then shift over to the southbound lanes with one lane going northbound and one lane going southbound. Single lane southbound traffic will begin at La Quinta Place until Armour Drive. This phase is expected to be completed by June 2023.

El Paso Water hosted a public meeting on February 15 to discuss the upcoming traffic impacts to the area. The utility plans to host a public meeting in each of the affected areas prior to construction.

Minimizing impacts

Many of the water mains cross gas lines along busy roadways in East El Paso. To minimize traffic impacts, work will be completed on each phases before moving to the next phase. This means all five crossings will not be under construction at once.

Additionally, construction will pause during the holiday season, from Thanksgiving to New Years, to accommodate busy holiday traffic.

“While this work is necessary, we also recognize that it will be inconvenient,” EPWater Project Manager Francisco ‘Kiko’ Martinez said. “We are working to minimize disruption and maximize public outreach.”

Staying Up-to-Date

Neighbors can stay up to date on the progress of this project by following the Pipeline Protection Project page on Facebook. You can also visit our website to sign up for project updates delivered directly to your email.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- “Nintendo was founded in 1889 as a playing card company.

- Garbage collectors in Turkey have filled their own library entirely from books thrown away by residents. Originally destined for landfills, around 6,000 tomes are now safely housed on shelves, waiting to be reread – or discovered – by the public.

- Gray cats are frequently the result of a diluted black fur gene.

- The World’s Largest Collection of the World’s Smallest Versions of the World’s Largest Things is a museum in Lucas, Kansas, created by Erika Nelson. It consists of miniatures created from photos of the world’s largest objects.

- On May 9, 1945, reports that Nazi Germany had surrendered to the USSR triggered a 22-hour celebration that caused the country to temporarily run out of vodka!

- Not only can you be right-handed or left-handed, you can be right or left eared and eyed.

- “Tartle” is a Scottish word referring to the feeling of hesitation or panic you experience when unable to recall another person’s name.

- Though heavy metal music originated in the U.S. and the U.K., Finland has the most metal bands per capita, with Sweden and Norway tying for second place and Iceland coming in third.


- There’s a name for three consecutive strikes in bowling: a turkey or sizzling turkey. Any additional strike after that is called a bagger.

Thought for the Day: “Management is about persuading people to do things they do not want to do, while leadership is about inspiring people to do things they never thought they could.”

– Steve Jobs

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• “OnFeb.27, 1693,England’s first women’s magazine, The Ladies Mercury, debuted. With a print run of just four weeks, each single-sheet, double-sided issue consisted of an advice column addressing “all the most nice and curious questions concerning love, marriage, behavior, dress and humor of the female sex, whether virgins, wives or widows.”

• On Feb. 28, 2013, scientists electrically connected the brains of two rats with electrodes reaching into the motor cortex, the region of the brain that processes movement. The animals were then able to share and act on each other’s sensory information and were trained to press a lever when a light went on above it.

• On March 1, 1869, U.S. postage stamps featuring scenes were issued for the first time. The pictorials included a post horse and rider, a locomotive, a shield, an eagle and a ship, and the Adriatic Sea. Prior to that time, the stamps had only depicted portraits of dead statesmen.

• On March 2, 1962, Philadelphia Warriors center Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points, the most ever

by an NBA player in a single game, in a match with the New York Knicks in Hershey, Pennsylvania, with a final winning score for the Warriors of 169-147. Six decades later, Chamberlain’s record still remains unbroken.

• On March 3, 1991, motorist Rodney King’s severe beating at the hands of Los Angeles police officers was captured on an amateur video taken by bystander George Holliday from a nearby balcony, which later led to riots when the officers were acquitted. King had been stopped and arrested for driving while intoxicated on the interstate.

• On March 4, 1960, actress-comedienne Lucille Ball filed for divorce from Cuban-American singer and bandleader Desi Arnaz, citing his drinking and infidelity, after 14 years of marriage. The couple most memorably earned a place in American hearts as Ricky and Lucy Ricardo on their 1950s TV sitcom “I Love Lucy.”

• On March 5, 1774, John Hancock delivered the fourth annual Massacre Day speech, commemorating the Boston Massacre in which British soldiers killed five men in a crowd on King Street. Hancock’s oration and denunciation of the presence of British troops in Boston increased his standing as a leading patriot.

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Grants

From Page 2

has been awarded to purchase materials and equipment to enhance learning opportunities and engage students in the El Paso and Las Cruces area.

Grants are available to all full-time pre-K through 12th grade educators. This includes teachers, librarians, guidance counselors, school nurses, and

coaches. Eligible candidates must spend at least 75% of their time working directly with students. Requests must be for materials students will use or experience directly.

Grant recipients are required to follow up with a report on the use of materials through photographs, video, or a written letter. Grant requests are reviewed by *The Classroom Fund Review Committee* and are approved

based on merit and available funds.

Applications are due by March 26, 2023.

All grantees will be notified by late April. A reception to celebrate chosen grantees and to distribute requested materials will take place in June.

Visit theclassroomfund.org to apply. Please email info@theclassroomfund.org with any questions.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

Village of Vinton, TX

Public Notice

Invitation to Bid

Wastewater Connections

GENERAL NOTICE

Village of Vinton (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

Vinton Wastewater Connections Bid No. 2023-1

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the Village Hall located at 436 E Vinton Rd, El Paso, Texas 79821, until Thursday, April 6th, 2023, at 3 pm for receipt of Bids local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project is being partially financed by the North American Development Bank (NADB), through its Border Environment Infrastructure Fund Program (BEIF) which is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA-funded or assisted Projects must comply with the Civil Rights Act, Equal Employment Opportunity requirements, and promote Small, Minority and Women-owned Businesses participation through EPA's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program. Bidding for Contracts to be financed with the proceeds of a NADB grant are open to firms from any eligible country.

Small, minority and female-owned firms are encouraged to submit bids for this Project.

The Project includes the

following Work: Install 466 sewer service connections from new sewer line to existing dwelling, decommissioning of 466 existing septic systems, video recording of Project area and any miscellaneous items needed to complete Project. This Project includes providing a sketch for each property on the location of the septic tank. This form will be provided by the Village of Vinton for each property and will need to be turned back into the Village.

Bids are requested for the following Contract: Vinton W a s t e w a t e r Connections.

OBTAINING THE BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at the following designated website:

<https://parkhill.com/projects-for-bid>

The designated website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website.

The Issuing Parkhill Office for the Bidding Documents is: 501 West San Antonio El Paso, TX 79901 (915) 533-6811

Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21st, 2023, during the City Council Meeting at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas. The purpose of the public hearings is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item:

A request to Re-Zone Lots,2-4, Block 3, Vinton Hills Commercial Park Unit II, Replat "A", Village of Vinton El Paso County Texas, from C-2 to R-2, to allow for Multi-Family (Quadruplex) development in order to provide a mix of Residential and Commercial uses in the area. (Subject property is located at the corner of Doniphan and Jesse Trigg).

Copies of the Contract Documents may be secured at the Parkhill, 501 West San Antonio, El Paso, TX 79901, (915) 533-6811 as follows:

Download documents (PDF file extension format) from the Parkhill Info Exchange website after registering as a Plan holder with issuing Parkhill office. No cost or deposit required for this option.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE

A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on Thursday, March 16th, 2023, at 2:30 pm at Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas 79821. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is encouraged but not required.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

Andrea N. Carrillo Village Administrator

WTCC: 03-02-23 03-09-23

Village of Vinton, TX

FOR MEMBERS OFTHEPUBLICTO COMMUNICATE WITH THE COMMISSION DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING BY CALLING THE F O L L O W I N G NUMBER: +1 346 248 7799 AND THEN DIAL IN THE MEETING ID 252 002 3141 AND PASSCODE: 1 2 3 4 5 FOLLOWED BY THE POUND SIGN (#). THE MEETING WILL OPEN AT 6:25 PM ON EACH OF THE MEETING DATES SO THAT PEOPLE MAY START JOINING. THE MEETING WILL START AT 6:30 PM.

Andrea N. Carrillo Village Administrator

WTCC: 03-02-23

Village of Vinton, TX

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

A public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20th, 2023, during the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas.

A second public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22nd, 2023, during the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas.

A third public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4th, 2023, during the City Council Meeting at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas.

The purpose of the public hearings is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item:

A request to Re-Zone 1.3510 acres of W.F. Hagan

Survey 146 ABS 2656 TR 3-B-73, also known as 7880 Doniphan Dr. Vinton, TX 79821 from C-1 to C-2.

Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Andrea Nichole Carrillo, Village Administrator at the City Hall. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915)886-5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.


MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON, BUT THE PUBLIC CAN ACCESS THE MEETING THROUGH THE ZOOM.US PLATFORM AT THE FOLLOWING URL:

LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2520023141?pwd=WVRDZDIFR3ZHR3FJVlJuL3ZLWTB6dz09>

THE VILLAGE PROVIDES T W O - W A Y COMMUNICATION FOR MEMBERS OFTHEPUBLICTO COMMUNICATE WITH THE COMMISSION DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING BY CALLING THE F O L L O W I N G NUMBER: +1 346 248 7799 AND THEN DIAL IN THE MEETING ID 252 002 3141 AND PASSCODE: 1 2 3 4 5 FOLLOWED BY THE POUND SIGN (#). THE MEETING WILL OPEN AT 6:25 PM ON EACH OF THE MEETING DATES SO THAT PEOPLE MAY START JOINING. THE MEETING WILL START AT 6:30 PM.

Andrea N. Carrillo Village Administrator

WTCC: 03-02-23



YOUR Gift IS A WAY TO CONQUER LUNG DISEASE

Find out how you can help ...

www.texaslung.org

When you lose someone dear to you — or when a special person has a birthday, quits smoking, or has some other occasion to celebrate — memorial gifts or tribute gifts made for them to your local American Lung Association help prevent lung disease and improve the care of those who suffer from it.

1-800-LUNG-USA

IF YOU THINK PICKING UP DOG POOP IS UNPLEASANT, TRY DRINKING IT.



Pet waste washes into storm drains, polluting our rivers, lakes and drinking water sources. Get the scoop.

The Town of Horizon City Storm Water Management Team would like to remind our residents how very important it is to keep our storm drains and ponding areas trash free.

Town of Horizon City Storm Water Management Program
14999 Darrington Road • Horizon City, Texas 79928
(915) 852-1046 • Fax (915) 852-1005 • www.horizoncity.org

The annual NFL roster shuffle is well under way

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Are you like me, wandering through the last couple of Sundays like a zombie not really knowing what to do since the football season is over? No high school, no college, and especially depressing, no NFL football to speak of for the next six months. What is an avid football fan to do? I know the XFL has already started its season and the USFL will get underway in April. But it’s not quite the same. I mean really, former Dallas Cowboys third stringer Ben DiNucci as an XFL starting quarterback – please! I guess all we can do is do what we do every year, take in the NBA playoffs with a little bit of interest, suffer through a way-too-long baseball season, until NFL training camps open in late July. And speaking of NFL training camps opening in late July, some

teams are going to look very different, not just with new players but with new coaching staffs as well. Let’s start with the NFL champion Kansas City Chiefs. They’ll still have NLF MVP quarterback Patrick Mahomes, but his offensive coordinator of the past five years, Eric Bieniemy, has moved on to the Washington Commanders. Former Chicago Bears head coach Matt Nagy will take Bieniemy’s place. Will this move cause any problems with Mahomes and the Chiefs explosive offense? This will be something to keep our eyes on. The Denver Broncos had a miserable season last year and it’s difficult to decide who had the worst year, quarterback Russell Wilson or head coach Nathaniel Hackett. Well, Wilson is still on the team but Hackett was fired and will be replaced by former Saints’ Super Bowl-winning coach Sean Payton. The idea is that Payton will resurrect Wilson’s play and make the Broncos a

contender again... we’ll see. The Dallas Cowboys have one of the best offenses in the NFL, but some tweaks are coming. Successful offensive coordinator Kellen Moore is gone and will be replaced by Brian Schottenheimer, who has 12 years of experience as an NFL OC. Though Schottenheimer will serve as the OC, head coach Kevin McCarthy has said he will call most of the offensive plays now. All we Cowboys fans want is for Dak to throw the ball to the players will the star on their helmet. The Arizona Cardinals said adios to head coach Kliff Kingsbury and replaced him with Jonathan Gannon. Frank Reich, who was fired as the head coach of the Indianapolis Colts was hired to take over the Carolina Panthers. DeMeco Ryans is the new head coach of the terrible Houston Texans. Former Philadelphia Eagles

offensive coordinator, Shane Steichen, is now the new head coach of the Indianapolis Colts. We talked about Kellen Moore leaving the Cowboys, he is now the offensive coordinator of the LA Charges and quarterback Justin Herbert. As far as the on-the-field situations, there are still a lot of quarterback questions to be answered. One was put to rest once Tom Brady announced he was retiring – for sure this time. The New York Jets, Baltimore Ravens, Green Bay Packers, Indianapolis Colts, Tennessee Titans, Las Vegas Raiders, Washington Commanders, Atlanta Falcons, Carolina Panthers, New Orleans Saints and the Tampa Bay Bucs all have serious questions about their quarterback positions and are looking desperately to make a deal. Top quarterbacks like Aaron Rodgers, Lamar Jackson, Derek Carr and Jimmy Garoppolo are still available. And there are pretty good QB’s like Baker Mayfield, Ryan Tannehill, Matt Ryan and Taylor Heinecke still unsure of where they’ll end up. As far as our local heroes, Aaron Jones has announced he will remain with the Packers no matter who the quarterback is and Dallas still has to make a decision on Ezekiel Elliott. Let’s face it, Zeke’s running style has forced him to take so much punishment that he’s lost more than a step, and other than a short-yardage situation, he isn’t much help to the team. So many questions still need to be answered for next season, which is exciting. But the sad part is that we have wait six more long months to see what these changes will bring. All I know is that Aaron Judge better flirt with 63 home runs this summer to keep my interest going until then.

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Check for recalled foods

How many food items in your freezer, refrigerator or kitchen cabinet are on recall lists? I spotted a food recall alert on the news, but I only heard part of the announcement. On to the internet I went, looking for the information. And sure enough, for the first time ever, I actually had a recalled food item. It was a bit unnerving to realize that I hadn’t been reading all the recall alerts I get in my email inbox. While looking for more sites that provide alerts, I came across one I hadn’t known about: FoodManufacturing.com. Just in the past few weeks, they’ve put out alerts for a certain soup because of an error on the label, several brands of Vienna sausages, hot chocolate K-cups (it might contain peanut products), a pot roast meal, sprouts, frozen chicken entrees, popcorn, frozen manicotti, diced beef... and more. To look at their list, go to the site and click on the

“Recalls/Alerts” tab. The Food Safety and Inspection Service arm of the Department of Agriculture issues alerts as well at www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls. Note the advanced search feature on the left side of the screen where you can filter by cause, risk level, states and more. FoodSafety(www.foodsafety.gov) provides information on the safe handling and storage of food. Recalls.gov is another good site for recall notices. Click on the “Food” tab to see your online choices. And what should I do with that recalled product I found in my freezer? I’m going to take it back to the store for a refund, of course. On a sad note, did you see the Consumer Reports research on the amount of lead and cadmium in our favorite dark chocolate bars? Go to ConsumerReports.org and put “Lead and Cadmium Could Be in Your Dark Chocolate” in the search box.

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Super Crossword

ODD BIRDS

ACROSS

1 Soprano's last note, perhaps

6 Jordanians, e.g.

11 Oscar winner

Rockwell

14 Mazda model

19 NBA Hall of Famer

Thomas

20 Tanzanian national park

22 "Burnt" or "raw" color

23 Bird from Richmond?

25 Trident, e.g.

26 Winter D.C. hrs.

27 Fermented honey drink

28 Fashion's Oscar de la

29 Patron associated with a "fire"

30 A handful of

31 Bird partially composed of element #56?

33 In less peril

36 Seek the affection of

38 Archery asset

39 Solo of sci-fi

40 Bird that always keeps to itself?

43 Mob member

48 Adept

49 "Entertaining Mr. Sloane" playwright Joe

50 "Atlantic City" director Louis

52 Prefix with 33-

Down

53 Fellow soldier

55 Bird that travels to and from work?

58 Notable time

59 Potentially offensive, in brief

62 El _ (certain current)

63 Stand for art

64 Bird wearing a hard hat?

69 Far _ eye can see

71 Ending for switch

72 Groove for a letter-shaped bolt

73 Cell material

76 Bird nesting in winter precipitation?

80 Causes to be ashamed

82 Finnish coin

83 Not worth _ of beans

84 Not one's best effort, in sports lingo

87 Some small batteries

88 In _ (while not present at the event)

90 Bird performing under the big top?

92 Abbr. of fair hiring

93 Store clerk on "The Simpsons"

95 Business agt.

96 Peels the skin off of

97 Bird that plays bebop?

103 Real admirer

104 German subs

105 Absorb a loss

106 "Sure, sign me up!"

108 The Gem State: Abbr.

111 Mournful song

112 Bird living in the Sistine Chapel?

115 Being tried, as a case

116 Movies' main stories

117 Rub down

118 Chairs, e.g.

119 Waco-to-Austin dir.

120 Cary of "Saw"

121 Alternative to Valium

DOWN

1 Bees' place

2 Horned Egyptian goddess

3 Surrounded with a belt

4 Witch

5 Mythological fire-breather

6 Korea's place

7 Peruse

8 Brow's shape

9 Catcher Yogi

10 Be disdainful of

11 Nose partition

12 Elite squad

13 1986-2001 Earth orbiter

14 Feral horse

15 Drive along

16 "That rings _"

17 "I love you," in Mexico

18 Symbol on a one-

way sign

21 Wish-fulfilling spirits

24 Innovative

29 River in a Foster tune

30 Flu symptom

31 _-chic (fashion style)

32 Will, biblically

33 Part of NASA

34 Shady shelter

35 Movie cast members

36 Failed to be

37 Mo. in fall

41 Commotions

42 Extremely old: Abbr.

43 Particles believed to bind quarks together

44 Kitchen wrap

45 Result of backcombing

46 Toledo's lake

47 Pack of coins

50 2,002, in Roman numerals

51 Comeback to "Are too!"

54 Two wives of Henry VIII

56 En pointe, in ballet

57 Ranch in Ferber's "Giant"

60 1990-2019 Toyota minivan

61 Moisturizer brand

65 Melodramatic cry of sorrow

66 Relative of a univ.

67 Refuse to talk

68 Kimonos, e.g.

69 Out of port

70 Rebuff rudely

74 Writer Zora _ Hurston

75 Aides: Abbr.

77 Spiteful types

78 Buckeye State sch.

79 Slugging stat

81 The Evil One

85 Mutt's threat

86 Pitching star

89 Fishers with seines, say

90 Dead skin at the base of a fingernail

91 Lycra, e.g.

93 "Trainwreck" director Judd

94 Word before jury or larceny

97 Betrayer of Jesus

98 "Take _ out of crime!"

99 " _ the Greek"

100 Big name in restaurant guides

101 Repasts

102 Web vending

103 Pine's cousin

106 Frozen drink treat

107 Widespread

108 Privy to

109 Arp's art

110 Author Haley

112 #2 execs

113 Dir. 135 degrees from 119-Across

114 Author Levin

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				
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111							112					113					114			
115							116									117				
118							119				120					121				

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



TIGER

By Bud Blake



Lowry

From Page 2

represent for Republicans all that was wrong with the pandemic response – Dr. Anthony Fauci.

It tends to be forgotten, but Georgia went first in reopening in late April 2020 and Trump hit Brian Kemp for it.

At his coronavirus briefing, Trump said, “I told the governor of Georgia, Brian Kemp, that I disagree strongly with his decision to open certain facilities.”

When DeSantis, too, moved to reopen, Fauci attacked the state for moving too quickly.

By May 2020, Florida had a clearly distinguishable approach to the pandemic. DeSantis was already skeptical of shutdowns and focused on protecting the most vulnerable rather than population-wide measures. Crucially, the state was absolutely insistent that schools return to in-person instruction.

Over time, DeSantis shifted from simply

lifting restrictions to using the power of his office and the state to block further COVID-19 restrictions by localities, school boards and private businesses. He kept localities from obstructing businesses from opening or fining people for violating mask ordinances. He forbid vaccine passports. He prevented schools from forcing parents to mask their children.

DeSantis’ response to the coronavirus isn’t going to be decisive in a prospective 2024 primary battle with Trump. It is, however, what has put him in the game. It also is a large part of the reason that Republicans feel vested in and defensive of the governor, making it harder for Trump to mock and belittle him – not that he isn’t going to try.

Trump accuses DeSantis of disloyalty and, if developing an issue that is going to be almost impossible for Trump to counteract counts, he’s guilty as charged.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2023 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Statins do not increase suicide in men over 60

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have read that there is a correlation between the use of statins and suicide in men over 60, especially if they have suffered from chronic depression. Can you tell me if this has been studied more? – K.M.



This concern has been studied extensively.

An older class of cholesterol medication, the fibrates, was associated with a small increased risk of suicide and violent deaths, in several large studies. However, a very large study published in 2020 showed no increase in risk of death by suicide among those taking statin drugs. In fact, that study, as well as several others, have shown a decrease in depression risk among statin users. Statins have even been found to be (modestly) effective in treatment of drug-resistant depression.

Men over 60 are certainly at a higher risk from death by suicide, but statin drugs do not appear to increase that risk. Anyone with thoughts of hurting themselves should seek care from their doctor, a mental health professional, or the suicide and crisis lifeline at 988 in the U.S. and 833-456-4566 in most Canadian provinces.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 74. I have always been described as small-boned. I am on a statin, but otherwise, I’m healthy. I was recently diagnosed with osteopenia. I do not eat dairy, but I do take vitamin D. I am vegetarian and eat lots of tofu. I am very concerned about taking any additional medicines. Suggestions, please? – F.M.D.

Osteopenia, or low bone density, is analogous to borderline diabetes or elevated blood pressure. It’s not a disease in itself, but it puts you in a range between the healthiest condition and one that can put you at risk. In the case of osteopenia, you are at a higher risk for developing osteoporosis, which, in turn, puts you at a high risk for a fracture, especially one of the spine or the hip. We do not normally treat low bone density with medicine. Lifestyle interventions to help slow loss of bone density include not only the calcium and vitamin D you are taking, but I especially recommend exercise. Weight-bearing, muscle-strengthening and posture exercises are proven to help. Smokers should quit.

You should have gotten a T-score on your report, which compares your bone density for a given bone to a healthy young adult. The worse the T-score, the closer you are to osteoporosis, which is a T score below -2.5. Depending on how close you are to osteoporosis, the sooner your bone density test should be repeated. People with osteoporosis should be considered for medication. I understand your concern about taking more medicine than you need, but you really don’t want a hip fracture to occur.

DR. ROACH WRITES:

In a recent column on glaucoma, I described it as a disease of the retina. Several eye physicians wrote to clarify that it is actually a disease of the optic nerve. Eye professionals look in the back of the eye at the optic nerve for “cupping,” which is an increase in the size of the optic cup related to the loss of nerve cells in the retina. But the site of the damage is in the optic nerve, where there is a difference between the eye pressure and blood pressure, either from high pressure inside the eye or from very low blood pressure. Many people with glaucoma who have normal pressures inside the eye have low blood pressure. Reducing pressure inside the eye remains the preferred treatment. I appreciate the clarifications, especially from Dr. Peter Libre at Columbia University.

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) 2023 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Moore Texas by Roger Moore
March 2, 1836 – Washington on the Brazos: The first draft of the Texas Declaration of Independence was so full of errors that a new copy had to be signed the next day.

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: D equals F

MIPO MUTGZ RUT NPGG P QEUTX
UD NJEOPCY HKPGG DGPODCHI
OIPO HOPEO P NUKXPYR
OUQJOIJE? NU-DGUTYZJEH.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

Answer Page 4

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Homeless veterans grants



by Freddy Groves

The Department of Veterans Affairs is gearing up to award \$30 million to organizations to hire case managers across the country to support homeless veterans for two years beginning this October. Those 150 case managers will assist with searching for and obtaining permanent housing and troubleshooting any barriers to keeping that housing.

Those barriers to finding and keeping housing can range from having a poor credit history, to being behind in rent, to having legal problems and more.

The VA goes by the Housing First philosophy: The veteran needs the stability of housing before taking additional steps to improve quality of life. Once the veteran is in permanent housing, the rest of the work starts – job training, mental health care, education assistance, medical care...

whatever it takes to keep them in their home. The Housing First model was tested early on, and the results were promising: In a test of the first 177 homeless veterans, the program reduced the waiting time for housing placement from 235 days to 35.

If you're a homeless veteran or know someone who is, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-4AID-VET (877-424-3838) or see www.va.gov/homeless. If you know that you're likely to be homeless soon, don't wait until the last minute. Reach out for help now. There are resources to help you with health care, employment, housing and much more. You can also go to your closest VA medical center. While you're there, ask about Community Resource and Referral Centers (CRRCs) and their list of contacts who have the resources to help.

If your community group works to assist homeless veterans, take a look at the Housing First information at www.va.gov/HOMELESS/nchav/resources/housing-

programs/housing-first.asp. Applications for the Case Management Grants must be received by May 4, 2023. See the notice in the Federal Register at <https://tinyurl.com/27x3djay>. If you have questions, contact the Grant and Per Diem Program at GPDGrants@va.gov.

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• Wax drippings from candles can be scraped off of most hard surfaces with the side of a credit card." – T.E. in Kansas

• If you find that you have small scratches in your wood furniture, try this old trick: Rub a walnut over dings to cover them up. Or find a matching brown crayon, rub it lightly into the scratch, and finish with a hair dryer held 10 inches away for about 10-15 seconds. It melts the wax of the crayon, and then you can buff it with a soft rag. Any excess is swept away and the color remains.

• Got small kids? If your little one keeps rolling out of his bed, here's a tip: Use a pool noodle tucked under the fitted sheet, lengthwise along the edge of the bed. It's just enough of a bumper to send a sleeping child back to the center of the mattress.

• "If you have many mismatched frames that you would like to use, you can try spray painting them all the same color. I had several that were different colors and a little bit beat up, but I wanted to use them in one big group. I painted them all glossy black, and they look great!" – W.F. in Arkansas

• Hanging shoe racks are a wonderful organizational tool, especially the ones made of plastic that have see-through pockets. You can use them on the back of your bathroom door for small towels and toiletries, or how about on the back of baby's door as a diaper organizer? My favorite use is on the back of my garage door to hold all the cleaning bottles and solutions with other supplies. They are nice and high, and out of reach of little hands.

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult

★★★ GO FIGURE!

Answer Page 4

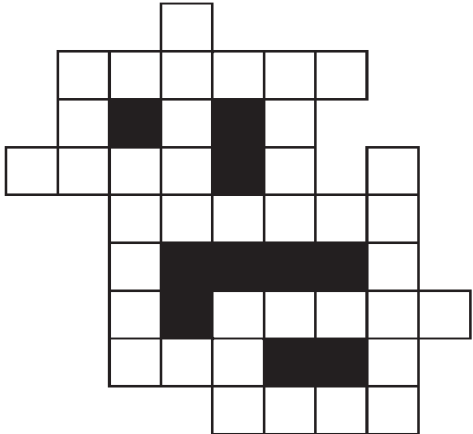
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2 3 4 5 6 6 7 8 9

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OBA
DOTLIS
DWYBA
DWEO
BATILE
♥ WYA
♥ ERT0
WULFA
♥ WOT
ORBYEW
♥ ELTBA
♥ BUTA



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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