



NEWSBRIEFS

SB 1133 filed

Senators César J. Blanco (SD29) and Lois Kolkhorst (SD18) have filed Senate Bill 1133 to establish a grant program under the Office of the Attorney General to help farmers and ranchers who suffer property damage as a result of border-related trafficking and smuggling crimes. “With increased trafficking and drug smuggling activity along the Texas border, and in rural communities, ranchers and farmers have reported significant financial losses and property damage to their fences, crops, livestock, equipment, and other property. This bill would provide farmers and ranchers in border and rural counties much-needed relief from the damages caused by trafficking, smuggling, and bailouts on their personal property,” Blanco said. Kolkhorst added, “Throughout my travels across Senate District 18, I consistently hear from landowners, farmers, and ranchers who have experienced devastating damage and property losses due to border bailouts. Many of these landowners have no mechanism to be reimbursed for their property losses, and it is severely impacting their farming and ranching operations. Despite the federal government’s lack of response to the flood of immigrants crossing the border, Texas legislators from both parties are stepping up and responding to the needs of our constituents. That’s why I am so pleased to joint-author SB 1133 with Senator Blanco in a bipartisan effort to serve our hard-working farmers and ranchers who have suffered property damage through no fault of their own.”

– Taylor Sanchez

Grip it and rip it

The Junior Woman’s Club of El Paso will be holding its 20th annual Spring Swing charity golf tournament on Sunday, May 7th at Top Golf located at 365 Vin Rambla Drive in El Paso. The event will run from 9:00 am-1:00 pm with a hot breakfast buffet, tournament, and more. Register online at bit.ly/JWCspringswing by April 15.

• \$125 per person which

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It is one thing to show a man he is in error, and quite another to put him in possession of the truth.

– Quips & Quotes



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

GATEWAY – The masonry wing of the American Dam, above, extends about 300 feet diagonally into the Rio Grande and diverts water into the American Canal, which heads into the Franklin Canal about a mile northwest of downtown El Paso.

Franklin Canal plays vital role in El Paso County

Waterway is prominent in the history of water control along the U.S.-Mexico border

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – As the March winds begin their Southwest tour and locals fret about the dust and tumbleweeds’ annual visit, the season also calls El Paso County farm hands to mount their tractors and begin anew the planting cycle.

Farmland along El Paso County’s portion of the Rio Grande accounts for thousands of acres that produce a variety of fruits and vegetables – from pomegranates, watermelons, and cantaloupes to chile, squash, and onions, among other crops.

Also, cotton is making a comeback with more local area farmers reinvesting in the plant that was once considered this region’s king crop. The biggest growth, however, has been in the pecan production business. The pecan industries in El Paso County along with the enormous pecan orchards in Dona Ana County, New Mexico are major U.S. contributors to the nuts’ world market.

But none of these homegrown offerings from Mother Nature would be possible without water. Planting crops is one thing, but watering them consistently is another matter. So, that was what spurred El Paso del Norte natives and pioneers hundreds of years ago to devise a systematic way to distribute water from the river to a checkerboard of crop fields flanking both sides of the Rio Grande.

For centuries, the river that runs between El Paso and Juarez has been molded and shaped by the humans

living along its banks. And elaborate irrigation systems have existed along the life-sustaining river long before the Spaniards’ arrival.

However, it wasn’t until the early 1840s, according to historical records, as to when area farmers implemented more modern improvements to these waterways. And by 1889, El Paso developers saw the need to devise a more efficient method for providing water to farmers throughout the valley. The following year, the El Paso Irrigation Company began construction on the Franklin Canal.

The irrigation company completed the canal in 1891 at a cost of \$150,000. Twenty-one years later, the U.S. Reclamation Service purchased the canal, and it became a key part of the Rio Grande Project – a border pact that furnishes a full irrigation water supply for about 178,000 acres of land and electric power for communities and industries in the area.

The canal was renovated and enlarged between 1912 and 1916. The work included repairing the diversion dam, enlarging the heading of the canal, and lining a portion of the channel with concrete. When completed, the canal was capable of irrigating 40,000 acres.

Initially, the canal began at the international dam and extended five miles, paralleling the Rio Grande on its north bank and continuing through downtown El Paso. It was intended to

See CANAL, Page 4

College students join DUI fight

Drunk driving kills one person in Texas every 7 hours and 43 minutes

By Jeff Salzgeber
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – Drunk drivers claim the lives of hundreds of Texans every year, and spring break can be a particularly deadly time.

TxDOT’s *Drive Sober. No Regrets.* campaign is working with college students around the state to highlight the dangers of impaired driving by sharing stories from people who have experienced the consequences firsthand.

One person in Texas dies every 7 hours and 43 minutes in a DUI-alcohol (driving under the influence) related traffic crash. In 2021, 1,134 people in Texas were killed and 2,565 seriously injured because someone chose to get behind the wheel while impaired. During spring break of 2021, Texas recorded 874 DUI-alcohol related traffic crashes, resulting in 31 deaths and 107 serious injuries.

“The loss of life on our highways is tragic,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. “It is all the more tragic to know that the vast majority of these lives lost could be prevented. Our message to students is this: Help keep yourself and others safe by finding a sober ride, taking a cab, using a rideshare, or simply staying put. There are severe and deadly consequences to drunk driving, and we don’t want to see lives and futures destroyed.”

TxDOT is partnering with college campus-based *U in the Driver Seat* (u-driver.com), a peer-to-peer program led by students at Texas A&M

See DUI, Page 5

The ignorant and racially charged attacks on Nikki Haley

Only in 21st-century America can you call yourself the “proud daughter of Indian immigrants” and get accused of whitewashing your background.

For the left, the verdict is in and has been for a long time – Nikki Haley is not Indian American enough.

The offenses of the former South Carolina governor are myriad, from using an easily pronounceable name to converting to Christianity, to once checking “white” on a voter registration card, to touting the value of hard work in getting ahead, to defending America against charges of racism.

This has subjected her to ignorant, highly personal, racially charged attacks.

The NAACP activist (and pastor!) Talbert Swan tweeted that she said say her “real” name and asked

if she’s too afraid of “white folks” to do it.

This is long-running criticism. When Haley came on an episode of “The View” last year, Sunny Hostin asked derisively, “What is her real name again?” Hostin, whose given name is Asuncion, called her a “chameleon” and remarked that it might be different “if she leaned into being someone of color.”

This is dumb and ill-informed. As a USA Today fact-check noted, Haley’s name at birth was Nimrata Nikki Randhawa. Rather than being a westernization, “Nikki” is a common nickname in Punjab, where her parents are from. She used the name Nikki since she was young, and then took the last name of her husband Michael Haley, in what is still the common practice in the U.S.

All that aside, the Hostin critique gets to the bottom of the real indictment of Haley from the race obsessives – she’s not obsessed with race enough. Or, as “South Asian American experts” cited by NBC News put it, she has “an on-and-off relationship with their Indian identity.”

What does “on-and-off” mean except that, while expressing pride in her background, she doesn’t let it wholly define her? In what world is this not a healthy, well-adjusted attitude?

Was her announcement video, which did



See LOWRY, Page 7

View from here By Paul S. Gardiner

A terrible policy precedent

Ceding US health dictates to WHO is very misguided

There is an urgent immediate need for specially crafted state laws and where necessary, county ordinances to protect American citizens from the totalitarian dictates of the international World Health Organization (WHO). As early as May 2023, due to a voluntary loss of US sovereignty by the Biden administration, the WHO will have authority to dictate medical practice and treatments in America under WHO-declared pandemic situations which can be manufactured at will by WHO supporters that include the Chinese Communist Party.

Due to the fact that many state legislatures have concluded or soon will conclude their 2023 regular sessions, it most likely will require a special session

to enact the laws proposed herein pursuant primarily to the 10th Amendment. Further, to spur some legislatures to act, a groundswell of county ordinances may be required to persuade some state governments to act.

According to well-known Harvard attorney, Dr. Francis Boyle, in May 2023, the United States will most likely become a signatory to a WHO international agreement (via presidential executive agreement – sometimes called a treaty) giving that organization the authority described above. Dr. Boyle further explains that even if America does not become a signatory to the agreement, the WHO will gain authority over American health care and physicians during a pandemic

through amendments to international health regulations first established in 2005. These amendments do not require US congressional approval to become effective.

Thus, WHO “elite” leaders and supporters such as the Chinese Communist Party soon will be able to dictate what American physicians, hospitals, health care workers, etc. can and cannot do during a pandemic. It is well documented that the so-called global “elites” plan to establish a one-world government (the “Great Reset”) primarily through the health dictates/mandates of the WHO. Thus, for all concerned patriotic Americans, this is a completely untenable development that must be fought “tooth and nail”.

Dr. Boyle suggests in other commentary that absent outright withdrawal from the WHO (as President Trump did in 2020), the last line of defense against WHO control and regulations is first, for state governments to enact laws, pursuant to the 10th Amendment, that clearly and definitively state, among other things, that their jurisdictions will not abide by WHO regulations and policies during pandemic situations or other health emergencies. If state legislatures fail to act (or must be goaded into action), then county government ordinances need to be enacted against the forthcoming WHO health regulations. These state laws and county ordinances will probably lead to litigation, but as Dr. Boyle

states, “ the fight is worth it and must happen!”

In summary, there is an urgent immediate need for state laws and where necessary, county ordinances that protect Americans from the totalitarian dictates of the international World Health Organization. There is no time to waste in drafting these laws and ordinances so that they can, hopefully, become effective no later than April 30, 2023.

Paul S. Gardiner is a retired Army officer, Vietnam veteran, and avid lover of America. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Alabama, and the US Army War College.

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



Phone: 852-3235

E-mail: wtxcc@wtxcc.com
Website: wtxcc.com

Publisher
Rick Shrum

Contributors
Alfredo Vasquez
Steve Escajeda

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Briefs

From Page 1

includes a goodie bag, a buffet breakfast provided by the In Vogue Rejuvenation & Body Sculpting Center, and unlimited soft drinks/ coffee/tea/water. Hole-in-one tickets are available for purchase.

- \$325 for a Half Tournament Team of up to three players which includes a shared bay plus all of the above.
- \$475 for a Tournament Team of up to six players, which includes 1 bay, plus all of the above.

A variety of sponsorships are also available. For more information or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Regina Bowman Chair for Spring Swing at 915-526-0904 or Maria Ortiz-Klein President of the JWC at 915-260-2381.

– Regina Bowman

Symphony auditions

The El Paso Symphony Orchestra will be holding auditions on Sunday, May 21, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall at the University of Texas at El Paso, 500 W University Ave M301, El Paso, TX 79968. Positions currently open are Concertmaster, Section Violin, Section Viola, Principal Clarinet, 2nd Clarinet, 3rd Clarinet/ Bass Clarinet, 3rd Bassoon, and

Principal Harp. Should any position be filled by a current member of the EPSO, the resulting vacancy(s) may be filled at these auditions. Audition application and requirements/ music can be downloaded at www.epso.org. For further information, contact El Paso Symphony Personnel Manager Leann Isaac at (915) 637-8144. Applications are due by May 1, 2023.

– Rosemary Flores

SISD performance

The 2021-2022 Federal Report Cards for the State of Texas, the Socorro Independent School District, and SISD schools are available on the district website, school websites, and the Texas Education Agency website. The reports for the state, district, and schools can be found on the district website at: <https://www.sisd.net/federalreportcards>. The report cards are also available on the TEA site at: <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/accountability/academic-accountability/performance-reporting/federal-report-cards>. A more complete report about each school and the district, the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), is available online at <https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/perfreport/tapr/index.html>. Hard copies of the report may be made available upon request at SISD schools or the District Service Center. Please contact your child’s school or the District Service Center if you have

any questions concerning federal report cards.

– Christy Flores-Jones

Taxing situation

With Tax Day looming and 81% of people being more worried about inflation than taxes this year, WalletHub has released its 2023 Taxpayer Survey, as well as its yearly report on the States with the Highest & Lowest Tax Rates, in order to help people better understand this confusing time of year. You can find highlights from both below, followed by the full list of WalletHub’s 2023 taxpayer resources. Surprisingly, though, low income taxes don’t always mean low taxes as a whole. For example, while the state of Washington’s citizens don’t pay income tax, they still end up spending over 8% of their annual income on sales and excise taxes. Texas residents also don’t pay income tax, but spend 1.74% of their income on real estate taxes, one of the highest rates in the country. Compare these to California, where residents owe almost 5% of their income in sales and excise taxes, and just 0.75% in real estate tax. Texas was rated 41st in the report, ranking (1=Lowest; 25=Avg.):

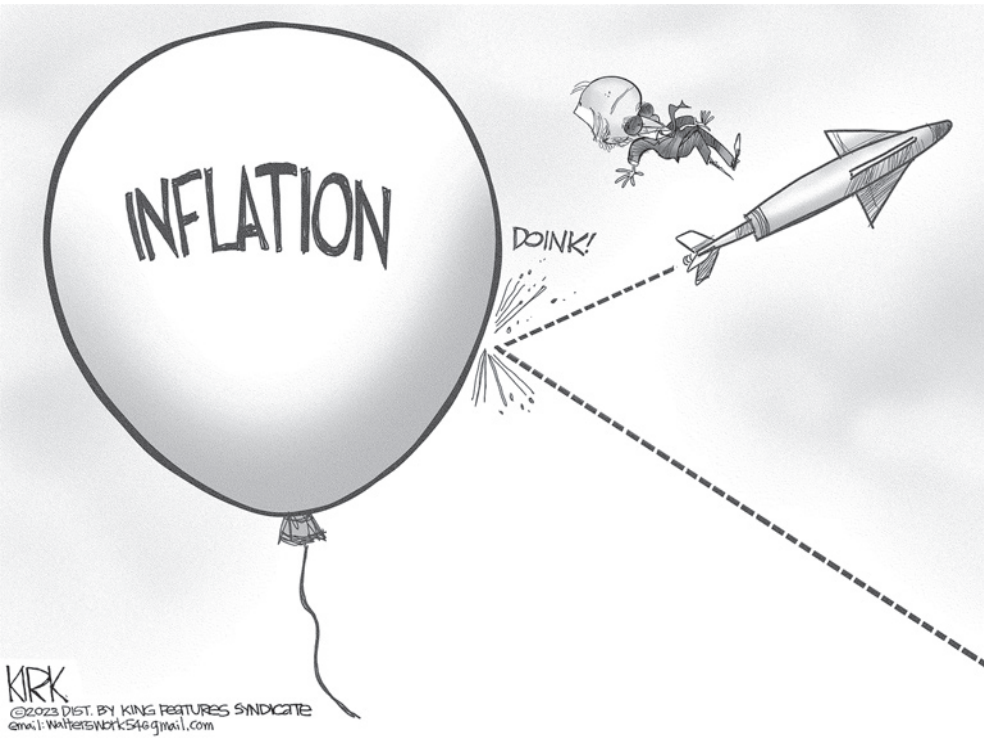
- 41st – Overall Effective State and Local Tax Rate;
- 1st – Income Tax;
- 46th – Real-Estate Tax;
- 1st – Vehicle Property Tax; and

- 48th – Sales & Excise Taxes.
- 2023 Taxpayer Survey
- 73% of people say the government does not spend their tax dollars wisely.
 - Almost 34% of people say not having enough money is their biggest Tax Day fear, followed by making a math mistake (23%) and getting audited (22%).
 - 39% of people would move to a different country for a tax-free future, while 37% would get an “IRS” tattoo and 23% would stop talking for 6 months.
 - 49% of people would do jury duty rather than do their taxes, while 36% would talk to their kids about sex and 26% would miss a connecting flight.
 - 72% of people think their current tax rate is too high.
- Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-states-to-be-a-taxpayer/2416> for the full report.
- Diana Polk

Say aaaahh

It’s official: Nick Stoeberl who hails from Salinas, CA has the longest tongue of any man on earth. The folks at the Guinness World Records confirm that it measures nearly four inches – 3.97 inches from teeth to tip, to be precise, and he uses it to paint pictures. His paintings have sold for as much as \$1,200 and have earned him the nickname Likasso.

– John Grimaldi





– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

DRY FOR NOW – El Paso County’s Franklin Canal, above, is an irrigation waterway that stems from the Rio Grande. The canal is over 30 miles long and was the first large government irrigation project constructed in the El Paso region. The canal was designated a Historic Civil Engineering Landmark of Texas by the Texas ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) in 1976 and was placed in the National Register of Historic Places in June of 1992.

Canal

From Page 1

deliver water thirty miles into the valley. But demands on the canal increased as the area’s population grew and upgrades were made periodically through the 1930s.

Also, because of a dispute between the U. S. and Mexico over water rights that led to a 1906 international treaty, the U. S. annually delivered 60,000 acre feet of water to Mexico via the Franklin Canal. Subsequently, the American Dam

was constructed near downtown El Paso in 1938 to ensure that Mexico did not siphon more than its allotted share of water from the Rio Grande.

Additionally, the U.S. Congress commissioned diversionary projects to measure and allow Mexico’s share to pass through to the Acequia Madre, while diverting everything else into the American Canal, a two-mile stretch that feeds into the Franklin Canal.

The Franklin Canal has been modified several times since its initial construction. Currently, the river’s prominence is a far cry from its glory days. Urban growth

has compromised the now heavily silted and poorly maintained canal that carves through El Paso’s downtown landscape and unassumingly stretches into the lower valley fields.

Nonetheless, today’s local farmers and many borderland homesteaders still depend on the canal’s irrigation system that has served this area so well for so long. And in a couple of months, the Franklin Canal will once again be conveying the life blood of this region to the hundreds of El Paso County farms and ranches, as it has been doing for more than a century.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m., during the regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Anthony, TX, at the Town Council Chambers, 401 Wildcat Dr., Anthony, TX 79821, All persons

to allow people to comment on a zoning variance for the following parcels:

Legal description – PID 327007, MUNDYADDITION TO LA TUNA, BLOCK 8, LOTS 3 & 4 & S.OF 2 & N 1 located at 509 S. Fourth Street Anthony, Texas 79821. Mr. Juan Isais is requesting a special permit for a quadruplex on the properties.

Residents with disabilities who require auxiliary aids or services in order to attend

interested are invited to attend this public hearing and be heard. Written comments may be submitted to:

Town of Anthony, TX
401 Wildcat Dr
PO Box 1269
Anthony, TX 79821
Attention: Ms. Valerie M. Armendariz
Town Clerk

If you should have any questions regarding the above, please contact the Town Clerk at (915) 886-3944.

Valerie M. Armendariz
Town Clerk

WTCC: 03-16-23

this hearing should contact the Town Clerk at (915) 886-3944 at least two days before the hearing, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

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SUCCEED	CARLO	HALE		
ISOLATED	WAYNEGRETZKY			
DEMISTER	ASIANA	CREAM		
ESE	TONY	YENNED	SONIA	

CryptoQuip

Answer

The aging dry cleaner was a white-collar criminal, infamous for money laundering.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

• Think money doesn’t grow on trees? Try telling that to a certain dog in Colombia. After seeing students pass money to a food stall attendant, the enterprising pooch began a regular practice of “paying” for dog biscuits with tree leaves.

• In a few American cities, Halloween was originally called “Cabbage Night.” The name came from a Scottish fortune-telling game in which girls would use cabbage stumps to predict the identity of their future husband.

• Best-selling author Maya Angelou was San Francisco’s first Black streetcar conductor.

• Sea sponges, like humans, sneeze to clear their internal filter systems. Unlike humans, such sneezes last about half an hour.

• In the 18th century, some wealthy folks with gardens decorated their plots with “ornamental hermits” – actual people whom they paid to dress like a Druid (however they took that to look) and wander around their estates.

• America’s eighth president, Martin Van Buren, tried to keep a pair of tiger cubs given to him by the Sultan of Oman, but Congress made him send them to the zoo.

• The space between the bottom of a cabinet and the floor is called the toe kick.

• “Chess boxing” is a sport in which opponents alternate between rounds of chess and boxing until either competitor is checkmated or knocked out.

• In 2004, Alice Pike tried to use a fake \$1 million bill to purchase \$1,675 worth of merchandise at Walmart, expecting to receive change from the undoubtedly startled cashier. Well, she did think the bill was genuine... as she remarked (from jail), “You can’t keep up with the U.S. Treasury.”

• Iceland has the largest population of green-eyed people in the world.

• The WD-40 Company never patented the WD-40 formula in order to avoid having to publicly disclose its trade-secret ingredients.

Thought for the Day: “Stay in your own lane. Comparison kills creativity and joy.”
– Brene Brown

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Moments
in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On March 13, 1997, a heated debate was launched among believers in UFOs when a series of unidentified lights appeared above Phoenix, Arizona. It was later revealed that the lights were not from alien aircraft, but illumination flares dropped from a U.S. Air Force plane.
- On March 14, 2014, it was announced that public transportation systems in Paris, France, would run for free for three days in an effort to combat the heavy smog and air pollution the country was experiencing due to unseasonably warm temperatures.
- On March 15, 1956, the musical “My Fair Lady” made its Broadway debut. From George Bernard Shaw’s play “Pygmalion,” it starred Rex Harrison and Julie Andrews in the lead roles of domineering Professor Henry Higgins and his protegee, the equally strong-willed but good-hearted Cockney flower seller named Eliza Doolittle. It was an immediate smash hit.
- On March 16, 1834, Charles Darwin, on the HMS Beagle, anchored in the British-owned Falkland Islands for the first time, to carry out a zoological survey. At first unimpressed by the desolate landscape, he soon discovered fossils of about 400 million years old, most of which are now housed in London’s Natural History Museum.
- On March 17, 1756, St. Patrick’s Day was celebrated for the first time in New York City at John Thompson’s Crown & Thistle public house. Interestingly, Thompson was nicknamed “Scotch Johnny,” and his tavern was only part-time Irish.
- On March 18, 1922, British lawyer Mohandas K. Gandhi was sentenced to prison in India on the charge of civil disobedience after urging for mass civil disobedience, including boycotts of British educational institutions and law courts and foreign-made goods. His speeches always emphasized the wrongness of physical violence. He served just two years of his six-year sentence.
- On March 19, 1916, eight Curtiss “Jenny” planes of the First Aero Squadron were used in support of the 7,000 American troops who had invaded Mexico with the intent of capturing Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa, marking the U.S.’ first use of air combat.

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Food for thought

By John Grimaldi

Putting some pep in your step

If you are a senior living in Massachusetts, Colorado or New Jersey you are likely to be physically active or, at least, searching the internet for fitness advice. New research by the online consumer price-tracking website, Pricelisto, has identified the citizens of those three states as having the highest average monthly search for fitness advice over the last 12 months.

That’s a good thing, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), which recommends that the older you get the more you need to exercise. “Adults aged 65 and older need at least 150 minutes a week (for example, 30 minutes a day, 5 days a week) of moderate intensity activity such as brisk walking. Or they need 75 minutes a week of vigorous-intensity activity such as hiking, jogging, or running,” says the CDC.

“So, get up and get active,” says Rebecca Weber, CEO of the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC). “Sure, you’ll find some older folks who might prefer to sit out their senior years, but, for the most part, the elders among us – and there are a lot of them – choose ‘not to go gently into that good night,’ as poet Dylan Thomas put it.” She’s not suggesting that we run the “four minute mile;” rather, Weber says that moderate exercise will help you live a longer and more fulfilling life in your senior years. “Ask your doctor for exercise advice. You’ll probably be surprised how easy it can be. Simple, brisk walks, for example, might be all you need to help you live a longer, healthier life.”

Physical Therapist Rachel Tavel and Sabrena Jo, Ph.D., senior director of science and research at the American Council on Exercise, penned a featured article, *A Guide To The Best Exercises For Seniors*, for Forbes Magazine recently. As they put it, “When it comes to determining the best exercises for seniors, variety is key. Adults of all ages – but especially people older than 65 – should focus on a combination of strength and mobility exercises, as well as balance exercises and aerobic activity. However, the best exercises for seniors are the ones they want to do and will do consistently.” They suggest things like taking a stroll, going for a bike ride, even dancing and taking a nature walk for two and a half to five hours a week.

And, by the way, getting out and about as you focus on exercises that make you physically healthier in your golden years has an important additional benefit. The National Institutes of Health tells us that “exercise improves mental health by reducing anxiety, depression, and negative mood and by improving self-esteem and cognitive function. Exercise has also been found to alleviate symptoms such as low self-esteem and social withdrawal.”

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.

DUI

From Page 1

University, focused on saving lives by preventing traffic crashes. Student leaders from around the state will join the campaign and urge their fellow students to always find a sober ride.

Drinking and driving is an all-too-often regrettable decision with far-reaching consequences. Beyond the inherent risk of injury and death – to the driver, passengers or other innocent bystanders – driving while intoxicated is often accompanied by a lingering emotional and financial toll, resulting in legal, career, and mental health repercussions. Every day, impaired driving devastates the lives of offenders and survivors alike.

Throughout March, TxDOT’s *Drive Sober. No Regrets.* campaign will host outreach events at key spring break locations. Each event will showcase a mobile video exhibit featuring powerful testimonials (soberrides.org/faces-of-drunk-driving/) from Texans who intimately understand the consequences of drunk driving, either as offenders or survivors.

These humanizing stories and tips for finding a sober ride can be found at SoberRides.org.

TxDOT’s *Drive Sober. No Regrets.* campaign is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel to help end the streak of daily deaths. Nov. 7, 2000 was the last deathless day on Texas roadways.

The information contained in this report represents reportable data collected from the Texas Peace Officer’s Crash Report (CR-3). This information was received and processed by the department as of November 9, 2022.

Time sensitive bill

By Michael Geary

Special to the Courier

TEXAS – Senator Paul Bettencourt (R-Houston) filed SB 2329 & SJR 86 to let Texans vote on keeping Daylight Saving Time. If the voters approve, this would group Texas with Arizona and Hawaii, that stay on one time during the year. Currently the Federal Congress does not allow for a shift in Daylight Saving Time, only to stay on Standard Time. However, U.S. Senator Marco Rubio’s (R-Florida) “Sunshine Protection Act of 2023” would allow states to adopt Daylight Saving Time DST. In March 2022, a previous version of Sen. Rubio’s bill passed the Senate unanimously but was held in the U.S. House of Representatives.

“When you think of hot-button public policy issues, what usually comes to mind are things such as property tax relief and school finance and pension reform. However, the issue of Daylight Saving Time has roused passions on both sides of the debate for over 100 years,” said Bettencourt. “Texans like me want to be on one time, and the Federal Congress hasn’t given us the option to vote on Daylight Saving Time. SJR 86 gives Texans the opportunity to vote on the issue and express their opinion on the debate once and for all in the Lone Star State.” he added.

SB 2329 & SJR 86 would apply to all portions of Texas using Central Standard Time and Mountain Standard Time. If passed, the bill would require a vote on the November 7, 2023, General Election, where Texas voters would decide whether or not to keep Daylight Saving Time. “Texans are tired of having to change their clocks and lose an hour’s sleep for no reason,” said Rep. Mike Schofield (R-Katy, Cypress), the House author of the bill (HB 417 & HJR 22.) “People would like to get home from work and play with their kids without it being dark half the time. There’s no reason not to fix this.”

PUBLIC NOTICE

Town of Anthony, TX

Public Hearing for USDA Rural Development Funding

The Town of Anthony, TX has applied with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development for financial assistance. The funding will benefit the Town of Anthony, TX Police Department, Municipal Court, and Emergency Shelter Facility Project.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for March 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. during the Regular Town Council Meeting at Anthony Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Dr., Anthony, TX 79821. The purpose of the hearing is to allow residents an opportunity to comment on the application.

The application will be available for review on or after March 27, 2023 at the address above during regular business hours.

AVISIO PUBLICO

El Pueblo de Anthony, TX

Audiencia Pública por Fondos de USDA Rural Development

La ciudad de Anthony, TX, solicitó asistencia financiera al U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development. Los fondos beneficiarán al Departamento de Policía de la Ciudad de Anthony, TX, al Tribunal Municipal y al Proyecto de Instalación de Refugio de Emergencia.

Una Audiencia Pública está programada para el 27 de marzo de 2023 a las 5:30 p.m. durante la Reunión Ordinaria del Concejo Municipal en Anthony Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Dr., Anthony, TX 79821. El propósito de la audiencia es brindarles a los residentes la oportunidad de comentar sobre la solicitud.

La solicitud estará disponible para su revisión a partir del 27 de marzo de 2023 en la dirección anterior durante el horario comercial habitual.

March Madness goes on without the Miners... again

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The NCAA Tournament teams have been chosen and March Madness is getting underway this week.

I have no clue what tam will be holding up the championship trophy in three weeks. I do know it will not be the UTEP Miners.

I know it sounds like a broken record, but the Miners didn’t qualify for the Big Dance again this season. In fact, the last time the Miners won an NCAA tournament game was back in 1992. They haven’t even played an NCAA tournament game since 2010.

That 2010 team finished with a 26-7 record and an eye-opening 15-1 mark in Conference USA.

That team was coached by Tony Barbee and was loaded with a number of stars including Julyan Stone, Arnett Moultrie, Randy Culpepper, Derrick Character, Gabe McCulley and Christian Polk.

That’s the one thing the Miners were seriously lacking this season... stars.

When a game was on the line, as many were for the Miners this season, they didn’t have that go-to guy who would dare to take that last winning shot; who wanted to take that last game-winning shot.

UTEP finished with a 14-18 record this season. They did rebound the ball well and they played good defense at times, but inconsistency was their problem.

Another problem – they simply

couldn’t shoot the ball. And unless I’m mistaken, the whole idea of the game is to put the round ball through the round basket.

The Miners weren’t horrible at just plain old making baskets. They were in the middle of the NCAA pack, ranking 169th out of 352 teams in field goal percentage.

UTEP was horrible at was 3-point shooting and free throws.

Out of the 352 college basketball teams in America, UTEP ranked 347th in 3-point shooting and 344th in free throws.

Head coach Joe Golding needs to fill a couple of voids for next season. He has to find some shooters and he needs to recruit a good pass-first point guard. A “close to 7-footer” with talent that can defend the basket wouldn’t hurt either.

Of course the Miners are going to have to wait and see how bad the transfer portal is going to affect the team.

As you probably know, the Miners

have been decimated by the transfer portal over the last decade. Players left the program for bigger schools because they were talented, or for smaller schools because they didn’t get enough playing time.

Either way, the departures always left the Miners scrambling for whatever players they could find. That is why in the 13 years following the successful 2010 season, UTEP has compiled a mediocre 219-194 record. That’s an average season record of 17-15.

That is not what the tradition of Don Haskins and UTEP basketball is all about.

The Miners will have to wait to see who jumps into the transfer portal and who stays. Don’t get me wrong, the team can also let go of players who didn’t perform very well and replace them.

If I were in charge – and thank goodness I’m not – I would keep about five guys and bring in new talent around them.

The five I would keep are guard Tae

Hardy. He’s the team’s best shooter.

Calvin Solomon may not be the most polished player in the world, but nobody hustles more or has more heart on the court than he does.

Ze’Rik Onyema can only score if he’s about two feet from the basket. But his improvement at the end of the season proved he is worth keeping. Now he has to start rebounding like he’s 6-8.

Otis Frazier III may be the most physically gifted of the Miner big men. With a little work he can jump to the next level.

Last is a guy that rarely played and is overweight. But the 6-10, 285-pound Derick Hamilton showed a lot of moves and scoring ability when he did play. If he gets in the weight room, builds some muscles and sheds some pounds... look out.

Whether he hunts the transfer portal, junior colleges or high schools, Golding will have to find a bunch of needles in a bunch of haystacks.

I just hope those needles can shoot.

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Shrinkflation: Beating them at their own game

“Shrinkflation.” That’s a word that’s been in the news lately, and one that we need to pay attention to.

We know prices are increasing on our groceries. We see it every time we look at the price tags on the shelves when we shop, and certainly at the checkout. But shrinkflation is a different thing and can be harder to spot. Shrinkflation is sneaky price increases.

In shrinkflation, the prices don’t go up, but what we get comes down. This is impacting most things across grocery stores, including dairy, shampoo, meats, frozen foods, toilet paper, pet food, pastries, candy bars, laundry detergent, sliced cheese, tea bags... well, everything.

Example: The price of a can of beans stays the same, but we get fewer ounces. Example: The price of a loaf of bread stays the same, but it’s smaller. Same with cereal, which you’ll have noticed when the box sizes changed.

In my case, one particular item (frozen meatballs) at my local store dropped from 64 meatballs to 56... fewer for the same money.

Keep an eye on the unit pricing on the tag on the grocery store shelf. Yes, it’s in tiny print (which is one reason to carry a small magnifying glass at all times), but the numbers will tell you the unit price per fluid ounce, pound or count. Over time you’ll be able to see if you’re getting less for your money.

Look at generics to save money (and, in many cases, get a better product) or just change brands. Buy more than one if the price is good, but watch the expiration dates.

Lastly, consider signing up for a store’s loyalty card if you get cash benefits for doing so, and sign up for the emailed weekly sales flyer to shop from.

By shopping carefully, we can beat them at their own game.

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Super Crossword

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- TORCH-BEARERS
- ACROSS
- 1 Bell sounds
- 6 Headwear for the slopes
- 12 Dinner, e.g.
- 16 Truckload
- 19 Politico Palin
- 20 14th-century sculptor Andrea
- 21 Impala, e.g.
- 23 Pairs figure skater who won 10 consecutive world titles [2014]
- 25 Frozen cube producer
- 26 Figure skater Michelle
- 27 "Hack My Life" channel
- 29 Pooh creator
- 30 Stimulus for a reaction
- 34 "The Greatest" boxer [1996]
- 36 Spanish gold
- 37 Alley Oop's girlfriend
- 40 "Please reply" abbr.
- 41 Barrett of Pink Floyd
- 42 Australian sprinter who specialized in the 400 meters [2000]
- 46 Fabled man?
- 50 Confounded
- 51 Tiny division of a min.
- 52 First female figure skater to land a triple axel in competition [1998]
- 56 Sportscaster Bob
- 59 Nearly dried-up sea
- 61 Shot glass
- 62 Uninteresting
- 65 Prefix with athlete
- 66 Imitator
- 67 Opponent
- 68 Peace activist
- Yoko
- 69 What this puzzle's featured athletes did in the years indicated
- 74 "As I see it," to texters
- 75 O'er and o'er
- 76 Stared at
- 77 NHLer Bobby
- 78 "It comes _ surprise ..."
- 79 It's hit in a fiesta
- 81 Lavish dance
- 82 "Up in Smoke" persona
- 84 Phoenix Suns point guard who was the 2005 and 2006 NBA MVP [2010]
- 86 Not on time
- 88 Pope's crown
- 92 Trial excuse
- 93 1950s-'60s champion decathlete [1984]
- 96 Here, in Paris
- 99 Icelandic literary saga
- 101 Some jazz combos
- 102 Solder metal
- 103 Alpine skier voted Canada's female athlete of the 20th century [2010]
- 108 Salad endive
- 111 Go places
- 112 Monte _
- 115 Physically fit
- 116 All by oneself
- 118 Hockey player voted Canada's male athlete of the 20th century [2010]
- 123 Windshield condensation clearer
- 124 Major South Korean airline
- 125 Twinkie filling
- 126 Suffix with Japan
- 127 Award for Mel Brooks
- 128 Hankered
- 129 Braga of film
- DOWN
- 1 Sorority letter
- 2 Musical gift
- 3 Meyers of TV
- 4 Sri _
- 5 Wrap over the shoulders
- 6 Financial backer
- 7 Joke around
- 8 Lacks entity
- 9 What fur is
- 10 Per _ (by the year)
- 11 Flawlessly
- 12 _ tai
- 13 Slept in tents
- 14 Top players
- 15 Helping theorem
- 16 Writer Alice B. _
- 17 Not in private
- 18 Water nymph
- 22 Placed
- 24 Like a _ sunshine
- 28 VCR format
- 30 _-Cola
- 31 "I smell _!"
- 32 Little children
- 33 Thing at the end of a foot
- 35 To no _ (in vain)
- 38 Reduced by
- 39 "Botch-_" (1952 hit)
- 43 "Notorious" screenwriter Ben
- 44 Ex-Rocket Ming
- 45 Without
- instrumental backup
- 47 Stay a while
- 48 Large bay window
- 49 Porker
- 52 Artist Chagall
- 53 Some horror film helpers
- 54 Mortise insert
- 55 Maine city
- 57 Singer Gwen
- 58 Jogging gait
- 60 Actress Tara
- 62 Radar spots
- 63 Ceiling
- 64 Make up for
- 66 _ nitrite (vasodilator)
- 67 Game similar to baccarat
- 70 Ritz or Hilton
- 71 "You bet!"
- 72 Social circle
- 73 Singer Bobby
- 80 Director DuVernay
- 81 Back of a 45
- 82 Suffix with prank or mob
- 83 Ordinal suffix
- 85 Scottish port on the North Sea
- 87 Sternward
- 89 Concerning
- 90 Muddy up
- 91 Diarist Frank
- 93 Skedaddled
- 94 Voicer of Olaf in "Frozen"
- 95 Award for Mel Brooks
- 96 Not outdoors
- 97 Brings about
- 98 Wages
- 100 Nov. follower
- 104 251, to Ovid
- 105 Matzo's lack
- 106 Arrive at
- 107 Wipe clean
- 109 Baldwin and
- Waugh
- 110 Back in style
- 113 "You ain't _!" ("Amen!")
- 114 Put _ act
- 117 Uninteresting
- 119 AZ-to-KS dir.
- 120 Buddhist sect
- 121 Chiang _shek
- 122 Singing Sumac

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



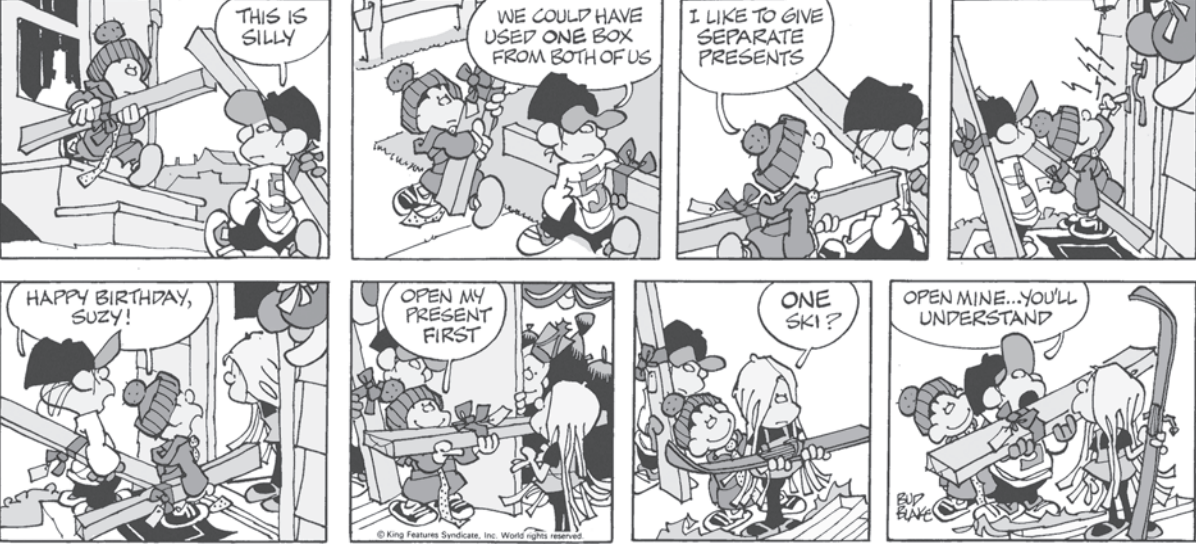
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



TIGER By Bud Blake



Lowry

From Page 2

acknowledge the difficulties of growing up as an Indian American in the South Carolina of that time, supposed to be a screed about all the terrible things that have been done to her by the country her parents chose to come to?

The answer for her woke critics is basically “yes.” Again and again, critiques of Haley mention that she’s perpetuating the “model minority myth,” by which they mean she extols up-from-the-bootstraps hard work instead of painting a picture of immigrant futility in a fundamentally racist country.

The other charges against Haley are as meritless. She reportedly checked “white” on a voter registration card more than 20 years ago. Apparently, the card only offered the options of white, Black/African American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American or other. These categories, an unavoidable aspect of American life, are insanely reductive and imprecise. Asian is often taken to mean East Asian, not South Asian, and if Haley didn’t want to “otherize” herself, she might have

checked white as one of a number of not-accurate options.

Regardless, what’s the allegation here? That she thought no one would find out about her Indian heritage if she checked a certain box on a card no one knew about?

Haley also converted to Christianity, which she has explained thoughtfully and sensitively. It’s a feature of Christianity, not a bug, that it is open to all, from every nation and every background. And she’s not the first person to convert to Methodism.

At the end of the day, the left is willing only to accept the legitimacy of minorities who toe the party line and are adherents of the worst sort of identity politics and of “The 1619 Project” version of America.

This is why Justice Clarence Thomas is never considered truly Black and why it doesn’t matter how often Haley says she is proud of her heritage. She’ll still be assailed as a false Indian American working to support white supremacy.

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

Right dose of statin, thiazide, pose minimal diabetic risk

DEAR DR. ROACH: My question regards the results of my fasting glucose tests for the past couple of years. I am 81 and weigh around 150 pounds. The medications I am taking concern me, with relevance to the A1C levels of my quarterly blood work. My A1C levels have mostly been near mid-5%; the last showed 6%. Medications relevant to this that I am suspicious of are 100/12.5 mg of losartan/hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ) and 20 mg of simvastatin. I have read that these medications can have an effect of raising blood glucose. My doctor is adamant that this does not exist, but it seems to me that there is a conflict on this. Should I perhaps ask him to change those medications because of my blood sugar? I am concerned about issues with the thiazide and the statin. – P.R.



There isn’t a conflict. You are absolutely right that both simvastatin (like all statins) and HCTZ (like all thiazides) increase blood sugar and the risk of diabetes. The risk, however, is small. For thiazides, the risk of high blood sugar seems tied to potassium levels – the lower the potassium, the higher the risk of diabetes. Interestingly, the losartan in combination with the HCTZ you are taking tend to raise potassium levels, so that combination may have a lower risk of worsening blood sugar levels than taking HCTZ alone. You are already taking the smallest effective dose of thiazide.

The risk of statins seems greater in higher doses and with more potent statins, like atorvastatin and rosuvastatin; however, the risk is still small. About one person in 100 treated with a high-dose intensive statin, such as 40 mg of atorvastatin for five years, would be expected to get diabetes, while a dosage of 20 mg of simvastatin would be expected to have an even lower risk.

The conflict isn’t whether the increased risk exists (it does), but whether the treatments to prevent heart attack and stroke are worth the increased risk. For nearly all people, the benefit of keeping blood pressure and cholesterol under control greatly outweighs the small increased risk of diabetes.

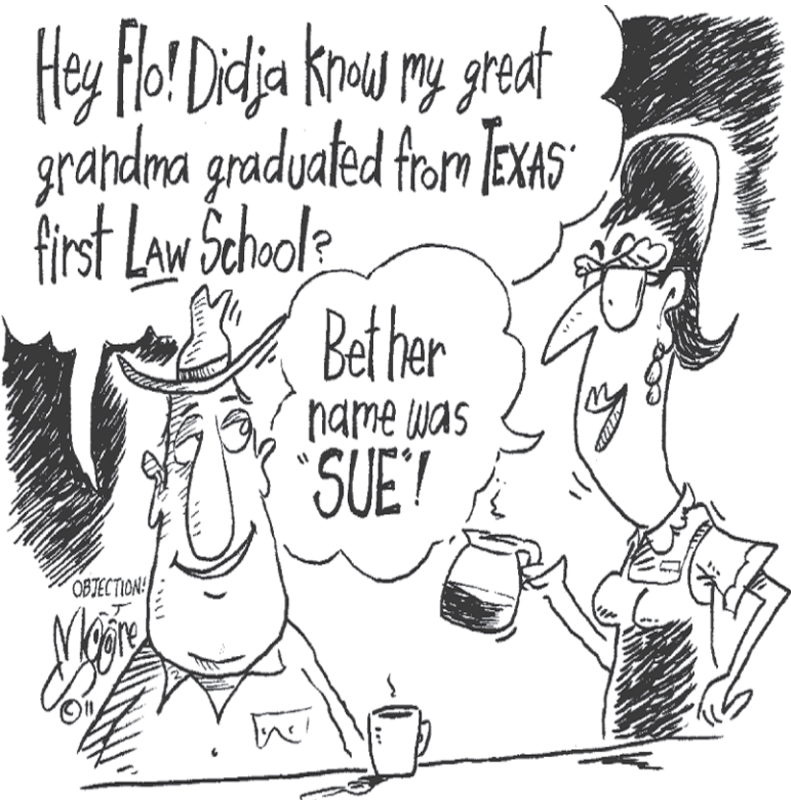
Given your normal A1C level, I would say your risk is low, and I do not generally recommend changing treatment based on your concern over blood sugar.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am a 64-year-old man who recently had an ultrasound of my kidney to rule out any kidney stones. The ultrasound was negative for stones, but the radiologist noted a 2.3-cm echogenic nodule in the right lobe of my liver. The final impression was an incidental hemangioma in the liver. I was concerned, so I received an AFP (alfa-fetoprotein) test, which came back at 1.8 ng/mL. Is an echogenic nodule/incidental hemangioma a reason to have further testing? – M.S.

Sensitive imaging studies, especially CT scans and MRIs, often reveal abnormalities that lead to a quandary of whether to get additional testing. For a mass found in the liver by ultrasound, if it is less than 3 cm and meets the radiologic criteria for a hemangioma, no further testing needs to be done in people at low risk for liver cancer (such as people with hepatitis C or cirrhosis). As long as these hemangiomas cause no symptoms, they do not get treated.

The alfa-fetoprotein test is a blood test that, when producing abnormally high results, helps signify several types of cancers, including hepatocellular carcinoma (classic liver cancer) as well as germ cell tumors (cancers of the reproductive cells, which usually occur in the gonads but can occur in the liver or elsewhere in the body). Your level is normal and not concerning.

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 17, 1855: Our first law school opened at Austin College.

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: S equals Z

J LZDP Z NGZSSM GPR
UVJSSFM-NLZXPK ZVPZ VWU,
CWH J YPPX ZDIJKJGU JH.
JH'N Z CPZV HI RZFY IG.

Answer Page 4

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Honor Flights 2023



by Freddy Groves

By the time you read this, the first Honor Flights of the year will be taking place. Honor Flights are free trips to Washington, D.C., for veterans, a day of visiting the memorials and monuments dedicated to their service. The trips leave from one of 124 hubs around the country, with all details managed by a crew of volunteers. In 2022, there were 21,800 veterans who made the Honor Flights and 18,709 guardians with them. Since starting in 2005, Honor Flights have escorted over a quarter of a million veterans on these trips. Because of the ages of elderly veterans, flights are currently restricted to veterans from the World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War eras. For those not near a hub, or for those in the five states without hubs, there is the Lone Eagle program

(loneagle.honorflight.org). Any veteran is eligible, but priority is given to veterans from the World War II, Korean War and Vietnam eras. Each veteran needs to have a guardian along on the trip. Children or grandchildren are eligible, but they must be 18 years or older. For veterans who are seriously ill (and who have less than one year to live), there is the TLC program. TLC in this case is taken to mean Their Last Chance – veterans who might not have time in the future to make a regular Honor Flight. Each TLC veteran needs to have one guardian, a trained caregiver who will manage all the required medical care for that veteran. The costs are picked up by a donor. For specific info, contact Bobbie Bradley at 937-521-2400 ext 104. To see the 2023 schedule and learn more about Honor Flights, go to www.honorflight.org. Will you open your wallet to send a few dollars to Honor Flights to help more veterans make the trip?

They’re a nonprofit with a four-star Charity Navigator rating. You can donate online at the website or send a check to Honor Flight, Box L-4016, Columbus, OH 43260-4016.

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- If you have a plastic-bristle broom that is starting to get really ragged and it's time to replace it, don't get rid of it. Turn it into a scrub broom. Trim the bristles down to about an inch. You can even cut them at an angle. Then you can use this broom to scrub stubborn spots. The bristles are nice and tight when they are so short.
- Still fire season in your neck of the woods? Most of us know not to burn magazine inserts or anything plastic, but did you know that you CAN add some spice to your fire? Save the peel from your citrus fruits (oranges, tangerines, grapefruit – even lemons and limes) to add to your fire. They burn well, and they smell great!
- “We had a piece of linoleum left over when we replaced the kitchen flooring. It was almost a perfect size to put over our picnic table. We use it for crafts and whenever we don't want anything to fall through the boards. It stores neatly against the wall behind our outdoor shelves when we aren't using it!” – R. in Minnesota

- If you have a light bulb that has broken off in the socket and you need to get it out to replace it, use needle-nose pliers to grab the metal ring and unscrew it. Be sure to turn the light off first! If that doesn't work, you might be able to use a bar of soap to grab any glass shards sticking out, and unscrew it that way.
- “When I put on my stockings, I put on my dish gloves first. It sounds silly, but I do not have any snags in my stockings, and the grip of the gloves makes them easy to pull up and adjust for a perfect fit.” – W.M. in New York

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY: ★★★
★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!
Answer Page 4

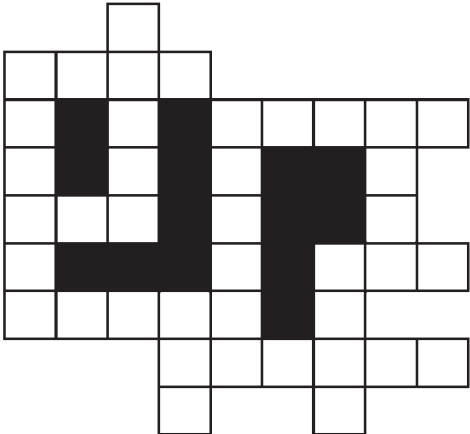
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x		-		x	
	x		-		5
+		+		-	
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7		5		4	

1 2 2 3 5 6 7 8 9

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- UTA
♥NARPET
♥UQEPI
STIG
DUGNER
♥ARG
♥DROO
TACID
♥NRU
PEASOP
♥SNEAP
♥EIAD



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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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Answer Page 4

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