



NEWSBRIEFS

CAFÉ raises \$25,000

Canutillo Alumni Foundation for Education (CAFÉ) members have been hosting a golf tournament every year since the alumni organization’s inception in 2004. CAFÉ has sponsored the annual event to raise funds for scholarships that are awarded to Canutillo High School and Northwest Early College graduates each year. Tournament organizers reported about \$25,000 was raised at Painted Dunes Golf Course by this year’s event.

— Laura Caballero

Lopez Harvard bound

Tornillo Elementary School Principal Myrna Lopez is among the 50 school leaders from across Texas selected to attend 2023 summer institutes at the Principals’ Center at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The group of educators is sponsored by the Charles Butt Foundation, a non-profit pursuing a more equitable and prosperous future for all Texans through education and community partnerships. For this summer’s institutes, preference was given to school leaders from districts that were considered rural or had a student enrollment of less than 5,000. Alumni are sponsored to attend the organization’s biannual leadership symposium and receive continuous support and professional development.

— Rachel Aguilar

Some like it hot

New Mexico officially is the first state in the nation to have an official aroma, namely the “sweet smell of green chili peppers roasting in the fall.” The state is a major producer of chili peppers and, in the most recent growing season, produced a record 53,000 tons of the spicy treats. In fact, the Rio Grande town of Hatch, NM, is known as the “Chili Capital of the World.”

— John Grimaldi

Perhaps the best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time.

— Quips & Quotes



— Internet image

TRAVEL GETTING MORE EXPENSIVE – United States passport fees are going up for routine processing, which do not include expedited charges. If a person needs a passport and doesn’t have weeks to wait on the standard process, he or she can add another fee to the application total, plus add an optional overnight shipping cost.

Passports will cost more, take more time to process

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

BORDERLAND – The days of Borderland residents merely declaring their American citizenship at the ports of entry when crossing between El Paso and Juarez are long gone. “American”, El Paso natives would shout out from within their Chevy or Ford automobiles to the customs officers at the local bridges. And it was up to the officers to determine the statements’ validity. That’s all it was to it back then.

Now, all United States citizens need a passport to travel outside of the country, that includes Ciudad Juarez. And one of the most common questions when preparing to get a passport to travel outside the U.S. is, “How much does it cost to get a passport?”

Well, the price of a U.S. passport officially went up recently, at a time when Americans are feeling better about traveling outside the country now that the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have been downgraded.

U.S. State Department officials announced recently that the price for a passport book has been increased by \$20. They stated that the hike was necessary to ensure that the U.S. government continues to produce one of the most secure travel and identity documents in the world. Officials pointed out that the fee increase applies to all passports, including renewals.

Passport fees depend on the passport type individuals are applying for, and how quickly they need them. With the price hike, the cost of a first-time adult passport book comes to \$165, which includes a \$130 application fee and a \$35 acceptance fee. The price for renewing an adult passport book now totals \$130. The price for a minor passport book for those under age 16 is now \$135 (consisting of a \$100 application fee and a \$35 acceptance fee).

The price increases for those seeking a passport to travel internationally also comes amid reports of long waits for processing the applications. Department officials explained that critical disruptions emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the state department, routine processing of a passport application currently takes some eight to 11 weeks. Also offered is expedited processing, which comes with an additional fee of \$60 and takes about five to seven weeks to complete. Nonetheless, the agency urged all travelers to plan ahead and apply early if they know they need a passport for upcoming travel plans.

The State Department offers the 5 week expediting option in conjunction with the U.S. Post Office. If a person needs a passport even sooner than the expedited wait-time, he or she can speed up the passport process through a third party hand

courier and get it in as fast as one week, but for another fee.

Besides speeding up the application process, department officials acknowledged that utilizing a private expediting company can also reduce the chance of mistakes that could cause delays. If there is an error with one’s application or additional documents required, the company is notified right away to resolve the issue. While this may be a more expensive option, in some cases, a private expediting company may be the thing that saves one’s travel plans.

For routine and expedited services, travelers can apply at an acceptance facility or renew by mail. Some individuals may have to apply in person, like those who have never had a U.S. passport and children under 16 years of age.

Persons with urgent (but non-emergency) international travel plans within 14 days can call (877) 487-2778 to make an appointment, though some restrictions may apply. Travelers also can make an appointment if they have a life-or-death emergency that requires international travel within 72 hours (3 business days), according to state department officials.

State Department officials added that plans are to have full availability to the public for online passport renewal by the end of 2023. Currently, only qualifying travelers can renew their passports online.

For more information about the U.S. passport process including a detailed breakdown of the new charges and a list of places that offer passport services, visit the U.S. State Department’s website.

An inconvenient test

The long era of the dominance of the SAT in college admissions is coming to an end. The test is increasingly being shelved not because it failed but because it succeeded in all the wrong ways. According to a survey from an anti-testing outfit, more than 80% of four-year colleges won't require standardized tests for admissions this coming fall. Many have made the tests optional, and some won't consider them at all. In a swath of academia, the pandemic expedient of dropping the tests has seamlessly transitioned to a permanent change. If this isn't a leap forward for fairness or rationality, it is another ringing victory for the equity of "diversity, equity, and inclusion" fame. With homework now on the chopping block for not

being equitable enough – kids with involved parents tend to actually do their homework – it shouldn't be a surprise that the SAT is being shown the door. (If only there were some time-honored arrangement to have two adults wholly devoted to the well-being of one or more children regardless of their race or income and providing support, discipline, and moral instruction.) The SAT, with its signature four-option multiple-choice answers, isn't perfect. As a mass-administered, easy-to-grade, objective test, though, it's hard to beat. Despite progressive denialism, it has been established that the SAT and ACT predict academic performance. As the renegade academic Freddie deBoer points out, there is a correlation between family income and SAT scores, but it doesn't account for most of the divergence in scores.

Nonetheless, other metrics that schools consider in the admissions process are just as susceptible, if not more, to socioeconomic factors. As the writer and scientist Erik Hoel puts it, "On the one side there is the litany of activities, academic successes, and school pedigrees that make up the bulk of a good college application, and the massive amounts of wealth and parental involvement that implies from essentially diapers onwards, and, on the other side, there's a \$20 Kaplan SAT prep book and getting your butt in a



See LOWRY, Page 7

View from here By Dr. Glenn Mollette

The ship is sinking

Your three-bedroom house might accommodate 10 to 12 guests on holiday weekends, but it's not easy. Even if you have two bathrooms then shower time has to be coordinated. You enjoy the gathering but after a couple of days you are ready to resume normalcy. America may never resume normalcy. We are now living our new normal. Millions of people are

invading America. They are entering the country anyway they can cross the border. They are paying life savings to thugs to help them navigate the long trips from Central and South America. Some are being used by the Mexican cartel to transport dangerous drugs such as fentanyl into our country. We don't know who these people are. Many are surely people who just

want a better life. How many of these people will come to America to steal, traffic drugs, work for the Mexican cartel and terrorize our country? Who knows because we don't know anything about these people. Our cities and towns are becoming flooded with people who are hungry. They have serious medical needs. They need shelter. They have children who need schools. They need clothes. They need money. Our government

has a 32 trillion-dollar debt. The answer has always been to raise the debt limit and borrow more money. Now we are hearing about the potential of the government defaulting which will only wreck our economy, retirement checks, military, stock market and much more. Adding millions of people to our country is only pushing our country into third world status. Poverty, homelessness and people begging for help every day on American streets is only going to grow. I used to love walking on Michigan Ave in Chicago but now such a casual walk is difficult as you have to face an onslaught of hurting, begging people. The same is true for so many other American cities and it's growing. Your community is not immune. They have to go somewhere. They will sleep on the steps of your church, your city park, your courthouse and

maybe your yard. What will you be able to do about it? Congress and President Joe Biden must wake up and take a break from their lives of luxury and fix this problem. Washington D.C. has a growing homeless problem. You now have to look over your shoulder and hold on to your wallet if you try to take a casual stroll in DC. Surely, our government sees this problem right in their own faces? Not really, they hide in their gated townhouses or Arlington residences and ignore America's new normal. Their main priority is reelection, not our problems. It's time to call for a moratorium on all Southern border entries. We need at least a year to assess and process the masses of people who have already crossed into our borders. Regardless of the size of any ship it has a limited capacity before it sinks.

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Website: wtxcc.com

Publisher
Rick Shrump

Contributors
Alfredo Vasquez
Steve Escajeda

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EPCC trains paramedics for the United States Army

By Jim Heiney
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Community College (EPCC) has partnered with the United States Army in the first of its kind program to train paramedics. The Accelerated Paramedic program will prepare soldiers in just 170 days. The graduates from the program can return to their units as paramedics and assist in back filling needed medical positions.

Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Jennifer Francis attended the group’s first day of class and presented them with their charge. EPCC is the first college in the nation to have the honor of offering this accelerated training. “After three years of study, EPCC’s program showed it worked with our initiative,” CSM Francis said. “EPCC’s criteria and benefits blew other colleges out of the water.”

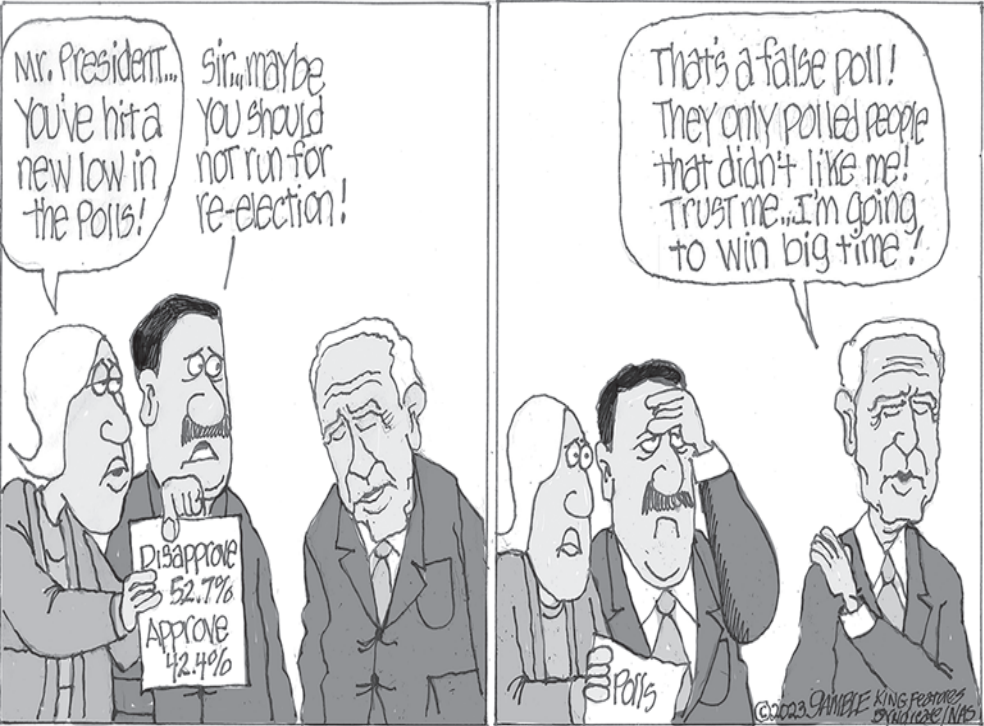
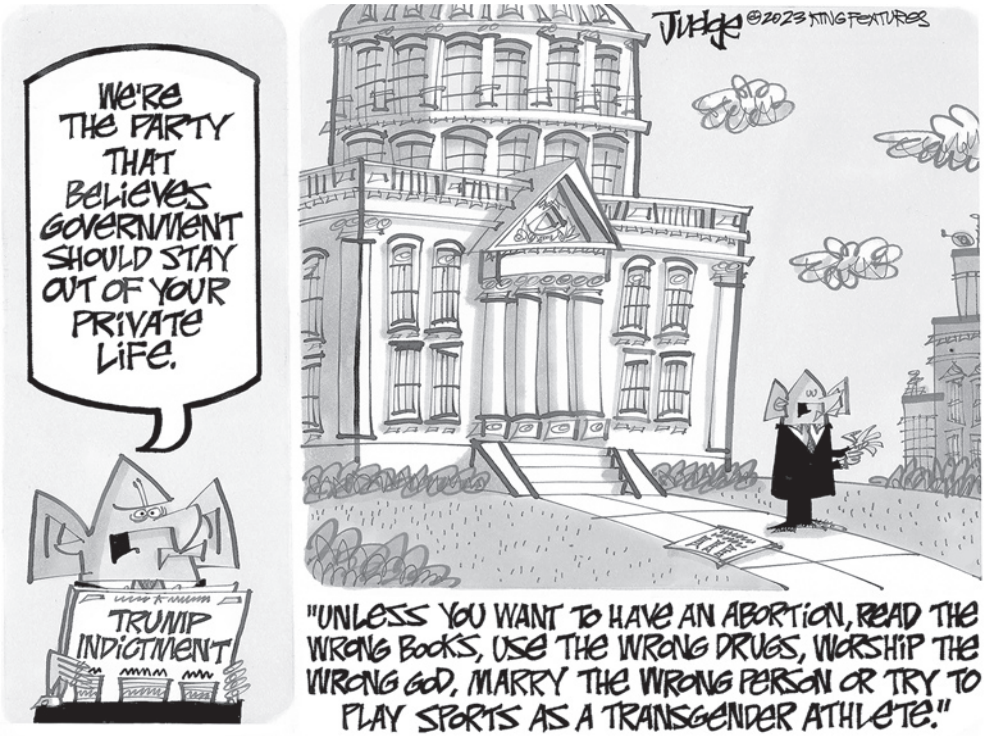
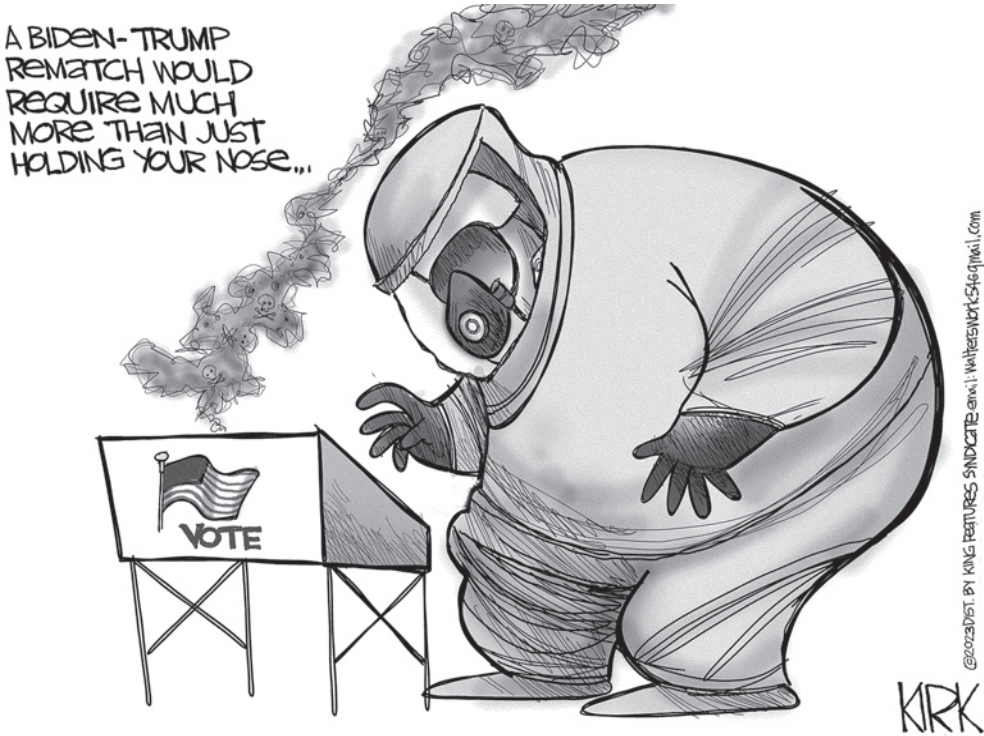
Soldiers will train six-days a week and complete the program on October 31, 2023. At the conclusion, they will be certified paramedics with 41 college credit hours. With other education and earned credit, they can easily obtain an Associate of Applied Science-Paramedic and earn points to a promotion. “EPCC has partnered with the United States Army for over 15 years in paramedic training,” Tony Ayub, Coordinator of the EPCC Emergency Medical Services Paramedic program said. “This program will increase the number of paramedics at a national level.”

EPCC has served the military and veteran community since its founding in 1969. From workforce training for returning Vietnam veterans to our first permanent campus located in Logan Heights on Fort Bliss, EPCC is and always will be there to assist and train our military to further their careers while on active duty and after. The college’s newest initiative is Credit for Heroes. Trade skills earned in the military can be used to earn college credit accelerating degree obtainment.



– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

THEIR WILL BE TRAINING – Paramedic-CSM James Musnicki is perched on the bumper of the EPCC ambulance simulator while CSM Jennifer Francis is tucked inside. Participants will be taught for 170 days. Graduates will then go back to their units as paramedics.





– Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT – A group of NWECHS students celebrated NWECHS’ designation as one of the best schools in America.

Northwest Early College named one of America’s best schools

By Gustavo Reveles
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – Northwest Early College High School

(NWECHS) in the Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) is one of America’s Best Schools, according to The National Center for Urban School Transformation.

The Center let CISD know aboutNWECHSitsdesignation as one of its 2023 America’s Best Schools on may 6. The designation was based on high performance among all student populations despite challenges like low income families and other socio-economic determinations.

“Northwest Early College continues to shine at the national level by using the core principles of our District in access to high-quality education for all students, despite their background,” said CISD Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galaviz. “This campus is proof positive that exemplary academic achievement is possible by any student, not just those with access to financial wealth.”

The Center awarded only eight schools with the title of America’s Best School this year. NWECHS is the only El Paso area school to receive the honor. In their presentation, judges noted that despite having no academic criteria for admission, all students at NWECHS graduate

high school have earned an Associate of Arts degree. All core subjects are taught at the PreAP, Advanced Placement, dual credit or dual enrollment level in partnership with either El Paso Community College or the University of Texas at El Paso.

Some other honors the school has received include:

- An A rating from the Texas Education Agency with distinctions in science, social studies, closing the gap and postsecondary readiness.
- National Blue Ribbon award from the U.S. Department of Education.
- Computer Science Principles Female Diversity Award from Advanced Placement (AP).
- Accelerating Women’s Success and Mastery in Computer Science Honor Roll.
- Four National Board Certified Teachers out of the 19 faculty members – the highest rate in the region.
- Top 3 School in El Paso by the U.S. News & World Report.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Do you like to shop at IKEA? You might be interested to know that the “IKEA bias” makes you place a disproportionately high value on things you partially assemble yourself, regardless of the end result’s quality.
- An attempt to set the Guinness World Record for the world’s most expensive cocktail sadly proved futile after a customer dropped and broke a bottle of cognac worth \$77,000.
- Upon hearing of the 9/11 attacks, the Maasai tribe in Africa gifted 14 cows to America.
- In 1987, a 93-gram radioactive device was stolen from an abandoned hospital in Brazil. After it was passed around, four people died, 112,000 people had to be examined, and several houses had to be destroyed.
- Gal Gadot trained for nine months to gain 17 pounds of muscle for the movie “Wonder Woman.”

• Elevator operator Betty Oliver survived a 75-story fall from the Empire State Building in 1945 when a B-25 crashed into it due to fog. Three crewman and 11 people in the building died, but Betty, who died in 1999, still holds the Guinness World Record for longest survived elevator fall.

• A cat named Barsik, in Barnaul, Siberia, won a mayoral race with more than 90% of the vote. Notwithstanding that fact, and his clever campaign slogan – “Only mice don’t vote for Barsik!” – he was, alas, not allowed to actually take office.

• Canadian radio stations are required by law to play Canadian artists on the airwaves at least 35% of the time.

• While John and Clarence Anglin, two of the only three men who ever escaped from Alcatraz, were officially reported to have drowned in the bay, their mother received flowers anonymously every Mother’s Day until she died, and two very tall, unknown women were said to have attended her funeral.

Thought for the Day: “Try not to become a man of success, but rather become a man of value.”
– Albert Einstein

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CryptoQuip Answer

Was somebody wondering whether or not I like my turkey to be succulent? Moist certainly!



Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On May 22, 1906, Wilbur and Orville Wright were granted a patent for their “flying machine.” Their first application was rejected, and the overall process took three years, after which they sold the patent to the newly formed Wright Company for a sweet \$100,000, 40% of the company’s stock, and a royalty of 10% on all aircraft sold.

• On May 23, 1962, 12 doctors at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston performed the first successful reattachment of a human limb – the severed arm of 12-year-old Everett “Red” Knowles. After four years of recovery, he had regained complete mobility and use of it.

• On May 24, 1887, President Chester A. Arthur and New York Gov. Grover Cleveland opened the Brooklyn Bridge. At the time, it was considered engineering’s greatest achievement, with a span of 1,600 feet, which made it the longest suspension bridge in the world.

• On May 25, 2011, “The Oprah Winfrey Show” came to an emotional end after 25 years and 4,561 episodes, with its longtime host telling her audience, “You and this show have been the greatest love of my life.” It remains one of the highest-rated daytime TV talk shows in American entertainment history.

• On May 26, 1993, Major League Baseball’s Jose Canseco and the Texas Rangers were playing against the Cleveland Indians when the latter team’s infielder, Carlos Martinez, famously hit a fly ball that bounced off Canseco’s head. All ended well, however, in a home run and no injuries, as well as some astonished laughs.

• On May 27, 1679, the Habeas Corpus Act passed, strengthening an individual’s right to contest unlawful arrest and imprisonment. The act is considered one of the most important rulings in English constitutional history.

• On May 28, 2016, a gorilla named Harambe was relaxing inside the Gorilla World habitat at the Cincinnati Zoo when a 3-year-old boy climbed into the enclosure and fell into the moat. While it seemed that Harambe was protecting the boy from drowning, zoo officials decided to shoot the animal as they feared he might accidentally kill the child.

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Anthony ISD recognized for workplace safety

By **Adriana Candelaria**
Special to the Courier

ANTHONY, TX – The Anthony Independent School District (AISD) has received the prestigious Billy E. Hibbs Safety Award for exemplary safety practices resulting in the most improved loss ratio in 2021-2022 school year registered with Claims Administrative Services, Inc. (CAS). In recognition of this achievement, the district was also given a scholarship to award to an Anthony ISD student.

CAS is a third-party administrator that handles workers’ compensation and property/casualty claims. AISD is one out of more than 350 Texas school districts and colleges registered with CAS.

“We are honored to be recognized and we appreciate all Anthony ISD employees for their dedication to workplace safety. It truly takes a team effort to keep everyone safe,” said Fernando Garnica, At-Risk/Human Resource Director and Compliance Officer.


The Billy E. Hibbs Safety Award was presented for success in implementing safety programs designed to minimize losses. CAS also presented AISD with a \$500 Annie Ozella Jones Scholarship that it can award to a deserving student of its choosing.

“We truly appreciate CAS for awarding a \$500 scholarship to one of our seniors who will be chosen by a high school scholarship committee later this month,” Garnica said. AISD was formally



– Photo courtesy Anthony ISD

SHOWING OFF THE HARDWARE – From left are Rene Ramirez; Fernando Garnica, At-Risk/Human Resource Director and Compliance Officer; Nessa Lozoya, holding the plaque; Carlos Mercado and Javier Gomez. recognized by CAS at its 2023 TASA Midwinter annual client appreciation Conference, on January 29th, event, held during the in Austin, TX.



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EL PASO COUNTY


HOUSING AUTHORITY

Public Notice

Section 8 Wait List

The El Paso County Housing Authority will be accepting applications for the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Rental Assistance Wait List on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 ONLY from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. All applicants must apply in person at 650 NE G. Ave., Fabens, TX 79838. NO EXCEPTIONS.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY, call the office at (915) 764-3559.

 WTCC: 05-25-23

Send Your Newsbrief To:
wtxcc@wtxcc.com

Public Notice / Aviso al Público

Anthony ISD Summer Meal Program 2023

Programa de Servicio de Alimentos para el Verano 2023

Anthony Independent School District is participating in the Seamless Summer Option. Meals will be provided to all children 18 and under without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided at the below school sites, with dates and times as follows:

Distrito escolar Independiente de Anthony está participando en el Programa de Servicios Alimentos de Verano. Las comidas se proporcionará a todos los niños de 0 a 18 años sin cargo y por igual a todos los niños sin importar raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad o discapacidad, y no habrá ningún tipo de discriminación en el servicio de comida. Las comidas se proporcionará en los sitios y horarios siguientes:

Campus/Facility	Address	Dates (Mon. - Thurs. only)
Campus/Instalaciones	Dirección	Fechas (Sólo los Lunes - Jueves)
Anthony MS	813 6th St.	June 5 - July 21*
Anthony ES	610 6th St.	June 5 - June 19*
Enrique Miramontes (Triangle) Park	1015 Franklin St.	June 5 - July 21*
*Breakfast/Desayuno: 7:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.; Lunch/Comida: 12:00 (Noon) - 2:00 p.m.		
Torres Altos Park	3009 Bariloche Dr.	June 5 - July 21**
Wet ‘N’ Wild Waterworld	8804 S. Desert Blvd.	June 5 - July 21**
Gallegos Park	7361 Bosque Rd.	June 5 - July 21**
**Lunch only/Comida solamente: Noon - 1 p.m.		

All Locations Closed / Todos Ubicaciones Cerrado: June 19 and July 3 - July 7, 2023

Dates and times may be extended by the District. Information: (915) 886-6542

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WTCC: 05-25-23

NBA’s Morant finds himself in hot water... again

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Back when I was a kid in the 1970s, the idea of a parent spanking their kids to discipline them was as common as kissing them on the cheek when they did well.

Back then, if a kid was misbehaving in public and got wacked, the people around watching wanted to burst in applause.

Now, if a parent were to discipline their kids in public, half the crowd would have their cell phones out recording the event as evidence for the authorities.

Anyway, all I can say is that whenever I got spanked, I did not repeat whatever I got spanked for because I learned very quickly that there were consequences for bad behavior.

But that was back in the seventies, let’s fast forward to today and an NBA player by the name of Ja Morant.

Ja, in case you don’t know, is one of the biggest young names in the NBA today.

The Memphis Grizzlies were among the worst teams in the league for years before they drafted Morant with the second overall pick in 2019.

To show how big an impact he’s had on the team, the two years before Morant arrived, the Grizzlies had a combined record of 55-109.

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

Over the last two seasons, Memphis is 107-57.

But it’s not just the winning, it’s the way he plays. Morant is a slender 6’2, 175-pound point guard with electrifying moves. He’s quick, he can fly above the rim, he can slam down thunderous dunks as well as nail 3-pointers from 30 feet out, he makes great passes and he has a smile that can light up an arena.

And to be completely honest, he was quickly becoming one of my favorite players to watch. I found myself tuning in to Memphis Grizzlies games just because of him.

That’s why it’s so disappointing to learn about the man behind the man.

The two-time All-Star has been making news for all of the wrong reasons lately. First, he flashed a firearm on camera in Denver at the end of the regular season, which resulted in an eight-game suspension from NBA Commissioner Adam Silver.

That was the NBA’s equivalent of a spanking in public.

But did Morant learn? No.

Though he issued what most of us thought was a heartfelt apology, saying he learned from his mistake, Morant did the exact same thing recently while cruising around with his friend.

In the words of Dr. Phil, “what were you thinking?”

In the old days a kid would be sent to bed with no dinner, no videogame, no music, no light. Just you in bed to think about what you did wrong.

Well, it appears as though Ja is going to be sent home without any basketball, or paychecks, by a suspension that some are saying could be for as many as 40 games.

To make things worse, there are other unsavory Ja Morant stories cropping up almost everyday about him beating up someone, or brandishing his weapon, or threatening someone.

There’s even a story out there where members of the NBA’s Indiana Pacers said a vehicle that Morant was riding in, was flashing a weapon laser that their team bus after a game. This

was alleged to have happened after Morant’s best friend, who was sitting at courtside at the game, got into a verbal confrontation with members of the Pacers.

All this has happened so quickly to the 23-year-old superstar in the making. If Morant doesn’t change his behavior immediately, he’s going to find himself out of the league or in jail or even worse.

The funny thing is that when you look at Morant, he doesn’t give you any vibes about being a bad dude. He looks like a great guy from a great family.

But I heard a long time ago that’s looks can be deceiving.

Just like Magic Johnson and Larry Bird and Michael Jordan, I thought Ja Morant was one of those players that would be the face of the league and take over for LeBron James and Steph Curry for the next decade.

But the way he’s going, instead of being the face of the league, we may end up seeing his face on a “wanted” poster.

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Covid... still here

As of this writing, there are still between 1,500 and 2,000 Covid deaths per week in the U.S. alone.

Pause a moment to consider that number.

Various charts, graphics and statistics for a recent period show a startling fact: We have more Covid deaths per capita than most of the rest of the world. Charts that show deaths per million people rank us three times higher than Brazil, more than 24% higher than France, 75% higher than Italy, nearly three times higher than Germany.

In the U.S., hospital admissions in 14 states are rising over the past week. Only five states showed no cases of Covid in the past week -- because they did not upload their data. No states showed zero Covid deaths, except for the ones that didn’t provide information.

For hospital admissions by age, those over age 70 are admitted three times more often than those in the 60-69 age group, and 10 times more often than those under 60.

It’s been a long three years and, unfortunately, Covid has not vanished. At this point, we have a new subvariant, XBB.1.16, nicknamed “Arcturus.” Keep an ear out for mention of this one in the news; it’s the most infectious of all the variants so far, and the most resistant to vaccine. One in 10 cases of Covid are this new variant. It’s the one that’s causing conjunctivitis, also known as pinkeye, plus other symptoms. At this point it has shown up in over 30 states. If you have symptoms of this variant and believe it’s probably seasonal allergies, consider taking a Covid test just to be sure.

And meanwhile, inquiring minds want to know: Where are our masks? Have you noticed that you (and possibly one or two others) are the only ones in stores still wearing a mask?

While the two largest hospital systems near me have now done away with the mask requirement, I have not.

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Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	19
20									21							22				
23									24							25				
26							27					28			29		30			
31						32		33		34	35	36				37				
						38	39			40					41					
42	43	44	45	46				47						48				49	50	51
52							53					54	55			56				
57						58			59	60	61	62				63	64			
65						66		67		68						69				
						70	71							73						
74	75	76						77						78				79	80	81
82								83					84		85		86	87		
88							89					90	91			92				
93				94	95					96	97	98				99				
			100	101				102	103					104						
105	106						107						108			109	110	111	112	113
115						116							117		118		119			
120					121			122				123	124	125			126			
127								128								129				
130								131								132				

BOOK OPENINGS

ACROSS

1 "Billy _" (1991 gangster film)

9 Certain line on a weather map

15 God of love

20 It'll make a walking surface shine

21 Sterling or Shannon of the NFL

22 Cartoon art of Japan

23 Washington monument

25 Tasty morsel

26 Devoured

27 Stitch

28 Caesar's 604

30 "Othello" villain

31 Flung

33 Belief that one is destined to be a savior

38 Call to cop cars, in brief

40 Weasel look-alike

41 Concept

42 Singer of the 1984 hit "Too Late for Goodbyes"

48 Hwys., e.g.

49 Von Sydow of "The Exorcist"

52 Prayer opener

53 "Chances _" (1957 hit)

54 Dept. of Justice div.

56 Vatican VIP

57 Not distributed, as cards

59 One working to

take control

65 Actress _ Dawn Chong

66 Mean Amin

68 Lucy's Desi

69 Dog types

70 City west of Lake Superior

74 Freely

77 "Guys and Dolls" song

78 Meadowland

79 Punch sound

82 Narrative at the start of the Bible

85 Sportsperson

88 Ship's frame

89 Cry on "The Simpsons"

90 Biblical verb ending

92 Big blood line

93 Sinuous fish

94 Small pellets for air guns

96 Famous 1804 duel

100 High-school jrs.' exam

102 Billy portrayed by Brad Pitt in

104 Swelled head

105 Los Angeles neighborhood

109 Tranquelize

115 Brazilian berry in juices

116 "Eat _ eaten" (law of survival)

117 Lister's abbr.

119 "How Do I Live" singer LeAnn

120 Mint family herb

122 What the first words of eight long answers in this puzzle are

127 Crawl

128 Ready to go

129 Thorn in one's side

130 Ibsen's "_ Gabler"

131 Family tree

132 Have faith in

DOWN

1 Black key above A

2 Justice Samuel

3 Musical steps

4 _pocus

5 Feel blindly

6 Poking tool

7 Earthy colors

8 One who used to be in the club

9 Dogma suffix

10 "Homeland" airer, for short

11 Rowing tool

12 Of a wedding

13 Southwestern tribe

14 Past artifact

15 Panther, e.g.

16 Not fully aged

17 Hot-and-cold dessert

18 PR concern

19 Juice cleanse, e.g.

24 She-sheep

29 Render null

32 Quarterback

Marino

34 IRS datum

35 _ Paulo

36 "Son of," in Arab names

37 Rx writers

39 With 42-Down, restaurant dish of the day

42 See 39-Down

43 Forearm part

44 Store of ore

45 State of rage

46 Nabokov title

heroine

47 Born, to Gigi

48 Trunk bone

50 Copied

51 Boomers' kids

54 "The Nanny" star

Drescher

55 Grooved ring holding a gem

56 Supplication

58 "My Girl Tisa" star

Palmer

60 Dramatist David

61 First-class

62 Central

63 WWII sub

64 First subway line in NYC

67 " _ use!" ("I give up!")

70 Tuning knob

71 Final: Abbr.

72 "Pipe down!"

73 Hideous foe of Popeye

74 Dull pain

75 Factual

76 Skillfully executed

79 Impudent

80 Sgt. Snorkel's pet dog

81 Phase out nursing

83 Takes too much, in brief

84 " _ out!" (ump's cry)

86 "Bali _"

87 Cyber-chuckle

91 1978 Stephen King book

94 Cove relative

95 First-column bingo square

96 Scrooge's cry

97 Prefix with lateral

98 Clergyman's subj.

99 Year divs.

101 Covered with gunky stuff

102 Brand of pizza crust

103 Swimmer Gertrude

105 Emerge from an egg

106 Earthy colour

107 Instrument with pipes

108 Spearheaded

110 Uneven, as leaf margins

111 Long sofa

112 Alter formally

113 Verizon, e.g., for short

114 German city

118 Sleuth's lead

121 Federal ecology org.

123 Top-left PC key

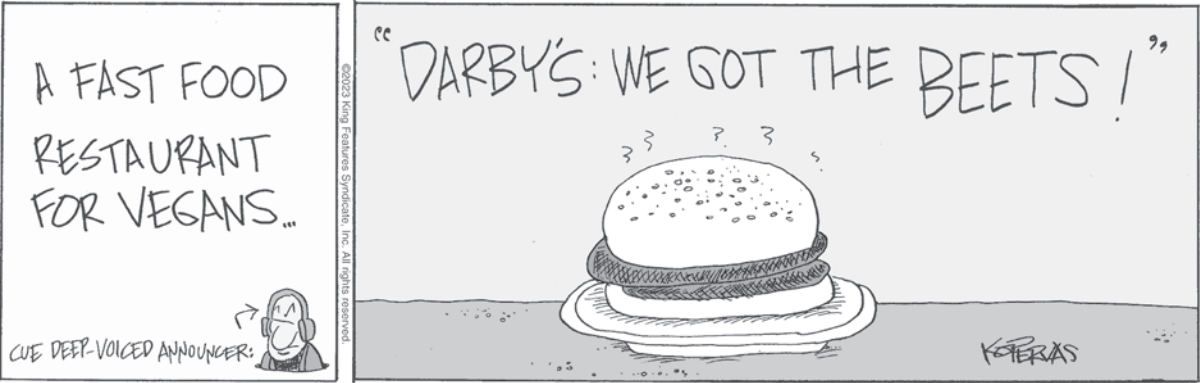
124 Neckline type

125 Cheez- _ (crackers)

126 Puppy's bite

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas

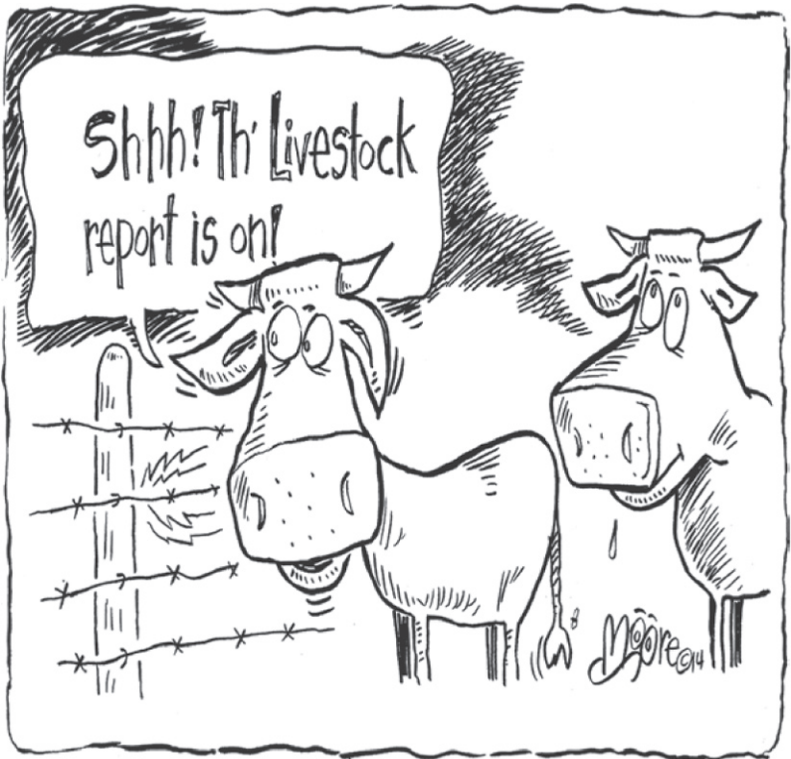


AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering





Moore Texas by Roger MOORE
Del Rio, 1930: Barbed wire fences began picking up the strong one million watt radio station XERA out of Mexico.

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: X equals O

SVJ JXFIDXGQ SXHGIUTHE
SOIKOIU XU HXK T CTNI FQ
KYUNIQ KX DI JYMMYCIHK?
FXTJK MIUKVTHCQ!

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Veterans needed for Gulf War illness study



by Freddy Groves

The Department of Veterans Affairs has just hooked up with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to do a five-year study of Gulf War Illness (GWI). The war (Operation Desert Storm/Operation Desert Shield) was from August 1990 to June 1991, and there are nearly 200,000 veterans still suffering the effects. Perhaps you can help.

The symptoms of GWI include headaches, rashes, gastro problems, muscle and joint pain and more. The IN-DEPTH project will be split, with the VA recruiting veterans to participate in the study (veterans who do and don't have GWI) and the NIH doing the research. To be noted, in bold type on the NIH's description page for the study reads: "Participants in the study will not receive treatment." It's all testing

that will hopefully lead to treatments.

If you're interested in participating, you must be between the ages of 48 and 70. You'll be admitted to the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, for 14 days, during which time you'll be tested from one end to the other. Some tests might be performed as outpatient.

To join the program, you'll first do a phone interview and your existing medical records will be checked. They'll do an at-home visit to check your vitals and review your medical questionnaires. If selected, you'll check into the clinic, where you'll undergo tests that include physical exam and strength testing, questions about food preferences, memory tests, stress tests on a stationary bike and much more. Once back at home, you might be asked to wear a monitor for a little while and to keep a health diary.

It doesn't cost anything to

be in the study, but you'll be compensated and your travel may be paid for.

And, since the question will come up, if you've had Covid, you can't be in the study. They'll test you for antibodies during the screening.

If you have questions about the study, send an email to the NIH at gwiindepth@ninds.nih.gov. For the VA, send email to vhawas.indepth@va.gov.

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by Jo Ann Derson

• My mom was dealing with a rough health patch recently, and my dad was in charge of all her doctor visits. There was a lot of follow-up to keep track of, and many different doctors. He used a wallet-size photo holder to corral all the different appointment cards to put them in order of appointment. He really did a great job, and Mom's all better now. – Y.R. in Ohio

• A fast, cheap and effective treatment for leg cramps is drinking a little bit of pickle juice. I'm not sure if it's the vinegar or the combination of vinegar and salt, but it works – and fast! My grandpa told me about this, and recently I have seen it in magazine articles and on television shows. Nothing fancy, just take a big slug of the juice at the very first sign of a cramp. – E.E. in Maine

• Here's a tip for brides: For the couple of weeks before your wedding, wear your wedding shoes around the house several times a week. This breaks them in, and you will be more comfortable with all the standing and dancing on your special day!

• When washing out stockings, add a tablespoon of vinegar to the rinse water, and they will retain their elasticity better.

• I think cleaning wipes are so very handy, but they can be quite expensive. To make my own, I add cleaner to baby wipes, right in the container. I don't have babies in the house, but I do mark the container well so that nobody would use it for his or her skin. They work well for me. – via email

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

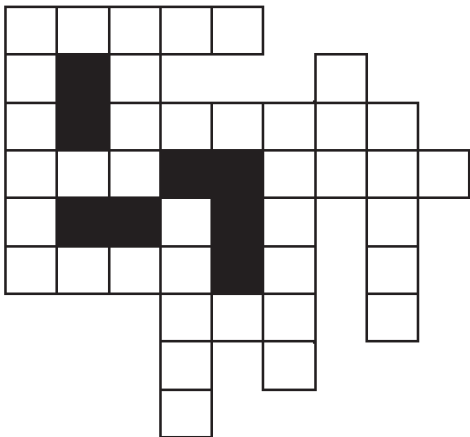
	+		×		26
×		×		×	
	×		-		24
-		-		×	
	÷		×		27
26		31		24	

1 2 3 4 4 5 7 8 9

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UTO
ATTPOO
LOXET
PDSE
DUESOX
♥NPI
♥EMTA
PETDY
♥DMI
♥PRITMA
♥NADRO
NOXY



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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.