



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Wanted

Two men burglarized a Housing Authority of El Paso business office in El Paso’s Mission Valley. On Saturday, August 5, 2023, at 1:42 a.m., two are recorded approaching the business office of the Martin Luther King apartments at 9101 Butternut St. The men used a grabbing tool to steal money orders from an overnight deposit box. Both men appear to be White males in their 30s. The first suspect has a thin build and a mustache with a beard. He wore a dark baseball cap, a blue long-sleeve shirt, denim jeans, and black and gray athletic shoes. The second suspect is clean-shaven and has an average build. He wore a baseball cap, a blue long-sleeve shirt, denim shorts, and dark-colored athletic shoes. The suspects fled the scene southbound on Kernel in a dark-colored vehicle. Anyone with any information on the identity of these burglars should call Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-8477 (TIPS) or online: [www.cselpaso.org](http://www.cselpaso.org). You will remain anonymous, and if your tip leads to an arrest, you may qualify for a cash reward

– Sgt. Javier Sambrano

### Soccer cities

With the U.S. Open Cup final coming up at the end of September and the U.S. Women’s National Team having ended their run with the initial round of 16 at the FIFA Women’s World Cup, the personal-finance website WalletHub has released its report on 2023’s *Best Cities for Soccer Fans*. To find the best places for loving on the world’s favorite sport, WalletHub compared nearly 300 U.S. cities with at least one college or professional soccer team across five divisions comprising 52 key metrics. The data set ranges from minimum season-ticket price for a game to stadium accessibility to number of championship wins. El Paso was rated 49th in the report. Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-cities-for-soccer-fans/14207> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

*Your neighbor will seem like a better man when you judge him as you judge yourself*

– Quips & Quotes



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**TRYING TO GET ALONG** – New Mexico, Texas, and Colorado have come together to propose a settlement that establishes how Rio Grande water will be shared once it leaves the Elephant Butte Reservoir, above.

## New Rio Grande water proposal could end years of litigation

By Alfredo Vasquez  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – As this year’s irrigation season winds down for El Paso County farmers and ranchers, their attention turns to a federal judge’s recent stamp of approval on a proposed settlement to end a lawsuit between Texas and New Mexico over Rio Grande water.

Texas state officials sued the state of New Mexico in the U.S. Supreme Court in 2013, as Texas

alleged that groundwater pumping by New Mexico farms located south of Elephant Butte Reservoir is cheating Texas from its adequate share of Rio Grande water.

Texas claimed that New Mexico’s actions violated the 1938 Rio Grande Compact- an agreement between Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas that attempted to equitably allot the river’s water. Further, the federal government joined the case as it argued that New Mexico’s pumping also threatened United States’ treaty with Mexico and contracts with regional irrigation districts.

Eventually, New Mexico, Texas, and Colorado came together and proposed a settlement that established how Rio Grande water would be split below Elephant Butte Reservoir. They formulated that New Mexico would receive 57 percent of the Rio Grande

water and Texas would receive 43 percent (excluding Mexico’s share), and they established a new index that factors groundwater pumping into those formulas, which are based off of a period of drought from 1951 through 1978. Also, a requirement was implemented to measure the amount of water crossing the Texas-New Mexico state line at the El Paso Gage river portals instead of upstream in New Mexico, according to official reports.

The ray of hope for an imminent settlement hinges on the recent approval by U.S. 8th Circuit Judge Michael Melloy, who was assigned the case as a special master. He recently gave an okay to the plan proposed jointly by attorneys from New Mexico, Texas, and Colorado.

In the judge’s order, the recommendation is that the U.S. Supreme Court approve the plan over the objections of the federal government. Melloy stated that the plan allows New Mexico and Texas some flexibility on water delivered at the state line, with guidelines for each state to follow if that delivery is above or under the agreed upon amount for each state. And he said that it imposes stricter penalties if New Mexico misses goals multiple years in a row.

Attorneys for the federal government contend that the three states could not make a deal without the feds approval, and they said that implementing the

plan would impose new burdens on certain federal agencies.

But Melloy disagreed that the plan would impose new obligations on the federal government. He wrote that the changes “amount to additional nuance,” to how federal agencies have operated over the past four decades. He argued that the proposed plan was “fair and reasonable” and that the objections of the federal government could be addressed in other places – such as state courts and proceedings.

Additionally, Melloy pointed out that the Consent Decree answers the apportionment question because it imposes a general duty of internal water management on New Mexico to achieve the apportionment. He added that the agreement also sufficiently protects water obligated to Mexico in a 1906 treaty.

“There is nothing unreasonable or unfair in accepting the Consent Decree that protects the Texas apportionment and the treaty water today, leaving details concerning actions by New Mexico for future resolution,” Melloy wrote.

Melloy’s report is scheduled to be reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court during its next session which will convene in late September. The court is expected to call first for any objections to be submitted to the court by a deadline, which can range between 45 days to 60 days, according to officials.

The next step is unclear until the court is back in session, said Samantha Barncastle, who represents Elephant Butte Irrigation District in the case.



# The fear factor

Donald Trump has been indicted yet again, and, as usual, most of the other Republican candidates have been sympathetic, if not outright deferential, to him.

It's another episode that raises the question: Can someone who is afraid of Trump defeat him?

Of all the advantages that Trump has in the competition for the 2024 Republican nomination – immediate past president, ability to generate enormous media attention, etc. – perhaps foremost among them is the fact that the other Republican candidates are afraid.

It's hard to think of anyone who has ever won a major-party nomination while showing fear, especially of someone else in the field.

A successful candidate might be careful around

certain issues or constituencies, or back off of an unpopular position. But being clearly scared by an opponent is something else, entirely. George W. Bush and John McCain might have hated or disdained each other in 2000, same with McCain and Mitt Romney in 2008, or Romney and Newt Gingrich in 2012. But no one was ever clearly, demonstrably afraid.

Until now.

When asked about Trump, most of the candidates might not actually lick their lips, or swallow hard or begin to blink faster, but you wouldn't be surprised if they did. Generally, they'll evade questions, reject the premise or revert to an answer that has been as carefully crafted as an official statement by one of the parties negotiating the Paris Peace Accords.

You can almost see them thinking:  
Maybe he'll leave me alone.  
Maybe he'll make me his veep.

Maybe there will be a better time to attack him later.

If they can help it, his opponents will never say Trump's name – he's the most unnamed major politician in American history. Mike Pence has tended to call him "my former running mate."

This means that Donald Trump's political dominance of the rest of the field extends to a kind of personal and psychological dominance.

A key aspect of the Trump phenomenon from the beginning has been how he's brought the subrational element of politics that's always been there, but usually relatively submerged, to the fore



See LOWRY, Page 7

## Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

# Don't be surprised by alligators, sharks and hot weather

We recently heard the tragic news of a senior lady who was killed by an alligator in South Carolina. There have been a couple of golf courses I would have enjoyed playing in southern South Carolina, but alligator warning signs were posted everywhere.

I can't figure out the fun of playing golf in an area where I have to worry about alligators. This goes for walking the dog or doing anything. Alligators are dangerous and will kill you. Being attacked by an alligator in areas where they live should not be surprising. If you get close to one you are risking losing a leg or your life. Be warned. Alligators are dangerous and if you are in an area where they fill up the lakes and ponds then be very, very cautious.

Once again, we are hearing that sharks live in the ocean.

There has been a lot of buzz this summer about shark sightings. They've been seen off the New Jersey shore and a large number of sharks were near the pier at Pensacola Beach, Florida last week. I've been on that beach numerous times in three or four feet of water. I know what you are thinking, "Sharks can be in shallow water too." I understand and I don't get in the gulf water that much. However, it only takes one bite to hurt or kill you.

We have to keep in mind that sharks live in the ocean. They are not far away from you regardless of which beach you are enjoying. Yet, we all are alarmed by the news whenever sharks are sighted, in the ocean.

Tragically, people have died this summer from triple digit heat. We keep hearing news

about it being hot. It's July. July never misses a chance to be hot, really hot. We had triple digit heat every summer when I was a kid. We really noticed it too because we didn't have air conditioning. We still have hot weather in the mid-west but we have air conditioning. So, it's not that big of a deal.

We are all sorry to hear about people who have lost their lives due to the heat. All we had was a fan when I was a kid. In the summer I would typically go to bed very warm

and sometimes even sweating. It wasn't much fun but we didn't have a choice back then. We had some shade trees and a creek that us kids would get in to play. That's all we had. We had plenty of triple digit days too.

Please don't leave your kids or animals in the car. Elderly people need to be out before the hottest part of the day. This means early in the morning.

High school football coaches should not be practicing in triple digit weather. Every summer a high school kid dies

practicing in this hot weather. Alligators, sharks and hot weather should not be surprising. Being careful about each of the three would be wise for us all.

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



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## PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

The *West Texas County Courier* will publish two editions early. The October 5 and October 12, 2023 issues will go to press on Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

All material for these publications must be submitted to the *West Texas County Courier* no later than Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

The *West Texas County Courier* office will close beginning Thursday, September 28, 2023. The office will open again on Tuesday, October 10, 2023.



# Socorro ISD schools awarded Purple Star designation

By Christy Flores-Jones  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – Seven schools in the Socorro Independent School District were awarded the 2023-24 Purple Star Campus Designation from the Texas Education Agency, bringing the total of designated Purple Star Campuses in Socorro ISD to 46, the most of any school district in the El Paso region.

The seven schools received the prestigious designation for their exceptional commitment to supporting and meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. Last year, the district had 39 schools designated Purple Star Campuses.

Socorro ISD proudly serves 6,568 military-

connected students. The district provides various resources and services specifically designed to assist students connected to the military, including having a military liaison at each of the district’s 51 campuses that serves as a point of contact for military-connected families.

“This award demonstrates that our schools have met the criteria for the Purple Star Designation as established by the Texas Education Agency, and it validates our strong commitment to providing high-quality services and support to our military-connected community,” said SISD Director of Administrative Services Carmen

Olivas-Graham.

To receive the Purple Star Campus Designation, schools must designate a campus-based military liaison, create and maintain an easily accessible webpage that includes information for military-connected students and their families, institute a campus transition program for military-connected students, and support a military family assistance initiative. All Texas public schools are eligible to receive a Purple Star Campus Designation, regardless of their military-connected student population size. Applications for the designation are accepted annually.

**2023-24 Socorro ISD TEA Purple Star Campuses**

- Capt. Walter E. Clarke Middle School
- Col. Ben Narbuth Elementary School
- Desert Wind Elementary School
- Eastlake High School
- Horizon Heights Elementary School
- Jane A. Hambric School
- Loma Verde Elementary School

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2024 ELECTIONS

indictments

HUNTER BROWNE PROBLEMS

VOTERS

2024 ELECTIONS

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The OTHER indictment

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

MERRICK GARLAND, Defendant.

CRIMINAL GRAND JURY OR. VIOLATIONS:

Count 1: (Dragged his feet for years instead of immediately investigating and prosecuting Donald J. Trump)

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HUNTER



# Lizard threatens Texas’ oil and gas industry

By Kimberly Hubbard  
*Special to the Courier*

TEXAS – Tthe General Land Office (GLO) has submitted comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding the listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard (DSL) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This classification could have a crippling impact on the oil and gas industry in the state and throughout the nation, as well as negatively affect the education of Texas’ schoolchildren.

“As a steward of our precious, energy rich state land, and a manager of our state’s School Fund, into which the GLO deposited over \$2.1 billion in oil and natural gas revenues last fiscal year, the wellbeing of Texans and their families will always be my top priority,” said Commissioner Buckingham. “I will not jeopardize the education of our children or risk crippling Texas’ oil and gas industry for an ESA listing based on a mishmash of inconsistent statements, disregarded facts and admitted unknowns. If implemented, I am prepared to take the Biden Administration to court to stop this haphazard, unsupported classification.”

- Inconsistencies with listing the DSL as endangered include:
- USFWS has provided no evidence to illustrate a change to oil and gas development in the Permian Basin sufficient to justify reversing their 2012 finding that the DSL does not meet the statutory definition of an endangered or threatened species under the ESA.
  - USFWS purposefully disregards Texas’ voluntary conservation efforts to protect the DSL in its analysis. By its own statement, USFWS does not consider the impacts of conservation efforts unless they are compulsory, permanent, and all-encompassing.
  - USFWS and the Biden Administration have ignored the population trends of the DSL which show that their numbers are increasing.

In the letter, Commissioner Buckingham expresses concerns that, “although the proposed habitat of the DSL is not well or clearly defined by USFWS, it appears to be located primarily in the Permian Basin of far West Texas, which is the beating heart of Texas’ – and the country’s – oil and gas industry and, therefore, one of the primary sources of revenue for education in Texas, by way of the School Fund and the Permanent University Fund (PUF).”

The letter notes “listing the DSL will surely bring with it a



## Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Aug. 28, 1789, William Herschel, court astronomer under England’s King George III, discovered Enceladus, one of Saturn’s innermost moons, while using his new 40-foot telescope for the first time. Enceladus reflects almost 100% of the sunlight that strikes it and has at least five different types of terrain.
- On Aug. 29, 1998, a strike by 6,200 Northwest Airlines pilots seeking a 15% pay raise left 70,000 frustrated passengers high and dry around the U.S. The pilots had been in contract negotiations for more than two years, and an agreement was finally reached on Sept. 10 after the strike had cost the airline \$26 million per day.
- On Aug. 30, 1951, Sgt. John R. Rice, a decorated World War II veteran and part-Native American soldier killed in the Korean War, was refused burial in Sioux City, Iowa’s Memorial Park Cemetery on the grounds of his ethnicity. After hearing the news at a press conference, President Harry Truman authorized a telegram to Rice’s widow, Evelyn, offering her a plot in Arlington National Cemetery, which she accepted.
- On Aug. 31, 1888, 43-year-old Mary Ann “Polly” Nichols, a prostitute from London’s East End and married but separated mother of five, was found brutally murdered near Whitechapel Road, becoming the first known victim of serial killer Jack the Ripper.
- On Sept. 1, 2013, new internet restrictions imposed by the Vietnamese government prohibited the country’s users from discussing current affairs, with social media and other sites, including blogs, limited to sharing personal information but not news stories. The law was criticized by both internet companies and a number of human rights groups.
- On Sept. 2, 1969, the original “Star Trek” TV series aired its final episode after running for just three years. While it never rose higher than No. 52 in the ratings, it remains a beloved cult classic, eventually generating movies and other series.
- On Sept. 3, 1908, J.M. Barrie’s play “What Every Woman Knows” debuted at London’s Duke of York’s Theatre. Written prior to the women’s suffrage movement, the show’s theme suggested that “every woman knows” she’s really the invisible power behind the success of the men in her life.

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## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- When African American soldiers began enlisting in the Civil War, they were paid \$10, while white troops earned \$13, and were also charged a monthly fee for their uniforms. In protest, they refused to accept their pay at all for 18 months, though they continued to fight.
- Throughout the average sofa’s life, it will hold roughly 782 visitors.
- While it was believed for a long time that ancient Greek sculptures made of white marble were originally colorless, scientific studies confirmed the theory that they were actually painted in a wide range of shades that eventually wore away under the long-term effects of light and air.
- The lollipop, invented in 1908 by George Smith, was named after a racehorse known as Lolly Pop.
- Researchers have found that octopuses occasionally punch fish, sometimes for obvious reasons, such as directing them away from intended prey, and other times for no apparent reason at all – unless, perhaps, they’re merely having a bad day.
- A flight data recorder, aka black box, isn’t black at all, but bright orange. The heat-resistant paint hue makes it easier to spot in the event of an accident.
- The most expensive guitar ever sold, a Martin 1959 D-18 acoustic, changed hands at auction for a staggering \$6 million. Formerly owned by Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain, it was used by the singer-musician during the band’s 1993 MTV Unplugged performance.

- Including television, theater, film and radio, Charles Dickens is the most adapted author of all time.

Thought for the Day: “The question isn’t who’s going to let me, it’s who’s going to stop me.”

– Ayn Rand

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designation of critical habitat as well as rules strictly limiting, or even prohibiting, surface activities that are necessary for oil and gas exploration and production.”

It goes on to state that, due to the foreseeable decrease in oil and gas revenues that support the School Fund and PUF if the USFWS regulation were to take effect, “the listing of the DSL as endangered under the Endangered Species Act will have a significant detrimental impact on education in Texas.”

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– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**LET IT FLOW** – A new agreement could amend the 83-year-old Rio Grande Compact that determines how Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado share water from the river. If allowed by the Supreme Court, the decree would end the lawsuit that has lasted nearly a decade and cost Texas and New Mexico taxpayers tens of millions of dollars. A healthy Rio Grande, above, flows through El Paso County’s Upper Valley.

Water

From Page 1

“Our next step will depend on the decisions the United States has to make as to whether they take exception,” Barncastle told reporters.

The irrigation district in

Southern New Mexico is not a party in the case but is still involved in the settlement discussions, addresses the court, and holds significant water rights in the region.

In a recent news report, Reed Benson, a professor in water law at the University of New Mexico School of Law, stated

that the federal government’s situation is unusual in this case.


“I think that the feds are going to have a hard time keeping the Supreme Court from approving the settlement,” Benson stated. “They clearly did not convince the special

master that their interests were sufficiently compelling to block the settlement, and he thinks it’s a reasonable settlement.”

However, Benson also speculated that because the Supreme Court allowed the federal government to

intervene in the case, it may put greater weight on the federal government’s concerns if objections to the special master’s report are submitted.

“This ain’t over until it is,” he surmised, “we all have to recognize that there may still be a twist in this tale.”



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### Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss San Elizario Independent School District’s State Financial Accountability Rating (FIRST)

The San Elizario Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 in the boardroom of the San Elizario ISD Administration Building, 1050 Chicken Ranch Road, San Elizario, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss San Elizario Independent School District’s rating on the state’s financial accountability system. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the scheduled board of Trustees’ Meeting.

WTCC: 08-31-23

### Public Notice Village of Vinton, Texas

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m., September 19, 2023 at City Hall located at 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, TX 79821 and streamed through the zoom.us platform at the following URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2520023141?pwd=WVRDZDIFR3ZHR3FJVIJuL3ZLWTB6dz09>  
**Personal Meeting ID:** 252 002 3141      **Passcode:** 12345.

The purpose of the public Hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify regarding the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget.

Members of the public are invited to attend and participate in the Village Council's September 19th regular council meeting where the public can testify regarding the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget.

### THIS BUDGET WILL RAISE MORE REVENUE FROM PROPERTY TAXES THAN LAST YEAR’S BUDGET BY \$3,002 OR 0.28%, AND OF THAT AMOUNT, \$4,042 IS TAX REVENUE TO BE RAISED FROM NEW PROPERTY ADDED TO THE TAX ROLL THIS YEAR.

Those unable to attend are invited to submit their views in writing to the Village of Vinton, Attn: Mayor Rachel Quintana, 436 E. Vinton Road. City Hall is accessible for handicapped persons in need of special assistance to attend the hearing are encouraged to contact the Village Administrator at (915) 886-5104, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. A copy of the proposed budget is available for review on the Village of Vinton website and at the Village Hall located at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821.

*Andrea N. Carrillo*  
Village Administrator

WTCC: 08-31-23



# Super Bowl contenders have one common thing: A good QB

By Steve Escajeda  
*Special to the Courier*

This is the time that all so-called sports experts give their predictions on how the NFL season will go.

And since I’m one of those so-called sports guys, I’ll guess I’ll do the same.

They say that the NFL is a “quarterback” league so I’ll bet if we rank them, we’ll also rank the top 14 contenders for the Super Bowl.

### Patrick Mahomes

The Kansas City Chiefs have won two of the last four Super Bowls and played in a third. The obvious main reason is Mahomes. He is far-and-away the best quarterback in the league. If he avoids injury, he may end up being the best of all time.

### Joe Burrow

They used to call Joe Montana “Joe Cool.” And that’s what they’re calling Burrow because of his calm demeanor and unshakable talent. He is the reason the Bengals are a serious contender to reach the Super Bowl like they did two years ago.

### Josh Allen

Once again, the Buffalo Bills are expected to have one of the best records in the league. Whether it’s with his arms or legs, Allen will have them in the hunt come playoff time.

### Aaron Rodgers

Though he turns 40 in December, Rodgers is still one of the best quarterbacks in football. It’ll be his arm and his experience that make the Jets a serious Super Bowl contender.

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### Jalen Hurts

Hurts always had the potential, but he surpassed all expectations a year ago when he led the Eagles to the Super Bowl. If Hurts has the same kind of season this year, the Eagles are the odds on favorite to return.

### Lamar Jackson

It’s easy to forget about Jackson because he hasn’t played much the last two years. But’s lets’ face it, when he’s healthy there’s no more exciting quarterback (except Mahomes) in the league. If Jackson stays healthy, watch out for the Ravens.

### Trevor Lawrence

The Jacksonville quarterback made a huge leap in his second year, leading the Jaguars to a winning record and the playoffs. He looks the part now and I expect Lawrence to take another step up this season.

### Justin Herbert

Herbert has one of the best arms in the league. But since entering the NFL in

2020, his Chargers have a 25-25 record and no playoff wins (0-1). Herbert’s big arm has to translate into victories at some time. Could this be the year?

### Dak Prescott

There’s one simple question for Prescott. Will he end up being Danny White and Tony Romo; or will he be Roger Staubach and Troy Aikman? He has all the tools and the weapons to lead the ‘Boys to the Super Bowl. He has to learn to get out of his own way.

### Geo Smith

Smith’s career was given up for dead a few years ago and then he came out of nowhere a year ago to lead the Seahawks to the playoffs. A lot of people are wondering if he can do it two years in a row. We’ll find out.

### Tua Tugovailoa

The Miami Dolphins could finish 12-5 or they could go 7-10. They are a mystery but full of potential, just like Tua. He shows flashes of brilliance at times and at others, not so much. If he

can avoid concussions, the Dolphins should be a playoff team.

### Kirk Cousins

Let’s talk about a guy who looks amazing one week and mediocre the next. Cousins has far more good days than bad. He led the Vikings to the playoffs a year ago and should do it again in 2023.

### Deshaun Watson

When you think of the Browns you probably think of dumb mistakes and decisions. You probably think the same thing about Watson. But remember he was one of the best QBs in the league before he got into trouble. If he can return to what he once was, the Browns could be interesting.

### Derek Carr

The Saints missed the playoffs by just one game a year ago and Carr could put them over the top in the weak NFC South division. His move from the Raiders could be divine intervention for the Saints.

Senior moment

By Matilda Charles

## Getting through drug shortages

In the spring of this year, the U.S. saw a larger prescription drug shortage than we’ve seen in 10 years. And we haven’t recovered yet.

Part of the problem is that 78% of our drugs (or at least a crucial ingredient in each one) are made in foreign countries. Chemotherapy drugs, antibiotics, mental health drugs... so many are in short supply. As of this writing, cisplatin, a commonly used cancer drug, is on the shortages list, and has been since February.

It doesn’t help that a drug manufacturer filed for bankruptcy and closed its doors. If this isn’t bad enough, a major drug facility was recently hit by a tornado. Hospitals all over the country saw the writing on the wall and immediately tried to overbuy and get as much as they could. The manufacturer stepped in and put a stop to that.

If you can’t get your drugs due to shortages, talk to your pharmacist. Ask whether they can ask your doctor about changing the dose. For example, can you have

two half doses that would add up to the same amount? Ask your doctor if they have samples or can get them from the sales rep.

Call the drug manufacturer and ask when they expect pharmacies in your area to be resupplied. Give them the name and address of your pharmacy and ask specifically that the drugs you need be sent there.

You should NOT Divide your drugs to make them last longer. Call your health care team and ask for help. Ask if there is a different drug you can take?

There is one important thing you can do. Call your congressmen and let them know what it’s like to be unable to get the drugs you need. Ask what they’re doing about the shortages. Foreign countries should not be able to hold our drugs hostage.

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TAKEN IN ACROSS

1 Alabama city

6 Change to fit

11 Kind of port on a PC

14 Seizes the attention of

19 Follow behind

20 First half of an album

21 Salada drink

22 Roll back to 0

23 "Hitchin' \_" (1970 hit)

24 U.S. version of a cue sport

27 Argonauts' quest

29 Screening airport gp.

30 Lead-in for Rooter or tiller

31 Israel's main airline

32 Motorist's 180, slangily

33 Common seabird with black wingtips

36 Doc wielding a penlight

38 Chou En- \_

40 "\_ la vista!"

41 \_ Aviv

42 Chess piece four squares from the king at the start of the game

47 Alternatives to inns

49 Wife's father, e.g.

50 Left on the dinner table

52 Arid African expanse

56 Small drinks

57 Keep \_ profile

58 Egypt's Anwar

61 Experts

62 Mooing herd

64 Cars move up and down in it

68 Fleur-de- \_

69 "Yes, yes!," in Spain

71 Land in the ocean, to Yvette

72 Iraq's locale

73 Group of two

74 Certain injury from an arachnid

78 Gives 10% to the church

80 See 96-Down

81 Dragster fuel

82 Guesses at JFK or SFO

84 Iowa city

86 Printed notice with no pictures

89 Newly capped tire

91 Makes a sock, say

92 Old buddies

95 Inmate who's broken out

97 African cobra

100 Staples Center, e.g.

101 "Aw, shucks!"

102 Pantry pest

103 Baby who doesn't need a pacifier, perhaps

106 Actor Mineo

108 Spoken

112 Sorvino of "Mimic"

113 I love, to Livia

114 It connects to a car engine's water pump

118 People who do what's at the ends of nine answers in this puzzle

121 Barbera's cartoon collaborator

122 Borden's "spokescow"

123 Actor Romero

124 Common bellybutton

125 Rear- \_ (car accident)

126 Banana oil or benzoate

127 Secret U.S. govt. group

128 Big name in insurance

129 Deck out

DOWN

1 Rocket part

2 Flynn of old Hollywood

3 Boxer Ali

4 Iraq's locale

5 Sheltered from the wind

6 "Have \_ trip"

7 How faint memories are recalled

8 "Zip- \_Doo-Dah"

9 Father, in French

10 Chinese calisthenics system

11 Thespian great

12 Popular Nissans

13 Certain guitar player

14 Miracle- \_

15 Corporate shake-up, for short

16 Invite on a date

17 Scarab, e.g.

18 Leisurely walk

25 2.0 grade

26 French edict city of old

28 Granola bits

34 "Help Me, \_" (1965 hit)

35 Fancy party

37 Boise-to-Spokane dir.

38 Lerner's musical collaborator

39 Wanted-poster abbr.

42 Grafton's "\_ for Quarry"

43 Single-wheeled circus prop

44 U.S.-Mex. border city

45 Gives a judgment about

46 "Dogtown" singer Yoko

47 Paradise

48 Persian king

51 "The Hollow Men" poet

53 Scholastic

54 Simply won't

55 Apropos of

57 Et \_ (and others)

59 Week- \_glance

60 Mexican dish

63 Baking qty.

65 Petrol quantities

66 Jacob of social reform

67 Roosted

68 Exam for future attys.

70 "Here Comes the Hotstepper" singer \_ Kamoze

75 Campus mil. group

76 Hair highlight

77 Gaggle birds

79 Like direct combat

83 Sea- \_ Airport

85 IRS form info

87 Iraqi, for one

88 Back fish fin

90 Singer Des' \_

91 Jeong of "The Hangover"

93 Liselotte of the LPGA

94 Revenues

96 With 80-Across, Silicon Valley city

97 PIN money?

98 Hucksters' helpers

99 Stickler

101 The "g" of e.g.

104 Ike's wife

105 Screw up

106 Glossy fabric

107 Bewildered

109 Concerto part

110 Actor Ed

111 Get versed in

115 Sup stylishly

116 Lacks being

117 Emu relative

119 Slangy suffix with "two"

120 Gp. for tooth drillers

123

127

128

129

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				72				73				
74				75					76				77		78			79				
80								81					82	83				84			85	
86					87	88			89			90					91					
					92			93	94			95				96						
97	98	99			100						101					102						
103					104						105				106	107			108	109	110	111
112							113				114		115	116				117				
118						119					120							121				
122									123				124					125				
126																		129				

Answer Page 4



Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



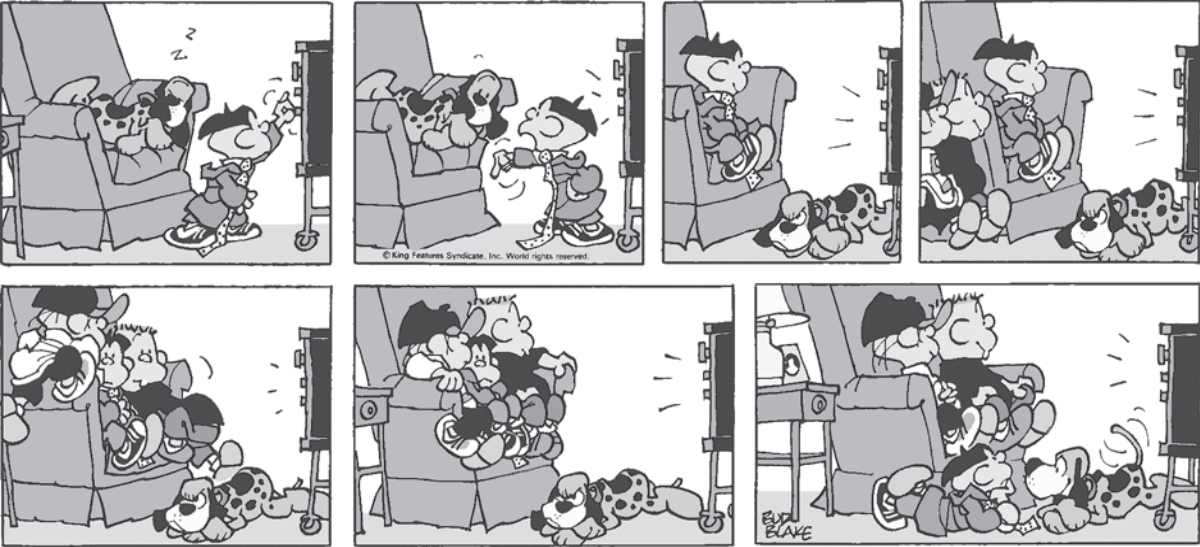
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



TIGER

By Bud Blake



Lowry

From Page 2

– more Frans de Waal, author of “Chimpanzee Politics,” than Richard Hofstadter; more Dana White than Lee Atwater.

This raises the possibility that not taking Trump head-on means more than simply missing the opportunity to make the case against him. It also means implicitly acknowledging his status as the Big Man of Republican politics, and the rival’s status as a subordinate player in the world Trump created and rules.

The only one who’s really not playing this game is Chris Christie, who gives as good as he gets and also needles Trump and initiates fights against him. If Christie can achieve a breakout in New Hampshire, it will be based, in part, on winning points on strength and courage while doing and saying what no one else dares. (Also-rans Will Hurd and Asa Hutchinson criticize Trump, too, but more politely and conventionally.)

All that said, the other candidates are reacting

to a genuine conundrum –Republican voters might be open to an alternative to Trump in theory, but they don’t want anyone to criticize him. How to square that circle is the biggest challenge for the rest of the field, at least those members of it genuinely running to win.

To be fair, Governor Ron DeSantis, as Trump’s main target, has been willing to push back as necessary, and he makes a constant, implicit critique of Trump’s electoral prospects and governing abilities. But the Florida governor is always careful to stay on the right side of the line, biding his time for later or hoping that his message catches on without having to grasp the nettle. This isn’t unreasonable, but, again, it exposes a disparity – he has a strategy, while Trump has a sledgehammer.

So long as everyone believes that Trump has one and they don’t – and acts accordingly – the fear factor will keep working in Trump’s favor.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.  
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Hives develop after taking ibuprofen

DEAR DR. ROACH: I took ibuprofen for my osteoarthritis, but developed hives. Does this mean I’m allergic to all NSAIDs? What other therapeutic options do I have? – J.B.



Anti-inflammatory drugs can have many allergic and allergic-type reactions, and ibuprofen is probably the most likely of all to do so.

For people with mild reactions (such as hives that go away) without swelling or shortness of breath, I recommend avoiding ibuprofen and similar medicines, such as naproxen (Aleve and Naprosyn, among others), as well as any other medication ending in “-profen,” such as ketoprofen or flurbiprofen.

Aspirin is safe for most people as far as allergies go, although it is a little more likely to cause side effects at higher doses. The prescription medicines meloxicam (Mobic), nabumetone (Relafen) and celecoxib (Celebrex) are among the least likely to have any cross reaction with ibuprofen. Anti-inflammatory gels like diclofenac cream (Voltaren) should also be safe for topical use.

People with more serious reactions need a referral to an allergist, who may consider desensitization.

DEAR DR. ROACH: We had to get a router attached to our computer to get Wi-Fi for our house. Is there any health risk by sitting or sleeping near the router from the radio waves it puts out? – B.R.

The energy output from a typical Wi-Fi router is about 10 watts, and the energy is the low-frequency, non-ionizing type. Very powerful radio sources, such as AM radio towers, can actually cause injury by heating tissues, but these have a power output in the thousands, or even tens of thousands, of watts. There has never been evidence of health effects on humans by low-output radio waves, such as the waves from Wi-Fi or cellphones.

DEAR DR. ROACH: One time, I drove a friend to the airport for an international flight. We were running late, and she feared missing the flight. My friend did not yell or even say much, but she got so stressed that her lips turned blue. And I mean both lips turned a deep, dark blue – nearly black. That scared me then and still does now. I don’t think that’s normal. What could that have been, and could she possibly be in danger if she gets stressed like that again? – A.F.

Blue discoloration of skin or mucous membranes is called cyanosis. When the lips are affected, it’s considered “central” cyanosis. The leading cause of this is low oxygen levels. Why a person would get low oxygen levels due to stress, without any physical activity, is a tough question – and not normal or common.

The first thing that comes to mind is congenital heart disease, the type that allows unoxygenated blood to mix with oxygenated blood. However, having an adult with undiagnosed congenital heart disease is almost unheard of, and it would be likely that she would have many more symptoms. So, it’s hard for me to believe it. Many of the other causes are potential emergencies, such as a blood clot in the lung.

Some people, when they get very nervous, breathe very shallowly. It is possible to have oxygen levels drop from this. If she had some mild heart, lung or hemoglobin disease, it could cause the oxygen level to go very low. That’s probably my best guess, but I would be happy to hear from readers with other explanations.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to [ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu). (c) 2023 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.





**Moore Texas** by Roger MOORE  
September 2, 1862: New Confederate conscription law includes all males 18-45.

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 Q

JZ NYIT MYUJZH SOZUGDNYU  
BZHGMDDYDYC GN JDUBT,  
EDCE-MIGDGOPZ AINOPU.  
ADHHOU DYSODHDZU NYIT.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

Answer Page 4

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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New presumptives coming



by Freddy Groves

Cross your fingers that we'll see three new presumptives added to the list of medical conditions that the Department of Veterans Affairs uses to consider automatic service connection after toxic exposure.

Getting these new conditions added to the list is part of the PACT Act. The act itself added 20 presumptives to the list when it was signed and covers a wide variety of toxic exposures. There is the water at Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River, agent orange, radiation and much more.

Now they are considering adding acute leukemias, chronic leukemias and multiple myeloma outside of the head and neck to the list. The locations include deployment to Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Afghanistan, Somalia, Lebanon, Uzbekistan and southeast Asia.

Inclusion on the list of presumptives won't be immediate – they never are. But scientific reviews have begun, and if they're approved, we won't need to prove that the cause of our medical condition was our service in those locations. The assumption will be automatic, as will the benefits.

The current presumptives list includes cancers of the brain, head, kidney, neck, pancreas and many more. Less serious are allergic rhinitis, bronchial asthma, chronic bronchitis and others. Of the five conditions most frequently claimed via the PACT Act, hypertensive vascular disease tops the list, with 80% of claims granted.

If you have any of the three new conditions and served in any of those locations, apply for VA health care and benefits right now. Don't wait until you hear that they've been approved. It's possible you could be approved for care and benefits even before the three new conditions are declared presumptives.

To read more about the PACT Act, check online at

[www.accesstocare.va.gov/healthcare/pactact](http://www.accesstocare.va.gov/healthcare/pactact). Or see [VA.gov/pact](http://VA.gov/pact) for the full list of presumptives and eligible locations, or call them at 800-698-2411. Get Form 10-10EZ to apply for VA health care.

Ask about exposure screenings and get signed up. Get on the books so if you ever need the care, you will have saved several steps.

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by Jo Ann Derson

• Glitter cleanup can be a hassle. Here's my tip for getting it up quickly with no mess left behind: Use play dough. Just press it into the stray glitter and it will pick it right up. Then you've created glitter dough! Oh, your kids will be impressed. Here are some more kid tips. – JoAnn

• Can't seem to part with those baby blankets now that the kids are not babies anymore? Don't! Sew them into floor pillow covers and watch the kids get a few more years out of them.

• My daughter is old enough to play on our street with her friends, but not necessarily old enough for a cellphone. Instead, we repurposed a set of walkie talkies. Her boundary is in walkie talkie range, and we can communicate. Plus, it's just fun! – T.F. in Maryland

• I saw this idea in a magazine somewhere, and now I make them for other moms and dads, as they are cute and functional: Make a cell number beaded bracelet your kids can wear when you go out. Little kids may not remember Mommy's cellphone number, but they can bring the bracelet to a store employee and ask him or her to call the number on the bracelet. Use elastic thread and colorful number beads. – P.S. in Oregon

• If you use a 1/4-inch hole punch, which you can get at a hardware store for cheap, you easily can make a straw hole in the plastic tops of kids' single serving drinks, like milk and water bottles. Less chance of a spill.

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

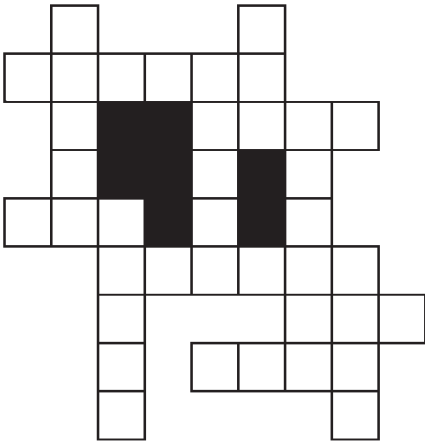
	÷		+		11
+		+		÷	
	-		×		15
×		×		+	
	×		+		17
20		15		10	

1 2 2 3 4 5 6 7 9

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EST  
SUIPER  
♥TESMO  
♥AMED  
ELVIEW  
VTA  
♥EMTI  
MEPUS  
♥EPA  
VERDIE  
LIWTR  
♥MPLA



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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