



NEWSBRIEFS



Drugs: Fall Take Back Day

On Saturday October 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Drug Enforcement Administration and various local agencies will host DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day at locations across the country. DEA and its partners will collect tablets, capsules, patches, and other solid forms of prescription drugs. For more than a decade, the event has helped Americans easily rid their homes of unneeded medications – those that are old, unwanted, or expired – that too often become a gateway to addiction. Take Back Day offers free and anonymous disposal of unneeded medications at more than 4,500 local drop-off locations nationwide. There are 10 locations in El Paso. For more information and to find a collection site near you, visit www.DEATakeBack.com.

– Carlos A. Briano

Driving towns

With Americans losing an average of \$869 per year due to time spent in traffic, the personal-finance website WalletHub today released its report on *2023's Best & Worst Cities to Drive in*, as well as expert commentary. To determine the most driver-friendly places in the U.S., WalletHub compared the 100 largest cities across 30 key metrics. The data set ranges from average gas prices to annual hours in traffic congestion per auto commuter to auto-repair shops per capita. El Paso was rated 12th in the report. Best vs. Worst:

- Henderson, NV has the lowest

See BRIEFS, Page 2

The cost of a college education is closing in quickly with the price of ignorance.

– Quips & Quotes



– Internet

TO JAB, OR NOT TO JAB – Doctors expect to spend lots of time this fall explaining to hesitant individuals how important vaccinations are, especially for seniors, because they help rev up the immune system.

Health officials worry shot fatigue might keep individuals from getting vaccinations

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – “Should I, or shouldn’t I?” is the question many El Paso County residents are grappling with when it comes to the vaccines that medical professionals are recommending individuals get this fall season. And this year they are asking the public to consider getting three different vaccines: COVID-19, Flu, and RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus).

For the first time, the American medical profession has vaccines to fight a trio of viruses that cause fall and winter misery, according to officials with the Department of Health and Human Services. But they worry that shot fatigue and hassles in getting them will leave too many people needlessly unprotected.

“We need to use them, and right now is the right time,” Dr. Mandy Cohen, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recently asserted.

The Updated COVID-19 vaccine is now easier for adults to find, but they’re still scarce for young children, health officials acknowledged recently. However, they did report that the shot for kids has started arriving in local clinics, pharmacies, and doctors’ offices.

This year’s COVID vaccine is updated to protect against newer

versions of the constantly evolving coronavirus. Already there’s been a late summer jump in infections, hospitalizations and deaths. And so far, the new vaccine recipe appears to be a good match to the variants currently circulating, according to health officials.

Protection against COVID-19, whether from vaccination or from an earlier infection, wanes over time, and most Americans haven’t had a vaccine dose in about a year. Everyone five years and older will need just one shot this fall even if they’ve never had a prior vaccination, while younger children may need additional doses depending on their vaccination and infection history, health officials stated.

The yearly flu vaccination shot is urged for just about everyone, starting with babies as young as 6 months. Fewer individuals got a flu vaccine last year than before the coronavirus pandemic, and CDC personnel said that they hope to reverse that issue.

“People need a flu vaccine every fall because influenza also mutates each year. Like with COVID-19, flu is most dangerous to older adults, the very young, and people with weak immune systems, chronic health problems, or are pregnant,” a local health professional stated.

Health officials reported that there are multiple kinds of flu vaccines, including a nasal spray version for

certain younger persons, and that a flu shot and COVID-19 shot may be taken at the same time, although one in each arm might be more comfortable.

Also, this year, a vaccine against the RSV virus is recommended for people 60 years of age and older and for certain pregnant women. As for babies, a vaccine-like medicine to guard against that respiratory syncytial virus is expected to arrive soon.

RSV is a cold-like irritant for most people, and not as well-known as the flu. But, according to health professionals, RSV packs hospitals every winter and kills several hundred kids and thousands of seniors.

RSV vaccines from GSK and Pfizer are approved for adults 60 and older. Drugstores have adequate supplies, but some seniors are reporting difficulties, such as requirements to get a prescription. That’s because the CDC recommended that seniors talk with their doctors about the new vaccine, and the CDC director said that it was meant just for education about a virus that people may not know much about. “We want folks to get access to the vaccine as quickly as possible,” she noted.

The FDA also has approved Pfizer’s RSV vaccine to be given late in pregnancy so moms-to-be pass virus-fighting antibodies to their fetuses, offering some protection at birth. The

See SHOT, Page 5

Israel is not a colonial state

It doesn't take long to read or listen to anti-Israel advocacy before the word "colonial" or "colonialism" is hurled at the Jewish state.

After the spasm of Hamas murder, rape, and kidnapping over the October 7 weekend, the U.S. Palestinian Community Network exclaimed, "Our

people are waging an anti-colonial, anti-occupation, and anti-Zionist liberation struggle!"

According to an anti-Israel statement signed by dozens of student groups at Harvard, Israel is undertaking "colonial retaliation."

An academic cottage industry is devoted to deeming Israel a decades-long exercise in "settler colonialism," and Hamas itself is partial to the term.

The use of the word "colonial" in all its forms isn't meant to accurately describe reality or clarify anything; rather it is a term of abuse wielded to delegitimize Israel and justify every means of resisting its very existence.

The "colonial" smear can't survive contact with the slightest critical scrutiny.

First of all, the original Jewish settlers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries weren't sent by any mother

country to set up enclaves for the honor and profit of the homeland. To the contrary, they were escaping countries that, in many cases, didn't

want them. It would have been perverse for Jews to have sought, say, to establish an outpost of Russia in the Levant, given the atrocities routinely carried out against them on Russian soil.

They thought of their venture as a return to a place that Jews had inhabited for thousands of years.

Indeed, the colonialism charge raises the question of how an indigenous people can be colonizers?

The Jewish people have had a connection to Israel since Abraham. The people became fundamentally identified with the land; indeed, they were synonymous. The land was a locus of the Jewish faith – the site of its holy city, Jerusalem; the place where many religious commandments, the mitzvot, were supposed to be performed; the object of yearning after the dispossession of Ancient Israel ("Next year in Jerusalem").

There is a reason that Zionists had no interest in



Briefs

From Page 1

traffic fatality rate (per 100,000 residents), 1.61, which is 23.3 times lower than in Memphis, TN, the

city with the highest at 37.53.

- Gilbert, AZ has the fewest car thefts (per 1,000 residents), 0.58, which is 26.4 times fewer than in Oakland, CA, the city with the most at 15.33.
- Corpus Christi, TX has the

lowest average gas price, \$3.36 per gallon, which is 1.6 times lower than in Los Angeles and Long Beach, CA, the cities with the highest at \$5.35 per gallon.

- St. Petersburg, FL has the lowest average parking rate,

\$0.60 per two hours, which is 69.8 times lower than in New York, NY, the city with the highest at \$41.87 per two hours.

Visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-cities-to-drive-in/13964> for the full report.

– Diana Polk

Scholarship deadline

El Paso County high school seniors are encouraged to apply for the 2024 Elks Most Valuable Student (MVS) Scholarship.

Application deadline is Monday, November 13. The judging criteria includes a student's accomplishments in academics, leadership, and community service, as well as financial need. The Elks National Foundation will award 500 four-year scholarships: 480 scholarship awards of \$4,000 and 20 scholarships worth \$30,000. Visit the Elks Lodge website at enf.elks.org/MVS for more information and to apply. Don't delay submitting an application.

– Alfredo Vasquez

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COURIER

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PUBLISHED:
Published each Thursday (minimum 50 issues) by Homesteader News, Inc. Office open Monday through Thursday.

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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.

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Homesteader
Est. 1973
News, Inc.

Rodriguez sworn in as TASB President

By Gustavo Reveles
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – Canutillo Independent School District Trustee Armando “Mando” Rodriguez earlier this month was sworn in as president of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) – the largest and most influential organization for elected school board members in the state – during a special ceremony in Dallas.

Rodriguez, a fifth-term trustee in CISD and a longtime public servant in Canutillo, is the first El Pasoan to be selected to lead TASB in more than 25 years. Only three other El Paso County trustees have ever served as TASB presidents: David Sublasky from Fabens ISD (1997), Ross Borrett from Ysleta ISD (1975) and Ted Andress from El Paso ISD (1958).

“It’s an honor and privilege to serve in this role, and to represent not just Canutillo, but the entire El Paso community at the state level,” Rodriguez said. “I hope to bring a different perspective to the table by guaranteeing that all students – regardless of the community in which they live, the language they speak or the cultural background of their family – have access to high quality educational services.”

In his role, he will help lead an organization that provides its more than 7,000 members with governance resources and sets an agenda for public-education advocacy. TASB is widely recognized as one of the most influential education organizations in the state.

Canutillo ISD Board President Patricia Mendoza said having Rodriguez serve in this capacity at the state level will be beneficial to the District and El Paso.

“Already, Mando has been a transformative

figure in public education for our region. His advocacy at the state and national level has helped bring about changes that have benefited students and their families,” she said. “Now, with a bigger megaphone, he will be a better cheerleader for the Border and the students that go to our public schools. He is going to do a great job!”

Rodriguez will serve as president for a year and then serve an additional year as immediate past president.

During his presidency, Rodriguez hopes to advocate for equitable funding for public schools and to develop better systems that will help elected school board members improve governance and accountability. He also plans to further advocate against school vouchers and other initiatives aimed at attacking school districts.

“Public schools remain the best option for Texas students and we must continue to do everything we can to guarantee that our teachers and school systems have the resources they need to continue doing the good work they have been doing,” he said.

Rodriguez has served on the TASB Board of Directors for several years. He is a 2012 alum of the Leadership TASB Program, which earned him the title of Master Trustee.

His work on behalf of students extends beyond TASB. He is involved in a variety of education and community boards in Texas and throughout the United States. He currently serves on the board of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund.

Rodriguez also has received the Golden Molcajete Award for his long-standing service to MASBA and the students in the state of Texas.

“The Molcajete is symbolic to our cultural heritage



– Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

Armando “Mando” Rodriguez is first El Pasoan to lead Texas’ organization for school trustees in more than 25 years. He was sworn in this month during a special ceremony. He also received the Golden Molcajete Award during an award ceremony in San Antonio this month.

See RODRIGUEZ, Page 4





– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

EPCC holds 15th Annual Literary Fiesta

arts in our community and to encourage young minds to engage in creating new knowledge in these fields.”

Different workshops were presented: Art Workshop by president of the Green Hope Project, Candance Printz, Speech by American Playwright and Director Octavio Solis, Writing by authors Donna Muñoz, Yazmin Ramirez, Chrysalis and Musical performances by Rene Castañeda and Daniel Rivera.

leadership positions include serving on the National School Board Association Board of Directors as chair of the National Hispanic Council and as secretary of the National School Boards Action Center. He also has served as president of the Mexican American School Boards Association and the Far West Texas School Boards Association.

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CryptoQuip Answer

What should be the favorite
fruity beverage of church
members who aren't ordained?
Layman-ade.

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7	+	9	+	4	20
21		27		28	

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Like verbal language, sign language has tongue twisters, known as “finger fumblers.”
- In Japan, ramen noodles are a fuel source for more than just humans: The Amaterasu Railway’s sightseeing train uses biodiesel made out of leftover ramen oil, which has the added benefits of curbing CO2 emissions and supporting local businesses.
- *Physarum polycephalum*, a type of slime mold, can solve complex mazes and other spatial problems even though it has neither a brain nor a nervous system.
- There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.
- A bald eagle, upon catching a fish that may be too heavy for it to lift, will use a movement strikingly similar to the human breaststroke to maneuver its prey to the shore.
- The world’s oldest known musical instrument, a flute made from a vulture’s wing bone that was discovered in a German cave, dates back nearly 40,000 years.

- Janine Sugawara sued the makers of Cap'n Crunch cereal for falsely advertising its contents by not using real berries. Her complaint was quickly dismissed, however, when the judge pointed out that there's no such thing as Crunch Berry.
- And speaking of the good captain, his full name is Horatio Magellan Crunch, after explorer Ferdinand Magellan.

- You are more likely to have a weird or scary dream while sleeping on your stomach.

- During the 1980s, American Airlines found it could save an annual \$40,000 simply by removing a single olive from its first-class meals.

Thought for the Day: "You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams."
– Dr. Seuss

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Moments
in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Oct. 23, 1964, French existentialist philosopher and writer Jean-Paul Sartre published a letter in the newspaper Le Figaro to explain why he didn't want to accept the Nobel Prize for Literature that he'd been awarded the day before, stating he didn't wish to take sides in the East and West struggle of the Cold War by accepting an award given by Western institutions.
- On Oct. 24, 1926, the world famous escape artist Harry Houdini, though ill with a high fever, cold sweats and pain, gave what would be his last performance at the Garrick Theater in Detroit, Michigan. Immediately afterward, he was rushed to a local hospital, where he died a week later on Halloween.
- On Oct. 25, 1955, Tappan sold the first microwave oven, a large, 220-volt model priced at \$1,295. Only 34 units were produced that year, and didn't sell well. But by 2000, the ovens could be found in 90% of American homes.
- On Oct. 26, 1977, the last natural case of smallpox was discovered in Merca District, Somalia. Three years later, the World Health Organization declared the disease eradicated. To date it remains the sole infectious disease to have achieved that distinction.
- On Oct. 27, 2013, singer-songwriter Lou Reed died at the age of 71 from a liver-related illness. The Velvet Underground frontman had undergone a liver transplant and was known for his heavy alcohol and drug use.
- On Oct. 28, 2011, British Commonwealth leaders unanimously agreed that female heirs to the throne would be equal in the rules of succession. The previous rules, in place for over three centuries, had decreed that first-born sons had the right to the throne, while daughters would only inherit the monarchy if no sons had been born or survived. It was also agreed to lift the ban barring British monarchs from marrying Roman Catholics.
- On Oct. 29, 1982, Lindy Chamberlain was found guilty of the murder of her 9-week-old daughter, Azaria, after a jury dismissed her claim that a wild dingo actually took the baby during a family camping trip.

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Shot

From Page 1

CDC is recommending that pregnancy vaccinations be offered between September and January when RSV tends to be most common.

There's no RSV vaccine for children but babies whose mothers didn't get vaccinated in pregnancy may get an injection of lab-made antibodies, called Beyfortus, to guard against the respiratory virus. This one-dose shot from Sanofi and AstraZeneca is different than a vaccine, which teaches the body to make its own infection-fighting antibodies, but is similarly protective, Dr. Cohen explained.

This year, the government isn't buying and distributing shots for free. This time, drugstores, doctors' offices, and other providers have to place their own orders. And manufacturers, like Pfizer and Moderna, have shipped millions of doses regularly and said that there's plenty of supply.

Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra stated recently that he was informed by insurance companies that they have resolved the paperwork issues that was blocking some patients' vaccinations.

Becerra stated that the shots are supposed to be provided free to insured individuals. For the uninsured or underinsured, CDC has opened what it's



– Internet

NO FREE RIDE FROM UNCLE SAM – This year the U.S. government isn't buying and distributing shots for free – drugstores, doctors' offices, and other providers have to place their own orders. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra said the shots are supposed to be provided free to insured individuals.


calling a “bridge” program to provide free shots at certain sites.

So, should you, or shouldn't you get the vaccines? Well, according to Dr. William Schaffner, of Vanderbilt University and the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, everyone should seriously consider getting them. “These (three) vaccines may not be perfect in being able to prevent absolutely every infection with these illnesses, but they can turn a wild infection into a milder one,” he stated.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

TEXAS
COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY



NOTICE OF
RECEIPT OF
APPLICATION
AND
INTENT TO
OBTAIN WATER
QUALITY PERMIT
RENEWAL

PERMIT NO.
WQ0010166001

APPLICATION.
El Paso County
Water County
and Improvement
District No. 4, P.O.
Box 3880, Fabens,
Texas 79838, has
applied to the
Texas Commission
on Environmental
Quality (TCEQ)
to renew Texas
Pollutant Discharge
Elimination
System (TPDES)
Permit No.
WQ0010166001
(EPA I.D. No.
TX0065013) to
authorize the
discharge of
treated wastewater
at a volume not
to exceed an
annual average
flow of 1,200,000
gallons per day.
The domestic
wastewater
treatment facility
is located at
17270 Alameda
Avenue, Fabens,
in El Paso County,
Texas 79838. The
discharge route is
from the plant site

to Fabens Waste
Canal; thence to
the Rio Grande
Below Riverside
Diversion Dam.
TCEQ received
this application on
July 28, 2023. The
permit application
will be available
for viewing and
copying at El
Paso County
Water County
and Improvement
District No. 4, 117
East Main Street,
Fabens, Texas
prior to the date this
notice is published
in the newspaper.
This link to an
electronic map of
the site or facility's
general location
is provided as a
public courtesy
and not part of
the application or
notice. For exact
location, refer to
application:

<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-106.1455,31.483192&level=18>

ALTERNATIVE
LANGUAGE
NOTICE

Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notice>

El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/>

ADDITIONAL
NOTICE

TCEQ's Executive Director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After technical review is complete, the Executive Director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list and to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the deadline for submitting public comments.

PUBLIC
COMMENT/
PUBLIC
MEETING

You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest

in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY
FOR A
CONTESTED
CASE HEARING

After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

TO REQUEST
A CONTESTED
CASE HEARING,
YOU MUST
INCLUDE THE

FOLLOWING
ITEMS IN YOUR
REQUEST: your
name, address,
phone number;
applicant's name
and proposed
permit number;
the location
and distance of
your property/
activities relative
to the proposed
facility; a specific
description of
how you would
be adversely
affected by the
facility in a way
not common
to the general
public; a list of all
disputed issues
of fact that you
submit during
the comment
period and, the
statement "[I/
we] request a
contested case
hearing." If
the request for
contested case
hearing is filed on
behalf of a group
or association,
the request
must designate
the group's
representative for
receiving future
correspondence;
identify by name
and physical
address an individual
member of the
group who would
be adversely
affected by the
proposed facility
or activity; provide
the information
discussed above
regarding the
affected member's
location and
distance from
the facility or
activity; explain
how and why the
member would
be affected; and

explain how the
interests the
group seeks
to protect are
relevant to the
group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period. TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

MAILING LIST

If you submit public comments, a request for a

contested case
hearing or a
reconsideration
of the Executive
Director's decision,
you will be added
to the mailing list
for this specific
application to
receive future
public notices
mailed by the
Office of the Chief
Clerk. In addition,
you may request
to be placed on:
(1) the permanent
mailing list for a
specific applicant
name and permit
number; and/or
(2) the mailing
list for a specific
county. If you wish
to be placed on the
permanent and/or
the county mailing
list, clearly specify
which list(s) and
send your request
to TCEQ Office of
the Chief Clerk at
the address below.

INFORMATION
AVAILABLE
ONLINE

For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at:

www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid

Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY
CONTACTS AND
INFORMATION

Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at:

<https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/>

epic/eComment/
or in writing to the
Texas Commission
on Environmental
Quality, Office of
the Chief Clerk,
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WTCC: 10-26-23

UTEP football program needs to make some changes

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

This may be as bad as it’s gotten for the UTEP football team in the last few years.

When the Miners hosted the New Mexico State Aggies in the Sun Bowl on Oct. 18, most figured the El Paso team would win a close Battle of I-10.

I mean let’s face it, though they are improving, NMSU didn’t even field a football teams three years ago

The first half proved everyone right, the Miners and the Aggies settled for a 7-7 halftime score with neither team really doing anything better than the other.

But one of the main things that separate good coaches from not-so-good coaches, is the ability to readjust their strategy, eliminate the things that aren’t working and focus heavily on the things that are.

Very simply, NMSU coach Jerry Kill was able to make those halftime adjustments and UTEP’s Dana Dimel could not.

The result was the Aggies outscoring the Miners 21-0 in the second half, ending in a 28-7 lopsided victory for NMSU.

The loss dropped the Miners to 2-6, while the Aggies raised their record to 5-3.

That means that the Aggies are in a great position to eventually be able to play in a bowl, while the Miners will have to wait again for next season.

Let’s be honest, this is Dimel’s sixth year at the helm for the Miners

and things aren’t getting any better. Though he was able to lead the Miners to the 2021 New Mexico Bowl with a mediocre 7-6 record, his overall totals at UTEP are 19 wins and 46 losses.

To put things in perspective, in the 10 years before Jerry Kill’s arrival to NMSU, the Aggies had compiled 26 wins and 85 losses.

In his first season-and-a-half, Kill has a 12-9 record and led the Aggies to a 24-19 win over Bowling Green in the Quick Lane Bowl in Detroit last season.

UTEP is a bigger school than NMSU, with better facilities, a bigger budget and a bigger stadium.

So why have the Miners fallen behind so many football programs it should be ahead of?

We all know that the UTEP football program has been the absolute worst in the country over the last six decades. Since 1967, the Miners have put together only eight winning seasons. That’s eight winning teams in the last 56 years.

UTEP fans have been asking themselves why the Miners can’t win in football while having one of the best basketball programs in the country during that same time span.

I guess the answer is easy – coaching.

When you’re lucky enough to have a Don Haskins in your program for 38 years, it makes a monumental difference. I’m afraid the Miners are going to have to find a new football coach that can inject some life into a football program that’s been on life-support for years.

The most difficult thing about all of this is that Dana Dimel is about the nicest person you’ll ever meet. He greets you with a smile, treats you with respect and answers every question.

Unfortunately, he isn’t paid for being a nice guy. He’s paid for winning football games and that has surely not been the case.

Everyone talks about how they would love to see the Miners back in the Mountain West Conference and

how Conference USA is inferior.

But the truth is, the Miners aren’t even close to competing for a title in CUSA.

They’ve fallen behind smaller schools like NMSU, Jacksonville State and Liberty, and are about even with Sam Houston.

In my opinion, what UTEP has to do is go out and hire a young and hungry first-time head coach who is an up-and-coming offensive coordinator at a college power.

Sure a coach like that will be here for four years before a big school steals him away, but UTEP can establish itself as a football school on the way up. Another young coach will be waiting in the wings.

It isn’t hard to notice the body language of the players when they fall behind. It isn’t hard to notice the bad clock management and the inability to make halftime adjustments.

And it isn’t hard to come to the conclusion that UTEP needs a coaching change.

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Cellphone safety

If you’ve had a cellphone for several years and are now quite comfortable using it, you might be tempted to add more functions and fun to it to make it handier and more valuable to you.

However, there needs to be a line drawn somewhere.

Beware the types of apps you install on your phone. (App is short for “application,” and it’s thought there are nearly 9 million different apps in the world.) The thing to ask yourself before you add any app is this: If technology experts who run large computer systems struggle to keep those systems safe from scammers around the world, how much success are the techs at your bank or grocery store likely to have with cellphones?

The more apps you have on your phone, the more at risk you are.

Clicking the wrong thing on an app, or even downloading it, can install malware on your phone. At the very least, it can send your number back to scammers. Armed with only

your active phone number, they can do a reverse search for you on Whitepages and potentially find your home address and then your banking information and much more. They can lock you out of social media, barrage you with scam text messages and calls, have all your calls forwarded to another number or lock you out of your phone until you pay a ransom. They can send scam messages that appear to have come from you. If you access email on your phone, your area of risk widens substantially.

Some suggestions from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to keep your phone safe:

- Lock it. Depending on the brand you have, used a passcode or a screen lock.
- Keep the software updated.
- Back up your data. Learn about backing up to the “cloud” or your computer.
- And before you add any app to your phone, ask yourself if you trust it.

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- POTENT POULTRY
- ACROSS
- 1 Durable, lustrous fabric for table linen
- 7 Babysits, e.g.
- 12 Heavy burden
- 16 Machines connected to mice
- 19 Person expressing viewpoints
- 20 Do some igniting
- 22 Syrup source
- 23 Beginning of a riddle
- 25 Even a hint of
- 26 Not so bright
- 27 Old sporty Pontiac
- 28 The Palm Treo was one, in brief
- 29 Arctic home
- 31 Riddle, part 2
- 39 “_ que?” (“Why?,” to Juanita)
- 40 Tofu base
- 41 Contest involving balancing on a floating log
- 42 Lead-in to bad news
- 45 “_ girl!”
- 47 Fortunetellers
- 49 U.S. pres. during the Gulf War
- 53 Riddle, part 3
- 57 Austrian “a”
- 58 Hidden valley
- 59 “_ From Muskogee”
- 60 “Incredible” superhero
- 61 Bert’s Muppet pal
- 63 “_ darn tootin’!”
- 64 Broad smile
- 65 Foal’s father
- 66 Mini-carpet
- 68 Riddle, part 4
- 72 Woman with will power?
- 74 Deteriorates
- 75 Dahs’ Morse counterparts
- 76 Pet treater
- 79 “Tomorrow” musical
- 80 “_ d’oeuvres
- 81 Peru’s capital
- 82 “Gotta go!”
- 83 Muscle jerk
- 84 Riddle, part 5
- 89 Tree of Life’s garden
- 91 Boffo reviews
- 92 Funnywomen
- 93 Schumer and Poehler
- 93 Has a go at
- 94 Have a loan from
- 96 Lead-in to puncture or pressure
- 97 Class for U.S. immigrants
- 98 End of the riddle
- 107 Put back to 0, perhaps
- 108 NASA “yes”
- 109 Tolkien meanie
- 110 Rom- _ (film genre)
- 112 Aussie avian
- 113 Riddle’s answer
- 121 Diana Ross musical, with “The”
- 122 Relaxes, informally
- 123 Shoelace hole
- 124 Disco _ (guy on “The Simpsons”)
- 125 “Yes, yes!” in Yucatan
- 126 Discontinues
- 127 Cookout condiment

- DOWN
- 1 Op-ed columnist
- 2 Green garden pest
- 3 Marlins’ city
- 4 House pest
- 5 Stitch up
- 6 Food chain
- 7 Letter-shaped opening in a machine
- 8 LAX abbr.
- 9 Certain caucus reply
- 10 Visit briefly
- 11 Reading room
- 12 Two _ kind
- 13 Not a one
- 14 Website ID
- 15 Frozen floating brine
- 16 Church song
- 17 Tippy craft
- 18 Observe slyly
- 21 Put _ on (limit)
- 24 Broadway’s Hagen
- 30 Mapmaker’s sci.
- 32 Home to Barcelona
- 33 Driver’s alert
- 34 Lauder of perfume
- 35 Chomsky of linguistics
- 36 Vacuum cleaner company
- 37 Actress Petty
- 38 Rick’s love in “Casablanca”
- 42 Azalea of rap
- 43 Manicurist’s tool
- 44 From the time that
- 45 Guitarist Chet
- 46 Entity
- 47 Rejects with disdain
- 48 Trapped morays
- 50 Much-married English king
- 51 Nintendo console that debuted in 2012
- 52 Rare blood type, in brief
- 54 Pierces
- 55 Japanese massage technique
- 56 Ogling looks
- 62 Old washcloth
- 64 Say “hi” to
- 65 Cutoffs, e.g.
- 66 Hostility
- 67 Affix a new label to
- 69 Hexa- halved
- 70 Recurrent theme
- 71 Benefit spiritually
- 72 Dislike a lot
- 73 “National Velvet” novelist Bagnold
- 77 Roof’s edge
- 78 Feet have five
- 80 Widespread destruction
- 81 Primate of Madagascar

- 82 Keyboard command for “paste”
- 85 Rich rocks
- 86 Vatican’s denom.
- 87 Go quickly
- 88 Stilted-sounding reply to “Who’s there?”
- 90 G flat, for one
- 95 _ hat (Broom-Hilda costume part)
- 96 Beginning of a classic JFK quote
- 97 Artist working on glass
- 98 Pub offerings
- 99 Send in, as payment
- 100 Japanese truck maker
- 101 “Mighty” trees
- 102 Yule songs
- 103 9-Down and 119-Down are opposite ones
- 104 Bit of a circle
- 105 GI tract bacterium
- 106 Tender spots
- 111 Fictitious tale
- 114 “Bali _”
- 115 Officeholders
- 116 Hi-tech film effects
- 117 Dove’s noise
- 118 Cobra type
- 119 Certain caucus reply
- 120 _ Aviv-Yafo

Answer Page 4

Super Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14	15		16	17	18
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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					127				

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

settling in Uganda, as was proposed in the early 20th century.

On top of this, Israel has been willing at key junctures, notably right at the beginning in 1948, to accept a two-state solution.

The Palestinians must be counted among the worst nationalists the world has ever known: They have repeatedly rejected opportunities to obtain a nation-state because they hate Israel’s legitimate national aspirations more than they love their own.

In one sense, Israel’s ultimate offense is to have won defensive wars fought against antagonists seeking to wipe it from the map.

As for Gaza, Israel ended its occupation nearly 20 years ago. It wanted to wash its hands of the place as much as possible, an understandable impulse but one that has proved unsustainable. Hamas won legislative elections in 2006 and then expelled the rival Palestinian group Fatah in a factional war. In total control, Hamas proceeded to make Gaza a base for conducting armed operations against Israel.

Israel’s failing here wasn’t so much heavy-handedness – although it took measures to protect itself from the threat in Gaza, as did Egypt – but the naive belief it could reach a de facto accommodation with a Hamas that would misrule Gaza for its own ends while not becoming too dire a threat to Israel. Its mass terror attack on Israel ends that delusion.

If nothing else, the accusation of colonialism is very telling. There is one country in the roll call of nations that doesn’t deserve to exist. One people that doesn’t deserve a homeland. One people who, despite being subjected to hideous persecutions over the centuries and being constantly attacked today, is supposedly guilty of every possible crime.

And it happens to be Israel and its Jewish inhabitants.

The Hamas attack was just a taste of what it would do to Israel if it had the power – extricate an indigenous people from their homeland in the most brutal fashion possible, in the name, of course, of anti-colonialism.

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

Do seizure-like episodes equate to epilepsy?

DEAR DR. ROACH: My husband experienced seizure-like episodes without tonic/clonic body movements in high altitude. These episodes occurred while he was traveling, being physically active in Colorado and skiing in France. Both episodes happened at least 12 hours after physical activity. Our general physician back home felt that these were not true seizures, instead a reaction to possibly being dehydrated in high altitudes.

A vast amount of testing resulted in nothing unusual going on with his cardiovascular system or his brain. But just recently, he had another episode two days after being active, hydrating at sea level and banging his head – with more body movement this time. I have been researching online, and seizure-like reactions seem to occur due to electrolyte imbalances. It is very hard to get to a neurologist without an excessive wait time. Do you think anti-seizure medications are warranted? – S.S.



It’s important to separate a seizure (which anyone can get if there is enough stress to the brain) from epilepsy, a condition where the person is susceptible to recurring seizures. For it to be considered epilepsy, a person generally needs at least two unprovoked seizures (with no unusual stress to the brain) at least 24 hours apart. Only epilepsy is treated with long-term anti-seizure medicines.

There is indeed a risk of developing seizures while at a high altitude. In addition, there are many other conditions that can provoke a seizure. You mentioned electrolyte imbalance, but sodium (too much or too little) as well as too little amounts of magnesium and calcium are among the most common. Low blood sugar is a frequent cause.

Some recreational drugs cause seizures, but withdrawal from drugs, especially alcohol, is more common. Metabolic diseases of the kidney and thyroid are also common. Sleep deprivation, brain injury (especially stroke, but also trauma), brain tumors and brain infections are all common triggers that your husband probably received an evaluation for.

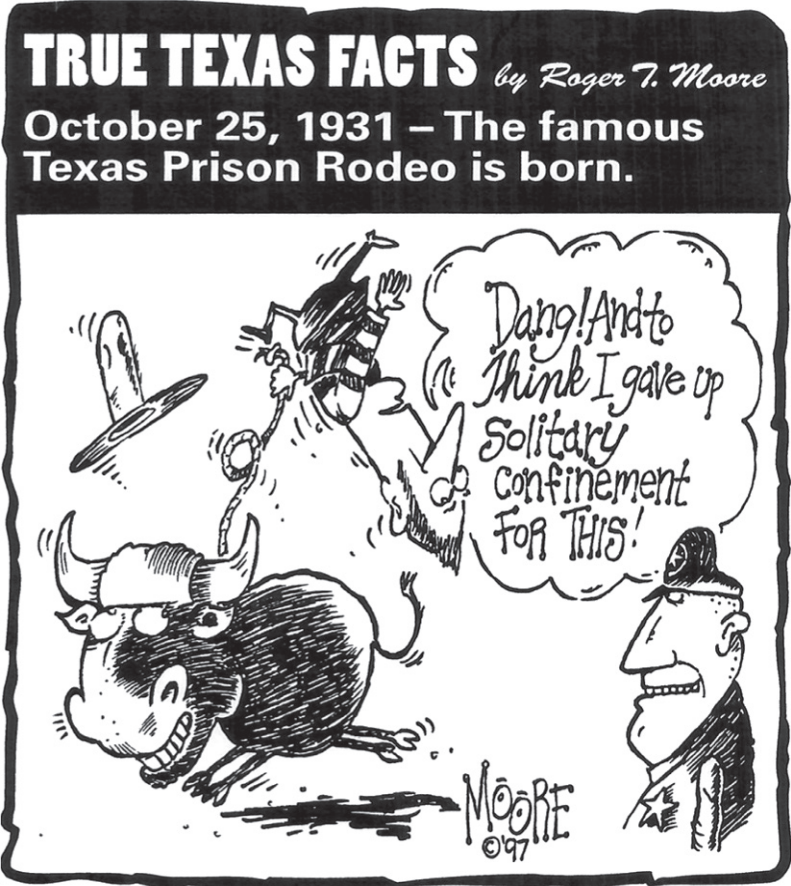
Had it only been the first seizure, my advice likely would have been the same as your physician’s, although I probably would have suggested a consultation with an epileptologist (a neurologist with special expertise in seizures). Now that he has had a second – and unprovoked – seizure, my suspicion that he has epilepsy is much higher. (In hindsight, it’s clear that the first reaction really was a seizure.)

Most people experiencing their first seizure while at a high altitude were eventually found to have epilepsy after further testing, including an electroencephalogram (EEG). The high altitude doesn’t cause the seizure; it just increases the risk of a seizure in a person who has an underlying propensity for it. This may also occur with many medicines, especially those used for depression.

Your husband should see an epileptologist as soon as possible. I strongly feel that it’s unwise for nonexperts to prescribe anti-seizure drugs, except as a treatment until a patient can be seen by an expert. I have seen that done many times, and it is done improperly, at least according to the expert a patient eventually sees. Your husband needs a timely and comprehensive reevaluation. Epileptologists recognize that new onset seizures in an adult require a more timely appointment.

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.

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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: V equals F

FLBP ZLXSGH WI PLI VBKXYDPI
VYSDPE WIKIYBJI XV OLSYOL
TITWIIYZ FLX BYIR'P XYHBDRIH?
GBETBR-BHI.

Answer Page 4
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It's all in the fine print



by Freddy Groves

This is certainly a new one. A famous (and expensive) university and a professor were caught not paying the Department of Veterans Affairs what was owed for patents, to the tune of \$1.5 million.

The professor in question worked at the university in various research positions, including as the Chair of one department. His list of titles and positions is quite impressive, not to mention his long list of honors and awards. In other words, the guy is no slouch. He's clearly bright and is working in an important medical field. At the same time he held a part-time position at the VA.

Both the professor and the university were under disclosure agreements, which meant that any discoveries or inventions the professor made at the university would be

reported to the VA. While at the university, having created three inventions, the professor applied for three patents with the VA's part clearly noted.

What's key here is that part of the funding for the research came from VA grants. In other words, taxpayers paid for some of it.

Years later, the royalty payments started rolling in from those three patents. During one round of submitting paperwork for the patents, the detail about the VA having supported the research was omitted.

Notified about the lapse, the professor refiled and the VA pounced, wanting to claim an ownership interest in the inventions... and the royalties.

The Department of Justice got involved with the end result that the university and the professor have to pay \$1.5 million under the False Claims Act for failure to share the patent royalties.

I was prepared to hate the guy, truly. I found dozens of professional videos online wherein he talked about the

research, and I was prepared to label him a swindler, a low-life, a thief. Instead, I'm left pointing the finger of blame at the university itself. They should have had someone to watch over the details and to handle paperwork matters such as correctly filing patents so the professor could keep doing his work.

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- Fill your salt and pepper shakers a fourth of the way with uncooked white rice. Dry rice will allow the salt or pepper to flow more freely from the shaker. If your shaker is opaque, you can tell when it's time to add more salt or pepper when the shaker starts to rattle.

- Mark old toothbrushes with masking tape so you can tell the difference between cleaning brushes and those you use for your teeth. You can clean a toothbrush in the dishwasher. Put it with the silverware.

- Because fabric softeners can leave residue on the dryer's lint trap, clean yours out at least every other month. Just scrub with plain old soap and water.

- "Add this to the list of wonderful cleaners for wood floors: tea. Just brew a couple of cups and use the tea as you would your regular wood floor cleaner. It's nice and shiny afterward." – P.L. in Oregon

- Use a turkey baster to "squirt" pancake batter into your frying pan. Mix the batter as normal and unscrew the top of the baster to load. You can use it to make letters for fun kids' breakfasts. No drips!

- "If you have trouble opening the lid on glass jars, try using a pair of standard dishwashing gloves. They work to grip both the lid and the jar. They work especially well if your hands are the least bit moist." – D.Y. in Pennsylvania

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

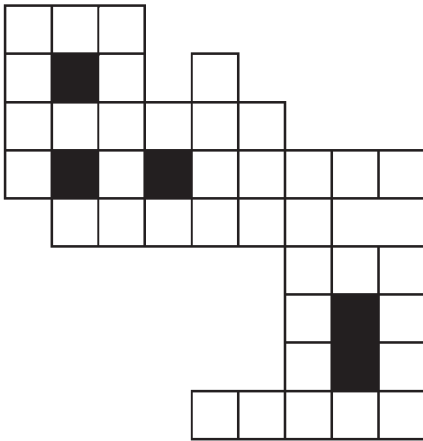
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21		27		28	

1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 9

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- OPH
- ♥CIPENT
- ♥ESNDO
- CEIP
- HECNIR
- ♥AWS
- ♥NECA
- DECMI
- ♥EOR
- WODEST
- ♥NESRI
- ♥NWEH



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

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

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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