



Sanchez is new El Paso County Attorney

Commitment to public service, deep El Paso roots play key role in her job

By **Alfredo Vasquez**
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Starting as a legal intern in the El Paso County Attorney’s office 16 years ago, Christina Sanchez’s dedication has paid off as she now heads the critical department.

“This is an honor of a lifetime,” Sanchez said. “It does not get lost on me that the people of El Paso elected me to do this job. It is my intent to do the best job that I can. I am born and raised here in El Paso County. My entire legal career has been in the county attorney’s office providing public service. This is really a dream job. A dream come true, and I will not let this community down.”

Sanchez was officially sworn in as the new El Paso County Attorney in mid-June at the El Paso County Ceremonial Courtroom at the Enrique

are up to the challenge and to the task,” El Paso County Commissioner David Stout said before the Commissioners Court’s vote. “I know you will lead us into the future in a fierce and fearless manner. I’m just so happy that we’re able to get you in even earlier. The voters spoke quite effusively and elected you by a very, very big margin,” Stout stated.

The County Attorney’s Office oversees various legal services, including juvenile crime, child and elder abuse, mental health, protective orders and family violence. It also enforces state and county environmental and health laws. The office oversees both civil and criminal litigation. The office also provides civil legal defense for El Paso County government officials.

The new county attorney will oversee a budget of more than \$11 million, according to El Paso County budget reports. Sanchez will work with a staff of about 100 people for the next four years. Her salary has not been released; however, prior records show that the county attorney’s base salary was \$226,534.

“I love El Paso and I am just grateful I have been able to serve my community throughout my career in the County Attorney’s Office. And now I am going to work hard to be a county attorney that El Paso can be proud of,” Sanchez stated during her swearing-in ceremony.

Sanchez graduated from Burges High School in 1997. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts in political science from George Washington University in 2001 and her law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law in 2007.

She began her career with the El Paso County Attorney’s Office as a legal intern in 2007. After graduating from Texas Tech School of Law, she was hired as an assistant county

attorney. “At that time, the county and a lot of our governmental entities were in turmoil over widespread public corruption issues that were going on throughout county government, city government, and at our school districts. When I started as a legal intern, one of the first jobs was jumping right in and doing the legal research on those issues and what it meant for the county,” Sanchez recalled.

Seeing firsthand what corruption had done to her city and the distrust of elected officials, Sanchez said that she knew what she wanted to do with her career. Subsequently, she said that she decided to take action to hold elected officials accountable and ensure the citizens of El Paso were represented with honor and integrity.

“It has always sparked my interest because for me it was always about ensuring that our elected officials had the community’s interest in mind and then it was just, ‘how did we get here?’” Sanchez said about the corruption scandals. “It wasn’t about sitting out and complaining and just being a bystander. It was ‘how was I going to make a difference to that?’ That had always stuck with me, and I knew that I could build a career in the county’s attorney’s office to ensure the county government continued on a good path and good representation for the constituents of this community,” she related.

During her tenure, Sanchez has worked in various departments in the county attorney’s office to learn as much as possible about each unit. She has worked in multiple positions for the County Attorney’s Office, including division chief for the Commissioners Court Unit.

Sanchez became senior division chief for the El Paso County Commissioners Court and the Public Works Unit, her last position before taking over the office from her mentor. “She’s ready to lead,” said Bernal, who served as county attorney for 15 years. “She was ready to lead on day one. I, along



– Internet

NEW JOB – Christina Sanchez was sworn in recently as El Paso County Attorney after being elected in the March Democratic Party primary with over 69 percent of the votes. She has no challenger in the upcoming general election. Sanchez takes over for Jo Anne Bernal, who announced her retirement earlier this year.

with the rest of the community, look forward to watching her to see what her plan is and how she executes her vision.”

One significant objective that Sanchez said that she plans to undertake is making it easier for victims of family violence to find all the help they need through the County Attorney’s Office.

“A long-term project that I am so interested in doing for the County Attorney’s Office would be to build a one-stop shop for victims of family violence. Right now, we do provide protective order services for individuals that come in and that do qualify. But what we’ve also learned is those individuals need further assistance, whether it’s in seeking how they can be financially independent from the household that they are in that causes them to stay in that type of relationship, either

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“I know that first and foremost, Christina and her team will be focused on the protection, safety and wellbeing of the El Paso community. It’s important for El Pasoans to know they’re in very good hands.”

– Jo Anne Bernal, former El Paso County Attorney

Moreno County Courthouse, in Downtown El Paso. The swearing-in ceremony was held hours after the El Paso County Commissioners Court voted 5-0 to appoint her to the position to immediately take over for Jo Anne Bernal, who retired from the seat.

Sanchez was elected in the March Democratic Party primary election with more than 69 percent of the votes and is facing no Republican challenger in the November General Election. She was set to take over the office in January, but the commissioners court vote allowed Sanchez to begin her work early.

“There are big shoes to fill with Jo Anne’s departure, but I know that you

NARCAN available to EPCC employees, students

By **Beau Bagley**
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – NARCAN is now available, free, to all El Paso Community College (EPCC) employees and students, announced by the EPCC Office of Emergency Management. Opioid emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere.

NARCAN is a medicine that reverses opioid overdose. Opioids are drugs like heroin, fentanyl, or morphine. NARCAN is a nasal spray designed to help reverse the effects of a life-threatening opioid emergency.

“EPCC will offer NARCAN at the Valle Verde, Rio Grande, Transmountain, Northwest, and Mission

See **NARCAN**, Page 4

Distribution sites:

- Valle Verde Writing Center, A1425
- Northwest Library, L100
- Transmountain Library, 1600
- Mission del Paso Tutoring Center, E108
- Rio Grande Library, E100
- Rio Grande Border Health Clinic, 1001 El Paso St.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Fabens Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 in the Fabens ISD Administration Building, 821 NE "G" Avenue Fabens, Texas 79838. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$0.791000/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$0.332100/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	3.34%	Increase
Debt Service	1.47%	Decrease
Total Expenditures	3.00%	Increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 423,123,635	\$ 431,507,099
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 1,953,211	\$ 2,813,123
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 242,531,177	\$ 255,555,307
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 1,775,676	\$ 2,627,582

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$19,973,000.

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.791000	\$ 0.332100*	\$ 1.123100	\$ 1,449	\$11,404
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.732500	\$ 0.330700*	\$ 1.063200	\$ 1,554	\$11,874
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.791000	\$ 0.332100*	\$ 1.123100	\$ 1,611	\$12,192

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$123,198	\$131,846
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 2,769	\$ 8,460

Last Year's Rate Versus

	Last Year	This Year
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.121700	\$ 1.102500
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 31	\$ 93
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 62

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.123100. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.123100.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 13,362,662
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 680,366

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.



– Photo by Ingrid Leyva

ALL SMILES – Cassandra Saenz attended The Border Latch event with her baby on August 2, 2024.

Benefits of breastfeeding touted during Border Latch

By Jim Heiney
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – At 10:30 a.m. on August 2nd, 16 mothers joined women from across the world to promote the benefits of breastfeeding at The Border Latch. Coordinated by the Binational Breastfeeding Coalition (BBC) and hosted by the EPCC Jenna Welch and Laura Bush Community Library, the moment was photographed and will be part of display at the World Health Organization in Switzerland. A second event took

See **BENEFITS**, Page 4



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EPCC Cosmetology teams with local hospitals

Cancer survivors given beauty makeovers

By Beau Bagley
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Community College (EPCC) Cosmetology Department hosted their annual ‘Power of Pink’ on July 26 at the EPCC Cosmetology, Nail Tech and Massage Departments in the EPCC Administrative Services Center.

EPCC teamed up with health partners UMC, Providence, Del Sol Medical Center, William Beaumont Breast Cancer Awareness Program, and the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation to provide local cancer survivors with beauty makeovers and gifts.

The Cancer survivors were treated to a hair style, then makeup and nails, all done by EPCC students, followed by a professional picture, snacks and gifts by sponsors.

“I feel very blessed and overwhelmed with the love and support. I feel like a woman, and it’s wonderful,” said cancer survivor Daniela Barton.

Professional pictures were offered to the patients free of charge. EPCC Cosmetology, Nail and Massage will hold a kickoff party on September 27 where the pictures will be added to display boards and showcased at all of the local hospitals in the community. This



– Photo by Rudy Gutierrez/EPCC

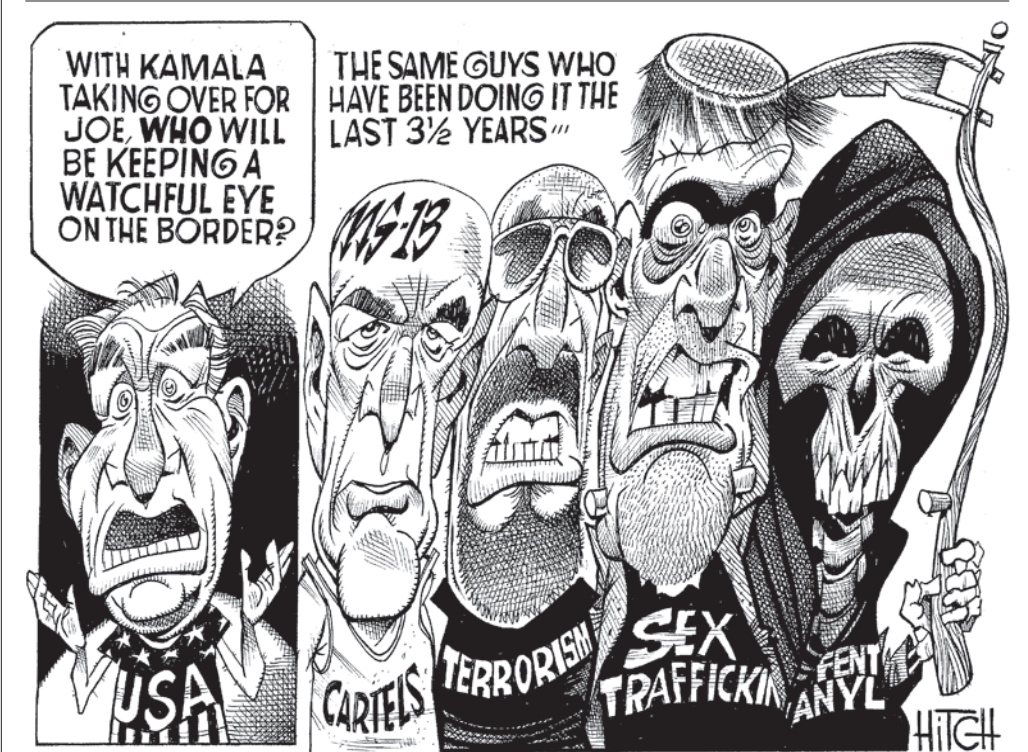
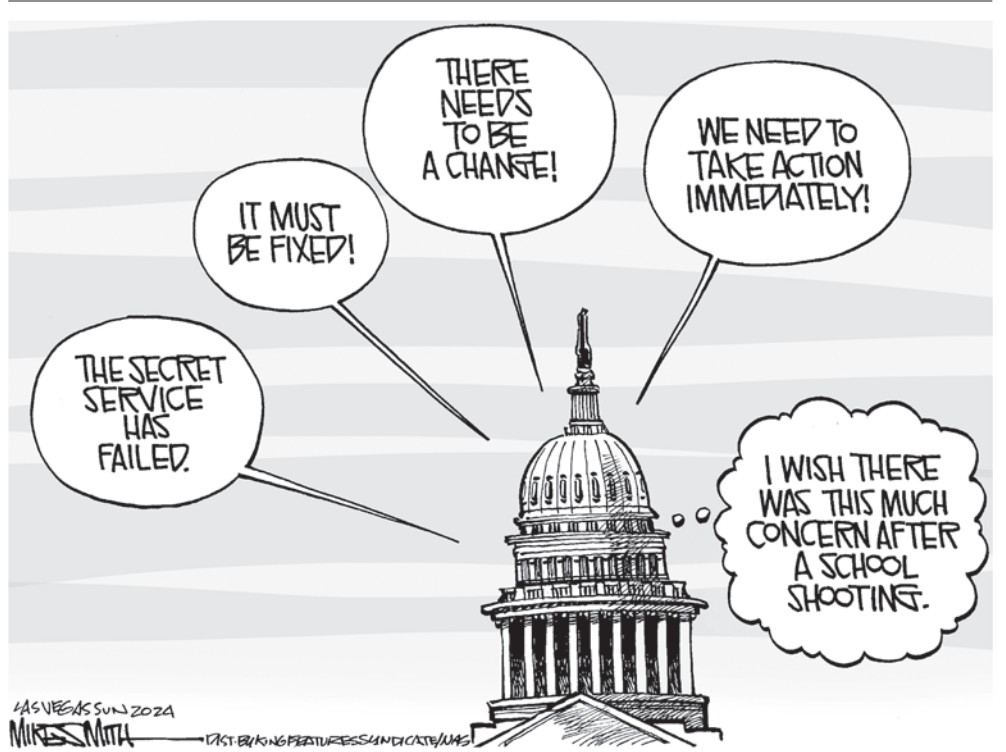
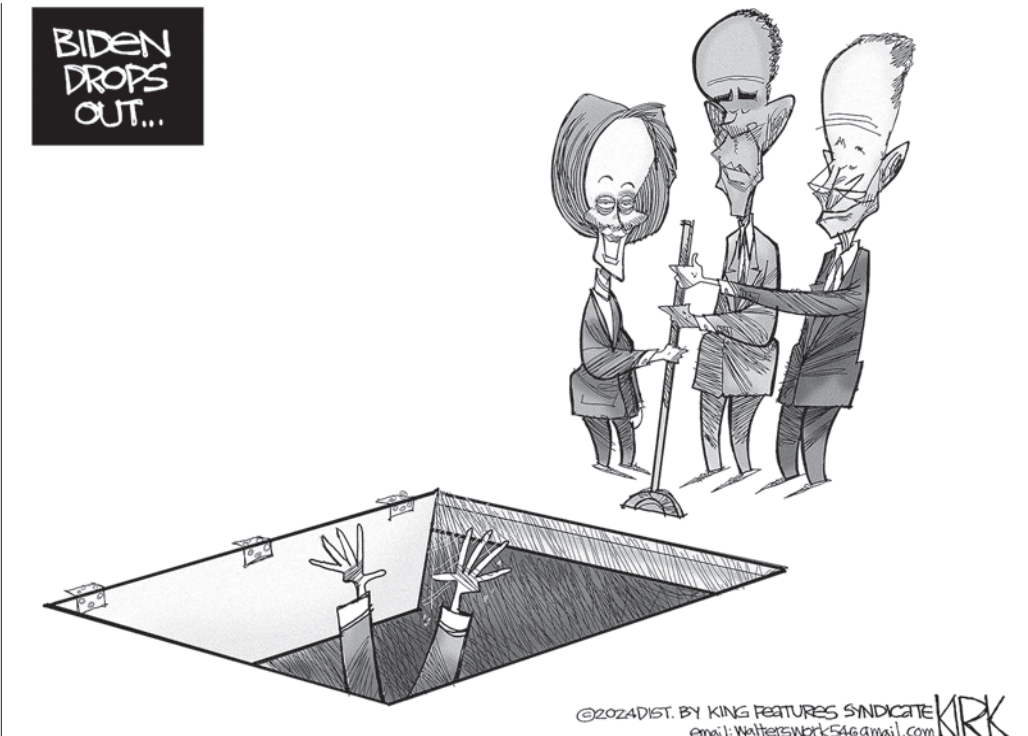
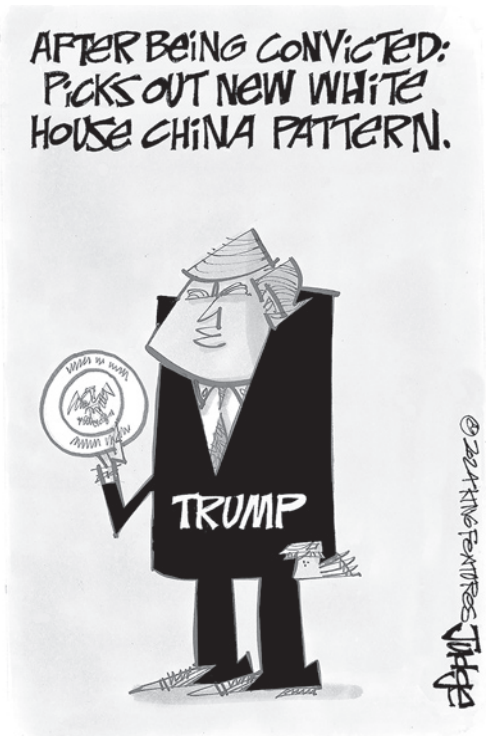
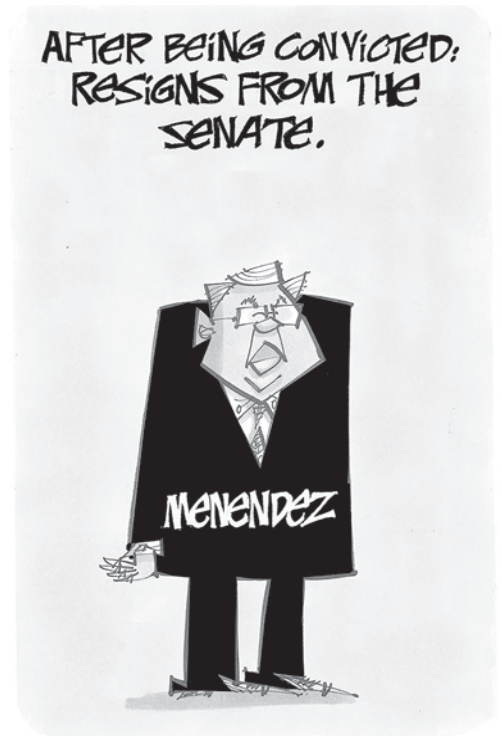
FINISHING TOUCHES – EPCC students, from left, Jessica Solis and Anaida Meza give Daniela Barton a makeover.

leads into October, which is National Breast Cancer Awareness month.

This event started in 2005 and is getting bigger and better every year.

“It’s always positive. It’s listening for our students is something that is really important, because they learn how to address any circumstances,

and how our field makes the guest feel important, and can appreciate what our work is,” EPCC Nail Technology Instructor Graciela Roman said.



Sanchez

From Page 1

for themselves or for their family,” Sanchez noted.

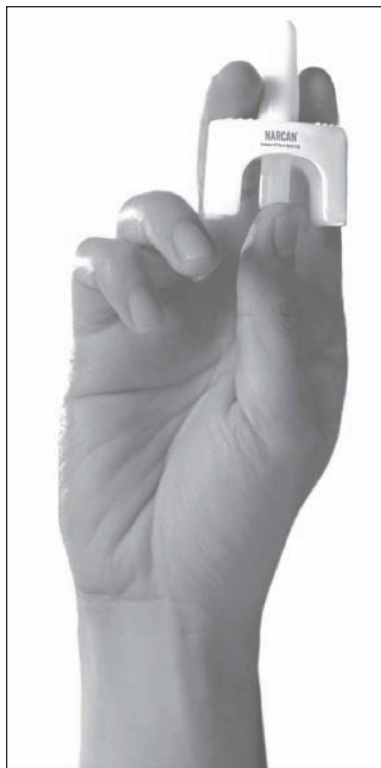
“So, building a social network, if you will, around that for those individuals that are coming so they’re not having to be referred to five or six different areas. That’s a huge project. We’ve seen models in other communities throughout Texas but that’s something that I’d like to hopefully start and implement within this first term,” Sanchez added.

NARCAN

From Page 1

del Paso campuses to any student or employee. No personal information will be obtained and the NARCAN is free of charge,” Hector Padilla, EPCC Emergency Management Director, said.

Padilla added, “The opioid crisis in our community is a serious matter and one many families face on a daily basis. Drugs such a heroin, fentanyl, and many prescribed medications can lead to an accidental overdose. NARCAN helps to counter the effects of these drugs which primarily suppress a person’s respiratory drive. I would encourage everyone to be prepared by educating themselves on opioid use and how to administer NARCAN. I want to thank Psychology Professors Carrie Van Houdt and Robert Horstman. It was their vision and efforts that led the way in implementing this program.”



– Internet

LIFESAVER – NARCAN (naloxone) is a life-saving medication that can reverse an overdose from opioids – including heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioid medications – when given in time. Naloxone works by blocking the effects of opiates on the brain and by restoring breathing and only works if a person has opiates in their system. It is easy to use and small to carry.

Benefits

From Page 2

place at the Central Parque in Ciudad Juarez on August 4th. This year’s National Breastfeeding Month theme is Nourish, Sustain, Thrive.

2024 marks the 12th anniversary of the BBC Border Latch/Gran Tetada Fronteriza where, friends, and the community, show their support and commitment to normalize breastfeeding and offer peer support. “I encourage all mothers to breastfeed in public and be proud. It is your right, Rosalba Ruiz-Holguin, Coordinator of BBC said. “I encourage everyone who sees a mother breastfeeding, go up and thank her” The event also celebrates the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Advocacy’s (WABA) World Breastfeeding Week and the U.S. Breastfeeding Committee’s (USBC) National Breastfeeding Month.

Send Your News To:
wtxcc@wtxcc.com

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Venus is the only planet to spin clockwise.
- Around 600 B.C., a Greek athlete by the name of Protesilaus threw a discus 152 feet from a standing position. His record remained unbroken for over 2,000 years, until Clarence Houser threw a discus 155 feet in 1928.
- The nursery rhyme “Humpty Dumpty” doesn’t state that Humpty Dumpty was an egg.
- In the 1950s, Quaker Oats devised a clever marketing scheme in which the company bought 19.11 acres in the Yukon, divided them into 21 million parcels of just a square inch apiece, and included deeds to the tiny plots in boxes of Puffed Wheat and Puffed Rice.

• A game of bridge contains 53,644,737,765,488,792, 839,237,440,000 possible ways in which the cards can be dealt.

• To encourage his fellow Norsemen to settle a large, snow-and-ice-covered island he discovered in the year 982, Eric the Red called it Greenland. The ploy worked.

• Niagara Falls is slowly eroding by 1 to 2 feet per year. Since their formation some 12,000 years ago, the falls have already withdrawn 7 miles upstream, and if that rate continues, they should meet up with Lake Erie, about 20 miles from their present site, within the next 35,000 years.

• Anuptaphobia is the fear of being single forever.

• In movies and television, scientists are more likely to suffer a violent death than members of any other profession.

• The lead-acid battery, the type most commonly used in cars, was invented by Martha C. Weston, who patented it in 1859 when she was only 17 years old.

• Lemons float, but limes sink.

Thought for the Day: “I believe ambition is not a dirty word. It’s just believing in yourself and your abilities. Imagine this: What would happen if we were all brave enough to be a little bit more ambitious? I think the world would change.”
– Reese Witherspoon

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of **\$0.100000 per \$100 valuation** has been proposed by the governing body of **EI Paso County Emergency Services District #1**.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.100000 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.098222 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.119349 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2024 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for El Paso County ESD #1 from the same properties in both the 2023 tax year and the 2024 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that El Paso County ESD #1 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that El Paso County ESD #1 is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2024 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 15, 2024 at 6:30 PM at 14151 Nunda Ave., Horizon City, TX 79928 or virtual meeting: virtual meeting: Microsoft teams; access code: 295 988 735 523; Passcode: s7fn8w

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, El Paso County ESD #1 is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Board of Commissioners of El Paso County ESD #1 at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount = (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property) /100

FOR the proposal: Bill Mayberry, Jose Berumen, Deanne Rankins, Jeff Booth, Amanda Anaya

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by **EI Paso County ESD #1** last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by **EI Paso County ESD #1** this year.

	2023	2024	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.100000	\$0.100000	No change of 0.100000 per \$100, or 0%.
Average homestead taxable value	\$214,107	\$228,393	Increase of 6.45%.
Tax on average homestead	\$214.10	\$228.39	Increase of \$14.29, or 6.45%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$6,161,948.26	\$6,785,638.19	Increase of \$623,689.93 or 9.63%.

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for **EI Paso County ESD #1** at **915-771-2300** or **ctaxassessor@epcounty.com**, or visit **epcounty.com** for more information.

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8 + 1 x 7 = 63

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R E L O A E R I A L C H E E R I E S T
S T Y E N I C E L Y H E L D A V O T E

CryptoQuip Answer

If a doctor tests your physical fitness level, I reckon he is looking at the vigor picture.



Moments in time
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

“global warming” appeared in print for the first time in Wallace Smith Broecker’s paper “Climatic Change: Are We on the Brink of a Pronounced Global Warming?”

- On Aug. 5, 1981, President Ronald Reagan began firing 11,359 air-traffic controllers who’d gone on strike two days before, after negotiations with the federal government to raise their salaries and shorten their workweek failed. His action, which many regarded as extreme, significantly slowed air travel for months.
- On Aug. 6, 1930, New York Supreme Court Judge Joseph Force Crater vanished on the streets of Manhattan, setting off a massive investigation that captured the nation’s attention and earned him the notable title of “the missingest man in New York.” Crater was declared legally dead nine years later. But although evidence surfaced in 2005 that he may have been murdered, the case was never officially solved.
- On Aug. 7, 1782, Gen. George Washington created the “Badge for Military Merit,” today better known as the Purple Heart, a decoration consisting of a purple, heart-shaped piece of silk edged with a narrow binding of silver and the word “Merit” stitched in silver across the face, designed to be presented to soldiers for “any singularly meritorious action.”
- On Aug. 8, 1975, the term

- On Aug. 9, 2010, Steven Slater, a JetBlue flight attendant, bade his job goodbye in astonishing style by sliding down his plane’s emergency escape chute while the aircraft was stopped near the terminal gate at John F. Kennedy International Airport. Slater claimed his exit was prompted by a rude passenger’s behavior, and became a media sensation.
- On Aug. 10, 1957, Dr. W.E. Peterson was confident that the invention of “protective milk” could cure illnesses including cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatic fever and even the common cold. Peterson had been experimenting with injecting bacteria into cow’s udders to produce immunity in those who drank the milk, but it had not been tried out on large groups of people.
- On Aug. 11, 1984, South African runner Zola Budd collided with American favorite Mary Decker at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, causing Decker to fall and drop out of the race. The crowd began booing, and Budd, who many believed would be a medal winner with Decker, ended up in seventh place.

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Town of Anthony, TX

Public Notice

Request for Proposals

Administrative/Professional Services 2025-2026 TxCDBG

NEW DATES

The Town of Anthony, TX plans to apply for the upcoming 2025-2026 TX Community Development

Block Grant Fund Program of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). These services are being solicited to assist the Town of Anthony, TX in its application and administration of the TxCDBG contract, if awarded, to support eligible activities associated with the program in the Town of Anthony, TX. Accordingly, the Town of Anthony, TX is seeking to contract with a qualified Professional Administrator or

Service Provider (individual/firm) to prepare the application and/or administer the awarded contract.

This RFP is only available electronically. Proposals packets are available at <https://townofanthony.org/rfp-2025-2026-txcdbg-program-packet/>

Proposals MUST be submitted electronically in.pdf format via email to varmendariz@townofanthony.org with the subject

line:

Town of Anthony, TX RFP 2025-2026 TxCDBG Program Packet

or submitted through the website portal. Proposals must be received by the Town of Anthony, TX no later than 9:00 a.m. on August 26, 2024 to be considered.

Proposals will be opened the morning of August 26, 2024 at 9 a.m. and the award date will be August 26, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. during the Regular Town

Council meeting.

The Town of Anthony, TX reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. The Town of Anthony, TX reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns,

Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit proposals.

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Valerie M. Armendariz
Town Clerk

WTCC: 08-08-24

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of **\$0.078856 per \$100** valuation has been proposed by the governing body of EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.078856 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.076225 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.074980 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$0.078856 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2024 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 from the same properties in both the 2023 tax year and the 2024 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 exceeds the voter-approval rate for EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2024 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 13, 2024 AT 5:30 PM AT 16001 Socorro Road, Fabens, TX 79838.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate. However, the proposed tax rate exceeds the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 adopts the proposed tax rate, the qualified voters of the EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 may petition the EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters reject the proposed tax rate, the tax rate of the EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 will be the voter-approval tax rate of the EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:	Adrian Santana	Michael Diaz	Roland Glidden
	Rick Avalos	Michael Barnes	
AGAINST the proposal:	None		
PRESENT and not voting:	None		
ABSENT:	None		

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 this year.

	2023	2024	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.086457	\$0.078856	Decrease of -0.007601, or -8.79%
Average homestead taxable value	\$145,655	\$157,969	Increase of 12,314, or 8.45%
Tax on average homestead	\$125.93	\$124.57	Decrease of -1.36, or -1.08%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$5,099,873	\$5,444,675	Increase of 344,802, or 6.76%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 at (915) 212-0106 or citytaxoffice@elpasotexas.gov, or visit www.elpasotexas.gov for more information.

The transgender issue has reached the Olympic games

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

My father has been gone for about four years now but the lessons he taught me will live on as long as I'm around. And because I passed them on to my son, they'll be around as long as he is.

His lessons were very simple, respect others, respect yourself, always do the right thing, work hard, save money, keep your word, be a leader and take care of your family.

He also taught me not to be a bully and never hit a woman. I believe it when he told me that only cowards hit women.

I wish he was alive today so that maybe he could teach these values to the International Olympic Committee.

It seems that the IOC has no problem whatsoever with the idea of a man bullying a woman. In fact, it sees nothing wrong with a man beating the heck out of a woman – as long as it's in the boxing ring.

They proved it when they allowed Albanian boxer Imane Khelif to fight Italy's Angela Carini in the 66-kilogram weight category at the Olympics last week. After receiving a couple of thunderous punches, the Italian tearfully abandoned the fight after just 46 seconds.

Carini said she'd never been hit with

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

that much force in her life.

All the controversy about allowing transgender men to compete against biological women, was reignited after this fight.

It's no secret that in the United States, as well as much of the world, males are now allowed to compete against (as well as be in the same restroom and locker room) females.

I know the average man is about a foot taller and 60 pounds heavier than a woman, but it doesn't matter as long as he declares he feels like a woman on that day.

Oh, my dad also taught me to have a little common sense.

I've seen videos of women competing against men in soccer, basketball, football, martial arts, tennis, running and a few other sports, and the results have been brutal. Naturally, the bigger men just crushed the smaller women.

Gee, I wonder why they have an NBA and a WNBA, or the PGA and an LPGA. Or why they have men's and women's sports leagues of all kinds?

I've always tried to be a very open-

minded person and inspect all sides before I take a stand on anything. But as a former athlete, I take no pride in beating anyone much smaller than myself.

But to be fair, there are many who say that Khelif was born a female and raised as a female. All I know is that Khelif has the chest, shoulders, arm length, body type and facial features of a male.

Oh, and also the power.

Khelif, who clinched a silver medal at the International Boxing Association's 2022 World Championships, was disqualified from the women's world championships last year for allegedly failing gender eligibility tests.

According to the Associated Press, the International Boxing Association disqualified Khelif from last year's championships right before the Algerian's gold-medal bout because of elevated levels of testosterone.

So, as it turns out, either Khelif is a biological male or is taking illegal drugs to gain the strength of a biological male.

It's also curious that the IOC allowed the Algerian to compete in these Olympics although she was disqualified a year ago for failing gender eligibility tests and displaying an unusually high amount of testosterone for your average female.

I'm all for females taking on females in any sport. Many of these athletes start playing as little girls with a dream of playing in college or even the pros. But never in their wildest dreams did they ever think they'd have to compete with men for a spot on the team.

And unbelievably, that is happening all over the country, and it's only going to get worse.

I'd be fine if transgender males had their own league to play in to face opponents their own size. Either that or just play with the men.

But beating on a smaller female is nothing to be proud of and seems a bit cowardly to me.

I wish the IOC would take my dad's advice about respecting women – but first they'd have to be able to define what one is.

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Downgrading to a simpler phone

Tired of having a fancy cellphone with all the bells and whistles that are confusing to use? Want a phone that makes a call, takes a call, snaps a few pictures and sends text messages, but nothing else? Yes, me too.

I've discovered many, many features on my cellphone that I either do not use, cannot use or will not use. The "location finder" that will pinpoint where I am is a bit scary. The ability to surf the internet and read email via a phone is lost for me if I can't even read the screen. A phone with a "digital wallet" that keeps credit card info and allows purchases right from the phone is risky. And do I really want a "health" feature that stores my data?

I'm on the hunt, therefore, for a simple phone that is used for basic communication.

Does this mark me as "old," no longer wanting to deal with all the fancy features of a phone? No. Many in the younger generations are burned out on the fancy

(expensive) smartphones and being on social media for too many hours every day. They're opting for what they call the cheaper "dumb" phones that only have basic features and use cheaper data plans.

That's not to say all of the non-smartphones will be suitable. There's the problem, on many of them, with the keyboard where three letters are assigned to each key. To type a "c" in a text message, you need to hit the key three times. Others, however, have the QWERTY keyboard, just like a computer. And some of those phones do have internet access and email.

If you'd like to consider leaving the world of fancy, expensive cellphones behind, make a list of the features you absolutely need to have, and there's sure to be a minimalist phone just for you.

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SHADY NUMBERS

- ACROSS**
- Abolished
 - Helical shape
 - _ Tzu (toy dog)
 - "General Hospital," for one
 - Pre-euro Spanish currency
 - Joking Jay
 - Marcel's hit sung by members of an old German kingdom?
 - "Frozen" heroine
 - NBC hit since '75
 - _ Vegas Raiders
 - Gallery stuff
 - Further down
 - Bing Crosby hit sung by a skeleton?
 - "One L" novelist Scott
 - Munch on
 - Lift up
 - Enzyme suffix
 - And the like: Abbr.
 - Sharif of film
 - R.E.M. frontman Michael
 - _ Martin (British auto)
 - Prince hit sung by kings and queens?
 - Rotation stat
 - Many TikTok users
 - Cash cache, for short
 - Spanish article
 - Mother bird
 - Garlicky sauce
 - Cafe offerings
 - _ careful out there"
 - Ancient Roman poet
 - Beatles hit sung by small finches?
 - Cuts short
 - Puts a question to
 - Artifact
 - Hunger may cause them
 - Syrup base
 - Penpoint
 - Penpoint, e.g.
 - Before, to Byron
 - Oasis animal
 - Rolling Stones hit sung by coffee lovers?
 - Novelist Mario Vargas _
 - Everything considered
 - Bazillions
 - _ accompli
 - Mo. #4
 - Scornful look
 - Old JFK flier
 - Podiatic problems
 - John Cougar Mellencamp hit sung by electric eels?
 - Old Turkish bigwigs
 - "Where _ begin?"
 - Sewer rodent
 - Overwhelm
 - Luxury Swiss watch brand
 - Alannah Myles hit

- sung by roofers?
- 122 Move, in Realtor-speak
 - 123 From above, as a photo
 - 124 Most upbeat
 - 125 Eye affliction
 - 126 In an amiable way
 - 127 Chose by ballot

DOWN

- Viper types
- Brought into the world
- Cuban leader Castro
- CIA missions, e.g.
- Drive at 10 mph, say
- Concerning bees
- Toy with
- Suffix with south
- Light pat
- Brief burst
- Former NFL quarterback Rodney
- Suffix with 104-Down
- Rock's _ Speedwagon
- _Z (total)
- "Trading Places" director John
- Icy precipitation
- Beneficial companion, as a spouse
- Ripe for the market
- Turns laryngitic
- Cafe au _
- Lordly home
- Weapon swung by a gaucho
- Be dressed in
- Lyre's cousin
- _ Pet (1980s fad)
- Pueblo people
- Nothing, in France
- Stone patio
- Like a perfect world
- Overhasty
- Painter Dix
- ETs' ships
- Altima maker
- Brand of power tools
- "Glory of Love" singer Peter
- Suevigny of "Big Love"
- Perfect
- In a majestic manner
- Nerd on "Family Matters"
- Preserved
- 2004 Chevy debut
- Part of NNW
- Suffix with major
- Maui garland
- Bit of a circle
- Connect (to)
- German cry
- _ Guevara
- Actress Tyler Jack
- Galaxy and iPhone buys
- Nome's home
- Ducks' and Devils' org.
- Motel relative
- People in an embrace, e.g.
- Language's letters
- In a sullen way
- Appearance
- Blood type, informally
- Nitpick
- Overhasty
- Painter Dix
- ETs' ships
- Altima maker
- Brand of power tools
- "Glory of Love" singer Peter
- Suevigny of "Big Love"
- Perfect
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- Bit of a circle
- Connect (to)
- German cry
- _ Guevara
- Actress Tyler

Answer Page 4

Super Crossword

Comix

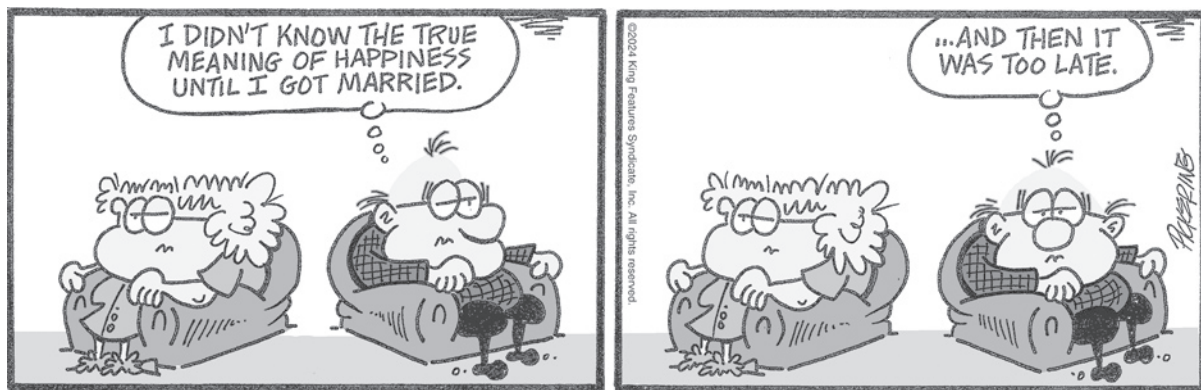
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



TIGER By Bud Blake



Menstrual pain might be due to endometriosis



DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm a woman who has had terrible experiences with menstruation. I've probably seen two-dozen different gynecologists, and I complained to every one of them about my painful periods. Not even a painkiller was prescribed. Most of them seem to think that debilitating pain is part of being female. This pain is so bad that it is incapacitating. I've missed work and school because of it. I would throw up anything that I tried to eat or drink for a full day. It drives me nuts that everyone can empathize with a migraine headache, but no one has empathy for someone with menstrual cramps. Once, I told the nurse practitioner that I had a really painful episode, and she asked, "Why didn't you come into the office? You might have ruptured something." Had I come into the office, it would have required an ambulance. By then, I had heard about endometriosis. I asked her if she thinks I have it, and she said, "Oooh, you probably do. You'd have to get laparoscopic surgery to know." Well, that would have been great to know 40 years ago. I could have gotten the surgery and spared myself years of agonizing pain. Did I explain myself incorrectly all those times when talking to my doctors? It's too late for me (thankfully, I'm past all this), but please help us learn how to talk to our doctors in order to get through to them. These are not your garden-variety cramps that can be treated with Midol. – S.N.

I am very sorry to hear of your experiences, and I'm glad you have written to try to help others avoid this outcome. While it is true that most women have discomfort during menstruation, some women experience a lot more than discomfort, and what you had is not typical at all for dysmenorrhea. When a woman has pain that doesn't respond to the first-line treatments, such as a heating pad and regular exercise, most primary care doctors, including gynecologists, consider pain medication as well as a trial of hormone treatment (such as combined oral contraceptives – "birth control pills"). I'm honestly surprised you weren't ever recommended these treatments, even though I have heard horrific stories of pelvic pain being ignored before.

If pain medication and hormone treatment are inadequate, it's time for a primary care doctor like me to refer the patient to a specialist. The specialists I choose are gynecologists who have special expertise and training in pelvic pain. They consider multiple reasons for this persistent pain, including adenomyosis, fibroids and endometriosis.

With endometriosis, there are lesions outside the uterus near the ovaries, pelvic ligaments, bladder, or the lining of the pelvic wall in the cul-de-sac (an anatomical structure in the pelvis). Just like the endometrial tissue in the uterus, these lesions outside the uterus react to hormone levels, and at the time of menstruation, they can typically cause pain or pressure, bowel or bladder issues, painful sex, fatigue, and other symptoms.

While I can't be sure that you had endometriosis, it is the most likely diagnosis. The diagnosis is often supported by an ultrasound, not usually by surgery at first. Medical treatments for endometriosis (such as GnRH-analogue drugs or aromatase inhibitors) are generally preferred to surgery, but surgery is still necessary sometimes.

I am concerned about your having seen two dozen gynecologists. One should have been enough to treat you with increasing levels of aggressiveness. I'd advise women in your situation to seek out a gynecologist with expertise in pelvic pain.

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. ©2024 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Moore Texas by Roger Moore

Reportedly San Antonio has a law against washing or repairing your car on Sunday.

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: **W** equals **L**

KH E FYXC YJ COBCB AYTJ
 UPABKXEW HKCROBB WOZOW,
 K JOXQYR PO KB WYYQKRS EC
 CPO ZKSYJ UKXCTJO.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Make plans to see the Blue Angels



by Freddy Groves

Did you ever see the Blue Angels when you were younger? There's something about their fantastic flight demonstration show that can make a kid out of any of us – again.

I had the opportunity to see the Blue Angels again recently. Even at my age, and knowing the maneuvers were going to be perfectly executed, I held my breath during the Opposing Solos, when two F/A-18 Hornets approach each other on what appears to be a collision course, passing belly to belly with only inches to spare.

My personal favorite, though, in spite of the carefully choreographed maneuvers of the Hornets, is the awe-inspiring Fat Albert, a hefty Lockheed-Martin C-130T Hercules.

Fat Albert is deceptively agile. With solid-fuel rockets attached to the back, Fat Albert can be 1,000 feet off the ground in 15 seconds.

Here are a few Blue Angels tidbits:

- Did you know they were named after a bar? They were called the "Navy Flight Exhibition Team" until a team member made a trip to New York and saw a magazine ad for a nightclub called Blue Angel.

- They've gone through a number of different planes since their inception in 1946: Hellcat, Bearcat, Panther, Cougar, Tiger, Phantom II, Skyhawk and F/A-18 Hornet, used since 1986.

- In spite of the speeds reached, the pilots don't use G-suits to keep blood from pooling in the legs (which causes the pilot to black out momentarily). Instead, the pilots rely on muscle contractions to keep blood flowing.

There are only two more

shows in November, when the season ends, but plenty of time to plan next year's vacation around a Blue Angels show in 2025. Make a point to take a kid (or two or three) with you – of any age.

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- Summer to schooltime can be quite a transition for some kids. Begin setting a regular routine well before the first day of school. At least a week before (two if you can), have your kids go to bed at a regular time and wake as if they were going to school. Challenge them to complete their morning routine in time to "catch the bus" to a playground breakfast date.

- "Packing the lunchboxes used to be a pain in our family. But we take time on the weekend to pre-bag snacks and sides, and decide what kinds of sandwiches we will have for the upcoming week. One person makes the sandwiches and the kids get to choose their sides and snacks from the prepped choices." – E.A. in Virginia

- When purchasing school supplies, remember that paper, pencils, etc., typically aren't on sale midyear, so stocking up is a good idea. Just make sure the deal you are getting is a good one. Then put it away for distribution later!

- "I lay out my school clothes and even my hairbrush and stuff to get ready. I put my shoes and socks by the front door. I am always ready before my sister, and I get to watch TV while she is running around." – R.G. in Florida

- "I like the smaller size of kids' meals at the drive-thru. I save the toys in a box, then I drop them off with a teacher friend to use as rewards in her classroom." – via email

- "Pint-size water bottles are great for refilling with milk. The milk boxes at the grocery store are so expensive, and this way, I can control how chocolatey the chocolate milk is." – C.C. in Oregon

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. ©2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

GO FIGURE!

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.

	-	2	×		=	9		
+		+		+				
	+		÷		=	2		
×		÷		÷				
	+		×		=	63		
=		=		=				
56		8		2				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult

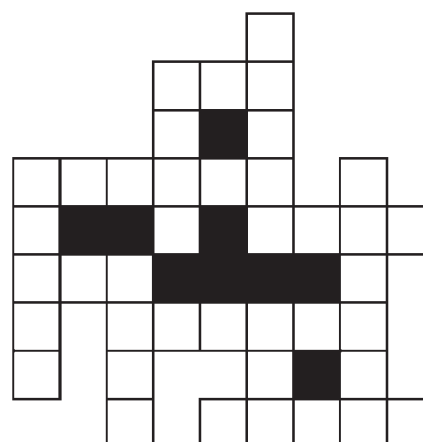
★★★ GO FIGURE!

Answer Page 4

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- IEV
- SAFTIE
- WNSOR
- ♥ OVEL
- LEVEST
- FNU
- ENRI
- ♥ ELVAN
- ♥ WLO
- VISLEO
- ♥ ERFNI
- ♥ EFLI



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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