



## Voters to decide fate of UMC's bond issue and county's propositions

By Alfredo Vasquez  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – Two major bond issues are up for voters' consideration in the upcoming election, as El Paso County commissioners authorized this summer the election for a University Medical Center (UMC) bond and for the county's five quality of life propositions.

According to county reports, the UMC bond total would be about \$396 million and would fund the expansion of facilities for more hospital beds, enhancement of operating room capacity, and an addition of a burn unit, among other critical improvements.

About \$30 million from the UMC bond would go toward equipment for the planned \$97 million, comprehensive cancer center, a joint project between UMC and Texas Tech Health El Paso, reported UMC CEO Jacob Cintron. He stated recently that the state approved \$65 million last session toward the planning and construction of the 90,000-square-foot building at the Medical Center of the Americas campus with the agreement that Texas Tech Health El Paso would secure the rest of the cancer center's funding.

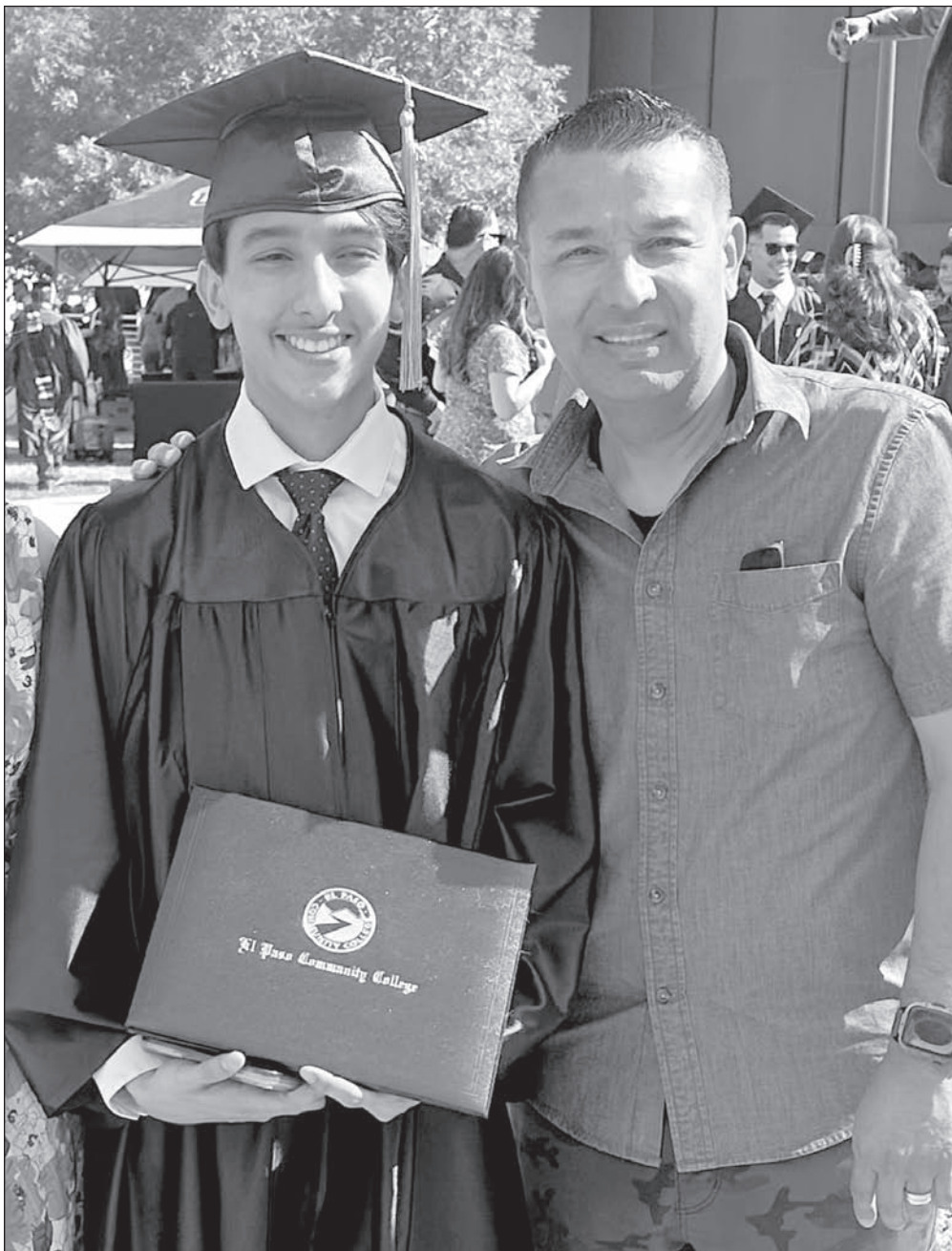
UMC representatives stated that without funding

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– Internet

**DECISION TIME** – El Paso County voters will decide in the upcoming election whether to approve a bond referendum for multiple projects proposed by El Paso County Commissioners Court. From left are Iliana Holguin, Precinct 3; Carlos Leon, Precinct 1; County Judge Ricardo Samaniego, David Stout, Precinct 2; and Sergio Coronado, Precinct 4.



– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

**MADE IT** – Adam Perez with his father, Mike after the May EPCC graduation ceremony.

## Father and son both earn EPCC Information Technology degrees

*One professor helps both get jobs – a decade apart*

By Beau Bagley  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – The bond between a father and a son is truly special, and in 2024, the heartwarming feeling doesn't stop with the Perez family. It includes Professor Delfina Najera and El Paso Community College (EPCC) as well. Father Mike Perez and son Adam Perez have followed an eerily similar path and have an Delfina to thank.

After graduating from EPCC in May 2024 with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Cybersecurity, Adam Perez sent an email to his former EPCC Information Technology (IT) professor, Delfina Najera, to thank her for informing him of an opening at Desert Imaging in El Paso. "I truly appreciate all your guidance and everything I've learned from your classes; it really prepared me for this opportunity and I'm looking forward to continuing to grow in my career," Adam said.

What he then said shocked everyone. Najera also helped Adam's father, Mike, get his first job in the IT industry ten years ago.

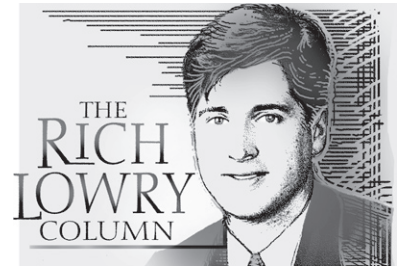
Mike Perez earned two degrees at EPCC, an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Information Assurance and Security in 2012, then another Applied Science Degree in IT Systems Networking in 2014. In 2012, while at EPCC, Mike was hired in a work/study STEM program at Western Refining, a position referred to him by Najera. Mike currently works in IT at AT&T under contract with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"The goals of a faculty member in the ITS/CS Discipline are to not just teach a course but to train our students to be job ready, well rounded, and successful in their field. It has been my pleasure to have played a significant role in our students' future," Najera, EPCC Information Technology Professor, said.

Mike spoke about the most rewarding experience going to EPCC. "Returning back to school to pursue my passion in IT," said Mike. "Having met with great instructors who cared about their students and being part of an excellent IT program. I was so motivated by the experience that I wanted to go back and complete a

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# The Secret Service is a national embarrassment



If this is what the Secret Service has become, it's a wonder that something worse than Butler, Pennsylvania, hasn't already happened. That event was terrible enough, with one rally-goer killed and Donald Trump coming within an inch of losing his life. If Trump hadn't turned his head at the right moment, Butler would have become one of the most notorious locations in American history and we'd be living in a different world.

At the time, the Secret Service's failure seemed unfathomable, and none of the revelations since – set out in a report by the Senate Homeland Security Committee – make it any better. Barney Fife was better organized and more accountable.

The Secret Service is given responsibility for avoiding a calamity that would traumatize the

nation and derange its politics for years, perhaps decades, to come. Its competence is a matter of the utmost national consequence. Yet, the agency was bumbling and slow-reacting, a disaster waiting to happen. Surely, this sort of ineptitude wouldn't be tolerated by Taylor Swift's security detail.

The Secret Service, which we expect to be run with a vigor and precision befitting its mission, instead operates as though it's a typical bureaucratic outfit housed within, say, the Health Resources and Services Administration. The Senate report relates "multiple foreseeable and preventable planning and operational failures," as an armed man was permitted to climb atop the roof of the American Glass Research building within 200 yards of where Trump was speaking and get off eight shots.

The story of how it happened is muddled by finger-pointing and confusion over who was in charge. Secret Service advance agents didn't know who was responsible for final decisions and didn't know who determined the security perimeter for the event. State and local law enforcement were responsible for the AGR building because it was outside the perimeter. But advance agents didn't share planning documents with them, and didn't ask for the operational plans of state and local law enforcement. Someone from Butler Emergency

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## Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

# Living in a diverse America

In my neighborhood we have a variety of people. We have Democrats and Republicans, Independents, Libertarians, and others. People attend different churches or don't attend church at all. We have Catholics, Baptists, Pentecostals, Jews, and more. On a new street over from me I've noticed several families who appear to be from India, Mexico, the Middle East, plus several new America families. I live in a diverse neighborhood.

I haven't seen anyone out arguing or fighting. I haven't noticed anyone hiding. For the most part, our neighborhood is quiet and people mind their own business. We have 26 houses on our street. I'm clueless about the day-by-day activities of most all of the neighbors. We see each other coming

and going and that's about it. Some places are not as fortunate. For example, Israel and Hamas – fight nonstop. There are ongoing words, tensions, hatred, and many killings. I've been to Israel once in my life and had an extraordinary time. I saw so many beautiful and interesting sights. I can't imagine ever going back. Only God knows how many children are growing up in Gaza that are learning to hate Israel and the hatred will probably never go away.

Sadly, Israel has Hezbollah to the north in Lebanon and also the Houthis in Yemen. I don't see how Israel can fight them all especially with them receiving support from Iran. As for the United States we already have a strong Navy fleet of ships and submarines in the region. You can count on us to be

involved. Wherever there is any kind of fight going on in the world, it seems that the United States will get involved on some level.

It is tragic that Israel has so many enemies who are their neighbors. That part of the world is certainly going to become worse.

It's unfortunate when people of different religious, political backgrounds can't get along and work together.

My mother was a Democrat and my dad was Republican. I don't remember hearing them argue about politics. We grew up in an area where people attended different churches. People disagreed about how they interpreted the Bible but I don't recall anyone fighting about it. Of course, the Hatfield's and McCoy's feuded at one time not that far from us.

Sadly, there are places in the world where Protestants and Catholics can't get along. There are places where the Palestinians and the Jews

don't get along.

Overall, America has been a great place for diversity. We've had our issues. We've had some very dark eras in our nation when black people were treated so very badly. Women were not treated well for far too long. Unfortunately, we still have attitudes that exist that are far from fair and respectful of all people.

Millions of people are risking their lives to come to America. They must come legally or the sheer numbers of those coming will bring about our downfall. In the meantime, we should treat each other as we would like to be treated.

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

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# Voters

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for the bond projects, patients will have to wait longer to be admitted for emergency care, surgeries and catheterizations. Burn patients will have to be sent out of town for care, and UMC will have to seek alternative funding for the cancer center's equipment.

The county's nearly \$324 million quality of life bond is broken down into five propositions: (1) parks and recreation improvements, (2) a new medical examiner office, (3) upgrades to the courthouse and its annexes, (4) renovation of the county coliseum, and (5) a new animal shelter.

County reports indicate that for El Paso county residents with a taxable home value of around \$200,000, the UMC bond would add about \$70 a year to their property tax bill, and the multi-million dollar quality of life bond would raise the tax rate by three cents and cost that same homeowner just over \$60 a year.

"We want to make sure that we're being as transparent as possible, and people understand

exactly what they're voting on," Precinct 2 Commissioner David Stout stated during a recent commissioners' court session. He added that if the two bond issues were presented as one package, it would be more difficult to understand.

In total, the UMC bond and all five propositions add up to over \$720 million, which would mean over \$130 in additional property taxes per homeowner with property valued around \$200,000.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the quality of life project list in August. "The amount of the issuance that we're making... isn't going to fix everything... those are things that we're going to have to continue to work on as time goes by," said Precinct 3 County Commissioner Illiana Holguin, who had suggested that commissioners request \$175 million in bond funds to avoid an impact to the county's tax rate.

The county is also considering issuing about \$174 million in certificates of obligation, which are largely infrastructure projects such as facility improvements,

Precinct 4 County Commissioner Sergio Coronado said that the projects on the certificates of obligation list includes improvements that are tied to state mandated services, they need to be done and the commissioners court should make that decision. Certificates of obligation issuances do not need voter approval.

"The jail, the juvenile justice system, the annex, the courthouse, all those issues, if they vote them down, guess what? We don't have the choice," Coronado said during a recent commissioners court meeting. "We still have to pay for them, absolutely we have to pay for them, and I'd rather it cost us less now than more later," he stated.

About the November propositions, Precinct 2 County Commissioner David Stout said that the projects on the ballot are not wasteful and will go a long way toward improving the quality of life for county residents. "Our public deserves to vote on it, and they'll tell us whether or not they'd like to see those expenditures," Stout said.

El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego said that waiting on projects will cost more in the long run and that he feels comfortable with the commissioners court decision to move forward with the two separate bond election ballots.

If the propositions are approved by voters, officials stated that the county would issue \$125 million in voter-approved bonds in 2025 and the remaining \$200 million in 2027.

Early voting ends Friday, November 1st; Election Day is Tuesday, November 5th. For a list of polling locations, visit El Paso County's Election Department website.

## El Paso County's Five Quality of Life Propositions on the November 5th Ballot

**Prop 1**  
Seeks to fund parks and recreation – involving 19 projects – including improvements for Ascarate Park, neighborhood parks, regional trails and related facilities for about \$96 million.

**Prop 2**  
Seeks to allow the county to construct a new medical examiner office at the cost of about \$27 million.

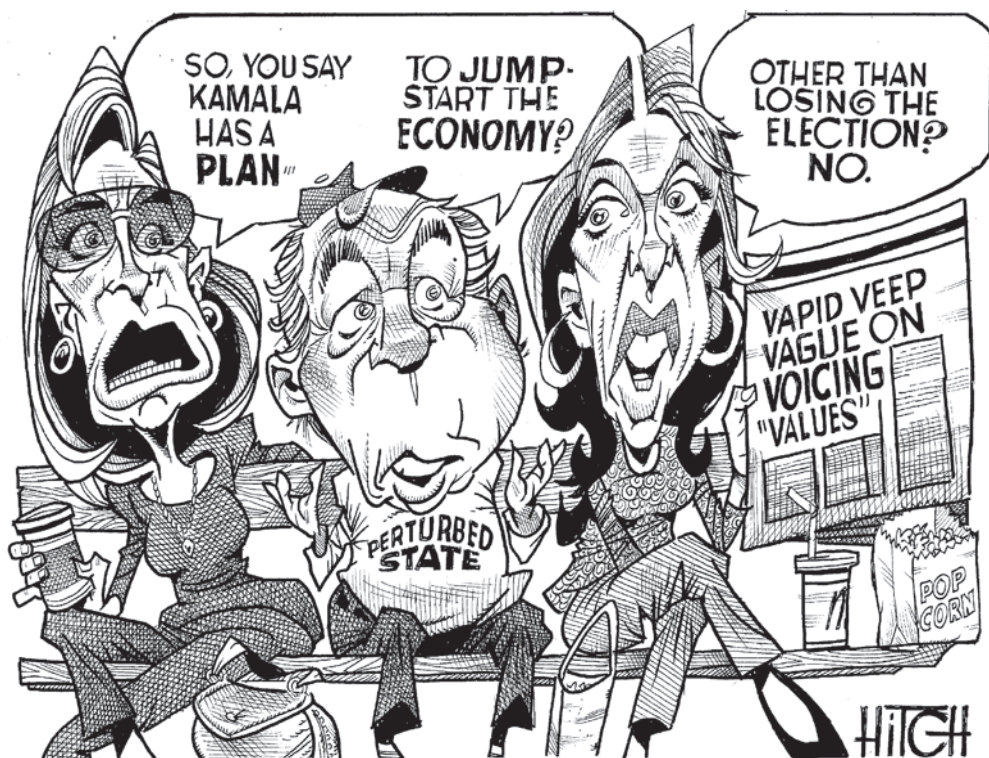
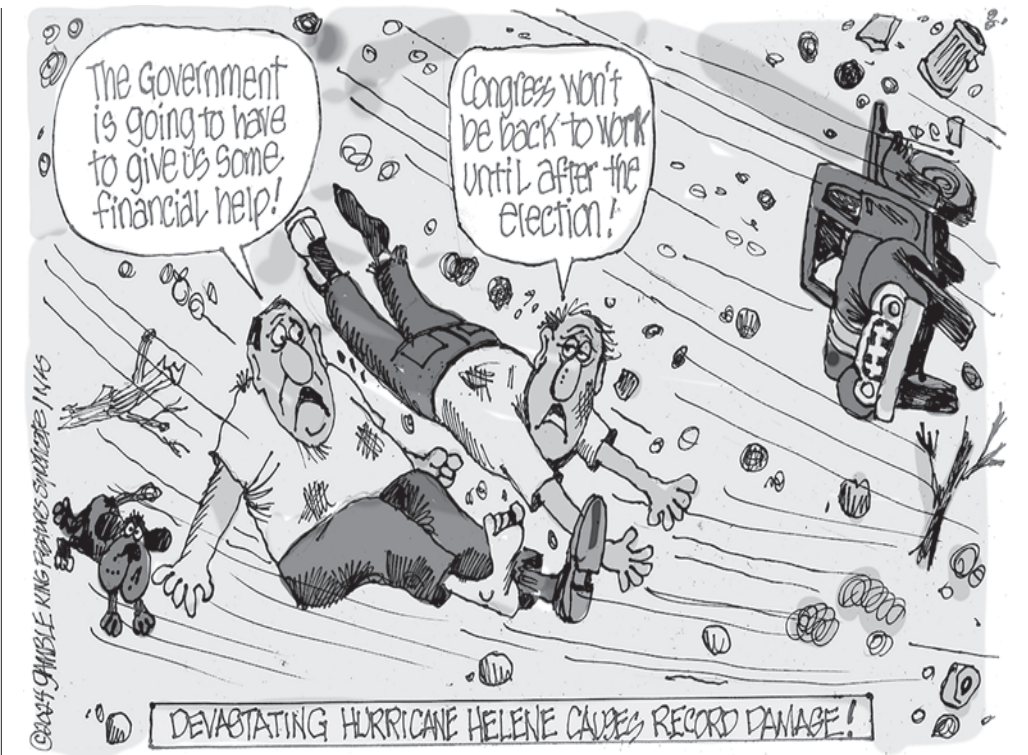
**Prop 3**  
Seeks to allow the county to make improvements to the El Paso County Courthouse, sub courthouses and related annexes including Corbin Sambrano, Ysleta and Far East Montana, for about \$63 million.

**Prop 4**  
Seeks to allow the county to fund a County Coliseum Master Plan including the renovation of the County Coliseum and adjacent facilities for about \$105 million.

**Prop 5**  
Seeks to allow the county to build a new animal shelter for about \$33 million.

stormwater and wastewater projects, in 2025 and 2026, according to county documents.

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# Degrees

From Page 1

second major.” Clearly, it’s a Perez family passion.

“I chose IT because of my passion for technology, but I also owe credit to my dad,” Adam added. “Seeing him in the IT field inspired me to pursue a similar path. Growing up around technology further fueled my interest in an IT career.”

“Having a father and son follow in the same footsteps to reach their dream job has been rewarding and shows the impact of El Paso Community College in our community,” Najera added. “Both father and son have been very strong students and deserve kudos.”

As Mike continues his career with the government, Adam, just like his father, is hoping to further his education. “I’m looking to return to school in the fall to pursue a degree in networking, and then transfer to U.T. San Antonio for a degree in computer science with a focus on cybersecurity. I am particularly interested in Digital Forensics. I believe that using my skills to serve a greater good and hold criminals accountable would make my career deeply fulfilling.”



– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

**GENERATIONS** – From left are Mike Perez, Professor Delfina Najera, and Adam Perez. Najera helped both father and son find a job in their field.

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## CryptoQuip Answer

When shaggy Tibetan beasts get together and talk nonstop, I would say they’re yakking it up.

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## Senior moment By Matilda Charles

# Keeping your balance

How long can you stand on one leg? This balance ability is apparently a good indicator of how we’re aging... or so say several researchers.

Some researchers pay attention to this standing business because they think it indicates longevity. Others think a lack of that ability can point to a cognitive decline.

If you want to check your balance, stand up and keep your eyes open, don’t hold onto anything, and stand on one leg without any support, lifting one leg off the ground and bent at the knee. If you’re between 50 and 59, that standing time should be 37 seconds. From 60-69, aim for 30 seconds. Between 70 and 79, shoot for 19 seconds, and over 80, aim for a bit over 5 seconds.

Another source says in your 50s, aim for 40 seconds. In 60s, try for 20 seconds. In your 70s, the goal would be around 10 seconds.

If you struggle with standing for those lengths of time, there are ways to improve

your balance. You can practice standing but use something for support until you get the hang of it. You’ll strengthen the muscles of your legs that way. Or try dancing and walking up stairs.

Take a look at the Mayo Clinic website for suggestions on how to improve your balance in general. At [mayoclinic.org](http://mayoclinic.org), do a search for “balance exercises,” where you’ll find dozens of articles. Pay attention to the ones about strengthening your core muscles – your lower back, hips, stomach and pelvis. A stronger core means better overall balance. The good news about core exercises is that you can do them at home and don’t need to go to the gym.

For added ideas, check out YouTube videos ([youtube.com](http://youtube.com)) for senior exercises. With winter about to arrive, exercises we can do at home will help keep us in shape.

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# Reach out: Support our vets



by Freddy Groves

The holidays will be here soon, and not all of us will do well with getting through that time of the year. Whether it’s the pressures of the social aspects of the season or financial worries or we’re just not feelin’ it, sometimes it’s all just a bit much. But we’re not alone.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has a website loaded with resources to help with all kinds of concerns. Go to [www.va.gov/REACH/challenges](http://www.va.gov/REACH/challenges) and scroll down to view the categories, such as life transitions, health challenges, feelings of depression and

many more. Select up to three statements that describe what you’re going through (examples are “I don’t care about the things I used to care about” and “I don’t have anyone I can ask for help”), then click the “All Done” button at the bottom.

What you get is a page of resources tailor-made for you. Start working your way through all of them. The bottom line is that if you need support, the help is there. You’re not alone. Sometimes the VA does things perfectly, and this website of resources is one of those.

On the flip side of the coin, perhaps you’re doing extremely well and want to connect with fellow veterans who might need a bit of help. Buddy Check is a program that connects veterans. You’ll

take some short peer-to-peer training (a 34-minute video) and then pledge to reach out to 10 veterans. Although there is an official Buddy Check Week, there is no reason you can’t reach out at other times of the year – especially now with the holidays coming up.

Check out Together We Served, a.k.a. the Buddy Finder ([www.togetherweserved.com](http://www.togetherweserved.com)), to hunt for veterans you served with, and reconnect with them. At this writing, the site has over 2 million veterans who’ve registered their profiles to make contact with other veterans. Together We Served also has a Facebook page, as well as an app on Google Play and the App Store.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

To Discuss Socorro Independent School District’s State Financial Accountability Rating  
Socorro Independent School District will hold a public meeting at:

6:00 PM  
November 20, 2024  
in the Board Room  
District Service Center  
12440 Rojas Drive  
El Paso, TX 79928

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Socorro Independent School District’s rating on the state’s financial accountability system.

The Socorro Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment.

WTCC: 10/31/24



### Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

- On Oct. 28, 1965, construction is completed on the Gateway Arch, a spectacular 630-foot-high parabola of stainless steel on the waterfront of St. Louis, Missouri. An internal tram system takes visitors to the top of the arch.
- On Oct. 29, 1956, Israeli armed forces push into Egypt toward the Suez Canal, initiating the Suez Crisis. They would soon be joined by French and British forces. The catalyst for the attack was the nationalization of the Suez Canal by Egyptian leader Gamal Abdel Nasser.
- On Oct. 30, 1938, Orson Welles causes a nationwide panic with his broadcast of "War of the Worlds" – a realistic radio dramatization of a Martian invasion of Earth. Welles had little idea of the havoc it would cause among radio listeners.
- On Oct. 31, 1776, in his first speech before British Parliament since the Americans signed the

Declaration of Independence, King George III acknowledges that all is not going well for Britain in the war. The British would formally surrender five years later.

- On Nov. 1, 1512, the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome, one of Italian artist Michelangelo's finest works, is exhibited to the public for the first time. After demonstrating his mastery of sculpture, Michelangelo was called to Rome in 1508.
- On Nov. 2, 1982, a fuel truck in a military convoy explodes in the 1.7-mile long Salang Tunnel in Afghanistan, killing an estimated 3,000 people, mostly Soviet soldiers traveling to Kabul. Believing it to be an attack, troops closed both ends of the tunnel, trapping people inside.
- On Nov. 3, 1948, the Chicago Tribune jumps the gun and mistakenly declares New York Gov. Thomas Dewey the winner of his presidential race with incumbent Harry Truman in a front-page headline: "Dewey Defeats Truman." Truman would win by 114 electoral votes.

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### Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- If you're planning to wrap a mummy in the proper Egyptian manner, you'll need about 500 feet of linen to finish the job.
- There are more people in Monaco's orchestra than in its army.
- While tanning remains popular despite the documented health risks, the CDC has estimated that if folks under the age of 18 stopped using tanning beds, over 60,000 melanomas and melanoma-related deaths could be prevented.
- In 1987, a man convinced 2.8 million people to send him a penny each for his college education.
- Female cicadas have been known to confuse the roar of power tools for mating calls, sometimes swarming people using lawn mowers.
- People who play videogames are less likely to have nightmares.
- Switzerland is the only country in the world that could fit more than its entire population into bunkers in case of an emergency.
- Eggo waffles were

originally called Froffles upon their creation in 1953 – a portmanteau of "frozen" and "waffles." Customers started calling them Eggos due to their egg flavor, and the company renamed the product two years later.

- Cambodian bamboo trains are made of an electric generator and a makeshift bamboo platform for seating and run at speeds of up to 40 km per hour. While unmaintained tracks do indeed make for some bumpy rides, at least the fares are low.
- Humans and the galaxy share 97% of the same kind of atoms.
- Maggots and leeches are the first living creatures to be approved by the FDA as medical devices.
- A 1924 Arizona law made it illegal for donkeys to sleep in bathtubs.

• Crakow shoes, a pointy footwear popular in the 14th century, could get so long that the toe of the shoe had to be attached to the leg with a string so that it wouldn't drag.

Thought for the Day: "Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed."

– Booker T. Washington

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## Classified Ads

### LEGAL

#### CANUTILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On November 19, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m., the Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public hearing in the Canutillo ISD Administration Office, 7965 Arcraft, El Paso, TX 79932 pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code §403.611 concerning the application from Vinton Steel LLC ("Vinton Steel") for a possible tax incentive agreement within a Texas Enterprise Zone in El Paso County, TX. Vinton Steel is considering a potential \$200 Million investment to decarbonize Vinton steel production and is evaluating a 63 acre parcel of land, more or less out of Tract 1A, now known as Tract 1A1, Laura E. Mundy Survey No. 231, 8001 Border Steel Rd Vinton, El Paso County,

Texas.

All interested persons may appear and present testimony regarding the application. Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to Canutillo Independent School District at P.O. Box 440, Canutillo, Texas 79835. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact Canutillo Independent School District at (915) 877-7400 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact Canutillo Independent School District at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

If further information is needed, please contact Chief Financial Officer Kevin Beesaw.

Cristina Pulley  
Executive Director of  
Financial Services

WTCC: 10-31-24

## Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Fabens Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating (FIRST)

The Fabens Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 13, 2024 in the boardroom of the Fabens ISD Administration Building, 821 NE "G" Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Fabens Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 10-31-24

## WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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**THE SAN ELIZARIO VETERANS COMMITTEE PRESENTS:**

**THE 28TH ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY**

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2024 9:00am**

Join us as San Elizario Veterans will be honored during the Ceremony as well as special guests

**PARADE ROUTE:**

- Staging begins at 7:30 am at 900 Thomspson Rd
- Parade begins at 9:00 am at 900 Thomspson Rd
- East on Socorro Rd to the Veterans Memorial Plaza on Main St in the San Elizario Historic Plaza
- Ceremony will follow in the Plaza

**For parade information: Ray Borrego 915-383-8529 or Norma Reyes 915-422-3653**

Eduardo Pedregon Veterans Memorial Museum & Memorial Walk  
1501 Main Street San Elizario Historic District San Elizario, Texas 79849

# Sports and Halloween do have a bit of a history

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

In America, sports are so big that we even associate them with certain holidays.

On New Years Day, we get over our hangovers by sitting and watching college football bowl games all day. On Thanksgiving, we load up on turkey, pumpkin pie, and NFL football games. Really, even Christmas day is now spent opening gifts and turning our TVs to the four or five featured NBA games.

But when you really think about it, there's no real sports associated with Halloween.

I guess they figure no one is home, so why put anything big on TV.

So, I decided to try to find some interesting, or scary, sports events that have occurred on Oct. 31, and surprisingly, I was able to find quite a few.

Do you know that in 2010, a game between the New Orleans Saints and Pittsburgh Steelers broke a Guinness World Record, but not for anything that happened on the field. 17,777 fans showed up to the game dressed in their costumes, officially setting the record for the world's largest Halloween gathering. Most fans dressed up in Saints themed costumes, including The Joker and morphsuits with the Saints logo.

The famous Curse of the Billy Goat took place on Halloween. This happened in 1945, when Billy Sianis, the owner of the Billy Goat Tavern, was ejected from a Wrigley Field game, he put his own personal curse on the team, vowing that the Chicago Cubs would never win another World Series. And they didn't, at least for another 71 years when they broke the curse in 2016.

On Halloween in 2001, the New York Yankees and the Arizona Diamondbacks matched up in game four of the World Series. The game

finished in a tie and it had to go to extra innings. In the bottom of the tenth inning, Yankee legend Derek Jeter stepped up to the plate on Halloween night and walked out on Nov. 1. You see, the clock struck midnight in New York during his at-bat, which ended in a walk-off homerun that would win game for the Yankees. Jeter was the first person to hit a homerun in the month of November, earning the nickname, Mr. November.

During 2009's Halloween matchup between the Sacramento Kings and the San Antonio Spurs, a bat flew onto the court with 1:41 remaining in the first quarter. The bat flew around for a few minutes, causing a delay in the game with players too afraid to get near it. The mascot, wearing a Batman outfit, attempted to use a net to catch the bat out of the air but ultimately failed. Just

as nothing seemed to work, Spurs' guard Manu Ginobili smacked the bat to the floor as it flew past him, he then picked it up with his bare hands and disposed of it. Saving the game. No word yet on if it was a vampire bat.

On Halloween night in 2004, the New England Patriots took their NFL-record 21-game winning streak (which started in 2003) into Pittsburgh to face rookie quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and the Steelers. Of course, this was a scary situation for the Steelers and the young QB, but instead, they turned the game into a nightmare for the Patriots, ending the streak with a 34-20 win.

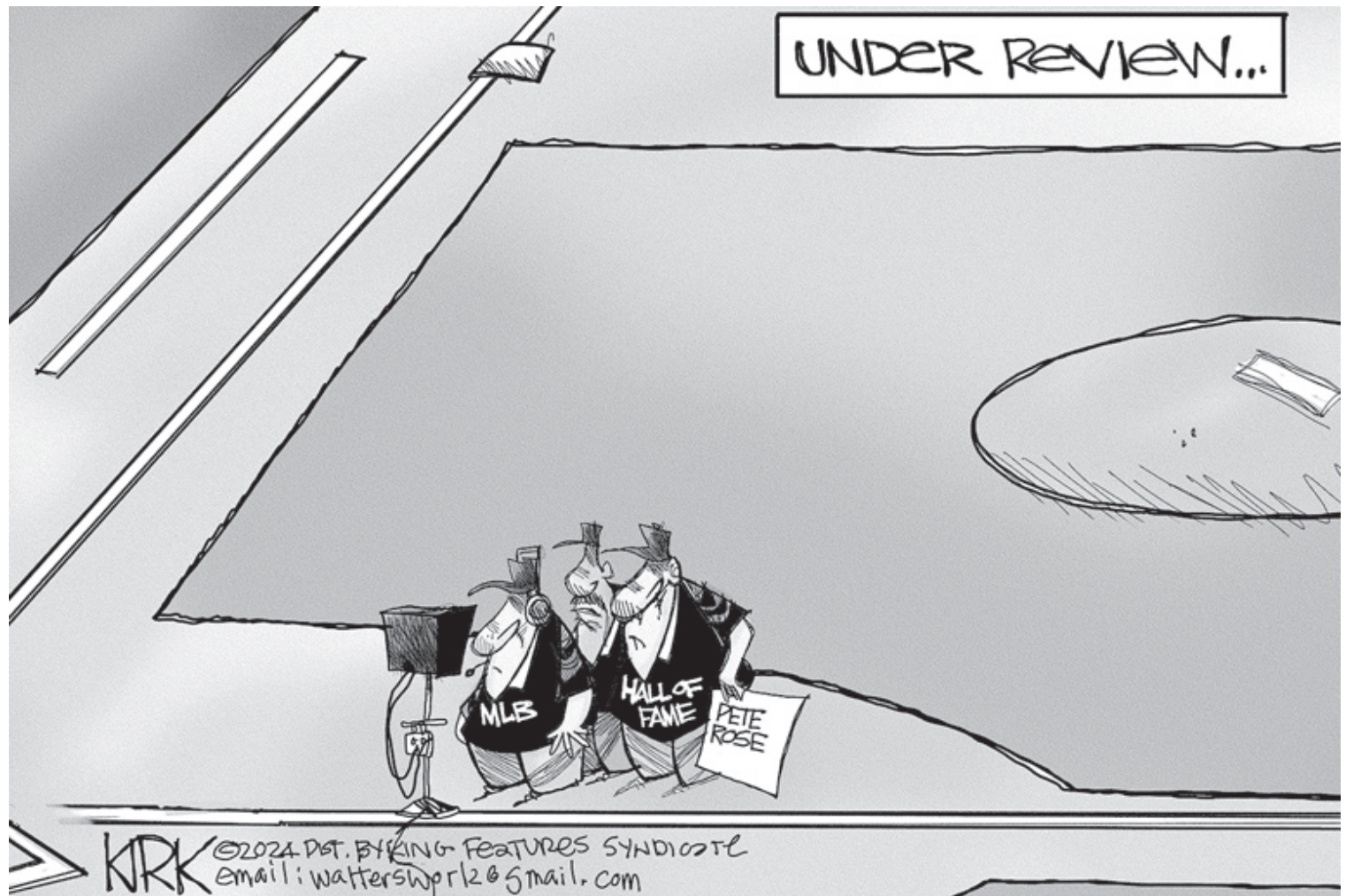
The great Wayne Gretzky and Kevin Stevens made Halloween hat trick history of their own in 1989. With three goals from each player in a matchup between the Los Angeles Kings and Pittsburgh Penguins, it

was the first time two players netted hat tricks in the same game on that holiday. Gretzky added three assists and propelled his Kings to an 8-4 thrashing of Stevens' Pens.

Coming off his first NBA MVP and first NBA title, Steph Curry took his game to an even higher level to start the 2015-16 season. In just the Golden State Warriors' third game of an eventual 73-9 campaign, Curry scorched the New Orleans Pelicans with a 53-point eruption that set the NBA's single-game Halloween scoring record. He also contributed nine assists in a 134-120 win.

This is just a taste of some cool sports things that happened on the scariest of holidays.

Let's see if anything happens this Halloween that we can either cheer, or Boo about.



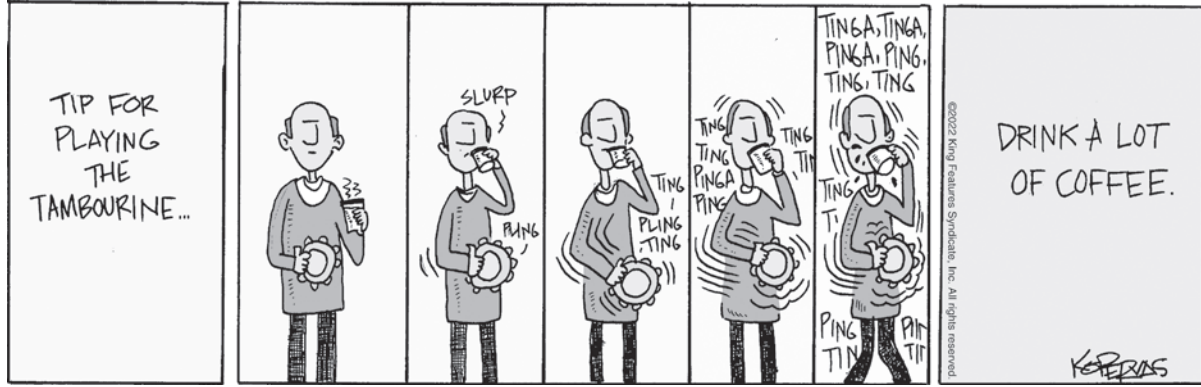
<b>WAX SHADES ACROSS</b>	57 Verse tribute	113 See 54-Down	22 Opera _ (many a Handel work)	72 Had liabilities
1 Played golf on the green	58 Counterpart of masc.	114 Caustic alkali	24 Basic skills	74 Confront
7 Baseball card company	59 Test versions	115 Muscle rotating the forearm to a palm-down position	29 Suffix with hero	75 Often-refined resource
12 Indy sponsor	60 Old-_ (quaint)	116 What each of this puzzle's featured answers is (with the year it was introduced)	31 Smallish city	76 Sir Guinness
15 Andy's pal	61 Sky, to the U.S. Air Force (2003)	121 Lily Tomlin's little theater persona	32 Royal Norse name	77 "_ boy!"
19 Ryan and Tatum	66 Tax-deferred svgs. plan	122 Confine	33 Little _ (Dickens girl)	78 S&L devices
20 Little Mermaid's name	67 Nestle movie	123 Spelunking chamber	34 Yang go-with	79 Garage job
21 Superman's love interest	68 Zadora of "Butterfly"	124 Pecans, e.g.	38 Tried to hit, as a clay target	80 Certain Fed
23 Kitschy lawn adornment (1997)	69 "That's a big yes from me!"	125 "Norma _"	40 British trolley	81 Pan Am rival
25 Rotating part in a water pump	73 "Criminal Minds" ailer	126 Hops-drying ovens	41 Leak slowly	85 Planet seen at sunset, old-style
26 Chicago-to-Atlanta dir.	74 Grassland on the slope of a peak (1998)	127 Sports deals	42 Rocker Osbourne	86 Canon or Sony products, for short
27 Fraternal org. with lodges	78 Pond growth		44 _ bit (just slightly)	87 Wave sound
28 Canine with gray brindled fur (1993)	81 Curt	<b>DOWN</b>	45 _ Martin (cognac)	88 Baking pans
30 Carnival treat on a stick (1998)	82 P.O. arrival	1 "Nova" genre, for short	46 Energy mogul	89 Deli dish
35 Loch monster, informally	83 Hip-hop "Dr."	2 Togetherness	47 Pound divs.	93 Steal from
36 Shoe parts	84 Plant rolled about by the wind (1993)	3 Doctrines	49 Dairy animals	96 Go-between
37 Piccolo's kin	86 Makeup of many dunes (1998)	4 "... we'll _ a cup o' kindness..."	50 Norse god	97 Yeshiva text
39 Skin art	89 Dug, for a future exec	5 Pixieish sort	51 Move, in Realtor lingo	98 Telly network
43 Retail store's beginning?	91 Large tank	6 WWW access inits.	52 "Just the Two _" (1981 hit)	99 Cry feebly
44 Rice-_ (food brand)	92 Novelist Jong	7 Florida port	54 With 113-Across, had some humble pie	100 Solidified
46 Iowa college	94 Often-refined resource	8 Sky hunter	55 Based on _ story	101 Pal of Pooh
48 Woman on "Frasier"	95 Capitol group	9 Missed badly setting	56 Fancy crown	102 Ships' backs
49 Plant also called bachelor's button (1958)	98 Life story: Abbr.	10 Wooden pin	59 Square in the first bingo-card column	104 "Once _ midnight dreary..."
53 Glitzy display (1993)	99 Gets by	11 Vegas fixture	62 Mr. T movie	105 Seine feeder
	103 Lose all feeling	12 Gloppy stuff	63 Biblical tower	107 "Taste this"
	106 Both pleasant and sad (1958)	13 Burial places	64 Old hi-fi buys	108 Cel figures
	109 "The final frontier" (1998)	14 Calumet part	65 "The Da Vinci Code" group	109 Not closed
		15 100% wrong	66 Suffix with hero	110 Language of Pakistan
		16 St. _ (French resort)	69 Apropos of	111 "Snap _!"
		17 Like Nash's "lama"	70 Old Icelandic saga	112 Canyon effect
		18 Feudal slave	71 Michael who played Wolf	117 Actor Stephen
				118 Be a thespian
				119 Road vehicle
				120 Eggs

## Super Crossword

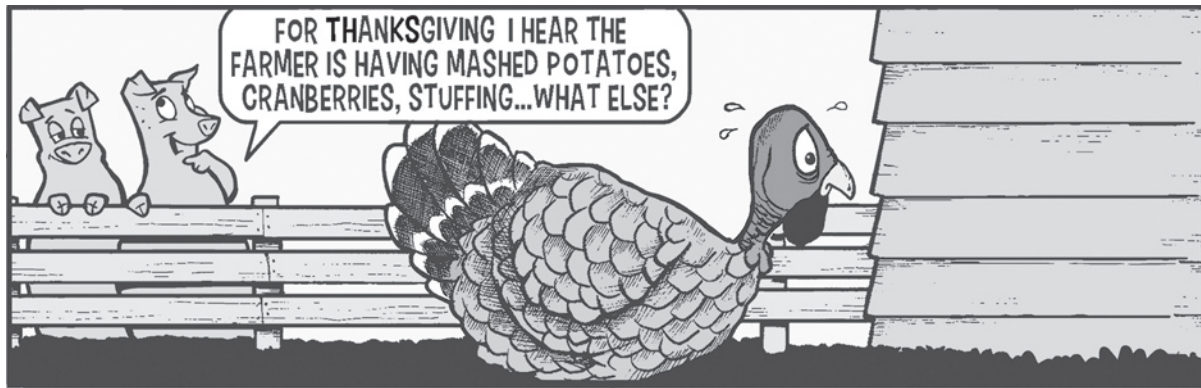
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Comix

**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

Services warned during a walkthrough that local law enforcement didn't have the manpower to lock down the building.

Advance agents did suggest putting large trucks or other heavy equipment between the stage and buildings to block lines of sight, but nothing came of the idea. The local officers and Secret Service agents operated on separate radio channels, and the only communications connection between the Secret Service and police communication centers was via cell phone. Some agents' radios had technical problems or didn't work, while the counter unmanned aerial system was inoperative at the time the shooter Thomas Matthew Crooks flew a drone over the rally site in the afternoon.

Crooks fired his shots at 6:11 p.m. At 5:44 p.m., the Secret Service security room got word that local police had spotted a suspicious person with a rangefinder near the AGR building. This should have been a five-alarm event, yet key Secret Service personnel weren't told that local police had observed Crooks and

lost track of him.

Three minutes before Crooks fired, a local law enforcement officer sent a radio alert that someone was on the AGR roof, with the Secret Service security room getting word a minute after that.

When a Secret Service counter-sniper saw local police running with their guns drawn toward the AGR building, it didn't occur to him to tell Trump's detail to get him off the stage. He said the police running meant only an "elevated" threat level.

The explanation of one top Secret Service officer – "I can't put out fires that I don't know exist" – should never be acceptable. It could have been worse, but that's not the standard.

Given the contents of the Senate report, it's not shocking that the Secret Service allowed another would-be assassin to get close to Trump just two months later. An agency that should fade into the background because the quality of its work can always be taken for granted is instead a national embarrassment.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. ©2024 by King Features Synd., Inc.

**Lymphocyte count is not a cause for concern**

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I am a female and almost 75 years old. My vital signs are always normal, and I am active, but slightly overweight. I get quarterly blood draws, and every reading is in the normal range except for the lymphocytes. That count is higher, just outside the normal range (the lab's range is 850 to 3,900 cells/uL, and my absolute lymphocytes are 4,377 cells/uL). This has occurred in the blood draws from the last two or three years, with the exception of one that was back in the normal range. About 12 years ago, after several abnormal results, I saw a hematologist, who reported nothing wrong after doing more extensive blood work. No reason could be given for it. I am concerned, but not obsessing over it. Is there any reason you can give for the slightly high lymphocyte count? – S.M.*



Lymphocytes are one of the two major types of white blood cells found in the blood (the other are the granulocytes, the most common of which are the neutrophils). High levels of lymphocytes raise suspicion for serious blood disorders such as some leukemias, lymphomas and related blood diseases, but there are other causes. Acute stress can do it, but you have been living with this for many years. Not having a spleen causes high levels of lymphocytes, whether you are born without one or have it surgically removed. Chronic infection is another reason.

I suspect your hematologist did a more sophisticated set of tests looking for blood disorders, and the fact that your level is the same after 12 years also supports my suspicion that this level is normal for you. Normal levels are generally defined as what is found in people without evidence of disease 95% of the time. So, by definition, 5% of normal people will have their result on any given lab fall outside of the normal range. Since yours is just outside of the normal range and, as I said, unchanged for years, I think you can relax your level of anxiety. Periodic blood tests do seem prudent, however, and further testing would be recommended in the event that the count starts getting higher or you develop any new symptoms.

*DEAR DR. ROACH: I am a 67-year-old male in relatively good health. I exercise regularly (four times a week). I have been taking medication for hypertension, which is getting much better since I started a plant-based diet three months ago. About every three months or so for the last five years, there are two half-dollar-sized blood stains on my pillow coming from my right ear. I have no headaches, and my hearing is what it is for my age. My wife is concerned, but I am not. What do you think? – J.G.*

I think your wife is wise to be concerned. This is not something I commonly encounter, and the answer is very likely to be found inside your ear through a clinical exam. I do sometimes see small infections in the ear that may bleed, and there are benign tumors of the ear canal and eardrum that may sometimes bleed as well. I have read about a very rare condition of an aneurysm bleeding from the ear. This has been going on a long time, so it's definitely worth an evaluation.

*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.*

† AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION of Texas

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### Moore Texas by Roger Moore

Waylon Jennings played with Buddy Holly's band, The Crickets, in 1958 and 1959.

## 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: Z equals S

TQJP ZQHSSL RBMJRHP MJHZRZ  
 SJR RCSJRQJE HPF RHDG  
 PCPZRCV, B TCWDF ZHL  
 RQJL'EJ LHGGBPS BR WV.

Answer Page 4

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆**

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

Answer Page 4

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Broadway flop
- 5 Foot part
- 9 Urban carrier
- 12 Vivacity, in music
- 13 "Funny!"
- 14 Flamenco cheer
- 15 Rural tourist attractions
- 17 Skier Tommy
- 18 Actress Neuwirth
- 19 Serious
- 21 Wide, fancy necktie
- 24 Jazz singer Laine
- 25 Noggin
- 26 Reeve role
- 30 Einstein's birthplace
- 31 Mini-plateaus
- 32 Green prefix
- 33 Pudding choices
- 35 Firecracker sound
- 36 Grecian vessels
- 37 Embedded spies
- 38 Bas-relief medium
- 40 Reed instrument
- 42 Pirates' quaff
- 43 Duncan Hines products

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48				49					50		
51				52					53		

- 7 "Evita" role
- 8 Pesters
- 9 Fast-food deal
- 10 Balm ingredient
- 11 Tavern order
- 16 Bumped into
- 20 "— the ramparts ..."
- 21 Border on
- 22 Actress Ward
- 23 College handout for a freshman
- 24 Tax prep pros
- 26 Brief moments
- 27 Can. neighbor
- 28 Dreaded breakout
- 29 Eggy drinks
- 31 Prop for Mr. Peanut
- 34 Apr. addressee
- 35 Aircraft manufacturer
- 37 May honoree
- 38 Clench
- 39 Franc replacer
- 40 Gumbo need
- 41 Existed
- 44 Have a cold loser
- 46 Sch. URL ender
- 47 Filming site

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Answer Below

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### 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.

	-		x			25
÷		x		+		
	x		-			17
x		+		x		
	+		+			19
16		17		24		

**DIFFICULTY: ★**

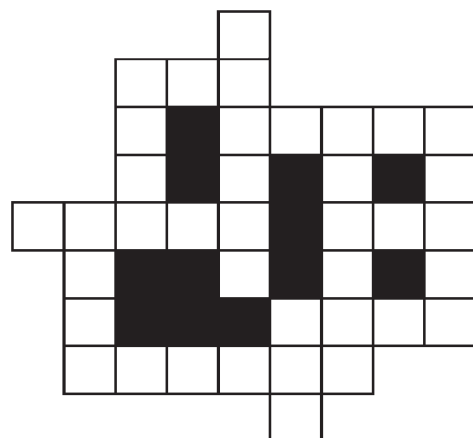
★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
 ★★★ GO FIGURE!

Answer Page 4

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- GBU
- GALENT
- ♥ TRALE
- ♥ APPLE
- ELABOT
- ♥ ANP
- ONGE
- ♥ EURPE
- ♥ BGA
- GUPEAL
- ♥ EB TAL
- ♥ ELBU



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.



• Ounce marks come standard on most baby bottles, but they can be hard to see. You can use a permanent marker to make the lines bigger, especially the one you are most likely to want to see in the middle of the night! – R.G. in Indiana

• Before you set your new can of shaving cream on the sink edge, take this man tip from me: Borrow a bottle of clear nail polish and paint the bottom rim, extending up a quarter inch. It won't leave rust rings. Been doing this for years. – M.W. in New York

• When you need an extra garbage bag, like during a party or while doing lawn chores, try this cool trick: Use a large pop-up laundry bin, and line it with a lawn and leaf garbage bag. Use chip clips to secure it at the top if you need to.

• Cut the top off of a soda two liter to use as a funnel. They are very easy to cut and you have a funnel whenever you need one!

• Save and clean your prescription bottles; they make a really great container for bobbins. I take a spare piece of thread, ball it up a bit and tape it to the top of the container, too. Then I sit them all in a shoe box. I can see just from the tops which color I need to use. – L.K. in Alabama

• If you use condiment bottles with a squeeze top, start saving them for snow season! Clean and fill with water, then add a few drops of food coloring. Make several of different colors. You can teach the children how to make different shades by mixing the drops. The kids can take them all out in the snow to "paint." Be sure to take photos of your temporary art.

• Use a piece of plastic mesh as a sink liner. Dishes set in the sink won't slide, but the water can still drip away down the drain.

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

T	U	O	G	N	V	L	E	P	O	P	
E	O	N	I	R	E	L	I	R	E	V	I
S	E	X	E	S	C	A	K	E	M	I	R
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