



Vinton receives \$1M grant for infrastructure

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

VINTON – The Village of Vinton will be able to continue expansion of its critical water and sewer infrastructure project thanks to a \$1 million federal investment grant that was secured through the efforts of the Office of U.S. Congresswoman Veronica Escobar.

Escobar, who has represented Texas' 16th Congressional District since 2019, visited with Village of Vinton officials recently to present a ceremonial check that recognized the Village as a "Fiscal Year 2025 Community Project Funding" recipient.

The federal funds will be used for improving service reliability and supporting future growth along the Vinton Road to Valley Chile Road vicinity, according to Josh Luna, Village of Vinton Communication Specialist. He stated that the



– Photo courtesy of Josh Luna

A MILLION BUCKS – A ceremonial check presentation was held recently at The Village of Vinton town hall. From left are Leticia Gonzalez, Vinton Council Member Place 2; Rachel Quintana, Vinton Mayor; Rep. Verónica Escobar, U.S. Congresswoman; and Paula Monreal, Vinton Council Member Place 3.

See CHECK, Page 4

'Colors of Our College' mural displayed at EPCC

By Andrew M. Blash
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Community College (EPCC) held a ceremony on June 10, 2026, to unveil a new art mural titled *Colors of Our College* at the Administrative Services Center Building B Foyer.

EPCC Art Professor Max Valenzuela, who also led the Mission del Paso campus mural *Who We Were, Who We Became*, organized the work. The project brought together 40 EPCC students, faculty and staff,

including three UTEP art students, helped create the mural as a relaxation area in between classes.

The title, *Colors of Our College*, refers to the colorful student body, connections to color and the vibrancy we all bring to this institution.

"It means the world to me to be able to create art that will inspire everyone who encounters them," Valenzuela said. "From my perspective, I am happy that I have been given the opportunity to have these murals displayed at these two campuses and I look forward to the future works going up. The one thing I can say is that I know that art is life, so having them be present just gives us the positive energy

we need to move forward, no matter what our final destination is."

The mural was made possible through the EPCC Campus Improvement Team to help brighten several EPCC campuses around the county. Valenzuela introduced the concept and design, followed by artwork painted by students, faculty and staff over two and a half months.

"Working on the mural was a great experience," said Erandeni Pandilla, an EPCC art student and teaching assistant. "Every day in Professor Valenzuela's class, I learn something new. The mural represents a new path for me and reminds me that, like colors, everyone brings something different. When we come together through art, we create something meaningful."

For campus leaders, the mural represents more than a decorative addition. It also serves to foster student engagement and create welcoming spaces across EPCC.

"The mural has already made a difference in the atmosphere of the building," said Blaine Primozych, Associate VP of Workforce and Continuing Education. "The moment you see that pop of color, it brightens the space. We've seen students spend more time in the area, engage with one another, and take greater ownership of the campus. Projects like this help create a stronger sense of community."

Valenzuela hopes the project will continue to inspire future artistic collaborations across the College.

"There is a total of two murals up at this point, but my dream would be to create one at each campus in order to bring together a cohesive direction of artistic elements within each campus," Valenzuela added. "I feel that that that would lend itself to having a richer experience and uniting us as a school."

Visit www.epcc.edu/Academics/Arts for more information on the EPCC art department.



– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

REMINISCENT OF THE 60s– The *Unknown-13* mural.

The perverse genocide charge

The spirit of Buchenwald lives on, we are supposed to believe, in the Israeli military operation in Gaza. It's nearly mandatory for progressive Democrats to denounce Israel for its alleged genocide, while Tucker Carlson and Hasan Piker – radical influencers on the right and left, respectively – say that the moral offense is the same as the Holocaust, even if the scale is less extensive.

Israel's haters surely enjoy the perversity of accusing the Jewish state of the same enormity that contributed to its creation, of comparing the Jews to heinous murderers of Jews. The charge is a grotesque libel.

If Israel wanted to kill everyone in Gaza, it could do it easily. What we have witnessed in the Hamas-controlled territory is not a genocide – the deliberate

destruction of a people – but an urban battle.

Warfare in urban environments is almost always highly destructive. When the Iraqi army retook Mosul from ISIS in 2016-2017 with our air support, tens of thousands of buildings were damaged or destroyed and an estimated 80% of the Old City.

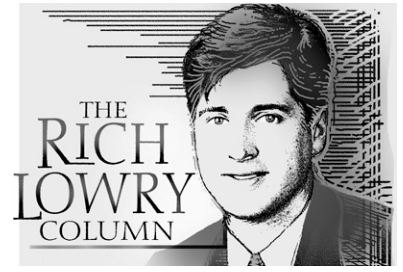
Vietnam gave us the famous (perhaps apocryphal) line, "We had to destroy the city in order to save it." The city in question was Ben Tre, infiltrated by the Viet Cong during the Tet Offensive in 1968. We used airstrikes, helicopter gunships, artillery and ground troops to extricate the communist forces, and the Mekong Delta town suffered extensive damage, even though the fighting only lasted days.

The old imperial capital of Hue suffered the same fate, but on a larger scale. Communist forces

took most of the city and dug in, requiring street-to-street combat over a period of months to take it back. About half the city was damaged or destroyed.

The lesson is that cities never fare well when they are the locus of combat, whether Seoul or Pyongyang during the Korean War, Manila or Stalingrad during World War II, Vicksburg or Charleston during the Civil War.

Civilians inevitably suffer and die. This is true of even the most honored military operations. The Allied invasion of Normandy killed 20,000 French



See **LOWRY**, Page 7

Food for thought By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Enjoy 'this' summer

Summer arrives slowly and disappears quickly. This all depends on where you live of course. If you are in Southern Florida, Texas, Arizona or California then warm and very hot days are almost always a part of life. For those of us a little further north, we know

about long winters and the wet chilly months of April and early May. The anticipation of summer is exciting and very welcome.

Sadly, it only takes about two or three really hot days for folks to start growling and complaining about the hot

weather. In these parts, we really only have two seasons, very cold weather and very hot weather. We will have a few days of Spring and sometimes two or three weeks of nice Fall weather, but that's about it. After that, it's time for heavy coats or shorts and tank tops.

Summer is finally here and typically hot for the next three

to four months. Let's enjoy the season. Remember that big snowfall just a few months ago? You couldn't get out of the house some days because it was dangerous. You can go outside now. On hot days just go early. Go walking, to the grocery store or whatever outside activity you choose.

Stay hydrated. Dehydration is a risk especially when mowing grass, playing sports, or gardening. Take time to cool down and hydrate. Every summer brings tragic news of football players dying during summer camp due to the heat. Coaches and schools must utilize all cautions to take care of their athletes. Parents must speak up about practices on extremely hot days. You have a voice. Speak up and let the coach know it's seriously too hot for practice.

Reacquaint yourself with neighbors and friends. Take time to visit with those who have been inside most of the

year. Take walks and slow down enough to engage in a conversation.

Most Americans have spent a lot of time this year watching television or staring at their computers. You can do this when November rolls back around. Utilize this time to be outside as much as possible. Wash your car, mow grass, plant flowers, play sports, swim, take long drives or visit state parks. Most anything outside will do.

The nice long days of summer are now here. When December comes back it will be dark by 5:30 p.m. and even 4:30 p.m. for most of the country. Currently it's staying daylight until 8:00, 9:00 or even later. Soak in every minute of doing safe outside activities. When I was a child, we would shoot basketball until 9:00 or 9:30 in the evening. We swam,

See **SUMMER**, Page 3

Tornillo Independent School District Public Notice

Special Needs Programs at Tornillo ISD for 2026-2027 School Year

Tornillo Independent School District provides access to identification of children with suspected disabilities who reside within the district; eligible students will be afforded a free, appropriate public education beginning on their third birthday and continuing through their 21st birthday, under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Services are available to all eligible children identified with one or more areas including physical disability, intellectual disability, emotional disability, specific learning disability, autism, speech disability, traumatic brain injury, visual or auditory impairment or other health impairment.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, (FERPA) which governs the access of educational information and records, parents and adult students have the right to inspect educational records. District policy FL provide for record access, confidentiality, and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, and who is residing within the Tornillo Independent School District please contact: Marisela Ramos, Special Education Coordinator, Tornillo ISD, at (915) 765-3040 or Anna Brew at (915) 765-3041.

Noticia Pública

Aviso de Programas de Necesidades Especiales en Tornillo ISD para el Año 2026-2027

El distrito escolar independiente de Tornillo provee acceso a la identificación de niños con incapacidades que viven dentro del distrito; los estudiantes que califiquen reciban una educación pública, gratuita, y adecuada comenzando con su tercer cumpleaños hasta el fin de los 21 años de edad, bajo el Acto de Individuos con Incapacidades (IDEA).

Estos servicios son disponibles para todos los niños identificados con una incapacidad y que esten experimentando dificultades en una o mas de las siguientes areas: incapacidad física, incapacidad intelectual o emocional, discapacidad de aprendizaje, autism, discapacidad del habla, daño cerebral por trauma, discapacidad visual o auditive o cualquier otra discapacidad de salud.

Conforme al Acto de Confidencia y de Derechos Educativos de la Familia de 1974, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derecho de ver los archivos educativos. La póliza del Distrito FL provee acceso a archivos, confidencialidad, y proceso de reclamación. Si usted desea más información o sabe de un niño/niña incapacitado que vive en el distrito escolar de Tornillo y que no esta recibiendo servicios educativos, favor de comunicarse con: Marisela Ramos, Cordinadora de Educación Especial, Tornillo ISD, (915) 765-3040 o Anna Brew a (915) 765-3041.

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15344 Werling Ct.
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Phone: 852-3235

E-mail: wtcc@wtcc.com
Website: wtcc.com

Publisher
Rick Shrum

Contributors
Alfredo Vasquez
Steve Escajeda



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Summer

From Page 1

camped out and played outside as much as possible. Those were great days and they were rarely boring. Today, many Americans have a hundred different television stations, movie channels and numerous social media accounts and still end up depressed.

It's summertime. Don't miss this glorious

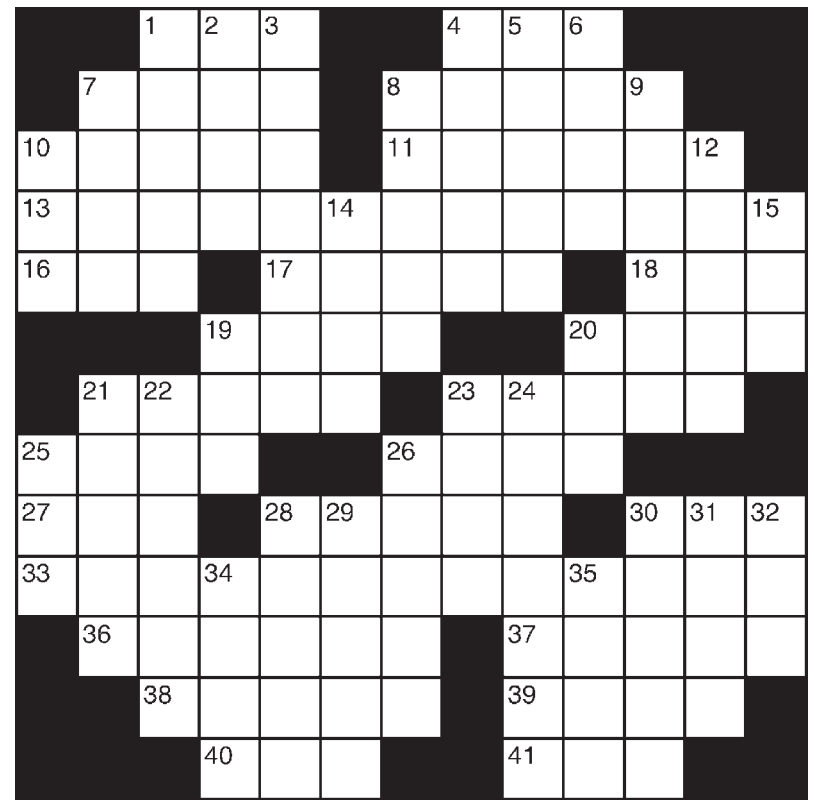
season. Do what you can do, all you can do and do it when you can – which is now. You don't have the guarantee of next summer. We have this summer. Let's enjoy this season to the max.

Dr. Mollette is the author of a new book titled Rambling Man With A Shaky Hand. Available via Kindle, Amazon Hard Back and other book sellers.

For the Dads



King Crossword



Average Solve Time 24 Minutes

ACROSS

- 1 Center
- 4 Solo in space
- 7 Lawn mower brand
- 8 Spoils, with "on"
- 10 Wanderer
- 11 Beethoven's Third
- 13 Time management aids
- 16 Citric beverage
- 17 Got up
- 18 Mosquito barrier
- 19 "_ chie!"

- 20 Feel sorry for
- 21 Mom's sister, informally
- 23 "Time in a Bottle" singer
- 25 Impudent
- 26 Owl call
- 27 Solid-rock insert
- 28 Spine-tingling
- 30 Lupino of film
- 33 Commuters' buys
- 36 Turned to mush
- 37 Lounges
- 38 Egypt's neighbor
- 39 Sloth's home
- 40 Ballpark fig.
- 41 Even so

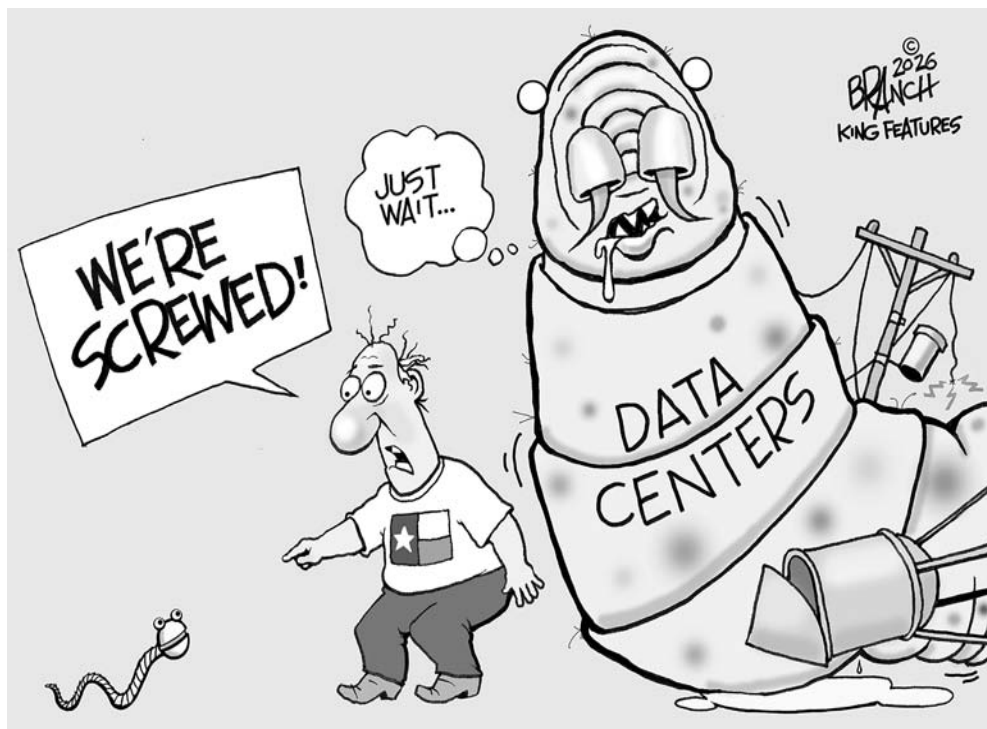
DOWN

- 1 Bro
- 2 Russian river
- 3 Tattoos, e.g.
- 4 Circle dances
- 5 Expiate
- 6 Dresden denial
- 7 Frog's kin
- 8 Apollo's birthplace
- 9 Picturesque
- 10 Secret-protecting doc.
- 12 Mountain crest
- 14 Quarry
- 15 Farm pen
- 19 Stick with a kick
- 20 Cauldron
- 21 Greek storyteller

- 22 Faraway orb
- 23 Business abbr.
- 24 Author's payment
- 25 Actress Dawber
- 26 "Papa" of classical music
- 28 Molts
- 29 Traction aid
- 30 Archipelago part
- 31 Editing mark
- 32 Ninny
- 34 Verifiable
- 35 Harboring a grudge

Answer Page 4

Archives: www.wtxcc.com



Check

From Page 1

project improvements will include new water lines along Doniphan Drive and Border Steel Road, as well as sewer

extensions to underserved areas, including South Desert Boulevard and future residential developments.

“Access to reliable water and wastewater infrastructure is essential for growing communities. I’m proud to

have secured this funding to help the Village of Vinton extend critical services to underserved areas, strengthen existing infrastructure, and support future residential and

See CHECK, Page 5

Public Notice

Tornillo Independent School District

SECTION 504 SERVICES

The Tornillo Independent School District provides the following educational services/options to identified students with disabilities who reside within the district.

- ◆ Child find activities to notify students with disabilities and their parents of their rights and the district’s obligation to provide a free, appropriate public education.
- ◆ Referrals to Sections 504 when it is believed the students have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities and the students are in need of educational accommodations.
- ◆ Procedural safeguards under Section 504.
- ◆ Evaluations of students to determine eligibility for the Section 504 program.
- ◆ Placement into the Section 504 program, which means the student may receive:
 - ✓ individually planned modifications in the regular classroom,
 - ✓ health services from the school nurse,
 - ✓ accommodations regarding access to any part of the campus, or
 - ✓ assistance in reading for students with dyslexia in a reading program which meets the state’s standards for a dyslexia reading program.
- ◆ Special education services are available to Section 504 students, if the students qualify for one of the specific disabilities under special education.
- ◆ Nondiscrimination protections of 504.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact Marisela Ramos, Special Education Coordinator, Tornillo ISD, at (915) 765-3040 or Anna Brew at 915-765-3041. Address: P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, TX 79853.

SERVICIOS DE LA SECCION 504

El distrito escolar independiente de Tornillo provee los siguientes servicios/ opciones educacionales a los estudiantes con discapacidades identificados que residen dentro del distrito.

- ◆ Actividades para encontrar a niños para notificar a los estudiantes con discapacidades y a sus padres de sus derechos y de las obligaciones del distrito a proporcionar una educación publica que sea gratuita y apropiada.
- ◆ Referimientos a la Sección 504 cuando se cree que el estudiante tiene una discapacidad mental o fisica que limita substancialmente una o mas actividades vitales importantes y los estudiantes necesitan modificaciones en su educación.
- ◆ Derechos legales garantizados bajo Sección 504.
- ◆ Evaluaciones de estudiantes para determinar si califican para el programa de la Sección 504.
- ◆ Colocación dentro del programa de la Sección 504, lo que significa que el estudiante puede recibir:
 - ✓ modificaciones en el salon de educación regular planeadas individualmente,
 - ✓ servicios de salud por la enfermera de la escuela,
 - ✓ cambios que garanticen el acceso a cualquier parte de la escuela,
 - ✓ ayuda en lectura para estudiantes con dislexia en un programa de lectura que cumpla con los requisitos que pide el estado a un programa de lectura de dislexia.
- ◆ Se ofrecen servicios de educación especial a los estudiantes Sección 504, si los estudiantes califican para una de las discapacidades especificas bajo educación especial.
- ◆ Protecciones de no discriminación de 504.

Si usted desea mas informacion o sabe de un niño/niña incapacitado que vive en el Distrito Escolar de Tornillo y que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con Marisela Ramos, Cordinadora de Educación Especial a 915-765-3040 o Anna Brew a 915-765-3041. Dirección: P.O. Box 170, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, TX 79853.

WTCC: 06-25-26

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

• Dark hair may turn red or blond in cases of severe protein deficiency.

• In the first half of the 20th century, cigarette makers touted the weight-loss aspects of their products, with one 1929 advertisement proclaiming, “Light a Lucky and you’ll never miss a sweet that makes you fat.”

• To escape predators, some sea cucumbers can eject their internal organs. Fortunately, they can also regrow them.

• In 1980, Shakuntala Devi earned a Guinness World Record for fastest multiplier when she correctly multiplied two 13-digit numbers in 28 seconds.

• After a few people showed up to conventions nude in the 1970s and 1980s, cosplay organizers created the “No Costume is No Costume” rule, under which attendees must have complete coverage equivalent to a standard swimsuit over their private areas.

• Mozart’s sister Maria Anna was a talented pianist in her own right, but after

she reached marriageable age, she was not allowed to perform in public.

• In 2010, a NASA astronaut took a piece of Newton’s apple tree aboard the space shuttle Atlantis to celebrate the 350th anniversary of The Royal Society, a scientific organization Newton once led.

• The universe has no known center.

• After WWII Hungary’s monthly inflation increased by 41 quadrillion percent in July 1946. Prices doubled every 13.5 hours.

• In 1759, Methodist founder John Wesley published a treatise advocating the use of electricity for medicinal purposes. He also regularly electrified participants at the Methodist church headquarters.

• Paul McCartney agreed to do a voice-over on “The Simpsons” if Lisa became a vegetarian for the rest of the series.

Thought for the Day: “I have seen what a laugh can do. It can transform almost unbearable tears into something bearable, even hopeful.”

– Bob Hope

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If you suddenly have or see any of these symptoms, call 9-1-1 immediately: Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body • Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding • Difficulty seeing in one or both eyes • Trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination • Severe headache with no known cause

Learn more at StrokeAssociation.org or 1-888-4-STROKE.



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World Cup fans experiencing USA for the first time

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Let's be honest, like most Americans, I love football, basketball, baseball and I'll even catch a hockey game on TV occasionally when there's nothing else on.

Like most Americans, I'm not really big on watching track and field on a weekly basis, but I'll watch every minute of the Olympics when they come around. I'll even catch myself paying attention to curling during the Winter Olympics and be mesmerized following that rock with a handle slowly slide down the ice.

It's not something I normally watch but when a huge worldwide sporting event happens, you must be a part of it.

And that brings us to the World Cup.

I don't follow soccer, I don't even like soccer, but it's the World Cup after all.

Just like curling, I find myself watching replays of all the World Cup matches every evening, following every country's progress and watching every minute of the United States and Mexico's games live.

And for a month, I consider myself a soccer fan.

And so far, the United States, Mexico and Canada have done an amazing job introducing the entire world to North America.

The three countries have also enjoyed their home field advantages with the USA, Mexico and Canada all advancing to the round of 32.

The USA has looked surprisingly strong, outscoring their first two opponents, Paraguay and Australia a combined 6-1.

And of course, here in El Paso, what makes these games even more interesting is the fact that Ricardo Pepi and Alex Zendejas are representing

our country.

Pepi, a San Elizario native, and Zendejas, who went to Hornedo Middle School on the westside before moving to Dallas, have given all non-soccer people a reason to watch.

All over the country, bars and restaurants and any facility that has a big screen hanging somewhere in it, are showing World Cup matches. And all of those places are jam-packed with enthusiastic fans.

But those aren't just Americans cheering, there has been a joyful invasion of fans from around the world, checking out their country's teams while experiencing our country for the first time.

And the votes are in; they love the United States.

All I see and hear on the internet or on the news or on the radio, is how foreigners have fallen in love with the United States.

They talk about our restaurants and our supermarkets and our outdoor

scenery and even our gas stations (petrol stations to them), and they are amazed at our way of life.

They are also amazed at the food choices and huge portions.

But most of all, I don't care if they are from Germany or France or Australia or Japan or Ireland or London, all these visitors say the same thing. They say they've been lied to.

Many visitors are saying that their country's news media and politicians have told them repeatedly how rude Americans are. But they say they are shocked at how welcoming and nice the people of the United States have been.

They've been told that America is a dangerous place with everybody packing a gun and that there are shootouts in the streets everywhere.

So many foreigners are posting videos saying that they have a whole new vision of the United States, and they say it is the best place on the planet.

We all should be proud at how the rest of the world now sees us and values the things we have and the things we sometimes take for granted.

It's sad that the only ones who see the United States as the worst place on earth (other than Iran) are Americans themselves. Well, a whole bunch of them anyway.

Unfortunately, even many of our politicians say America is awful.

Yet, the rest of the world sees this country as a wonderland that they don't want to leave.

Personally, it makes me proud hearing the rest of the world say all these wonderful things about our country. I'm hopeful that those Americans that always put the country down are listening. Maybe they'll come away with a different perspective and realize how lucky they are.

As for the play on the field, this year's World Cup has already been a rousing success for the United States, win or lose.

Senior moment By Matilda Charles

Playing games for brain health

Playing brain games can go a long way to helping us stay sharp, improve brain health, strengthen memory and slow cognitive decline. They can help us focus our attention, process information more quickly and recall facts. Whether they are logic, word, number, memory, card or any other type of game, playing can give our brains a boost – and we don't even have to leave home!

The AARP Games Center (www.aarp.org/games) is a great place to sample free games. There are various forms of solitaire, mahjong, lots of crossword and word games and trivia. If you're an AARP member and you sign in, there are even more games. Look for the Staying Sharp section for extra games.

Games for the Brain (www.gamesforthebrain.com) is an interesting site that doesn't require any registration. It appears that the games are created by a guy in Germany, but you'll also find familiar games like Chinese checkers and Minesweeper.

As a general rule, look for online games that don't require you to set up an account, where you can just play by going to that website. But if you really want to play the games on a certain site and signing up is required, take a look at their privacy policy to see what information they collect about you. Set up a new email address that you only use for games.

If you prefer to add a social aspect to your game playing, check your local senior center and library for game days where you can play against others. Ask about card games, bingo, chess and checkers, Scrabble or even jigsaw puzzles done as a group.

If money is not a concern, consider a membership at the BrainHQ site (www.brainhq.com). Their games are backed by years of research into improving cognitive function, but be sure to read their privacy policy.

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- FLAVOR NOT TO SAVOR ACROSS**
- 1 Film blooper compilation
 - 8 Illinois and Iowa's trees
 - 12 "Bali _"
 - 15 Bushy hairdos, for short
 - 19 "Stephen," in Paris
 - 20 Cookie often twisted apart
 - 21 Boat mover
 - 22 Engrossed
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 26 Concerning
 - 27 Mil. title
 - 28 Lysol target
 - 29 D.C. insider
 - 30 Contribute one's share
 - 32 Kitchen pests
 - 34 Starts litigation
 - 39 Stop on _
 - 40 Riddle, part 2
 - 44 " _ Miserables"
 - 45 Taking way too much, in brief
 - 46 Loud weather events, for short
 - 47 Inner city, informally
 - 50 Leopard markings
 - 53 "Eso _" (Paul Anka song)
 - 54 Riddle, part 3
 - 64 Cave effect
 - 65 Bovine beast
 - 66 Celebrity

- 67 Omit, as a vowel
- 68 College head
- 69 Acrobats' springy apparatuses
- 73 3/15, e.g.
- 74 Map book
- 76 Artist Dufy or film director Walsh
- 77 Critical hosp. area
- 78 Lock lips
- 79 Riddle, part 4
- 84 Tiny charged things
- 85 "It wouldn't _ first time"
- 86 Poppa
- 87 Intraparty rifts
- 91 Vast South American plain
- 95 Football coach Parseghian
- 97 End of the riddle
- 104 Awaken
- 105 Arizona waterway with the Roosevelt Dam
- 106 Vikings' tale, perhaps
- 107 Novelist Hemingway
- 109 Original "King Kong" studio
- 110 Cast forth
- 113 Moose's kin
- 114 Art gallery in London
- 115 Riddle's answer
- 121 Drummer Burke or pitcher Labine

- DOWN**
- 1 Showy trinket
 - 2 Wisdom deity
 - 3 Behemoths
 - 4 On Soc. Security, e.g.
 - 5 Prefix with skeleton
 - 6 Writer Blyton
 - 7 Made the first move
 - 8 "Impressive!"
 - 9 Consist of
 - 10 Pub barrel
 - 11 "The meal is ready!"
 - 12 " _ at the Moon" (1951 Hank Williams song)
 - 13 Partner of 8-Down
 - 14 "_Z" ('80s Camaro)
 - 15 "Yep, alas"
 - 16 More hoarse
 - 17 Ideal condition
 - 18 High-minded sorts?
 - 24 Duet plus one
 - 25 Juvenile
 - 31 Must exist
 - 33 Longtime NBC show inits.

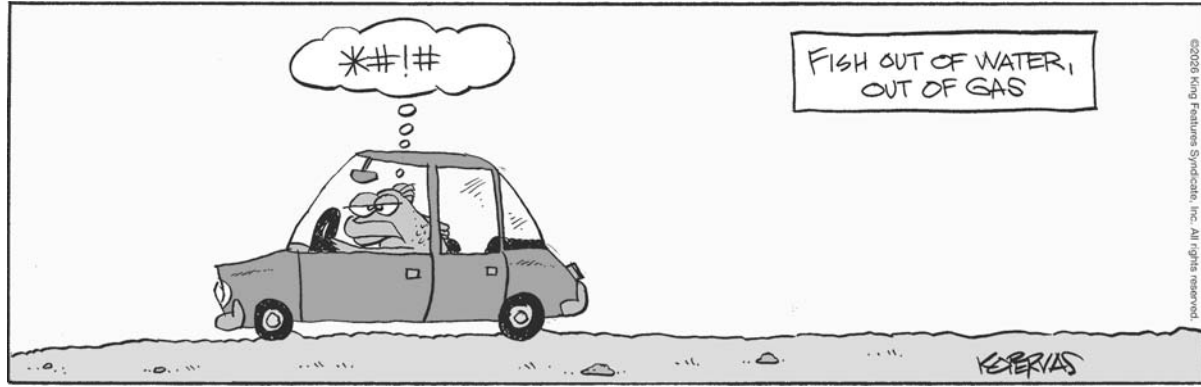
- 35 Unconfined
- 36 "77 Sunset Strip" actor Byrnes
- 37 Biol. or anat.
- 38 Schlepped
- 41 Composer/pianist John
- 42 Facet
- 43 Actress Rae of "Vengeance"
- 47 Employed for the purpose of
- 48 Head for very quickly
- 49 So as to be 50% less
- 51 _ about (around)
- 52 Hinders
- 53 Detective Phil Fish's wife on "Fish"
- 55 Achieved victory in
- 56 Sitting on _ the world
- 57 Love, in Paris
- 58 "ER" actor Eriq La _
- 59 Prefix with cycle or state
- 60 "This pleases me!"
- 61 Cleaned a little, with "up"
- 62 Texas or Ukraine city
- 63 Owned (up)
- 70 Actress West
- 71 Genuine, in Germany
- 72 Of a similar kind to
- 75 Rustling sounds
- 80 Place to live

Super Crossword

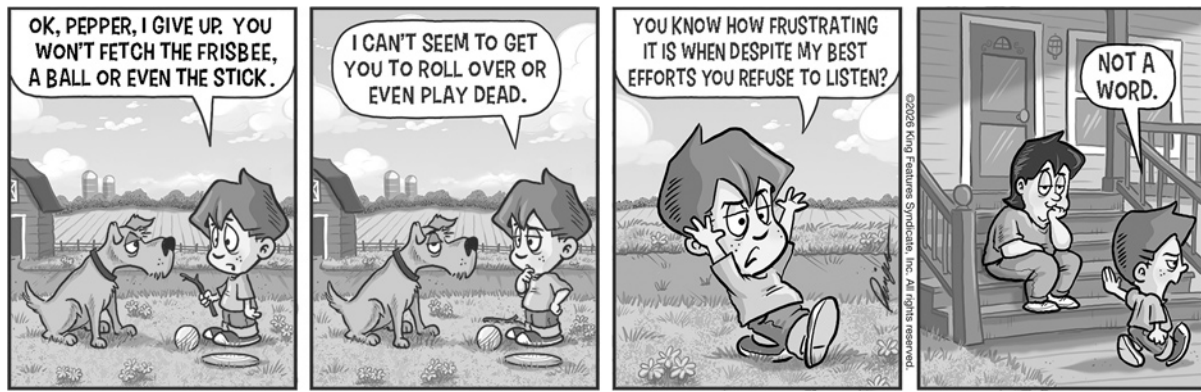
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Comix

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

civilians as cities such as Rouen and Le Havre were pulverized by our bombardment. Why would anyone expect Gaza, one of the most densely populated places on Earth, to be different? Hamas spent years and massive resources tunneling and fortifying, making Gaza into a bristling armed camp difficult to subdue.

Sure enough, it has taken a grinding, years-long campaign to substantially reduce Hamas. Israel's detractors profess to detect "genocidal intent" in harsh things that Israeli officials have said about Gaza, but these statements have typically been aimed at Hamas.

If Israel wanted to commit genocide against the Gazans, Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu wouldn't have sought to accommodate Hamas for years, in the hopes that a major war could be avoided. The Oct. 7 attack exposed this as a grievous misjudgment. It's hard to believe that any society, having experienced the unspeakable crimes visited on its people that day, would have concluded, "Well, we can't do anything in

response – even recover our hostages – because combat in Gaza will be too destructive."

Hamas intertwined its military infrastructure with civilian facilities, and made military use of hospitals, mosques and schools. Its fighters posed as medical personnel and journalists. Everything was geared to making it as difficult as possible to target Hamas without collateral damage, creating the predicate for denouncing Israel for war crimes.

As military expert John Spencer points out, Israel takes steps to avoid civilian harm: "It warns before attacks using text messages, phone calls, leaflets and broadcasts. It opens safe corridors and pauses operations so civilians can leave combat areas. It tracks civilian presence down to the building level."

None of this matters, though. The ultimate perversity is that Hamas has genocidal intent against the Jews. Yet, it is the war against this cruel terror group that is being used to associate the Jewish state with one of history's worst crimes.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. ©2026 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Several medications can reduce ONJ risk

DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm a 79-year-old female who's in good health. I am 5 feet tall and weigh 95 pounds, and I'm very active. I've been taking Prolia for the past two to three years for osteoporosis, which has since improved to osteopenia. Right after my most recent Prolia shot, I developed discomfort in my mouth and was told that I have a cracked root in a molar. I previously had a root canal on this molar and was told that this tooth should be extracted. I realized that it'd be best to wait five more months to do this to be safe, out of concern of getting osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ). My question is, what do I do in case of an emergency, especially if the tooth becomes infected and needs to be extracted sooner? Also, since I have a history of dental problems, how can I get off Prolia in the future and still protect my bones? – L.L.



Denosumab (Prolia) is a treatment for osteoporosis that is normally given as an injection every six months. Among its side effects is an increase in the risk of ONJ, which is a serious condition that consists of poor blood supply to the bone and causes death in part of the bone of the jaw. The lower jaw (mandible) is much more commonly affected than the upper jaw (maxilla). Osteoporosis medicines that slow down the action of the osteoclasts – the cells that break down bone so that it can be rebuilt – put people at a higher risk of ONJ. These medicines include the bisphosphonate class, like oral alendronate (Fosamax) and risedronate (Actonel), as well as the intravenous drug zoledronic acid (Reclast) in addition to Prolia. Prolia has the highest risk of ONJ, followed by IV bisphosphonates and oral bisphosphonates. A tooth extraction is a high-risk procedure for developing ONJ. For people who are on Prolia, the risk of ONJ is about 2.3%, which is much higher than the approximately 0.3% risk for people who are on oral bisphosphonates. You are right that your best bet is waiting to get the extraction until just before the time that you'd have taken your next dose of Prolia. In one study, not a single person out of 76 people developed ONJ if they waited five to seven months after their previous dose. However, you don't want to wait too long, as the osteoporosis will start to progress and a person can develop a fracture. The timing needs to be critical, and the medication should be restarted as soon as the extraction site has healed. Your dentist can minimize the risk of ONJ by using an antibiotic and a very careful extraction technique. Some evidence supports the use of platelet-rich fibrin in the extraction socket, but other studies haven't found a benefit. Your dentist should do this even if you can wait the additional five months, and they should certainly do it if the tooth requires extraction sooner. Your doctor who's prescribing Prolia should be discussing the plans with your dentist at this time. As mentioned before, oral bisphosphonates have a lower risk of ONJ. But there are other classes of medication for osteoporosis that carry little to no risk of ONJ, such as the parathyroid hormone analog teriparatide (Forteo); the selective estrogen receptor modulator raloxifene (Evista); and the sclerostin inhibitor romosozumab (Evenity).

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. ©2026 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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Moore Texas by Roger Moore

June 30, 1820: Alabama Indians told to move to a reservation by the US instead head to Texas, bringing us our first peach seeds.

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: H equals Y

M UBNRQ ICVJYMPRH PBJ
 VCIBFFCPQ JOYJ JYMRBV JB
 YPHBPC CRZC. OC QMQP'J
 ZNMJ FC UCRR.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

Answer Page 4

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Buglers needed: Taps is only 24 notes



by Freddy Groves

There are over 400 funerals each day at the National Cemeteries. Depending on the veteran and the location of the cemetery, the honors are likely to include two uniformed members of the military, folding and presentation of the flag, three rifle volleys, a horse-drawn caisson and the playing of Taps. At a very minimum, we expect this. We expect to hear Taps at a veteran funeral. It's part of how we say goodbye, hearing the National Song of Remembrance.

In some parts of the country, however, especially in rural cemeteries, there aren't enough buglers, and Taps is played via a CD recording or a special electronic gadget inserted into a bugle that plays a prerecorded Taps. Live buglers are, of course, preferred.

Can you help? Are you willing to be a bugler at

veteran funerals in your area?

Before you decline, consider: If you took a semester of band, even in junior high, you're halfway there. If there is a bugle (or trumpet) in your attic, you're halfway there. Is there a high school or college with a music department near you? The department head will help you fine tune the playing of Taps. Best of all, there are only 24 notes in Taps.

Take a look at the organizations that provide buglers for veteran funerals:

• Bugles Across America

(www.BuglesAcrossAmerica.org) has been providing this service for 26 years now. Read about Tom Day and why he started the group.

According to the most recent Bugler's Post newsletter, last year the group's buglers provided 32,000 hours of their time. Members have provided Taps at 350,000 funerals since the group began in 2000. They have volunteer buglers in 49 states; only South Dakota is missing from the list.

• Taps For Veterans

(www.TapsForVeterans.org) is headed up by former military musicians. See the website for more information and how to audition.

At this point, one-quarter of living veterans are over the age of 65; the number of veteran funerals is not going to decline anytime soon.

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• Save the peels from your oranges and dry them at a low temperature in the oven. You can add them to a pot of coffee or tea for a flavor boost that is refreshing and delicious.

• "If your tomato garden is experiencing caterpillars, try planting dillweed near to your tomato plants. It can provide a diversion, allowing your tomatoes to grow!" – Y.F. in Florida

• Cure your color in new garments (especially dark-colored or bright-colored) by soaking the item in cold, salty water before washing. Make sure that the fabric will allow!

• "Take good care of quality paint brushes, and they will take care of you! Wash thoroughly in soapy water and be certain to rinse very well. After the brush is washed, combine enough water to cover the bristles and add 2 tablespoons of fabric softener. Swish for a minute or two, being sure to get it in the brush good, then hang to drip dry. Before you use the brush to paint, simply rinse the fabric softener away." – M.E. in Washington

• Baking soda can be used as a tooth scrub, and it's particularly effective against stains, as it is a mild abrasive.

• "When you are dusting, don't forget the light bulbs. Dusty light bulbs can contribute to less-bright lighting and can shorten the life of your bulbs. Turn lights off when you are not using them. You will save electricity that way." – A.L. in Oklahoma

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. ©2026 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.

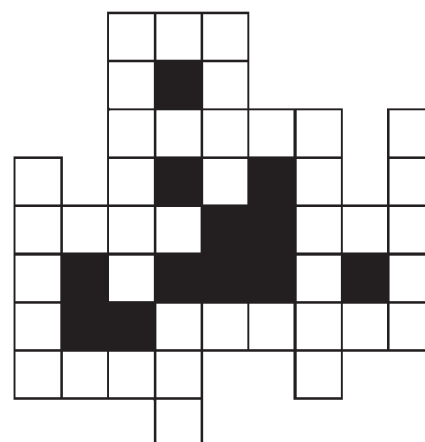
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63		14		40				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Answer Page 4

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- ENF
- RAUCET
- ERMHU
- ♥BLEO
- EMEFLA
- OCO
- ♥OENT
- BEALF
- ♥RBO
- ARMLOT
- ♥ORNLE
- ♥VREO



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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