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Yuma Sun

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122nd YEAR, 250th ISSUE



APS in focus

Regulators question utility's billing plans, earnings/A3



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Today's high: 66°
Details on C7

\$1.00



YEAR IN REVIEW

Yuma experiencing whirlwind of activity

Editor's Note: As 2018 comes to a close, the Yuma Sun reporting staff met with local government officials for a look back at the year. This story is one in a series called "2018: Year in Review."

BY MARA KNAUB
@YSMARAKNAUB

Yuma experienced a whirlwind year of activity in 2018. "It's a huge year for economic development and job creation," City Administrator Greg Wilkinson said. "We were extremely

busy on the economic development side, tremendously successful both as a city and working with partners."

Aerospace firm AQST Space Systems Group announced plans to relocate its secured manufacturing into the Defense Contractor Complex at the Yuma International Airport. The company is bringing 200 manufacturing jobs to Yuma.

City officials continued discussions on policies regarding the use of "smart city" technology. In

2017 Yuma entered into a 25-year contract with anyCOMM Holdings for the installing, upgrading and maintaining of "smart city" capabilities on all streetlights, at no cost to the city. However, the shipment of node components from China is being held up due to \$2.5 million in tariffs being imposed.

The nodes were to be installed in conjunction with a LED streetlight conversion project this year. Siemens Industry is handling the streetlight replacement

project, which is set to wrap up by the end of this year. Nevertheless, anyCOMM has started testing a handful of installed nodes.

Wilkinson noted that AQST and anyCOMM are opening high-tech frontiers in Yuma, prompting partnerships with STEDY (Southwest Technical Education District of Yuma) and Arizona Western College to provide the needed workforce.

Other high-profile companies also chose Yuma, with one global company that manufactures

spices and herbs planning to build a production facility here. Gourmet Garden, a company of McCormick & Company, will invest \$38.5 million for land, building and equipment at the facility to be located in the Yuma Commerce Center. The facility is expected to be at full operation in 2020, bringing 89 full-time jobs.

Other new businesses announced plans to locate to Yuma and/or broke ground for construction projects, including

SEE CITY/A5

Will 'ho ho ho' for cookies

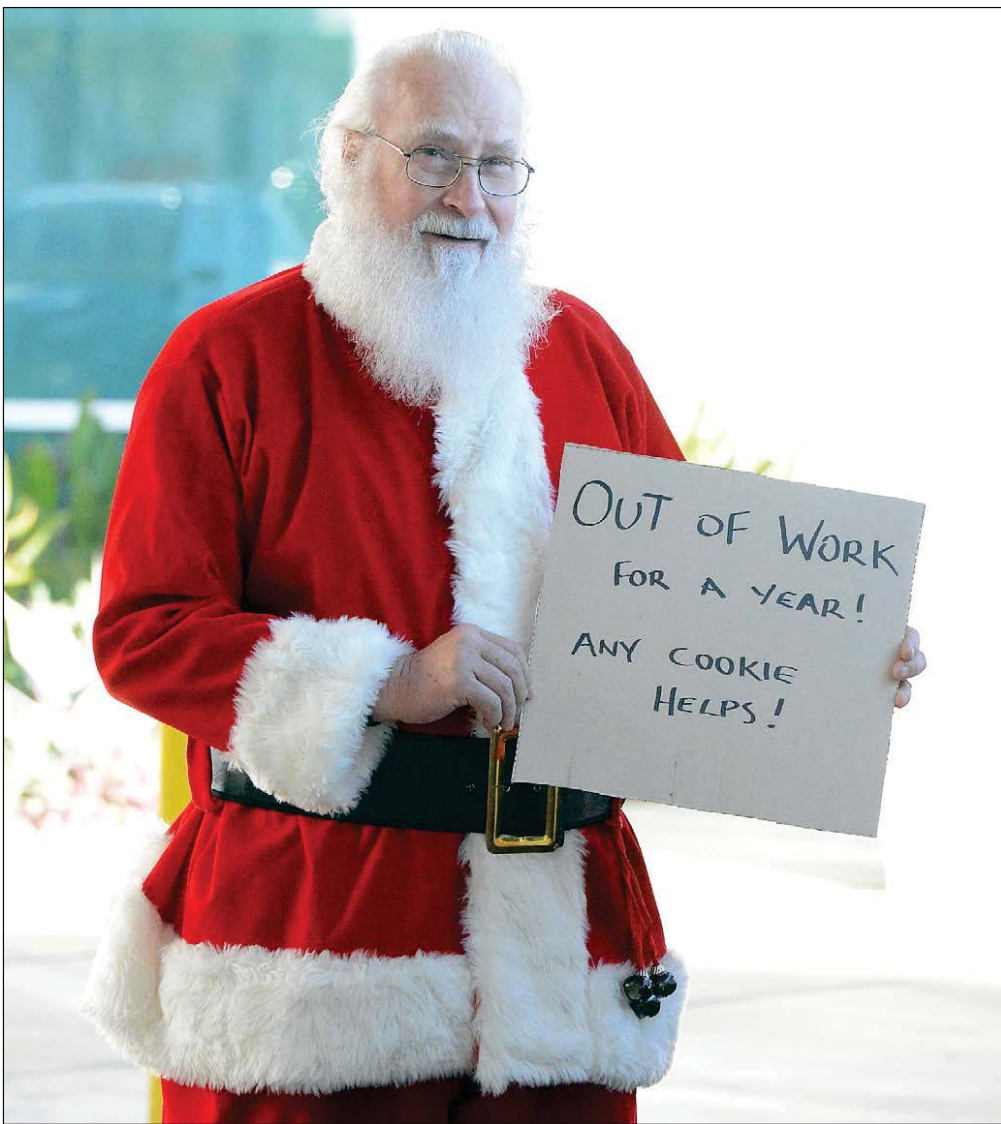
It's the day after Christmas and Santa Claus, not surprisingly, finds himself out of a job. Here he holds up a sign at Yuma Regional Medical Center, stating his plight.

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YUMA SUN

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INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

NATION AND WORLD



Trump: I can't tell you when gov't shutdown will end

President Donald Trump said Tuesday that parts of the federal government will stay closed until Democrats agree to put up more walls along the U.S.-Mexico border to deter criminal elements. **Page A6**

DESERT LIFE



Boot camp offers chance to shed holiday pounds

Are you putting on extra pounds over the holidays? Carlos Gonzalez is giving you a chance to get rid of them — and claim bragging rights to the title of Biggest Loser. **Page B1**

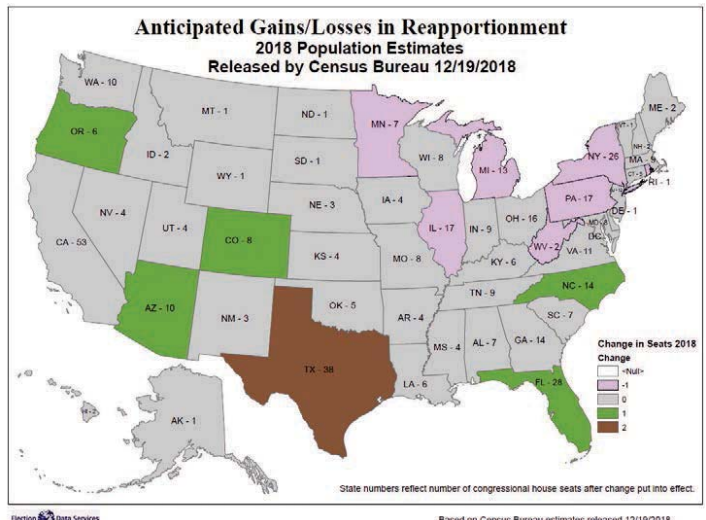
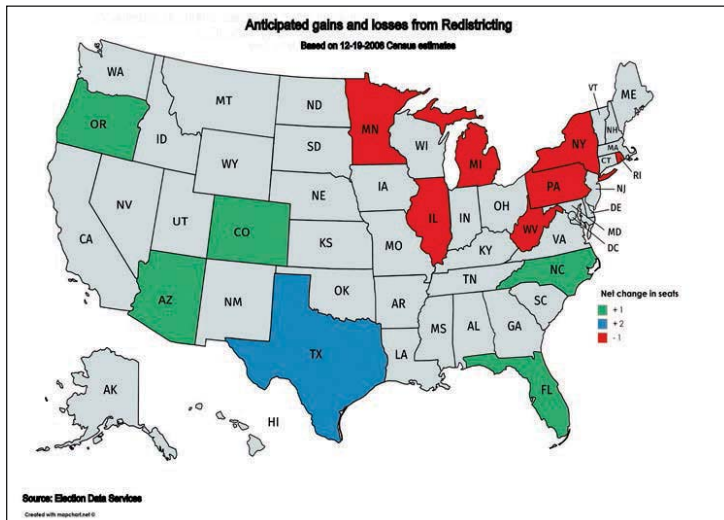
SPORTS



Lakers rout Warriors

Even without an injured LeBron, Los Angeles beats Golden State. **Page D1**

Growing Arizona on track to add 10th congressional seat



BY HOWARD FISCHER
CAPITOL MEDIA SERVICES

PHOENIX — It's beginning to look like Arizona's going to have a bit more congressional clout after 2022.

A new analysis by Election Data Services concludes that the shifts in population from the Northeast to the South and West pretty much guarantee that

Arizona is going to pick up a 10th seat in the U.S. House after the decennial census. The organization's Kimball Brace said that's because Arizona is adding residents at a rate faster than much of the rest of the country.

But Arizona's gain is going to be someone else's loss. And in this case, Brace said the latest estimates mean that seat will come from Rhode Island.

The reason is that redistricting is a zero-sum game. Federal law limits the House to 435 members. And if Arizona gets an additional seat, it has to come from somewhere else.

It's sort of like musical chairs.

Brace said that, based on the latest population trends, Rhode Island will be reduced to having just one representative in the

House. It's not just Arizona, which already has added about 780,000 new residents since the 2010 census when the last lines were drawn.

Brace figures that Texas, which already has 36 representatives, will pick up another two based on adding more than 3.5 million residents already since the 2010 census.

Other rapidly growing

states that will get an additional House seat include Oregon, Colorado, Florida and North Carolina.

The losers? Aside from Rhode Island, Brace predicts shrinking congressional delegations for New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Michigan, Illinois and Minnesota.

It isn't a strict math formula, dividing up the U.S. population by 435 to deter-

mine how many new residents it takes to get an additional congressional seat. Since each state is entitled to one, that means Wyoming gets the same single representative at 577,000 residents as Rhode Island with more than a million inhabitants.

And Brace said the projections — and they are

SEE CONGRESS/A5