

NEWSBRIEFS

Health carnival

San Elizario Independent School District will hold its annual health fair on September 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Borrego Elementary School; 13300 Chicken Ranch Rd. Over 30 health and social services agencies and organizations will participate in the event. There will be vision, hearing, dental, glucose, cholesterol, spinal, bone density, and BMI health screenings available. Immunizations for children will also be provided at \$10.00 dollars for one or more shots as well as flu shots for \$25.00 per shot (Medicaid, CHIP and Medicare will be accepted). The San Elizario ISD Carnival of Health will also include entertainment, kids' games, door prizes, and lunch for the first 700 participants. Don't miss out on this valuable community event. For more information contact Rebecca Madrid at 872-3970.

— Cynthia P. Marentes

UTEP game day bus

Miner football fans tired of battling traffic and hunting for a parking space can save time, money and hassle by parking at the Union Plaza Transit Terminal (UPTT), 400 W. San Antonio, and boarding Sun Metro's SMART 101. Fans can arrive to the game in style by parking at the UPTT for \$5 and buy a round-trip bus pass for \$2.50 (per person). Children 5 and under ride free, and must be accompanied by an adult. You must have exact change to ride the SMART 101 because the Sun Metro drivers do not have access to change. Sun Metro will begin taking fans to each UTEP home game from the UPTT two hours before kickoff. Miner fans will be dropped off at Sun Metro's football bus stop located near the intersection of Robinson Avenue and Randolph Drive, adjacent to Memorial Gym. Return trips will begin at the end of the 3rd quarter. Before boarding the bus, riders are reminded of the following tips and policies:

- Make sure you have your game tickets *before* you get on board;
- Food or beverages are *not* permitted on the bus; and
- Boarding for return trips will be at the same dropped-off location near Memorial Gym.

For more information about Sun Metro, visit www.elpasotexas.gov/sunmetro or call (915) 533-3333.

— Laura Cruz-Acosta

Kidnapped

Early Thursday afternoon (Sept. 3) at approximately 2:40 p.m., Horizon City Police Officers were dispatched to a residence in the 14237 Desert Sunset, Horizon City in reference to a kidnapping that had just occurred at the residence. Officers arrived and met with the female resident who told authorities that her husband was forcibly taken from the

See BRIEFS, Page 4

People whose main concern is their own happiness seldom find it.

— Quips & Quotes

Gabaldon takes charge in Clint ISD

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

HORIZON CITY — Your odds on seeing Dr. Edward Gabaldon, the new superintendent of the Clint Independent School District, are much better if you make an appointment first.

If you don't, there is a very good chance he won't be there.

Why?

He'd rather be in the classroom than in the boardroom.

He'd rather be at an athletic event cheering on a district team than sitting behind his desk in the Clint ISD administrative building in Horizon City. As he puts it:

"I believe in being out there. I believe in being visible.

"I believe in being in the classrooms. These are my favorite places."

He visits his "favorite places" on a daily basis — whether it's to talk to teachers and students in the classroom or to talk to department heads or to chat with the campus custodians or kitchen personnel.

"They appreciate it. They get to know you personally."

Gabaldon, 54, took over June 1 as head of CISD. He is the 20th superintendent of the district which dates back to 1924. Lillian Huggett was the first to head the district, according to Sandy Burr, executive secretary to Gabaldon.

"He is a God-send to the district, and that comes from the heart,"

says Burr who has worked with 10 superintendents since she began work in CISD in 1977.

Beginning his 32nd year in the field of education, Gabaldon comes to Clint from El Paso ISD where he served as chief of staff to its current superintendent, Dr. Lorenzo Garcia.

Gabaldon's predecessor, the late Ricardo Estrada, died of cancer in March of this year. Ricardo Estrada Middle School is being reconfigured and will become a junior high for the 2010-11 school year.

"I've had the opportunity to work in some fine school districts under fine leadership," the new district leader says. He has also served in various teaching and administrative positions in the Ysleta and Socorro school districts.

"All has prepared me (for this)," he adds, referring to his new role as superintendent.

Moving from the largest school district in area to the fourth largest has been an adjustment, he candidly admits. Many of the administrative and academic matters usually handled by support staff in larger districts go, instead, to the superintendent of a smaller school district.

"(But) I like that," he quickly adds. "This has been a learning opportunity for me; I have learned a lot of interesting things."

Gabaldon is at home in the Lower Valley. He was born and reared in Fabens.

"I knew it would be a great fit," the superintendent says when

asked why he made the jump to Clint. "It has always had a reputation as a great district — not only academically, but in other areas as well. And it has maintained that reputation.

"We have great kids; we have excellent teachers."

Underscoring his contention that CISD is a great district, he proudly adds that, at more than \$44,000 a year, the district has the highest entry level teacher salaries in the area. This is coupled with a board-approved 2 percent across-the-board pay hike for employees.

With a student population of more than 11,300 spread among 12 school campuses, Gabaldon notes that CISD is ranked 92nd out of 1,229 districts statewide. Of the 12, six earned Recognized status by the Texas Education Agency. Frank Macias Elementary earned the highest honor — Exemplary status.

Student growth has been "steady" at a little more than 3 percent. There are between 400 and 500 new students this year.

A new Clint High School will open in 2011.

While proud of the district's present accomplishments, the new superintendent is looking to the future. In his view, enabling the students merely to graduate from high school is not enough. He feels a responsibility for the students beyond high school graduation.

He is approaching this task on two fronts. The first is "near and dear to his heart."



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

Edward Gabaldon

"We need to focus on post secondary initiatives," he says. He wants to make sure that CISD is doing everything it can to help its graduates make a successful transition into college.

"Kids need to be college ready, college prepared," he points out. "We want them to be successful."

He cites statistics which show that 35 percent of all high school graduates statewide must pass remedial, non-credit, courses before they can take a university's regular academic curriculum.

Some who fail these courses become discouraged and drop out all together.

His second approach to this

See GABALDON, Page 2

Montes advances to national debate competition

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

Antonio Montes

CANUTILLO — Antonio Montes, a Canutillo sophomore attending the Northwest Early College High School (NECHS) campus, won first place recently in extemporaneous speaking, during the Big Bend Great Debate as part of the National Hispanic Institute Youth Leadership Conference. The conference was hosted by Sul Ross University. Montes will now advance to the National Great Debate, which will be held at the University of Texas at Austin in November.

Montes beat out fifty other students from the Big Bend Region and surrounding areas during a weeklong stay in Alpine. He finished the competition undefeated. As a participant, he was also able to live the real life university experience by staying in the college dorms, as he progressed through the multiple rounds of debate.

The National Hispanic Institute is an organization that values the talent of Latino youth, the potential they represent for the future of the Latino community and the extended sectors of American society. Furthermore, the organization provides students with the environment through which they may become intellectually, culturally, and socially engaged in determining the role they wish to play in shaping tomorrow's world.

Texas officials say get flu shot now

By Doug McBride
Special to the Courier

TEXAS — The Texas Department of State Health Services is encouraging people to get their seasonal flu vaccination now.

"Don't wait. Get your seasonal flu vaccination now," said Dr. David Lakey, DSHS Commissioner. "It's one of the best ways to protect yourself and others from seasonal flu."

Seasonal flu vaccine, available in shot and nasal spray forms, is recommended for people ages 6 months and older. The shot takes about two weeks to become effective. A separate 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine is not expected until mid-October.

"Get the seasonal flu vaccine now. Then, be prepared get the 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine later. One vaccine isn't a substitute for the other," Lakey said.

People at high risk of having serious flu complications are especially encouraged to get their seasonal flu shot as soon as possible. This includes children ages 6 months through 18 years, those 50 and older, people with chronic medical conditions, residents of long-term care facilities and pregnant

See FLU, Page 4

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

The new GI Bill

The newest version of the veterans' education program, called the Post-9/11 GI Bill, is now up and running. The package of benefits is better than ever. If you've thought about going back to school or getting training, this could be the time.

To qualify, a veteran must have at least 90 days of service on or after Sept. 11, 2001, and an honorable discharge. Those with service-connected disabilities only need 30 days of service. The percentage of benefits you receive depends on the time you served after that date. Three years gets you the maximum benefit.

The new program covers:

- Tuition and school fees paid directly to the school (the amount is capped at the level of maximum in-state tuition).

- Up to \$1,000 for books.

- A housing allowance with the amount dependent on the cost of living where you live.

Not all training is covered under the new program. For example, flight training and entrepreneurship training are not covered unless they're being given at one of the authorized Institutions of

Higher Learning.

Your first stop should be the Department of Veterans Affairs site: <http://www.gibill.va.gov>. There you'll find links to a list of the in-state maximum tuition and fees by states, the housing allowance by ZIP code, as well as a page of benefit comparisons between the new Post-9/11 program and the old Montgomery program, which is still operating.

Your most difficult decision might be which program to go with — Post-9/11 or Montgomery. With the latter, you'd receive a set monthly payment that has nothing to do with your actual expenses. Take pencil and paper to the numbers and see which works best for you.

Once you decide, it's never too early to apply and get the paperwork started. You can apply online or have the forms sent to you by calling 1-888-GI BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551).

Write to Freddy Groves in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com. (c) 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

Gabaldon

From Page 1

problem is through the early college high school program where students can earn dual credit for community college courses while still attending high school.

Gabaldon is in discussion with El Paso Community College about starting the program "in the near future." The program is already in place in other school districts, including Canutillo. Fabens ISD is

also developing an early college high school program.

Looking back at more than three decades in the academic arena, he says his guiding principle has always been "to treat people fairly, consistently with courtesy and respect."

He is very proud of the fact that he has "touched the lives of so many people — that he has had an impact on those lives."

Gabaldon and his wife Angela of 27 years are the parents of two boys, Adam, 23; and Michael 17.

His hobbies include running, reading, traveling, sports and music.

Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla



Issues fill November ballot

Hola, mi gente. On Monday September 7, we celebrated

the Labor Day holiday. This day was dedicated for the purpose of honoring hard working Americans. Many, but obviously not all, El Pasoans were given a day off.

The great majority of residents in our county are workers; that is, not self employed or business owners. It is the workers who make business happen and the dedication of a holiday in their name is warranted.

Labor Day is also the day that originally was dedicated in recognition of the union movement. This happened well over a hundred years ago. Just as businesses organized into larger and more powerful conglomerates, workers organized in order to have a stronger say in how workers were compensated. Both are impor-

tant parts to a free market system.

Many of the work related things we take for granted came about as a result of the dynamics between business and labor. The most obvious benchmark is the 40 hour work week. The most important victory by labor organizations was the attention paid to work place safety.

Whether one agrees or disagrees with the labor movement, we must recognize that unions have benefited the workers in our country.

Labor Day is also the signal that summer is behind us. We begin the shortening of daylight and the onset of cooler and colder temperatures.

Labor Day is also the traditional start of the political season. This year there is no election for office holders. But there has been a flurry of announcements by individuals who intend to run for a variety of offices. Those elections will start with the March 2010 primary and culminate

with the November 2010 gubernatorial election.

My official announcement for reelection will be forthcoming in the next weeks.

This year, there is an election but only for proposed constitutional amendments. I will provide you with information about the eleven issues to be on the November 2009 ballot.

Two of the issues deal with appraisals and eminent domain. I shall dedicate one entire article for each. The others will be grouped in articles before the early voting period which commences in five weeks. I shall start those articles in two weeks.

I realize that constitutional amendments do not stir the emotions for voters. They are, however, very important elections and I encourage all of you to educate yourselves about the issues and vote. Gracias, mi gente, and I remain your friend and public servant, Chente por la gente.

View from here By Victor Morawski

The abrogation of the social contract

An argument used in many current business ethics textbooks today to morally justify the intrusion of Big Government into corporate and small business decisions turns on the notion that we now are in the process of re-writing the understood social contract between business and society.

So, let's take a quick look at this convenient fallacy and see if we can figure out why the left contrived it in the first place.

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries what Americans most wanted from business was rapid economic growth and job creation. Back then, we were willing to overlook many negative consequences of business activity on the environment to see business achieve this end.

Now, the argument goes, society has concerns other than simple economic growth — specifically, quality of life and environmental con-

cerns — that mean that it can no longer absorb costs associated with these side effects.

The argument claims that society, largely through government regulations, is now justified in forcing business (especially large corporations) to internalize these costs, even if doing so will have a negative impact on their bottom line. Not satisfied

See CONTRACT, Page 4

1973
36
years
2009

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Website: wtxcc.com

Publisher
Rick Shrum

Contributors
Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda
Jan Engels

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UTEP
miners
v e r s u s
Kansas
Jayhawks
Saturday, September 12 - 5:30 p.m.



ORANGE OUT!

Make the stadium orange for the Jayhawks' visit to the Sun Bowl — the first 12,000 fans receive a Pete's Pennies Coupon Book.

Win the "Experience UTEP Football" package

Get down on the field for the team entrance onto the field from the Mine Shaft. Listen to 95.5 KLAQ for all details.

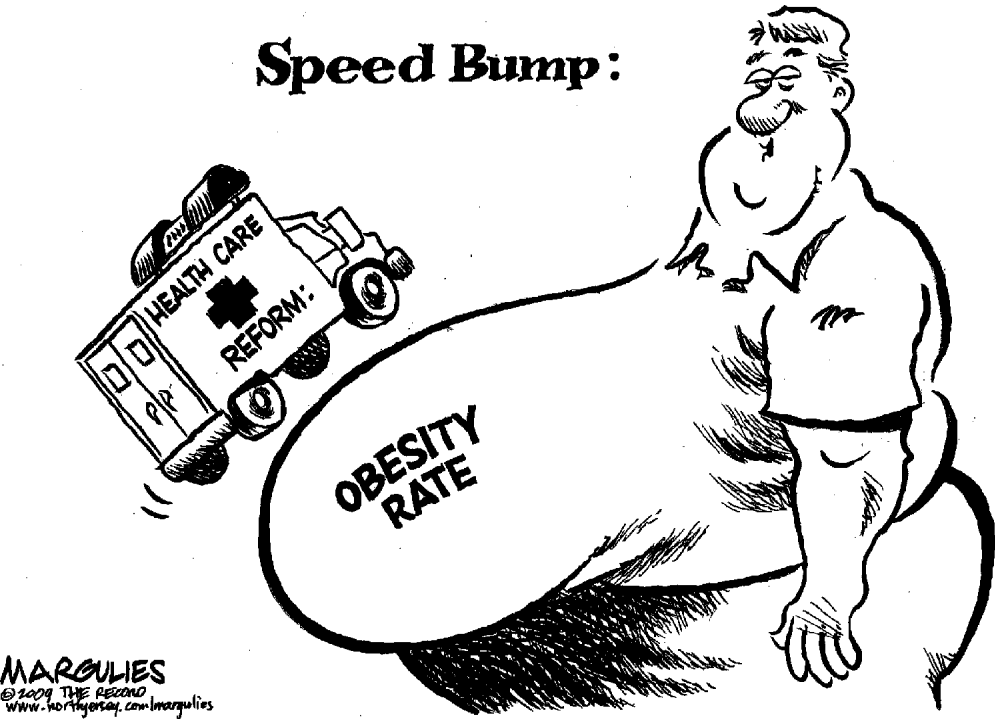
UTEP Soccer hosts the "Border Shootout" tournament

Friday, September 11 at 7 p.m. vs. Sam Houston State
Sunday, September 13 at 1p.m. vs. Weber State

Every Sunday at Soccer is Family Day! Kids get in free with parents! This Sunday is "Miner Soccer Sunday" — free clinic with UTEP players to the first 50 kids who sign up



Speed Bump:



What's up, doc? By Albert Balesh, M.D.

Don't bug me

Make no bones about it, superbugs will inherit the earth, or at least our hospitals, for the time being. There is no escaping them. Go into the hospital for one thing, and come out with something entirely different, if not in a pine box. So, those hallowed halls of healing are slowly but surely becoming more known for what ails them, than for what ails us. Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), an antibiotic-resistant bacterium, has passed from the exception to the rule in the 1970s to a predominant "mover and shaker" on the Ten Most Wanted list of our nation's hospitals. The organism lives harmlessly on the skin, but just grant it access to and safe passage through a portal into our bodies, and all hell breaks loose. Its close companion and fellow hit man, *Clostridium difficile*, an intestinal bacterium, is no less troublesome, and is a force to be reckoned with that even that age-old "bug slayer," alcohol, cannot neutralize.

There you have it. It's bad enough that the out-of-the-ordinary causes your hospitalization, without being further insulted by a totally unexpected bug brigade. Unexpected is a poor choice of words, however, as each year 90,000 Americans pick up hospital-acquired infections that kill them, and many more suffer the ravages of diarrhea and other unpleasantnesses so severe that even Montezuma's heirs would most likely disown them. It has been estimated that in 2008, on an average day, 7,200 hospitalized patients or 13 of every 1,000 were colonized or infected with *Clostridium difficile*, and 300 did not survive it. Add those numbers to the toll of MRSA infections in patients with weakened immune systems, or those requiring catheters, intravenous lines, or ventilators, and we become witness to a mathematician's worst nightmare, that being the formula for a lethal one-two punch.

And to think, in many cases we brought this on ourselves! While the young and very old are often the first and foremost to be "bugged" in the hospital setting, whoever dreamed that the very antibiotics conceived of and developed to thwart any number of serious infectious maladies might boomerang, strip our guts of friendly, protective organisms, and, as a consequence, fertilize the terrain for florid *Clostridium difficile* growth and proliferation thereafter. MRSA, on the other hand, being a normal inhabitant of the skin, has a tendency to congregate around cuts and scrapes, where it is held in check by a healthy immune system. Impairment of the latter is an open invitation to bloodstream incursion, with resulting sepsis a formidable

foe to even the most heavily reinforced arsenal of antibiotics and antimicrobials. The death toll and morbidity rates generated by MRSA and *Clostridium difficile* come at a stiff price in greenbacks also, to the tune of an estimated \$250 billion a year.

The story doesn't end there, however. The profuse diarrhea incited by *Clostridium difficile* is the vehicle of a riot or a wildfire, if you'll allow for literary license, facilitating spread of the bacterium onto hands, bed rails, sheets, IV poles, and uniforms. Person-to-person transmission, from patients or medical equipment to the hands of health care workers and then onwards to other unsuspecting souls, is the name of the game. In short, the bug is spread everywhere. MRSA, for its part, while far removed in its mechanism of action from a potential enrollment in a "defecatory duo" spearheaded by *Clostridium difficile*, is nonetheless anything but innocuous. In fact, about 250,000 Americans a year receive a nasty surprise when catheters inserted into their large veins to provide fluids or medications become the sources of bloodstream infection with MRSA. One in four of these unlucky souls meets his or her Maker, and just for having been in the wrong place at the wrong time.

So, what's the solution? How do we stop superbugs in their tracks? What measures can be taken against an MRSA adversary resistant to penicillin and other antibiotics? Is diarrhea lasting longer than 24 hours and accompanied by weakness, a racing heart, or blood in the stool a sign of something as sinister as *Clostridium difficile* infection or just symbolic of a bad night on the town and a cheap Chinese restaurant? Frequent hand washing, limited use of antibiotics to only cases absolutely necessary, the wearing of sterile gloves and gowns by medical personnel, the use of antiseptics and sterile drapes and dressings to protect patients, and even a probiotic, helpful yeast called *Saccharomyces boulardii* (or commonly Florastor™) taken orally can go far to checking the advance, if not exterminating entirely, the superbugs. Government and state oversight, public scrutiny, and state laws requiring hospitals to report infection rates to the public can also be strong deterrents to harmful laissez-faire attitudes on the part of health facilities. Case in point, preventives measures, both voluntary and imposed, were instrumental in reducing the rate of MRSA bloodstream infections by about 50 percent from 1997 to 2007.

Superbugs may one day inherit the earth, but not on our watch, as long as actions speak louder than our collective "Don't bug me!"

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Moore Texas by Roger Moore Sept. 10, 1772: Spain issues a decree that closes most Texas missions.

Contract

From Page 2

with imposing such Big Government dictates merely on U.S. corporations,

the Obama Administration wants all governments worldwide to impose such job-destroying directives. You'll notice, of course, that this argument gets no traction whatsoever when used against a developing nation, which is clearly why Hillary

Clinton did not bother to bring it up herself during her recent trip abroad. Unfortunately for Ms. Clinton, her Chinese and Indian counterparts did bring it up as a reason why they should not sign on to the US-backed, UN emissions guidelines. They, in effect, pointed out that we did not levy similar constraints on ourselves during our own nation's early development, so why should they stifle their own rapid economic growth by putting such strict constraints on their industries? All Hillary had left was to fall back on was voodoo science and the Global Warming Doomsday Sce-

nario as tools to use to persuade them to come on board. And they wisely weren't biting, just as they did not bite when her boss pitched the same argument to them and other members of the G8 earlier.

Now, if the bill really is based on voodoo science, then there is no good scientific reason for its enactment. But what of the moral argument that our own society's understood social contract with business is changing?

First of all, who is saying that our society is modifying its understood social contract with business if not the same liberal academics and politicians who have, for the past 30 years or so, been calling for ever-increasing, anti-productive and burdensome environmental regulations by Big Government on business? Writing on this issue, Jesuit scholar Edward W. Younkins insightfully observes, "It is interesting to note that when corporate critics refer to the public interest or the common good, they are frequently referring to the good of some individual or group of individuals intent on imposing their own views or goals upon others."

Have ordinary Americans — who after all are society, with no particular environmental axe to grind and who are most affected by their loss — really been in favor of seeing hundreds of US factories close and millions of American jobs shipped overseas during the last few decades because ever increasing environmental regulations? Did they really want the contract modified in spite of these consequences?

Those who ardently advocate Big Government corporate regulation view businesses essentially as creations of government — on society's behalf — which exist solely to serve public needs. Whatever assets they have they possess as a matter of privilege granted by government concession, not as a right.

Defenders of liberty, on the other hand, view corporations as created not by government, but by the voluntary actions of private individuals. As such they are private property, not public property. And they exist primarily for the financial benefit of their owners.

So, if and when government abrogates its social contract with business — for whatever reason — it not only destroys jobs and stifles initiative, it violates the most basic precepts of freedom in the process. For, as Thomas Jefferson wrote, "The true foundation of republican government is the equal right of every citizen in his person and property and in their management."

Victor Morawski is a contributing writer for ALG News (getliberty.org) and a professor of philosophy.

Flu

From Page 1

women. People who have close contact with those at high risk also should get vaccinated.

People wanting the seasonal flu vaccine should call their health care provider, local public health department, 2-1-1 or check online at www.211Texas.org for availability.

Lakey also urged people to follow standard illness-prevention steps:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- Cover coughs and sneezes; and
- Stay home if sick.

For more information about flu, visit DSHS at www.TexasFlu.org.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Village of Vinton, Texas

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2009 during a Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item(s):

- 1) A request to Re-Zone Tracts 4B2, 5B3, 5A3 of the Laura E. Mundy Survey #233, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas (also known as I-10 & Westway).
- 2) A request to Re-Zone Tracts 11B and 18 of the Aurelio Delgado Survey #175, Village of Vinton, El Paso, County Texas (also known as 7810 Doniphan).
- 3) A request for a Special Permit for Tracts 11B and 18 of the Aurelio Delgado Survey #175, Village of Vinton, El Paso, County Texas (also known as 7810 Doniphan) for the purpose of a commercial establishment.
- 4) Proposed Ordinance # 2009-10-6-1, Requiring the submission of an application for a permit for all types of construction, re-construction, remodeling or site development within the territorial limit of the Village of Vinton, Texas; establishing fees for the Building Services Department; and penalty for the violation.
- 5) Proposed Ordinance # 2009-10-6-2, Creating an Enhanced Economic Development Zone to provide for attractive and efficient retail shopping and personal service facilities of integrated design in appropriate locations to serve residential neighborhoods and providing for a tax exemption.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Village Clerk at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915)886-5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Jessica Garza
Village Clerk

Notice of Tax
Revenue Increase

The TOWN OF HORIZON CITY conducted public hearings on September 4, 2009 and September 11, 2009 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the TOWN OF HORIZON CITY from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 1.80 percent.

The total tax revenue raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.294019 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$1,776,825.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.294019 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$1,804,066.

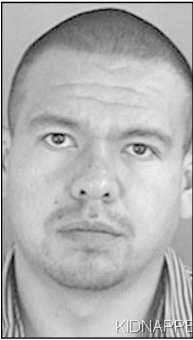
The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.294019 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$1,871,572.

The City Council of TOWN OF HORIZON CITY is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 22, 2009 at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Rd., Horizon City, Texas 79928 at 6:30 pm.

Briefs

From Page 1

home. Apparently three Hispanic males made entry into the home



Sergio Saucedo

and proceeded to tie the Victim up with duct tape where he was carried through the back residence door by two of the suspects. The case was immediately handed over to the Sheriff's Office who responded within minutes. Crime Against Persons Detectives were also summoned to the scene. Apparently several individuals who witnessed the abduction heard a gunshot and also heard the victim struggling and yelling for help. According to witnesses, the victim was placed into a dark Maroon Ford Expedition SUV with dark tinted windows, black fenders around the wheel wells and chrome aftermarket wheels. The SUV was not displaying any license plates. and was last seen travelling Eastbound on Desert Wind St. According to several witnesses, the incident was witnessed by school children being transported on a school bus. Sheriff's Office officials in coordination with school officials are providing counseling for the children who witnessed the incident. The victim was identified as 30-year-old Sergio Saucedo. Saucedo was last seen wearing a black t-shirt with a Budweiser logo, blue jeans and gray and black Nike tennis shoes. The three suspects are described as follows:

- 5'08" /thin build/mustache;
- 5'08" /thin build/mustache; and
- 5'02" /thin build/mustache.

All were wearing black baseball caps/black t-shirts/blue jean shorts/black tennis shoes/black gloves. The suspects displayed handguns during the abduction. Saucedo is 5'7" tall and weighs 180 pounds. He has brown hair and eyes. He has "Isaiah" / "Yolanda" tattooed on his upper right arm. He has a Buddha, a heart and "Leslie" on his chest. The Sheriff's Office is the lead agency in this investigation being assisted by the FBI. Crime Against Persons Detectives are actively working this case and are following several leads. Sheriff's Detectives are urging anyone who has any information regarding this kidnapping to please contact Sheriff's Office dispatch at (915) 546-2280 or Crime Stoppers at (915) 566-TIPS (8477).

— Deputy Jesse Tovar

Coaches wanted

Coaches are wanted county wide for AAU youth sports leagues. Categories include Boys and Girls Basketball, ages 10 to 18; Girls Softball, ages 12 to 18; and Boys and Girls Soccer, ages 10 to 18. All athletes are AAU registered and insured members.

Coaches *must* pass a background check. Please call (915) 252-3180 if you would like to coach.

Landfill passes

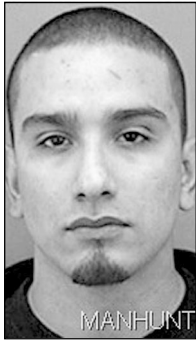
The Clint Landfill passed its annual inspection by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), according to the City of El Paso Environmental Services Department. TCEQ officials inspected the landfill, located at 2300 Darrington Road, in July for compliance with municipal solid waste regulations and in August for compliance with air permit requirements. The state regulatory agency informed the city's Environmental Service Department via letters dated July 17 and August 31, that it did not find any violations during its inspection of the landfill. Inspectors evaluated all of the landfill's operations from landfill gas monitoring compliance to record keeping to signage. On a monthly basis about 40,000 tons of waste is deposited at the landfill, which services El Paso residents and businesses.

— Tammy Fonce-Olivas

Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is assisting agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug Enforcement Administration Strike Force in locating an individual who managed the day-to-day operations of a major drug trafficking organization in our area, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." Beginning in February, 2009, it has been determined that Gualberto Marquez, a.k.a. "Bird," is a confirmed member of the Barrio Azteca criminal enterprise and runs the Marquez Drug Trafficking Organization (MDTO). Several undercover narcotic purchases were conducted by the El Paso Sheriff's Office Metro Narcotics unit and the El Paso Police Department Narcotics unit, both of which assisted in identifying Marquez's drug runners and the vehicles utilized to deliver the narcotics. The MDTO has been identified as a well-organized drug trafficking organization operating in El Paso, Texas. Marquez had several drug runners working for

him, who operated a 24/7 cocaine/crack distribution cell in the northeast part of town. Marquez was also shipping cocaine and bulk marijuana to Midland, Texas. In April, 2009, it was confirmed that the supplier of drugs to the MDTO



Michael Torres

was importing the cocaine from Juarez, Mexico. On May 1, 2009, Gualberto Marquez and three others were arrested and charged with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 5 kilograms or more of cocaine. The Grand Jury returned an indictment against 16 subjects in the MDTO and, shortly afterwards, six of them were arrested and one more turned himself in. Of the 16 subjects identified as members of the MDTO, 15 are already in custody except one, 23-year-old Michael Torres, who is still a fugitive. Torres is con-

sidered to be Marquez's right-hand-man who ran the day-to-day operations and managed the drug runners. If you have any information at all about the location of suspect Michael Torres, call Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may earn a cash reward up to \$1,000.

— James Klaes

In the Navy

Navy Reserve Seaman Apprentice Jose F. Garcia, son of Rosa M. and Jose F. Robles of El Paso recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, Garcia completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness. Garcia is a 2000 graduate of Socorro High School.

Notice of Tax Revenue Increase

The TOWN OF ANTHONY conducted public hearings on August 27, 2009 and September 8, 2009 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the TOWN OF ANTHONY from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 20.62 percent.

The total tax revenue raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.398817 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$522,213.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.450721 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$628,509.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.450721 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$657,068.

The Town Council of TOWN OF ANTHONY is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 22, 2009 at Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Dr., Anthony, Texas 79821 at 7:00 pm.

WTCC: 09/03/09
09/10/09

Notice of Tax Revenue Increase

The EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 conducted public hearings on August 20, 2009 and September 8, 2009 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 2.77 percent.

The total tax revenue raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$2,462,056.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,524,863.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,602,555.

The Board of Commissioners of EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 22, 2009 at Fabens Fire Department, 219 W. Main, Fabens, Texas at 7:00 pm.

WTCC: 08/27/09
09/10/09

Lessons in life

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

In the violent world of football you are taught to be aggressive from the time you are a youngster in a helmet that is clearly too big for your still-growing skull.

But coaches all around the country teach their players that it's a controlled aggression they have to play.

"Controlled aggression" as in being tough, being strong, being unrelenting, while being smart. Players are taught never to let their aggression take control of them.

And thankfully, the vast majority of players keep their emotions in check.

But on rare occasions you get a player who comes to a game with his helmet, shoulder pads and chin-strap but absolutely no memory of

what his coaches had taught him over the years about controlled aggression.

And that brings us to the antics of Oregon's LeGarrett Blount and his itty-bitty ability to control himself.

I'm sure most of you have seen the video of Blount losing his underdeveloped mind at the end of his team's loss to Boise State last Thursday.

And I'm sure most of you have heard that he was suspended from the team for the rest of the season.

I have to admit that when I first heard that he was going to be suspended I figured the team would fold under the pressure and just give the talented senior running back a one or two-game slap on the wrist.

But when I heard he wouldn't be allowed to play another game this season I was shocked and pleasantly surprised.

A lot of people are making a big deal of Blount's sucker punch of Boise State's Byron Hout, but that's not what got him suspended for the year.

A lot of players lose it for a second and punch an opponent. They are usually thrown out of the game and could miss the next game, but that's usually it.

But this guy didn't stop at a simple punch. He went on to punch one of his own players who was trying to calm him down, he shoved his own coaches over and over, shoved a police officer and went after some fans in the stands.

I'm out of breath just thinking bout all that commotion.

I guess he figured if he was going to get in trouble he might as well earn it. And earn it he did.

Some reporters and fans have blamed Hout for the punch because he was the one who confronted Blount after the game with a few choice words.

But let's set the record straight. There's nothing like the truth to settle a dispute.

If everyone will remember, it was Blount who was flapping his mouth all week before the game and even during the contest. He said Boise State deserved an [expletive] whooping because they beat Oregon last year.

After the game Hout tapped Blount on the shoulder and said something to him in obvious retaliation for Blount's previous comments.

Now the way I look at it, Blount opened his mouth and showed his immaturity and Hout opened his mouth and showed his immaturity.

That makes the score dummy-1 to dummy-1. If nothing else happened both schools would have claimed a dummy but there would have been no suspension and no turmoil.

But all that changed when Blount lost the ability to control himself and threw a punch at Hout's chin. Believe it or not, that was Blount's most passive moment.

The guy went postal on everything in front

See LESSONS, Page 8



Classified Ads

LEGALS

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO IMPLEMENT AN INTERIM FUEL REFUND AND SURCHARGE

On September 1, 2009, El Paso Electric Company (EPE or Company) filed an Application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC or Commission) to implement an interim refund of a net over-recovery of fuel costs billed under its fuel factors through July 2009. The docket number assigned to this proceeding is PUC Docket No 37433. This filing was made under P.U.C. Subst. R. 25.237(a)(3)(B). The filing impacts only the fuel portion of the rates charged by EPE for electricity in Texas and has no effect on EPE's non-fuel base rates. This application, if granted, will affect all Texas retail customers who take service under a tariff that has fixed fuel factors.

The total amount of the net over-recovery balance to be refunded through the proposed refund is \$12,172,750, exclusive of interest, through July 31, 2009. The effect of the refund on customers' bills will vary depending on the rate schedule under which they take service. Some non-residential customers will receive a surcharge.

EPE proposes a refund period of one month and requests that the proposed refund be effective with the first billing cycle for the October 2009 billing month. For those customers receiving a surcharge, EPE proposes to spread the surcharge over a three month period, beginning with the first billing cycle for the October 2009 billing month. These changes will be subject to final review by the Commission in EPE's next reconciliation.

Persons with questions or who want more information on this petition may contact El Paso Electric Company at 100 N. Stanton, El Paso, Texas 79901 or call toll-free at 1-(800) 592-1634 (when instructed, press 7, then four-digit extension 5970 plus #) during normal business hours. A complete copy of the petition is also available for inspection at the address listed above. Persons who wish to formally participate in this proceeding, or who wish to express their comments concerning this petition, should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Customer Protection, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call (512) 936-7120 or toll-free at (888) 782-8477. Hearing and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY)

may call (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll-free) 1-800-735-2989.

WTCC: 09/10/09 & 09/17/09

AVISO DE SOLICITUD PARA IMPLEMENTAR PROVISIONALMENTE UN REEMBOLSO Y UN CARGO ADICIONAL POR COMBUSTIBLE

El 1 de Septiembre de 2009, El Paso Electric Company (EPE ó Compañía) presentó una solicitud ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas (PUC ó Comisión) para implementar un reembolso provisional por una recuperación neta en exceso de los costos de combustible facturados en los factores de combustible hasta Julio de 2009. El número asignado a este procedimiento en la agenda del día es el No. 37433. Esta solicitud se realizó en base a P.U.C. Subst. R. 25.237(a)(3)(B). Esta solicitud afecta solamente la parte de combustible de las tarifas de electricidad cobradas en Texas por EPE y no afecta las tarifas base no relacionadas con combustible de EPE. Esta solicitud, de ser autorizada, afectará a todos los clientes de menudeo de Texas que reciben servicio con una tarifa que incluye factores fijos de

combustible.

Al 31 de Julio de 2009, el importe total de la recuperación neta en exceso a ser reembolsada a través del reembolso propuesto era \$12,172,750 sin incluir intereses. El efecto del reembolso en los recibos de los clientes será diferente dependiendo de la tarifa bajo la cual reciban servicio. Algunos clientes no residenciales recibirán un cargo adicional. EPE ha propuesto un período de reembolso de un mes y ha solicitado que el reembolso propuesto sea efectivo con el primer ciclo de facturación del mes Octubre de 2009. Para aquellos clientes que recibirán un cargo adicional, EPE propone repartir el cargo adicional en un período de tres meses iniciando con el primer ciclo de facturación del mes de Octubre de 2009. Estos cargos están sujetos a ser autorizados finalmente por la Comisión en la siguiente reconciliación de EPE.

Las personas que tengan preguntas o que deseen mayor información acerca de esta solicitud, pueden comunicarse con El Paso Electric Company en la dirección 100 N. Stanton, El Paso, Texas 79901 ó pueden llamar sin costo al 1-(800)

592-1634 (cuando se les solicite, oprima el número 7, seguido por la extensión 5970, seguido por la tecla #) en horas normales de oficina. Una copia completa de la solicitud se encuentra también disponible para su consulta en la dirección arriba mencionada. Las personas que deseen participar formalmente en este proceso o que deseen expresar sus comentarios en relación a esta solicitud deberán comunicarse a la Oficina de Protección al Consumidor de la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas al P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, ó pueden llamar al (512) 936-7120 ó llamar sin costo al (888) 782-8477. Las personas con impedimento del habla o del oído que cuenten con teléfonos de texto (TTY) pueden llamar al (512) 936-7136 ó utilizar Relay Texas (sin costo) 1-800-735-2989.

WTCC: 09/10/09 & 09/17/09

HELP WANTED

Drivers -CDL, Sign-up Bonus! FT/PT, 1 year experience Motor Coach. Training Provided. 915-

751-4220. benji@allaboardamerica.com

HOMES

12748 Quijano, \$87,600 reduced to \$84,000. Carlos Aguilar, (915) 269-1251. Broker.

New homes available in Horizon, Anthony and San Elizario. Prices starting from the 90s. USDA program available for ZERO down payment and ZERO percent closing cost. New homes also available in other areas. Call Pete at 633-6179.

SELF-HELP

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Informacion: 838-6264.

STORAGE

National Self Storage BRAND NEW UNITS

Specials - Climate Control Units: 5x5 and 5x10 just \$1 first month. Regular 5x10 and 12x30 units just \$1 first month. Call Blanca - 852-8300.

ANEW PECS RAMS SOILED
NORA AWOL ELIA ERRAND
DAIS REBA MONK AROUSE
HEHADLOTSONHISMIND
ROLL AVE HUNS
TOCSIN BRA SAYS LEI
SHEWASAREALPILL ACORN
KOLA PUG EMMY PRANK
TALON ALAMO BEAT
SHA NAG ATE ONCE SHOO
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HEAR HEEL TVS AGE DEF
RITE LAPSE SPENT
MEDEA APSO MAE OTIS
ADELE SHELOVEDLOAFING
POD THIS RIG BLUEST
BORE APT DEJA
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BAILED ASTA EXEC RANT
ALPINE LEON AINT ADZE
ASSESS ERRS PETS QUOD

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CryptoQuip Answer

I never liked that crazy old lizard. He gave me a creepy feeling right from the gecko!

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CLASSIFIED AD FORM

25 words - \$10 per week; 40 words - \$15 per week

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Deadline: Mondays
Please print.Send form and payment (no cash) to:
West Texas County Courier
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

• Place Your Classified •

- 1: Fill out the form;
- 2: Write a check; then
- 3: Send both to us.

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Your good health

By Paul G. Donohue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I am 47, and my doctor tells me I have asthma. Is that possible? I thought it was a children's disease. One of the medicines the doctor put me on is a cortisone-type inhaler. This has me scared silly. I don't want to stay on a cortisone medicine for life. I have heard it does too many bad things. What do you have to say about this? — M.L.

ANSWER: Asthma can make an appearance at any age. The incidence of it peaks between the ages of 4 and 10, and again in the 40s. It's not only a childhood illness. During an asthma attack, the airways (bronchi) narrow because the muscles wrapped around them go into spasm. That makes it hard for air to get into and out of the lungs. Added to the airway constriction is an outpouring of thick mucus within the airways, another obstruction to the flow of air through these passages. For an acute asthma attack, medicines that relax the muscles wrapped around the airways are used, most often delivered via an inhaler. The onset of action of these medicines is quick, but their duration is only about four to six hours. So it is also important to administer to asthmatics medicines that last longer.

Inhaled cortisone medicines are such drugs, and they're essential for asthma control. They soothe irritated airways and prevent the contraction of airway muscles. They also prevent the production of thick mucus. It can take up to four weeks before the effect of these medicines is appreciated. Inhaled cortisone doesn't cause the serious side effects that prolonged use of oral and injectable cortisone can. Your health isn't going to be in danger from its use. Your health is going to improve with its use. You might not have to use it for life. The asthma booklet gives a de-

tailed explanation of this common condition and its treatment. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 602W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Enclosed is an ad for vitamin B-4. Is it as good as the ad says? — L.F.

ANSWER: Sometime in the past, scientists thought there was a vitamin B-4 whose lack was responsible for slow growth in animals. It was called adenine. Adenine is real, but it's not a vitamin. It's the building material for DNA and RNA. It's found in many foods. You don't need a supplement of it.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: When my 68-year-old husband exercises, he smells like rotten onions. He claims that deodorants and antiperspirants are harmful. He says you need to let your armpits breathe. I say he's wrong. — Anon.

ANSWER: Many people believe that deodorants and antiperspirants are harmful. I'm not one of them. Armpits don't breathe. The lungs do. Your husband can wash under the arms before and after exercising. Skin bacteria cause the odor, not sweating.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Health newsletters also may be ordered from www.rbmamall.com. (c) 2009 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved

King Super Crossword

CAREER CHOICES

- ACROSS
- 1 From the top
- 5 Pride of the pumped-up
- 9 St. Louis team
- 13 Dirty
- 19 118 Across'
- mistress
- 20 Way off base?
- 21 Director Kazan
- 22 Agenda item
- 23 Emcee's site
- 24 Melodious
- McEntire
- 25 Monastery dweller
- 26 Kindle
- 27 He became a Realtor because...
- 31 Form a cylinder
- 32 Broad st.
- 33 Savage sorts
- 34 Alarm
- 38 It may be strapless
- 39 Emulates Simon
- 41 Hibiscus garland
- 44 She became a pharmacist because...
- 48 _ squash
- 50 Tropical tree
- 51 Wrinkly dog
- 52 Diva Destinn
- 53 Halloween happening
- 54 Raptor feature
- 57 Texas landmark
- 59 Out of gas

- 60 _ Na Na
- 63 Scold and scold
- 64 Bolted the beans
- 65 Formerly
- 67 Dispel
- 70 He became an explorer because...
- 75 Get wind of
- 76 Cad
- 77 Watching machines?
- 78 Season firewood
- 79 Rock's _ Leppard
- 80 Formal ceremony
- 82 Backslide
- 84 Exhausted
- 86 Euripidean tragedy
- 88 Lhasa _
- 89 Clarke or West
- 90 Model Carre
- 94 Simpson of fashion
- 95 She became a baker because...
- 100 Horde of humpbacks
- 101 Not that
- 102 Oil apparatus
- 103 Least lighthearted
- 104 Wet blanket
- 106 Address abbr.
- 107 _ vu
- 109 He became an electrician because...
- 116 _ out (aided)
- 118 Hammett hound
- 119 Small business-

- man?
- 120 Vociferate
- 122 Elevated
- 123 Author Uris
- 124 " _ She Sweet" ('27 song)
- 125 Cooper's tool
- 126 Size up
- 127 Drops the ball
- 128 Family members, to many
- 129 Part of Q.E.D.
- DOWN
- 1 Clause connector
- 2 Wordy Webster
- 3 Part of HOMES
- 4 Cleanse
- 5 Excuses
- 6 Tom of "Baretta"
- 7 Computer language
- 8 Thin strip
- 9 Dislodgment
- 10 Isolated
- 11 Ho Chi _
- 12 Literary pen name
- 13 Poet Heaney
- 14 Senator Hatch
- 15 Jeremy of "Waterland"
- 16 Praise
- 17 USNA grad
- 18 HST's successor
- 28 Schipa solo
- 29 Writer Paretsky
- 30 With diffidence
- 34 "For shame!"

- 35 Palindromic cry
- 36 "Fantasia" frame
- 37 Nab a gnat
- 38 Plead
- 39 Exercise expert
- Richard
- 40 Cashew kin
- 41 Couldn't stand
- 42 Directional suffix
- 43 Calligraphy supply
- 45 Highest point
- 46 Pantyhose problem
- 47 Soup veggie
- 48 Gibbon or gorilla
- 49 Vulgar
- 55 Comic Sothern
- 56 Woodworking tool
- 57 From _ Z
- 58 Boxing blows
- 59 Neutral tone
- 60 "Quiet!"
- 61 TV's " _ Haw"
- 62 Bestowed
- 64 Reference volumes
- 66 " _ of Love" ('64 smash)
- 68 Grand _ Opry
- 69 Mistaken
- 71 Historian Durant
- 72 Oracle site
- 73 " _ had it!"
- 74 Rock's _ at Work
- 81 _ kwon do
- 83 Neighbor of Ger.
- 84 Dejected
- 85 Soybean product

- 86 Traveler's aid
- 87 Maestro de Waart
- 88 Grate stuff
- 89 Ryan or Foster
- 91 Knot it!
- 92 _ and outs
- 93 NCO
- 96 Dondi and Annie
- 97 "Ars longa, _ brevis"
- 98 Protests
- 99 "There oughta be _!"
- 101 Exchanges
- 104 Contradict
- 105 61 Down host
- 106 Play boy?
- 107 D.D. Emmett tune
- 108 Happening
- 109 They're sometimes hugged?
- 110 Auction
- 111 _ -friendly
- 112 Act like an antelope
- 113 Basra's locale
- 114 Pianist Lupu
- 115 Signor Ferrari
- 116 Herd word
- 117 Oerter and Unser
- 121 TV's "Father _"

Answer Page 6

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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: Is there a time limit on how long I can continue receiving Social Security disability benefits?

A: No. Your disability benefits will continue as long as your medical condition has not improved and you cannot work. Your case will be reviewed at regular intervals to

make sure you still have a disability that makes you unable to work. If you are still receiving disability benefits when you reach full retirement age, we will automatically convert them to retirement benefits. For all your disability questions, read our online publication, What You Need To Know When

You Get Social Security Disability Benefits, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10153.html.

Q: I receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. How do I notify Social Security that I have changed my address?

A: Someone who gets SSI needs to report any change in living arrangements, income, or resources by call-

ing our toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), or by visiting a local office within 10 days after the month the change occurs. If you call, you can speak to a representative from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on business days. If you don't notify us in a timely manner, you could end up receiving an incorrect payment and have to pay it back. To learn more about SSI and reporting responsibilities, read our online fact sheet, What You Need To Know When You Get

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/11011.html.

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

A sporting view

By Mark Vasto

Tracking down No. 4

Last year around this time, I was banging the keys about Brett Favre's return to football. This season, here I am again, tracking down No. 4.

Either you're completely bored of the story by now, or you're intrigued by the possibilities. There's that Monday Night Football mash-up between the Vikings and Packers, and there's the question about Favre's ability to put up the same type of numbers that sent him to 10 Pro Bowls. And how would that match with running back Adrian Peterson — easily the biggest impact player in the NFL today.

Still, seeing Favre in a Vikings

uniform is akin to Derek Jeter retiring from the Yankees, having the Yankees retire his number (one hopes they honor Tony Lazzeri, who also donned No. 2, once they do), then coming back to play for the Red Sox the next year.

It's little secret that Favre felt he was wrongly pushed aside by the Packers because the franchise wanted to protect its investment in Aaron Rodgers, its first-round pick in 2005 who was, by all accounts, getting a bit antsy on the sidelines. And, in some respects, Rodgers proved that its investment wasn't a risky gamble by having — arguably — a better sta-

tistical year than Favre did with the New York Jets. Rodgers passed for more yards (4,038 to 3,472), more touchdowns (28 to 22) and fewer interceptions (15 to 22).

But Favre nearly took the Jets to the playoffs, winning nine games to Rodgers' six and that, as they say, is all that really matters. In his 18 years as field general, Favre has had only one losing season, three MVP awards, a Super Bowl ring and he's beaten all 31 NFL teams in the process.

And now he's wearing the horns — both literally and, in Green Bay, figuratively. Packer backers have excoriated Favre in the media. Pettiness and pride, they argue, are at the root of his decision. The argument, of course, is irrelevant: Every man has a right to make his living, no matter what his motivation might be.

"This is not about revenge or any-

thing like that, believe me," he told USA Today, a statement that nobody believed. "You can't take away the 16 years I had in Green Bay. They've moved on. I've moved on. I think it's great for football."

It's also pretty great for Brett Favre, who has again stolen the NFL spotlight for his offseason dramatics, and signed for two years and \$25 million.

With an outstanding defensive line, the league's best running back and a living legend calling the signals, every team has to legitimately fear the Vikings. It's not an easy thing trying to track down No. 4.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sports-writer and publisher of The Kansas City Luminary. (c) 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

Lessons

From Page 6

of him.

After the game Blount said he was sorry but then doesn't everybody?

Every player who ever did drugs or beat up a girlfriend or flipped off the fans or was caught speeding or gambled on games or cheated on taxes or punched an opposing player gave us a tearful sorry in front of the TV cameras.

Is it sad that Blount will miss his senior season? Of course it is. But word is that Blount is no stranger to trouble and that this was the last straw in Ducksville.

Suffering this kind of humiliation is probably what Blount needs if he is going to live a positive life.

Look at Michael Vick and Pacman Jones and Plaxico Burris and Donte Stallworth and Travis Henry and Ryan Leaf — I'll bet they wish they had some event in their past that would have changed their behavior patterns.

FEAR
By: rj
johnson

KNIGHT
CONQUER THE WHIRLED

ICH
BRINNO
NARTI
♥SMUE
♥CARRET
♥ITN
HOSN
MEREC
MIS
RENTIE
SCAIB
♥DESI




Answer Page 6

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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If you're not covered, you'll be discovered.



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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: P equals E

T LPYPK MTQPW DSVD

XKVUJ HMW MTUVKW. SP

EVYP RP V XKPPIJ GPPMTLE

KTESD GKHR DSP EPXQH!

Answer Page 6

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 6

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