



NEWSBRIEFS

Parade

The historic town of San Elizario will be celebrating its 14th Annual Veterans Day Parade and Patriotic Celebration, on Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010. The parade starts at 9:00 a.m., at Thompson and Socorro Road and heads east on Socorro Road, ending at Veterans Memorial Plaza in front of the San Elceario Church. The celebration will continue there, with the presentation of the colors and the playing of the National Anthem. Special guests and the 2010 Grand Marshall, Carmen Cruz, will be introduced. The ceremony will continue with the lighting of candles and the POW-MIA table. Five Korea War era Veterans will be honored for their service. There will be patriotic music played by local high school bands. A Ft. Bliss Army Chaplain will give the final prayers which will be followed with the playing of taps. Food and beverages will be served. The Veterans Committee and the town of San Elizario, cordially invite the public to attend our Veterans Event. Bring your families and enjoy a day honoring our veterans. Then visit our Church, the Portales Museum, the Veterans Museum, the old jail, visit the Veterans Memorial Walk Project and the Art Galleries, all within walking distance.

— Ray Borrego

Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is assisting the El Paso County Sheriff's Office in identifying and locating the persons responsible for an Aggravated Robbery in San Elizario, making this the "Crime of the Week." On Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010, Sheriff's deputies responded to an Aggravated Robbery at America's Cash Plus, 11970 Socorro Rd. in San Elizario. When they arrived, they discovered that a clerk was closing the store when she was approached by two subjects, wearing black ski masks, that forced her back inside the store. Once inside, she was taken behind the counter and was forced to open the safe. Because of nervousness, she had difficulty opening the safe and was slapped by one of the offenders until she was able to open it. The money was placed into a black bag that the offenders had brought with them. The victim's hands were then tied behind her back with duct tape and the subjects left the store in the victim's vehicle, which was later found abandoned in the 11,500 block of Peters in Socorro. The victim was able to free herself and get help from a nearby business. The suspects are described as being in their early 20s, slim build, wearing dark clothing. One suspect was wearing gloves and Nike athletic shoes, possibly Nike "Shox," and the other had a tattoo on the top of his hand. If you have any information at all about the identity and location of these individuals, please call Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org.

— James Klaes

Intelligence is like a river – the deeper it is, the less noise it makes.

— Quips & Quotes



El Paso's new federal courthouse among busiest in the country

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

Home to four district and four magistrate court judges, El Paso's new federal courthouse maintains one of the busiest caseloads in the country.

The new courthouse, which was named after deceased circuit court judge and civil rights advocate Albert Armendariz Jr., was open recently with over 3,800 cases awaiting trial.

"We definitely needed a bigger and more secure facility to address the mounting number of federal court cases being held in El Paso," said Senior District Judge David Briones, who oversaw the new courthouse's construction from the onset.

"Sixteen years ago, Judge Harry Lee

See COURTHOUSE, Page 4

— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

NEW DIGS – Senior District Court Judge David Briones has a new office to all home. Briones is a native El Pasoan. He attended Vilas Elementary School, graduated from El Paso High School in 1961, from UTEP in 1969, and from U.T. Austin Law School in 1971.

Tornillo ISD receives 'Recognized' rating from TEA



— Photo by Marichu Tima-An

HAPPY FACES – Tornillo Independent School District Superintendent Paul Vranish, middle, with, from left, principals Ruth Lara, Tornillo Junior High School; Jim Angst, Tornillo High School; Adriana Cantu, Tornillo Intermediate School; and Severo Alcoset, Tornillo Elementary School all hold on to hardware honoring the achievements of each campus and the District for the 2009–2010 school year. A plaque with the same picture was installed on the "Wall of Fame" at the Region XIX Education Service Center on Monday, Oct. 25, 2010. The staff, students, and community of Tornillo worked diligently to improve academics in the district. Tornillo Elementary had a 93% passing rate in reading and a 95% passing rate in math. The elementary campus has achieved the designation of exemplary for six out of the past seven years and is El Paso's highest rated campus. The junior class of Tornillo High School – now seniors – had passing rates of 93% in reading/writing, 93% in math, 97% in social studies, and 91% in science – a new school record for any class. Both Tornillo Elementary and Intermediate schools were named exemplary; Tornillo Junior High and High School were designated recognized campuses. Tornillo ISD was rated overall as recognized. The ratings were given by the Texas Education Agency.

— Loretta Aguilar

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Hurry up and wait

Another veteran-related lawsuit has been denied by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Vietnam Veterans of America and the Veterans of Modern Warfare filed suit, saying that the length of time it takes for claims to be processed is illegal. The suit didn't dwell on the problems veterans go through while waiting, only the length of time itself. They asked for an order to the Department of Veterans Affairs to respond within 90 days for an initial claim and 180 days for appeals.

The court's denial is full of long phrases and referrals to other cases. The court seems to object to the "class" aspect of it, as opposed to one individual filing, saying you can't claim an injury for someone else. Here's a summary of some of those long paragraphs.

- The length of time to process a claim has to be averaged out because obviously more than one person has a claim going.
- The length of time to process the average claim is not harmful if you happen to fall on the "fast end."
- The alleged illegality (long processing times) doesn't in itself cause injury.
- There is already a pilot program with a new rule wherein disability claims (ones that are already in the works) must be wrapped up in 90 days – at 10 regional VA offices.

While this lawsuit was winding its way through the court, the VA came out with two forms to help speed the process. If you fall into these categories, this might save you some time. Go to va.gov/vaforms online and search for VA Form 21-526 if you're filing for the first time, or VA Form 21-526b if you have an active service-connect file. Or call the VA at 1-800-827-1000.

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) 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

View from here By Robert Romano

A warning to America from the future

Sometimes it takes an outsider to put everything clearly into perspective. Daniel Hannan, a British member of the European Parliament, has a warning for America. Appearing on FOX News, Hannan asked Sean Hannity if he was familiar with the work of H.G. Wells' Time Machine. Channeling the classic, Hannan said, "There's a moment where a guy comes from the future, and he comes running out and he says, 'Don't do it! You're making a terrible mistake. Don't follow me!' Well, think of me as that man."

Hannan continued, warning all Americans, "I've been 11 years in the European Parliament, so I've seen it firsthand the kind of model towards which your current administration is taking you: European health care, European day care, European social security, European welfare, European unemployment, and believe me, you're not going to like it."

George Santayana once wrote that "Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it." Unfortunately, it appears that Europe's experiment in socialism has escaped the attention of policymakers in Washington. Hannan says that he hopes the Obama Administration "will look at the European model and learn from our mistakes."

But he's not hopeful. "The bits of Europe that are most obviously failing — the welfare system, the high spending — are the bits that you're copying." He's right. ObamaCare. "Stimulus." State bailouts. The centralization of the financial sector. Crippling entitlement obligations. High unemployment.

America is beginning to live through the European experience. And it's not pretty.

That's why Hannan authored *The New Road to Serfdom: A Letter of Warning to America*, just released on September 28. Inspired by F.A. Hayek's classic, *The Road to Serfdom*, Hannan is hoping to catch the American people's attention — before it is too late.

Speaking on Hannity, the author diagnoses the basic problem facing Western civilization: "We are deeply indebted... We have both been pursuing the option of trying to inflate away our debt. And that matters more than almost anything else."

Hannan is spot on. The nation's \$13.4 trillion debt, coupled with efforts to print money to pay it off, threatens to bury the future prosperity of all Americans. The annual sale of treasuries represents a tremendous misallocation of resources away from other productive sectors of the economy. Instead of investing in new businesses and creating jobs, over \$1 trillion is being put into government debt every year.

Making matters worse, the U.S. is on the wrong side of the debt curve. Whereas Keynesian thinkers believe that deficit-spending can help a nation during a time of recession, it appears the U.S. has reached the limits of that principle. A recent study by Carmen M. Reinhart of the University of Maryland and Kenneth S. Rogoff of Harvard University found that "median growth rates for countries with public debt over 90 percent of GDP are roughly one percent lower than otherwise; average (mean) growth rates are several percent lower."

That's important because the 90 percent threshold of debt to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is exactly where the current U.S. national debt is. As noted the House Ways & Means Committee Republicans, "the total debt for Fiscal Year 2010 will reach \$13.6 trillion, or 93.1 percent of Gross Domestic Product." By 2012, the International Monetary Fund reports the U.S. national debt will reach 100 percent of the GDP.

But it's even worse than that. Not only is public debt crowding out the private sector, it threatens to increase the cost of government in just a few short years. Moody's has warned that when interest owed reaches 18 to 20 percent of revenue, the nation would be in line for a credit downgrade. We're pretty much there, and will reach that range by 2018. According to the Congressional Budget Office, interest owed on the debt will rise from \$244 billion in 2011 to \$755 billion in 2018.


Hannan is concerned about these trends, and worries about its global implications. "The U.S. isn't just a nation unlike any other, it is the embodiment of an ideal. We're all involved in the success of America. And if we see the U.S. becoming poorer, less democratic, less free, then that's everybody's problem."

He's right. Hannan has seen firsthand what too much spending has done to nations like Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Italy, and Spain.

See WARNING, Page 6

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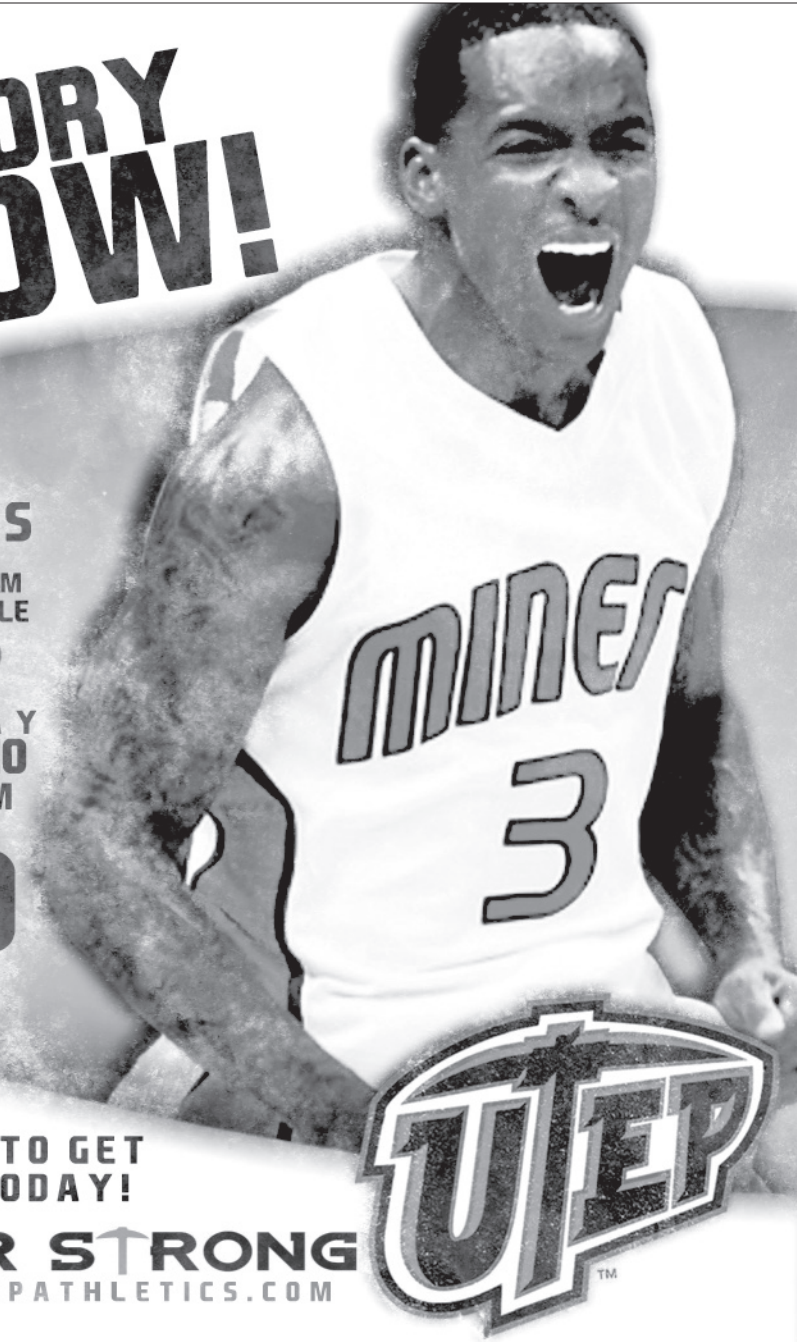
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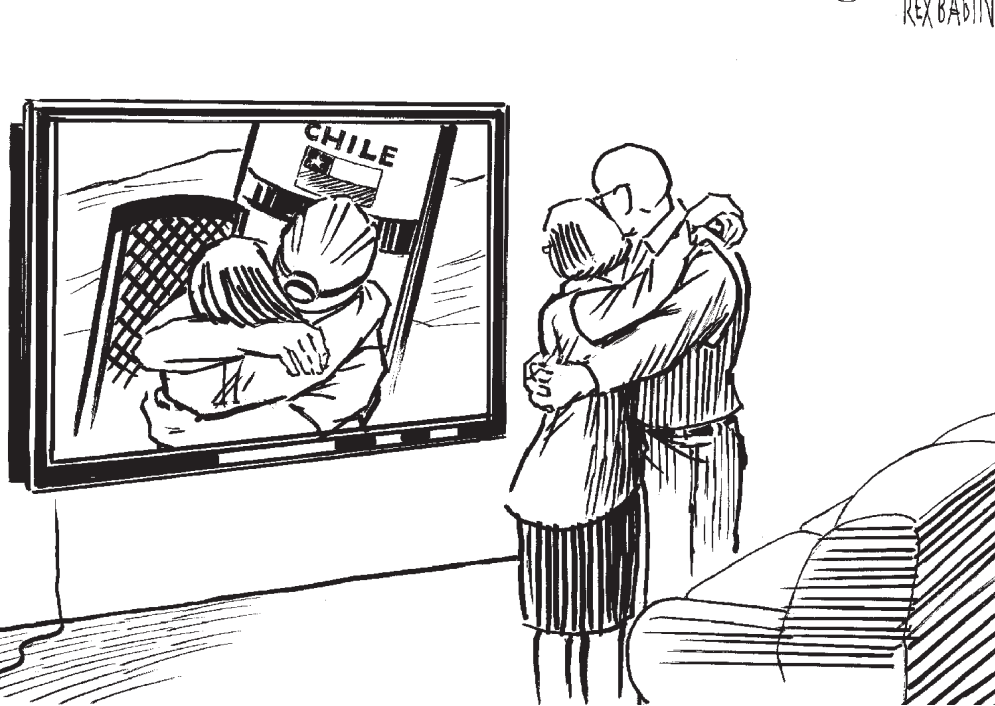
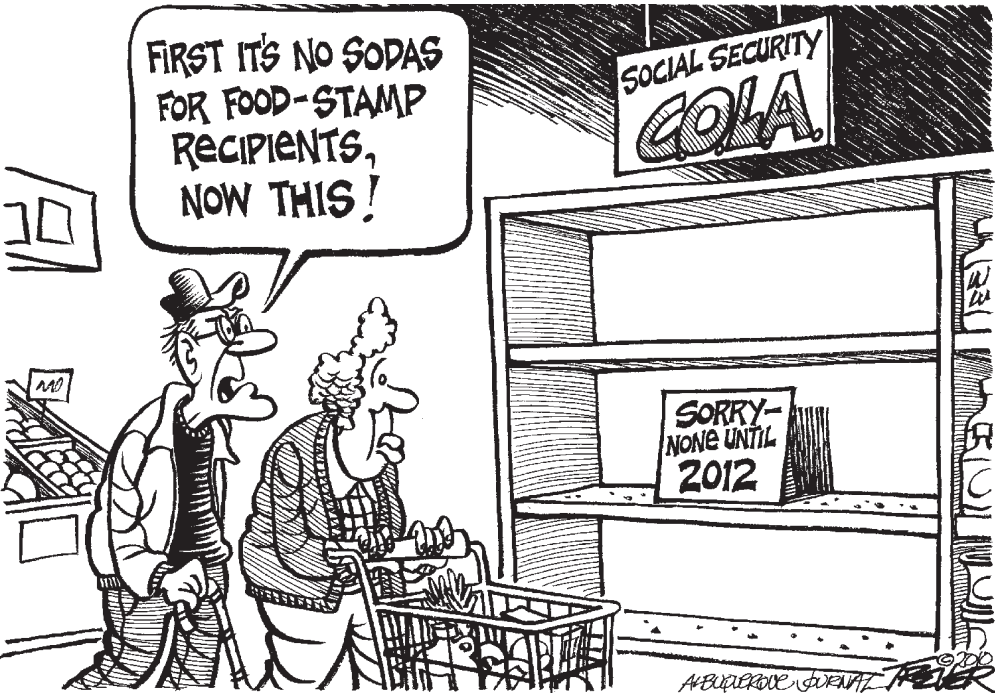
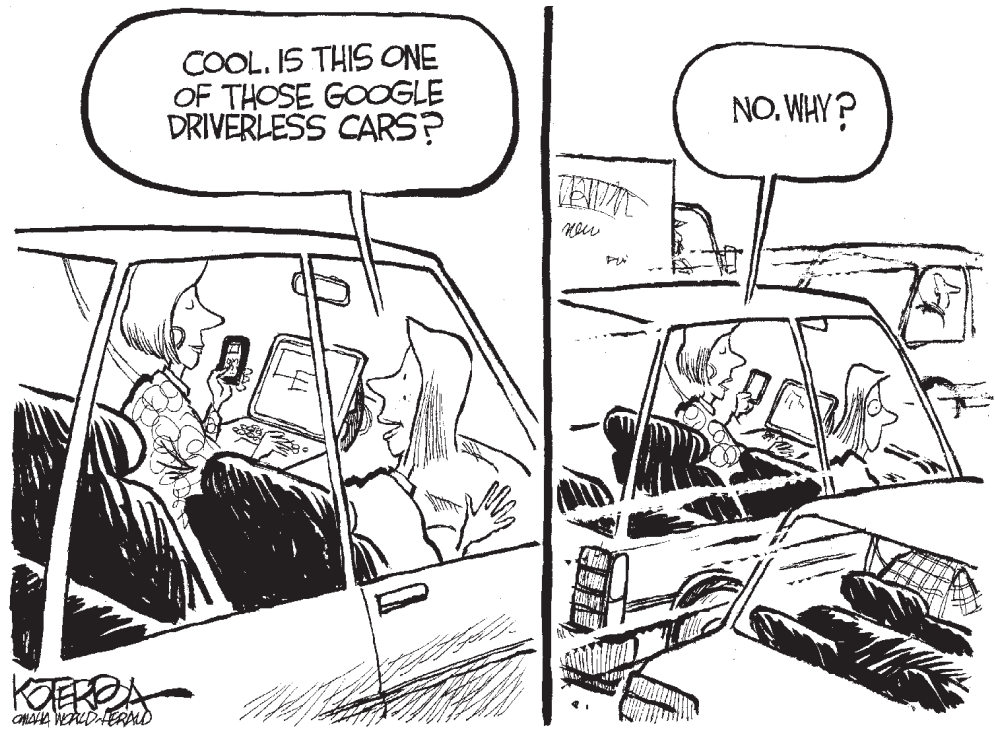
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Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Safeguard your property

Hola mi gente. I have had the privilege of serving the constituents in District 75 for almost eight years. During this period, I have had a solid commitment to make my office available for the people to visit and ask for assistance. I am proud to say that we have followed through on that commitment.

While we have listened, there have been many instances where our ability to resolve problems was limited because of jurisdiction or law. The office of State Representative is not the powerful office that a congressional office is.

Constituents visiting us have asked for assistance on a great many issues. Some, like the problem that seniors had with Medicare Advantage plan agents, were resolved over time by working with the federal and state agencies that oversee the plans. Others, unfortunately, were not so easy to fix.

I would say the most frequent requests by constituents involved their homestead in some way or another. Since most of the area in my district is unincorporated, utilities and water were most frequently looked into. A decade ago, there were estimates in the tens of thousands of residents who had no water hookups. Today that number is less than three thousand and dwindling. The effort by the legislature to pass stringent laws restricting the growth of colonias and the efforts by local water districts were the reason for the turnaround.

I do feel somewhat dissatisfied with our inability to help some of our residents. Since the proliferation of colonias had ceased, I had hoped that some of the restrictions imposed on poorer families could have been reasonably moderated. The County of El Paso did not agree with me.

Unfortunately, the next most discussed issue by my office had to do with the ownership of a home. Of course, so many individuals succumbed to the bad economy and lost their homes to foreclosure. Constituents on a frequent basis requested assistance after already being notified about foreclosure. That was too late. Resources are available for those who seek help when the first signs of problems with paying mortgages occur.

Altogether too many times, we visited with homeowners who were being victimized by dishonest sellers. Constituents who had paid for years on a plot of land and a pre-fabricated home all of a sudden faced the possibility of losing both. Most of these families had very limited education, which made them vulnerable.

For these homeowners, the seller fabricated reasons to take back the property. In a few cases, authorities intervened with legal action.

Recently, we have spoken to families who face problems due to clerical snafus. Whether it be from stealthy covenants or changes in the mortgage companies, problems arise that should have been anticipated.

In any and all cases, taking care when closing on a mortgage or warranty deed, the buyer should understand every clause in the document. It would even be advisable to consult an attorney.

The best way to protect your property is to understand all documents and to preserve all payment records. Take a proactive approach to safeguarding your homestead.

I remain your friend and public servant, Chente por la gente.

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MARCH 2011

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BRAPP!!

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HULL

Moore Texas by Roger Moore March 26, 1855: A rousing play about the Texas's stand at the Alamo does not go well in Charleston South Carolina... it only lasts 2 performances.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
There is a Texas law STILL on the books that mandates no one carry pliers that COULD cut a fence.	1	2 Texas Independence Day- Celebrate Texas!	3	4	5	1866: Jesse Chisholm, famous trailblazer, dies of food poisoning in Oklahoma.
6	7	8	9	10	11	1876: State's first all-black college opens (Albany Vista)
12	13	14 1924: Charles Lindbergh starts pilot training at Brooks Field in San Antonio.	15	16	17	18
19	20 1682: La Salle lands in Texas instead of finding the mouth of the Mississippi.	21	22	23 1908: Movie actress Joan Crawford is born in San Antonio.	24	25
26	27	28	29 1955: Football player Earl Campbell is born in Tyler.	30	31	28

MARCH 2011

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Courthouse

From Page 1

Hudspeth administered my oath of office. We were the only two district court judges in El Paso in 1994. I hadn’t been here more than a week when I was informed that there was a meeting scheduled for the planning committee for a new courthouse. Judge Hudspeth assigned me to that committee and gave me full authority to use my discretion on behalf of the El Paso Division,” Briones recalled during the recent courthouse dedication ceremony.

During the ceremony, Briones related how the planning and construction processes evolved. He said that because the new courthouse was a Design Excellence Project, a three-stage national design competition was used to select the lead architect/engineer team. The project was advertised in June 2001. GSA (Government Services Administration) received 31 portfolios.

“In stage one, a six-person evaluation team made up of five experts in architecture and engineering and myself, met at the GSA regional headquarters in Fort Worth. Over a period of two days, we evaluated the 31 portfolios and selected six firms for stage two interviews.”

The judge said that the six architects were invited to give oral presentations of their proposals. Then, four of the firms were named for the stage three vision design competition, which consisted of each firm being given a professional fee of \$25,000 to develop and,

with no indication as to authorship, present within 30 days its vision on four 30x40 inch boards.

An independent jury of three private sector design professionals evaluated and ranked the designs and presented its findings to the evaluation team. “Our team concurred in the jury’s ranking, and we selected the joint application of BPLW Architects and Antoine Predock Architect,” said Briones. Subsequently, the design was presented to GSA in Washington D.C. for approval.

Site and design funding was received by 2003 and construction funding was allocated in 2006. “Unfortunately, when we went out for bids on the project, the submitted bids were way over our construction budget,” Briones recalled. “So, GSA, in consultation with the court, went through the whole project and eliminated items and features to bring the project within budget.”

The final tally for the magnificent new federal courthouse came to \$101 million, according to the judge. It currently houses four District Court Judges: Senior Judge Briones, Judge Phillip Martinez, Judge Kathleen Cardone, Judge Frank Montalvo; and four Magistrate Judges: Judge Richard Mesa, Judge Norbert Garney, Judge Margaret Leachman, and Judge David Guaderrama.

“We didn’t get everything we wanted. But, we did get 11 courtrooms and twelve judicial chambers. We also got a beautiful, safe and secure building with ample area so that the clerks, the marshals, the courts and staff can perform their duties,” said Briones.

– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

NEW BUILDING – The new federal courthouse is located in downtown El Paso and was recently dedicated to the late Judge Albert Armendariz Sr., who helped lead the fight for the civil rights of Hispanics.

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I plan on selling
original verses on the
street. I guess I should
have poetic license.

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What’s up doc? By Albert Balesh, M.D.

Odd job

It is the job of outside efficiency experts to measure productivity in the workplace, and employers are increasingly turning to them to gauge employee competency, in the form of increased or decreased productivity, with a subsequent eye to improvement. In these times of increased technology and computer literacy, and with the transformation of the majority of American workers into providers of services rather than skilled laborers and manufacturers, employers have witnessed a tendency for worker productivity to decline, because of both the sedentary nature of most jobs and the hours spent before computer monitors emailing, surfing the World Wide Web, playing online games, and interacting remotely with distant friends and colleagues via Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, and a host of other Internet web sites and portals. While outside efficiency experts have been summoned in many cases to determine why employee efficiency has declined, it has sometimes been difficult for them to put a finger on the reasons for decreased employee productivity. The reasons behind increased productivity have also been difficult to measure in some cases, when the experts called in have not been familiar with the service or industry being examined. Landmark legal cases brought by disgruntled employees against industry giants, and immortalized by popular news media anchors, the press, and the tabloids, for consumption by the public to the tune of higher ratings, bear this out.

While outside efficiency experts continue to believe, in no uncertain terms, that employee work-related behaviors and productivity improve when the workers themselves knowingly come under direct observation and scrutiny, and while that may contain an element of some truth, it in no way illustrates the entire picture. Improvement in employee productivity may be due to any number of reasons in the workplace. To assume that worker conscientiousness is directly related to a Big Brother mentality is not only nearsighted, but also counterproductive to open-mindedness and a sense of fair play.

It places the workforce in the position of spoiled little children, not only ill-equipped and reluctant to perform the job-related duties for which they were hired, but also requiring a mother, a mother superior, a mother hen, or some such other disciplinarian to guarantee compliance with the stated goals, duties, performance tasks, and productivity stated implicitly and mandated by individual job descriptions.

Rather, outside efficiency experts would better spend their time understanding the workers themselves, their needs, the specific company and what it requires of its employees, the points of view of management, union, and employees on the reasons for the decline or failed improvement in productivity, the mental status of the workers, the work environment, and a plethora of other motivators for and detractors from healthy increases in productivity over time. Now, granted, human nature being what it is, employees will tend to stray a bit if they are not held to account for their performance. No one argues that. A Big Brother in the workplace, however, can only serve to have a detrimental effect on productivity, leading to employee resentment of management and a further decline in company productivity and profit margins. Passive aggression between employees and between employees and management is a terrible thing in the workplace, and “spying” by management and/or outside efficiency experts can only make an already tense situation unbearable, to say the least, leading to frayed nerves, absenteeism, lack of motivation, and a host of occupational-related maladies that put money in the pockets of labor attorneys, occupational medicine physicians, and those psychologists and counselors that no company would be complete without.

On the other hand, a vested interest in the company demonstrated and sincerely felt by employees who sense fair and equitable treatment by management, makes for a healthy symbiosis that can only be beneficial to the company. Diverse corporations such as Microsoft, IBM, Starbucks, Samuel Adams Brewing, Humana, and numerous others have successfully instituted and obtained outstanding results with employee-management models in which workers are

treated more as partners than as servants. They have found that workers are not lazy, and that they will, indeed, increase their efforts and productivity when they feel that they are being treated honestly, being cared for by upper management, believe in the product or service they represent, and have open lines of communication, and perhaps even an open-door policy, with their supervisors, managers, and upper level management. Outside efficiency experts, who should know better and who are privy to the company success stories mentioned above, need to examine all the possibilities mentioned earlier for possible employee malcontent and decreased productivity. Playing the “easy”

surveillance card, for whatever reason, and attributing past, suboptimal performance to a lack of observation, surveillance, and disciplinary control begs the question and misses the mark entirely.

In this age of new cultural awareness and social correctness, outside efficiency experts would find their time better spent examining the actual, multifaceted causes for employee and management malcontent, instead of hiding behind past stereotyped generalities for declining motivation and subsequent productivity shortfalls.

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Veteran's Day Parade and Patriotic Celebration
In Historic San Elizario, Texas

Saturday November 6, 2010
9:00 a.m. Veterans' Parade
Parade starts at the San Elizario cemetery on Thompson Rd. and ends at the Veterans' Memorial Plaza in front of the San Elizario Mission.

10:30 a.m. Veterans' Patriotic Ceremonies

Sponsored by The Veterans' Committee of the San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society

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Money can’t buy you love or a trip to the World Series

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Who would have thunk it? Of all the teams in Major League Baseball, the Texas Rangers and the San Francisco Giants made it all the way to the World Series.

At the beginning of the season the Giants were picked to have a winning season but the National League West was going to go to either the Los Angeles Dodgers or the Colorado Rockies.

No team started the season in more turmoil than the Texas Rangers. Their manager Ron Washington was busted for cocaine possession a month before the season started and was very lucky to keep his job.

Even worse, the Rangers started the season without an owner. The team was being run by Major League Baseball for the first half of the season. They must have felt like the orphans of professional sports.

Both teams defied the odds to make it all the way to the championship of professional baseball.

But that may not be the best of news for FOX TV, which is airing the fall classic. The

suits at FOX were banking on televising the battle between the New York Yankees and the Philadelphia Phillies.

In fact, most of the country was looking forward to the battle of the big boys. But good ratings or not, FOX is saddled with the two little engines that did.

But before this year’s World Series is officially declared a total flop, let’s give the Rangers and Giants their due.

Texas probably has the best hitter and pitcher in the game right now in Josh Hamilton and Cliff Lee. San Francisco has three of the best pitchers in the game in Tim Lincecum, Matt Cain and Jonathan Sanchez.

The main thing this match-up tells us is that it sometimes takes more than just money to win a championship. These two teams simply played harder and smarter than the Yankees and the Phillies.

The Giants have 21 National League Pennants and five World Series titles – the last in the 1954 Series. They were the New York Giants then and beat the Cleveland Indians. Their last World Series apperance was in 2002. This is the first trip to the big dance for the Rangers.

These may not be the two teams you wanted

to see in the World Series but they are the two teams that earned the opportunity.

We’ll have to wait and see whether or not this will be one of those series we’re still talking about 20 years from now, but one thing is for sure – both teams will play like this is the only one they’ll ever appear in.

Ring-a-ding-ding

I believe it was Christopher Walken who walked into a recording studio on Saturday Night Live and made history by proudly proclaiming that he, “needed more cowbell.”

While that was one of the funniest bits in SNL history, the subject isn’t as funny in Starkville, Mississippi.

Seems the dreaded cowbell’s existence at Mississippi State’s Davis Wade Stadium is in jeopardy.

Fans at Mississippi State love to bring their cowbells to the game and make as much noise as they possibly can.

And what is the response by Southeastern Conference officials? The cowbells are way too loud. Excuse me... too loud for a football game?

Isn’t it the crowd’s job to be as loud as they

possibly can, especially when the opponent has the football so they have a difficult time hearing their quarterback’s signals.

The SEC is actually threatening to levy fines against the school for going against the league’s noisemaker policy.

Who knew a league even had a noisemaker policy? I could see a policy for tennis, maybe golf, even chess. But for football! That’s like fining the swim team because the water in their pool is too wet.

Loud noise is a part of the game.

The conference has said it will give the fans a year to prove they can ring the cowbells only during dead ball situations like halftime, time outs and after touchdowns.

But the cowbells are easily heard during games, especially when opponents are on offense. MSU athletic director Scott Stricklin said fans must cooperate or the cowbells could be banned.

What’s next for the league... stopping the game because a fan is crunching too loudly on his ice? Maybe the popcorn in the concession stand is popping at the wrong decibel, or maybe a college president is rustling his money too loudly.

Shhh! It’s almost time for kickoff...

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

The fickle 12th man

In parking lots that will have them, they’re the first one in and the last ones to leave.

In an office environment, these men and women would be the ideal hire: strong loyalty to the brand, optimistic in that bright-eyed and bushy-tailed way – even first thing

in the morning. They “bag” their own lunches for the most part, and they show a desire to pitch in at the end of the day... you know, most of them put away their toys.

They are doctors, lawyers, salesmen, union workers and middle managers... but on Sunday,

regardless of gender, they all become the 12th man.

The term “12th man” grew out of Texas A&M University in the early 1920s, during a game against Centre College, then the nation’s top-ranked team. The lore goes something like this, according the Aggie press guide:

“As the hard-fought game wore on, and the Aggies dug deeply into their limited reserves, Coach Dana X. Bible remembered a squad man who was not in uniform. He had

unbridled expansion of government into every facet of life — before it’s too late. As Hannan warned all Americans, “Until you get sanity and order back to your public finances, everything else is secondary.”

Robert Romano is the Senior Editor of Americans for Limited Government (ALG) News Bureau.

been up in the press box helping reporters identify players. His name was E. King Gill, and was a former football player who was only playing basketball. Gill was called from the stands, suited up, and stood ready throughout the rest of the game, which A&M finally won 22-14. When the game ended, E. King Gill was the only man left standing on the sidelines for the Aggies. Gill later said, “I wish I could say that I went in and ran for the winning touchdown, but I did not. I simply stood by in case my team needed me.”

Two things strike me about that story. Dana X. Bible and E. King Gill may just be the best names for a coach and bench player in the history of college sports, and it probably wasn’t the very first time a “12th man” was called for. Still, it’s a pretty awesome display when the entire student section is dressed

in all maroon, standing with their thumbs up yelling “gig ‘em” for the entire game.

Elsewhere, the 12th man is more or less the guy in the parking lot before the game, two packages of brats for every six-pack on hand. There he sits, surrounded by friends and various condiments like the baffling bread-and-butter relish. And why is it always half full? With the exception of a Chicago hot dog, I have never seen anybody use the relish. But there it stands, stoic in its plastic bottle, enduring the direct sun, waiting faithfully like E. King Gill – and ticketholders the parking lot over – for that one chance to enter the game.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter and publisher of The Kansas City Luminary. (c) 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

Warning

From Page 2

The impact has been devastating. And still U.S. politicians have said almost nothing about the same thing happening here, nor have they presented any plan to prevent it from occurring.

What will the implications be for liberty around the world should the U.S. fail to meet its financial obligations? The consequences could be devastating unless action is taken now.

Hopefully, Hannan’s warning will be heard by the American people, who will in turn demand leaders of both political parties to address the

Classified Ads

LEGALS

El Paso Collaborative for Community and Economic Development

Invitation to Bid

The El Paso Collaborative for Community & Economic Development a local non-profit organization is requesting competitive sealed bids starting Thursday, October 28, 2010 through Thursday November 4, 2010 (from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. during these dates only). Bids are for construction of a single family residence in the City of Socorro, Texas.

Bid packets may be picked up at El Paso Collaborative 1359 Lomaland

Dr. Suite 538, El Paso, Texas 79935. Packets include home design, a site plan and specifications. The house must be Energy Star and need to meet visitability guidelines. A \$50.00 refundable deposit required.

All sealed bids are to be submitted At our offices before Friday, November 5, 2010 5:00 p.m. on forms provided in a sealed envelope to:

El Paso Collaborative c/o Lorraine Frias, 1359 Lomaland Dr. Suite 538 El Paso, Texas 79935

For further information, contact Lorraine Frias, Program Coordinator at the El Paso Collaborative (915) 590-1216 ext. 111.

WTCC: 10-28-10

Town of Anthony, TX

Request for RFQ:

The Town of Anthony, Texas will be receiving qualification statements for design-build services for construction of a new Town Hall. Qualifications must be received no later than 2 p.m. on November 22, 2010 at the current Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, P.O. Box 1269, Anthony, TX 79821, 915/886-3944. RFQ requirements may be obtained from the Town Hall at the above address. For more information call Cynthia Clarke, Town Clerk, 915/886-3944.

Cynthia Clarke
Town Clerk

WTCC: 10-28-10

COUNSELING SERVICES

D A M I A N M A U R E I R A , LCSW - Professional Counseling/ Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family, Health insurance and FEE SCALE A C C E P T E D . Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP. 657 Winn Rd. in Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment.

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EMPLOYMENT

The Town of Horizon City is currently accepting applications for the following positions:
• Administrative Receptionist
• Administrative Assistant - I
• Accounting Clerk
• Clerk of Court
Applications will be accepted as of October 28, 2010 and until the positions have been filled. Apply at: Horizon City Town Hall 14999 Darrington Road

Horizon City, TX 79927
(915) 852-1046 or fax (915) 852-1005

WTCC: 10-28-10

FARM EQUIPMENT

FOR SALE: JOHN DEERE 425 OFFSET DISK 13' 6" W/ HYDRAULIC CYL. AND HOSES. KAMSON, INC. 915-525-2439.

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.



CLASSIFIED AD FORM

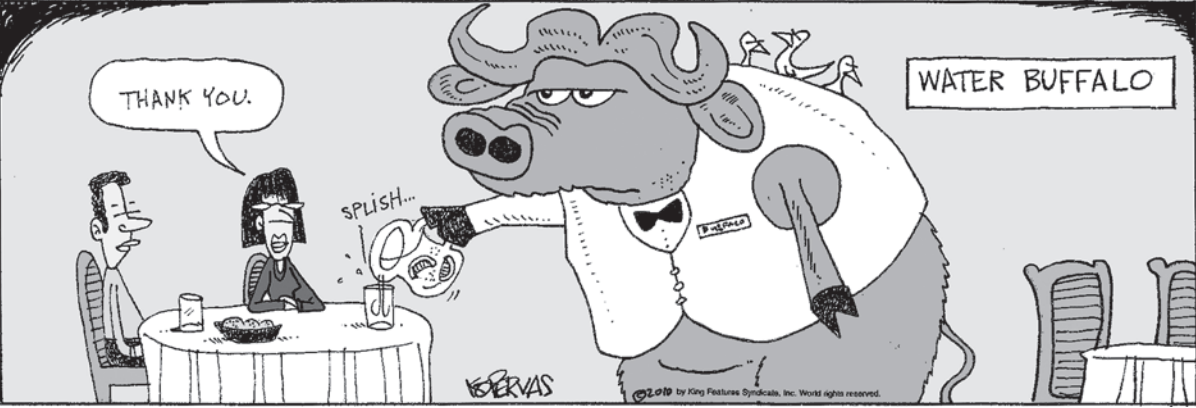
25 words - \$10 per week; 40 words - \$15 per week

1	2	3	4
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21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40
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: _____	

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



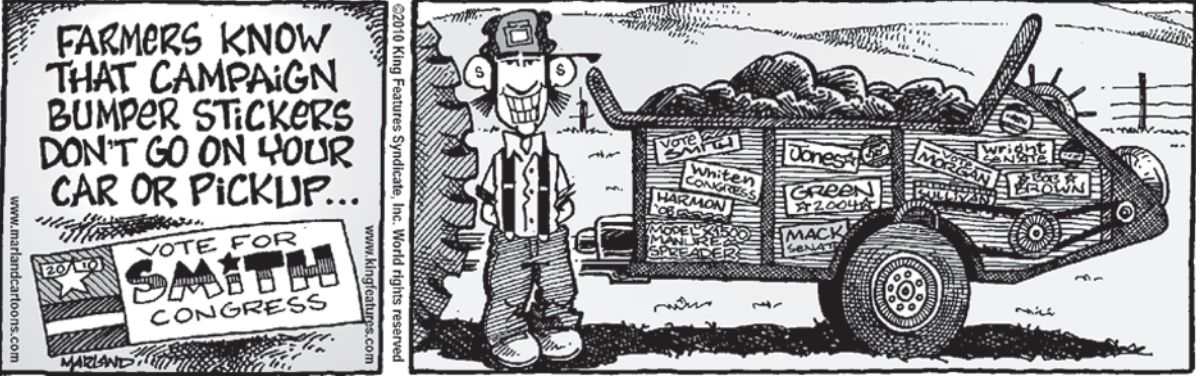
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Your good health

By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have taught fourth grade for 20 years. This year I couldn't wait for the summer break. I was feeling fine at the beginning of the year, but as the months passed, I could hardly make it through the day. I had no energy. My husband insisted that I see a doctor. I did. The first doctor told me I was depressed. The second one took a longer time with me and ordered a batch of blood tests. My thyroid gland isn't working. I have a condition with a foreign-sounding name. Do you know what I'm talking about? Will you expand on it for me? – T.Y.

missing thyroid hormone. Once on the pill form of the hormone, signs and symptoms disappear. It takes time, however, before a person notices big changes for the better. The booklet on thyroid disorders discusses conditions of both under- and overactive thyroid glands in detail. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue – No. 401W, 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.

I'm sure you're referring to Hashimoto's thyroiditis. The Hashimoto name is not recognized by most people. It is, however, in our part of the world, the most common cause of hypothyroidism – a nonworking thyroid gland. The thyroid gland is located in the lower part of the neck. Thyroid hormone keeps all body cells and organs working at their peak efficiency. In Hashimoto's thyroiditis, the immune system has attacked the gland for reasons that are not clear. It's yet another example of an autoimmune disease, one where the immune system turns on its own body. Signs of a lack of thyroid hormone come on gradually. Fatigue and weakness make it a heroic feat to get through the day. Hair might fall out. Skin becomes dry. Affected people feel cold when others are comfortably warm. Constipation is a common complaint. Menstrual cycles are erratic. Weight is gained in spite of a poor appetite and a decreased intake of calories.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Our 21-year-old daughter has been diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy. Her finger turned a shade of blue. She went to the emergency room and got the diagnosis there. What kind of doctor should we consult to determine if this is her condition? – V.C.

Your family doesn't have a history of having peripheral neuropathy, right? So let's remove all the genetic causes of it from consideration. Twenty-one is young to come down with it. It's more of an older person's illness. People with diabetes and a few other diseases also are targets for it, but your daughter is in otherwise good health. A blue finger isn't a usual sign. Your daughter should see a neurologist or a vascular specialist to confirm this diagnosis, which appears a bit strange to me.

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. (c) 2010 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

- BIOPICS**

ACROSS

1 Potassium, e.g.

6 __ pole

11 Scott's "The __ Quartet"

14 "Nova" network

17 Idolized

19 Fandango kin

20 Maestro de Waart

21 "Hulk" Ferrigno

22 George M. Cohan

biopic

25 Link letters?

26 Grant or Tan

27 Crow's toe

28 CPR provider

29 Tenor Mario

31 Svelte

32 TV's __ & Greg'w

36 "El Cid" star

37 Stardom

40 Like pie?

41 Squirrel away

43 Thomas More

biopic

49 Small shots

52 Bother

53 Japanese dog

54 Social misfit

55 Throw in the towel

56 Cio-Cio-San's

sash

57 '86 Janet Jackson

hit

58 Fresh

60 Billie of "The Wizard of Oz"
- 61 Merino males

63 I.M. the architect

64 Manage

65 With 49 Down, Thomas Jefferson's veep

66 Edwin Booth

biopic

72 Line

75 "Confound it!"

76 Cubic meas.

77 Mosque figure

81 Marine leader?

82 Helps with the dishes

84 Sao __, Brazil

86 Nev. neighbor

87 Privy to

88 Decree

89 Moving

90 Cotton __

91 Bleak critique

92 Billie Holiday

biopic

97 Biblical city

98 Journalist Jacob

99 __ podrida

100 Western desert

103 Sherbet flavor

105 Coup d' __

108 Fight site

109 Actress Alicia

110 Applaud

111 Make wine divine

114 Glowing

115 Robert Stroud

biopic

122 Dram
- 123 Chou En-__

124 Prepared a potion

125 Aftershock

126 "Ask __ Girl" ('59 film)

127 Terminate

128 Frequently

129 Electrical inventor

DOWN

1 Author Angelou

2 Dairy-case buy

3 Oscar's cousin

4 Genesis vessel

5 Parasite

6 Overly

7 Foster's " __ Dog Tray"

8 __ Aviv

9 Palindromic

preposition

10 Transmit by bytes

11 The Mertzses'

income

12 Suffix

13 Unhappy

14 Rocker Robert

15 Movie chimp

16 Largest African nation

18 Sandwich shop

19 Cellist's need

23 Blocker or Aykroyd

24 Piles up

30 Timber tree

31 Decimal base

32 Hold up

33 Baseball's Chase
- 34 Dolt

35 Bread or booze

36 Jurist Learned

37 Party present

38 Lab critter

39 Adage

42 British pol

44 Mozart's "Cosi __ tutte"

45 Giraffe kin

46 Up and about

47 Tall story?

48 First name in photography

49 See 65 Across

50 South African activist

51 WWII gun

55 Resembling

58 Couches

59 Datebook abbr.

60 Candy quantity

62 Cold-shoulder

64 Transformer part

67 Actress Peggy

68 Polishes prose

69 "Stop, sailor!"

70 Time of your life

71 "Dallas" matriarch

72 Wisecrack

73 Skeleton part

74 007's school

78 Tycoon

79 Historian Durant

80 IQ crew

82 "The Aeneid" queen

83 TV's "Everybody
- Loves __"

84 Dated

85 Solid circle

88 Grow dull

92 Endearing

93 Nest egg

94 Diarist Anais

95 Light carriage

96 Fate

97 __ Antonio, TX

100 Mediterranean island

101 Sky stalker

102 Dock

104 Stallone role

105 Building wing

106 Diplomacy

107 In pieces

109 Saharan

110 No gentleman

111 "Babes in __" ('37 musical)

112 Sheffield slammer

113 Biblical book

116 Charleson or Carmichael

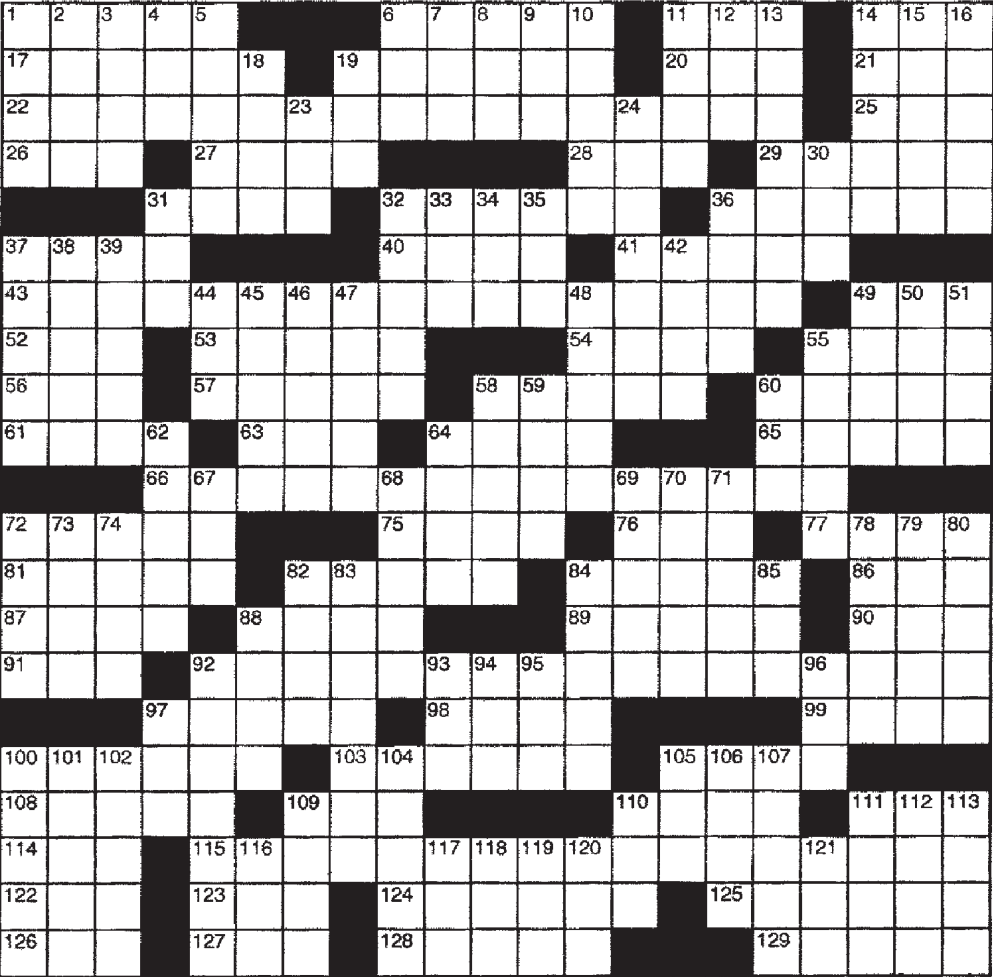
117 Rottweiler's remark

118 Take-home

119 Be in debt

120 Marsh

121 Fairway accessory



Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: I can't find my Social Security card. How can I get a new one?

A: First, consider whether you really need a new card. You need to apply for a replacement Social Security card only if you don't know your Social Security number or, if you need to show your card to a new employer. If you decide that you do need a card, you can replace it for free in three easy steps.

Step 1: Complete an Application For a Social Security Card (Form SS-5);

Step 2: Show us documents proving your:

- Identity; and
- U.S. citizenship or immigration status; and

Step 3: Take your completed application and original documents to your local Social Security office or your local Social Security Card Center. You'll receive your replacement card in about 10 to 15 days.

You can find all the information you need, including what documents we will need to review, at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: I am applying for Extra Help with prescription drug costs. Can state agencies help with my Medicare costs?

A: Beginning January 1, 2010, when you file your application for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug costs, you also can start your application process for the Medicare Savings Programs — state programs that provide help with other Medicare costs. When you apply for Extra Help, Social Security will send information to your state unless you tell us not to on the application. Your state will contact you to help you apply for a Medicare Savings Program. Learn more about how Social Security can provide Extra Help with your Medicare prescription drug costs by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

Q: How do I earn a Social Security credit?

A: A "Social Security credit" (sometimes referred to as a "quarter of coverage") is the measure of a person's work under the Social Security program. The amount needed for a credit increases automatically each year as average wages increase. For 2010, workers receive one credit for each \$1,120 of earnings. For 2009, the amount of earnings for one credit was \$1,090. A worker can receive a maximum of four credits for any year. Generally, you need 40 credits to be eligible for retirement benefits. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/COLA/QC.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, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was American author, producer, screenwriter and director Michael Crichton who made the following sage observation: "Whenever you hear the consensus of scientists agrees on something or other, reach for your wallet, because you're being had."
- Statistics show that more babies are born in September than in any other month of the year.

• Talk about bad luck: In May of 2009, two thieves broke into a jewelry store in Milwaukee, bagged up their loot and tried to make their getaway. On the way out of the looted store, they were confronted by two more thieves, who took the ill-gotten gains. No one ended up profiting from the crime, however; all four were arrested.

• According to an estimate by the United Nations, there are more than 3 million shipwrecks on the ocean floor.

• You may have heard of the turducken – a chicken stuffed into a duck stuffed into a turkey – but you probably didn't know that a chef in the United Kingdom took the idea of nested fowl several steps further. Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall stuffed a woodcock inside a pigeon, inside a partridge, inside a pheasant, inside a chicken, inside a guineafowl, inside a mallard, inside a duck, inside a goose, inside a turkey. No word on how the 10-layer dish was carved for serving.

• If you're not the sort of person who makes the bed every day, here's some good news for you: Researchers in the United Kingdom have found that unmade beds are less likely to harbor dust mites, a common cause of asthma and allergic symptoms.

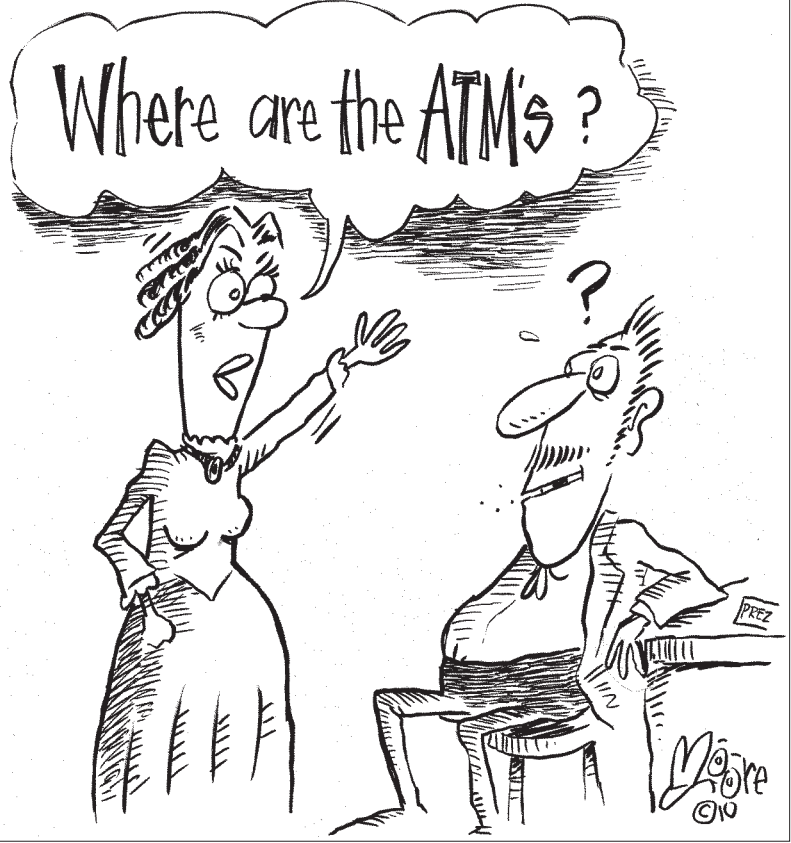
Thought for the Day: "If you would be a real seeker after truth, it is necessary that at least once in your life you doubt, as far as possible, all things."

– Rene Descartes

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4 ★★★★★ HOO BOY!

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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: O equals E

G VTDQ IQ YOTTGQH INGHGQDT

KONYOY IQ EFO YENOOE. G

HWOYY G YFIWTM FDKO

VIOEGJ TGJOQYO.

Answer Page 4

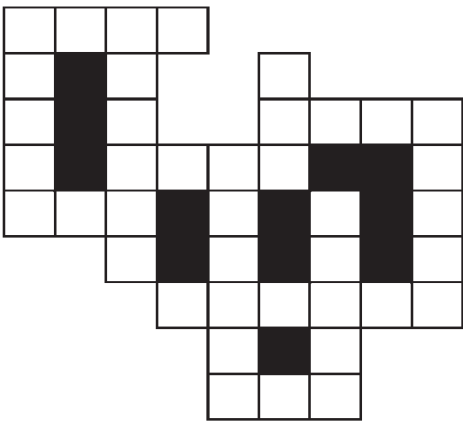
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FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

CONQUER THE WHIRLED

MLA
SPIHMI
♥GENIH
HUSL
OLMARN
YLS
♥NAYM
SMIPR
♥IPH
PYTMUS
HYLMP
♥ALIN



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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