



NEWSBRIEFS

Warrant amnesty

The amnesty period for people with outstanding El Paso County traffic warrants has been extended to Friday, Nov. 12, 2010. A one-week warrant round-up will begin on Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2010. The El Paso County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the El Paso County Justices of the Peace and El Paso County Constables, are working to reduce the large number of outstanding traffic warrants in El Paso County. The Justices of the JP Courts are offering those individuals with outstanding traffic warrants the opportunity to receive a waiver for the Failure to Appear fine during an amnesty period. Individuals who believe they have an outstanding warrant as a result of a citation from a Sheriff's Deputy, Deputy Constable, or Texas DPS Trooper should contact the appropriate Justice of the Peace Office. If you believe you may have a felony or misdemeanor warrant for your arrest, contact the Sheriff's Office Warrants Section at 915-546-2214. Figures will be released on Tuesday, Nov. 23, detailing how much money was collected and how many people were arrested.

— Deputy Jesse Tovar

Fellows program

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) is seeking student applicants for the 2011 Preservation Fellows Program, which strives to increase the diversity of professionals working in the field of historic preservation. The program was created through the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission to build interest in, and awareness of, historic preservation, specifically among students from underrepresented ethnic groups. This initiative targets undergraduate and graduate students to promote their interest in pursuing fields of study in history, preservation, architecture, landscape architecture, archeology, downtown revitalization, and heritage tourism. Past fellows have gone on to receive a Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship, work at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and pursue various graduate degrees. The Preservation Fellows Program is entering its fifth year and the THC especially encourages applications from students who are studying landscape architecture. Please see the eligibility portion of the application for more information. Applicants must be students at the sophomore level or above attending a college, university, junior college, or community college in Texas, or a Texas resident attending school out-of-state. Fellows receive a \$5,000 stipend for eight weeks of employment under the supervision of the THC. To access an application, and for a complete description of eligibility requirements that must be

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Many people are gossips, however, some of us are merely being informative.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

HANGING OUT THE SHINGLE – Publishers' exhibition and job fair booths were located in the convention center main hall during the three-day conference to allow TABE participants to become aware of the latest bilingual education products available. Shown in photo, from left, are TABE participants Ana McCleary, Lorena Salas, Teddy Martinez, and Hector Giron standing at the McMillan McGraw-Hill exhibit booth.

Texas Association for Bilingual Education Conference attracts 1,400 participants

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

"Creating Success in Dual Language Education", "Engaging Parents in Meaningful Conversation to Strengthen the Parent-School Connection", "Two Worlds are Better Than One" are just three of the nearly 200 topics presented by featured speakers during the 38th Annual Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) Conference held at the El Paso Convention Center and Camino Real Hotel recently.

About 1,400 educators from throughout Texas came to the conference to attend TABE's professional development sessions, hear guest speakers, and interact with experts in their fields. The conference participants were treated to three days of seminars on bilingual education issues, tours to local schools to observe successful bilingual education programs, and festive activities including receptions, dinners, and a dance.

"TABE conference co-chairpersons Dr. Josie Tinajero, dean of the UTEP School of Education, and Dr. Pauline Dow, assistant superintendent for Academics at Ysleta ISD, put together an extraordinary local planning committee who worked tirelessly to create this wonderful experience for all conference participants," stated Dr. Richard Gomez Jr., TABE president and co-founder of the Dual Language Training Institute in Brownsville. "It was great to see B.E.S.O. (Bilingual Education Student Organization) volunteers

throughout the conference excited about rubbing shoulders with authors, teachers, superintendents, researchers, musicians, and artists," he stated.

The conference also showcased performances by several local schools students. Among the student acts were: America HS Guitars directed by Teacher Adrian Saenz; Riverside HS Jazz Choir directed by Teacher M. Gutierrez; Bel Air HS Taco Band directed by Teacher Ellen Shaub; Bowie HS Dance Group directed by Teacher Ana Suffe; Ysleta ISD's Viva Los Ninos Dancers directed by Hector Serrano and produced by David Mills; Ysleta HS All Girls' Drum Corp directed by Teacher Tim Jackson and Choir directed by Teacher Chris Povar; El Paso Youth Jazz Ensemble directed by Ricky Malachi; Montwood HS Mariachi; Andress HS Ballet Folklorico; El Dorado HS Mariachi directed by Teacher Joe Baca; Jefferson/Silva HS Drum Corp directed by Teacher Davis Perez; Eastwood HS Drum Line directed by Teacher Art Avila; Eastwood HS Saltatrix Dancers directed by Teacher Sheila Dwyer; and Hanks HS Rock Band directed by Teacher Gil Mata.

"There is nothing more powerful for demonstrating our local students and teachers' successes than to showcase their outstanding performances in the fine arts," said Dow. "We were able to exhibit excellent artworks and remarkable Dia de Los Muertos altars created by our elementary and secondary school children," she added.

Featured Speakers included Dr. Kathryn Lindholm-Leary, associate professor at San

Jose State University; Dr. Diana Natalicio, president of the University of Texas at El Paso; Dr. Benjamin A. Saenz, chairperson for Creative Writing Department at UTEP; Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, superintendent for El Paso ISD; Eliot Shapleigh, Texas State Senator District 29; Dr. Michael Zolkoski, superintendent for Ysleta ISD; Dr. Jimmy Santiago Baca, author; and Dr. Xavier De La Torre, superintendent for Socorro ISD.

As part of the conference, the 2010 TABE Bilingual Teacher of the Year and ESL Teacher of the Year were announced during an awards luncheon sponsored by the Mexican Consulate and Consulado de Espana. Receiving the awards were Elizabeth Martinez, bilingual teacher at Dora Trip ES in Houston ISD, and Sarah W. Wolff-Romero, ESL teacher at Edison MS in Houston ISD, respectively.

Also receiving special recognition during the conference for their contributions to bilingual education efforts were Dr. Rafael Lara-Alecio, professor and director of Bilingual Programs in the College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M University, as the Higher Education honoree; and Trey Martinez Fischer, Texas State Representative District 116, as the Community Advocate honoree.

The conference culminated with a panel discussion on the benefits of cultivating a bilingual/bicultural community including implications for economic development. Panel members were: Dr. Jimmy Vasquez, executive director for ESC Region 19; Jose Martin,

See CONFERENCE, Page 2

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Traumatic brain injury

It isn't easy to diagnose Traumatic Brain Injury, especially the milder cases. Unlike a surface wound, these injuries can't be seen, and they don't show up on imaging either. Added to that, the symptoms, usually headaches, can be caused by any number of other reasons. Still, the main reason for TBI – nearby explosions that literally rattle the brain – can't be ignored. If not treated, the problem can lead to permanent cognitive damage, especially if a second injury happens.

The Army, however, believes it's found a way to diagnose mild TBI, and it's as simple as a blood test. It's discovered two unique proteins that are present in the blood after a brain injury. The problem is that the test was done on just 34 patients.

Right now the Army is waiting for approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

Ideally, if the test is approved, a veteran who's been struggling to get care for a TBI, and not

getting much cooperation from the Veterans Administration, will be able to walk in and get a blood test that gives the real answer. If the proteins are in the blood, there is TBI.

If the test is approved for use, there could well be one additional benefit: The scientific proof of a brain injury could lead to many more soldiers and veterans being awarded the Purple Heart. At this point not many get it, even though the injury is just as damaging as wounds that can be seen.

The Army Awards list, Section 2-8 g. (5), which gives examples of injuries that "clearly justify award" of the Purple Heart, includes: concussion injuries caused as a result of enemy-generated explosions.

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 Adam Bitely

Article I of the U.S. Constitution


After the Revolutionary War, the Founding Fathers were nervous about a strong executive. This can be seen in the way that they wrote the Constitution. Our nation's founders decided to create a stronger legislative branch than that of the executive branch as established in Article II. The Founders intended the legislative branch to check the powers of the President as well as be a voice of all the people.

By design, the legislative branch is weak in the sense that there is no one person holding all of the power. The legislative branch is composed of the House of Representatives and the Senate, which together form Congress. Each state elects two senators and a number of members to the House of Representatives depending on the size of each particular states population.

Even further, the legislative branch was given direct authority over several tasks. The Founders did this so that Congress and the people would know the limits of its powers. They broke Article 1 into 10 sections that explicitly grant Congress all of its authority.

Section 1 of Article 1 grants all legislative powers to the Congress and creates both the House and the Senate. Sections 2 and 3 sets requirements for eligibility to serve in the House and Senate respectively. In Section 2, the power is given to the House to determine its Speaker and does not note that the Speaker has to be a member of the House. Theoretically, the Speaker can be any citizen that the members of the House elect, although no Speaker has ever not been an elected member of the House.

Section 4 mandates that Congress must assemble at least once a year. It does not stipulate that Congress be a full time legislature. Further, section 4 says that the power to determine the elections of Senators and Representatives lies with the legislature in each state, but it allows



Congress to alter the laws made by the state legislatures regarding the time and manner of such elections.

Sections 5 and 6 further set regulations on how Congress operates. But the real limits on Congress come in Sections 7 and 8. The powers granted to Congress in Article 1 are the extent of their powers. The Founders designed the Constitution as a limit on Federal power, not a starting point for power to be expanded upon.

Section 7 mandates that all bills for raising revenue shall come from the House of Representatives. The Senate does not have the power to tax, only the House. Further, section 7 also creates the procedure for a veto of a bill.

Section 8 is arguably the most important section of Article 1. Inside of Section 8, the limits of Congressional power are established. Congress has the authority to collect taxes, borrow money, regulate commerce, to create money and punish those that fraudulently do, establish post offices and roads, promote the progress of science and arts and provide patents, to declare war as well as fund the army for a period of no more than two years, provide and maintain a navy, to provide for the Militia, to exercise exclusive Legislation over the federal seat of power in Washington

D.C., and to make laws that are necessary in carrying out the listed powers and all those necessary as described by the Constitution.


Missing in Section 8's listing of Congressional powers is the authority to provide Health Care, mandate the purchase of a specific product or service to all U.S. citizens, provide a retirement program for all U.S. citizens, regulate carbon emissions from U.S. businesses and citizens, and the authority to own companies. However, we find that our current Congress sees all of those unlisted powers as being "Constitutionally granted". But a close reading of Article 1, Section 8 shows us that no such authority exists.

The power that the legislative branch has today would cause our Founding Fathers to roll over in their graves. The authority Congress now holds is unprecedented in U.S. history. Further troubling is that there seems to be no one in the federal government checking this blatant overstep from our Congressional leaders.

As we are all aware, the nation is in trouble. The Founding Fathers left us with a great document that holds our government in check and at a sustainable size that protects individual liberty. The current congress has paid no heed to the law of the land and is instead making their own laws ignoring the authority they have as listed in the Constitution in Article 1. If we do not soon get back to the founding principles, we will surely find ourselves without a way to get out of the quagmire we are in.

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Weakness On One Side May Mean A Stroke.

Recognizing the signs of stroke and acting fast may make a difference between life and death. Call 9-1-1 immediately if you experience one or more of these signs: sudden weakness especially on one side of the body; trouble speaking or understanding; dizziness, loss of balance; trouble seeing in one or both eyes; and severe headache with no known cause. New treatments can help reduce damage to the brain

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To learn more about stroke, call the American Heart Association at 1-800-AHA-USA1 or visit us online at www.americanheart.org/tx



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HEART ATTACK & STROKE

Read the signs. Raise a flag.

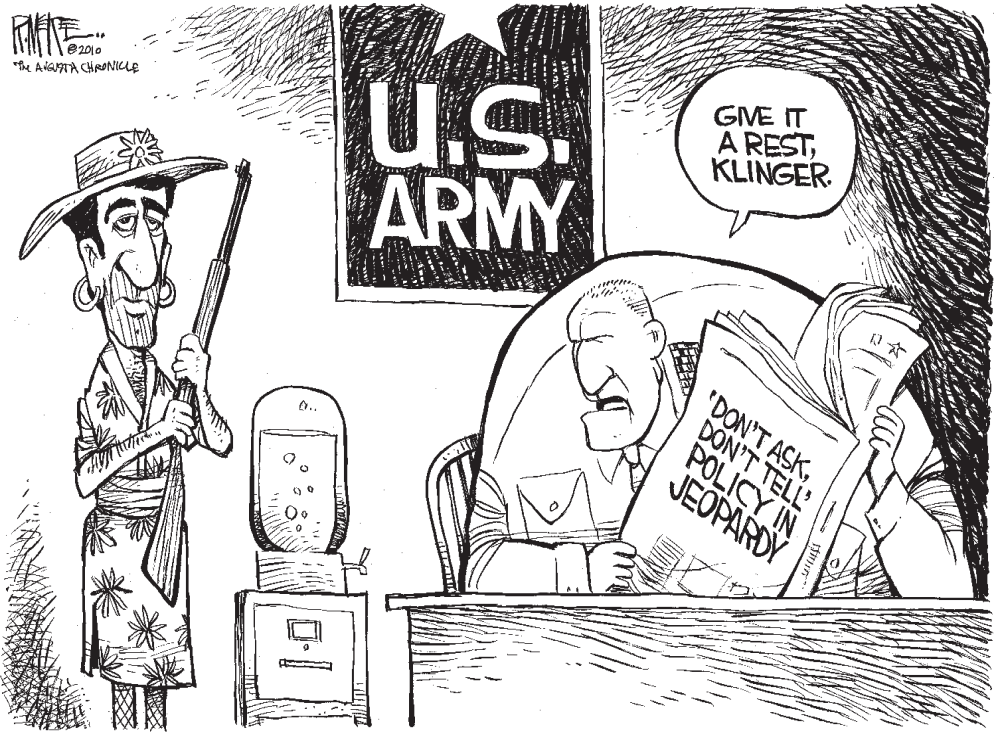
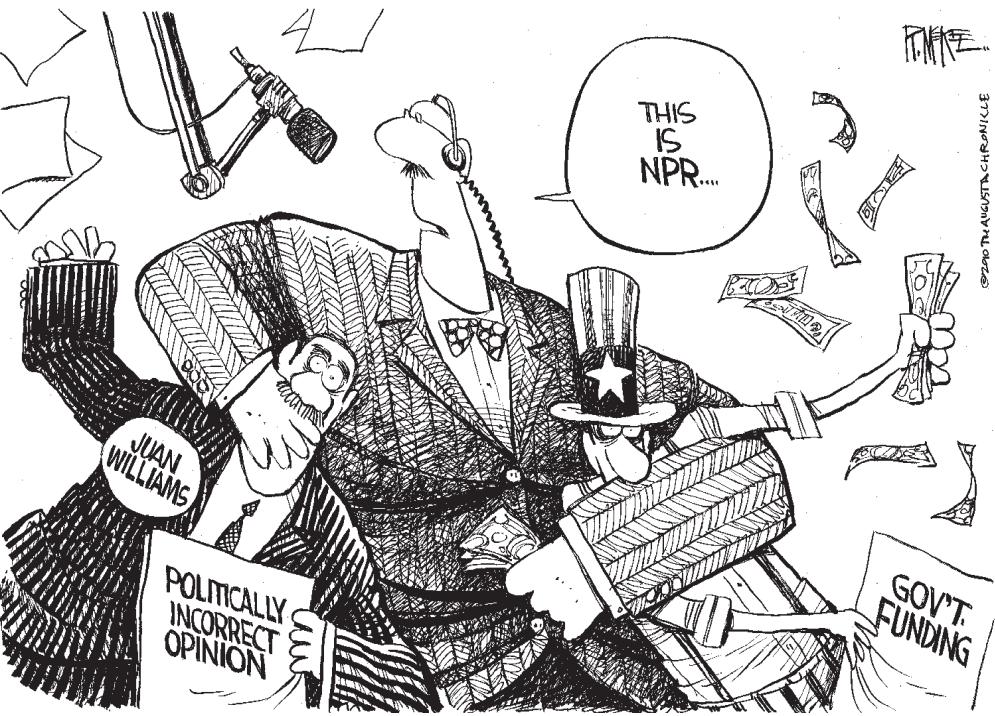
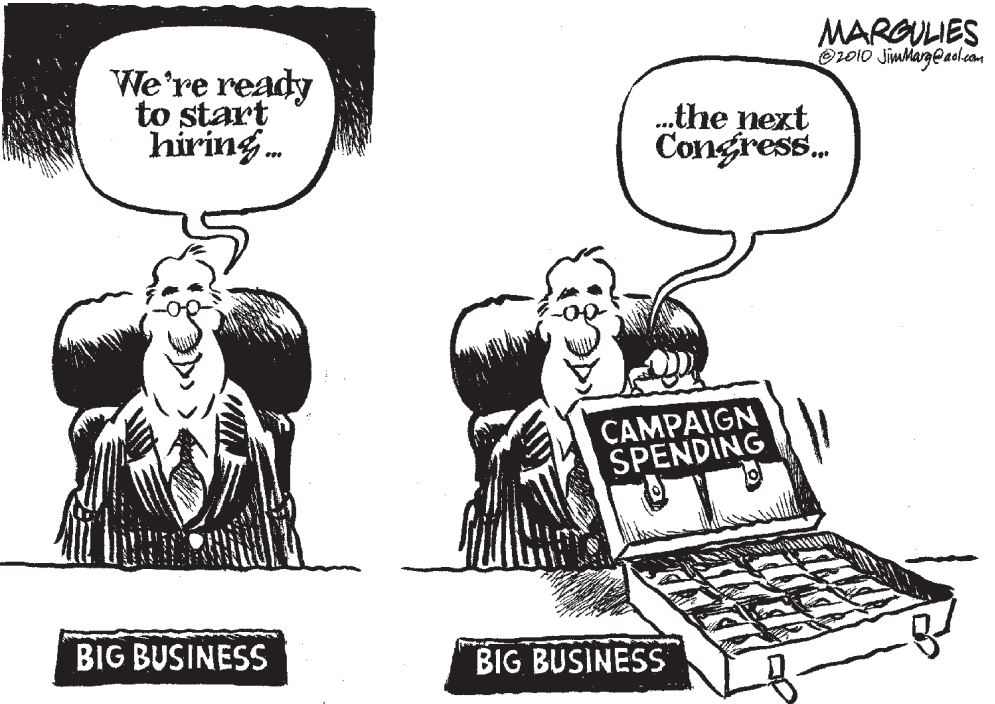
Adam Bitely is the Editor-in-Chief of NetRightDaily.com.

Conference

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attorney-partner with Richard, Lindsey & Martin LLP; Dr. Anna Perez, tribal member Ysleta del Sur Pueblo; Jose Rodriguez, candidate for Texas State Senate District 29; Dr. Kathy Staudt, professor of political science at UTEP; and Joyce A. Wilson, city manager of El Paso.

"The TABE conference is a great way to show the public that dual language and bilingual education programs are working in our schools. I especially appreciated the training sessions on math and science that encompass bilingual strategies," said Lorena Salas, TABE participant and fourth grade teacher at Bill Childress ES in Canutillo ISD.



Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Negative ads hurt us all

Hola mi gente. The November 2010 general election is over. At least the physical act of going to the polls and voting, along with the political ads, are over. There may be some unsettled races still being counted. We are solidly into the month of November. There is the first little hint of cold weather in the morning. Amazingly, the afternoons still leave the insides of cars hot enough to require the use of the air conditioner. Better yet, open the windows and breathe the clean fresh air.

The best part about this month is the beginning of the holiday season. In just three weeks, we will be sitting on the banquet table enjoying our turkeys or hams. Most importantly, it will be an occasion for families to get together. November and December are especially enjoyable because there is so much football. Although, it doesn't look like Cowboy fans will have much to look forward to. And then, all of a sudden, it is the Christmas shopping season. We will shop for gifts for close family members; for distant family members; for friends; and then gifts for fellow workers. There will be parties at the office, your spouse's office, school parties, and parties you attend for no known reason.

And I hope you don't forget there are the most important spiritual reasons for this time of the year.

After a year's worth of politics, I think most people are happy to put Election 2010 behind us. With the recession taking a slow

path to recovery, the angst among voters was very evident. The difficulty in revitalizing the economy will have its consequences. There will be changes in who is at the helm in Washington, but if history repeats itself, there will be no resolution to the political divisiveness.

At least now, we won't have to listen to the voice of the female or male who, in TV and radio advertising, sounded an ominous epithet about the dishonesty or incompetence of a certain opponent. You know the voices. Once you hear their voices and the distinct music, you know that someone is about to get blasted. The frequency of these ads multiplies exponentially as Election Day nears.

These ads do nothing but create distrust, hatred and divisiveness. They cut at the very core of the integrity of our political system. Once the elected officials are set into office, what are the chances that the political diatribe that saturated the airwaves will be forgotten? It does not go away quickly or easily – I can tell you that as fact.

My first two legislative sessions were very acrimonious. While I do think the Texas House will not go back to those days, I do foresee a bitterly divided Congress.

With the will of the voters of Texas and the entire United States now very clear, it is my hope that we all work toward the benefit of the state and nation as a whole. There is no place today for sore losers or arrogant winners.

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

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The one and only "Texas Calendar" is right and ready for consumer consumption. The 2011 Bona fide Real Texas Calendar is full of Texas History facts, cartoons, trivia, tidbits, Texas Talk and more! "It's a virtual almanac of all that's Texan in 12 usable, essential, and somewhat humorous pages" says Roger Todd Moore, cartoonist and creator of the Real Texas Calendar.

The calendars are available online at www.texascalendars.com or from Roger Todd Moore his own self at PO Box 155 Merkel Texas 79536 for only \$8.95 each.

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MARCH 2011

WHOA PARDNER! THIS TEXAS CORRECT CALENDAR BEGINS MARCH 2ND!

Moore Texas By ROGER MOORE March 26, 1855: A rousing play about the Texan'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
1 There is a Texas law STILL on the books that mandates no one carry pliers that COULD cut a fence.	2 Texas Independence Day Celebrate Texas!	3	4 1868: Jesse Chisholm, famous trailblazer, dies of food poisoning in Oklahoma.	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 1876: State's first all-black college opens (Albany Vista).	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	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				

MARCH 2011

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It's the law

By Texas AG Greg Abbott

Multi-jurisdictional effort to crack down on sex offenders

Law enforcement officers with the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) recently joined Gov. Rick Perry, State Representative Senfronia Thompson and Department of Public Safety Director Steve McCraw at an event announcing a new initiative to crack down on the State's most dangerous sex offenders.

Under the plan, the OAG, Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) and local law enforcement will create joint Sex Offender Parole Violation Apprehension Teams, which will locate and arrest high-risk sex offenders who have violated the terms of their parole. These teams will also coordinate with

local law enforcement agencies to conduct additional registration compliance checks on high-risk sex offenders.

The State's new, multi-jurisdictional approach continues our Fugitive Unit's traditional approach of working with the TDCJ and other law enforcement agencies to locate and arrest fugitives who have a history of sex crimes against children – specifically those offenders who have violated parole or sex offender registration requirements. Parole violations include failing to report to parole officers or being present in areas that might allow offenders access to young children. Since our Fugitive Unit was launched in August 2003, it has arrested more than 1,900 fugitives.

The initiative announced last month builds on the success of recent initiatives, like the Texas Ten Most Wanted Sex Offender list. In September, the Fugitive Unit, the DPS and the U.S. Marshals Service successfully located and arrested one of the State's Ten Most Wanted Sex Offenders: David Ross Baxley. Baxley had been wanted in Texas since 2003 and in New Mexico since 2006. Investigators discovered Baxley had been living in Texas under an assumed name since 2006. State and federal law enforcement officials arrested Baxley in Vidor, Texas.

Baxley's arrest marked the third time our Fugitive Unit helped secure the arrest of a Top Ten Most Wanted offender in the last six weeks. Earlier in September, the Fugitive Unit located and arrested Michael Brian McCollum in Hurst. Fugitive Unit investigators also recently located Joel Burt Thompkins in New York. After investigating and discovering the fugitive's location, our officers provided logistical assistance to the New York Police Department, which arrested Thompkins on Aug. 20. Both McCollum and Thompson were

on DPS' Top Ten Most Wanted Fugitives list.

Our recent successes follow a restructuring effort at the OAG. In August, we established a separate, independent command structure for the agency's more than 140 peace officers. As a result, the OAG's peace officers and the staff assigned to the Criminal Investigative Division now report to a fellow peace officer – rather than to a prosecutor.

To achieve this, we created a new senior-level position, the Director of Law Enforcement, and recruited a 30-year law enforcement veteran to fill the position. Our first-ever Director of Law Enforcement is Clete Buckaloo, a lifelong peace officer and 20-year Texas Ranger.

Director Buckaloo first received his commission as a DPS Trooper in April 1978. A little more than three years later, he became a DPS Narcotics Agent and six years after that joined the Texas Rangers at the age of 30. Although he retired from the Department as a Captain in 2007, he rejoined the Rangers earlier this year with the same rank. A graduate of Sul Ross State University, Director Buckaloo was honored by his alma mater as a distinguished alumnus in 2002.

As the OAG's Director of Law Enforcement, Captain Buckaloo oversees the Fugitive Unit, the Cyber Crimes Unit, the Special Investigations Unit, the Facilities Security Unit, the Criminal Litigation Unit and the Professional Standards Unit. Director Buckaloo will also coordinate the Fugitive Unit's work with DPS, TDCJ and local law enforcement as they create the new Sex Offender Parole Violation Apprehension Teams.

Perhaps more importantly, after three decades as a commissioned peace officer, Director Buckaloo has a long history of working with law enforcement agencies across the state to help protect Texas families. With his arrival, there is an even greater focus on cooperation and collaboration with local law enforcement – because all Texans benefit when local, state and federal agencies join forces and combine our resources to protect the communities we serve.

Greg Abbott is the Texas Attorney General.

Briefs

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met, visit www.thc.state.tx.us. Applications must be postmarked by December 31, 2010. For additional information contact Karen Knox with the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission at (512) 936.2189.

– Debbi Head

Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is assisting the El Paso Police Department in identifying and locating the person or persons unknown who broke into a vehicle on the west side, and stole personal items from the victim, making this the "Crime of the Week." On Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2010, officers responded to a Burglary of Vehicle at 125 Paragon Lane. The victim had parked a 2010 Ford Fusion hardtop at the location about 4:40 p.m. and returned at 6:00 p.m. to find that it had been burglarized. Among the items taken was the victim's wallet with three credit cards. The stolen credit cards were then used the next day at five businesses in the central part of town. Officers were able to obtain surveillance photos of the people using the credit cards. It is not known if these are the same people who broke into the vehicle on the previous day. There are two suspects shown in the surveillance photos. One is a Hispanic woman in her early to mid-20s, with long straight brown hair, wearing a brown or gray short-sleeve blouse with a scooped neck and a white purse on her shoulder. The other suspect is a Hispanic man, early to mid-20s, with close-cropped hair, wearing a white t-shirt and a black baseball cap that appears to have a Chicago White Sox logo on the front. If you have any information at all about the identity and location of the individuals shown in the photos, please 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

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EXHIBITION | ST. MARY'S (TX)
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH | 2:05 PM

VOLLEYBALL BACK IN ACTION!
SOUTHERN MISS | 11.5.10 | 7:00 PM
TULANE | 11.7.10 | 12:00 PM

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Anthony Independent School District Notice of Public Meeting

Anthony ISD will hold a public meeting Tuesday, November 9, at 6:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium, 825 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821. The purpose of the meeting is to gather input on the effective operation and performance of the local education agency's (LEA's) BE/ESL, program. This public meeting is required component of the Texas Education Agency's BE/ESL Monitoring System. For more information contact Melissa Bautista 915-886-6509.

Aviso de Junta Publica

El Distrito de Educacion de Anthony llevara acabo una junta publica el Martes 9 de Noviembre a las 6:00 pm en el auditorio de la escuela secundaria localizada en 825 Wildcat Drive, Anthony Texas 79821. El objetivo de la junta es reunir opiniones y sugerencias sobre el funcionamiento y el desempeno de la agencia de educacion (LEA's) y el programa de BE/ESL. Esta junta publica es requerida como componente para el monitoreo del programa BE/ESL por la Agencia de Educacion de Texas. Para mas informacion puede contactar a Melissa Bautista al numero telefonico 915-886-6509.

WTCC: 11-04-10

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

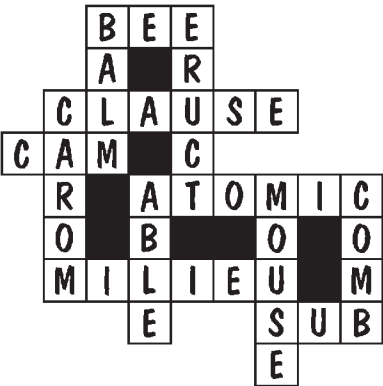
By Samantha Weaver

- It was British playwright Tom Stoppard who made the following observation: “Skill without imagination is craftsmanship and gives us many useful objects such as wickerwork picnic baskets. Imagination without skill gives us modern art.”
- You’ve probably had some experience with hail at some point in your life, but probably not with hail like this: The heaviest recorded hailstone in the world fell in Bangladesh in 1986; it weighed a whopping 2.25 pounds. The largest hailstone, which fell earlier this year in South Dakota, measured 8 inches in diameter. Be glad your car – or your head – wasn’t in the way.
- William Henry Harrison, the country’s sixth commander-in-chief, had the shortest tenure of any United States president. He died of pneumonia just 32 days after taking office.
- In 1666, the Great Fire of London destroyed 13,200 homes, 87 parish churches and St. Paul’s Cathedral, and it left some 70,000 people homeless. It also provided the impetus for the beginning of the insurance industry. After the conflagration, Nicholas Barbon, a well-to-do doctor, realized how much of his wealth was flammable. A year after the Great Fire, he began the world’s first insurance company.

- The men and women who venture into space have to adapt themselves to changing environments both when they enter space and when they return home. Many astronauts and cosmonauts say that one of the most difficult things to adjust to when returning to earth from space is the fact that when you let go of something, it falls to the ground.
- If you’re a longtime football fan, you might not be surprised to learn that between 1983 and 2006, the average weight of NFL players rose by 10 percent.

Thought for the Day: “Eighty percent of married men cheat in America. The rest cheat in Europe.”
– Jackie Mason

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View from here By Albert Balesh, M.D.

Editorial edict or evict?

The argument made by marketing directors to the editorial departments of television news programs, that editorials presented at the end of newscasts cost the programs both viewers and substantial revenues, in terms of sponsors and advertisers, is a particularly cogent one. Marketing directors base their assertions on statistics that viewers either switch stations or turn televisions off entirely, when end-program editorials are presented. They are very much convinced of their opinions, and make it clear that news programs and television stations are in the business not only of presenting news, but also of making money to stay on the air. After all, no program can afford to stay on the air without both a viewer base and committed, enthusiastic sponsors who are confident that their wares can be peddled, so to speak, to the former. News programs, and the news stations and networks to which they answer, can only charge top dollar to advertisers, if the latter feel that their products receive adequate exposure to a wide and informed audience willing to pay a fair price for their services and/or products. Although marketing directors do not usually come out and say this in no uncertain terms, they imply it, along with bottom lines. They usually keep their statements to a minimum and to the point, and oftentimes convince editorial departments already cautioned by management to keep editorials brief, easy to comprehend, interesting, informative, and, most importantly, entertaining, if that is possible, in order to retain viewers long enough to the view commercials and advertising spots of the program’s sponsors.

There are some flaws in the marketing directors’ logic, however. While their statistics may and often do demonstrate a loss in viewership

during the editorial portion of news programs, that might be due to other contributing factors, which they fail to investigate sufficiently. The final portion of news programs, for example, usually herald the dinner time of most households, and coincide with mass migrations to the dinner table, at the expense of editorials that are many times lackluster in their breadth, scope, and subject matter. Furthermore, editorials are usually read or recited verbatim by newscasters who are dry in demeanor, perhaps not stylish in presentation, and who the viewers feel are not relevant to personal taste due to language, dress, mannerisms, culture, past points of view, or any number of critical, unconscious cues that make us love to love or love to hate someone, and, yet, for those reasons, keep us glued or unglued to the television screen.

Were that not enough, enter the playing field and the mindset of the viewing public of what is commonly known as “information fatigue syndrome.” In fact, the barrage of information to which we are constantly exposed carries a cost, both mentally and physically. The spotty memories, short attention spans, and drawn out, tired feelings to which many of us are subject are fertile terrain for the syndrome and its host of symptoms. The latter run the gamut from increased cardiovascular

stress, due to a rise in blood pressure, weakened vision and the Japanese prediction of nearly universal nearsightedness in the future, confusion and frustration, impaired judgement, and decreased benevolence to others due to an environmental input glut.

What marketing directors fail to realize, even though they constantly research and statistically analyze viewer numbers, is that most people today get their news from news programs and the Internet, not from traditional news media sources such as newspapers and magazines. Were they to think about that for a moment, they would come to the conclusion that news programs have captive audiences, and that all that might be required to stop the hemorrhage of viewers at the end of news programs is a simple tweaking of formats, perhaps with the addition of those audiovisuals that we are all so very fond of. Also, a simplification of the form and content of the news would go far in the quest to ease information fatigue syndrome. After all, we have become a visual society that reads less, and both editorial departments and marketing directors need to come to terms with that. Both are in the business of informing the public and getting the news out. They just approach that end-result from a different perspective. Both need one another, like a right hand needs the left, and both cannot remain in business without financially solvent, viewer-friendly news enterprises based on mutually symbiotic and beneficial relationships.

Now, while all this is well and true,

and while the moral high ground of editorial staffs often trumps the bread-and-butter of marketing departments, it must be reiterated that the news is a business in and of itself. Programs cannot survive, even with the best of intentions, if the revenues are just not there to buttress continued sustainability. Failed and failing newspapers throughout the country will attest to that fact, as every day we read or hear about decreased newspaper circulations, bankruptcies, and prestigious news and editorial staffs that have gone the way of the horse. If news programs are to fight the good fight, and if news journalists are to continue to present unbiased, informative news to a public starved to be informed but overloaded by the superfluous, then bottom lines need to be met, and that in itself is what marketing directors continue to insinuate, if not come right out and say. While we would all like to be moral and ethical in our choices, oftentimes that becomes the birthright of the rich. Without sufficient profit margins, marketing directors teach us, not only does capitalism on a wide scale suffer, but the right to inform becomes dangerously monopolized by the business “haves,” at the expense of easily manipulated news consumer bases of “have nots,” who have no real choice in their selection of news outlets or networks. End of case. End of unbiased journalism and consumer choice. End of this news story.

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Cowboys’ slide has fans, pundits scratching their heads

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Now that the Dallas Cowboys have fallen to 1-6, all the pundits are asking the same question, “has the team quit on coach Wade Phillips?”

Did you guys watch the game the Cowboys played against the Jacksonville Jaguars?

If that wasn’t proof that this team has packed it in for the season, I don’t know what is.

The decline of the Cowboys has got fans wondering how this could happen so quickly.

Wasn’t it just a couple years ago that the team won 13 games and was the favorite to go to the Super Bowl.

Wasn’t it just last year that the team won its first playoff game in over a decade.

And wasn’t this the team that was supposed to be so good that it was going to be the first to play a Super Bowl game in its home stadium.

So what in the world happened? Why are the Cowboys now among the worse teams in the league?

There seem to be many reasons. Let’s start with the offensive line. Because of injuries and age, the O-line can’t open any running lanes or keep the quarterback from being pummeled on a regular basis.

The running backs have totally forgotten how to run hard. Not only do the ball carriers lack the ability to make great runs – the one player that can run the football, Tashard Choice, spends all his time on the bench.

The special teams are not as special as they have been. How many times has the opponent

run a kickoff back deep into Dallas territory, especially when they need a big stop.

David Buehler used to kick the ball deep into the end zone with regularity forcing the opponents to start every drive from 80 yards away. Now he can’t get the ball inside the 10-yard line.

The great teams never beat themselves. With an abundance of stupid penalties and brain dead celebration infractions, the Cowboys are constantly getting in their own way.

The defense has been among the best in the league over the last few years but now finds it difficult to stop anyone. Jacksonville looked like the Oregon Ducks against the Cowboys defense last weekend.

And now we get to the coaching staff. Offensive coordinator Jason Garrett was all the rage three years ago but has turned out to be nothing but a very predictable, unimaginative play caller.

With all the offensive weapons at his disposal, Garrett should have this team leading the league in scoring but many times they look confused about the play call and can’t even get the snap count right.

Even when the Cowboys were winning I always felt the team was doing so in spite of the head coach.

Wade Phillips doesn’t exactly rate high on the energy meter. It always looks like he’s trying to figure it out but doesn’t have a clue.

Phillips has always been considered a player’s coach – which is code for a lack of discipline. Any team with as many star players as the Cowboys have needs a vocal leader that

runs the show with an iron fist.

Every player has to be at least a little scared of the head coach but Cowboys’ players don’t seem to fear Phillips at all.

And why should they? When’s the last time you heard of Wade Phillips coming down on a player?

It’s rather obvious that Phillips and Garrett have to go – and go now! How many years does it take to prove that someone isn’t the right guy for a particular job?

And now we come to the owner Jerry Jones.

Now one thing I’ll say for Jones is that he’s given the players all they could ever ask

for. They have the best indoor stadium in the world and they have all the money they could ever ask for.

But everyone knows that the team is actually run by him no matter who the coach is – and that’s a huge problem.

The day Jones decides to allow a head coach to run the team is when the Dallas Cowboys return to championship form.

So when he approaches Bill Cower or Jon Gruden or some other well-known successful former head coach – Jones had better give him complete control.

And of course there are three chances of that – zip, zilch and nada.



A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Where’s the action?

Tony Romo and Brett Favre are hurt... well, sorta.

Romo, smashed by a marauding New York Giant in the backfield, broke his left collarbone. The previous night we learned that Favre sustained two ankle fractures at the hands of Green Bay’s best. Romo is expected to miss eight weeks; Favre is expected to play for, like, ever.

Three of the Yankees’ “Core Four” are at the end of their contracts. All are expected to re-sign for about three years at a price that would probably keep Greece out of default should Brian Cashman ever find himself the head of the World Bank.

The Yankees were eliminated the same week Green Bay faced

off against Purple Judas. Dallas saw a home game Super Bowl dashed at the hands of the G-men. Ratings for both games failed to meet expectations, and I’m sure the programming brass weren’t partying in the streets when their World Series scenario went from “rematch of the huge TV markets with the best players ever” to “two teams that haven’t won anything since the Korean War.” Because who can really compete with Access Hollywood as it breaks the real stories of a sports star’s infidelity, right? That’s where the real action is.

Just as the tabloid-ready basketball season begins, these stories weigh upon my mind.

Jeter and Rivera? A shortstop hitting .270 in his worst year still makes Derek Jeter one of the best shortstops in Yankee history. Mariano Rivera says God gave him his cutter and he won’t quit until it’s taken away, so expect to see the oldest player this side of Minnie Minoso take the mound for the next decade at his statistical rate.

Romo and Favre? Time was, if a player wasn’t married, he’d be scrutinized in the press. If the player was married... well, who would want to report on a guy’s “alleged” infidelities and ruin the home front, right?

Today, it’s the opposite. There are whole websites and legions of print journalists who cannot wait to capture the next “A-Rod Meets Madonna” byline. Yes, Romo and Jessica, and Jeter and Mariah make the news, too... but isn’t it better copy when a married quarterback,

golfer or former vice president texts a masseuse?

“No.”

I think I speak for the majority of sports fans. We don’t read the gossip mags in the checkout line for a reason – namely, we don’t care. I just want to watch a good game before my baby wakes up from his nap and my wife tells me to do something. I could care less about

Favre’s camera phone; I could care less about Yankee contracts when Brian Wilson and The Machine are vying for a championship.

To do anything else would really hurt... sorta.

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

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37
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5	6	7	8
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33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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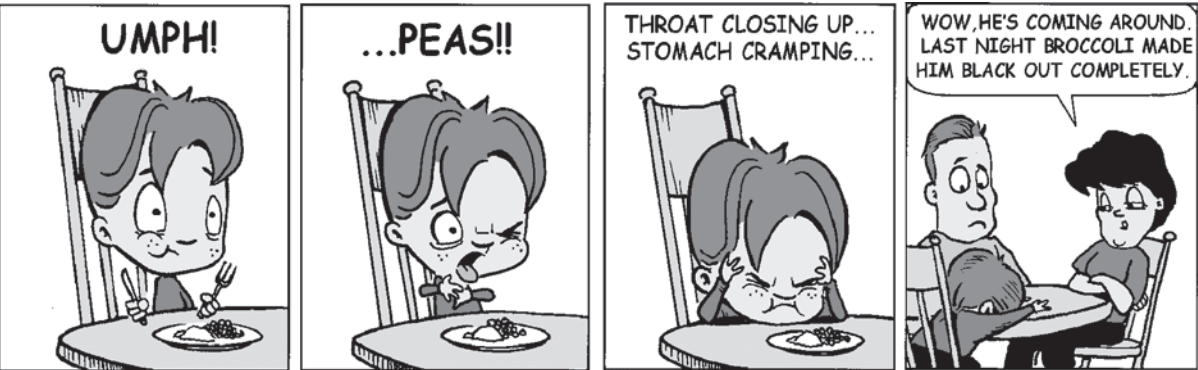
OUT ON A LIMB

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: What are triglycerides? What do they do to you? I am a 55-year-old male in good health, or so I thought. My lab tests have shown I have elevated triglycerides. My doctor believes I need to make funeral arrangements. He told me to cut down on fats. I have never eaten much fat. I don't use butter. How do I get my level down? – R.F.

Triglycerides are fats. The marbling in meat and the stuff that surrounds a cut of meat are triglycerides. In the blood, they are not solids. They're a source of energy for body cells. Excess amounts are stored as fat. Cholesterol gets all the blame for clogging heart arteries and causing heart attacks. But triglycerides bear part of the blame. A very high blood triglyceride level inflames the pancreas – pancreatitis. That happens, but is a somewhat rare event compared with other causes of pancreatitis.

The normal triglyceride reading should be less than 150 mg/dL (1.7 mmol/L). Values between 150 and 199 (1.7 to 2.2) are considered borderline high. Anything above 500 (5.6) is very high.

Weight reduction almost always brings down triglycerides. Fatty foods, fatty meats and fried foods should be eaten sparingly. Surprisingly, sugar raises triglycerides, as does immoderate alcohol drinking. Omega-3 fatty acids lower them. Fish – a good source of omega-3 fatty acids – therefore, ought to be a major part of two weekly meals. If you don't like the taste of fish, you can take omega-3 in pills.

I know people must cringe when they hear exercise mentioned, as it appears to be a panacea for every ill. A half-hour of brisk walking on most days of the week reliably lowers triglycerides. You can start more modestly, and work your way to the 30-minute goal.

If none of these lowers your triglycerides, medicines can. Lopid, Tricor and niacin are three reliable drugs.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I just received a lab slip from my doctor's office for tests that should be done before my visit. Electrolytes are circled. What are they? They sound like something to do with electricity. – M.Z.

Electrolytes are sodium, potassium, bicarbonate and chloride. They do have something to do with electricity – they carry a charge.

They're involved in a huge number of body processes, including keeping the heart beating, facilitating nerve transmission, helping muscle contractions and maintaining the balance between acids and bases.

The booklet on electrolytes describes their functions and details the things that can go wrong when one or other is deficient or excessive. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue – No. 202W, 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: I have trouble with weak ankles. I am always twisting one or the other. Which is better for me – tape or an elastic brace? – T.J.

I take you to mean you have this problem when you're jogging or running. An elastic wrap provides longer-lasting support for the ankles than tape does. Tape loses its gripping power somewhat quickly.

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

- PAILS IN COMPARISON ACROSS**

1 Evaluated

6 "Later, Luis!"

11 Start to paint

14 Reggae relative

17 Vision-related

19 __ acid

21 Samuel's teacher

22 Existed

23 Queen Anne chair?

24 Start of a remark by Mary Waldrip

27 Party animal?

28 "Othello" villain

30 " __ Miniver" ('42 film)

31 Racer Luyendyk

32 Presque __, ME

33 Where to spend a krona

37 It's on the bee's knees

39 Disconcert

42 Mosque feature

44 Washer residue

45 __ Raton, FL

46 Malice

47 Tombstone territory

51 Part 2 of remark

57 __ Tin Tin

58 From __ Z

59 Brandy bottle

60 84 Across, for one

61 Without __
- (daringly)

62 "Thanks, Robespierre!"

64 Happen

67 Wipe out

69 Furniture wood

71 Hit rock bottom

75 Ade ingredients

76 Self-confidence

78 Andes animal

79 Ham up "Hamlet"

81 Gray or Moran

82 Diva Ponselle

84 Senegal's capital

86 At once

89 Seixas of tennis

90 Part 3 of remark

95 Polished

97 English county

98 Rain hard?

99 About

100 __ store

102 First in a series

103 Perceptive

106 "Gunsmoke" star

107 Muscat's nation

109 Fawn's father

110 Calculating person?

111 Emulate Ederle

112 Spring

115 End of remark

122 Summer hummer

124 High peak

125 Geologic division

126 Ariel, for instance

127 Like some watches
- 128 Affirmative vote

129 Combat

130 Model of simplicity?

131 Dote upon
- DOWN**

1 Actress Lillian

2 Exercise aftermath

3 Rotate

4 Jeff Lynne's grp.

5 Coffee accompaniment

6 Choir member

7 Dit's cousin

8 Cola cooler

9 Giant legend

10 Round Table title

11 Labor leader

Eugene

12 Out of sorts

13 "American __" ('72 hit)

14 Eddy

15 Couric of "Today"

16 Pallid

18 Genuine

20 Telescope view

25 Keatsian crock

26 Strauss specialty

29 Something of value

32 Author Dinesen

33 Prowl

34 Poverty

35 Desire deified

36 Actress Moore

37 "Treasure Island"
- extra

38 "I'm working __"

39 Eban of Israel

40 Canvas contest

41 Henchman

43 Burly Burl

44 Bolger/Haley co-star

48 Decorative

49 Sib's kid

50 Pays to play

52 Violinist Zimbalist

53 RN's specialty

54 "I Am . . . I __" ('71 song)

55 Trigger Trigger

56 Ripped

61 Throw __ (rage)

63 North Carolina campus

64 __-Locka, FL

65 Machine part

66 Security grp.

68 Plants

69 Novelist Binchy

70 Taxing time?

72 In addition

73 Russian, for one

74 Astronaut Slayton

77 Charlotte, Emily, or Anne

80 __-jongg

83 Kruger of "High Noon"

84 Jim Morrison's group

85 With 111 Down, "Nana" star
- 87 Rock's __ Express

88 Ridge

90 Publisher Conde

91 Idyllic area

92 Actor Enriquez

93 Surrealist Tanguy

94 Tibia

96 Measure

100 Up for __ (available)

101 Dachshundlike

102 "The Magic Flute" heroine

103 Examine

104 Hackneyed

105 Florida resort

106 Gibbon or gorilla

108 Isinglass

110 Glinka's "A Life for the __"

111 See 85 Down

112 Sign of sainthood

113 Bouquet

114 Kid at court

116 Whip up a waistcoat

117 Author Levin

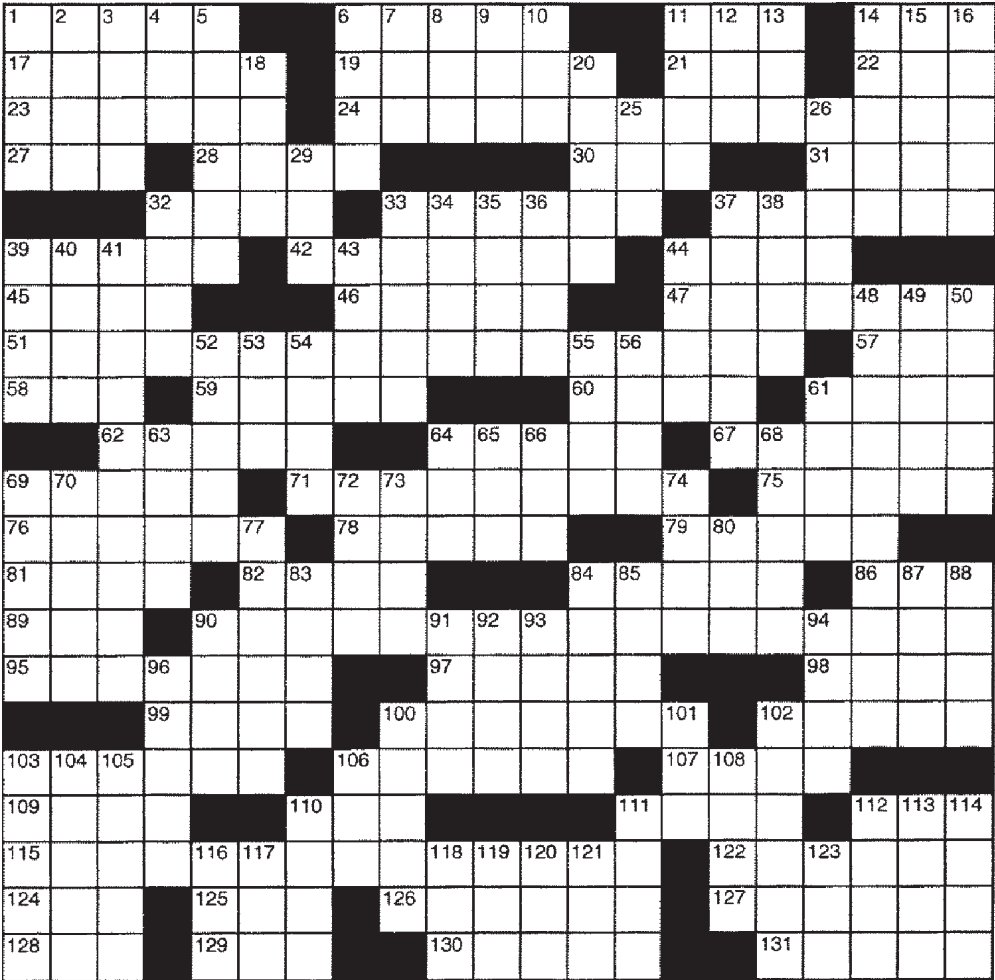
118 Good times

119 Dernier __ (latest fashion)

120 Kipling novel

121 WWII area

123 Heel



Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Spousal benefits offer increased retirement options

You may have more options than you know when it comes to Social Security benefits. Like many, you probably have given some thought to your own retirement plans. You know you can retire as early as age 62 and get reduced benefits. You know you can wait until your full retirement age and get full benefits. You also may know you can defer collecting benefits and accrue delayed retirement credits up to age 70, which will boost your payment.

But did you know that being a spouse or a widower gives you even more choices?

For example, if you have reached your full retirement age when you elect to receive benefits and are

eligible for a spouse's or ex-spouse's benefit and your own retirement benefit, you may choose to receive only spouse's benefits. In this way, you can continue to earn delayed retirement credits on your own Social Security record. You then may file for benefits on your own record later and receive a higher monthly benefit based on the effect of delayed retirement credits.

Widows and widowers have similar options. Widows and widowers can begin receiving Social Security benefits at age 60, at age 50 if they are disabled, or at any age if they are caring for the deceased worker's child who is younger than 16 or disabled and also entitled to Social Security benefits on the

deceased worker's record.

Widows and widowers can take a reduced benefit on one record and later switch to a full benefit on the other record. For example, a woman could take a reduced widow's benefit at age 60 or 62 and then switch to her full (100 percent) retirement benefit when she reaches full retirement age.

If you already are receiving reduced benefits and you then are widowed, you may want to wait until full retirement age to claim survivor's benefits. Then your benefits as a survivor will not be reduced for your age. They may be reduced, however, if your deceased

spouse took benefits early and was receiving reduced benefits.

The rules vary depending on the situation, so you should talk to a Social Security representative about the options available to you. To learn more, visit www.socialsecurity.gov or call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Q: Do disabled children qualify for benefits?

A: Yes. There are two Social Security disability programs that include disabled children. Under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, a child from birth to age 18 may receive monthly payments based on disability or blindness if:

- He or she has an impairment or combination of impairments that meet the definition of disability for adults;
- The disability began before age 22; and
- The adult child's parent worked long enough to be insured under Social Security and is receiving retirement or disability benefits or is deceased.

Under both of these programs, the child must not be doing any "substantial" work and must have a medical condition that has lasted or is expected either to last for at least 12 months or to result in death. You will find helpful links to the online forms and the steps you need to take to apply for childhood disability

benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability. At this time, you cannot complete an application for SSI childhood disability online, but you can complete the Child Disability Report Form online. You also can view the fact sheet and checklist in the Child Disability Starter Kit to see what information you will need and the kinds of questions we will ask when you have your disability interview in your local Social Security office or over the phone. The Disability Report asks for information about the child's conditions or impairments. Call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) or visit your local Social Security office right away so that you do not lose potential benefits, even if you complete the Disability Report Form online. You can view the fact sheet and checklist in the Child Disability Starter Kit to see what information you will need and the kinds of questions we will ask when you have your disability interview in your local Social Security office or over the phone. The Disability Report asks for information about the child's conditions or impairments. Call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) or visit your local Social Security office right away so that you do not lose potential benefits, even if you complete the Disability Report Form online.

Q: How do I know if I have enough work to get Social Security disability benefits?

A: To get benefits, you must have worked long enough — and recently enough — under Social Security to qualify for disability benefits. Social Security work credits are based on your total yearly wages or self-employment income. You can earn up to four credits each year. The amount needed for a credit changes from year to year. In 2010, for example, you earn one credit for each \$1,120 of wages or self-employment income. When you have earned \$4,480, you've earned your four credits for the year. The number of work credits you need to qualify for disability benefits depends on your age when you become disabled. Generally, you need 40 credits, 20 of which you earned in the last 10 years, ending with the year you become disabled. However, younger workers may qualify with fewer credits. To learn more, see our Disability Planner at www.socialsecurity.gov/dibplan/dqualify3.htm.

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.

CryptoQuip

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

Clue: Z equals M

H'Z EFYVVHOE RDSR RDY
MUQJC'V ZUVR HJJFVRQHUFV
TUCHSRQHVR MSV TQUASAJN
TSFJ AFOHUO.

Answer Page 5

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

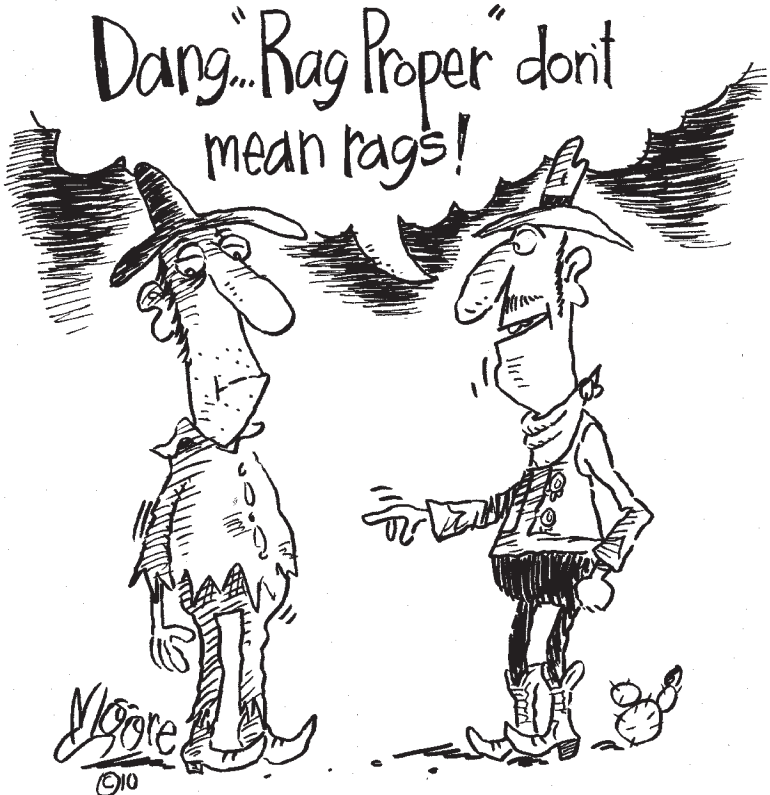
★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 5

★★★ HOO BOY!

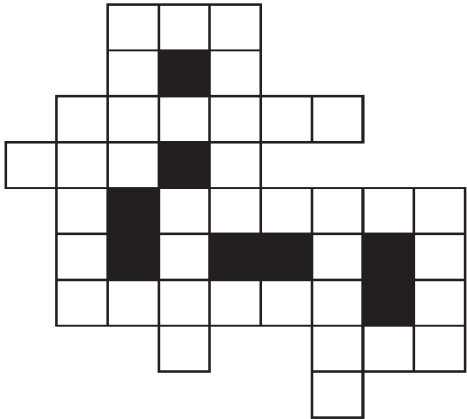
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Moore Texas by Roger Moore In old west
Cowboy lingo,Rag Proper meant dressed up.



FEAR KNIGHT
By: rj johnson
CONQUER THE WHIRLED

AMC
SECUAL
EUMSO
MOCB
COMIAT
EBE
♥LEAB
♥ROCMA
♥UBS
EULIMI
♥CURET
♥AMBL



Answer Page 5

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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