



NEWSBRIEFS

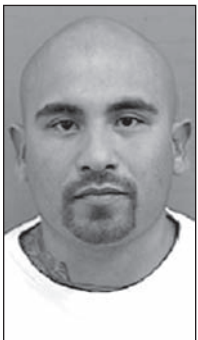
Training

Paso Del Norte Children’s Development Center offers a training that empowers parents of children with disabilities. Classes begin in January 2011 at 1101 E. Schuster Ave. in El Paso. Courses will include special education, advocacy and other related material. The courses are offered in English and Spanish. Call Delia Blanco, 544-8484 (ext. 195), for more information.

– Delia Blanco

Wanted

Andres Rafael Salas, 27, is the Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. He has a variety of aliases including Sniper, Andres Gallegos, Francisco Gallegos, Rafael Gallegos and Francisco Salas. He is 5’7” tall, weighs 200 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. He is heavily tattooed. He is wanted for a 2009 assault on his then five-month pregnant girlfriend In August of 2009, after getting in a verbal argument with his then girlfriend, Salas unlawfully, intentionally and knowingly entered her apartment located in the 7600 block of North Loop in El Paso, through a back window



Rafael Salas

and proceeded to violently assault the woman who was pregnant. Salas even shoved the woman by her stomach causing her to fall down. Salas then grabbed the woman by the neck choking her as he pinned her up against the wall. Salas then took money from the woman’s purse and other items from the apartment before fleeing the scene. He was arrested a short time later. Salas has recently failed to show for court for this incident and the 243rd District Court has issued a warrant of arrest for him. Salas is known to work in welding and has several contacts in the El Paso area. He is believed to remain in the Borderland hiding with friends or relatives. Sheriff’s officials are asking the public for any information on the whereabouts of Salas. People can contact the Sheriff’s Office (915) 546-2280 or Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension of the individuals featured.

– Deputy Jesse Tovar

It’s difficult to inspire others to accomplish what you haven’t been willing to try.

– Quips & Quotes

Farris finishes first at AAUNationals

By Don Woodyard
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Elliott Farris, 18, is a young man on the run. It is a closely monitored and regulated run and the direction is definitely up.

In more ways than one, young Farris isn’t running alone.

He runs under the watchful eye of Coach Franks Munene who was a NCAA track champion at UT El Paso under Ted Banks. Employing nutritional and wellness techniques, Munene’s basic philosophy focuses on having his young athletes work smarter, not harder.

Very much a part of the training equation are his father and mother, Dr. Kelly and Tracy Farris. Elliott is the oldest of seven children. The parents fully support him in his unique training regimen. Dr. Farris is part of the medical staff of the University Medical Center Neighborhood Health Center in Fabens. His mother home-schools Elliott who is the equivalent of a high school senior.

Munene, who took Elliott under his coaching wing only 15 months ago, likes the home-schooling approach because it allows him to work with the youth without having to counter the influence of more traditional track coaching methods commonly used in high schools. Munene approach in coaching Elliott is not unlike the potter at his wheel where he is carefully molding a fine vessel.

“He is a very coachable young man,” Munene says. “He’s going to make it. I see a lot in him.”

For Elliott’s part, he sees the results of what this coach/potter is doing for him.

“I thought I knew. I thought I was more disciplined before,” says the youth who began

running distance races back when he was 11. “I was misguided by my books. He helped me be more efficient.

“He got me going longer and harder and more often.” An important part of that training program was learning to rest more and eat more.

The parents draw praise from Munene.



– Photo by Tracy Farris

MAKING STRIDES – Elliott Farris wears his gold medal after taking first place in the 5K cross-country run in the AAU national championships in Orlando, Florida, earlier this month. A year ago he had finished only 24th in a field of 35.

“Their support makes my coaching easier.”

And, in little over a year, he has indeed made it. And he has an AAU gold medal to prove it. With a time of 16:10, he took first in a field of 41, in the recent 5K cross-country run held in the AAU national championships

See FARRIS, Page 4

Unemployed Texans will be paid benefits for past weeks

Long-term unemployed again will be eligible for unemployment benefits

By Ann Hatchitt
Special to the Courier

AUSTIN – The deadline for jobless Texans to qualify for emergency unemployment benefits has been extended to January 3, 2012. In December, Congress passed the bill which extends the filing deadline to allow long-term claimants to continue receiving unemployment benefits. President Barack Obama signed the

bill shortly after it was passed. This action did not add more weeks for those who previously exhausted all state and federal benefits.

Benefits to approximately 100,000 Texans stopped due to the previous deadline. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has been advising those claimants to continue requesting payment, so they now can receive payment. This legislation did not add benefits for those who have exhausted all their regular, Emergency Unemployment Compensation, and Extended Benefits.

Claimants who are eligible for the federally funded extensions will receive statements from TWC with their new benefit amounts. TWC began sending payments to claimants’

accounts today and will try to have most eligible claimants paid by the end of this week. Claimants should continue to request unemployment benefit payments on their scheduled day, and check their account balances throughout the week.

Claimants can find updated information on their claims at <http://ui.texasworkforce.org>, or by calling UI Tele-Serv at 1-800-558-8321 and pressing option 2. There is no need to call TWC to qualify for this extension unless claimants receive a letter telling them to call.

Emergency unemployment benefits are entirely federally funded, so Texas employers will not be charged for any claims paid on this extension.

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

VA’s new ideas

Recent news releases from the Department of Veterans Affairs describe three new pilot programs. It looks like the VA is heading in the right direction.

First: A test program has been started to reduce the time it takes to gather veterans’ medical records from civilian doctors. In this plan, a private contractor will get the records from the doctor, scan them and then send the records to the VA via the Internet. Theoretically, the contractor can get the records in seven to 10 days, while it takes the VA 40 days. Each veteran will need to sign a release for the civilian doctor to release those records.

Next up: Your own personalized benefits handbook. In another pilot program, the VA is experimenting with giving each enrolled veteran his or her own customized benefits handbook. The books will have only the information you need about your benefits, and won’t include anything that you don’t get. Included will be a list of ways to contact your local medical facility, scheduling appointments and what your responsibilities are. Only two locations are getting the handbooks now, with the rest of the country to be covered by fall 2011.

And then: In two pilot programs, the VA will try to speed benefits checks to disabled veterans. One program, Express Lane, has the staff at one regional office broken into teams to focus on claims for one disability, theoretically zipping through them quickly, while other teams work on the complex claims for more than one disability.

In the other program, Quick Pay, veterans who have sent the VA all the info it needs to process a claim will see their checks much faster.

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.

What’s up doc?

By Albert Balesh, M.D.

Ups and downs

We all have skeletons in our closets. To be human is to err. In a society, however, where appearances, not substance, bankroll a service economy that has long forgotten how to produce anything, where little white lies trigger feeding frenzies, and where the gender gap is rapidly closing, nothing rattles the bones more than perceived or real weakness, whether it be mental or physical. Every man likes to think of himself as king of his homestead, a veritable Don Juan behind four walls, and pharmaceutical companies have entered the profitable arena of male sexuality by dominating the air waves with small, magical orbs that even James Bond would be remiss to leave home without. It matters little whether martinis are shaken or stirred, as long as they are served in the company of friends who go by the colorful and exotic names of Cialis, Levitra, and Viagra. Without making light of male impotence and erectile dysfunction (ED), which can be extremely debilitating and demoralizing, their drug remedies sound more like sheiks of Araby than therapeutic aids.

So, let us embark on a quest for the truth, and perhaps we can either verify or debunk some of the so-called miracles attributed to these pills, while at the same time clarifying their indications, contraindications, mechanisms of action, and side effects. Having said that, the author concedes that boys will be boys, no matter what their ages, and I take no responsibility for creating mountains out of mole hills, or for uncaging sexual tyransauri.

ED, by definition, is the repeated inability to achieve an erection firm enough for sexual intercourse. The term is often confused with “impotence,” which describes not only erectile issues, but also problems with sexual desire, ejaculation, or orgasm. Now, although I am not a proverbial encyclopedia on the matter, I certainly know that it takes two to tango. Unfortunately, fifteen to thirty million American women are forced to dance alone, because for every 1,000 men in the U.S., 22.3 have plumbing problems that preclude dancing lessons. The numbers have increased threefold over the last ten years, and pharmaceutical companies saw a lucrative market back in 1998, when sildenafil citrate (Viagra) was first introduced. Since then, the triumvirate of Cialis, Levitra, and Viagra have rivaled Coca Cola and Budweiser as household names. After all, can a Coke cure the 5% of 40-year-old men and the 15-25% of 65-year-old men who experience ED, which, contrary to popular opinion, is not an inevitable part of the aging process?

Please excuse the pun, but let’s get to the bottom of this. Two chambers in the penis, called the corpora cavernosa and filled with smooth muscles, fibrous tissue, spaces, veins, and arteries, are the culprits. When blood is prevented from flowing into the corpora cavernosa, it takes no Isaac Newton to realize that whatever goes up must come down. Diseases such as diabetes, kidney disease, chronic alcoholism, multiple sclerosis, vascular diseases, and neurologic disease, which cause damage to the structures of the corpora cavernosa, are the perpetrators of the majority of cases of ED. Tight control of blood sugar levels goes far to reversing or checking the progression of ED in the 35-50% of diabetic men who have long ago given up “dating” the former prom queen, if you know what I mean. For them and others, smoking cessation, weight control, and regular exercise can also help.


While common medicines (blood pressure drugs, antihistamines, antidepressants, tranquilizers, appetite suppressants, and ulcer drugs), stress, anxiety, guilt, depression, and low self-esteem can also contribute to our ups and downs, the medical arsenal of cures and remedies are no less colorful and varied, ranging from psychotherapy to oral and locally injectable drugs, vacuum devices, surgically implanted devices, and vascular surgery. Some of these therapies are more suited to torture chambers, haunted houses, and Vincent Price than medical science.

I will restrict myself here, for purposes of brevity, to oral drug therapy, and, although I would have liked to volunteer as a guinea pig and tester, I must rely instead on second-hand information. Cialis, Levitra, and Viagra are what are called phosphodiesterase inhibitors. They are prescribed by physicians, who must adjust their doses from 25 mg to 100 mg per day, are taken no more than once a day, and are administered usually one hour before sexual activity. Improving the response to sexual stimulation by relaxing smooth muscle in the corpora cavernosa, they allow increased blood flow to the penis. Side effects include aching in the penis, warmth or a burning sensation in the urethra, redness of the penis due to increased blood flow, minor urethral bleeding, and a wealth of factual and fictional horror stories. The independent and unbiased users I surveyed complained of drug-associated headaches, stomachaches, tunnel vision, burst blood vessels and bloodshot eyes, and anxiety, while nonetheless enthusiastically touting the beneficial effects of oral drug therapy with an end justifies the means philosophy.

So, let the buyer beware! Opening Pandora’s box can lead to much more than simple ups and downs.

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PUBLIC NOTICE Village of Vinton, Texas

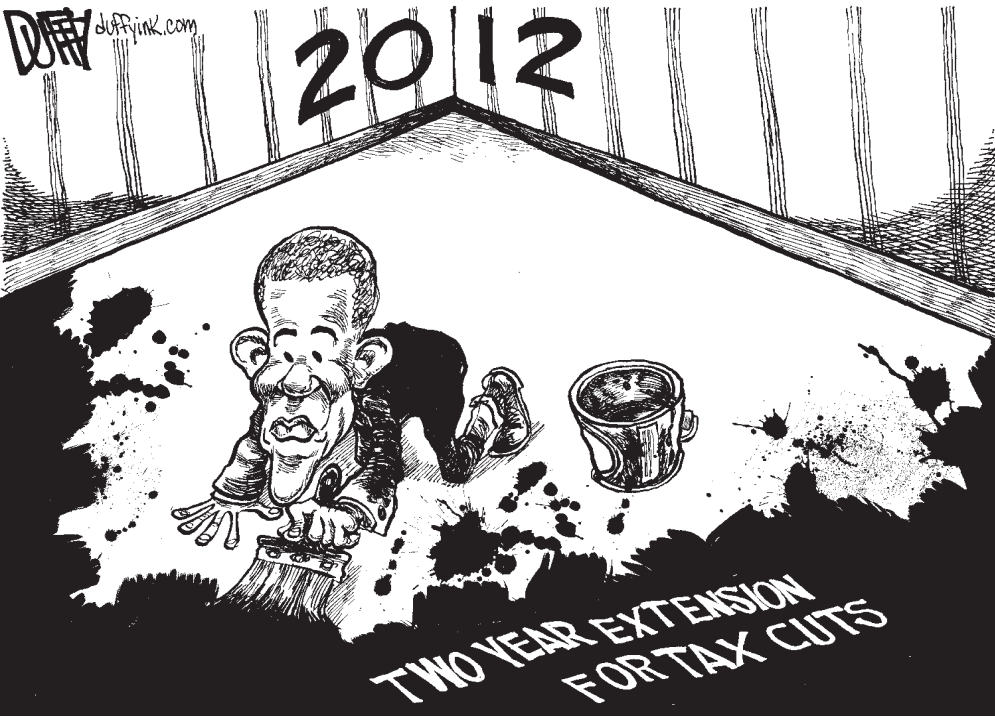
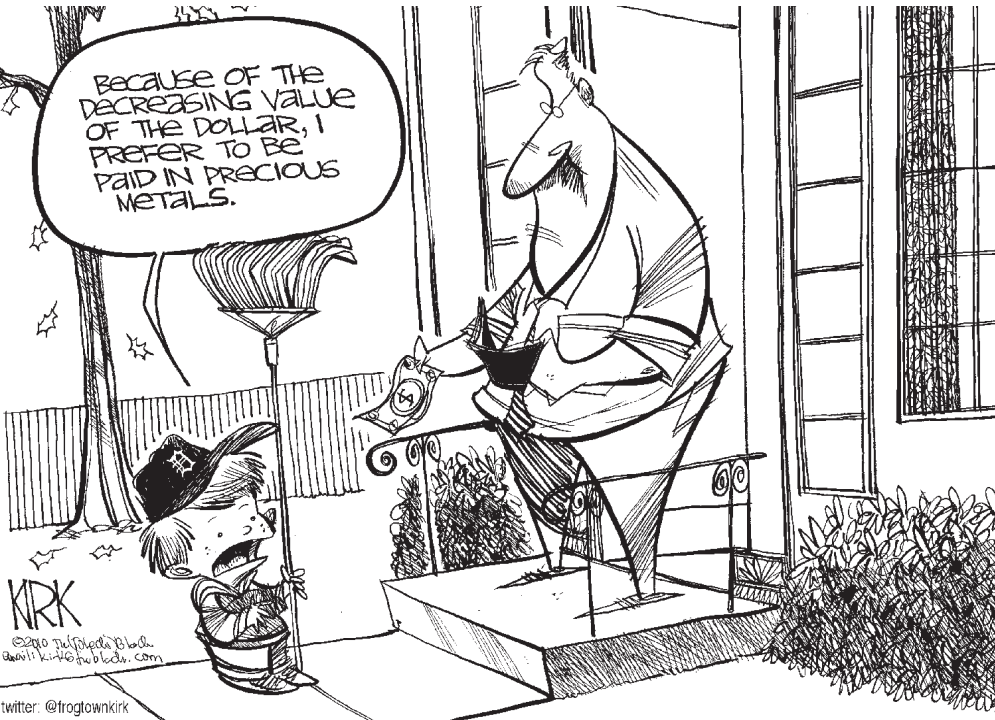
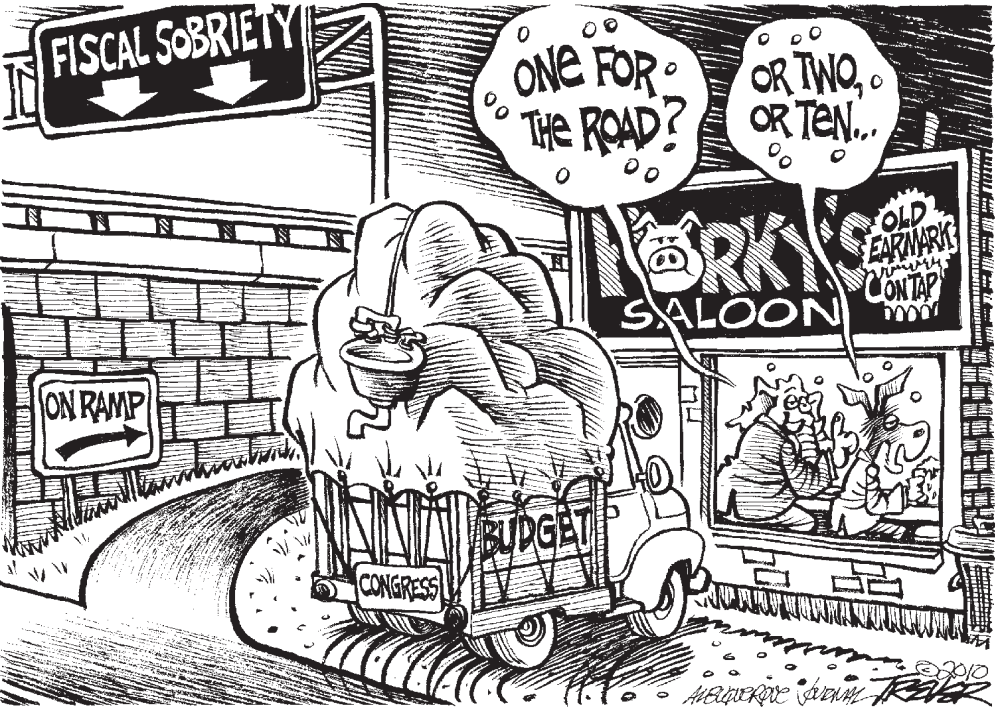
A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 6, 2011 during the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting at Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item(s):

- 1) Consider and take action on subdivision plat of Tract 3B27, WF Hagan Survey, No. 146, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas (also known as Holguin Road).
- 2) Consider and take action on subdivision plat of Tract 18A, Aurelio Delgado, No. 173, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas (corner of Kiely Rd. and Douglas Rd.).
- 3) Consider and recommend action on request for Special Permit to allow for 1 Vinton Hills Commercial Park Unit 1, Lot 8, Block 1, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas, (also known as 281 E. Vinton Rd.) for the purpose of building a church.

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

Jessica Garza
Village Clerk

WTCC: 12/30/10



Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Voting bill filed again

Hola mi gente. Perhaps the most important industry in East El Paso County is agriculture. I have seen different estimates as to how much our farmers and ranchers benefit El Paso, but it is in the multi-millions of dollars.

At the center of the huge agricultural industry is the El Paso Water Improvement District #1. The District manages the distribution of irrigation water from where the Rio Grande enters Texas to where it exits into Hudspeth County. Without the dedication and service that District provides, farmers could not produce the goods that are shipped throughout the country.

Some of you may recall a bill that I filed in 2005 that caused quite an uproar with certain other elected officials. That bill would have allowed landowners and primary users of the district services to be eligible to vote in District elections. That meant that others who live within the district could not. The argument by the local senator and state representative, both of whom will no longer be in office after January, was that the bill violated voter rights.

If you did not understand the issue completely, you might tend to agree. However, since 1973, the same issue has been argued at the U.S. Supreme Court and in state supreme courts. The Supreme Court ruled twice in 1973 that if a district is limited in its authority and if there is a disproportionate impact on landowners by the district obligations, then there are no voting rights violations if district-voting eligibility rests with landowners who utilize the irrigation services.

As a matter of fact, the same voter eligibility is legal in other counties of Texas. The water district that serves Cameron, Hidalgo and Maverick Counties has provisions defining those eligible to vote in district elections as landowners or those who utilize the services. Upon review by the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, the finding confirmed that there were no issues whatsoever with voting rights or with the disenfranchisement of minorities.

I have filed the same bill for this session and hope to pass it with the support of the entire El Paso delegation. It is important for agriculture in the county that the bill passes. The farmer's bear the entire burden of the operating cost of the district and, according to the U.S. Supreme Court, should shoulder the responsibility, exclusively, of its operation; including elections.

Imagine if you are a resident of the city of El Paso, Horizon, Socorro or Clint, that voters who live outside the cities could affect the policies in your community by being eligible to vote in municipal elections. A resident of San Elizario could get elected to the city council of Horizon and vote for issues that benefit San Elizario. That is in no way proper. That same principal should be considered with this bill.

If farmers pay the fees for the operating costs of the District, then they should be the only ones eligible to vote on District matters.

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

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was repealed this week. What the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" now does is to move the focus from accepting homosexuals themselves, to accepting the homosexual actions and lifestyle that come with it. Military members already acknowledge that there are, and always have been, homosexuals serving. The debate is finished on individual homosexuals serving in the Military and now switches to the potential housing, health care, religion, benefits, and potential social awkwardness that comes with openly homosexual Military members

For family issues, what are the repercussions of Military family housing where now alongside traditional families, you have a Military Member and their "partner" living? A traditional Military family will now share access to healthcare with "partners" of homosexual Service Members. If the Military now provides for benefits for Homosexual "unions", wouldn't this default causes every State to accept homosexual unions, since the Federal recognition would override and State law?

What would the social implications be a same sex couple participating in Military family activities and expecting the same sort of acceptance and bonding that take place with traditional Military families? What happens the first time there is a Military formal function and a same sex couple is dancing along with traditional married couples? What if the same sex couple were both Military, would they be accepted by a Military community as both Service Members AND spouses?

Would there now be different barracks for single, homosexual Service members? Would different living accommodations to separate homosexual Service Members from other Service Members of the same sex be required? If so, would not this smack of "Separate but Equal" or "Special Treatment?"

Would Military Chaplains now be required to omit any reference to homosexuality as a sin? Could the military allow for Chaplains

to speak out against the lifestyle of fellow service members in Military provided religious services? If so, what would this do to unit morale? If not, how would the Military Chaplain community, and the denominations that ordain them, feel about altering their teachings of the Bible?

Many senior members of the Services have spoken out in platitudes of how happy they are that homosexual Service Members may now serve openly, from the Secretary of Defense, to most of the Service Chiefs. Now the focus has only been on the individual homosexual Service Member, but we will have to wait and see how well the Services and individual Service Members are at accepting the homosexual lifestyle and all the changes to the Military culture that comes with it.

– Eugene R. Day
Clint, Texas

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VILLAGE OF VINTON

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY (CCN) TO PROVIDE WATER UTILITY SERVICE IN EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS



Application No. 36837-C

The Village of Vinton has filed an application to decertify a portion of CCN No. 12563 from Vinton Hills Alegre, LLC with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to provide water utility service in El Paso County.

The proposed utility service area is located approximately 15 miles north of downtown El Paso, Texas, and is **generally** bounded on the north by approximately 1,800 feet north of Vinton Rd.; on the east by Border Steel Road; on the south by Douglas Rd.; and on the west by Kiely Rd. the total area being requested includes approximately 21.4 acres and one (1) current customers. The proposed amendment affects customers *and/or* areas located in the following zip code(s):**79821**.

A copy of the proposed service area map is available at 1633 Williams Drive, Building 2, Suite 200, Georgetown, Texas 78628 or by calling **(512) 930-1317**.

A request for a public hearing must be in writing. You must state (1) your name, mailing address, and daytime telephone number; (2) the applicant’s name, application number or another recognizable reference to this application; (3) the statement, “I/we request a public hearing”; (4) a brief description of how you or the persons you represent, would be adversely affected by the granting of the application for a CCN; and (5) your proposed adjustment to the application or CCN which would satisfy your concerns and cause you to withdraw your request for a hearing.

Persons who wish to intervene or comment should write the:

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Water Supply Division
Utilities and Districts Section, MC-153
P. O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

within thirty (30) days from the date of this publication or notice. A public hearing will be held only if a legally sufficient hearing request is received or if the Commission on its own motion requests a hearing. Only those individuals who submit a written hearing request or a written request to be notified if a hearing is set will receive notice if a hearing is scheduled.

If a public hearing is requested, the Executive Director will not issue the CCN and will forward the application to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAR) for a hearing. If no settlement is reached and an evidentiary hearing is held, the SOAR will submit a recommendation to the Commission for final decision. If an evidentiary hearing is held, it will be a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar all-512-239-0200.

WTCC: 12-30-10

Bernal elected to board

By Elhiu Dominguez
Special to the Courier



Jo Anne Bernal

El Paso County Attorney Jo Anne Bernal has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Texas District and County Attorneys Association (TDCAA) for the 2011 calendar year.

The results of the election, which took place on September 2010 in South Padre Island, were just announced by the TDCAA Journal on their November-December issue.

The mission of TDCAA is “to promote the improvement of prosecution and government representation in the State of Texas, by providing educational and technical assistance to prosecutors and their staffs, by providing educational and technical assistance to the law enforcement community, and by serving as a legislative resource in criminal law and government representation matters.”

As member of the Board of Directors, El Paso County Attorney will be responsible for budget

oversight of the organization, and long term planning and execution of the plan.

Commenting on her appointment El Paso County Attorney Jo Anne Bernal said “It is important to have El Pasoans on state-wide boards and committees to ensure local concerns are heard on a statewide level.”

“I hope my participation on the board will address concerns about local prosecutorial issues, such as how to effectively prosecute juveniles who smuggle drugs across the border,” Bernal concluded.

Farris

From Page 1

in Orlando. Elliott says his personal best time at that distance is 15:36.

In contrast, this is a major improvement over the 2009 AAU championships in which Elliott finished a distant 24th in a field of 35.

Elliott is seeded fourth nationally in his age group at 3,000 meters in AAU standings.

However, Munene and the Farris family have their sights set beyond AAU to another level of gold, Olympic gold. They are looking down the road at the Olympic trials in 2012.

As a part of the goal of achieving Olympic gold, is the USA Track and Field World Cross Country Championships which will be held in February of 2011 in San Diego. The event is a qualifier, a step to making the Top Six and a spot on

the U.S. National Team.

Munene sees Elliott making the Top Six. “If he does, he may be the youngest to make it.”

Munene continues to brim with confidence about his young protégé.

Looking back to August of 2009, the coach says that he could see a God-given special talent in the boy. “I see a lot in him; I made him realize his talents.

A formula for success, in Munene’s view, is talent and hunger, a hunger to succeed. He saw that in Elliott. And another essential factor is believing in himself. All this the coach saw in him.

“He is a very disciplined person; my job is to guide him. I taught him the basics,” Munene says.

Munene basics do not include the usual long runs. It consists of a more complete package of training to include emphasis on weights, nutrition and overall wellness. Rather than arduous long runs, he stresses flexibility, quickness and efficiency in his training regimen.

On an average, he will run maybe 45-50 miles a week. Elliott says he devotes about 12 hours a week to training in one form or another. Coach gives him Friday off before a meet to make sure his body is fully rested.

Elliott’s father likes what he sees. “The coach believed in him. He knows what he’s doing. He knows how to motivate. He got Elliott to believe in himself.”

For the Farris family, the July 2012 Olympic trials beckon like a beacon beyond San Diego.



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It's the law By Texas AG Greg Abbott

Jorge Hernandez sought for child support Delinquent payments total \$59,154

The Attorney General's Child Support Division needs your help locating Child Support Evader Jorge Hernandez, one of the Most Wanted Child Support Evaders in Texas. Hernandez, who was added to the Child Support Evader's list in March 2010, owes \$59,154 for the care of five children living in El Paso.

In February 1999, Herndandez was ordered to pay \$372 a month in child support. Hernandez, who had the ability to make his payments, did not follow the judge's order to support his children financially.

By 2008, he owed more than \$43,000 in unpaid child support. An arrest warrant was issued after Hernandez failed to appear at a court hearing to compel compliance with his child support order.

Jorge Hernandez has not made a single child support payment in more than six years. By refusing to provide the financial resources his children need, Hernandez has turned his back on them and violated the law. A combination of missed payments and interest that accrues on unpaid child support adds up to more than \$59,000 in unpaid child support Hernandez now owes.

Investigators from the Attorney General's office have searched the state for Hernandez, who may be living in El Paso. He may be working for cash to avoid garnishment of wages to pay child support. Contact the Attorney General's Office at (866) EVADERS (382-3377) to report information that may lead to the arrest of Jorge Hernandez.

- Last Address: El Paso, TX
- Occupation: Auto Mechanic
- Born: 05/04/69
- Height: 5'10"
- Weight: 195 lbs.

- Color of Eyes: Brown
- Color of Hair: Black
- Race: Hispanic
- Alias: George the Mechanic;

Jorge Rivas

Texas law requires the Office of the Attorney General to publicly identify certain parents who are delinquent in the payment of child support. The Child Support Evaders are selected because they have the ability to take responsibility for their children but refuse to do so. Incarceration is the only option for parents who repeatedly ignore court orders to pay child support. The Attorney General's Office helps parents who lack the ability to pay child support by referring them to job training and employment services.

Visit the agency's website www.texasattorneygeneral.gov to find out about other Child Support Evaders, and to obtain information about the Attorney General's Child Support Division.

Maybe It Wasn't That Heavy Shopping Bag.

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

but only in the first few hours after symptoms begin. Every minute counts.

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

American Heart Association.

Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

9-1-1

HEART ATTACK & STROKE

Read the signs. Raise a flag.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

Town Of Horizon City

PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a **Regular Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting on Monday, January 17, 2011, at 6:30 p.m.,** at the Town of Horizon City, Municipal Courts/Police Department building (rear of City Hall), City Council Chambers, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding a proposed rezoning of the following property:

Rezoning application #11-001RZ of the property described as:

Property west of Darrington Road and in the 14000 block of Rudi Kuefner Drive, being a portion of section 43, block 78, TSP 3, T&P R.R. Surveys, Horizon City, El Paso County Texas, containing 60.927 acres more particularly described as:

Texland, Block 1, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10; and Block 2, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

Proposed is the following change of zoning:

Current Zoning: M-1 – Light

Industrial

Proposed Zoning: R-MHPUD – Mobile Home - Family Dwelling Planned Unit Development

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk at the above address or call 915-852-1046. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; and individuals in need of special assistance for attending the hearing are encouraged to contact the City Clerk at 915-852-1046, forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Karen Ellefson
Town Clerk
Horizon City

WTCC: 12-30-10

VILLAGE OF VINTON, TEXAS

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS & PROPOSALS FOR ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The Village of Vinton has recently received grant awards from Texas Department of Rural Affairs under its Community Development Block Grant Program. Accordingly, the Village of Vinton is seeking to contract for the following:

- 1) With a qualified individual or management firm to implement and administer the Planning & Capacity Grant.
- 2) With a qualified engineer or engineering firm registered to practice in the State of Texas to prepare all preliminary and final design plans, maps and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections for the Planning & Capacity project; and
- 3) With a qualified engineer or engineering firm registered to practice in the State of Texas to prepare all preliminary and final design plans, maps and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections for the rehabilitation of the municipal park.

In order to be considered, proposals must be submitted prior to 4:00 PM on the 13th day of January, 2011. A complete request for proposals, outlining services required by the locality, submission requirements, and evaluation criteria, has been prepared. Interested parties may obtain copies of this Request on the city's website: <http://www.vintontx.govoffice2.com> or by contacting:

Jessica Garza

DWSRF

The Village of Vinton has applied for and been granted funds from Texas Water Development Board under its Clean Water & Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. Accordingly, the Village of Vinton is seeking to contract for the following:

- 1) With a qualified engineer or engineering firm registered to practice in the State of Texas to prepare all preliminary and final design plans, maps and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections for a municipal wide waste water system; and
- 2) With a qualified engineer or engineering firm registered to practice in the State of Texas to prepare all preliminary and final design plans, maps and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections for a municipal wide water system.
- 3) With an individual or firm to provide Financial Advisory services to include strategic planning, analysis of market condition, recommendation of bond proceeds, and provide recommendations to the city for an financing or capital projects or refinancing of current debt.

4) With an individual or firm to serve as Bond Counsel to the city for any capital financing or refinancing as may be necessary.

In order to be considered, proposals must be submitted prior to 4:00 PM on the 13th day of January, 2011. A complete request for proposals, outlining services required by the locality, submission requirements, and evaluation criteria, has been prepared. Interested parties may obtain copies of this Request on the city's website: <http://www.vintontx.govoffice2.com> or by contacting:

Jessica Garza
Village of Vinton
436 Vinton Road
Vinton, TX 79821
(915)886-5104
vintonclerk@vintontx.us

The locality reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms submitting proposals, in accordance with the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards Act, and may choose to retain services for three consecutive funding cycles. The locality reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). Any contract or

contracts awarded under this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are expected to be funded in part by a loan from the TWDB. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees are or will be a party to this RFQ, or any resulting contract. The Village of Vinton is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages Historically Underutilized Businesses to submit proposal. This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "fair share policy", which includes EPA-approved "fair share goals" for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) & Women Business Enterprise (WBE) firms in the Construction, Supplies, Equipment, and Services procurement categories. EPA's policy requires that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to SMWBE's. Although EPA's policy does not mandate that the fair share goals be achieved, it does require applicants and prime contractors to demonstrate us of the six affirmative steps.

All qualified Applicants will receive consideration

DEVELOPMENT

The Village of Vinton has recently received a grant award from United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development for under its **Housing Preservation Grant**. Accordingly, the Village of Vinton is seeking to contract with a qualified professional management consultant to implement and administer the Housing Preservation Grant. In order to be considered, proposals must be submitted prior to 4:00 PM on the 13th day of January, 2011.

A complete request for proposals, outlining services required by the locality, submission requirements, and evaluation criteria, has been prepared. Interested parties may obtain copies of this Request on the city's website: <http://www.vintontx.govoffice2.com> or by contacting:

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The Village of Vinton is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages Historically Underutilized Businesses to submit proposal.

Madeleine Praino
Mayor

Date published: December 30, 2010

WTCC: 12-30-10

COUNSELING SERVICES

DAMIAN MAUREIRA, LCSW - Professional Counseling/Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family, Health insurance and FEE SCALE ACCEPTED. Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP. 657 Winn Rd. in Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment.

SELF-HELP

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

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

And, the top ten sports stories of 2010 are...

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Every year I take a little time from opening Christmas presents and stuffing my face with goodies to take a look back at the year that was in the world of sports.

This year I’m going to list what I think were the top ten stories of the 2010 sports world.

10. Olympian Killed: The beginning of the Winter Olympics were marred by the death of luger Nodar Kumaritashvili of the country of Georgia. The 21-year-old’s sled sped past a curve and flipped over the track into a concrete pillar. All this happened before the game’s opening ceremonies.

9. John Wooden Dies: The “Wizard of Westwood” passed away after a near century of winning at basketball and life. Wooden coached the UCLA Bruins to 10 NCAA championships in 12 years in the late sixties and early seventies. But even more than winning titles, his former players remember him more as a father figure and a teacher of proper values, manners and responsibility.

8. Roethlisberger’s Romps: Big Ben was very lucky to escape prison time for his incident with a college-aged female. Seems the Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback has trouble with the ladies so he has to keep them in the back of bars against their will. Roethlisberger was suspended for the first four games of the season, mainly because this was his second unsavory encounter with a lady.

7. Super Who Dat?: The New Orleans Saints, who were long considered the L.A. Clippers of the NFL, shocked the football world by winning the Super Bowl. Drew Brees and his mates upset the Indianapolis Colts in the biggest game of them all. Of course, this game took on more significance considering what the city had gone through in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

6. UConn Sets Record: The Connecticut women’s basketball program not only won another NCAA championship this year, they also broke the long-standing UCLA men’s winning streak of 88 games this season. An even more incredible fact is that UConn has won all but two games in the streak by double figures.

5. Wimbledon Marathon: I remember watching a tremendous match between Bjorn Borg and John McEnroe at Wimbledon in 1980 in which Borg outlasted Mac 18-16 in the fourth set. That was the wildest set tennis fans had ever witnessed – until 2010. Two unknown tennis players, John Isner and Nicholas Mahut, put on an unbelievable show at this year’s Wimbledon, with Isner downing Mahut 70-68 in the final set. It took 11 hours over three days to declare a winner.

4. The Butler Almost Did It: When the UTEP Miners made the NCAA Tournament back in March, everyone thought they had a great chance to advance past the opening round because all they had to do was get past tiny Butler. Not only did Butler end up clobbering the Miners, the Bulldogs made it all the way to the championship game against mighty Duke. Butler’s half court shot at the buzzer just missed going in and they lost by two points. But it was a great “little engine that could” story.

3. Tiger Loses His Bite: 2010 will go down as the first year that Tiger Woods went an entire season without recording a single

win on the PGA Tour. Of course, it was a year of many losses for Woods. He lost his wife and his kids, he lost tons of endorsement money and more importantly, he lost his intimidating feeling of invincibility.

2. Bron Bron Goes Bye Bye: LeBron James was in the news all year long, but he dominated the news cycles after announcing that he was leaving the Cleveland Cavaliers for the Miami Heat during a strange hour-long TV special. His announcement, or at least the way he did it, has made him enemy-number-one in many NBA arenas.

1. Ump Ruins Perfection: Umpire Jim Joyce made the most memorable call in years when he cost Detroit pitcher Armando Galarraga a perfect game when he called what would have been the final out of the game safe at first base. For a day, Joyce was the most hated man in America. But because Galarraga showed the kind of class rarely seen in sports and forgave Joyce, and because Joyce admitted his mistake and felt horrible because of it – it became more of a lesson that everyone could learn from.

See you next year!

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Royal blues

Come hot stove time, like any baseball fan, it’s fun to discuss the hypothetical stuff. Of course, the hot stove league talk was a lot more fun, at least for me, when you discussed players like trading cards. You have four outfielders and four legitimate starters, and we have six starters and two outfielders. Let’s make a deal.

Unfortunately, even in this

renewed era of exchange, the small-market teams are still getting plugged over. Teams like the Yankees and Red Sox aren’t letting go of their star players (and their hefty contracts all but make that a certainty) and teams like the Rays and Royals have to carefully choose which prospects and bona fide major leaguers they can afford to cull or cultivate.

This year’s free-agent starting pitchers were skimpy past Cliff Lee, so it didn’t take long before Royals ace and Cy Young award winner Zack Greinke appeared on just about every general managers’ radar. At 27, Greinke has plenty of years left in his gifted arm, and his salary wasn’t going to break anybody’s bank, either.

The Yankees, losers in the Lee love parade, made a poor decision on passing on Greinke – not surprising in the new Steinbrenner era. After pummeling their captain, Derek Jeter, in the press during

contract negotiations, Yankee GM Brian Cashman smeared Greinke by bringing up his past problems with social-anxiety disorder. Still, it’s unfathomable that in this day and age, an organization as resource rich as the Yankees could be so publicly ignorant and rude about a personality issue.

Fact is, Greinke went AWOL from the Royals organization a few years ago when he was relegated to Wichita, Kan. His craft came easy to him and the hyper-competitive Greinke simply became bored between starts. In other words, he’d have been perfect in New York.

Greinke wasn’t popular in the Royals clubhouse. He openly bragged that his favorite statistic was defense-independent pitching (DIPS) – things only a pitcher could

control – and that he wanted to play for a contender. I don’t know of any ace pitcher who isn’t a maverick on the mound, so Greinke can be forgiven for appearing less than collegial.

Still, the Royals should have gnawed off their arms before trading him. The Royals lost their only draw (Greinke was pulling in something like 11,000 in walk-up ticket sales) and sent a signal to fans that their touted future prospects will be dealt soon enough, too. But New York’s loss is Milwaukee’s gain. The Cheeseheads are in for a real treat... Greinke is the real deal.

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



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Deadline: Mondays
Please print. Send form and
payment (no cash) to:
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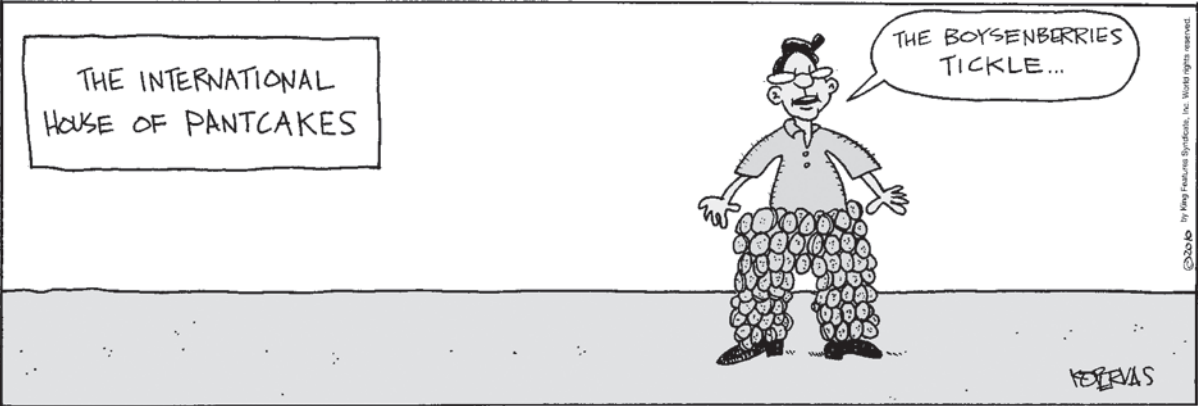
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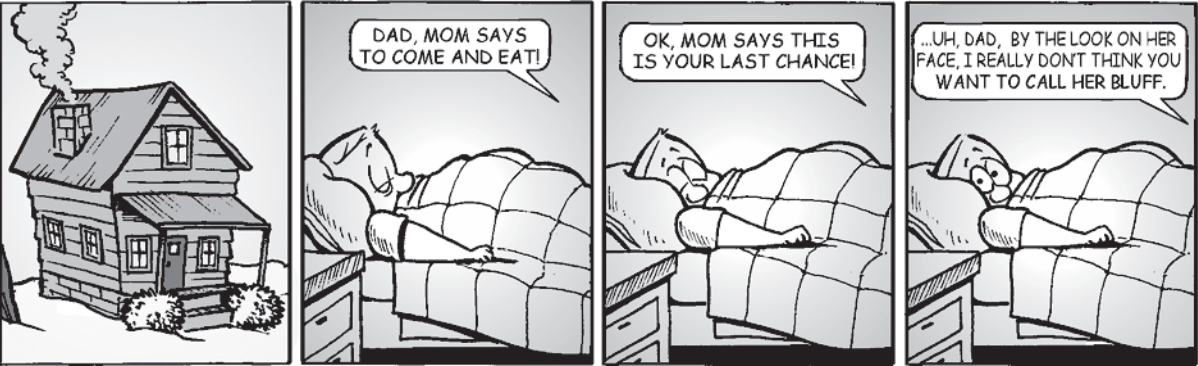
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Comix

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 the worst case of postnasal drip, and it's driving me crazy. I have a never-ending "ahem, ahem, ahem" throat-clearing. Phlegm is constantly in the back of my throat. Sometimes I clear my throat a thousand times a day. Two-thirds of my garbage is used tissues. What can be done? – J.B.

I apologize for condensing your letter. I got the idea, and I believe readers will too.

Three or four conditions account for most postnasal dripping. One is allergies. You've seen an allergist, and the only allergic reaction you demonstrated was to dust mites.

Can you leave your home for a week or so – visit a relative? If dust mites are the cause, your symptoms should subside in a new environment.

Vasomotor rhinitis is second on the list of drip causes. It's a more-or-less permanent dilation of blood vessels in the nose, and those dilated vessels leak fluid. Throat-clearing is part of the picture.

Sinusitis is another important cause. An infected sinus pours out thick mucus that drips into the back of the throat. Chronic sinusitis is best left to the treatment of an ear, nose and throat doctor. Nasal polyps provoke mucus production and dripping. An ENT doctor is equipped to deal with them, should they be found.

Medicines – beta blockers, Catapres for high blood pressure, aspirin and NSAIDs – are examples of drugs that cause the nose to leak fluid down into the throat.

Let me provide some general treatments that help most of these causes. You must stop clearing your throat. Sucking on throat lozenges or frequently sipping from a cup of hot tea with some honey in it will clear mucus from your throat and stop the irritation that throat-clearing causes.

Flush your nose with a saltwater solution three times a day, one of those times being right before bedtime. You make the solution by adding one teaspoon of salt and half a teaspoon of baking soda to a quart of boiled water. Add the ingredients when the water is still hot. When the water cools, lean over a sink and flush each nostril gently with a bulb syringe, obtainable in drugstores.

Cortisone nasal sprays – Nasarel or Rhinocort Aqua – soothe the nasal lining and reduce mucus production. If you still are afflicted after all this, do see an ear, nose and throat doctor.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: What ramifications might happen when people share drinks, table food and ice-cream cones with their dogs? They resume eating, drinking or licking the food after their pets have "sampled" it. How healthy is this? – B.A.

I wouldn't think of eating food after a family member had sampled it with his or her tongue, teeth or mouth. The thought grosses me out. Every person has a slightly different bacterial population in his mouth, and we cope well only with our own bacteria.

A dog's mouth, in spite of claims to the contrary, is not cleaner than the mouth of a human. Dog bites often become infected due to the germs in their mouths. People eating food after a dog has sampled it are asking for trouble.

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

- PAGEANTRY ACROSS**
- 1 Tiffany treasure
 - 6 Zoom
 - 10 Likely
 - 13 Send the money
 - 18 Novelist Lurie
 - 20 In the thick of
 - 21 Med. test
 - 22 Leave out
 - 23 Injudicious
 - pageant winner?
 - 26 Williams of "Happy Days"
 - 27 Crank's comment
 - 28 Facilitate a felony
 - 29 " _ homo"
 - 30 Tropical spot
 - 31 Literary lioness
 - 32 Couch kin
 - 35 Mobile homes?
 - 37 Leading man?
 - 40 One of twelve
 - 41 Musical key
 - 43 Argumentative
 - pageant winner?
 - 48 "The Raven"
 - monogram
 - 51 Cookbook phrase
 - 52 Pan-fry
 - 53 Dynamic start
 - 54 Shade of green
 - 55 Spigot
 - 56 The _ Brothers
 - 57 Trudge
 - 59 Teach on the side
 - 60 He gave us a lift
 - 62 Homeric character

- 63 Pound piece
- 64 Chic, in the '60s
- 65 Bean's brother
- 67 Nonconformist
- pageant winner?
- 70 Come up
- 74 Liotta of 127
- Across
- 75 Start fishing
- 76 Accounting abbr.
- 78 " _ Lang Syne"
- 79 Aromatic spice
- 82 Rocker
- Townshend
- 83 Unwelcome visit?
- 85 TV's "My Sister _"
- 86 Wet blanket
- 87 Stead
- 89 Sweetly, to Solti
- 90 Dallas coll.
- 91 Slangy sib
- 92 Inarticulate
- pageant winner?
- 97 French pointillist
- 99 Lose one's tail?
- 100 Cooking fat
- 101 Play ground?
- monogram
- 102 Congenital
- 104 Coalition
- 107 "Oh, woe!"
- 108 Scored, to
- Sampras
- 109 Impartial
- 110 Exec's deg.
- 113 Ditka and Douglas
- 115 Deceptive pageant winner?
- 120 "Die Fledermaus"

- DOWN**
- 1 Window part
 - 2 Director Kazan
 - 3 Desire
 - 4 Slalom curve
 - 5 Resident
 - 6 Diplomacy
 - 7 Aussie walker
 - 8 Feel awful
 - 9 Nutritional abbr.
 - 10 Clerical vestment
 - 11 Went on
 - 12 Prong
 - 13 Singer Chris
 - 14 Weather factor
 - 15 Abusive pageant winner?
 - 16 Sacred cows
 - 17 Shoe size
 - 19 Collars a crook
 - 24 Where goats gambol
 - 25 See 122 Across
 - 31 Marmaduke has two
 - 32 Positive
 - 33 Hesitater's sounds

- 34 Little one
- 35 Baseball's Martinez
- 36 Chang's sib
- 37 Explosive mixture
- 38 Expand
- 39 Neat _
- 40 Shore sight
- 42 Bach's "Bist du bei _"
- 44 Neighbor of Mex.
- 45 That is
- 46 Sonny & Cher song, e.g.
- 47 Mother Judd
- 49 Commotion
- 50 Part of MPH
- 54 Biblical region
- 57 Oater extras
- 58 Departed
- 59 Hen's hubby
- 61 Remove varnish
- 63 HS exam
- 64 Florentine family name
- 66 Holm of "Brazil"
- 68 Freeze
- 69 Actor Power
- 71 Zhivago's country
- 72 Star quality
- 73 Halley or Hillary
- 77 Soft mineral
- 79 LP replacements
- 80 Psychic Geller
- 81 Inaccurate
- pageant winner?
- 82 DDT, for instance
- 84 Narcs' org.

- 87 Italian bread?
- 88 "It _ far, far better..."
- 89 Teen title
- 92 Toby, for one
- 93 Rips to shreds
- 94 Slangy suffix
- 95 Squirrel's snack
- 96 RN's specialty
- 98 Art supporters?
- 101 Playground feature
- 103 Homes on high
- 104 Candy quantity
- 105 Ohio city
- 106 Declaim
- 107 "Diary of _ Housewife" ('70 film)
- 108 NYSE rival
- 109 Baptism site
- 110 Make money
- 111 Transvaal resident
- 112 He's Devine
- 114 Diocese
- 116 Hostelry
- 117 Society column word
- 118 Crafty critter
- 119 Heavy weight

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124							125				126					127				

Moore Texas

by Roger Moore Seagraves

carbon plant workers used to get overtime pay for showering before they went home.

GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	+		÷		3
+		+		×	
	-		×		6
÷		÷		-	
	×		-		13
2		4		11	

1 3 4 5 6 7 8 8 9

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

8				9			6	
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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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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: Are Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits subject to federal income tax?

A: No. SSI payments are not subject to federal taxes. However, if you also receive Social Security benefits, those benefits may be subject to income taxes.

Q: I receive my Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments on the first of the month. What happens when the first of the month falls on a Saturday?

A: If you receive an SSI payment on the first of the month, and the first of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, your payment should arrive on the previous banking day. For more information, visit our Schedule of Social Security Benefit Payments at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/calendar.htm. Keep the reference handy. And remember, if you have direct deposit, you'll never have to wait for your payment to arrive in your mailbox; it will be directly deposited into your account.

Q: What are some of the documents Social Security will accept as proof of identity for a child?

A: We can accept only certain documents as proof of your child's identity. An acceptable document must be current (not expired) and show your child's name, identifying information, and preferably a recent photograph. We generally can accept a non-photo identity document if it has enough information to identify the child (such as the child's name and age, date of birth, or parents' names). We prefer to see the child's U.S. passport. If that document is not available, we may accept the child's:

- Adoption decree;
- Doctor, clinic, or hospital record;
- Religious record (e.g., baptismal record);
- Daycare center or school record; or
- School identification card. (Your child may need to be present if a picture ID, such as a student ID, is presented as proof of identity.)

All documents must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents.

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: **S** equals **E**

ATK N VAYHSKHYXW LSHS

OXYLX KYH TWV IHSNZ

INOSHTSV, DYJ BYJUZ BNUU

TW WAS DSNVW BYNVW.

Answer Page 4

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FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

CONQUER THE WHIRLED

WHE

♥ NATMEL

♥ LERIF

HABT

♥ ROCTLE

LEF

MEAF

ERMAH

♥ OBR

RHAFET

DEFMU

♥ LOWF

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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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was British novelist and essayist Arthur Koestler who made the following sage observation: "The more original a discovery, the more obvious it seems afterwards."
- One might think that famed model and businesswoman Tyra Banks would rely on a plethora of pricey cosmetics and other aids – and she doubtless does. But she claims that the most important beauty product she uses is Vaseline.
- According to a 2010 study conducted in the Netherlands, symptoms of asthma can be successfully treated by riding a roller coaster.
- Singles, take note: The dating website Match.com recently conducted a survey of its members regarding their opinions on kissing, and the top turnoff (perhaps unsurprisingly) was bad breath.
- As in America, at Russian wedding receptions it's traditional for a close friend or relative to toast the new couple. In Russia, however, it's also traditional for all the guests to throw their champagne glasses on the floor after the toast; the more glasses that break, the luckier the couple will be. There's no report of the cleanup protocol afterward.
- In 1981, a German collector of World War II memorabilia paid about \$4 million for Hitler's diaries. Unfortunately for him (and his wallet), the diaries turned out to be faked.
- Many might consider it odd that the State Legislature of Oklahoma has declared the watermelon to be the official state vegetable. Yes, the watermelon. As justification for the classification, lawmakers released the following statement: "Most of us would think of it as a fruit, but it can also be considered a vegetable because it's in the same family as cucumbers and gourds."

Thought for the Day: "Whatever women do they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily this is not difficult."
– Charlotte Whitton

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