



NEWSBRIEFS

Tornillo water

Extreme cold weather and electrical problems last week caused loss of water in Tornillo. Water service was restored last Friday; however, the District is under a boil water notice until further notice.

— *Francelia Vega*

Fabens water

Water service for the community of Fabens is operating under normal conditions and water supplies remain available for El Paso County WCID #4 customers. The District's water is a stand alone system and it does not receive water from any other water utility. Daily water samples continue to be normal with no indication of contaminants. The water restrictions issued by the El Paso Water Utilities do not apply to the town of Fabens. The District did experience several freezing problems and these were taken care of immediately by District staff. Numerous reports have been received by the office and the after hours answering service regarding water leaks on personal property. For customers with leaks or frozen water lines, it is recommended that they follow safety measures by flushing all water lines before usage.

— *Geri de la Torre*

Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is assisting the El Paso Police Department in identifying and locating the person or persons responsible for a series of church burglaries, making this the "Crime of the Week." Beginning on Friday, January 7, 2011, there have been a series of overnight church burglaries that have targeted electronic equipment and musical instruments, as well as anything of value that can be taken. The first church was St. Luke's at 930 Redd Rd., but the burglars show no partiality to a particular religion. They have since hit the Church of Latter Day Saints at 7315 Bishop Flores Drive, Coronado Christian Church at 118 Belvidere, Mountain View Christian Church at 4959 Hondo Pass, Cristo Rey Catholic Church at 8011 Williamette, and a number of others. Most of the churches are in the northeast and on the Westside; but it appears that churches in Las Cruces and one in the Mission Valley are also targeted. Investigators believe that someone out there knows who the suspects are and can tell police their identities and descriptions. If you have any information at all about the identity of the persons or of the vehicle involved in these crimes, 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

See BRIEFS, Page 4



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

ENVIRO-OVERLOAD – Homebuilders and developers of this housing development in Canutillo ISD include a storm water discharge management system with their new subdivisions. EPA's new rule would require post-construction storm water discharge permitting and reporting for property owners of one or more acres of land in and around urban areas.

EPA rule would effect small land owners

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

El Paso Association of Builders (EAB) asserts that the federal government's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is being very unfair to the desert southwest when it comes to its proposed new Clean Water Act rule regarding post-construction storm water discharge.

EPA's new rule would require post-construction storm water discharge permitting and reporting for property owners of one or more acres of land in and around urban areas.

In 1990, EPA promulgated rules establishing Phase I of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) storm water program. The Phase I program requires owners of five or more acres of land to implement a storm water management program as a means to control polluted discharges. Phase I established a storm water management program to improve the nation's waterways by reducing the quantity of pollutants that storm water picks up and carries into storm sewer systems during storm events.

The proposed new Storm Water Phase II Rule extends coverage of the NPDES storm water program to small landowners but takes a slightly different approach to how the storm water management program is developed and implemented.

The Phase II rule would include developing and implementing construction site runoff control and enforcing an erosion and sediment control program for construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land (controls could include silt fences and temporary storm water detention ponds).

Also included in the proposal is a runoff control and enforcement program to address discharges of post-construction storm water runoff from new development and

redevelopment areas. Applicable controls could include preventative actions such as protecting sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands) or the use of structural methods such as grassed swales or porous pavement.

EPA officials claim that the expanded storm water program proposal addresses concerns about long term storm water discharges from developed sites, such as subdivisions, roadways, and commercial buildings or shopping centers that can significantly alter the hydrology of a site and can have a negative impact on receiving waterways.

El Paso homebuilder Bobby Bowling IV disagrees with the expanded program proposal and is trying to convince EPA officials that the desert southwest should be exempt.

Bowling, as an EAB member and a small business representative for the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), participated recently in the Small Business Representative Regulatory Fairness Act (SBREFA) panel discussions that reviewed the proposed new storm water rule.

Under SBREFA, federal agencies must involve small businesses in the development of proposed rules through Small Business Advocacy Review Panels. SBREFA is designed to give small businesses assistance in understanding and complying with regulations and more of a voice in the development of new regulations.

"El Paso and other desert communities should be exempt from these portions of the Clean Water Act (CWA) because all rainfall either evaporates or percolates into the ground far before it ever reaches a body of water. Plus, a long time ago, developers here began building retention ponds to alleviate natural flooding patterns, so even less storm water is flowing here after a rain event," stated Bowling in EAB's recent Builders Outlook newsletter.

"It's crazy that our industry is building

and developing incredibly eco-friendly communities and infrastructure, yet the EPA keeps coming back to our industry to increase our costs of development and now, just simple land ownership, for an incredibly insignificant diminishing return for the environment," Bowling stated.

During the SBREFA panel review hearings, "I showed (EPA officials) an example for a 10-acre apartment project where their additional rule could add as much as a million dollars to the cost of the project. They kept mentioning that green jobs could be added, but I fail to see how any jobs can come from a project that is infeasible and won't be done," Bowling stated.

Bowling stated that also during the SBREFA hearings, several small business entity representatives voiced their concerns over the fact that the EPA continues to seek new rules limiting developers while continuing to ignore the farming and other unregulated communities.

According to EAB's newsletter, urban storm water discharge that includes storm water runoff from all development activity accounts for less than ten per cent of the problem. Other pollutants that make their way to the nation's waterways come from industrial and other development activities outside urban areas, but the vast majority comes from farms, which are unregulated and exempt from the CWA.

"Every property owner in the United States should be concerned about this rule. It could potentially burden cities with the task of spending billions of dollars to comply with an EPA rule that would do little or nothing to protect the nation's water bodies in some parts of the country," Bowling stated.

The formal SBREFA report is expected to be completed by March and a proposed rule from EPA would then be promulgated and published for public comment. The final rule would come in late 2011 or early 2012.

When you take responsibility on your shoulders there is not much room left for chips.

— Quips & Quotes

What’s up doc?

By Albert Balesh, M.D.

Articular attack

Like a toy in the attic, collecting dust until polished and thrown back into the mainstream of the temple’s hallowed halls, rheumatoid arthritis (RA) subtracts luster and adds exquisite pain to muscles and joints long ignored in a restful and tranquil hibernation. Dormancy breeds contentment, especially in the fairer sex, until some as yet unknown trigger unleashes a symmetric articular maelstrom that rivals a perfect storm and leaves its hapless wayfarers cursing the day they were born. In short, RA is no fun, and its countless victims, currently estimated at 0.8% of the U.S. population with three times more women than men suffering its ravages, to second that attestation. Most cases, 80% in fact, develop between the ages of 35 and 50 years of age, with the onslaught attributed to a possible infectious agent such as the measles virus or the virus causing infectious mononucleosis.

Whoever or whatever the culprit initiating the skirmish, the ebb and flow of battle results in devastation of joint linings and their associated blood vessels, along with an unhealthy dose of inflammatory cell invasion and edema. The latter cells release a barrage of activated substances and destructive enzymes that are up to no good, degrading the joints even further. If that were not enough, reserves are called up from the rear to discharge a battery of antibodies, which attack self-proteins called antigens that have no other fault than being in the right articular zone of combat at the wrong time.

Hostilities begin with vague symptoms of fatigue, loss of appetite, and muscle, bone, and joint pain, that gradually progress over the course of weeks or months to a more specific chain of cataclysmic events. Several joints, especially those of the hands, wrists, knees, and feet become involved symmetrically, with no prisoners taken in that 10% of the combatants who wage an acute and losing battle against fever, enlarged lymph nodes, and a spleen that roars its resentment to its increased girth. Pain in affected joints, aggravated by movement, is the alarm sounded and call to arms, with morning stiffness of greater than an hour duration interdicting immediate

obedience to the bugle’s blare.

Inflamed joints are held in a flexed posture, resembling a “Z,” the neck of a swan, or a buttonhole, in order to maximize their volumes and consequently minimize the hurt. Laboratory surveillance, counterintelligence, and a sending in of skirmishers to scout the terrain and lay of the land do little to extend the beachhead, as 5% of healthy recruits demonstrate rheumatoid factor, an autoantibody whose presence is not necessarily specific enough to warrant capitulation. In fact, RA may be mimicked or camouflaged by any number of conditions harboring rheumatoid factor; those being lupus, hepatitis B, tuberculosis, leprosy, syphilis, chronic liver disease, malaria, infectious mononucleosis, bacterial endocarditis, and a host of others all to ready to swing into action.

So, what to do? What weaponry in the possession of a modern-day bombardier or rheumatologist can slow the progression of disease, while at the same time lessening its cost in blood and treasure? Obviously, exercise directed at maintaining muscle strength and joint mobility is the first line of defense and stopgap measure to halt RA invasion. When lines are overrun, bigger guns are called to bear on troop movements of autoantibodies that if left to rape, pillage, plunder, and otherwise wreak havoc on the articular landscape, will inevitably result in disabilities so grave as to compromise daily activities and quality of life.

Enter the fray, low-dose anti-inflammatory steroids, and, if need be, disease modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs) such as methotrexate and sulfasalazine, to temper RA destructive capacity. Symptom mitigation and pain relief via nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), simple analgesics, and cyclooxygenase (COX) inhibitors (or Coxibs) may additionally be drafted into service. Finally, when all else fails, a resort to nukes, in the form of potent biologics, is authorized to control signs and symptoms of RA, slow damage to joints, and limit disability, all at the expense of a crippled defense budget.

Make no bones about it. When the dogs of war are unleashed by RA on unsuspecting joints, their bites are inevitable, at the cost of sometimes muted barks.

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Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Fiduciaries:
The big
money grab
or fiduciary
abuse

A Texas couple, one of them an attorney, was indicted last summer for stealing more than \$2 million from veterans they were sworn to protect. They’d been declared fiduciaries and legal guardians for veterans who’d been deemed incompetent to handle their own affairs. According to the 26-count indictment, this couple had been at it since 2003.

But what of veterans who are declared incompetent without any due process whatsoever?

The Department of Veterans Affairs took a married couple who didn’t need money-managing help, said the veteran was 100 percent disabled with PTSD and declared him incompetent and in need of a fiduciary representative. With the stroke of a pen, this couple is no longer capable of making decisions about their money?

In another case, a son (with a power of attorney) had been handling his veteran father’s money for many years. Suddenly, a doctor said the veteran was incompetent and the VA assigned an attorney to manage his money. The attorney grabbed the money in the account and put it into another one, which the son has no access to. All this without a hearing, without input from family and without the knowledge of the veteran.

The abuses go on and on, they include:


- Veterans forced to accept a fiduciary situation they didn’t ask for, don’t want and weren’t told about in advance.
- Veterans who have their utilities cut off because the fiduciary hasn’t paid the bills on time.
- Spouse fiduciaries who have been sued because the VA has appointed two fiduciaries, and the other one wants the money.

The Veterans Administration Office of the Inspector General (VAOIG) is great at nabbing those who steal from veterans, but what about the VA itself forcing veterans into fiduciary relationships against their will? When will it look at that?

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) 2011 King Features Synd., Inc.

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Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The Courier reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.


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Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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\$10 for 25 words, \$15 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.


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Town of Horizon City

Public Notice

The Town of Horizon City will conduct an Election on Saturday, May 14, 2011 for the purpose of filling the position of Mayor and City Council Members, Places 3, 5 and 7, for full two (2) year terms; and

Approve or disapprove a referendum to establish an Economic Development Corporation, Type B authorized under Chapter 501, 502, and 504 of the Local Government Code.

Qualified persons interested may apply for this positions on the Town of Horizon City Election ballot beginning February 12, 2011 through March 14, 2011 at 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, TX, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WTCC: 02-10-11

PUBLIC NOTICE

El Paso County Water Control
& Improvement District No. 4

El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4 will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the Fabens ISD Rio Valle Women’s Club, 521 Mike Maros, Fabens, Texas to receive input from the citizens on the water and wastewater rate study presented by Economists.com. All interested ratepayers are encouraged to attend.

Citizens unable to attend may submit their views and proposals to the El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4, P.O. Box 3880, Fabens, Texas 79838-3880. Individuals with disabilities or that require auxiliary aids and wish to attend this meeting should contact the District Office at least 2 days before the meeting at (915) 764-2212 to arrange for assistance.

WTCC: 02/10/11



Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Great shape?

Hola mi gente. February 8th was the day that the governor came to tell us how great the state was doing. In his traditional State of the State Address, many of the members on the House floor were quite surprised to find out we are doing really good.

Those of you who have lost your jobs, your homes, your health and retirement benefits, listen to our state leader and realize: the state of the state is strong.

I apologize for the sarcasm but the pep talk did not do anything to change my mind that times may be getting better, but we are not in great shape nor is the state of the state strong. The only measure of how good our state is doing is from the local communities. Sure, the state is not going to raise taxes, but neither is it going to relieve the costs of mandates that the state won't fund completely.

One of the major pluses that indicated a strong state of the state was data that Texas added more jobs in 2010 than any other state. That might be true but the unemployment number was rather static during the year. In fact it went up before it went down.

With education funding by the state going way down, it was estimated that the state would lose 100,000 jobs from that sector alone. If you figure that those hundred thousand just spend \$10,000 less next year, that comes out to a hefty billion dollars less commerce in the state.

The rule of thumb on the benefits of spending is that for each dollar spent, it rolls over three times; or up to seven times

through the economy. In other words, your dollar creates between three and seven more times that the dollar gets spent. The math is easy to figure the impact from the loss of 100,000 jobs in education.

Local economies are also going to suffer from the massive cuts to government-assisted healthcare. From fewer seniors being assisted, to fewer children on Chip, to fewer mental health treatments, the local communities will have higher costs. I hope emergency room doctors don't decide to relocate to other states because their load increased so much.

The governor did mention two things that might just make a difference. One, he did not want the legislature to touch his Enterprise Fund or Emerging Technology Fund because other states want to copy it. Most folks think those programs are nothing more than corporate welfare.

He also wants colleges and universities to create a bachelor's degree program that will only cost \$10,000 total. With costs going up every year, you can expect the 10 grand will buy less annually. There goes the Teir One University opportunities for universities like UTEP.

I often meet many of the constituents who live in District 75 at restaurants or social events. They share with me the state of the state that they know. It might be time for the governor to have lunch or attend a PTO meeting with some of you all.

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

YOUR "TEXAS CORRECT" 2011 CALENDAR IS READY FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF TEXANS AND THE EDIFICATION OF YANKEES AND OTHER FOREIGNERS .

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.

\$8.95 shipping/tax included

MARCH 2011

WHO A 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.

Quantity discounts available!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30	31				

MARCH 2011

Get a hundred or so with your company info! Email for special pricing.

There is a Texas law STILL on the books that mandates no one carry pliers that COULD cut a fence.

1924: Charles Lindbergh starts pilot training at Brooks Field in San Antonio.

1908: Movie actress Joan Crawford is born in San Antonio.

1955: Football player Earl Campbell is born in Tyler.

1868: Jennie Chisholm, famous trailblazer, dies of food poisoning in Oklahoma.

1878: State's first all-black college opens (Alta Vista).

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Tornillo Independent School District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended August 31, 2010

Data Control Codes		10 General Fund	ESEA I, A ARRA Improving Basic Program	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:					
5700	Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 702,937	\$ -	\$ 155,908	\$ 858,845
5800	State Program Revenues	9,357,388	-	1,351,772	10,709,160
5900	Federal Program Revenues	778,064	466,536	1,844,316	3,088,916
5020	Total Revenues	10,838,389	466,536	3,351,996	14,656,921
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0011	Instruction	4,415,728	466,536	2,044,740	6,927,004
0012	Instructional Resources and Media Services	92,811	-	79,152	171,963
0013	Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	41,705	-	76,842	118,547
0021	Instructional Leadership	276,213	-	-	276,213
0023	School Leadership	598,587	-	-	598,587
0031	Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	66,081	-	-	66,081
0033	Health Services	101,388	-	4,666	106,054
0034	Student (Pupil) Transportation	402,635	-	-	402,635
0035	Food Services	691,434	-	23,749	715,183
0036	Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	351,640	-	-	351,640
0041	General Administration	794,826	-	-	794,826
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,265,715	-	-	1,265,715
0052	Security and Monitoring Services	142,361	-	-	142,361
0053	Data Processing Services	325,769	-	15,268	341,037
0061	Community Services	16,615	-	44,148	60,763
Debt Service:					
0071	Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	52,000	-	407,535	459,535
0072	Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	46,475	-	645,934	692,409
0073	Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	-	1,922	1,922
Capital Outlay:					
0081	Facilities Aquisition and Construction	752,911	-	751,077	1,503,988
6030	Total Expenditures	10,434,894	466,536	4,095,033	14,996,463
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	403,495	-	(743,037)	(339,542)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):					
7912	Sale of Real and Personal Property	155,000	-	-	155,000
7915	Transfers In	460,027	-	948,542	1,408,569
8911	Transfers Out (Use)	(1,382,008)	-	(26,561)	(1,408,569)
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(766,981)	-	921,981	155,000
1200	Net Change in Fund Balances	(363,486)	-	178,944	(184,542)
0100	Fund Balance – September 1 (Beginning)	2,747,337	-	(72,273)	2,675,064
3000	Fund Balance – August 31 (Ending)	\$ 2,383,851	\$ -	\$ 106,671	\$ 2,490,522

Briefs

From Page 1

reward up to \$1,000.

– James Klaes

Scam alert

El Paso Area Teachers Federal Credit Union (TFCU) members and consumers alike have been receiving telephone calls advising them that their VISA check card is locked and to re-activate it they must press “1.” The system then asks you to enter your VISA check card number. This call is coming from area codes: 212, 701,702, 954, 919, and others. *This is a scam.* Please do not release any personal information or input any account numbers. This is only one of the many scams that exist today. Never give out your personal or account information to anyone calling you by phone, emailing or texting you. TFCU does not call you on either your home or cell phone, or email you to ask for your account numbers or any other personal information. Should you receive a phone call or email requesting such information, simply hang up or delete the email.

Hot checks

Hot check writers will have one additional week to clear up their money issues due to the weather. The new dates are:
• Friday, Feb. 11, 2011 to avoid having your name published; and
• Friday, Feb. 25, 2011 to avoid arrest during an upcoming countywide warrant round up. People that pay by the deadlines will save money by not having to pay additional fees such as court costs, attorney fees, and the cost of posting a bond. For more information regarding hot check payments and balances please contact the El Paso County Attorney’s Office Hot Check Unit at 546-2051 or visit the El Paso County Attorney’s Office web site at: www.epcounty.com/CA.
– Elhiu Dominguez



Click It or Ticket. Even in the back seat.

Buckle up every rider for every trip.

State law now requires both adults and children to be buckled up in the front or back seat. A child less than 8 years old, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in a child safety seat. Most children between 4 and 8 years old will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Fines range from \$25 to \$250, plus court costs. TexasClickItorTicket.com



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CryptoQuip
Answer

If a very sexy person made explosives, shouldn't you refer to her as a bombshell?

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×		+		-	
9	+	6	÷	5	3
÷		×		×	
3	×	3	+	8	17
6		21		16	

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was Irish author Oscar Wilde who made the following sage observation: “There are only two kinds of people who are really fascinating: people who know absolutely everything, and people who know absolutely nothing.”
- The sun is one million times the size of the earth.
- Coffee was first discovered around 1000 A.D. by Arabs. At the time, it was used strictly for medicinal or religious purposes.
- Harper Lee’s iconic novel “To Kill a Mockingbird” celebrated the 50th anniversary of its publication last year. The film will celebrate its anniversary next year, marking 50 years since Gregory Peck portrayed Atticus Finch, whom the American Film Institute named the greatest movie hero of the 20th century. Harper Lee was so impressed with Gregory Peck’s performance, in fact, that she gave the actor her deceased father’s pocket watch. Peck, however, lost it.
- Before the roller coaster was invented, some inspired entrepreneur began building deliberately undulating tracks for cars. Early thrill-seekers would pay a fee to drive on them.
- Those who calculate such things say that the odds of the same number coming out on top in eight successive rolls of a six-sided die are 1 in 1,679,616.
- Fifth-century conqueror Attila the Hun died on his wedding night, though it’s unclear from the records whether he died from internal bleeding caused by too much drinking or was murdered by his bride.

• If you’re like 24 percent of women in the United States, you shave every day.

• In 1978, the endangered Hawaiian bird the palila was named as the plaintiff in a lawsuit. In Palila v. Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, the bird won.

Thought for the Day: “The saying ‘Getting there is half the fun’ became obsolete with the advent of commercial airlines.”

– Henry J. Tillman

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Classified Ads

LEGALS

Village of Vinton, Texas



Invitation to Bid

The Village of Vinton, Texas has received funding through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the Owner Occupied HOME Program and will be receiving bids for the rehabilitation of (1) residential unit and reconstruction of (3) residential units in the Village of Vinton, Texas. Bid Packets will be available at the city’s Administration Building as of February 10, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) until 2:00 p.m. (local time) on February 24, 2011, at the Village of Vinton Administration Building located at 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas 79821. All bid submittals must be sealed in an envelope and should be plainly marked in the lower left corner; “IFB FOR TDHCA C O N T R A C T #1001172, ATTN: VILAGE CLERK” and Clearly marked Bid Project Address, Company Name, and return address on the envelope. Bidder may submit bid for anyone or all of the units to be assisted under project.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud on February 24, 2011 at the Village of Vinton Administration Building located at 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton, Texas 79821 at 2:00 p.m. (local time).

The Contractor must be approved contractors with the State of Texas, registered with the Village of Vinton, be insured and bonded. Rehabilitation/ Construction must comply with the International Residential Code, Texas Minimum Construction Standards and Accessibility Requirements in accordance with Texas Government Code 2306.514.

The Village of Vinton, Texas reserves the right to reject any or all Bids or to waive any informality in the bidding. The

Village of Vinton complies with all federal, state and local procurement regulations.

The Village of Vinton will award the bid to the lowest responsive bidder.

The Village of Vinton promotes Fair Housing/ Affirmative Action and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WTCC: 02-10-11

Village of Vinton, Texas

Request for Qualifications

Design-Build Services

The Village of Vinton will be receiving Qualification Statements from companies interested in providing Design-Build services for the construction of a Multi-purpose Center for the Village of Vinton, Texas.

The site is located on Vinton Road across from the Vinton Administration Offices. The new Multi-purpose Center is estimated to be approximately 25,000 square feet with an anticipated budget of approximately \$4 million.

The selected Design-Builder will be responsible for all architectural planning and design, cost estimating, scheduling, value engineering, constructability review during the design and construction document phases, preparation of all necessary design, bidding and construction documents with required architect and engineer seals, and the bonding, construction and warranty of the entire project.

Qualifications must be received no later than 2 p.m. on Thursday, February 24th, 2011, at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821, Attention: Ms. Jessica Garza, Village Clerk.

The Village of Vinton reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals or waive any irregularities. Interested firms shall submit three (3) copies of the information requested in the attached questionnaire in the sequence and

format prescribed. Evaluation criteria will be based on the information provided, including experience, references, and the best value for the Village of Vinton. An initial evaluation of the responses to the RFQ will be made. At that time, a single proposer may be selected with whom to negotiate a Design-Build Agreement or up to three (3) firms may be invited to interview. Final agreement is subject to approval by the Village Council of the Village of Vinton.

For questions regarding this RFQ, please contact Ms. Jessica Garza, Village Clerk at the above address or phone 915-886-5104.

WTCC: 02-10-11

VILLAGE OF VINTON, TEXAS

INVATATION TO BID

CITY HALL RENOVATION PROJECT BID 01-11

S e p a r a t e competitive sealed proposals for the construction of:

The Project includes a major m e c h a n i c a l system upgrade with the required attendant electrical work, some additional lighting, systems controls, and installation of both power outlets and data/ telephone ports. It also includes demolition and patching of some existing interior gypsum board partitions as well as the installation of new partitions, new ADA/TAS compliant male and female toilet facilities with finishes and

accessories, relocation of existing cabinets and installation of new cabinets and countertops. Install new exterior door and window frames with insulated glazing in existing masonry walls. Remove existing roofing, flashing, and counter-flashing and install new fully adhered thermoplastic roofing system. Remove and protect the existing suspended lay-in ceiling system and extend as necessary into remodeled spaces to match. Patch existing floor coverings to match as required and/or indicated.

will be received by Jessica Garza, City Secretary at the office The Village of Vinton, 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821 until 2:00 pm (Local Time) on Thursday February 24, 2011 and then said office publicly opened and read aloud. The Contract Documents may be examined at the Offices of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., 810 E. Yandell, El Paso, TX. 79902 upon refundable payment of \$35.00 for each set February 10, 2011. The project is being funded by the Village of Vinton Tax Bond Series 2010.

C o n t r a c t documents may be examined/ obtained at the office of PARKHILL, SMITH & COOPER, INC., (ARCHITECT), 810 East Yandell, El Paso, Texas, 79902, (915) 533-6811. A non-refundable payment of \$20.00 in cash or check payable to Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., will be required for each compact disc (CD) of Contract

D o c u m e n t s . Documents may be downloaded from the Architects. Newforma® Info Exchange Website. Hard copy documents will not be offered by the Owner or Architect.

A pre-bid meeting will not be held.

Each Proposal shall be submitted in accordance with the Instructions to Proposers and be accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the amount proposed, by an acceptable bid surety. A certified cashier’s check or bank draft payable to the Village of Vinton may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

The Successful Bidder must furnish a 100 percent Performance Bond and a 100 percent Payment Bond, in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders and the General Conditions.

By submission of the proposal, Proposer fully understands the requirements

of the Contract Documents and agrees to comply with all requirements thereof.

Attention is called to the fact that the Contractor on this project must comply with the provisions of the Labor Standards contained in the specifications and must pay not less than the prevailing wage rates, as issued by El Paso County, Texas. The successful Proposer must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The Village of Vinton, Texas reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals or to waive any informality in the Proposals.

All contractors/ subcontractors who are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any

activity in part or in full under this project.

Proposals may be held by the Architect for a period not to exceed 45-days from the date of the Bid Opening for the purpose of reviewing the Proposals and investigating the Proposer’s qualifications, prior to awarding the Contract.

The Village of Vinton, Texas, is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer. Small, Minority and Female Owned firms are encouraged to submit Proposals for this project.

VINTON, TEXAS
M A D E L E I N E
P R A I N O
MAYOR

WTCC: 02-10-11

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WTCC: 01-13-11

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Lower Valley Water District NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lower Valley Water District would like to host a Public Hearing on Thursday, March 10, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at the Lower Valley Water District’s main offices, located at 1557 FM 1110 Rd., Clint, TX. 79836. The proposed project will involve water upgrade lines for the Town of Clint, Celum Road, Alameda water line extension, and Leisure Valley water distribution upgrade. The estimated cost of the project is about \$10.2 million dollars. The typical connection fee to connect to this water system will be approximately \$1,700.00 for a new ¾-inch residential water service. The project is currently under Environmental Review and the District has prepared an Environmental Information Document (EID) that would have more detailed information. You can find the EID at the Town of Clint, Town Hall, located at 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, TX. 79836 and at the Lower Valley Water District’s main offices (address mentioned above). One of the purposes of this hearing is to discuss the potential environmental impacts of the project and alternatives to it. Project will be funded by the Texas Water Development Board, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program.

The Citizens are urged to attend and state their consents and objections at this meeting. A project summary will be outlined at this time. If you have any questions regarding this meeting or are interested in the project but unable to attend contact the Engineering Department at (915) 791-4480.

WTCC: 02-10-11

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Texas vs. the Nation All-Star Game: The clock is winding down

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Well how about that big game last weekend.

No, I don't mean the Super Bowl, I'm talking about that game they used to play in El Paso but they moved to San Antonio - the Texas vs. the Nation All-Star game.

The Texas team held on in the final moments to defeat the Nation 13-7 – but that wasn't the real story.

The real story happened in the stands, or more appropriately – it didn't happen in the stands.

You see, the game's promoter, Kenny Hansmire started the game in El Paso and originally declared that it would be here for years to come.

I don't think Mr. Hansmire is very good at math, because his interpretation of the term "be here for years to come," means only four short years.

From 2007 to 2010, the game was played in the Sun Bowl and drew a high of over 42,000

fans in 2009.

In fact, in the four years the game was held in the Sun Bowl, Texas vs. the Nation drew a total of 116,777. That comes out to an average of 29,194 fans per game.

That's quite a bit for a college all-star game that is not called the Senior Bowl.

But last year's game drew 26,041 fans, a big disappointment for Hansmire, who stood on the field at the end of the game looking a lot like my son when he was three years old and wasn't able to get the toy he saw in the grocery store aisle.

I think all you parents get my drift.

I don't want to say Hansmire threw himself on the floor and then proceeded to get up and take his ball and go home – but it was awfully close.

The guy was obviously upset with El Paso and vowed the game would never return to the Sun City right after that game was over.

A real glass-is-half-empty kind of guy.

Hansmire did take his game to what he thought were greener pastures – the Alamodome in San Antonio.

I think Hansmire figured he had struck gold

and would proudly see about 45,000 to 50,000 real football fans at the game.

Not even close.

Reporters at the game estimated the Alamodome crowd at a meager 10,000.

If Hansmire was distraught with the attendance at the Sun Bowl, I don't want to think about what kind of agony he's going through now.

First of all, it's Texas vs. the Nation. These are guys that will be drafted in the fourth round and beyond. Most will not be drafted and will sign free agent contracts.

It's like watching an all-star game of Double-A baseball players; some of them might be good some day but you have no clue which ones it will be, and the vast majority will never be heard from again.

In other words – there's no star power. Really, how excited can the average fan be about that?

Hansmire should have left his game here and El Paso would have supported it with 25,000 to 30,000 fans every year.

Now I'm not saying that I blame the guy for moving his game from El Paso to San Antonio

– but you have to know your product – and your audience.

It's like wanting to sell your new double cheese sloppy bacon burger at any five-star restaurant in Paris.

You think this year's Alamodome attendance was bad, wait to see what it'll be next year now that they've gotten a taste of it.

How much you want to bet Hansmire will be on the phone to Sun Bowl officials within the next year or so asking for another chance.

I think the way things are financially, El Paso will probably tell Hansmire he had his chance and he blew it.

I really can't see the game lasting much longer. This is the fifth year of the game and it gets absolutely no coverage nationwide.

Nine out of every ten fans have never heard of the game.

Again, without the big stars, the game will always struggle to find an audience. But Hansmire could have kept it going in El Paso for years to come.

I guess he doesn't know how much we El Pasoans hunger for any kind of entertainment – even an inferior all-star game.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Vince Lombardi's neighborhood

It may come as a surprise to many, but the there are still a few ways to see Vince Lombardi.

There is, of course, the trophy that bears his name and was just awarded at the conclusion of the Super Bowl. The brilliant minds at HBO commissioned an excellent documentary about the man, but the place that always sticks with me

is Lombardi Court in Middletown, N.J.

Lombardi Court is a nice place – it's a cul-de-sac with a bunch of nice homes, the kind of neighborhood where the kids have a very nice Halloween and get to ride their bikes in the street without worry. Still, the neighborhood does look over the largest cemetery for miles around,

and you'd think that would be just a little weird.

Cemeteries like Middletown's Mount Olivet, nestled in a historic part of Monmouth County, N.J., used to be on the outskirts of town, and for the most part, with good reason. For one, nobody is very enthusiastic about living near cemeteries, and you know that they're mostly kind of sad places, despite their parklike settings. They are filled with dead people, after all. But as anyone who's ever lived in a historic town can attest, the graveyard somehow

has become a fixture of our historic downtown centers, thanks to urban sprawl.

But Lombardi Court doesn't have that "this is kind of creepy" feel at all – in fact, just the opposite would be true. The street is named precisely for the reason that Vince Lombardi himself is buried just across the street.

The gravesite is rather unspectacular, save for the person buried beneath the typical gray granite gravestone. On most days, the plat is adorned with flowers (legend has it that locals partake in the ritual). But, just as they treat hometown hero Bruce Springsteen, the locals typically don't make much of a to-do about the situation. For those that know about it, it's little more than a curiosity or the answer to a trivia question.

Middletown is the kind of place where the millionaires work next to the minions. Sure, more than a few work on Wall Street, but these

aren't the guys you hear about on the news, ruining your life. In fact, Middletown lost more lives than any other town in the 9/11 attacks, and those lucky enough to have a job spend up to 40 hours a week just commuting to and from the city. Well-to-do or not, most are only a generation away from the blue-collar life embodied by towns like Green Bay or Pittsburgh.

The Middletown High School South Eagles have begun to mirror that work ethic on and off the field, winning state championships. Like their fathers, more than a few players know that the greatest football coach to ever live is buried right down the road. It may not be "Title Town" to most others, but the Lombardi spirit definitely deserves an honorable mention in Middletown.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter and publisher of The Kansas City Luminary. (c) 2011 King Features Synd., Inc.



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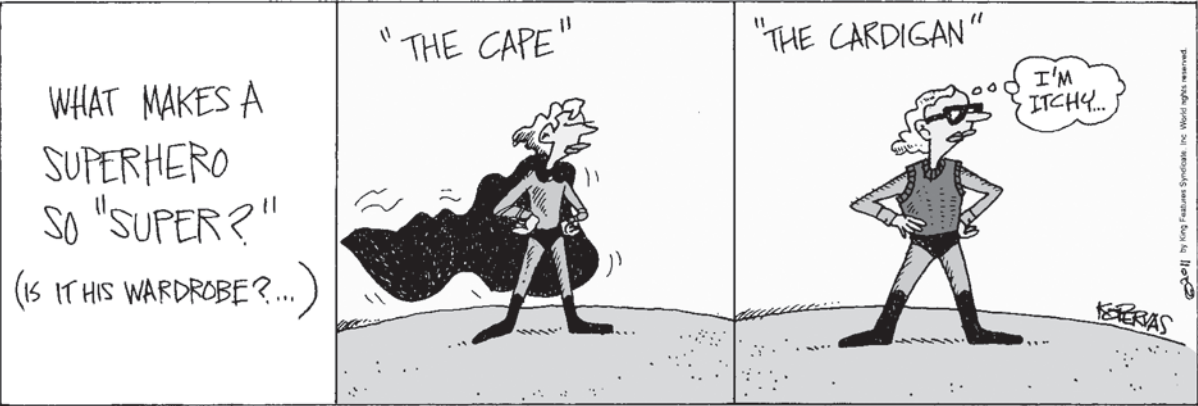
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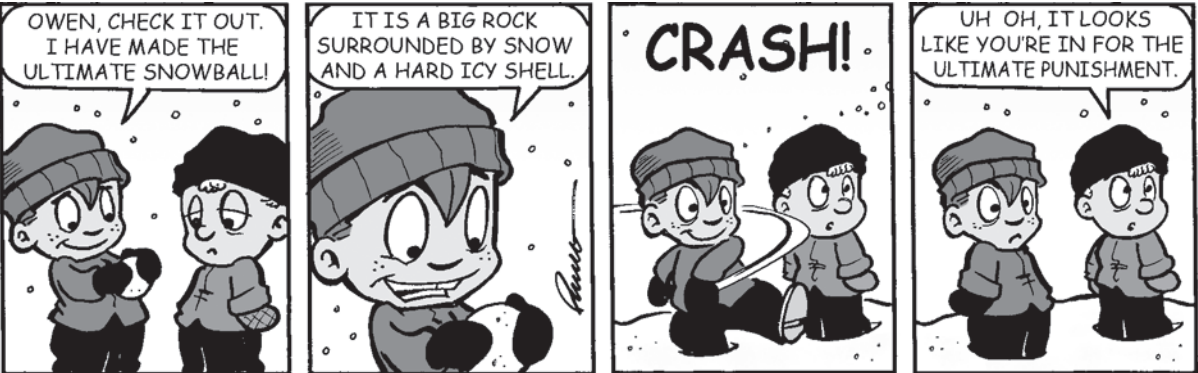
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Your good health By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: The tip of my husband's nose and his cheeks have become noticeably red this past year. People ask me – half kidding, half serious – if he's been drinking heavily. He doesn't touch alcohol. This doesn't bother him, but it bothers me. What is this? – N.D.

The probable culprit is rosacea (rose-A-she-uh). It starts as a reddening of the nose and cheeks, and sometimes can affect the forehead. The skin also develops webs of tiny blood vessels. Pimples – which look much like acne – break out. The final stage, which should never be reached these days, is the bulbous nose of W.C. Fields.

Rosacea is common. Fair-skinned people with light hair are the most susceptible. So are those who blush easily. The actual cause is a bit unclear. Some believe the skin mite Demodex is involved. It lives in hair follicles. But people without rosacea also have the mite, so a cause and effect is not certain.

People with rosacea often have eye involvement, something that's often overlooked but needs consideration. The eyes feel gritty and might burn. They, too, can become red.

Rosacea isn't a curable condition, but it is highly treatable. Your husband ought to steer clear of spicy foods, sunlight and extremes of heat and cold. That he doesn't drink alcohol is in his favor.

Metronidazole cream, gel or lotion, or Azelex (azelaic acid) cream can bring gratifying results. Over-the-counter benzoyl peroxide often works for an acne breakout. Sometimes oral metronidazole or an oral antibiotic is added to the program.

You or your husband would do well to contact the National Rosacea Society, which can provide you with informative literature and keep you abreast

of the latest changes in treatment. The society's website is www.rosacea.org, and its phone number is 888-NO-BLUSH.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Is it possible to have had a heart attack and not know it? I am a 59-year-old man and had my first-ever EKG this past week. The doctor tells me I had a heart attack. I have never had anything that felt like a heart attack. I don't smoke and never have. Heart attacks don't run in my family. My mother and father are alive at 85. I weigh 155 pounds and have weighed that since I was discharged from the Army, more than 35 years ago. Could this be a mistake? – R.S.

As many as 20 percent of heart attacks are silent, producing no pain or other symptoms. Those attacks are discovered when an EKG happens to be taken at a later date. It's also true that the EKG might show the pattern of an old heart attack without one ever having occurred.

If you want to settle the matter, consult a cardiologist. It's probably the wise thing to do.

The booklet on heart attacks explains why they happen and how to recognize them. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue – No. 102W, 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.

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) 2011 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

- AROMANCE ACROSS

1 Tower town

5 Ditch

9 Married Mlle.

12 " _ Life" ('66 hit)

17 Acted like grandma

18 Sills solo

19 Tam material

20 Sit in on a class

21 Actor Alex

22 "Aida" river

23 "Meter" leader

24 Actress Rivera

25 Throb

26 Loser to DDE

27 Author Christie

29 Stirrup site

30 Riddle: Part 1

36 Gridiron position

37 Z _ zebra

38 Present for pop

39 Dutch export

42 Ms. Silkwood

44 Wine variety

50 Sought office

51 Famed caravel

52 Om, for instance

53 Actress Joanne

54 ABA member

55 Skater Hughes

56 Come out of one's shell

57 Dutch export

58 Sharif role

60 22 Across feature

61 Internet acronym

63 Riddle: Part 2

68 Permit

69 Grows light

70 Studio

73 Word with camp or tree

76 " _ Rolling Stone" ('65 hit)

77 Groundwork

79 Before, to Byron

80 Mackie or Marley

81 Wobble

83 Add a lane

84 It may be white

85 Titmouse kin

87 Emulate Elle

88 _ Castro

90 " _ vous plait"

91 Joyce's land

92 Implore

93 Answer to riddle

104 "Exodus" protagonist

105 Plaza Hotel kid

106 Get a galley going

107 Marineland performer

108 Kanga's creator

111 Construct

112 Crow's toe

114 TV's "Mad _ You"

115 Celebrity

116 Mispickel and galena

117 Costa _

118 Rampal's instrument

119 _ apso

120 Draft agcy.

121 Dentist's directive

122 French bean?

DOWN

1 Doggy

2 Restless

3 Left the Union

4 Fuss and feathers

5 A Lennon sister

6 _ setter

7 West's "Diamond _"

8 _ kwon do

9 Drilling site?

10 Club creed

11 Yale or Root

12 Tic- _ -toe

13 "What?"

14 "Farewell, Francois!"

15 Big guy

16 Austere

17 Close the curtains

19 Cart

26 Postfix

27 Exiled dictator

28 Mary of "Dodsworth"

31 Claire or Balin

32 Big revolver?

33 Lost

34 "The Ramayana" heroine

35 Barbie's boyfriend

39 Austrian city

40 Solemn statement

41 "Wait _ Dark" ('67 film)

42 Ballet company

43 Santa _ , CA

44 Smith or Page

45 Like Machu Picchu

46 Utmost

47 Bizarre

48 Nest egg

49 Zombie base

51 Debra of "Love Me Tender"

52 Fountain treats

55 Use coupons

56 Shampoo ingredient

57 Middle Eastern airline

59 Electrical measure

60 Librarian Melvil

61 "The Addams Family" actor

62 Pindaric poetry

64 Stop on _

65 Delibes opera

66 Blackboard support

67 Cry uncle

71 Cleveland's lake

72 Stagger

73 English channel?

74 Fireworks reaction

75 Kimono cummerbund

76 Peeper protector

77 Senator from Delaware

78 Humorist George

81 Stowe gear

82 Bisect

83 Sported

86 Civil War initials

87 Pixie and Dixie

88 Charge

89 Vile

91 Road curves

92 Luxury car

93 Veronica of "Hill Street Blues"

94 Maestro Leinsdorf

95 Novelist Cather

96 St. _ fire

97 Savanna sounds

98 Startled cry

99 Vestige

100 Dubuque denizen

101 Game fish

102 Intense

103 Behind schedule

109 Mil. base

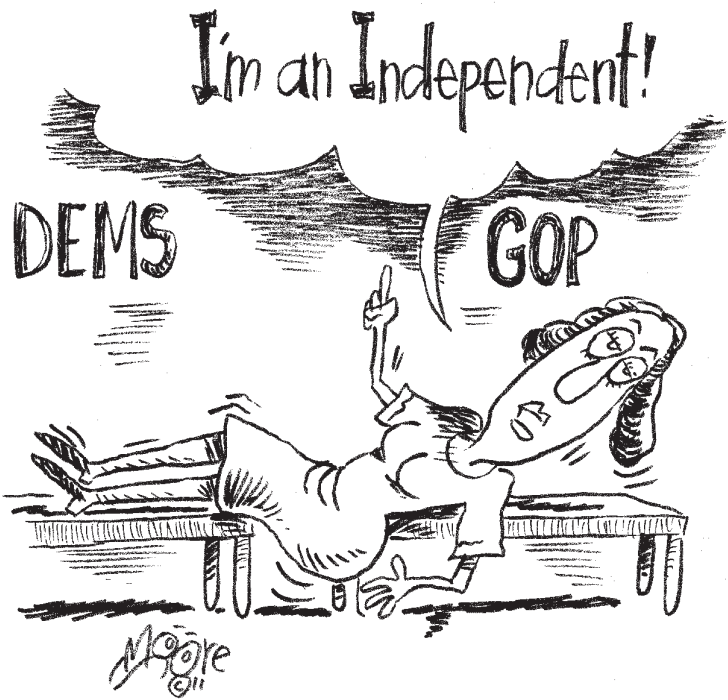
110 Homeric character

112 _ -Magnon

113 Back talk

114 Sternward
-
- Answer Page 4

Moore Texas by Roger Moore Salado :
The Country Store once had separate
benches outside for both major parties.



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.

	-		x		7
x		+		-	
	+		÷		3
÷		x		x	
	x		+		17
6		21		16	

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 3 5 6 7 8 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: My neighbor is blind and receives Social Security benefits. Are there other ways for her to get letters from Social Security?

A: Yes. Social Security offers a number of services and products specifically designed for people who are blind or visually impaired. Below are a couple of them.

Special Notice Option: If you are blind or visually impaired, you can choose to receive notices and other information from Social Security in special ways that may be more convenient for you. To find out more about this service, please go to our web page, If You Are Blind Or Visually Impaired—Your Choices For Receiving Information from Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov/notices. In addition, if you have a question about a Social Security notice you receive, you may call our toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday or call or visit your local Social Security office and ask us to read it to you.

Public Information Materials: Many of our publications, such as brochures and fact sheets, are available in Braille, audio cassette tapes, compact discs, or in enlarged print. Our publication, If You Are Blind Or Have Low Vision—How We Can Help, and other publications in alternative formats can be

obtained by calling toll free, 1-800-772-1213, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you may call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778.

For more information on obtaining public information materials for people who are blind or visually impaired, see our page, Public Information Materials in Alternative Media at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/alt-pubs.html.

Q: I applied for my child's Social Security card in the hospital but have not received it. How long does it take?

A: In most states it takes an average of three weeks to get the card, but in some states it can take longer. To check for the average wait time in your state, consult the chart at http://ssa-custhelp.ssa.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/74. If you have not received your child's card, and the time frame has expired, please visit your local Social Security office. Be sure to take proof of your child's citizenship, age, and identity as well as proof of your own identity. And remember, we cannot divulge your child's Social Security number over the phone. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: How do I apply for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs?

A: You have several options for applying. You can:

- Apply online by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov and select "Get extra help with Medicare prescription drug costs" in the "Top Services" section on the left side of the page;
- Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to apply over the phone or request an application; or
- Apply at any local Social Security office.

Anyone who has Medicare can get Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. Some people with limited resources and income are eligible for Extra Help to pay for the costs – monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments – related to a Medicare prescription drug plan. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/medicare.

Q: I have two minor children at home and I plan to retire next fall. Will my children be eligible for monthly Social Security benefits after I retire?

A: Monthly Social Security payments may be made to your children if:

- They are unmarried and under age 18;
- Age 18 or 19 and still in high school; or
- Age 18 or older, became disabled before age 22, and continue to be disabled.

Children who may qualify include a biological child, adopted child, or dependent stepchild. (In some cases, your grandchild also could be eligible for benefits on your record if you are supporting them.). For more information, see our online publication, Benefits For Children, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10085.html.

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

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U.S. General Services Administration

CryptoQuip

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

Clue: P equals A

JG P XZBV LZHV TZBLQA SPYZ

ZHTUQLJXZL, LEQIUYA'O VQI

BZGZB OQ EZB PL P

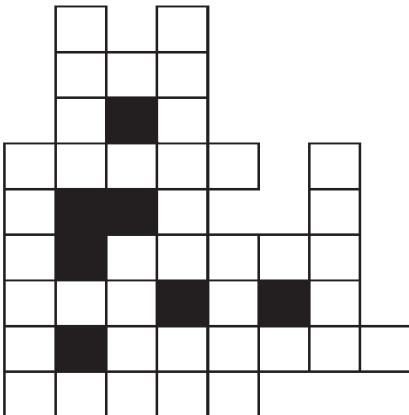
WQSWLEZUU?

Answer Page 4

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BHU
♥SELIAS
♥LEBUR
HARS
♥NASTEC
♥TSI
♥BSLA
HABET
ALI
HARCOB
♥UTTRS
LILB



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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