

Vest Texas County

VOL. 38, No. 38

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO

NEWSBRIEFS

Father-Son event

Socorro ISD will host its second districtwide Father-Son Conference at Eastlake High School on Saturday, September 24, 2011. The goal of the conference is to help fathers and sons bond and explore topics such as career choices and college, as well as participate together in self-esteem and selfconfidence workshops. All 6th through 12th grade boys are invited to attend with their father figure. The event is free to all participants. A canned good donation will be gratefully accepted. Donations will be distributed to needy families for Thanksgiving. "We want to encourage more fathers to get involved with their children and to emphasize how important it is for them to take an active role in their education," said Fernando Vazquez, event organizer and District Title 1 Specialist. "It is proven that parental involvement promotes academic and lifelong success." Vazquez is joined by a committee of school parent liaisons who have partnered to plan the day's activities. The group is coordinating several guest speakers and engaging activities to help create an open atmosphere of communication between fathers and their children.

– Daniel Escobar

Farmers market

A Farmers Market will be held on Oct. 15, 2011 from 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of Horizon City's Town Hall, 14999 Darrington Rd. the event is sponsored by the Oz Glaze Senior Center. We are seeking local providers of home grown produce or homemade crafts. 10' by 15' spaces can be let for \$10 each. Jams, jellies and local honey will be available. Call 852-0062 or 799-8194 for more information.

Julie Tucker

Safe routes started

Socorro leaders have signed contracts with engineers to begin the design and environmental component of the Safe Routes to School Project. "We're finally approaching the construction phase of a long and tedious process to protect our children and promote health and education in and around our schools," said City Manager Manny Soto. The \$4.5 million construction project will build side walks around eight Socorro schools. It is designed to promote health and safety for Socorro students, by building the sidewalks and widening pedestrian bridges, while also adding pedestrian protection equipment. In addition it is anticipated to promote walking and bicycling to school. The entire project is expected to be complete in 2013.

- Dave Garcia

See BRIEFS, Page 3

People who say what they think would not be so bad if they thought.

— Quips & Quotes

Anthony ISD schedules bond election



FIX IT UP - Anthony ISD Maintenance/Field Supervisor Lorenzo Ytuarte said that the district needs funds to renovate the district's sports/special events stadium so that it will comply with ADA (American Disabilities Act) requirements and health department regulations.

By By Alfredo Vasquez Special to the Courier

ANTHONY, TX - Anthony Independent School District (AISD) officials will ask voters to approve a \$5 million bond issue to address much-needed improvements to its three campuses and athletic facilities.

During a school board meeting in August, AISD Board of Trustees voted unanimously to call for the election which is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8th.

This is the second time this year that AISD will hold a bond issue election. The bond election in May fell short by 18 votes, 197 for and 215 against.

"I think that the bond issue did not pass in May because too many of the district residents did not have sufficient information to realize why we need these facilities projects and what we are attempting to do for our students," said Ron Haugen, AISD superintendent.

"We want to provide our students with a comfortable, safe environment that is conducive to learning," the superintendent asserted.

"For the November election, we want to involve more community members to help inform our constituents because ultimately this is their school district. We want them to take the lead for improving their schools. Their children deserve the best that we have to offer," said the superintendent.

According to district officials, more than \$2.2 million is earmarked for instructional facilities improvements and ADA (American Disabilities Act) compliance upgrades including over \$1.4 million for the elementary school campus, about \$624,000 for the middle school building and close to \$180,000 for the high school facility.

According to school officials, most of the proposed bond projects for the elementary and middle school facilities involve upgrades to the electrical, plumbing, and heating/ cooling systems, as well as addressing major re-roofing and flooring needs.

"We have to replace our old evaporative

See AISD BOND, Page 2

Water district makes community connections

By Don Woodyard Special to the Courier

"We will be a premier provider of water and water services that will serve the residents of the Lower Valley Water District" - Vision Statement, Lower Valley Water District

LOWER VALLEY - Subdivision by subdivision, colonia by colonia, connection by connection the Lower Valley Water District (LVWD) improves lives and changes lives for area residents as it adheres to its Vision

Metcy Betancourt lives in the Wildhorse and Haciendas Real subdivision, not far from the LVWD's headquarters on FM 1110. She doesn't need a Vision Statement to express her own joy at having a water connection for the first time at her home, something most people take for granted, but for which she had been waiting for more than 27 years.



- Photo courtesy Lower Valley Water District

DIG IN - From left, Chente Quintanilla, State Representative, David Carrasco, LVWD General Manager, Gina Cordero, Director LVWD, Willie Gandara Jr, El Paso County Commissioner, Henry Trujillo, Director LVWD, Rosalinda Vigil, President LVWD, and Maria Ortiz, Familias Triunfadoras all flip a shovel full of dirt to break ground on the See LVWD, Page 5 Lourdes and El Conquistador project.

Socorro ISD 2011-12 Impact Aid campaign runs through Sept. 30

By Daniel Escobarl Special to the Courier

Socorro Independent School District (SISD) is in the middle of its Impact Aid campaign and requesting parents' assistance in maximizing the District's federal funding. In 2010, the District received more than \$340,000 in Impact Aid funding.

Dr. Xavier De La Torre. "The money is available for our schools, but only if we are able to account for the qualifying population."

SISD receives funds from the federal government for every child whose parent(s) is on military active duty, is employed by the government, works on federal property or lives on federally owned property. Since 2008, SISD has "We are asking that every parent increased its outreach to parents take a few minutes to complete the regarding the census resulting in Impact Aid survey and return it to their vast funding gains. In 2008 SISD student's school," said Superintendent received \$8,403; in 2009 the amount

grew to over \$97,746; and, in 2010 SISD's campaign helped more than triple the Federal Impact Aid funding, bringing in \$343,702.

"It is our goal this year to receive a completed Impact Aid form for every student," De La Torre added. "Every qualifying household will help us in continuing to provide our students with a world-class education, especially during this time of state and federal funding reductions."

Since 1950, Congress has provided financial assistance to local school districts through the Impact Aid Program. School districts must apply for these funds yearly. Impact Aid was designed to assist local school districts that have lost property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt Federal property, or that have experienced increased expenditures due to enrollment of federally connected children, including children living

federally connected children with disabilities.

SISD works hand in hand with local entities, through guidance of the US Department of Education, when conducting the Federal Census and applying for Impact Aid funds.

For more information on the 2011-12 Federal Impact Aid Census, please contact Carol Hambric at 937-0050 or visit the District's Web site, www.sisd.net.

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

GI Bill changes

changes to the education benefits per year; this year in the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

to a maximum of \$17,500. A rate and supplies; schedule was set for active-duty members pursuing a degree.

Fees for second and subsequent supplies; certifications or licenses will be reimbursed, as will tests for state tuition will be paid up to admission, such as the SAT. Funds \$8,500 per year; will begin being paid every month

Housing allowances will be paid to the next tenth. An example: If you're attending school at onebe 25 percent rounded up to 30 percent.

Here's one to pay attention to Or call 1-888-442-4551. with the coming semester-end holidays: There is no housing between semesters.

on Oct. 1:

• Flight schools' in-state tuition 2011 King Features Synd., Inc.

There have been a number of and fees will be paid up to \$10,000

- Apprenticeship and on-the-job Earlier in 2011, the rules training will be paid on a prorated changed so that all public school basis determined by how much in-state fees and tuition will be time is spent in the program. paid and private schools are paid There's a set allowance for books
 - · Active-duty military can receive a stipend for books and
 - Correspondence school in-
- Non-college degree programs instead of at the beginning of each at in-state schools will be paid for, up to \$17,500; and
- If you're a student in a at the "rate of pursuit," rounded distance-learning program, a housing allowance will be paid.

If you're in school or considering quarter rate (as opposed to full attending, it pays to keep up with time), your housing rate would the changes to the program. Go to gibill.va.gov and click on Post 9/11 GI Bill and Other Programs.

Write to Freddy Groves in care allowance paid for the period of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL Still more changes take effect 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

AISD bond

From Page 1

coolers and out-dated hydronic heating systems at the elementary and middle school buildings with refrigerator package units that not will satisfy both our heating and cooling needs," said Haugen. "At certain health the high school campus, the bond monies would go to finance ADA regulations. compliance requirement projects throughout the school grounds and in the gymnasium and auditorium."

And, about \$2.5 million would be used for student athletics facilities projects. Most of these projects would be to improve the district's sports/special events stadium. These projects include adding new bleachers, remodeling the press box, building outdoor restrooms, adding storage area, improving the concession stand to meet health department codes, repairing and resurfacing the track and football fields, and installing a new scoreboard. Other proposed student athletic projects include expansion of the locker rooms, weight room and sports medicine trainers' facility.

"Right now, our stadium bleachers do not meet ADA compliance standards; we have no outdoor the superintendent said that the provide that for them," he said.

game.

ORANGE OUT NIGHT!

public restrooms at the stadium, and the concession stand is limited

as to what it can sell during events held at the stadium because it is equipped meet department These are just some of the health and



safety issues that must be addressed. We can't put them off much longer," Haugen explained.

The average home value in AISD is \$91,161. With the \$15,000 homestead exemption, that value decreases to \$76,161 for school taxing purposes. Last year, the average homeowner paid \$890.06 in school taxes, about \$74.17 per month.

Voters' approval of the bond referendum would mean an increase of 25 cents per \$100, for a total tax rate of \$1.29. The increase would make school taxes on an averagevalued home in AISD about \$1,084 or a \$16.16 monthly increase.

THURSDAY 29, 2011 UTEP VS. HOUSTON 6:00 p.m. at THE SUN BOWL

Also, buy a general admission or bronze ticket and get your 2nd ticket for just \$10. Then, take your ticket to participating restaurants in the Cincinnati

district for food and beverage specials after the

district does not have enough funds in reserve to finance the proposed bond projects so they would have to prioritize the most critical health and safety issues affecting students and teachers and address those issues gradually.

"The District does not generate sufficient operational funds from year to year to make any significant facilities improvements," Haugen

For this next election, a group of community residents have stepped forward to help the district inform voters of the importance for the bond election. Beto Gomez, AISD resident and former board member, said that he is helping promote passage of the bond issue because of his main concern, the students.

"Our students need the proper facilities that are conducive to learning and developing healthy life skills," said Gomez. "I want our students to have every opportunity to go to schools that offer an environment that allows them to develop their talents and skills so that they can reach their next level, whether it be going to college or which would be a \$194 annual hike, joining the workforce. And, it is our responsibility as parents, community If the bond issue does not pass, members and business owners to

West Texas County **PUBLISHED:**

Homesteader News, Inc. Appreciation to our many contributors. Office open Monday through Thursday. COPYRIGHT:

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Letters 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.

AD DEADLINE:

Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

CLASSIFIED RATES

\$10 for 25 words, \$15 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

DISPLAY RATES:

Open rate - \$25 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: Minimum 50 issues for \$36.

Delivery via 1st class mail.

MAIL:

15344 Werling Ct. Horizon City, TX 79928



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> **Publisher** Rick Shrum

Contributors Alfredo Vasquez Don Woodyard Steve Escajeda





September 22, 2011 Page 3

Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Funding for critical programs is short

a half years of sharing my thoughts with or death. The message here is that the lives you, I have made many references to the volunteer fire departments in our county. Most of the comments dealt with the Fourth of July festivities and fire hazards posed by fireworks. One article in particular addressed the importance of state supported funding.

The volunteers and the fire departments in our county are not directly funded by the state but do apply for and are granted funding under different programs. The most important funding is for equipment – both fire engines and protective gear insulating firemen from the heat of a fire.

El Paso should be very proud of the volunteer departments that operate outside the municipality of El Paso. The volunteers are true professionals – albeit unpaid – and the equipment is also top notch.

We should also be very thankful that this county has not suffered the catastrophic wild fires that have destroyed thousands of homes. Our conditions have been just as dry as those in other counties, but whatever fire situations arose, the flames were put out before a fullfledged range fire occurred.

One fire close to Horizon City managed to cause substantial damage to a pumper. Again, because of the volunteer firemen, the fire was contained.

A recent article in the Houston Chronicle revealed that the rest of Texas is not so well situated as our volunteers. "Fire chiefs across the state describe being outmatched, underfunded and ill-equipped to fight the unprecedented onslaught of fires fueled this year by unceasing drought," noted the Chronicle.

The story went on to state that personal

Hola, mi gente. Over the past four and fighters to protect the volunteers from injury of those volunteers only matter during catastrophic fires. House or business fires are no less dangerous.

> The conservative leadership in the legislature saw to it that the assistance program for volunteer fire departments was reduced from \$23 million to \$7 million. Since the state was well entrenched in an epic drought, the legislative and executive leadership clearly lacked any good judgment in the budget cuts.

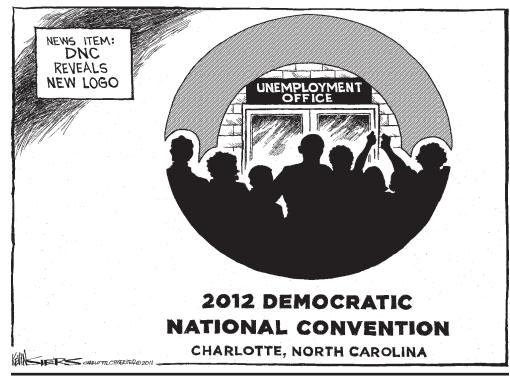
> The governor, lt. governor and speaker can't have a do-over on this to fund the needs of the voluntary fire department assistance program (unless the governor calls a special session - which would cut into any national politics). Only federal emergency aid or local tax increases can offset the massive budget

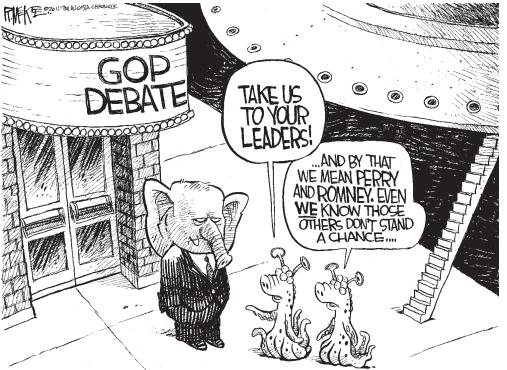
> Taxpayers within the volunteer fire department boundaries will feel the pinch. The tax base in those areas is not substantive enough to make the difference. There is very little property wealth where volunteer fire departments exist. The revenues from those emergency districts will fall well short of the \$126 million in grants already applied for.

> Some authorities have speculated that this drought will continue past this year and perhaps for years to come. Record range fires throughout Texas may be a reality much longer than we would like.

> There are consequences to uncompromised solutions to budget shortfalls. The policy of cuts with no new revenues to attain the 2013-2014 budget will have a lot of bad outcomes. The situation for volunteer fire departments is

Gracias, mi gente, and I remain your friend equipment loans were made to several fire and public servant, Chente por la gente.





Briefs

From Page 1

Blue ribbon

Escontrias Elementary School, in the Socorro Independent School District, is one of 304 schools named by 2011 National Blue Ribbon Schools for recognition. School are chosen based on their overall academic excellence or for their success in closing achievement gaps by the U.S. Department of Education. The Department will honor the entire 255 public and 49 private schools with their National Blue Ribbon School awards at a conference and awards ceremony Nov. 14-15 in Washington, D.C. "America's long-term economic prosperity and civic engagement depends on our children receiving a worldclass education," Duncan said. "National Blue Ribbon Schools are committed to accelerating student achievement and preparing students for success in college and careers. Their success is an example for others to follow."

- Daniel Escobar

Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is assisting the El Paso Police Department in locating subjects who cut the cables at a city park in order to steal copper wiring, causing cancellation of all night games at the park and making this the "Crime of the Week." Sometime between the hours of 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011, and 10:00 a.m. the next morning, somebody destroyed the transformer box at the Westside Sports Complex, 201 Isela Rubalcava, in order to cut out the copper cables inside. The vandalism caused \$10,000 in damages; however, the crime did much more damage to the families who use the park. As a result of the vandalism, the City's Parks and Recreation Department had to cancel all night games for youth soccer and football until further notice. The one night of vandalism will end up affecting more than 5,000 families who participate in the youth sports program. Nothing is known about the person who committed this crime except that it was an experienced electrician. If you have any information at all about the identity of this suspect, please call Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may earn a cash reward up to \$1,000.

- James Klaes

Wanted

Bernie Morales, 55, who also uses Bernie Gutierrez and Bernie Venado, is this



Bernie Morales

week's Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. He is 5'7" tall, weighs 170 pounds and has brown hair and eyes. A snake is tattooed on his left forearm. Morales served 10 years for a violent sex crime.

He was released to a transitional facility in the Horizon area and left the facility without permission. It is unclear why he left because he only had two months remaining on his stay at the facility. Morales is now wanted for not registering as a sex offender. He is believed to remain in the area where he has several family members in El Paso's Lower Valley. Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Morales can contact 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 Morales.

- Deputy Jesse Tovar

archives: www.wtxcc.com



Saturday 12-10 P.M.

Sunday 1-8 P.M.

Entertainment:

Ballet Folklorico, Bands, Mariachi Groups, Charro Demonstration & Old West Re-enactment

Contests:

Chile Eating Contest: Open to Community, Military & Media

Chile Salsa Contest: Open to community (\$10 Fee) & restaurants (\$25 Fee)

Food Truck Red & Green Chile Contest



Salsa Dancing Contest 1st. 2nd & 3rd Place Winners! (Trophy



For information Contact:

George Cordova (915) 613-7967 or Suky Ramos (915) 422-1700

Page 4 September 22, 2011

PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

The West Texas County Courier will publish two editions early. The October 13 and October 20, 2011 issues will go to press on Thursday, October 6, 2011.

All material for these publications must be submitted to the *West Texas County Courier* no later than Monday, October 3, 2011.

The West Texas County Courier office will close beginning Monday, October 10, 2011. The office will open again on Monday, October 24, 2011.

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technology Programs at Fabens ISD

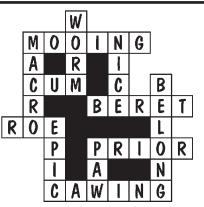
- 1) Fabens Independent School District offers career and technology education programs in Home Economics, Business Education, Drafting, Graphic Arts, and Automotive Technology. Admission to these programs is based on courses offered, age appropriateness, class space available, and individual graduation plans.
- 2) It is the policy of Fabens Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 3) It is the policy of Fabens Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 4) Fabens Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.
- 5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator: Gilbert Alarcon, 208 N.E. 4th St., (915) 765-2600 and/or Section 504 Coordinator: Dr. David Rueda, 821 N.E. G Ave., (915) 765-2600.

Notificacion Publica de no Discriminar en los Programas de Carrera y Tecnologia de Fabens ISD

- 1) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens ofrece programas programas vocacionales en Carrera y Tecnología en Economia Domestica, Educación de Negocios, y Mecánica. La admisión a estos programas se basa en registrado en la escuela de Fabens y completar los requisitios necesarios.
- 2) Es norma de El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios, o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, que fue enmendada, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.
- 3) Es norma de El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens no discriminar por motivos raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975, según enmienda, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.
- 4) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua inglés no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas vocacionales y educativos.
- 5) Para más información sobre sus derechos y procedimiento para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinador del Título IX: Gilbert Alarcon, 208 N.E. 4th St., (915) 765-2600 y/o Coordinador de la Sección 504: Dr. David Rueda, 821 N.E. G Ave., (915) 765-2600.

WTCC: 09/22/11

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





- Corrected Notice -

Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Canutillo Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

The Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 18, 2011 in the boardroom of the Canutillo ISD Administration Facility, 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, Texas.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Canutillo Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/22/11

Fabens Independent School District Public Notice of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the Fabens Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or any person who has a disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The Fabens Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Gilbert Alarcon, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838. Phone: (915) 765-2600. Fax: (915) 764-3115.

Notificion Publica

Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de Fabens prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o deshabilidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de Fabens esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades específicadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohibe la discriminación sexual, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975 como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.

Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuniquese con Gilbert Alarcon, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838. Phone: (915) 765-2600. Fax: (915) 764-3115.

WTCC: 09/22/11

CryptoQuip Answer

When Attila's wife entered their house, I wonder if she would shout "Hi, Hun, I'm home!"

7	×	2	+	8	22
+		+		ı	
9	÷	3	+	6	9
÷		+		×	
2	+	1	×	5	15
8		6		10	

September 22, 2011 Page 5

LVWD

From Page 1

"It was amazing! It was unbelievable! The kids are so excited," says Betancourt as she tries to explain her family's feeling of freedom when realized they were no longer reliant on an old well to provide water for bathing, laundry and doing the dishes.

David Carrasco, general manager of the LVWD, discussed four projects the water district has undertaken, one of which was Wildhorse and Haciendas Real.

Wildhorse and Haciendas Real

Close to the water district's headquarters on FM-1110 and North Loop Road is the Wildhorse and Haciendas Real subdivision, a recently completed water project.

Carrasco reports that the \$1.4 million project provides first-time water service to 55 families. Funding for the effort came from El Paso County and LVWD.

The general manager recalls the "sincere appreciation and joy" of the residents who no longer had to rely on septic tanks and wells to provide for their needs.

"They were so elated and happy," he says. In underscoring Carrasco's comments,

Carrasco reports that the \$1.4 million Betancourt adds another dimension to the roject provides first-time water service to 55 Vision Statement.

Sounding almost like a TV commercial for laundry detergent, she says delightedly. "The whites are white again. They aren't gray any more."

She explains that water from their well was less than reliable – sometimes spewing out air

See LVWD, Page 6

FabensIndependentSchoolDistrict SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Fabens Independent School District provides the following educational program/services to identified children with disabilities who reside within the district beginning on the third birthday through age twenty-one.

Instructional Program: including Early Childhood (beginning on the third birthday through age five), 1) Resource (grades K-12) and Self-Contained (grades K-12); 2) Diagnostic Services; 3) Transportation Services; 4) Speech Therapy; 5) Counseling Services; 6)Adaptive Equipment Services; 7) Physical Therapy; 8) Occupational Therapy; 9) School Health Services; and 10) Homebound Services.

Services are provided to identified auditory and visually impaired children who reside within the district from birth through age twenty-one.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Public Law 105-17, parents and adult students have the right to inspect educational records. District policies FL and FL-E provide for record access, confidentiality, and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a child with disabilities who is not receiving educational services, please contact: Richard Ortega, Special Education Director, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, Texas 79838, (915) 765-2690.

El Distrito Escolar de Fabens SERVICIOS DE EDUCACIONES PECIAL

El distrito escolar de Fabens provee los siguientes programas/servicios educacionales a niños que son identificados como desabilitados que viven dentro del distrito comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta los 21 años.

Programa de instrucción: infancia temprana (comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta la edad de cinco años), 1) cuarto de recurso (K-12), y clases contenidas (K-12); 2) servicios diagnósticos; 3) servicios de transportación; 4) terapia de habla; 5) servicios de consejo; 6) servicios de equipaje adaptivo; 7) terapia fisica; 8) terapia ocupacional; 9) servicios de salud escolar; y 10) servicios de clases en el hogar.

Se provee servicios a niños identificados como desabilitados audible y visualmente que viven dentro del distrito desde nacimiento hasta la edad de 21 años.

Conforme al Acto de Derechos y Confidencia Educacionales de Familia de 1974 y Ley publica 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derechos de ver los archivos educativos. Polizas FLyFL-E explica los derechos, la confidencialidad, y el proceso para quejarse.

Si usted desea mas información o sabe de un niño/ niña desabilitado que vive en el distrito escolar de Fabens que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con: Richard Ortega, Director de Educación Especial, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, Texas 79838, (915) 765-2690.

WTCC: 09-22-11

Public Notice Fabens Independent School District

SECTION 504 SERVICES

The Fabens Independent School District provides the following educational services/options to identified disabled students who reside within the district.

- ♦ Child find activities to notify students with disabilities and their parents of the their rights and the district's obligation to provide a free, appropriate public education.
- ♦ Referrals to Sections 504 when it is believed the students have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities and the students are in need of educational accommodations.
- ♦ Procedural safeguards under Section 504.
- ♦ Evaluations of students to determine eligibility for the Section 504 program.
- ♦ Placement into the Section 504 program, which means the student may receive:
 - ✓ individually planned modifications in the regular classroom,
 - ✓ transportation services to and from school,
 - ✓ health services from the school nurse,
 - ✓ accommodations regarding access to any part of the campus, or
 - ✓ assistance in reading for students with dyslexia in a reading program which meets the state's standards for a dyslexia reading program.
- ♦ Special education services are available to Section 504 students, if the students qualify for one of the specific disabilities under special education.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact Dr. David Rueda, Section 504 Coordinator, P.O. Box 697/821 NE "G" Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 765-2600.

SERVICIOS DE LA SECCION 504

El distrito escolar independiente de Fabens provee los siguientes servicios/ opciones educaciónales a los estudiantes con discapacidades identificados que residen dentro del distrito.

- ♦ Actividades para encontrar a niños para notificar a los estudiantes con discapacidades y a sus padres de sus derechos y de las obligaciones del distrito a proporcionar una educación publica que sea gratuita y apropiada.
- ♦ Referimientos a la Sección 504 cuando se cree que el estudiante tiene una discapacidad mental o fisica que limita substancialmente una o mas actividades vitales importantes y los estudiantes necesitan modificaciónes en su educación.
- ◆ Derechos legales garantizados bajo Sección 504.
- ♦ Evaluaciónes de estudiantes para determinar si califican para el programa de la Sección 504.
- ♦ Colocación dentro del programa de la Sección 504, lo que significa que el estudiante puede recibir:
 - ✓ modificaciónes en el salon de educación regular planeadas individualmente,
 - ✓ servicios de transporte para la escuela y para atras,
 - ✓ servicios de salud por la enfermera de la escuela,
 - ✓ cambios que garanticen el acceso a cualquier parte de la escuela,
- ✓ ayuda en lectura para estudiantes con dislexia en un programa de lectura que cumpla con los requisitos que pide el estado a un programa de lectura de dislexia.
- ♦ Se ofrecen servicios de educación especial a los estudiantes Sección 504, si los estudiantes califican para una de las discapacidades especificas bajo educación especial.

Si usted desea más información o conoce a niños con discapacidades que no estan recibiendo servicios educativos, por favor comuniquese con Dr. David Rueda, Coordinador de la Sección 504, P.O. Box 697/821 NE "G" Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 765-2600.

WTXCC: 09/22/11

September 22, 2011

Super conference building kills rivalries for money

By Steve Escajeda Special to the Courier

I've been following college sports since I was just a tiny reporter and it just ain't the same as it used to be.

Oh, the football is still exciting and there's nothing more thrilling than March Madness at the end of the basketball season.

But the one glaring difference in the sport is that it used to be that conference rivalries went on forever and if you lost to that bitter rival this year – you'd surely have a shot at a little revenge next year.

That is turning out to be less and less the case now-a-days for one simple reason – you don't know if you're rival will be in the same conference next year.

Some of the best rivalries in the country, Oklahoma-Nebraska, Utah-BYU, Texas-Texas A&M and many others have either been swept away or are about to be.

The talk about teams switching to other conference and the creation of super conferences is certainly going to change the need a program to identify the players, you'll

landscape of collegiate athletics.

But will it will be a positive change?

It's pretty apparent that we're transforming very quickly from a multitude of competitive leagues that give every college a chance to enjoy at least a piece of the national spotlight - to a smaller number of exclusive megaconferences that will develop a new order of "haves" and "have nots" among colleges.

Like the New York Yankees, the bigger colleges are forming a sort of "elite members only" club to keep out the riff raff.

Of course the riff raff are the smaller colleges that can't generate the kind of wealth the fat cats hope to be rolling in very shortly.

And why not – don't we see this kind of greedy behavior in almost every other walk of American business?

Why should collegiate sports be expected to be any different than our legal system, politicians, Wall Street, pharmaceuticals, the oil industry, lending institutions, corrupt businessmen and professional athletes?

Some of the dominoes have already been toppled over and slowly but surely, you won't need one to identify the teams.

There's been loud talk about Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Texas Tech bolting the Big 12 for the PAC 10, or the PAC 12, or who knows how many by the time all this is over.

The Texas Longhorns are kind of waiting to see what the Sooners do before they decide to either stay with the Big 12 or join the league's exodus to the PAC-whatever.

Texas A&M appears to be moving from the Big 12 to the SEC. All this is happening after Nebraska already moved from the Big 12 to the Big 10 and Colorado left for the PAC.

It was announced last weekend that Syracuse and Pitt are going to leave the Big East for the ACC.

There's talk of Florida State and Virginia Tech leaving the ACC for the SEC. Thus it has been rumored that Rutgers and UConn could bolt the Big East to fill the gaps left in

BYU, which has already left the MWC, is actually considered to be the top candidate to replace Texas A&M in the Big 12 or it could be headed to the PAC.

Boise State, Fresno State and Nevada have term consequences seldom are.

LVWD

From Page 5

has improved.

decided to leave the WAC for the MWC.

Utah appears to be leaving the MWC for

How does this effect UTEP? The jury is still out on what will eventually happen to Conference USA, but it's inevitable that something will happen.

The Big East has lost some teams and it's rumored they may shop C-USA to fill the

Teams like Houston, Central Florida, Memphis and East Carolina have been mentioned as possible movers.

SMU is actively pursuing a spot in the Big 12 to replace Texas A&M.

The only public rumors surrounding the Miners is that if C-USA took a crippling hit, UTEP could join Fresno State and Boise State in an expanded Mountain West Conference.

But those are just rumors that are contingent on other dominoes falling into place.

The only thing that looks definite is the fact that the NCAA will never be the same again.

And that's not good - decisions made based solely on making money despite the long-

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

We're watching you, Serena

Serena Williams had a bad day. It wasn't enough that Samantha Williams decided to add a little

Coming off a life-threatening injury, she was mercifully given a 29th seed. And it's not often that you see a 29th seed bring her game all of the way to the finals. But if it was "flair" the tournament was looking for, Williams didn't disappoint. Outside of Maria Sharapova and Serena's sister Venus, there is not a better draw in woman's tennis -

perhaps in all of woman's sports.

So, as the world turned in the U.S. Stosur, the plucky Australian No. Open finals this year, with Stosur 9 seed in this year's U.S. Open, up a set, Williams found herself in was demolishing her on the court, a 30-40 hole. After a crisp serve down the middle, Williams blasted a crosscourt forehand, yelling a spirited "come on!" as the Flushing Meadows crown roared in approval. The roar quickly turned to whistles and jeers as Williams was issued a code violation by chair umpire Eva Asderaki, giving the point and the game to Stosur.

> "I don't understand," Williams said, approaching the chair.

Well, in tennis, there is a thing

called the "hindrance" rule. Simply put, it means you're not allowed to yell and scream in a way that could, theoretically, cause your opponent to mess up. It's the tennis equivalent of saying "Nunan" in golf or "drop it!" in baseball. It's like a foul in basketball, except a lot more

And I've never seen it called in a match not featuring the names Serena Williams, Jimmy Connors or John McEnroe.

"Aren't you the one who screwed me over the last time I was here? You have it out for me?" Williams asked.

She'd have to be a bit more specific. She foot-faulted in the U.S. Open semifinals, threatened to kill the line judge and lost the match on a code violation. She is however credited with the institution of

instant replay after a 2004 match against Jennifer Capriati, the match Williams was referring to.

During the changeover, Williams

and mud through the faucets.

she attributed to the hard water from

the well. Since getting the water

hookup, her daughter's condition

She has nothing but praise those

"Thank you, thank you so much.

who worked so hard to bring this all

about for her and her family.

We really needed it."

my emotion? We're in America last time I checked. ... Really, don't even look at me, don't look my way."

Ratings were up 121 percent for this year's final, so in this case, Serena, it looks like we're keeping a lookout anyway.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter said. "You're a hater, and you're and publisher of The Kansas City just unattractive inside. ... Give me Luminary. (c) 2011 King Features Synd., Inc.

Classified Ads

Public Notice

San Elizario Independent **School District**

Request for Statements of Qualification

RFQ NO. 11-23 FROM **ACCOUNTANTS** FOR SERVICES **BASED ON AGREED PROCEDURES**

Board The of the Trustees of San Elizario ISD requesting are Statements Qualification from firms accounting to provide certain services based on agreedprocedures. services sought include review and report on certain business records, reporting and other matters specified in the RFQ.

Interested firms may obtain a copy of the full Request for Statement of Qualifications by contacting Mr. L.P. Estrada at the phone number or email address

listed below.

at the

Independent School District P.O. Box 920 1050 Ranch Road San Elizario, Texas 79849 Estrada Phone: 3939 Ext. 3502 Email: lpestrada@

Facsimile Statements Qualification not be accepted. Statements Qualification received timely will not be considered.

WTCC: 09-22-11 09-29-11

> Town of **Horizon City**

> > **PUBLIC**

Sealed Statements A Qualification will be received by the School District until 2:00 p.m. on October 3, 2011. All Statements for Qualification must be delivered by hand or mail to the School District following

> Elizario 0191.An Ordinance approving Articles Chicken Bylaws 915-872-

seisd.net for will of Horizon Texas. not through **EOE**

NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING held at 6:00 P.M. at a Special City Meeting Council on September 13. 2011, at City Hall at 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. The following ordinance was approved.

1) Ordinance No. Incorporation for the Town of Horizon City 4B Economic Development Corporation for the Town of Horizon City, Texas.

Ordinances are always available for viewing or copying upon request from the City Clerk at Town Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, City, Monday Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or call 915-852-1046

> Karen Ellefson City Clerk Town of Horizon City

WTCC:09-22-11

City of Socorro

Adoption of

the

was **Ordinances** September 2011 15, Citv of Socorro adopted Texas following

> 1) AN amendment ordinance 287 of the city of Socorro, texas providing for the creation and organization landmark commission, establishing terms of office for said commission and means and methods historical for landmark preservation within the jurisdiction of the city of Socorro.

Copies of the ordinance are available for review at the City Administration Building, 124 S. Blvd., Horizon Socorro Texas 79927: Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Texas.

Manuel Rubio

City Clerk

COUNSELING SERVICES

WTCC: 09-22-11

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

HELP WANTED

El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement **District**

Position Open Wastewater/ Water Operator

El Paso County

Tornillo Water Improvement District accepting applications Qualifications: H.S. degree or GED, class C Wastewater Operator license and Class C Water

License preferred, or Class D required within one year of appointment, valid Texas Class C driver's license, computer literate. experience wastewater treatment plant and water operation and maintenance. Salary based on experience. Applications accepted filled. position is Apply at 19225 Highland Tornillo, TX, mailing address P. O. Box 136, Tornillo, TX

> Equal Opportunity Employer

79853. (915) 764-

2966

WTCC: 09-22-11 09-29-11

SELF-HELP

who Persons have a problem with alcohol are offered а free help source of locally. Alcoholics

Anonymous - call

562-4081

information

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solucion. Info: 838-6264.

delivered this gem to Asderaki (and yes, she gave her the hand): "If you ever see me walking down the hall, look the other way, because you're out of control," Williams

a code violation because I expressed

expected to be finished by the end of

this year. Funding comes through a

self-help grant, El Paso County and

the water district. Undersupervision, "sweat-equity" The single mother mentions a labor is provided by area residents health benefit. Her daughter Mayra, 8, had developed a skin rash which

who dig the ditches and lay the pipe. The residents of the area will provide seven miles of new infrastructure in water line extensions. It will affect 122 families.

(Residents of Clint under took a similar project in early 2010. Nearly 4,000 feet of water pipe was laid by supervised volunteer labor in the sweat-equity effort. It was estimated that 150 people took part.)

Sandhills Water Project

In the works for nine years, Sandhills is a \$10-million, twophase project that will bring basic services to 1,400 residents in six colonias. The colonias are Dairyland, Darrington, College Park, Colonias del Paso, Ascension and Vista Larga. They are located north of I-10 in the Development Board loan. area around Darrington Road.

month, and Carrasco hopes to have it completed by the end of 2012. Affecting 193 families, the first phase includes Ascension and Colonias del Paso. It will provide 16 miles of new water line.

Approximately half of the total funding, \$5.3 million, will be spent in Phase 1. Included in this phase will be two 350,000 gallon above ground water storage tanks. It will provide 16 miles of new water line.

Costing about \$4.4 million, Phase 2 will provide 14 miles of new lines for 175 families in the remaining four colonias.

"They were so elated and happy,"

Lourdes and El Conquistador

This \$1.5 million project, located off North Loop near Fabens, is a work in progress, says Carrasco. It got under way last June and is

Clint Wastewater Project

This is a two-phase wastewater and drinking water program, Carrasco explains. Funding for Phase 1 comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Rural Development grant and loan. Funding for Phase 2 is provided by a Texas Water

The \$7.5 million project began The project was launched last early this year, and completion for both phases is expected by the end of 2012.

> The overall plan, Carrasco explains, calls for the conversion of the entire town of Clint from a septic tank system to a wastewater treatment system. When completed, there will be 250 new connections with five miles of new infrastructure.

> In addition, the community will receive needed upgrades to its drinking water infrastructure.

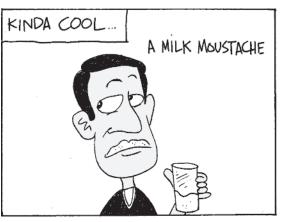
> As he looks back on these district water projects, Carrasco expresses gratitude for the hard work of those who have made it a reality - his board of directors and the employees of the LVWD.

> The district, formed in 1989, covers approximately 220 square miles, including the towns of Clint, San Elizario and Socorro. It serves between 14,000 and 14,500

September 22, 2011 Page 7

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas





AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps









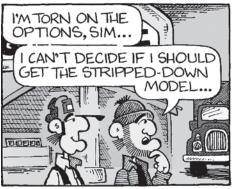
THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering







R.F.D. By Mike Marland





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

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: What is the difference between anxiety and panic attack? I am claustrophobic, and I need to fly from the West Coast to the East Coast and back. I can't do so because of my problem. I have tried therapy several times, but it did not help. I do not want to go that route again. Can you give me some suggestions on how to be able to fly with this problem? Is there a medicine I could take before I get on the plane? - Anon.

some cases, worry is appropriate. But with pathological anxiety, the worry is about things that don't merit worry or about imagined things that truly merit no concern. Under "anxiety disorders" are many different conditions, each with a slightly different set of things in common.

onset of terror in places where such terror is inappropriate. The attack builds to a high point in a matter of 10 minutes or less. The attack can take place in a perfectly neutral situation, like shopping in the grocery store. During an attack, the heart beats fast, people become short of breath, and they often sweat and fear they are at death's door.

Phobias are unreasonable fears of people, places and things that don't engender fear in others. Claustrophobia is the fear of being in an enclosed space, like an airplane. Phobias can bring on a panic attack. Maybe your phobia is not so much a fear of enclosed Dr. Donohue regrets that he is space but a fear of flying.

attacks and phobias. I'm not Reserved.

positive what you mean by 'going that route" again. Do you mean a detailed probing into your childhood and such matters? That isn't usually necessary. The doctor might prescribe a medicine that calms you and that you take only when needed. You won't become dependent on that medicine every day of your life. You use it only for the situation that throws you into such high anxiety.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My husband, 78 years old, fell off a Anxiety is excessive worry. In ladder, and his head struck the sidewalk. I insisted he go to the emergency room, although he put up a fight. In the ER, the examining doctor gave him a very complete examination. He ordered a CT scan of his brain. The doctor found nothing wrong, and the scan was said to be normal. They sent us symptoms. They all share some home. This week we got a report of the scan. It says my husband Panic attacks are the sudden has brain atrophy. I had to look up the meaning of atrophy. My husband was never an Einstein, but what is the significance of brain atrophy? He carries on a reasonable conversation, and he reads the paper carefully. Need we be concerned? I'm upset. He isn't. - W.Y.

> Atrophy means shrinkage. If everyone your husband's age had a brain scan, most of their reports would say brain atrophy. It's something that happens with age.

It doesn't imply any serious trouble. It shouldn't scare you or

unable to answer individual I'm not certain these distinctions letters, but he will incorporate are of importance to you. The them in his column whenever important thing for you is to uproot possible. Readers may write whatever it is that paralyzes you him or request an order form when you must board an airplane of available health newsletters or to blunt it so you can function. at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, Mental health professionals FL 32853-6475. (c) 2011 North can get you over anxiety, panic America Synd., Inc. All Rights

Super Crossword

TITLED TITLES **ACROSS**

1 Actor Postlethwaite 5 Amonasro's

daughter 9 Tracking tool 14 Looked like

othario? 19 Sore 20 Hose problem

21 Lissome 22 Uccello or

Veronese 23 Eugene O'Neill drama

26 Hangs tinsel 27 British astronomer 28 Cipher

29 Baby shark 31 Manumit 32 Ike's domain

34 Nom de crime? 38 More delicate 40 "Rawhide" and

"Gunsmoke" 45 _ Flynn Boyle 46 Hoffmann creation 47 "Ab _" (from the start)

48 Sock spot 50 Bar supply 51 George Hamilton's

55 Roger Miller tune 59 Joseph Conrad 61 Steep slope

62 With 25 Down, successful

63 Steeple part 65 "Stroker -" ('83

66 Musical chords 69 Skip 72 Rock's _ Leppard 73 Spouses no more

74 C.S. Forester 78 Certain orchestra 81 Baseball stat 82 Ward of "Sisters'

83 Rang 86 Castilian crv 87 Actress Burke 89 Item in a lock 91 Exodus figure 93 Stevie Wonder

95 Hal Foster comic 100 Ponchielli's

"Dance of the -101 Hightailed it 102 Belfry sound 103 Hog's honey 104 "How sweet _!" 107 React to an allergen

109 "Madame Boyary" author 112 Pepsin or lipase 114 Operetta composer

116 Vane dir. 117 Schwarzenegger's birthplace 118 Dino, to the Flintstones 120 Catherine _ -Jones 10 Past 11 Clamor 12 Evelyn's brother 13 Upshot 14 Select, with "for" 15 20th President 16 Chateau valley 17 Glue guy 18 Health measure? 24 Dole (out) 25 See 62 Across

30 Ram's remark

33 "Carmina Burana"

123 Damocles' dangler 127 "- Gay"

129 Phoebe Cates film

134 Microwave feature

135 Chilling

137 Harvest

136 Tombstone

138 Earthquake

139 Patriot Silas

1 Walkway

2 Resound

5 Bit part in

6 Singer Foxx

9 Scott's "The

"Cleopatra"?

7 Venture 8 Where Athenians

assembled

Quartet"

3 He and she

4 A hole near the

140 Tare's relative

141 Rochester's missis

DOWN

composer 35 Shakespearean villain 36 Schipa solo 37 Tuneful Tommy

39 Irish county 40 Yan's pans 41 Dislodge 42 Submarine 43 "_ again!" 44 Manhattan district

49 High-toned guy?

52 Sophoclean tragedy 53 Pleasant 54 Mingo's portrayer 56 Southern staple

57 Colorful fish 58 Harold of "Ghostbusters" 59 Capt.'s subordinate 60 Gluck's " ed Euridice" 64 Bogus Bach

67 Jacobi of "I, Claudius" 68 Black 70 Cola cooler 71 Raptor feature 73 Chou 75 In good shape 76 Civil Rights org. 77 Israeli airline

78 Ritzy 79 Hodgepodge 80 Lima's land 84 Work on a crossword? 85 Patron

87 Fresh from the 88 Taxing time? 90 Scuba site 92 Package abbr. 94 Pours gently

96 Figure of interest? 97 Move like 98 Kilmer or Bisoglio 99 Word of woe 105 Mischief-maker 106 Trickled

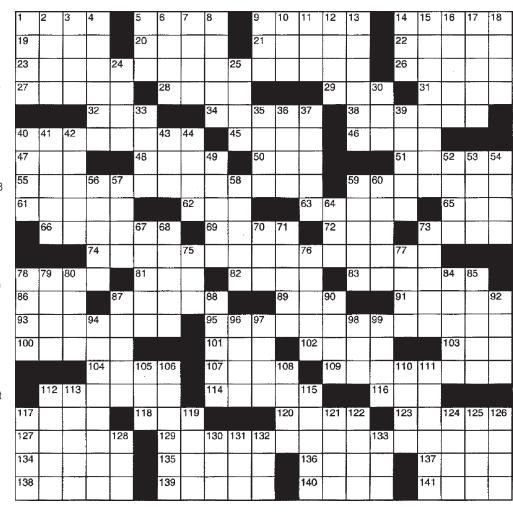
108 Mist 110 "Back in the _" ('68 song) 111 "Watch out!" 112 Cartoonist Bushmiller 113 Campbell or Judd 115 Alarm button 117 Understands 119 "Lemon _" ('65 hit) 121 Obsolete title

124 Carry out orders 125 Circus sound 126 Waterproofing material 128 Shrug part 130 Private pension 131 Palindromic diarist

122 Lot size

132 Artichoke heart? 133 Intelligent

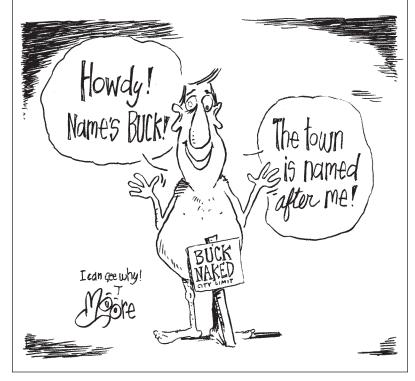
Answer Page 4



Page 8 **September 22, 2011**

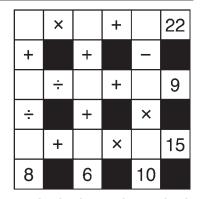
Moore Texas by Roger Moore Give early

Texans credit for having a sense of humor. There was once a town named BUCK NAKED...and even one named BARE BUTTE!



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.



DIFFICULTY: ★★

* Moderate ** Difficult ★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 2 3 5 6 7 8 9

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Answer Page 4

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging *** HOO BOY! Answer Page 4

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Figuring out retirement

For almost every American If you are among the roughly 95 percent of workers in the United States who are covered under Social Security, here's a primer on retirement coverage.

Security taxes, you earn "credits" toward Social Security benefits. If you were born in 1929, or later, you need 40 credits or 10 years of work to qualify for retirement benefits. No retirement benefits can be paid until you have the required number of credits. If you stop working before you have enough credits to qualify for benefits, the credits will remain on your Social Security record. If you return to work later, you can add more credits so that you qualify.

Your benefit amount is based on how much you earned during your working career. Higher lifetime important decision, but it's also a earnings result in higher benefits. A worker with average earnings can expect a retirement benefit that replaces about 40 percent of his or her average lifetime earnings. Social Security was never intended to be your only source of income when you retire. You also will need other savings, investments, pensions, or retirement accounts to make sure you have enough money to live comfortably when you retire.

Your benefit payment also is worker, Social Security is "part of affected by the age at which you the plan" for a secure retirement. decide to retire and begin receiving benefits. If you were born in 1942 or earlier, you already are eligible for your full Social Security benefit. If you were born from 1943 to 1960, the age at which full retirement online for retirement benefits at When you work and pay Social benefits are payable increases gradually to age 67.

> You can get Social Security retirement benefits as early as age 62, but if you retire before your full retirement age, your benefits will be reduced, based on your age. If you retire at age 62, your benefit would be about 25 percent lower than what it would be if you waited until you reach full retirement age. You may choose to keep working even beyond your full retirement age. If you do, you can increase your future Social Security benefits – up until age 70.

Choosing when to retire is an personal choice and one you should carefully consider. When's the best time? There is no one-size-fits-all answer. Social Security offers a list of factors to consider in the publication When to Start Receiving Retirement Benefits at www.socialsecurity. gov/pubs/10147.html. In addition, Social Security provides an online Retirement Estimator to get immediate and personalized retirement benefit estimates to help

you plan for your retirement. The Retirement Estimator is a convenient and secure financial planning tool, allowing you to create "what if" scenarios. For instance, you can change your "stop work" dates or expected future earnings to create and compare different retirement options. If you have a few minutes, you have time to check it out at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

When you're ready, you can apply www.socialsecurity.gov or call our toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 (TTY: 1-800-325-0778). Or, you can make an appointment to visit any Social Security office to apply in person.

STRANGE **BUT TRUE**

By Samantha Weaver

- · It was noted American wit Groucho Marx who made the following sage observation: "There's one way to find out if a man is honest - ask him. If he says 'Yes,' you know he is a crook."
- When the city of Los Angeles was founded, it was given the name "El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora de los Angeles de Porciuncula," which translates to "The Town of Our Lady of the Angels of Porciuncula." Back then, in 1781, there were just 52 settlers to start what is now the second most populous city in the country.
- · When speaking of dead languages, Latin is the one that probably comes to mind most often. It's not quite dead, though; it's the official language of Vatican City.
- Those who keep track of such things say that a professional ballet dancer goes through about 130 pairs of toe shoes in a single year.
- The yo-yo became popular in the United States after it was marketed by Donald F. Duncan Sr., a businessman from Chicago, but he didn't invent the toy. In 1928, Duncan was on a business trip to San Francisco when he saw Philippine immigrant Pedro Flores, who had gotten financing to manufacture the yo-yos and had trademarked the name, demonstrating how to use the toy. Duncan realized that the toy had the potential to be a huge success, so he paid Flores \$5,000 for all the rights. Incidentally, the name "yo-yo" means "come-come" in the native language of the Philippines.
- If you're like the average American, showers account for nearly one-third of your home water use.

Thought for the Day: "Any reviewer who expresses rage and loathing for a novel is preposterous. He or she is like a person who has put on full armor and attacked a hot fudge sundae."

Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

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CryptoQuip

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

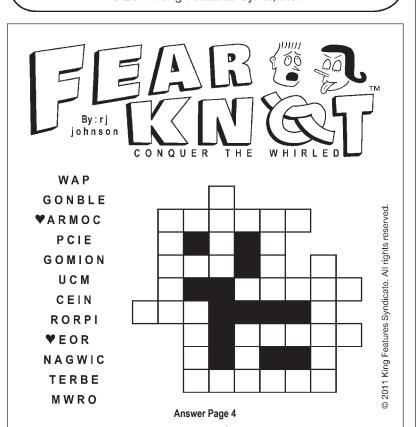
Clue: F equals M

AEZJ VMMDGV'R ADNZ ZJMZHZW MEZDH EPORZ, D APJWZH DN REZ APOGW REPOM "ED, EOJ,

D'F EPFZ!"

Answer Page 4

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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.