



NEWSBRIEFS

Tax holiday

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs reminds shoppers they can save money on everything from pens, jeans and shoes to backpacks and other items priced under \$100 during the state's annual sales tax holiday. This year, the sales tax holiday is scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 17-19. "Shoppers across Texas can take advantage of the three-day sales tax holiday and save extra money for their budgets," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said. "Families gearing up for the new school year would not pay any sales tax for many back-to-school items from clothing and footwear to school supplies during that weekend." Lists of apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free can be found on the Comptroller's website at: www.TexasTaxHoliday.org. This year, shoppers will save an estimated \$64.8 million in state and local sales taxes during the Sales Tax Holiday.

— R.J. DeSilva

Crime Stoppers

Two men enter an eastside self-storage facility, break off the locks to two units and steal their contents, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." Between 3:30 and 3:50 p.m. on Sunday, July 1, 2012, the two burglars drove into Montana Self-Storage at 11010 Montana and broke into two storage units, taking tools and a generator. Police believe that these same two suspects may possibly be involved in similar burglaries in other parts of town as well. Investigators were able to observe surveillance video at the facility that showed the two male subjects involved but they covered their faces with what appear to be white rags throughout the burglaries. Their vehicle was a blue or turquoise late 90s or early 2000s model, 4-door Chevrolet Cavalier with white front and rear bumpers. It also appears to have a sticker on the top of the windshield similar to those given out at Fort Bliss. If you have any information at all about the identity of the suspects in this case, please contact Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (566-8477), on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org or you can send a text message by entering the key word CRIME1 (no space) plus your tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637). You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

— James Klaes

Wanted

Rene Prado is this week's Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. Prado is 6'2" tall and weighs 190 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. He is wanted for a sexual assault in November of 2011. It is believed Prado is still in

See BRIEFS, Page 8

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

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo Courtesy of LDS Church History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah

GETTING OUT – Mormon colonists leave Mexico, circa 1912.

Exhibit chronicles Mormon exodus from Mexico to El Paso

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – One hundred years ago in Mexico, General Pascual Orozco took up arms against his former commander, President Francisco I. Madero. Caught in the crossfire were American civilians working in Mexico and residents of the Mormon colonies in the state of Chihuahua.

Subsequently, on July 28, 1912 the first Mexican Northwestern Railroad refugee train left Pearson, Mexico for El Paso, Texas carrying women and children to safety.

To commemorate this historic event of the

Mexican Revolution and El Paso's response, El Paso Museum of History, in conjunction with Brigham Young University, will present an exhibit, titled Finding Refuge in El Paso: The Mormon Exodus from Mexico, a Centennial Celebration 1912- 2012. The exhibit includes a series of never before seen photographs of the refugee train and the temporary El Paso lumberyard camp.

The unique showing will open with a private reception from 9 to 10:30 a.m., Saturday, July 28. Shortly thereafter, the exhibit will be open and free to the public. The exhibit is scheduled to be on display through January 31, 2013.

The Mormon colonies in Mexico are located near the Sierra Madre Mountains in

northern Mexico that were established by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints beginning in 1885. By the early 20th century, many of these settlements were relatively prosperous.

However, in the summer of 1912, the colonies were evacuated due to anti-American sentiment during the Mexican Revolution and many of the colonists left for the United States. Some of them did eventually return to their farms, but today only Colonia Juárez and Colonia Dublan in the Casas Grandes river valley remain active.

For more information, call Katherine Vandertulip at 915-351-3588 or send email to vandertulipkw@elpasotexas.gov

Socorro ISD school board expects to name new superintendent soon

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO ISD – Socorro Independent School District (SISD) residents should know the name of their next superintendent soon as school board members said that they expect to fill the position by the end of July.

Three candidates are in the running for SISD's top post including Michael Sorum, deputy superintendent for leadership, learning and student support at the 81,500-student Fort Worth school district; Heliodoro Torres Sanchez, chief of staff in the 27,800-student Ector County school district in Odessa; and Jose Espinoza, area superintendent in the Houston school district, which enrolls about 203,000 students.

The candidates were in town recently to interview with SISD Board of Trustees and to meet with student, employee, parent and

business groups. Each candidate participated, on separate days, in public meetings which were held at the SISD Service Center. About 50 persons showed up to each of the forums.

The finalists were selected from a pool of 83 applicants to replace Xavier De La Torre, who was hired as county superintendent in Santa Clara County, Calif., effective July 1. De La Torre, 48, was appointed superintendent of the Socorro school district in 2009. De La Torre last earned a base salary of \$255,780.

The district began its search for a superintendent in April, when the board hired PROACT Search, a national firm that specializes in executive searches for school districts, to evaluate applicants and narrow the field to highly-qualified candidates.

The first candidate to meet the public was Sorum, 49, who began his education career in 1986. He has since worked as a teacher, instructional guide, university professor and director of accountability.

Sorum began working for the Fort Worth Independent School District in 2005 and said he has worked with struggling districts, including the San Antonio Independent School District, in the past. In 2011, the Fort Worth school district had 21 schools that were ranked academically unacceptable by the Texas Education Agency.

Sorum earned a master's in education administration from Harvard University, a master of arts in education from the University of Texas at San Antonio, and a bachelor of arts from Portland State University, Oregon. He is scheduled to complete a doctoral program through Texas Christian University in December 2012.

Sanchez was the second of three superintendent candidates to answer questions from the community. Sanchez, 37, began working in education in 1998 as a middle school

See SISD, Page 8

Town of Horizon City Public Notice

The Town of Horizon City will conduct an election on Tuesday November 6, 2012 for the purpose of electing the positions of City Council Members, Places 1, 2, 4 and 6 for full two year terms.

Qualified persons interested may apply for these positions on the Town of Horizon City Election ballot beginning July 21, 2012 through August 20, 2012 at 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, TX, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WTCC: 07-26-12

Clint Independent School District Public Notice

2012-2013 School Meal Policy

The Clint Independent School District wishes to inform the public that all meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program for the 2012-2013 school year will be served at all campuses to all enrolled students at no charge.

For additional information please contact: Clint Independent School District, Attention: Julia Delgado, Food Service Manager, Child Nutrition Program, 311 S. Darrington Rd. , El Paso, TX 79928, (915) 852-8578, E-mail address: julia.delgado@clint.net

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Noticia Pública

Póliza de Comida del Año 2012-2013

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Clint desea informar al público que en el año escolar 2012-2013, todos los estudiantes inscritos en el Distrito recibirán comidas sin costo alguno. Estos servicios son patrocinados for los programas de National School Lunch Program y School Breakfast Program.

Para información adicional, por favor comunicarse a: Distrito Escolar Independiente de Clint, con: Julia Delgado, Food Service Manager, Child Nutrition Program, 311 S. Darrington Rd., El Paso, Texas 79928, (915) 852-8578. Correo Electronico: Julia.delgado@clint.net

De acuerdo con la ley Federal y la póliza del Departamento de Agricultura, se prohíbe a esta institución discriminar por motivo de raza, color, nacionalidad, sexo, edad o discapacidad.

Para presentar una queja por descriminación, escriba a: USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 o llame gratis a: (866) 632-9992. Personas con impedimentos auditivos o de habla pueden comunicarse a USDA por medio del Federal Relay Service a: (800) 877-8339; o (800) 845-6136 (Español). USDA es un proveedor y empleador con igualdad de oportunidades.

WTCC: 07-26-12

Archives: www.wtxcc.com

El Pasoans cut water use by half-a-billion gallons

By Christina Montoya
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – So far in 2012, El Pasoans have used 502 million fewer gallons of water than they did by this time in 2011.

“Congratulations to El Pasoans for adopting the ‘Less is the New More’ lifestyle,” said EPWU Vice President John Balliew. “El Pasoans have yet again proven this community is a worldwide leader in water conservation.”

EPWU’s multimedia, bilingual “Less is the New More” public outreach campaign focuses on following the city’s year-round, odd-even watering schedule; watering lawns less frequently, but more deeply; and seeking and fixing leaks around the home.

But the need to conserve continues. While the monsoon rains have finally come and the summer heat has broken, drought preparation remains of paramount importance to the El Paso Water Utilities staff.

“Our drought – years in the

making – won’t be erased by a few days of welcome rain,” Balliew said. “Since recent rains have had only a negligible impact on the New Mexico reservoirs on which we rely, El Paso Water Utilities continues to anticipate a severely reduced river water supply in 2013.”

EPWU is drilling new wells, building new pipelines, and extending the network of “purple pipes” that deliver recycled wastewater for irrigation and industrial use.

El Pasoans can stay informed and learn ways to conserve by visiting LessIsMoreEP.org and by finding EPWU on Facebook and Twitter.

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Flag thief identified

When I first heard the news item, I was outraged: Over the course of three days, 75 American flags were stolen from a veterans cemetery. Upon further investigation, I was chuckling ... almost.

In New York, in the Civil War section of the Cedar Park Cemetery in Hudson, flags had gone missing, and people were justifiable angry. Only the flag portions were missing, not the wooden poles, which remained pushed into the ground.

The latest theft was discovered just hours after a meeting of local officials, veterans and police to address the topic of stolen flags – because it had happened before at the same cemetery. Something had to be done.

Upon learning of the new damage, police set up cameras to attempt to nail the culprit in the flag thefts. What they found on the video had them scratching their heads: A woodchuck, also knows as a groundhog, was seen pulling down the flags and hauling them away, minus the wooden pole. Extending the investigation,

police used a special camera to go down into the burrows and tunnels the woodchucks had dug, and sure enough, there were remnants of the flags, used as bedding.

A look around the Internet reveals that woodchucks have been notorious for stealing flags (and flower arrangements) in cemeteries. In Bernville, Pa., woodchucks stole 40 flags – in 2005. So it’s been going on for a long time.

It’s suspected that there’s a chemical put into the flags that attracts the woodchucks. While the loss of the flags is good news for flag manufacturers, who will no doubt benefit from additional flag orders, they need to do the patriotic thing and change that chemical. Perhaps the addition of mint or another scent will deter the varmints from snatching flags.

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) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

Social Security and women

By Ray Vigil
Special to the Courier

August 26 is known as Women’s Equality Day. On that date in 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was signed, giving women the right to vote.

Social Security treats men and women equally. Men and women with identical earnings histories are treated exactly the same. However, there are things women in particular should know about Social Security. Although treated equally by Social Security, there are trends and differences in lifestyle that can affect benefits.

For example, women tend to care for many people: spouses, children, and parents. Taking time away from the workplace to care for a newborn child or aging parent can have an impact on your future Social Security benefits.

Also, despite significant strides through the years, women are more likely to earn less over a lifetime than men. Women are less often covered by private retirement plans, and they are more dependent on Social Security in their retirement years.

And, women tend to live about five years longer than men, which means more years depending on Social Security and other retirement income or savings.

If a woman is married to a man who earns significantly more than she does, it is likely she will qualify for a larger benefit amount on his record than on her own.

Want to learn more? Visit our Women’s page at www.socialsecurity.gov/women. Follow the link on that page to our publication, What Every Woman Should Know. You can read it online, print a copy, or listen to it on audio. We provide alternate media as well to reach as many women as possible and to provide the information the way you’d like to receive it.

Learning about your future Social Security benefits and how men and women are treated just the same in the eyes of Social Security: what better way to celebrate Women’s Equality Day?

For more information visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213.

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Published each Thursday by Homesteader News, Inc. Appreciation to our many contributors. Office open Monday through Thursday.


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. The Courier reserves the right not to 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
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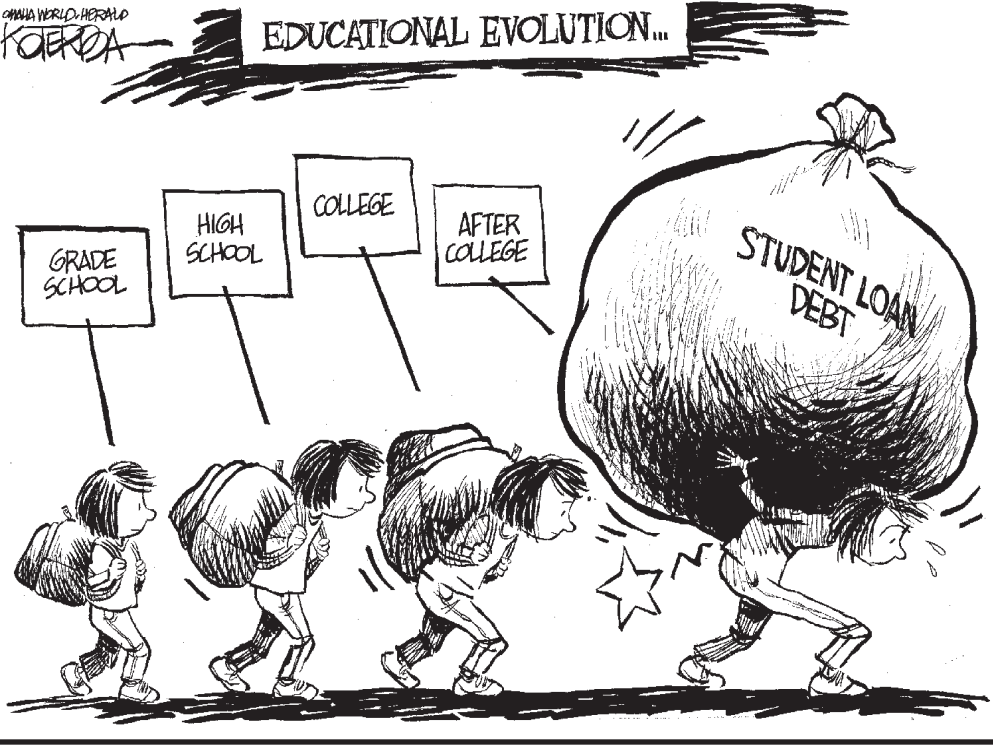
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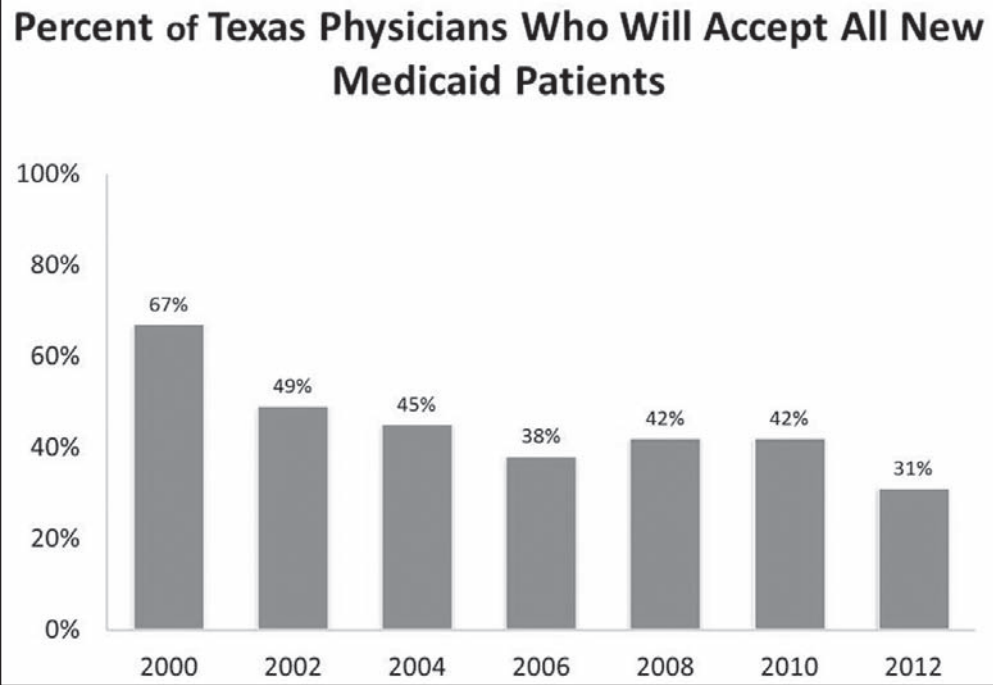
TMA sees drop in physicians accepting new Medicaid, Medicare patients

By Brent Annear
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – Texas Medical Association (TMA) physician leaders have long predicted government regulatory burdens, red tape, payment hassles, and low pay would erode the physician foundation of both Medicaid and Medicare.

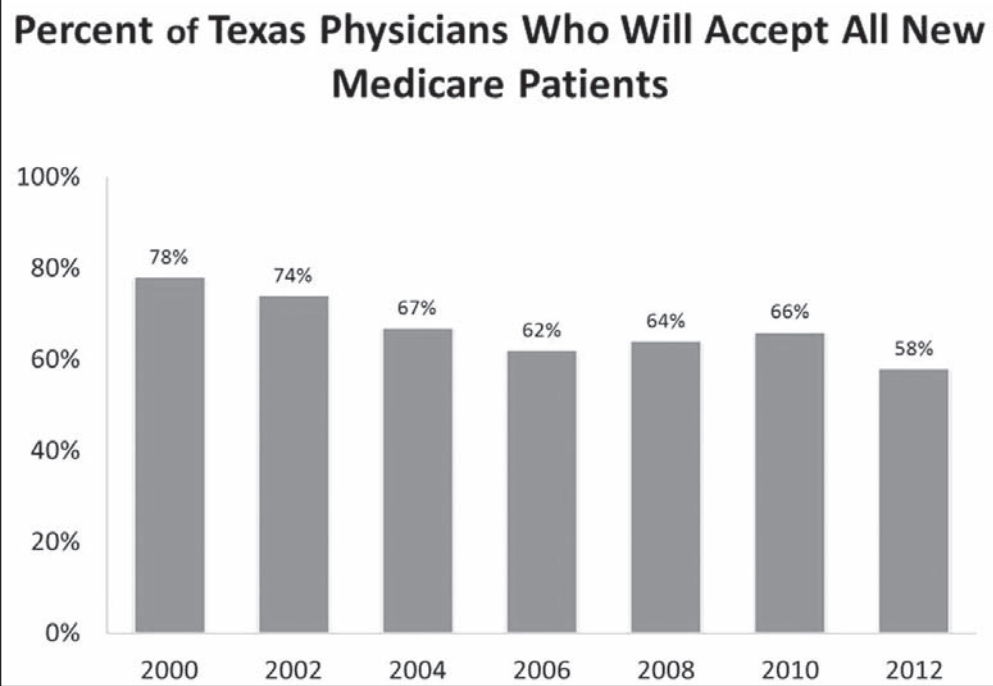
That day has come, according to TMA's new biennial survey of Texas physicians. More physicians are forced to reduce the number of patients they see who depend on government insurance for their health care. "All the bureaucratic red tape and administrative burdens only serve to increase the cost of running a practice while diverting a physician's attention away from patient care," said TMA President, Michael E. Speer, MD.

Hardest hit are low-income Texans who rely on Medicaid for their care. Texas physicians available to treat new Medicaid patients have plummeted from 42 percent in 2010 to 31 percent – an all-time low.



Medicare, a federal health program that insures seniors, people with long-term disabilities, and military families, also saw a huge decline. The number of Texas physicians accepting all new Medicare patients dropped from 66 percent in 2010 to 58 percent in 2012. That's part of a trend that's seen the number decline steadily from 78 percent in 2000. Meanwhile, the number of Texas physicians who limit how many new Medicare patients they accept, and the number who decline all new Medicare patients each rose by 4 percent in the past year.

Dr. Speer said these are the lowest-ever new-patient acceptance rates the association has seen. He's saddened but not surprised. "Doctors have answered the government mandate to invest in expensive health information technology, upgraded their coding and billing systems, implemented e-prescribing programs, withstood the threat of a new 60,000-item medical coding system (ICD-10), and for the past decade endured the payment uncertainty of Medicare," he explained.



To make matters worse, in 2010 and 2011, the state cut physicians' already-meager Medicaid payment rates another 2 percent. Then, at the start of this year, doctors who care for the state's poorest elderly and disabled patients (dual-eligible patients) were cut another 20 to 100 percent. These cuts hit physician practices extremely hard, especially because Medicaid payments cover less than half of the average cost to provide services. "Every business has a breaking point; physicians' practices are no different," said Dr. Speer.

Joannie Parr, a Sugar Land accountant, manages her husband's medical practice. Thomas J. Parr, MD, is an orthopedic surgeon. "Some years ago, we looked at expenses and income, and made the difficult decision to stop accepting Medicaid patients," she said. "Medicaid puts up so many hurdles we found it was easier to provide free care outright than hassle with Medicaid's bureaucracy for basically no pay." Dr. Parr now treats low-income patients referred to him by a free clinic and volunteers his surgical services at a local hospital.

Another critical issue not addressed in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) is the faulty formula Medicare uses to pay physicians. Doctors have faced the

Mansion fully restored

By Catherine Frazier
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – The 156-year-old Texas Governor’s Mansion has been fully restored.

“This structure has served at the heart of the State of Texas, and for looking ahead to the next 150 years and more,” said Texas Govener Rick Perry said. “Today, the Governor’s Mansion stands renewed, as a symbol of Texas’ resiliency and our state’s determination to work together to overcome the greatest of

challenges.”

“Texans from across our state came together to rebuild Texas’ home, a living link to our state’s past and a monument to the individuals and families who have made the Lone Star State what it is today,” said First Lady Anita Perry. “The Texas Governor’s Mansion stands once again as a symbol of our proud heritage of bold leadership, revered tradition and fierce independence.”

In October 2007, the mansion underwent deferred maintenance to replace plumbing and electrical systems, install indoor fire sprinklers,

and improve handicap accessibility. In the early morning hours of June 8, 2008, an unidentified arsonist threw a Molotov cocktail on the front porch causing catastrophic damage.

The governor and first lady, along with the Texas Legislature, committed to preserve and restore the historic mansion, which has served as the official residence for governors and their families since 1856. It is the fourth oldest continuously occupied governor’s residence in the country and the oldest governor’s mansion west of the Mississippi River.

The restoration was made possible by a \$21.5 million appropriation by

the Texas Legislature and a private fundraising effort led by Mrs. Perry, which raised more than \$3.5 million from thousands of Texans. The governor and first lady thanked the first responders who helped fight the fire and save the structure from total ruin. They also offered praise to the many agencies that collaborated to rebuild the Texas treasure, including the State Preservation Board and the Texas Historical Commission.

The entire mansion underwent a complete restoration, including a new roof, repairs to the exterior masonry, restoration of the columns and porches, renovations to the kitchen, and the installation of a new geexchange system to provide more energy efficient heating and cooling. Private funds were used to pay for an addition to the west side, restoration of historical features, improved handicap accessibility, and the completion of landscaping and historical documentation.

For more information about the mansion restoration project and the history of the mansion, please visit: <http://governor.state.tx.us/mansion/> and <http://governor.state.tx.us/mansion/timeline>.

Texas Governor’s Mansion Restoration Process:

- October 2007 – Gov. and Mrs. Perry moved out of the Texas Governor’s Mansion in advance of a deferred maintenance project,

which was to include a new fire suppression system, updates to plumbing and electrical work, and handicap accessibility. All historical furnishings, artwork and valuables owned by the State of Texas and Friends of the Governor’s Mansion were moved to a storage facility. The 1856 windows, historic doors and shutters, and the historic light fixtures were removed from the house for restoration off site.

- June 8, 2008 – An arsonist set fire to the Governor’s Mansion, causing significant structural and architectural damage. 100 firefighters responded to the four-alarm blaze, and it took an estimated two million gallons of water to put out the fire.
- July 2008 – First Lady Anita Perry established the Texas Governor’s Mansion Restoration Fund, which has raised more than \$3.5 million in donations from thousands of Texans. Private funds were used for the addition to the west side, restoration of historical features, such as the Ionic columns, code changes necessary under the new American and Disabilities Act, and the completion of landscaping and historical documentation.
- September 2008 – Well-known historic preservationist and project manager Dealey Herndon was hired by the state to manage the

See MANSION, Page 5

Canutillo Independent School District Public Notice of Special Education Services

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

Instructional Programs including: 1) Early Childhood (beginning on the third birthday through age five), Resources (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 children with visual or auditory impairments 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 policy FL provides for record access, confidentiality, and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact: Janine Hammock, Special Education Director, 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, Texas 79932, (915) 877-7450, or jhammock@canutillo-isd.org.

El Distrito Escolar de Canutillo Aviso Público de Servicios de Educación Especial

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo 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.

Programas de instrucción: infancia temprana (comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta la edad de cinco años), cuarto de recurso (K-12) y clases contenidad (K-12); 2) servicios diagnósticos; 3) servicios de transportación; 4) terepia 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 con discapasidades visuales y audivas 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 Pública 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derechos de ver los archivos educativos. Poliza FL explican 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 Canutillo que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con: Janine Hammock, Directora de Educación Especial, 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, Texas 79932, teléfono: (915) 877-7450, o correo electrónico: jhammock@canutillo-isd.org.

WTCC: 07/26/12

Canutillo Independent School District Public Notice of Non-Discrimination

Canutillo Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability in its employment practices or in providing education services, activities, and programs, including Career and Technical Education programs.

For additional information regarding the Canutillo Independent School District policy of nondiscrimination contact: Executive Director for Human Resources, (915) 877-7423, 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, TX 79932.

Notificación Pública de No Discriminar en Canutillo ISD

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo no discrimina en cuanto a raza, color, origen, género, edad o discapacidad en lo que se refiere a sus practices de empleo o a proveer servicios, actividades y programas educativos y programas educativos de carrera y tecnicos.

Para mayor información respecto a la política de no discriminación del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo, favor de contactar a: Director Ejecutivo de Recursos Humanos, (915) 877-7423, 7965 Artcraft Road. El Paso, TX 79932.

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CryptoQuip Answer

If a selfishly scheming mathematician is chilly, I suppose he’s cold and calculating.

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Mansion

From Page 4

restoration effort.

- July 2009 – Texas lawmakers appropriated \$21.5 million to restore the Governor’s Mansion. Restoring the mansion has been a multi-agency effort led by the State Preservation Board (SPB) and includes the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Historical Commission.
- August 2009 – Volz & Associates began work on a Historic Structures Report that was completed in draft form in 2010. The report was managed by the SPB and was funded by the Texas Governor’s Mansion Restoration Fund to inform restoration decisions.
- 2010 – The design phase began with the SPB selecting and contracting with renowned preservation architecture firm Ford, Powell & Carson and White Construction Company.
- October 2010 – Construction and restoration of the exterior project began, including repair of the exterior masonry, columns and porches, production of the signature entablature, and construction of the new roof.
- 2010 to 2011 – SPB worked closely with the City of Austin and finalized an agreement for the transfer of responsibility of Colorado Street from the city to the state. The City retained a utility easement and the state agreed to manage the upgrade of city water lines.
- February 2011 – The interior restoration project began.
- March 2011 – The temporary roof constructed in September 2008

- as Hurricane Ike approached Austin was removed and the installation of the permanent roof was completed.
- June 2011 – Installation of a new geoexchange system began in an effort to provide more energy efficient heating and cooling. The system utilizes the stable temperatures of the earth to absorb heat from the house in the summer and provide heat to the house in the winter, and qualifies the Mansion to receive the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating and Austin Energy’s Green Building rating.
 - August 1, 2011 – Master builder Abner Cook’s trademark “X-and-Stick” porch railings were recreated and installed at the mansion. Much of the original woodwork was destroyed during the 2008 fire, but parts of the railings were salvaged.
 - Summer 2011 – Restoration to the six 29-foot Ionic columns spanning the front porch was largely complete. Lead paint and charred areas of the original 1856 columns were removed, along with debris from the inside of the columns. The columns were restored in place.
 - 2012 – Work on the interior project continued, including kitchen renovations, restoration of historic spaces, a new addition on the west side, and new, handicap accessible, code compliant restrooms, and meticulous restoration of the historic millwork, plaster work and finishes. All historic rooms have been restored to their pre-fire appearance.
 - June 2012 – The Governor’s Mansion Collection, composed of historic furniture, artwork and pieces owned by the state and the Friends of the Governor’s Mansion

were returned to the home. Items included those previously in the mansion and antiques dating back to the earliest years of the state’s history, including the bed used by Sam Houston, Stephen F. Austin’s writing desk and portraits of Gov. and Mrs. Pease, who was in office when the Governor’s Mansion was built in 1856. The collection also includes

- Robert Jenkins Onderdonk’s famous 1903 painting, “Fall of the Alamo” and the Governors’ Memento Collection, a tradition started in the 1960s by Texas First Lady Jean Houston Daniel.
- July 2012 – The Governor’s Mansion Grounds Project, including the renovation of the historic grounds and the perimeter fence

- will be completed. TBG Partners was engaged to research a cultural landscape report that reflects the evolution of the mansion grounds over history.
- July to December 2012 – Work will continue on Colorado Street, anticipated to be complete in August, and the parking lot on the adjacent lot will be thoroughly renovated.

Public Notice

Canutillo Independent School District

Notice of Non-Discrimination in Career and Technical Education Programs

Canutillo Independent School District offers Career and Technical Education programs in Arts; A/V Technology and Communications; Agriculture Science Technology; Business Management and Administration; Exploring Careers; Career Preparation; Human Services; Health Science; Information Technology Education; Finance and Education Training; Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; Hospitality and Tourism; and Marketing, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Admission to these programs is based on career counseling, interests and aptitudes, age appropriateness, eligibility, and class space availability.

It is the policy of Canutillo 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.

It is the policy of Canutillo Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability 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.

Canutillo Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and Career and Technical Education programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Martha Carrasco, (915) 877-7423, mcarrasco@canutillo-isd.org and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, Nellie Sanchez, (915) 877-7433, mrsanchez@canutillo-isd.org, at 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, Texas 79932.

Aviso al Público

Notificación de No Discriminación en los Programas Educativos de Carreras Técnicas y Vocacional

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo ofrece programas Educativos de Artes; Tecnología A/V y Comunicaciones; Carreras y Técnicas y Vocacional y Educación Tecnológica en Ciencias de Agricultura; Administración y Gestión Empresarial; Exploración de Profesiones; Consumo Familiar; Ciencias de la Salud; Educación de Mercadeo; Educación Tecnológica y Desarrollo de Oficios Industriales; Ley, Seguridad Pública, Correcciones y Seguridad; Hospitalidad y Turismo; Mercadotenia; y Ciencia, Tecnología, Ingeniería y Matemáticas. La admisión a estos programas se basa en recomendación de consejeros escolares, interés académico, aptitudes, edad apropiada, elegibilidad, y disponibilidad de lugares en las clases.

Es norma del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo no discriminar la participación en estos programas por motivos de raza, color de piel, nacionalidad, género, discapacidad o edad en los programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y Educativos de Carrera y Técnicas y Vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese con la Coordinadora del Título IX, Martha Carrasco, al P.O. Box 100, Canutillo, Texas 79835, teléfono (915) 877-7423, correo electrónico: mcarrasco@canutillo-isd.org, o el Coordinadora de la Sección 504, Nellie Sanchez, teléfono (915) 877-7433, correo electrónico: mrsanchez@canutillo-isd.org, al 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, Texas 79932.

WTCC: 07-26-12

Public Notice

Canutillo Independent School District

504 Child Find

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the District has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate and if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to disabled students. For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible children, or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation and placement into Section 504, please contact the District’s Section 504 Coordinator, Nellie Sanchez, 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, Texas 79932, (915) 877-7433, or mrsanchez@canutillo-isd.org.

Aviso de Identificación de Estudiantes Incapacitados Bajo la Sección 504

Bajo la Sección del Decreto de Rehabilitación de 1973, el Distrito Escolar esta obligado a identificar, referir, evaluar, y propocionar servicios educativos apropiados y gratuitos a los estudiantes incapacitados que califican bajo esta ley. Si usted desea mas información sobre los derechos de padres de niños incapacitados, o si tiene preguntas sobre la identificación, evaluación, y colocación de niños en el programa de Sección 504, favor de ponerse en contacto con la Coordinadora de 504 del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo, Karen Judd, al 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, Texas 79932, (915) 877-7433, o mrsanchez@canutillo-isd.org.

WTCC: 07/26/12

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U.S. General Services Administration

What happens when you can’t pay your medical bills?

By Jason Alderman
Special to the Courier

It’s no secret that health care costs have been spiraling out of control for years. To fight back, your best bet is to be a well-informed consumer: Know the true costs of medical procedures, supplies and medications so you can bargain effectively; carefully anticipate and track medical expenses; and stay on top of your bills.

But sometimes, even when you follow the rules you still can get burned. I’ve heard many appalling stories about people – even those with comprehensive insurance – who have been denied benefits, over-charged, sent to collections or even forced to file for bankruptcy because they couldn’t pay their medical bills.

Here are a few coping strategies:

Carefully review each doctor, lab or hospital bill and match it against the Explanation of Benefits statement that shows how much they

were reimbursed by the insurance company. Also, watch for items that may have been charged to you by mistake such as:

- Medications, supplies, treatments or meals you didn’t receive while hospitalized or getting an outpatient procedure.
- Duplicate charges for a single procedure (such as x-rays, MRIs and lab work), including those that had to be redone due to a technician’s error.
- Charges for a full day’s hospitalization when you checked out early; or private room rates when you shared a suite.

The summary hospital bill you were sent probably doesn’t contain many details, so ask for an itemized bill along with a copy of your medical chart and a pharmacy ledger showing which drugs you were given during your stay.

If you’re having difficulty paying a medical bill, don’t simply ignore it. Like any creditor, doctors and hospitals often turn unpaid bills

over to collection agencies, which will wreak havoc with your credit score. Contact creditors as soon as possible, explain your situation and ask them to set up an installment payment plan or work out a reduced rate.

Many people with no insurance discover that they’re often charged much higher rates than those negotiated by insurance companies, Medicare and Medicaid. Don’t be afraid to ask for those lower rates and to work out a repayment plan – just be sure to get the agreement in writing. Most doctors and hospitals would rather accept reduced payments than have to deal with collection agencies and possibly no reimbursement at all.

Ask the hospital’s patient liaison to review your case and see whether you qualify for financial assistance from the government, a charitable organization or the hospital itself. Most will forgive some or all bills for people whose income falls below certain amounts tied to federal poverty levels. Also pursue this

avenue with your doctor or other provider – ideally before they’ve begun collections.

A few additional cost-savings tips:

- Ask whether your employer offers flexible spending accounts, which let you pay for eligible out-of-pocket health care and/or dependent care expenses on a pre-tax basis.
- Use online price-comparison services like Healthcare Blue Book and OutofPocket.com to research going rates for a variety of medical services.
- Unless it’s a true emergency, try to avoid emergency rooms and use an urgent care network facility affiliated with your insurance company or ask your doctor for recommendations.

Bottom line: Know what health services cost and don’t be afraid to negotiate. You’ll haggle over the price of a car – why not your health?

Jason Alderman directs Visa’s financial education programs.

San Elizario Independent School District Special Education Services

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

1) Instructional Program: including Early Childhood (beginning on the third birthday through age five), 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; 10) Homebound Services; and 11) Dyslexia Services.

Services are provided to identified auditorial 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 disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact: Special Education Director, Amanda G. Sanchez, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Special Education Office , San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3926. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

Servicios de Educacion Especial

El distrito escolar de San Elizario 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.

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

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 pública 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derechos de ver los archivos educativos. Polizas FL y FL-E explican 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 San Elizario que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con: Directora de Educación Especial, Amanda G. Sanchez, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Special Education Office, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3926. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

San Elizario Independent School District Public Notice of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the San Elizario Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The San Elizario 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, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Title IX Coordinator: Superintendent Sylvia Hopp, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900; or Section 504 Coordinator, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Special Education Office, San Elizario TX 79849, (915) 872-3960. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

Notificación Publica

Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de San Elizario 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 San Elizario esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas 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 prohíbe la discriminación sexual, del Acta de la Discriminación por Edad de 1975, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.

Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuniquese con la Coordinadora de Título IX: Superintendente Sylvia Hopp, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900; o Coordinadora de Sección 504, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Special Education Office, San Elizario TX 79849, (915) 872-3960. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

Ysleta Mission Door Conservation Project raises funds online



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

DONATIONS SOUGHT – El Paso Museum of History is encouraging the public to go on the Internet to visit Kickstarter and make a pledge to help defray costs for restoring the 360 year old Ysleta Mission door that dates back to 1680.

Patients

From Page 3

threat of steep Medicare payment cuts every year for more than 10 years. Once again, physicians face a nearly 30-percent cut Jan. 1, 2013. Instead of addressing Medicare’s flawed payment formula, the PPACA has added even more layers of bureaucracy.

Su Zan Carpenter, MD, a family physician in Angleton, Texas, recently opted out of Medicare. “Every time you turn around someone has a new rule or a new regulation or a new audit or a new inspection or a new something,” she said. “There’s a point where enough is enough. You need to see the patient, talk to the patient, examine the patient, and actually do something with your patients for your patients. All that stuff is starting to get in the way of practicing medicine and helping people.”

Frisco family physician Chris Noyes, MD, says he had a “straw that broke the camel’s back moment” with Medicare in 2009. “I had a patient who moved from out of state to be with his kids. He had lung cancer when he came in, and he ultimately died. We wrote off a fairly large balance,” Dr. Noyes said. “Two years after he died, we got a letter from Medicare saying they had overpaid for a flu shot for him by \$2 and they wanted the money back with interest and a penalty, and if I didn’t pay it all within 30 days they would prosecute me.” These stories are no longer isolated incidents but stories that are becoming more common across the state.

“What’s lost in the health care debate is the simple fact that patients need a doctor when they get sick. And physicians want to take care of patients and not push endless reams of paper around our desk,” said Dr. Speer. “At some point, state and federal leaders must realize without an adequate network of physicians, no health care system can work, let alone be effective.”

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

YSLETA – TheYsleta Mission Door Conservation Project is now on the international fundraising site Kickstarter.com, thanks to the efforts of the El Paso Museum of History.

Interested individuals can view the project by using the Internet to go to <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1934801310/ysleta-mission-door-conservation-project?ref=email> and search for “El Paso Museum.”

The Museum is encouraging the public to go on the Internet to visit Kickstarter and make a pledge to help defray costs for restoring the extraordinary relic. The

360 year old Ysleta Mission door dates to the year 1680, and by all accounts is an original door from the Ysleta Mission.

The Museum of History is hoping to raise at least \$1,500 through Kickstarter. The complete door conservation project is estimated at \$24,000.

The Ysleta Mission is one of four missions along the Rio Grande near El Paso, Texas that were originally built under the guidance of early Spanish explorers. Besides Ysleta, the other missions are the Socorro Mission, San Elizario Mission, and the Mission de Guadalupe in Juarez, MX.

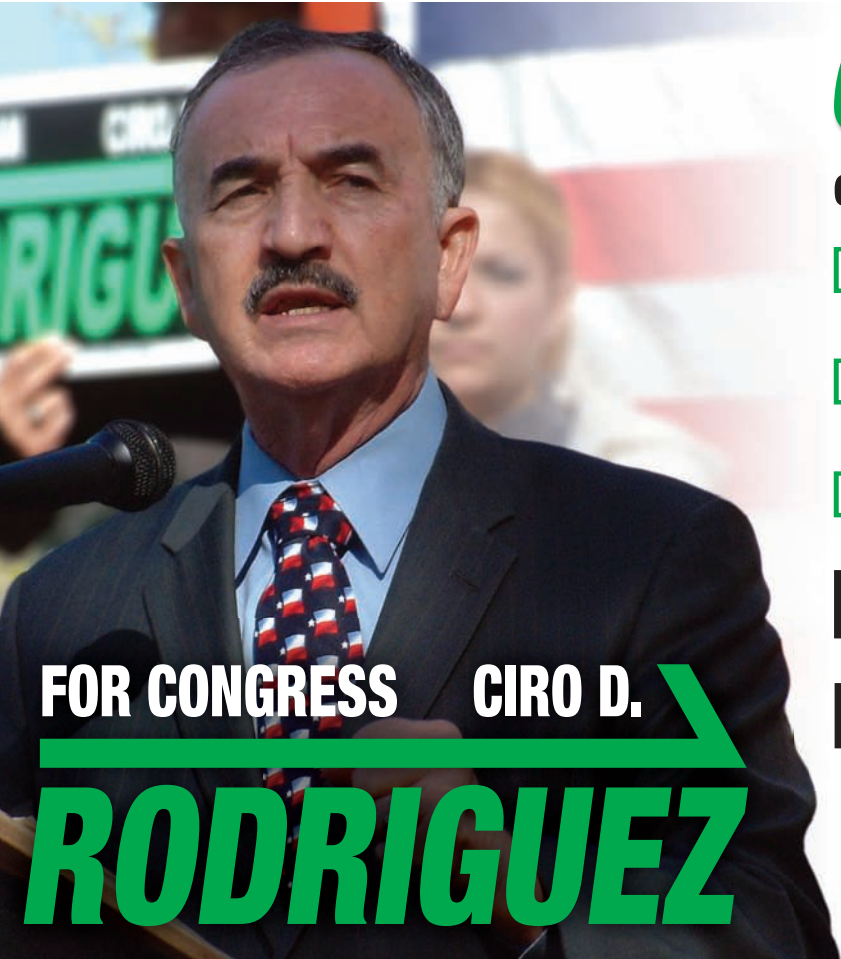
For more information, contact Barbara Angus at 915-351-3588, or send email to angusbx@elpasotexas.gov or Jim Murphy at murphyjr@elpasotexas.gov.

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San Elizario Independent School District Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Programs

1) The San Elizario Independent School District offers Career and Technical programs in Consumer and Family Science, Business, Cosmetology, Health Science Technologies, CISCO Networking, Advertising and Graphic Design, Building Trades and Auto Technology. Admission to these programs is based on course pre-requisite and grade level classifications. For program information call Julian Encina at 872-3939, ext. 3844.

2) It is the policy of the San Elizario Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability 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 the San Elizario 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) The San Elizario Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all education and vocational programs.

5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact Superintendent Sylvia Hopp, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

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

1) El distrito escolar de San Elizario está ofreciendo programas de carrera y tecnología en Ciencia al Consumidor y Familia, Negocios, Cosmetología, Técnica de Salud, Red de Computación CISCO, Publicidad/Promoción y Diseños Gráficos, Técnica de Carpintería, y Técnica Mecánica. Para poderse admitir en estos programas tienen que estar registrados en el distrito de San Elizario y completar los requisitos necesarios. Para más información contacto Julian Encina a 872-3939, ext. 3844

2) Es la póliza del distrito de San Elizario de no discriminar por causa de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o deshabilidad en estos programas vocacionales, servicios, o actividades requeridos por el Título IV 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 la póliza del distrito de San Elizario de no discriminar por causa de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, deshabilidad, o la edad en sus metodos de empleo exigido por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, enmendada por las Enmienda Educativas de 1972, del Acta de la Discriminación por Edad de 1975, como enmendada, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.*

4) El distrito escolar de San Elizario tomará pasos para asegurar que la falta de ingles no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas vocacionales y educativos.

5) Para más información de sus derechos y procedimiento de agravios, puede ponerse en contacto con el Superintendente Sylvia Hopp, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

WTCC: 07/26/12

SISD

From Page 1

English teacher. In 2001, he became a school administrator and has been an assistant principal, principal, director of bilingual education and assistant superintendent.

In addition, he has assumed leadership roles in other area districts, including the Waco and Lewisville school districts. He also teaches as an adjunct professor for Texas A&M University-Commerce and teaches school finance and school law for the Region 18 Education Service Center Superintendent and Principal Certification programs.

The final candidate to go before constituents was Espinoza. As a school improvement officer for middle schools, Espinoza stated that his responsibility is to help principals create high-quality instructional teams and programs focused on student academic growth, to establish and achieve bold and measurable goals, and to work with their school communities.

Esposito received a bachelor's degree in social work, a master's degree in counseling and guidance from the University of Texas-Pan American, and a doctorate from Sam Houston State University.

Espinoza was named the principal at Burbank Middle School in 2006, and the campus earned a Recognized state accountability rating for three straight years and an Exemplary rating for 2009-2010. Espinoza has also served HISD as an assistant principal at Burbank Middle School, the principal of O'Grady Elementary School in Mission ISD, and a counselor at Spring Oaks Middle School and Hollibrook Elementary

School in Spring Branch ISD. He was named the 2009 North Region HISD Secondary Principal of the Year and the 2010 LULAC Educator of the Year.

SISD Board President Michael Najera said the selection process for the finalists has been very vigorous and many factors are being considered.

The new SISD superintendent will oversee 42,500 students, nearly 7,000 employees and 45 schools. One of the fastest-growing districts in the state, SISD has an annual budget of more than \$358 million. And, in May 2011, district voters approved a \$297.4 million bond issue to build three new schools, to complete Eastlake High School and to convert El Dorado 9th Grade Academy into Pebble Hills High School, as well to install refrigerated air in the district's elementary schools.

Pat O'Neill, assistant superintendent for administrative services, has been serving as interim superintendent at SISD while a permanent replacement is hired.

Briefs

From Page 1

the area, possibly working at a local nightclub. Anyone that has seen or has any information on the whereabouts of Prado can contact Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension of the individuals featured.

– Deputy Jesse Tovar

Public Notice

San Elizario Independent School District

504 Child Find

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Aviso de Identificación de Estudiantes Incapacitados Bajo la Sección 504

Bajo la Sección del Decreto de Rehabilitación de 1973, el Distrito Escolar esta obligado a identificar, referir, evaluar, y proporcionar servicios educativos apropiados y gratuitos a los estudiantes incapacitados que califican bajo esta ley. Si usted desea mas información sobre los derechos de padres de niños incapacitados, o si tiene preguntas sobre la identificación, evaluación, y colocación de niños en el programa de Sección 504, favor de ponerse en contacto con la Coordinadora de 504 del Distrito Escolar Independiente de San Elizario, Amanda G. Sanchez, al numero 872-3926, o por correo a la siguiente dirección: P.O. Box 920, San Elizario, Texas 79849.

WTCC: 07/2612

Include social media instructions in your will

By Jason Alderman
Special to the Courier

Americans haven’t written a will stating how their assets should be distributed after death. Fewer still have bothered to appoint someone to make financial and health care decisions on their behalf should they become incapacitated. And now we can add another necessary, but probably overlooked legal document: a social media will.

That’s right – in this age of email, password-protected accounts and social media sites like Facebook and LinkedIn; and the U.S. Government, of all sources, recently pointed out why it’s important for people to leave instructions for how they want their online identities handled after death.

The government’s blog, www.usa.gov, suggests appointing a trusted relative or friend to act as your “online executor,” taking responsibility to close your email accounts, social media profiles and blogs after you die. This could easily be an addendum to your will – assuming you have one.

Suggest actions that will help you write your social media include:

- Review the privacy policies and the terms and conditions of each website where you have a presence.
- State how you would like your profiles to be handled. You may want to completely cancel your profile or keep it up for friends and family to visit and share their thoughts. Some sites allow your heirs to create a memorial profile where others can still see your profile but can’t post anything new.
- Give your social media executor a list of all websites where you have a profile, along with your usernames and passwords.
- Stipulate in your will that the online executor should be given a copy of your death certificate. He or she may need this as proof in order for websites to take any actions on your behalf.

I’d take it one step further and suggest that you also leave instructions for accessing your password-protected devices and accounts including computers, cellphones, and online banking accounts. The last thing you want grieving survivors to have to do is try and guess your account user names and passwords.

Incase you’ve been procrastinating about completing a will and other such documents, here’s a good motivator: Although wills aren’t mandatory, if you don’t have one when you die, the state will decide how your estate is settled. Similarly, if you haven’t filed financial and healthcare durable powers of attorney, someone else – not necessarily the person you wish – will make financial and healthcare decisions on your behalf should an accident or illness render you unable.

Here are a few things that could go wrong if you don’t make your wishes known:


- Court-supervised probate could hold up your estate and result in costly fees.
- Because the state usually awards assets to surviving spouses, children and other relatives, your friends and favored charitable institutions could be left out.
- With no will, the state decides guardianship for minor children whose parents have died.
- Your preferences for things like life-support procedures and burial instructions may not be followed

exactly.

Key documents that can prevent these kinds of scenarios include a will, revocable living trust, financial and health care powers of attorney and a living will.

In this Internet era, your legacy will likely live on long after you die. Do your family a favor and spare them from having to deal with these issues by addressing them now.

Jason Alderman directs Visa’s financial education programs.

**AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION**
of Texas

YOUR Gift
IS A WAY
TO CONQUER
LUNG DISEASE

Find out how you can help ...

www.texaslung.org

When you lose someone dear to you — or when a special person has a birthday, quits smoking, or has some other occasion to celebrate — memorial gifts or tribute gifts made for them to your local American Lung Association help prevent lung disease and improve the care of those who suffer from it.

1-800-LUNG-USA


Maybe It Wasn’t That Heavy Shopping Bag.

Weakness On One Side May Mean A Stroke.


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

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

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



American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke



HEART ATTACK & STROKE
Read the signs. / Raise a flag.

1ST ARMORED DIVISION RIDERS (1ADR) & FORT BLISS WARRIOR TRANSITION BATTALION (Wounded Warriors)

1ST ANNUAL BENEFIT RUN

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\$10 Singles & \$15 Couple

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894 Horizon Blvd
Horizon, Texas
(Last Bike in @ 3)

More Info: **Darrell @ 915-790-3930**
Pat @ 915-630-6285
Jose @ 1-334-492-1817



Football – along with all the antics – is back this week

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

If you find yourself walking with an extra spring to your step this week there’s an obvious reason for it.

NFL teams are reporting to camp this week and would you believe the first exhibition game of the season between the Arizona Cardinals and the New Orleans Saints is just a little more than a week away – Aug. 5.

And this season will be especially interesting with a ton of questions that will finally be answered.

Questions like: How will Peyton Manning do in Denver? Can the Giants repeat as champions? Will the Saints recovered from “Bountygate”? How long till Tebow takes over for Sanchez? What kind of an impact will Andrew Luck and RG3 have on their teams? Is this finally the year that teams like Dallas, Baltimore and Detroit take that big step forward? Can Cam Newton avoid that sophomore jinx?

There are many unknowns going into the

season but unfortunately, there are some things that never change.

And there are some players who will never change.

Though he is really just starting his professional career, Dallas’ Dez Bryant is quickly looking like one of those tragic stories that end way before it was supposed to.

By now all sports fans have heard that he was arrested last week on a misdemeanor domestic abuse charge for allegedly hitting his mother across the face with a baseball cap and striking her on the hands and the wrist.

And though a man should never show how much of a coward he is by hitting a woman, please don’t make the mistake of picturing a little old lady helplessly being attacked by a monster.

It’s no mistake that Dez’s mother has a history of run-ins with the law and has been rumored for a long while of dabbling in prostitution. She gave birth to Dez when she was 14 years old.

It’s no wonder why Dez Bryant has been in trouble so many times. Try to grow up in that

environment and stay out of trouble.

But he has one thing that young men in his situation rarely have – a second chance to change everything. A gift of a chance to show all those negative influences that they lost.

But at least for now, it appears as if those roots are stronger than his will.

And speaking of guys who will never get it, we go to Seattle’s Marshawn Lynch.

The talented running back runs with the fury of a warrior, however he makes decisions with the maturity of a 2-year-old.

Lynch was arrested again last week for driving under the influence in North Carolina when police saw him weaving his vehicle on the interstate and having two near collisions before being stopped.

In 2009, Lynch was arrested for a gun charge. He was given three years probation by the courts and received a three-game suspension by the NFL.

Lynch also was arrested for a hit-and-run after hitting a woman with his car in 2008.

Why this guy still have a drivers’ license? Now we examine the wacky antics of

Tennessee Titans receiver Kenny Britt, who with each passing day proves he is in the running for the “most brain cells lost during an NFL career” award.

Britt was arrested last week for driving under the influence.

I’ll tell you one thing, the guy is consistent. This was Britt’s eighth arrest since being drafted by the Titans in 2009.

Britt’s troubles have included being arrested for speeding, eluding officers, resisting arrest, traffic warrants, driving without a license and a bar fight.

His numerous drinking and driving arrests lead one to wonder why he would ever be allowed behind the wheel again.

Well, you know how things work in this country. He’ll kill someone with his car and experts will sit in front of the TV cameras uttering the words, “If we could only have seen the warning signs.”

Anyway, football season gets underway this week and despite these morons and the others like them in the league, I’ll be just like you cheering and booing them on, every Thursday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday night.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

The \$100 million man

If you believe in capitalism, you know that you pay what the market will bear. In New Orleans – particularly after Friday, July 13, 2012 – the market has spoken.

Drew Brees, 33, the record-setting signal caller for the New Orleans Saints, signed a five-year contract that afternoon that will pay him \$100 million. That’s a record, too. According to the NFL, \$60 million is guaranteed and it came with a \$37 million signing bonus. Next season he will earn \$40 million all told.

According to Forbes, the Saints’ average ticket prices and their resale value make them the most sought after ticket in the NFL. Put another way, with an average ticket price of

\$79 at the Superdome, if the team sells out every game, almost every dollar from the box office would go into his pocket.

That’s a lot of escarole.

In a radio interview with former Saints quarterback Bobby Hebert, Brees admitted it was a lot of money, but assured listeners that it was a business deal, pure and simple.

“I can tell you from the start of this negotiation, I have not once thought ‘Hey, I want to be the highest-paid guy.’ In the end, did the contract end up being that? Yes, but it was more about trying to objectively look at the numbers from the last decade for a top-tier quarterback... and just trying to do what’s fair and

justified.”

Brees played on a single year’s contract last season and came within four points of going to the NFC Championship game. In other seasons he averaged \$6 million per year – still a lot but not nearly what he was worth. He considered last season an act of faith on his part. Fans might be skeptical – every team has been burned by a player coming off of a career year.

Still, it was some year. He set NFL single-season records with 468 completions, 5,476 yards passing and a 71.2 completion percentage. The Saints set a record for total offense and led the league in home attendance, where they went undefeated.

New Orleans, despite its outlandish partying reputation, is actually a pretty blue-collar town. And Brees is the kind of guy you see walking around eating a

sandwich in New Orleans (he owns a sandwich shop there) or pumping his own gas (as reported by TMZ on an apparently slow paparazzi day). He’s a self-avowed family man who just happened to win a Super Bowl.

“I think it’s very easy to sit back and say ‘this is ridiculous,’” Brees admitted. “[But] I feel like with a

LEGALS

City of Socorro

PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. at a Regular Council Meeting on August 2, 2012, at City Hall, 860 Rio Vista, Socorro, Texas. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to

allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following:

1) **AN AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 295, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AMENDED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR**

contract like this, people can say ‘they are paying you what you earned or what you deserved.’ ... It’s just about representing our team and city the right way.”

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

THE CITY OF SOCORRO.

Those unable to attend the public hearing may submit their views to the City of Socorro. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; handicapped persons in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged

to contact the City Clerk (915) 858-2915, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Copies of ordinances are available for review at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., upon request.

Olivia Navarro
Assistant
City Clerk

WTCC: 07-26-12



1973
39
Years
2012

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

1	2	3	4
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13	14	15	16
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33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

Deadline: Mondays
Please print. Send form and
payment (no cash) to:
West Texas County Courier
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Contact Information:
Name: _____
Phone: _____

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



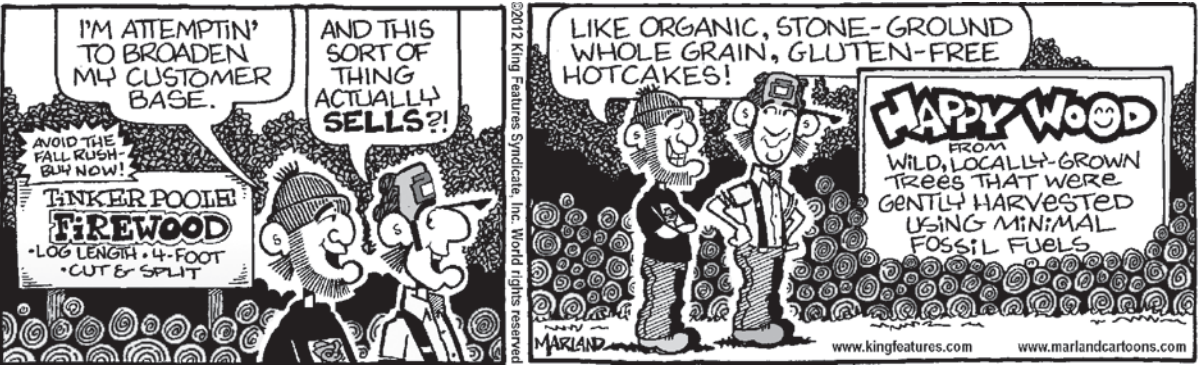
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Your good health

By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: For the past year, my wife has had to deal with autoimmune hepatitis. It's something that hardly anyone knows about or understands, and that makes it even more difficult to cope with. Everyone thinks she has an infection. I can only haltingly explain what she has. Will you tell your readers about this illness? – D.R.

Say “hepatitis,” and people automatically think of a viral infection. Say “cirrhosis,” which is sometimes the last stage of hepatitis, and people think of alcohol as the cause. Not all hepatitis is virus-caused, and not all cirrhosis is alcohol-caused. Your wife’s illness is an example. Her liver is inflamed (hepatitis), not from an infection but from an attack on her liver by her immune system.

The reason why a person’s immune system, a system designed to keep us healthy, turns on the liver is obscure. Signs that the immune system is the cause are demonstrable by finding antibodies in the blood. Antibodies are the ammunition the immune system makes to fend off dangerous invaders. One special antibody, the anti-nuclear antibody, is a big indication that the liver has come under an immune attack.

The course of autoimmune hepatitis is unpredictable. It might be mild with few symptoms, or it may take a more aggressive course in which the skin and eye whites turn yellow, where fatigue is immobilizing, where abdominal pain is common and where the skin develops an itch.

Quite often, a liver biopsy is the procedure that provides evidence of autoimmune hepatitis.

Prednisone, one of the cortisone drugs, often is the treatment of choice. It reins in an out-of-control immune system. Another immune-modifying drug, azathioprine, can be added to the regimen. It sounds

like your wife is responding well to treatment (from parts of your letter that I had to delete).

The booklet on hepatitis details the various forms of the illness, and how they are acquired and treated. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue – No. 503W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient’s printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: What is the procedure for removing a tick attached to your skin? Can you remove it yourself, or should it be removed only by a physician? – T.R.

It’s safe for people to remove ticks on their own. You need tweezers with fine grooves on their lower, inner surfaces.

Grasp the tick as close to the skin as you can and as close to the tick’s head. Gently but firmly pull the tick straight out, at a right angle to the skin. Don’t crush it.

Don’t bother with popular techniques such as coating the tick with petroleum jelly or applying a just-blown-out match to it.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Is Prozac addicting? Can you take it for life? – D.L.

Prozac isn’t addicting, but the drug should be stopped gradually rather than abruptly. People with recurring bouts of depression can take it for extended periods of time.

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) 2012 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

- STRIKE ONE!**

ACROSS

1 Resembling

6 Lowdown lit

10 Small shot

13 Ellipse

17 Prompts

18 Sheet of stamps

19 _ League

21 Send payment

23 Buenos _

24 Computer image

25 Non-stereo

26 Praise for Pavarotti

27 “Norma _” (’79 film)

28 Bruins’ sch.

30 “Ada” author

33 List entry

34 Start of a remark by Will Rogers

38 Author LeShan

39 About

40 Very cold

41 Mets’ milieu

44 Artist Neiman

46 Steakhouse order

49 Kasbah cap

52 Printed matter

53 Hook on a hawk

54 Wall Street spoilers

55 Poi base

56 Code letters

57 Prominent Hatch?

58 Gardener’s delight

59 So out it’s in
- 60 Bow

61 Playground game

62 Uncool ones

63 Who stoops to conquer

64 Middle of remark

72 Snaky swimmer

73 Actor Lorenzo

74 Logical letters

75 “Knots Landing” character

76 Yankee Derek

79 Nickel creature

80 Toughen up

82 Dachshund

83 Surrounded by

84 Dedicated to defamation

85 Laotian native

86 “La Boheme” seamstress

87 Lave the linoleum

88 Part of a process

89 Black piano key

90 Spirit

91 _ Lanka

92 Mutt of mystery

93 _-relief

95 End of remark

106 Corner a cat

107 Indy 500 figure

108 Actress Freeman

109 Fury’s food

110 Destined to diet

112 Lost

113 Ultimate whale watcher?
- 115 Former African nation

117 Actress Marisa

118 Garr of “Mr. Mom”

119 Theater section

120 New York city

121 Salamander

122 57 Across, e.g.

123 Look like a leech

124 Com. treaty

DOWN

1 Peck part

2 A Heap of Dickens

3 Come around

4 Look at

5 Sent out

6 Like some milk

7 Jungle bird

8 Top numero

9 “In Memoriam” poet

10 Hefty grass

11 Witch wheels?

12 Low-octane joe?

13 Sphere

14 Prove

15 Famed figure in fiddles

16 Bile producer

20 Opus

22 Magnum opus

29 R.E. Lee’s govt.

31 Part of DA

32 Scores in ores

35 Best

36 Hitter Hank

37 Sail through
- 41 Scarecrow stuffing

42 Monsieur Matisse

43 Precise

44 A particular Key

45 Lilly of pharmaceuticals

46 Mans the bar

47 Met men

48 Rossini’s “Le Comte _”

49 Some trimmings

50 Bungle

51 Gnus center?

53 Seek out a school?

54 Conifer coverings

55 Really rain

57 Sleek swimmer

58 Some kind of a nut

59 _ Island

62 “In Search of...” host

63 Unyielding

65 Pay attention to

66 Opens the mail

67 Discernment

68 Hunker down

69 Serve a purpose

70 Fate

71 Impish

76 Berry sweet stuff?

77 Funny Philips

78 Inside info

79 Herd word

80 Farouk’s faith

81 Nicole on “Fame”

84 Exercises the arms
- 85 “_ is said and done”

86 A real butte

88 Expert

89 Tennis legend

91 Playground feature

92 Reach

93 Prohibition

94 Woman warrior

95 Subway station

96 Papal name

97 “Superman” star

98 Coup d’_

99 Desert refuges

100 Jacques, for one

101 Effigy

102 Like a judge

103 Man of steal?

104 Jeweler’s weight

105 African scavenger

111 Tolkien creation

114 Form furrows

116 Cookbook phrase

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True Texas Facts by Roger T. Moore
July 25, 1882-Judge Roy Bean opens his first saloon West of the Pecos



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!

	×		+		20
+		÷		+	
	×		-		17
×		+		÷	
	-		×		12
30		2		5	

1 2 3 4 5 6 6 7 8

Answer Page 4

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: I have been getting Social Security disability benefits for many years. I'm about to hit my full retirement age. What will happen to my disability benefits?

A: When you reach "full retirement age" we will switch you from disability to retirement benefits. But you won't even notice the change because your benefit amount will stay the same. It's just that when you reach retirement age, we consider you to be a "retiree" and not a disability beneficiary. To learn more, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: I can't find my Medicare card and I need a replacement. Do I need to come into the office?

A: You can get your Medicare card replaced without leaving your home. Just go online to <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/medicarecard/> and get your new Medicare card sent to your home. Simply fill out the requested information and you'll get your new Medicare card within 30 days; it will be mailed to your address on record. If you need temporary proof of Medicare coverage, call our toll-free number at 1-800-772-1213 to request a letter and you will receive it in the mail

within 7 to 10 days. If you need immediate proof of your Medicare coverage, please visit your local Social Security office.

Q: I'm on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and live with my two brothers in an apartment. My SSI payment is cut by one-third because the Social Security office says I don't pay enough of the household expenses. How much of the expenses must I pay in order to get the full SSI rate?

A: Under the rules of the program, you must be paying an equal share of the expenses. Because there are three of you in the household, you must pay one-third of the expenses. If you are not paying an equal share of the rent, utilities, groceries, and other household expenses, your SSI payment must be reduced. To learn more, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

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.

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: V equals H

HG Z XDUGHXVUT XYVDRHMI
RZNVDRZLNHYHZM HX YVHUUT, H
XKSSJXD VD'X YJUC ZMC
YZUYKUZNHMI.

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

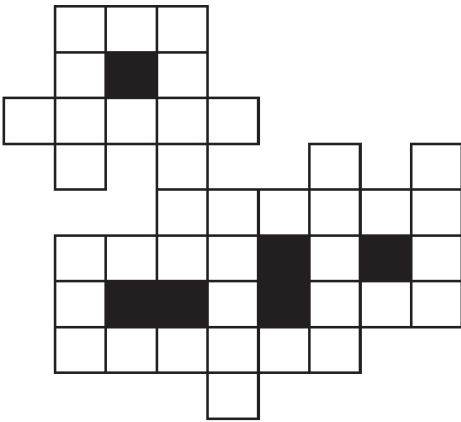
Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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ECU
DAYKEN
YOBEN
DYBO
RUNTEA
OYJ
ECKO
ECIJU
♥OBN
DECUOS
PRYUS
BEIJ



Answer Page 4

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It was beloved American comedian and film star 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."

• The ancient Egyptians were known to use crocodile dung as a contraceptive.

• You may be surprised to learn that when the hit 1950s TV show "I Love Lucy" had its premiere, Lucille Ball was already 40 years old.

• Talk about sneaky: In order to get a photo of Bing Crosby in his coffin, The National Enquirer tabloid had a reporter dress as a priest and sneak into the private funeral service. To top it off, on his way out of the service, the disguised journalist told ABC reporter Geraldo Rivera not to pester the family at such a sensitive moment.

• Every year, about \$500 million is spent on beads for Mardi Gras.

• Ever wonder how the statuette taken home by winners of the Academy Awards got its nickname? Evidently, in 1931 a secretary at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences saw the statuette for the first time and exclaimed, "Why, he reminds me of my Uncle Oscar!" The comment struck the fancy of a reporter who was present, and he put it in a story about the awards, and the name stuck.

• Are you acersecomic? If your hair has never been cut, you are.

• Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee was not himself a slave owner. He reportedly did not believe in the institution of slavery.

• If this is an average week, three manmade artifacts hurtling into the atmosphere from space will crash into the Earth.

Thought for the Day: "The world is round; it has no point."

– Adrienne E. Gusoff

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