



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Immunize

With the start of school for borderland children just around the corner, it's time that parents ensure they will be able to register their children by making sure all of their immunizations are up to date. Partnering with each of El Paso County's school districts, Immunize El Paso will be operating clinics at area schools to vaccinate children during school registration. Under the *Texas Vaccines for Children Program*, qualifying students are able to receive all the vaccinations they need for only a \$10.00 flat rate, regardless of the number of shots needed. Medicaid, CHIP and some major insurance plans are also accepted. Parents are encouraged to visit any outreach locations or visit one of the clinics. No appointment is ever needed for any of the services offered. For more information regarding the immunization requirements or for a list of outreach locations contact the Immunize El Paso downtown clinic at 533-3414 or the eastside clinic at 857-2474. You can also visit the website at [www.immunizeelpaso.org](http://www.immunizeelpaso.org). The Tillman Health Center is downtown at 222 S. Campbell in the basement. It is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The eastside clinic is at 1580 George Dieter, Ste 102. It is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. It is also open the third Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon.

— Dusty Warden

### Wanted

Roger Matthew Robles is a Wanted Man in this Socorro Search because, according to his sister sthey were in his car when they got into an argument. The sister told City of Socorro Detectives that Robles was sitting in the front passenger seat and she was sitting in the middle rear seat. During the fight she says the 31-year-old Robles turned around and grabbed her by the hair, and pulled her over into the front seat. Then she says he started punching her with a closed first in the stomach and face. Then she says Robles pulled her hair again and this time attempted to choke her. That's not all; she told City of Socorro Criminal Investigators that in a desperate attempt to get free she opened the door to jump out of a moving vehicle going 35-45 miles per hour. That's when, she says he yelled "call the police then" and pushed her out of the vehicle. She cried as she told detectives she hit the road and hurt her back and ribs. She added she feared for her life. City of Socorro Detectives cannot find Robles, but know somebody has seen him in the area and may know where he's hiding. If you do, call the police. In the City of Socorro the number is 858-6986. He faces more charges if he doesn't turn himself in. Right now he'll need \$5,000 bond.

— David Garcia

*It is better to look where you're going than to see where you've been.*

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy National Park Service

Chaco Canyon is in northwest New Mexico. This area is known as the Four Corners, where northwest New Mexico, northeast Arizona, southeast Utah and southwest Colorado meet. This area is also the San Juan Basin and part of the Colorado Plateau. Chaco Canyon is 150 miles northwest of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Shown in photo is Chetro Ketl. These structures were often oriented to solar, lunar, and cardinal directions. Lines of sight between the great houses allowed communication. Sophisticated astronomical markers, communication features, water control devices, and formal earthen mounds surrounded them. The buildings were placed within a landscape surrounded by sacred mountains, mesas, and shrines that still have deep spiritual meaning for their descendants.

## Film explores center of an ancient world

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Chaco Canyon was the center of the Anasazi world. It was occupied at least from 800 to 1300 AD. Today, the canyon's massive architectural wonders built by these ancestral people testify to the organizational and engineering abilities not seen anywhere else in the American Southwest.

For a deeper appreciation of the mysteries of this ancient site located in northern New Mexico, El Paso Archaeological Society invites the public to a free screening of the film, *Chaco*, at 2 p.m., Sunday August 19, at El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain Road.

The Anasazi Indians lived in this area for centuries. Some prefer the name "Ancestral Puebloans," which more clearly describes their relationship to present-day Pueblo people, including the Hopi, Acoma, Taos Pueblo, Zuni, and other Pueblos of New Mexico.

The hour-long film incorporates beautiful photography of the Chaco Canyon environment with its ancient structures and explores the debate over whether Chaco was an ancient religious destination, according to Marilyn Guida, museum education curator.

Chaco is a production of Camera One and was made in cooperation with the Chaco Canyon National Historic Park. It is presented by the El Paso Archaeological Society in partnership with the El Paso Museum of Archaeology. For more information, call 755-4332 or send email to [guidamr@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:guidamr@elpasotexas.gov).

## Vinton company contributes to London's Olympic landmark

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

LONDON – The Orbit, the tall iconic structure that flanks London's Olympic stadium, has the local ArcelorMittal facility in Vinton, Texas bursting with pride.

The majority of the steel in the Orbit came from ArcelorMittal's plants in Western Europe. However, token quantities of steel were used from plants in every continent where the company has a presence, — including Vinton — to reflect the spirit of the Olympic Games that brings together athletes from across the globe.

In an effort to make a lasting contribution to London and reinforce ArcelorMittal's position as a leading, global steelmaker, the company pledged its sponsorship of the London 2012 Olympic

See ORBIT, Page 4



— Photo courtesy Arcelor Mittal

**STUNNING** – London's Olympic ArcelorMittal Orbit has a viewing platform with a spiral staircase (1,150 feet long and 455 steps) and two passenger lifts. It is fully accessible by wheelchair. More than 5,000 gallons of red paint were used to give the Orbit its bright color. 35,000 bolts were used in its construction.



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Anthony Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 22, 2012 in the Anthony ISD Board Room, 813 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.040000/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.130000/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

### Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year’s Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	12.60%	Increase
Debt Service	45.75%	Increase
Total Expenditures	14.11%	Increase

### Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, tax Code)

	Preceeding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 223,918,967	\$ 222,761,283
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 3,104,666	\$ 12,250,684
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 162,196,173	\$ 161,501,419
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 3,053,338	\$ 10,433,920

\* “Appraised value” is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.  
\*\* “New property” is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.  
\*\*\* “Taxable value” is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

### Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$3,170,999  
\* Outstanding principal.

### Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year’s Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year’s Rate	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.147500*	\$ 1.187500	\$ 2,264	\$ 6,212
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.000650	\$ 0.002880*	\$ 1.003530	\$ 2,443	\$ 6,627
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.130000*	\$ 1.170000	\$ 2,246	\$ 6,370

\*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.  
The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

### Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year’s Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 91,108	\$ 89,073
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 75,971	\$ 73,950
Last Year’s Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.187500	\$ 1.170000
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 902.15	\$ 865.22
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (36.93)

**Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.**

**Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.170100. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.170100.**

### Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 2,450,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 167,000

## Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

### eBenefits

The Department of Veterans Affairs reports that 1.67 million of us (veterans and service members alike) have signed up online for access to our benefits information. That number slightly exceeds the VA’s expectations for 2012. Next year it’s hoping to increase that to 2.5 million users.

eBenefits, at [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov), allows us to learn about our individual benefits without having to go to a VA facility and ask. With one password, we can access the whole site. VA officials say it’s secure. I suppose time will tell whether that’s accurate, but for now there haven’t been any problems.

What can you do at eBenefits? There are 46 functions. Here are a few:

- The most popular function so far is checking the status of claims with the VA. Two million of us per month have been using it for that.
- The Career Center has a hiring site, resume builder, self-assessment tools and a translator that takes military experience and correlates that to civilian

skills. Eight thousand of us visited that site in the first week it was up.

- There is a one-click link to the myHealtheVet, where we can get health information.

- Another handy function is the ability to download VA correspondence, including military records, home loan certificates of eligibility, civil-service preferences, benefits verification letters and more. We can check GI Bill enrollment, health insurance status and VA payment history.


The VA is hoping that all of this online interaction will help speed up the processing of claims. It wants to go digital as a way of clearing the backlog and reaching its goal of completing claims in less than 125 days by 2015.

If you check in and use eBenefits, here’s a suggestion: Once you locate documents, print them out and keep a copy... just in case.

*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](mailto:columnreply@gmail.com). (c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.*

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IS A WAY TO CONQUER LUNG DISEASE



Give the gift that remembers by helping others ...

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.

[www.texaslung.org](http://www.texaslung.org)

1-800-LUNG-USA

1973  
39  
Years  
2012

WEST TEXAS COUNTY  
COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CHITTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FARMER, SAN

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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. 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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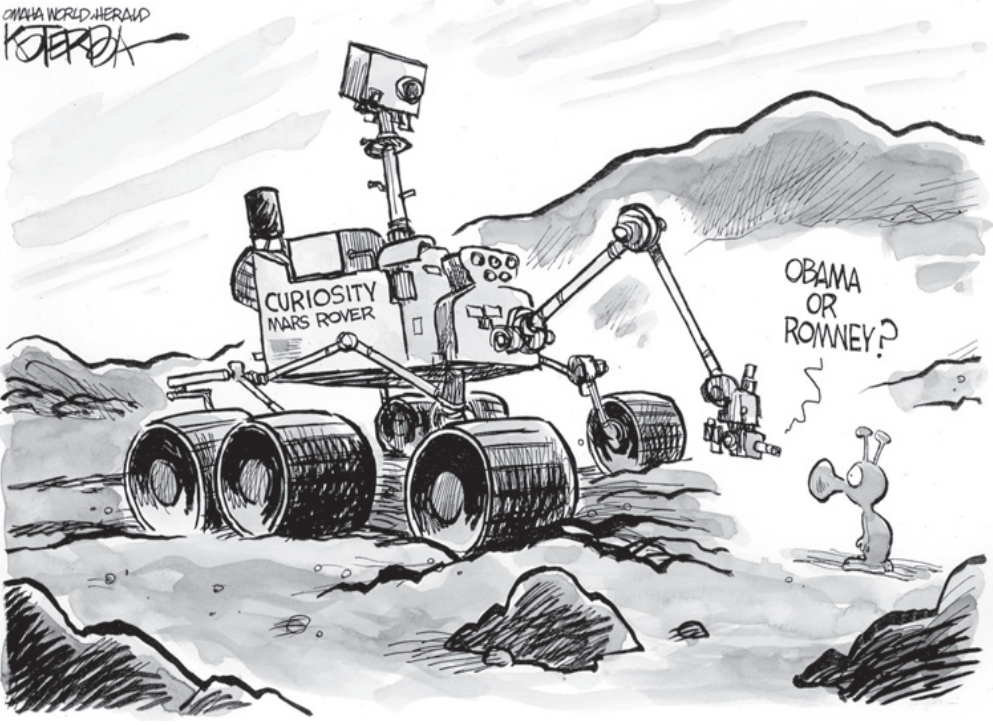
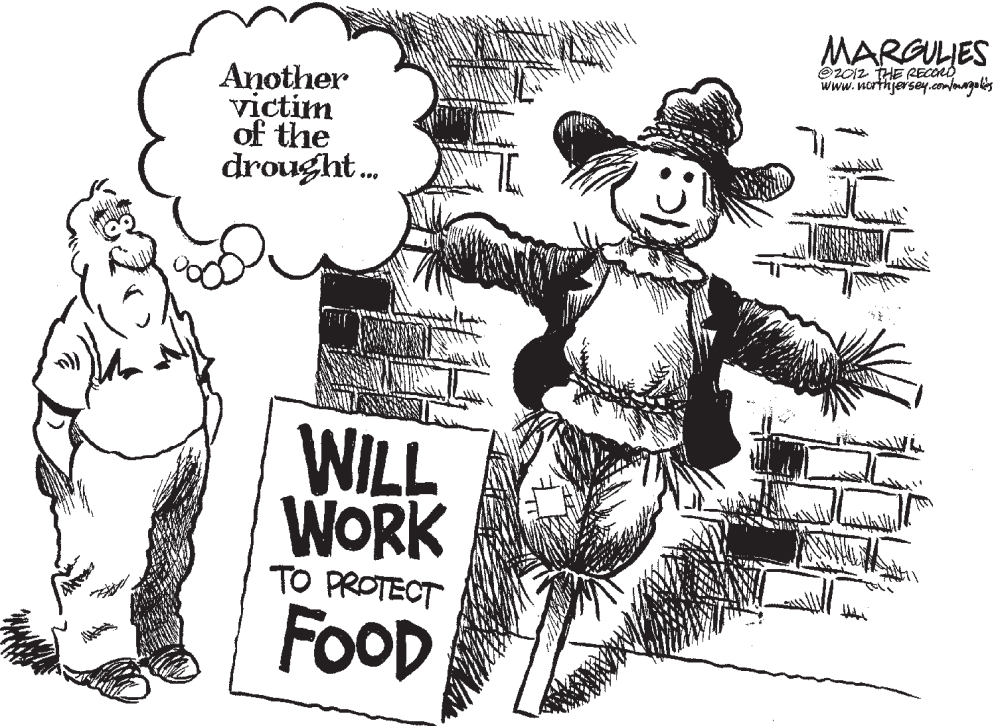
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EUROPE SWEEPS THE “I-NEED-A-HANDOUT” EVENT IN LONDON.



# Stopping telemarketer calls

By Jason Alderman  
Special to the Courier

When the Do-Not-Call Implementation Act of 2003 was passed, it was supposed to herald a new era of silence – as in, no more annoying dinner-time telemarketing calls. Based on the number of unsolicited calls our household still receives nearly a decade later, however, I’d say the law has been had only mixed success.

True, the sheer volume of calls did drop significantly after we registered our home and cell phone numbers with the Federal Trade Commission’s National Do Not Call Registry. But because so many types of organizations are exempt from the legislation and so many shady companies flout the rules, everyone I know still gets pestered relentlessly.

There are steps you can take to curtail annoying calls; and just as important, ways to avoid falling for telemarketing scams.

First, if you haven’t already done so, register your phone numbers with the registry, either online at [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov) or by calling 888-382-1222 from each phone you wish to enroll. Although it’s illegal for telemarketers to call wireless phones, you may want to register them just in case.

Be aware that certain organizations are exempt from the Do Not Call regulations barring contact. Charities, political organizations, telephone surveyors and companies with which you’ve done business in the last 18 months (and their affiliates and business partners) are still allowed to contact you unless you specifically request to be removed from their lists.

Telemarketers have up to 31 days to update their lists, so if you’re not currently registered it could take that long for calls to cease. After that, you can file complaints about unwanted calls at the Do Not Call website or phone number. Remember, though: Debt collectors may continue to call you, whether or not your number is registered.

Here are a few additional tips for reducing call volume:

Use Caller ID to screen incoming calls. By law, telemarketers must use some iteration of their business name in their onscreen ID, but many unscrupulous organizations will attempt to “spoof” you by providing misleading identifying information.

If you don’t recognize the name or number you can either take the call or let it go to

See CALLS, Page 4

## 2012 Property Tax Rates in Town of Horizon City

This notice concerns 2012 property tax rates for the Town of Horizon City. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year’s tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year’s effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year’s rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

<b>Last year’s tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s operating taxes	\$ 2,014,079
Last year’s debt taxes	\$ 88,797
Last year’s total taxes	\$ 2,102,876
Last year’s tax base	\$ 675,622,811
Last year’s total tax rate	\$ 0.311250 /\$100

<b>This year’s effective tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 2,097,126
÷ This year’s adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 670,454,885
= This year’s effective tax rate	\$ 0.312791/\$100
<i>(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)</i>	

<b>This year’s rollback tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	
÷ This year’s adjusted tax base	\$ 2,008,572
= This year’s effective operating rate	\$ 670,454,885
x 1.08 = this year’s maximum operating rate	\$ 0.299583/\$100
+ This year’s debt rate	\$ 0.323549/\$100
= This year’s total rollback rate	\$ 0.037994/\$100
	\$ 0.361543/\$100

<b>Statement of Increase/Decrease</b>	
If the Town of Horizon City adopts a 2012 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.312791 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2011 taxes by \$61,209.	

<b>SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances</b>	
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit’s property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.	

<b>Type of Property Tax Funds</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$ -0-
Debt Service (I&S)	\$ 228,767

<b>SCHEDULE B – 2012 Debt Service</b>	
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).	

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Capital Lease	\$39,205	\$4,704	\$0	\$43,909
Note Payable	\$33,879	\$3,901	\$0	\$37,780
Bond Payable	\$20,000	\$13,088	\$0	\$33,088
Note Payable	\$135,682	\$12,409	\$0	\$148,091
Total required for 2012 Debt Service				\$ 262,868
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year				\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2012				\$ 262,868
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2012				\$ -0-
= Total debt levy				\$262,868

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates’ calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office, located at 221 N. Kansas.

Name of person preparing this notice: **M. Beatrice Thick, RTA**  
Title: **Tax Customer Accounts Supervisor** Date prepared: **August 6, 2012**



# ORBIT

From Page 1

and Paralympic games.

ArcelorMittal provided \$23 million of the \$27 million project and donated 2,200 tons of steel.

London serves as the corporate office for ArcelorMittal and is home to Chairman and CEO Lakshmi N. Mittal.

“It gives me great pride to see the Orbit standing not only as a completed work of public art but as a physical symbol of the Olympic spirit. It makes me very proud that plants from across the world contributed to this showcase of the strength and versatility of steel,” said Mittal.

The Orbit is the most obvious visual evidence of this sponsorship and showcases the versatility and strength of steel as a construction material. Sixty percent of the steel used for the structure is from recycled scrap steel, stated company officials.

The Orbit was designed by Anish Kapoor and Cecil Balmond. Its height is 375.6 feet, making it the tallest sculpture in the United Kingdom. If it were a vertical tower (with all the loops flattened out), it would be taller than the Eiffel Tower and the Statue of Liberty.

The Orbit is currently hosting about 5,000 visitors a day and estimates are that it will attract more than a million people during the first year of operation.

# Calls

From Page 3

voicemail. If the line goes dead, that usually means it was a robo-call and there was no live operator available. Either way, you’ll likely continue to receive calls unless you take action.

If a message is left and you think the organization is legitimate, call them back to request being taken off their own internal Do Not Call list, which they’re required to maintain by law or face steep fines. If you suspect the call is a scam, go straight to filing a complaint.

You can also use your phone carrier’s call-blocking function to prevent future calls from

that number. However, this step won’t do much good if someone is harvesting and selling your phone number to multiple telemarketers; plus, many carriers limit the number of callers you can block.

And finally: You can notify specific sellers in writing that you wish to continue receiving their calls. Just be aware that some marketers may attempt to obtain such consent surreptitiously via innocent-seeming solicitations or emails. This is one more reason why it’s important to read every document and email carefully before signing or checking “I agree” to the fine print.

Jason Alderman directs Visa’s financial education programs.

## 2012 Property Tax Rates in El Paso County Emergency Services District #2

This notice concerns 2012 property tax rates for the El Paso County Emergency Services District #2. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year’s tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year’s effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year’s rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

<b>Last year’s tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s operating taxes	\$ 778,018
Last year’s debt taxes	\$ 1,935,589
Last year’s total taxes	\$ 2,713,607
Last year’s tax base	\$ 2,713,607,000
Last year’s total tax rate	\$ 0.100000 /\$100

<b>This year’s effective tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 2,711,179
+ This year’s adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 2,742,007,569
= This year’s effective tax rate	\$ 0.098875 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

<b>This year’s rollback tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 777,322
+ This year’s adjusted tax base	\$ 2,742,007,569
= This year’s effective operating rate	\$ 0.028349 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year’s maximum operating rate	\$ 0.030616 /\$100
+ This year’s debt rate	\$ 0.073797 /\$100
= This year’s total rollback rate	\$ 0.104413 /\$100

### Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the El Paso County Emergency Services District #2 adopts a 2012 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.098875 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2011 taxes by \$61,992.

### SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit’s property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$ 225,048
Debt Service (I&S)	\$ -0-

### SCHEDULE B – 2012 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Clint	\$104,434	\$120,281	\$0	\$224,715
Fabens	\$204,240	\$130,603	\$0	\$334,843
Montana Vista	\$190,242	\$117,101	\$0	\$307,343
San Elizario	\$263,543	\$113,085	\$0	\$376,628
Socorro	\$277,534	\$183,395	\$0	\$460,929
West Valley	\$257,071	\$110,090	\$0	\$367,161

Total required for 2012 Debt Service	\$ 2,071,619
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources	\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year	\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2012	\$ 2,071,619
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2012	\$ -0-
= Total Debt Levy	\$ 2,071,619

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates’ calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office, located at 221 N. Kansas.

Name of person preparing this notice: **M. Beatrice Thick, RTA**  
Title: **Tax Customer Accounts Supervisor**    Date prepared: **August 7, 2012**

## 2012 Property Tax Rates in City of Socorro

This notice concerns 2012 property tax rates for the City of Socorro. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year’s tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year’s effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year’s rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

<b>Last year’s tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s operating taxes	\$ 3,219,806
Last year’s debt taxes	\$ 833,701
Last year’s total taxes	\$ 4,053,507
Last year’s tax base	\$ 815,993,937
Last year’s total tax rate	\$ 0.496757 /\$100

<b>This year’s effective tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 4,046,901
+ This year’s adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 820,103,187
= This year’s effective tax rate	\$ 0.493462 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

<b>This year’s rollback tax rate:</b>	
Last year’s adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 3,214,559
+ This year’s adjusted tax base	\$ 820,103,187
= This year’s effective operating rate	\$ 0.391970 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year’s maximum operating rate	\$ 0.423327 /\$100
+ This year’s debt rate	\$ 0.142478 /\$100
= This year’s total rollback rate	\$ 0.565805 /\$100

### Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the City of Socorro adopts a 2012 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.493462 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2011 taxes by \$85,008.

### SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit’s property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$ 6,290,269
Debt Service (I&S)	\$ -0-

### SCHEDULE B – 2012 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Cert. Oblig. - 2008	\$ 60,000	\$ 191,279	-0-	\$ 251,279
Cert. Oblig. - 2010	\$ 15,000	\$ 106,050	-0-	\$ 121,050
Cert. Oblig. Ref. Bond - 2010	\$ 285,000	\$ 51,800	-0-	\$ 336,800
Cert. Oblig. - 2011	\$ 70,000	\$ 94,300	-0-	\$ 164,300
Cert. Oblig. - 2012	\$ 170,000	\$ 151,492	-0-	\$ 321,492

Total required for 2012 Debt Service	\$ 1,194,921
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources	\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year	\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2012	\$ 1,194,921
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2012	\$ -0-
= Total Debt Levy	\$ 1,194,921

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates’ calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office, located at 221 N. Kansas.

Name of person preparing this notice: **M. Beatrice Thick, RTA**  
Title: **Tax Customer Accounts Supervisor**    Date prepared: **August 6, 2012**

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## CryptoQuip Answer

If you go to a highly regarded podiatrist, I suppose your feet are in good hands.

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# VLB drops rate to lowest level ever

By **Jim Suydam**  
*Special to the Courier*

TEXAS — The Texas Veterans Land Board has dropped interest rates on land loans to a record low – just 6.75 percent.

“I hope every veteran in Texas hears about these record low rates,” said Jerry Patterson, chairman of the VLB. “This is a great benefit they have earned and should take advantage of.”

Texas veterans can now take advantage of the VLB’s low-interest rate loans to borrow as much as \$100,000 to buy land. The previous rate was 7.25 percent. Loans are also now being closed in a record average of 30 days or less. The practice of rewarding Veterans for their service with land in Texas goes back to before the Republic. After World War II, Texas created the VLB to oversee the land loan program, which eventually expanded to offer home and home improvement loans.

Since taking office in 2003, Patterson has raised the amount

Texas veterans may borrow for a home from \$150,000 up to \$417,000. Buying land through the VLB has gotten easier, too. The VLB has reduced the minimum acreage that could be bought with a VLB land loan from five acres to one acre, making it easier for veterans to buy lots closer to urban areas. A Texas veteran can simultaneously have a VLB land loan, a VLB home loan and a VLB home improvement loan.

The Texas Veterans Land Board was created in 1946 to help veterans returning from World War II buy land for agricultural purposes.

“No other state can match what the VLB offers: low-cost home, land and home improvement loans; skilled nursing facilities and cemeteries — all exclusively for Texas veterans or their spouses,” Patterson said. “And all of our programs are self-funding, which is good news for Texas taxpayers.”

For more information on VLB loans, talk to your realtor or call 1-800-252-VETS (1-800-252-8387), or visit the Veterans Land Board website at [www.texasveterans.com](http://www.texasveterans.com).

## Anthony Independent School District 2012-2013 Meal Policy

Anthony Independent School District serves breakfast and lunch every school day through the academic year 2012-2013. Meals are free of charge to all students enrolled in the district regardless of income under the universal free provision II program. In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, Anthony ISD is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact Mr. Ron Haugen, Superintendent, at 840 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, or call (915) 886-6500.

## El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony Regla de Alimentos Año 2012-2013

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony ofrece durante todo el ciclo 2012-2013 a todos los estudiantes inscritos desayuno y comida gratis sin importar ingreso familiar bajo el programa universal de provision II. De acuerdo con la ley federal y la política del Departamento de Agricultura, Anthony ISD prohíbe la discriminación por motivo de raza, color, nacionalidad, sexo, edad o discapacidad. Para presentar una queja por discriminación, escriba a USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 o llame al (800) 795-3272 o al (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA es un proveedor que ofrece la igualdad de oportunidades. *Para más información de sus derechos y procedimiento de agravios, puede ponerse en contacto con el Sr. Ron Haugen, Superintendente, 840 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, ó llame al (915) 886-6500.*

WTCC: 08-09-12

# Classified Ads

## LEGALS

### TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX

### PUBLIC NOTICE

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

The Town of Anthony will hold a public hearing at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, August 14, 2012, at City Hall Council Room located at 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas regarding submission of Texas CDBG applications to the Texas Department of Agriculture-Office of Rural Affairs. Citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing to discuss the citizen participation plan, local housing and community development needs, available funding, eligible activities, past

use of funds, and development of TxCDBG applications. Written comments may also be submitted to the Office of the Mayor at P.O. Box 1269, Anthony, Texas 79821. Persons with disabilities who may require auxiliary aids or services to attend this meeting should contact the Mayor's Office at (915) 886-3944 at least two days before the meeting to make arrangements.

Art Franco  
Mayor

WTCC: 08-09-12

### TOWN OF CLINT

### PUBLIC NOTICE

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

The Town of Clint will hold a public

hearing at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, August 21, 2012, at the Clint Community Center located at 200 North San Elizario Road, Clint, Texas regarding submission of Texas CDBG applications to the Texas Department of Agriculture-Office of Rural Affairs. Citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing to discuss the citizen participation plan, local housing and community development needs, available funding, eligible activities, past use of funds, and development of TxCDBG applications. Written comments may also be submitted to the Office of the Mayor at P.O. Box 350, Clint, Texas 79836. Persons with disabilities who may require auxiliary aids or services to attend this meeting should

contact Town Hall at (915) 851-3146 at least two days before the meeting to make arrangements.

Dale T. Reinhardt  
Mayor

WTCC: 08-09-12

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### JOBS

### El Paso County Emergency Services District No. 2

### Public Notice

The El Paso County Emergency Services District

No. 2, is currently taking applications for a part time **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**. There will be a 3 MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD for any new hire.

### General Job Description

This individual reports to the ESD Board, District Administrator, Fire Marshal and is responsible for providing administrative support to staff and assuming book keeping, reservation, and reception. These duties include but are not limited to: database system maintenance and training, office supply purchasing, typing, filing, reception and telephone duties. **Pay Starts at 12.00 per hour. Part Time – 20 Hours. Resumes must be received by 5:00 P.M., Friday, August 24, 2012.**

### Duties and Responsibilities

- Assume receptionist duties, greet public and refer them to appropriate staff members, answer phone, route calls, and take messages.
- Assist staff with administrative duties as requested.

### Preferred Qualifications

- Cooperate in the maintenance and/or modification of agency data collection system.
- Oversee database management for quality assurance.
- Provide training to staff.
- Maintain accurate daily accounting of fees, donations and other revenue.
- Assist with completion of necessary statistical reports as requested.
- Compile statistical information for ESD Board members as requested.
- Develop and maintain agency inventory system.
- Distribute incoming mail and prepare outgoing mail including bulk mail.
- Maintain front desk area, keeping it clean and free from clutter.
- Type and word process documents as needed.
- Order office supplies and monitor inventory.
- Update and maintain mailing lists.
- Produce mailing labels and reports as requested.
- Maintain appropriate interpersonal relationships with employees, peers, and consumers.

- Facilitate Customers with information on permits.
- Assist with various program operations as requested as responsibilities permit.
- Other duties as assigned.

### Required Qualifications

- High School Diploma or GED
- Demonstrated written and oral communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as a team.
- Minimum two years clerical or administrative experience.
- Typing skills with at least 50 WPM.
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office software (Word, Access, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Knowledge of general office machines and telephone system.
- Sensitivity to the needs of persons with disabilities.
- Ability and willingness to work cooperatively with others.
- High degree of discretion dealing with confidential information.
- Ability and willingness to work some early mornings, evenings and weekend days.
- Ability to travel for short business trips.

## 2012 PROPERTY TAX RATES Town of Clint Small Taxing Unit Notice

The **Town of Clint** will hold a meeting at 6:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, August 21, 2012** at the Clint Community Center, 200 N. San Elizario Rd. to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2012. The proposed tax rate is \$0.442248 per \$100 of value.

The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the Town of Clint by 8.00%.

WTCC: 08/09/12

## Town of Clint Public Notice

The Town of Clint will conduct an **Election** on Tuesday November 6, 2012 for the purpose of electing the positions of Mayor and two (2) Alderman at-large for full two (2) year terms.

Qualified persons may apply for these positions on the Town of Clint ballot through August 20, 2012 at Town Hall, 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, TX 79836, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Town of Clint will also conduct a **Special Election** on Tuesday November 6, 2012 for the purpose of electing one (1) Alderman at-large, for a one (1) year, unexpired term.

Qualified persons may apply for this position on the Town of Clint ballot through August 23, 2012 at Town Hall, 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, TX 79836, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Susana Rodriguez  
City Clerk

Date Published  
August 9, 2012

WTCC: 08-09-12



# Paterno’s family keeps Penn State catastrophe in news

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

There’s no doubt that one of the worst sports-related stories of all time took place over the last decade-and-a-half at Penn State. By now everyone, sports fan and not, has heard of the horrible acts on young boys perpetrated by former Penn State assistant coach Jerry Sandusky. For his horrendous crimes, it’s rather clear that Sandusky will spend the rest of his days on this Earth in prison. And I can’t think of any other place he should spend the rest of his time. And if there is any real justice in the world, he might make a few cozy friends in the big house. Though they didn’t actually perform any unspeakable acts on young boys, a bevy of Penn State administrative heavyweights looked the other way and covered up Sandusky’s deeds. The school’s president, vice president and athletics director will no doubt go to trial and eventually be held partly responsible for what went on at the school. The biggest name in this fiasco was, of

course, legendary head coach Joe Paterno. Paterno, who for many years was looked at as a grandfatherly saint of a football coach, turned out to be like all the other leaders of big name programs who put all else second to winning. And for his surprising actions, Paterno, who passed away soon after all this ugliness was exposed, has lost all the respect and honor he spent his lifetime achieving. Paterno forfeited 110 games, costing him the honor of being the winningest coach in college football history. He also suffered the fate of having his statue at the entrance of Beaver Stadium removed. Though the whole episode has been a nightmare for the Penn State community, all the arrests and the trials and the sanctions and the penalties and the embarrassment surrounding the case will help put the whole episode to rest. Unless of course something, or someone, comes along to keep all this in the news. Enter the Paterno family. There are sayings out there about letting sleeping dogs lie, and of discretion being the better part of valor, and frankly, knowing when to shut up.

I know the Joe Paterno family has suffered greatly over the past year, but their grief and pride might just be making matters worse. Just when things were beginning to quite down with the whole affair, the Paterno family stirred things up again last week by hiring attorney Wick Sollers to appeal the NCAA sanctions handed down on Penn State. These are the sanctions and penalties that Penn State has already agreed to in an attempt to put the matter to bed and begin the recovery process. The letter sent by the family stated, “This matter may be the most important disciplinary action in the history of the NCAA, and it has been handled in a fundamentally inappropriate and unprecedented manner. To severely punish a University and its community and to condemn a great educator, philanthropist and coach without any public review or hearing is unfair on its face and a violation of NCAA guidelines.” Obviously the family is interested in one thing and one thing only – clearing Joe Paterno’s name. But without the coach around to testify on his own behalf, that just isn’t going to

happen. Before his death, Paterno did say with hindsight he probably could have done more to help the situation, but never elaborated on what he could have done or what he knew. I have to say that it’s gotten to the point that every time the Paterno family says something, I tend to have less and less sympathy for them and more and more frustration. And I’m not alone. Stories are being printed left and right about how by constantly bringing up the subject, they are tarnishing what’s left of the coach’s dignity. Not that there’s a whole lot left to begin with. It has to be extremely difficult for the family to sit back and listen to all the bad things being said about Joe Paterno. It would be difficult for all of us if we were in their situation. But their constant berating of the investigation (basically that everyone is guilty except for Joe Paterno) is growing weary and smacks of desperation. Besides, the real focus should be on those molested victims.

## A sporting view By Mark Vasto *Olympic Games are a joke*

The Olympic Games are a joke... but then again, they are a great excuse to spruce up the place a little bit. Straight out of college, I decided to take my sheepskin on the road and see all of those wonderful places I was supposed to go. This was the mid-’90s and the graduates of the day – already a bit stultified from the sudden shift of glam rock to grunge rock – broke into groups. Some went to San Francisco, others

went to Boulder, Colo., and a lot of us went to Atlanta. (The rest moved back into their parents’ house.) I was among those who moved to Atlanta, and I can even remember the day. For as I rolled into town in my dented Jeep, dragging all of my earthly possessions behind me in a U-Haul trailer, the bridge leading into town had a convenient digital countdown sign. I was 996 days away from the Olympics. True, I had moved there because

the lure of the Olympics was too great. Soon, after leveraging my parents’ connections, I scored an Olympic-related job – the mother lode of all jobs in Atlanta after CNN at the time. I was a seller of bricks for the soon to be christened Centennial Park that would become far more infamous than I ever would have anticipated. Have you ever lived in a city with a “goal”? Let me rephrase that and ask if you’ve ever thrown a party in your home. You made sure things were clean and that the carpet was vacuumed. You worked painstakingly on the menu, and then you worried that maybe nobody

would come and you’d be left with nothing but egg on your face and a few relics. Some, myself included, thought Ted Turner should have been in charge of the games and not Billy Payne. Turner had, after all, started “The Goodwill Games” in the wake of Jimmy Carter’s absurd decision to boycott the Moscow Summer Olympic Games in 1980. And while Ted certainly got his out of the deal (after the games, the Olympic Stadium was neatly converted into “Turner Field.”) My career trajectory led to my hiring by the world’s largest technology acronym (figure it out),

and I was lucky enough to score a job with them inside the Olympic Village. And here’s why I laugh at the Olympics today: Yes, we had the “Dream Team II,” but it was 4-foot-nothing Kerri Strugg who stole the show. The basketball team earned money for their involvement in these past games (I’m not sure what they were paid in 1996), but I think that sort of misses the point of the games. I’ll expound in the next column.

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

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By Mike Marland



Your good health

By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

*DEAR DR. DONOHUE: This will be my first year as an assistant football coach at the high-school level. The head coach has given me the task of preparing for heat-related injuries. It stays hot here way into October. I'd appreciate any tips you can give me. – G.O.*

The best prevention for heat injuries is calling off practice on hot, humid days. What exactly is a hot, humid day? If your school has a wet-bulb globe thermometer, on days when it registers 82 or higher, either call off practice or limit the work done. This reading incorporates heat and humidity.

It takes two weeks for the body to acclimatize to heat. In the first few days, drills should not be demanding. Once acclimatized, the body sweats earlier and the sodium content of sweat lessens. Encourage players to stay hydrated. They should drink 16 to 20 ounces of water or a sports drink two hours before and again half an hour before practice. Players should continue to drink 8 ounces every 20 minutes. Sports drinks provide sodium.

Heat cramps are the first sign of trouble. Muscles of the arms, legs or abdomen cramp. Cramping players should be taken out of practice, sit in a cool, shaded place and drink sodium-containing fluids. Heat fainting is a more serious sign of heat trouble. Such a player should be taken to an air-conditioned room, hydrated and carefully watched. This player ought not to practice the following day.

Heat exhaustion is the next and is a quite serious sign of heat injury. The player sweats heavily, might be nauseated, breathes rapidly and has a fast pulse and low blood pressure. He's apt to be confused. The player is dehydrated and sodium-depleted. He must be quickly taken to an air-conditioned room, have his clothes removed and his legs elevated. Cold fluids containing

sodium are essential. If he's not responding to this treatment shortly, he ought to be taken to a hospital emergency department. Heatstroke is the most serious heat injury. All the signs mentioned above are present, but the skin can be dry. The player is groggy or unresponsive. He needs to be taken to an emergency room by ambulance. Clothes are removed. During transport, ice-water-soaked towels are placed under his arms, in his groin and around his neck. Immersion in an ice-water bath will be accomplished at the hospital.

*DEAR DR. DONOHUE: What can you tell me about hypothyroidism? Does taking iodine help? I hear that taking thyroid hormone is a lifetime commitment. – C.N.*

Hypothyroidism is a thyroid gland that's putting out way too little thyroid hormone. All body processes slow. People become weak and are exhausted. They're cold when others are pleasantly warm. They gain weight without overeating. Their skin dries. The face becomes puffy. The heart beats slowly.

Worldwide, iodine deficiency is the main cause of a sluggish thyroid gland. It is not in North America. Here, the main cause is an attack on the gland by the immune system.

The appropriate treatment is supplying the hormone in pill form. It usually is a lifelong treatment, but it's not an onerous one. It's taking only one pill a day.

*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

- ILL HUMOR ACROSS**

1 Monty Python's Michael

6 Deli choice

9 Gear teeth

13 Film pterodactyl

18 Porthos' pal

20 Team scream

21 Well-ventilated

22 Felony

23 Start of a remark

24 Funnyman Philips

25 Deep purple

26 Confused

27 Faux \_

28 Vince of "Ben Casey"

31 Small shots

33 PC key

34 "Rosanna" rockers

36 Couple

38 Part of HOMES

41 Part 2 of remark

46 Minnesota city

47 Alias initials

48 Heavy metal instrument?

49 Child welfare org.

50 Mil. unit

51 Say it isn't so

52 Labyrinth

55 Relax

59 Gentle as \_

62 Abhorrence

64 A Barbary State

67 "Norma \_" ('79 film)
- 68 Buccaneers' headquarters

69 Actress lone

71 Football's Swann

72 Woodsman's tool

73 Part 3 of remark

79 \_ Mahal

81 Alley Oop's love

82 Out-of-this-world org.

83 Invasions

86 President Bush was one

87 Overturn

89 Macho type

92 Roast host

93 Circus sight

95 Teri of "Tootsie"

97 \_ majesty

98 Canterbury quaff

99 Hoagy

102 Wordsworth work

104 ABA member

105 Teach on the side

107 Part 4 of remark

112 Deprive (of)

113 Wooden strip

114 Olympic event

115 Flight

116 Tasty tuber

118 Proposition

121 Carol opener

124 Inevitable activity

127 Hungarian sheepdog

129 Shaq's pack

130 End of remark

133 Daybreak
- 134 Toast topper

135 Perlman or Palillo

136 Bostonian, for one

137 "The Brandon \_ Story" ('98 film)

138 So. state

139 Still

140 Self-confidence
- DOWN**

1 Theatrical Joseph

2 District

3 Neighbor of Thailand

4 Mischief-maker

5 Zilch

6 Make coffee

7 "Rama \_ Ding Dong" ('61 tune)

8 Legendary athlete

9 Pepper

10 Vinegar's partner

11 Chow

12 Token

13 JVC competitor

14 Terrier's tidbit

15 Win over

16 Audrey Tautou role

17 Peachy-keen

19 Take care of

29 EI \_ AR

30 Tapered seam

32 Cut a cuticle

34 Decimal base

35 Two \_ kind

37 Morocco's capital

39 Cable channel
- 40 Thickening agent

41 Writer Rogers St. Johns

42 Thingumbob

43 Got by, with "out"

44 Disappear

45 Lapis \_

46 Part of Q.E.D.

52 Canadian territory

54 "Only Time" singer

56 Destroy

57 Getz's instrument

58 Fairway accessory

60 Speedometer

abbr.

61 "Blue \_" ('77 hit)

63 Blabby bird

65 Business abbr.

66 \_ drum

70 One of the Fords

74 Weasel word?

75 First name in fashion

76 Finger food

77 Composer Jean-Philippe

78 "Platoon" setting

79 Gumshoe

80 Chicken \_ king

84 Apollo's isle

85 Soothsayer

88 Witty

90 Vino center

91 Irritate

94 Punta del \_

96 Link

100 Actress Thurman

101 Bunch of birds
- 103 "Pyramus and Thisbe," e.g.

105 Playground game

106 Luau instrument

107 Confederation

108 January stoat

109 Earl Grey's place

110 William Sydney Porter

111 Man of the cloth?

112 Great time

117 Stubborn sort

119 Hautboy

120 Be bombastic

121 "Kon- \_"

122 Summertime treats

123 \_Ball

125 "Sister Act" extra

126 Scholastic abbr.

128 Deighton or Dawson

131 "The Bells" monogram

132 \_Cat

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137						138				139					140					



**Moore Texas** by Roger Moore The strongest wind gust ever recorded in Texas was at Aransas Pass on August 3<sup>rd</sup> , 1970.....180 MPH...big blow !



**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!

	+		×		9
×		-		×	
	-		×		10
÷		×		+	
	-		×		8
3		15		10	

1 2 2 4 5 6 7 8 9

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Answer Page 4

**Social Security Q&A** By Ray Vigil

*Q: My mom is interested in getting help with her Medicare Part D prescription costs, but she has about \$10,000 in the bank. Would she still be eligible?*

A: Based solely on the bank account balance you mention, yes. However, there are other factors to consider as well, including your mom’s income. If your mother has other resources, they may be included too. This year a person’s total resources are, in most cases, limited to \$13,070 (or \$26,120 if married and living with spouse) to qualify for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug costs. The resource limits shown on the application include a \$1,500 per person exclusion for burial purposes. Resources include the value of the things you own, such as real estate (other than the place you live), cash, bank accounts, stocks, bonds, and retirement accounts like IRAs or 401ks. There are exceptions. Read more about how to qualify and apply for the Extra Help at [www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp/index.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp/index.htm)

*Q: How long does it take to complete the online application for Social Security retirement benefits?*

A: It can take as little as 15 minutes to complete the online application. In most cases, once your application is submitted electronically, you’re done. There are no forms to sign and usually no documentation to mail in. Social Security will process your application and contact you if any further information is needed. There’s no need to drive to a local Social Security office or wait for an appointment with a Social Security representative. To retire online, go to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

*For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.*

*Q: Is there a time limit on how long I can collect Social Security disability benefits?*

A: Your disability benefits will continue as long as your medical condition has not improved and you remain unable to work. Your case

**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: C equals P

DS MQA ZQ FQ T WDWVM  
BXZTBJXJ CQJDTFBDPF, D  
PACCQPX MQAB SXXF TBX DL  
ZQQJ WTLJP.

Answer Page 4

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**STRANGE BUT TRUE**

By Samantha Weaver

- It’s not known who made the following sage observation: “Arguing about whether the glass is half-full or half-empty misses the point, which is this: The bartender cheated you.”
- The longest war in history lasted 335 years and resulted in exactly zero casualties. In 1651, the Netherlands and the Isles of Scilly off Great Britain declared war upon each other, but nothing ever came of the conflict and it was soon forgotten. Finally, in 1986, the two combatants agreed to a peace treaty.
- Do you suffer from cacodemonomania? If you believe that you are possessed by an evil spirit, you do.
- The world’s smallest mammal can be found only in Thailand and Myanmar. Weighing about as much as a dime, Kitti’s hog-nosed bat is sometimes called the bumblebee bat due to its diminutive size.
- You might be surprised to learn that an eagle can kill a young deer and fly away with it.
- The Beatles was not the first band in which John Lennon played. Those previous groups obviously didn’t work out, though; in fact, at one point Lennon broke a washboard over a bandmate’s head during a dispute. After the Beatles’ success, though, Lennon apologized in style: He bought the poor guy a supermarket.
- Those who study such things say that armadillos can be housebroken.
- At sea level, water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit. At the top of Mount Everest, though, the lower air pressure reduces the boiling point to 156 degrees.
- If you recycle one glass jar, you’ll save enough energy to power a TV for three hours.

Thought for the Day: “The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because generally they are the same people.”  
— G.K. Chesterton

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

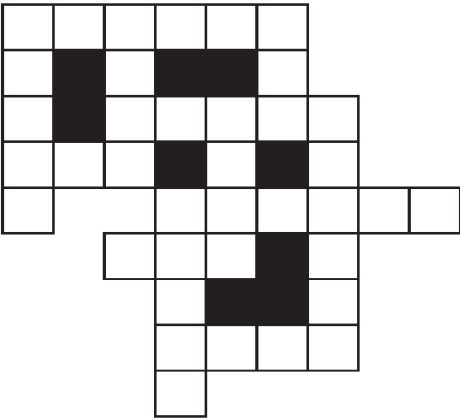
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★**

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

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MHU  
GEAPEO  
GYNOA  
UPBM  
♥POCUAL  
♥BNU  
♥EMNA  
♥AGMAM  
♥APN  
HUBMAS  
GUNIC  
RUGB



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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