

NEWSBRIEFS

Vinton meeting

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) will be hosting a public meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the elementary school in Vinton on Thursday, May 16, to describe and discuss their Health Impact Assessment Study. Their study will look at the potential health impacts of proposed infrastructure improvements in Vinton. UTEP received a grant of \$75,000 from the Health Impact Project, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts based in Washington, DC, to conduct the assessment. The project will be a collaborative effort with the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and the Village of Vinton. The assessment team will utilize community-based participatory research methods, which means they will draw heavily on information and perceptions of community members and leaders in Vinton. Their input will be gathered through surveys, interviews, focus groups, and public meetings. It is expected that the study will be conducted over the next few months and be completed by October of this year. Students from UTEP will participate in the field research activities and also learn how to conduct HIAs. All residents of Vinton and other concerned citizens are invited to attend the public meeting.

— William Hargrove

EPCC ceremonies

El Paso Community College (EPCC) will hold its commencement exercises on Friday, May 17, 2013 at the Don Haskins Center. Because of the increasing number of degrees granted, EPCC will begin to hold two ceremonies. Students earning their Associate's of Applied Science degree, Associate's of Science degree and Certificates of Completion will graduate at 2:00 p.m. Those receiving their Associate's of Arts degree will graduate at 6:30 p.m. A total of 1,826 degrees and certificates will be granted.

— Jim Heiney

Fundraiser

An event at the Adobe Horseshoe in San Elizario will help raise money for the Adult and Youth United Development Association. This event is for all ages — let's have some good ole biker fun. There will be live music and disco music with DJs. The event will be held May 19, 2013. The cost is \$10 per person and includes hotdogs and other goodies. For more information contact Willie at 850-4108 or Bob at 603-1939.

— Paul Johnson

Market

Oz Glaze Senior Center will host a

See BRIEFS, Page 5

An unusual amount of common sense is sometimes called wisdom.

— Quips & Quotes

Medrano excels in UIL competition



— Photo courtesy Fabens ISD

LOTS OF MEDALS — Miguel Medrano has his sights set on the Austin UIL competition.

See MEDRANO, Page 2

By Denise Gutierrez
Special to the Courier

FABENS — For the second year in a row, senior Miguel Medrano of Fabens High School is advancing to the UIL State Academic Meet in Austin. Medrano will be competing in Mathematics and Calculator Applications on May 21 and 22.

After placing 1st in both events at the District meet in Pecos in March of this year, Medrano went on to compete at the Regional Meet in Lubbock on April 20. He placed 1st in Mathematics out of 39 contestants and after a tiebreaker, he placed 2nd in Calculator out of 36 contestants. The top three contestants in each event advance to the state competition.

As a junior, Medrano competed in both events last year and came home with a 1st place medal in Calculator. At Regionals this year, expectations were high. "I felt a lot more pressure going in," Medrano said. "I practiced the entire year and I would have felt disappointed if I didn't advance."

The Mathematics test is 40 minutes long with 60 problems ranging from basic algebra

Moody seeks recall power for Vinton

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

VINTON — The opportunity for residents of the Village of Vinton to recall their dysfunctional village council is looking better after the Texas House of Representatives' unanimous passage of a bill that would give them this power. The recent vote now advances the bill to the state Senate.

State Rep. Joe Moody, of El Paso, stated that he filed the bill in response to the paralysis of Vinton's town council and that the bill applies

only to Vinton.

According to the representative, last year Vinton's council voted against millions of dollars in state and federal assistance for water and wastewater services. That means residents have to continue to depend on septic tanks, which could render nearby wells unsafe, he stated.

Moody pointed out that the Vinton council also had failed to approve an operating budget for fiscal year 2013 and that council members refused to enter into an agreement with the county for septic tank



Joe Moody is Texas State Representative for District 78 that includes the Village of Vinton.

See MOODY, Page 6

Anthony's mayor, Franco, pleads guilty to tampering with government documents

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

ANTHONY — The mayor of Anthony, Texas is expected to resign after pleading guilty last week in district court to tampering with a government document.

The illegal offense apparently took place back in March 2010 when Franco wrote a letter on a Town of Anthony letterhead stating a false salary for Anthony employee Oscar Torres, a maintenance supervisor for the Town of Anthony,

according to news reports.

Consequently, in February 2012 Texas Rangers and FBI agents carried out a search warrant at Franco's home. Then, in September 2012 both Franco and Torres were arrested after they were indicted by a grand jury.

Franco pleaded guilty for understating the salary of Torres so that Torres would qualify for government-assisted housing and was convicted on one count of tampering with a government record, which is a



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

Art Franco, mayor of the Town of Anthony TX.

See FRANCO, Page 5

Fabens ISD improves communications with parents

By Robert Grijalva
Special to the Courier

FABENS — The Fabens Independent School District (FISD) recently announced a unique program that enhances the district's communication with students, parents and all of the Fabens community. The program is a private public/partnership between FISD and several businesses.

During public comment at Texas Education Agency meetings in Fabens, the general

consensus arose that parents wanted better communications from FISD. After some brainstorming, the idea came about to place monitors in local businesses that would provide ongoing information. FISD designated the program as "Community Communications Monitors."

Dr. David Rueda is the Assistant Superintendent responsible for the implementation of the monitors. "After the public meetings and the call from parents for more information, we concluded that the best solution was to place monitors in several of

the main businesses in town," said Rueda. "The monitors provide information ranging from school board meetings and agendas to registrations, parent meetings, band concerts and sports events," said Rueda.

According to a press release from FISD: "T.V. monitors have been installed in six (6) local businesses. These monitors provide the community with school district new and announcements. Monitors are equipped with electronics that allows the District to

See FABENS ISD, Page 4

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Women vets get their own hotline

The Department of Veterans Affairs recently opened a hotline for women veterans, their families and caregivers. The hotline is a welcome addition, if only for one reason: Women veterans aren't as knowledgeable about the benefits, resources and services that are available to them.

According to a news release, women make up 15 percent of active duty and 18 percent of National Guard and Reserve personnel. However, in VA health care, only 6 percent of the patients are women. Since 2000, the number of women using VA health care has doubled, but they can't use services and benefits they don't know about.

Here are just a few areas where the hotline can help:

- Referrals to homeless and mental-health services;
- Disability compensation;
- Vet Center information;
- Information on VA cemeteries and memorial benefits, claims, education and health-care appointments, including pharmacy;
- Home loans; and
- Employment assistance.

The Women Veterans Hotline can be reached at 1-855-829-6636. To reach the Veteran Crisis Line, for urgent needs, call 1-800-273-TALK and Dial 1 for Veterans.

Female veterans also can go online to www.eBenefits.va.gov. Search the College Navigator, read the Compensation and Benefits Handbook, access the Form 10-EZ Application for Medical Benefits, see the benefits fact sheet, access the veterans job bank and read about federal benefits for veterans, dependents and survivors. Once you're signed up, manage your health care online at TRICARE Online or My HealtheVet.

Consider this column a Clip 'n' Save: Hand it off to a female veteran who can use it, perhaps just before this summer's Stand Down in your area. Stand Downs are a great place for all veterans to connect with benefits and services in a one-stop event.

Freddy Groves regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Send email to columnreply2@gmail.com. (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.

Finances

By Jason Alderman

Improving women's financial literacy, worldwide

Are the 70 percent of the developing world's adult population with no formal bank account doomed to a life of economic uncertainty and financial illiteracy? If a woman's culture dictates that she should always put her family's financial needs ahead of her own, can she learn to set aside money for her own retirement without feeling guilty?

These are just some of the complex issues raised at the seventh annual Financial Literacy and Education Summit hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and Visa Inc. Renowned U.S. and international financial experts and journalists led a lively discussion – and fielded Twitter questions from roughly 2,000 participants – around the theme, "Improving Women's Financial Literacy & Capabilities Globally."

Fascinating details revealed include:

- Richard Cordray, Director of the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, noted that "a large majority of K-12 teachers say that personal finance should be taught in school, yet less than a third say they've taught lessons about money, and more than half feel unqualified to teach their state's financial literacy standards."
- Linah Mohohlo, Governor, Bank of Botswana, emphasized that it's not only important to teach women about money management, but also to teach them activities to avoid – such as Ponzi schemes or lending money to people without setting repayment and interest terms.
- Bernie Ripoll, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Australia, added that women should feel empowered to ask questions or say no if they're asked to invest in something they don't understand.
- According to South African Financial Journalist Maya Fischer-French, among the biggest financial hurdles an overwhelming number of women in her country face is their status as single mothers – around 56 percent. Of those, only about 21 percent can rely on financial help from their children's fathers.

On the question of whether financial literacy hinges on access to traditional bank accounts, Egyptian Journalist Amira Salah-Ahmend said roughly 90 percent of the Egyptian population is unbanked, meaning most of their transactions are unregulated and therefore more risky.

Mexican Journalist Adina Chelminsky added that many third-world people have much easier access to credit through informal lending channels than to bank products. "The idea is not to formalize all this informal lending, but rather for banks and governments to think outside the box and develop new products that cater to women who have minimal savings," she said.


The panelists shared some alternative financing methods that are already in place and thriving:

- Microfinance, where organizations like Kiva make small loans to people who can't get credit from traditional banks, is helping women achieve financial stability in many underdeveloped nations. For example, a young woman in Pakistan or Mexico can now take out a microloan to buy a sewing machine, thereby creating her own thriving business.
- Also in Pakistan, a large telecommunications company has partnered with a microfinancer to provide "branchless banking" via mobile phone technology to people far removed from banks. "We've got 45,000 agents transacting this kind of business now compared to only 13,000 in the branch network," explained Yaseen Anwar, Governor, State Bank of Pakistan.

Bottom line: Women throughout the world face unique economic and financial literacy challenges. The key is for governments, financial institutions, educators and entrepreneurs to work together to devise financial tools and educational materials that can reach the female half of the world's population – the younger, the better.

To watch a free webcast of the 2013 Financial Literacy and Education Summit, visit www.practicalmoneyskills.com.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.




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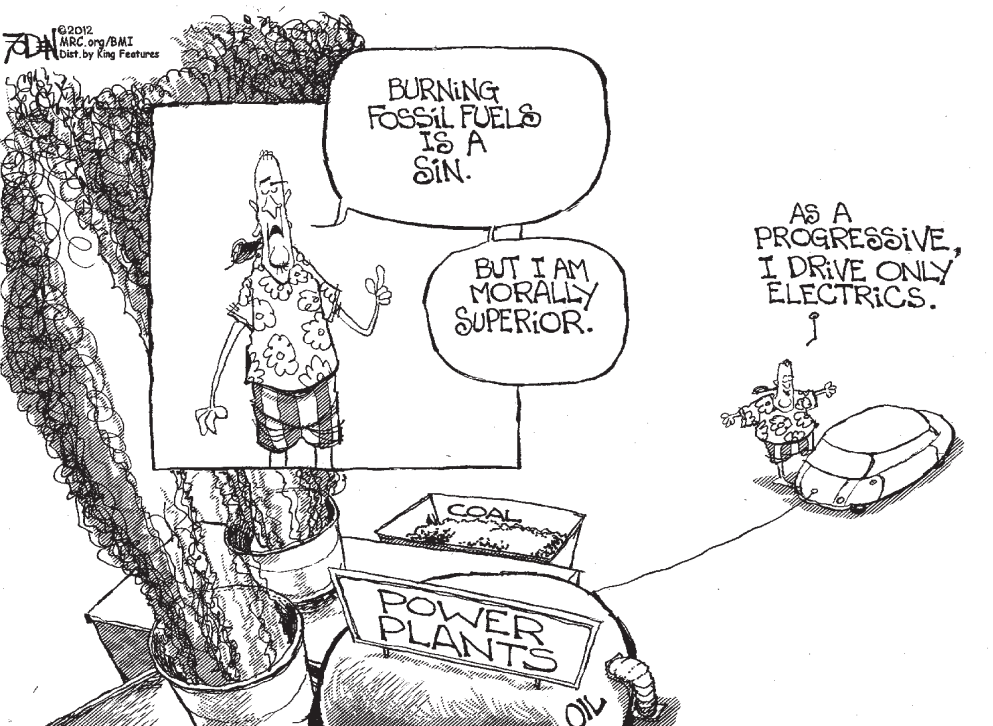
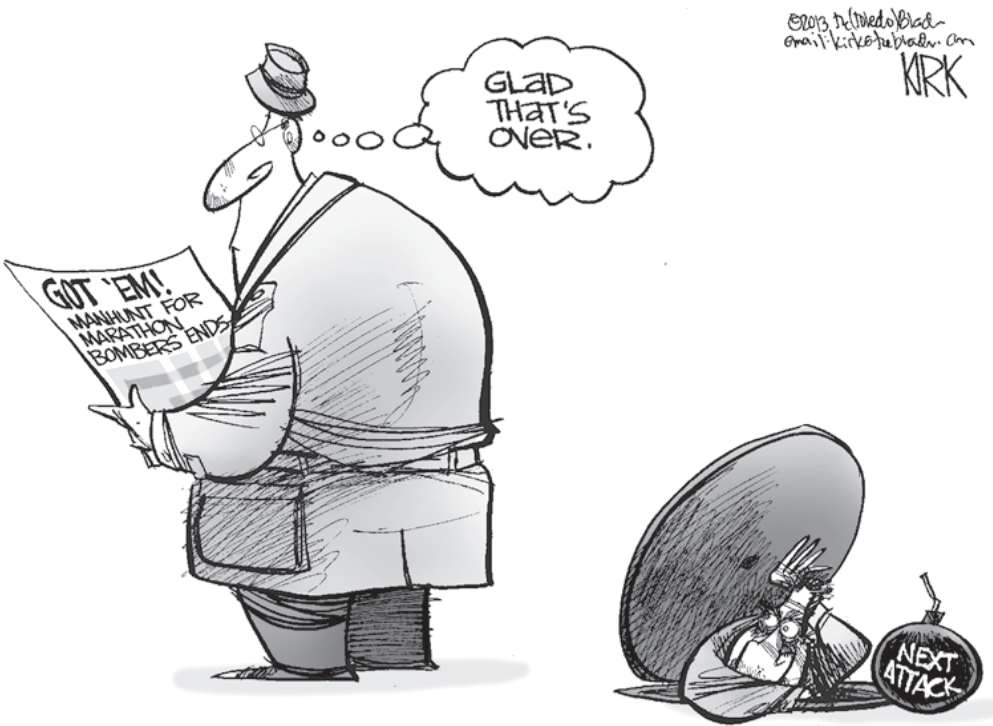
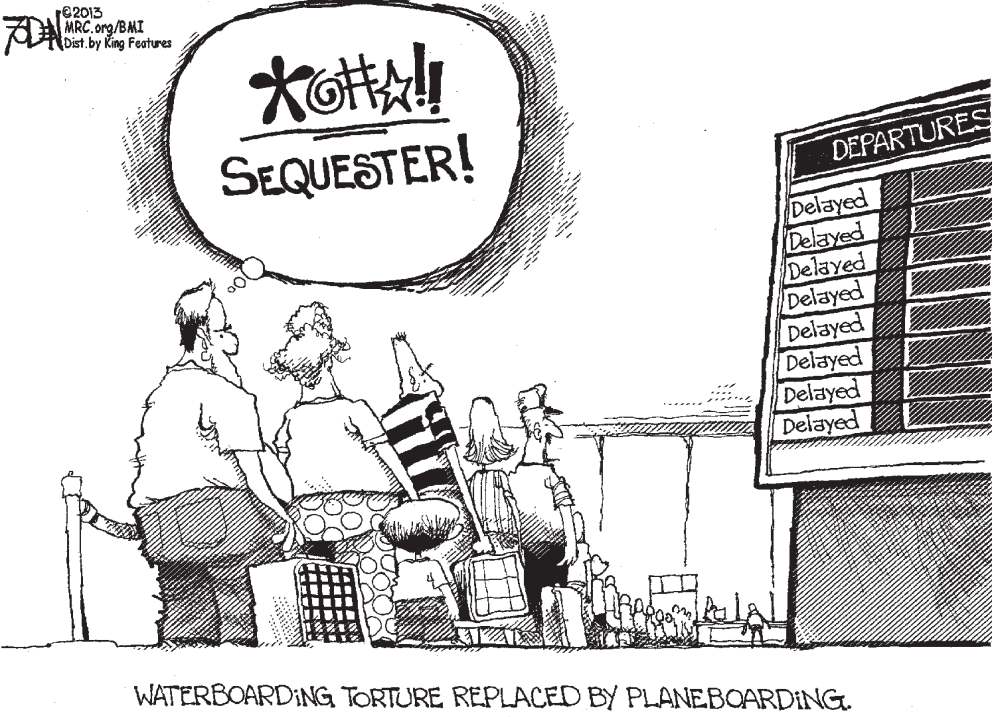
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Canutillo ISD anti-bullying campaign recognized

By **Gustavo Reveles Acosta**
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – All nine campuses in the Canutillo Independent School District have earned official “No Place For Hate” certification from the Anti-Defamation League for their efforts to curb bullying and promote acceptance and understanding among students and adults.

This is the third straight year in which CISD schools earn the No Place For Hate certification. Canutillo remains the only school district in West Texas to earn the designation.

“Parents send us their very best and brightest every day, and it is up to us as a District to make sure they are safe from any harassment or bullying,” said Interim Superintendent Annette Brigham. “No Place For Hate is a wonderful program that has taught our children not just to accept one another, but to also celebrate our differences in a way that is healthy and educational.”

To qualify for official No Place For Hate certification, campuses had to have every student and staff member sign a Resolution of Respect stating that they would not stand for bullying and that they would report any incident in an effort to eradicate it from their school.

Schools also had to host three different activities throughout the school year to promote acceptance and understanding. Activities included dances, guest speakers, field trips and art contests.

At a ceremony on Saturday, May 4, at Canutillo High School, the banners to show the official No Place For Hate designation were unveiled for all nine campuses.

The ceremony was attended by students, teachers and principals, as well as incoming CISD Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galavíz.

“This is a forward-thinking program that should serve as a model for other school districts in the fight against bullying,” he said. “I’m glad Canutillo is a leader in this regard.”

‘Click It or Ticket’ campaign starts May 20

Seat belts play critical role in saving lives

By **Mark Cross**
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – Texans wear their belt buckles with a certain Lone Star pride, but it’s the buckles in their vehicles that could save their lives. More functional than fashionable, life-saving seat belts first debuted 45 years ago when Lyndon B. Johnson’s National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and The Highway Safety Act went into effect mandating that all automobiles have seat belts as a standard feature. To honor President Johnson’s pioneering dedication to safety, the Texas Department of Transportation today launched its 12th annual Click It or Ticket campaign at the LBJ Library in Austin with a car show demonstrating the progression of seat belts through the ages.

“The cost of not wearing seat belts is far greater than a ticket or fine,” said Phil Wilson, TxDOT executive director. “Simply put, a seat belt could save your life. Public awareness is working, but we still see some teenagers, pickup truck passengers and rural Texans who aren’t buckling up.”

Taking a cue from LBJ’s leadership, Texas has made seat belt safety a major priority and is proud to be one of the most buckled up states in the union. When the Click It or Ticket campaign began in 2002, only 76 percent of Texans buckled up. Today, 94 percent are wearing seat belts. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates the Click It or Ticket campaign has saved nearly

3,700 lives and prevented more than 50,000 serious injuries since its launch. The increase in seat belt usage also has saved an estimated \$10 billion in wages and productivity losses, medical expenses, insurance premiums, taxes and other costs.

Despite an increase in seat belt compliance, there is more work to be done with the lives of Texans at stake. Initial TxDOT data from 2012 indicates traffic-related fatalities in Texas are up by 11 percent. In 2012, there were 3,400 fatalities due to traffic crashes across the state.

Data also shows that only 82 percent of pickup passengers are buckled when riding compared to more than 91 percent of passengers riding in cars. Pickups also are more likely than passenger cars to roll over or eject unrestrained occupants in a crash.

As part of the Click It or Ticket initiative, law enforcement officials across the state will be looking for and ticketing unbuckled drivers and passengers in an effort to raise safety awareness and prevent fatalities. By Texas law, all occupants of a vehicle, including back seat passengers, must wear a seat belt. Each unbuckled occupant faces a ticket and fines up to \$200, plus court costs. Last year, more than 21,200 seat belt citations were issued during the Click It or Ticket campaign.

This year’s campaign enforcement period dates are May 20th-June 2nd. Learn more about Click It or Ticket by liking the TxDOT Facebook page at www.facebook.com/txdot or visiting www.texasclickitorticket.com.

Spanish language collection grows at local public libraries

By **Jack Galindo**
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – The El Paso Public Library recently purchased \$50,000 of new books, DVDs and other materials in Spanish that will be distributed throughout the Library system. About 7,000 thousand items have been ordered so far and about 5500 have been received and are available for check out now.

The new collection items range from car repair books to books on cooking and playing poker. Some of the book titles include *La Tacopedia: Enciclopedia del taco, México Saludable* by Chef Oropeza and *Póquer: ¡para empezar desde cero!* There are also many popular movie titles featuring Mexican classics like *Zapata Vive* and *El Rebelde*

starring Jorge Negrete.

Apart from those titles for adults there have been many new Spanish materials for children added to the collection. Kids will spend hours perusing books such as *Monstruos Marinos* which illustrates deep sea creatures or *Gran Libro de los Grandes Dinosaurios*.

The Library also augmented its teen Spanish collection adding paranormal fiction such as *La Chica de la Capa Roja* and *Sebastian Darke*. Many more popular items such as the telenovelas *Capadocia*, *el Pantera*, *Lucho en Familia* and *Pasion Morena* were added as well as other contemporary and classic Mexican films.

The items can be requested at any library branch and borrowed for free with a valid EPPL card. For more information call 543-5433 or visit www.elpasolibrary.org.



– Photo by Robert Grijalva

COMMUNICATION OUTLET – The McDonalds restaurant in Fabens is the location of one of the Community Communication Monitor. McDonalds is a Partner in Education with Fabens ISD.

Fabens ISD

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update information that is played repeatedly over a 3 to 5 minute cycle.”

“The Fabens ISD Technology department receives updated information from every school in the district. The information is then amended into the power point presentations that are displayed in the monitors,” said Rueda.

The six businesses that provide the Community Communication Monitors in their building are Carrer’s Grocery & Fruiteria, El Paso County Water Control and Improvement District #4, Flick’s Pizza, Margarita’s Restaurant, McDonalds and the Subway Sandwich Shop.

According to Rueda, the Board of Trustees for FISD may consider expanding the locations of the

monitors in the future. The Board will continuously evaluate the monitors and act accordingly.

The monitors do come with a price. FISD financed the hardware and installation of the monitors and will maintain the monitors. The six businesses were allowed to provide information about the business as a part of the partnership. All six businesses are currently “Partners in Education” with the district. The businesses do pay for the electricity that is used and ask nothing from FISD for the power.

The feedback from the community has been very positive. “As a resident of Fabens, I have heard nothing but positive opinions from the parents and businesses about the Community Communication Monitors,” said Rueda.

The Board of Trustees has placed an item on its May 15 Agenda to recognize and honor the six initial partners in the program.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO
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If you have a family history of type 2 diabetes, you are at risk of the disease.

It's about small steps: Lose a small amount of weight by walking or biking for 30 minutes 5 days a week, and by making healthy food choices, to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. In fact, these small steps work even better for people over 60 than for any other age group.

For free information about preventing type 2 diabetes, visit www.YourDiabetesInfo.org or call 1-888-693-NDEP (6337); TTY: 1-866-569-1162.



www.YourDiabetesInfo.org



A message from the National Diabetes Education Program, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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CryptoQuip Answer

Because comedienne Jane has just bought drapes, people might call them Curtin’s curtains.

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Briefs

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Farmer-less Market every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month starting May 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Horizon City Town Hall located at 14999 Darrington Rd. Horizon City. Vendors welcome. Items must be handmade or home grown and set up is at 8 a.m. The cost is \$10. For more info contact Fred at 799-8195 or 852-0062.

– Julie Tucker

EPCC program

El Paso Community College has introduced a new program to fill the growing demand of the insurance industry. Business Management-Insurance Option will train students to be test ready for Texas State Certification and then enter the insurance industry workforce. Enrollees may choose between a Certificate of Completion or an Associate’s of Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree. Students will be introduced to principles of insurance, organization of insurance companies, state and local insurance regulations, ethics, medical compensation and medical aspects of claims in insurance and much more. For more information, contact the EPCC Career and Technical Education office at 831-2544.

– Jim Heiney

Families to receive new water service

By Mary Campos
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – John Perkins, USDA Rural Development Area Director, along with representatives from the Lower Valley Water District and Rep. Pete Gallego’s office, broke ground last week to mark the start of construction on new water improvement project that will provide first-time water service to over 170 families in El Paso County.

“Many of us take for granted our access to clean drinking water. The reality is there are still rural areas in America where water systems are nonexistent and residents have never had in-home access to water,” said Valentin. “Rural Development is pleased to be part of this groundbreaking, which will lead to first-time water service and bring clean in-home drinking water to the families in Vista Larga, College Park, Darrington and Dairyland.”

Residents in these areas do not currently have access to a reliable water system; rather they use private water storage tanks. The project will make approximately 173 connections through 73,000 linear feet of new distribution lines.

USDA Rural Development has provided a \$2,808,130 grant to Lower Valley Water District in support of the Sandhills Phase 2 Water Improvement Project.

Esparza going to Washington DC



– Photo courtesy Fabens ISD

Leslie Esparza, a 7th grade Fabens Middle School, has been nominated as a National Finalist for the “Do the Write Thing” writing competition. This competition is an initiative to stop violence and bullying around the country. Three thousand essays were submitted and from those three thousand only 40 were chosen as semi-finalists. On Saturday May 4, two national finalists were chosen. Esparza will be representing Texas in Washington DC this July where her written essay will be published in the Library of Congress. Shown above, from left, are Jessica Becerra, mentor/teacher; Esparza; Susana Jones, school counselor; and Dr. Joe Keith, Fabens Middle School principal.

– Jessica Becerra

Franco

From Page 1

third-degree felony that could have sent Franco to prison for two to 10 years.

Franco, who ran unopposed in the recent town election, was sentenced

to three years of probation by Judge Gonzalo Garcia in the 210th District Court. He was also ordered to serve 150 hours of community service and to pay the US Department of Agriculture \$3,763 in restitution.

Torres pleaded guilty May 2 to the charge of tampering with a government record. He was

sentenced to two years of deferred probation, meaning the charge will be cleared off his record if he follows the conditions and if he completes 150 hours of community service.

According to Victor Serrano, Franco’s lawyer, the mayor plans to resign after nearly 20 years in office.



A new vision for healthier and sustainable growth in Vinton!

Vinton was awarded with a grant from EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) to receive technical assistance for green and sustainable growth. Our goal is to become a more economically and environmentally sustainable community for residents of all ages living in Vinton.

The Planning and Zoning Committee, city staff, and volunteers are engaged with EPA to receive training, consultation, and a list of steps the community of Vinton could take to improve the quality of life of its residents. This grant will be completed from February to August 2013. The steps of the technical assistance are:

- Organization of workshops and site visits
- Consultation on how to implement the recommendations
- Revision of the city codes and ordinances

Dates, topics and site of the workshops are as follows. Residents, professionals, commerce and school personnel are invited.

May 30 th	Basic information and tools for green and healthy homes	6pm to 7:30 pm	Bill Childress Elementary
June 1 st	How to design rules and policies for a healthier and sustainable Vinton	9 am to 4 pm	West Valley Fire Department
June 2 nd	How to plan green building and homes in Vinton	9 am to 4 pm	West Valley Fire Department

For More Information
Call the Village of Vinton at 886-5104

New stadium should move El Paso up the sports ladder

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

I just spent the last week visiting my son in Orlando, who is working at the parks through the Disney World college program.

We got to go to all the Disney parks and experience almost everything they had to offer.

One of my favorite stops was the ESPN Wide World of Sports area. If you’ve never been there, it contains beautiful baseball, football and soccer fields and a basketball, volleyball arena and much more.

To be honest, this area has facilities for almost any sport you can think of. High schools and colleges from around the country compete in tournaments there year around.

As I was leaving the area I took a peak at the baseball stadium, which houses the Atlanta Braves during spring training.

Talk about a beautiful facility – very intimate, yet accommodating.

I talked to a stadium employee there and asked about the size of the stadium. She said it seated 7,000 and had luxury boxes and other seating that could expand it to 9,000.

Sound familiar?

Those are exactly the same numbers that the new El Paso stadium will house.

And if our new stadium is anywhere near as beautiful as the one in Orlando, El Pasoans are in for a treat.

But noticing all this got me to thinking. While the city is excited about welcoming a new glitzy, shiny ballpark, there’s an old friend we’re probably going to see for the last time.

The El Paso Diablos open their 2013 season at home this week. And in case you’ve forgotten they still have a home, Cohen Stadium.

Now you can’t exactly call Cohen Stadium old – Dudley Field was old. But Cohen has been a good home for the team for over 20 years.

The Diablos will play a full regular season and entertain fans with the same promotional extras they’ve provided for years.

I believe that whether people are sentimental or just love watching a baseball game on a starry summer night, they will flock to Cohen Stadium this summer to support the team and the ballpark.

Plus, don’t forget that the team (after starting

so badly) rallied late last year to almost win their division. They were the hottest team in the league for the second half of the season.

And they are hoping that that momentum will carry over to this year.

Yes, everyone is excited about Triple-A baseball coming to El Paso. That’s a status symbol that will start to propel the city toward the 21st century.

El Paso is slowly but surely (pardon the pun) becoming a player.

But let’s get all crazed about the new team next year.

For now the Diablos, though it’s a lower brand of baseball, deserve our support for the years of thrills and fun they’ve supplied the city.

A kind of “last hurrah” – if you will – they’ve earned it.

Chicago Bull(ies)

In their series with the New Jersey Nets and then against the Miami Heat, the Chicago Bulls have earned the respect of NBA fans everywhere.

Without players like Derrick Rose, Luol Deng and Kirk Hinrich, the Bulls appeared to be a virtual lock for a quick exit from the

playoffs.

But they shocked the Nets in seven games and stunned the Heat in the first game of their series.

And for a while they were stealing Dallas’ moniker as America’s team.

But that star’s shine has dulled a bit.

We all forgot that the Bulls had players like Joakim Noah and Carlos Boozer on it. They’ve done some things in the past that would make a hockey goon envious.

We’ve seen the team fall apart emotionally as the playoffs have gone on. The mirage of technical fouls and flagrant fouls and ejections has just made the team look like a group of immature thugs.

Let’s be honest, it’s hard to root for a team like that.

It’s too bad that the Bulls haven’t been able to play tough basketball and keep its composure.

In fact, some of the other players like Taj Gibson, Jimmy Butler and Nazr Mohammed are starting to copy the exploits of a team leader like Noah, who is a very good player but has the emotional stability of my 4-year-old niece.

C’mon Bulls, it’s time to grow up.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Plugs and pugs

The iPad isn’t yet where it needs to be as a personal computer, television or consumption device, but it does offer some pretty compelling applications for the sports fan and news junkies in general.

So far, the best news-reading application I have come across is Flipboard. What Flipboard does is aggregate news by topic, like

say, the Indiana Pacers, or source, such as The Chicago Tribune. The application also allows you to follow twitter feeds and tumblrs, and when all of these components are compiled, the program turns it into an aesthetically pleasing format closely resembling a magazine.

Its latest update allows users to create their own personally curated

magazine, and being on the bleeding edge of technology, as I so often am, I have done so. The application is free, so if you have an iPad, why not give it a spin and search for the two magazines I’ve put together: “A Sporting View” (natch) and “Ali,” and subscribe. Again, there is no charge ever to do so, and it is not advertiser supported or anything like that... it’s just a companion piece to this column.

The “A Sporting View” magazine is updated daily and is an aggregate of sports stories I find particularly interesting that could be used to spur

enough thought to create a column out of, and every share comes with added, ahem, “expert commentary.”

The “Ali” magazine was born out of a discussion I had with a casual boxing fan in his 40s who said he really didn’t know anything about Muhammad Ali – whom I, much like Ali himself did, consider to be the greatest of all time.

His father-in-law, himself a great fan of the “sweet science,” and I began to prattle on and on in a brandy Manhattan-fueled(no cherry)oration to Ali and began ticking off his major accomplishments inside and outside the ring. I also suggested he take some time to watch his fights, most of which were on YouTube, the popular Internet video service.

Then it struck me like a Larry Holmes left... why not create a Flipboard for him, a multi-media site combining the written word, photographs and videos of Ali’s

greatest hits all in one site. So, on the evening that Floyd Mayweather was thoroughly outclassing a kid they call “the ghost,” I set to work on the document, and I hope it’s one that all can enjoy.

If you are not aware, boxing is in a very precarious situation. The sport cannot sustain another death in the ring, particularly amid the increased scrutiny on head injuries in sport nowadays, and decades of pay-per-view championship bouts have shaken off a generation’s worth of would be fans. In a future column I’ll touch on boxing reform – a concept that is way overdue – but in the meantime, I will continue to unabashedly revel in some of the sports all-time greatest moments here, there and everywhere.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.

Moody

From Page 1

inspection services, which adds to worries about public health.

If the Senate approves the bill to recall members of the Vinton council, residents will have to gather signatures of registered voters in a number equal to 50 percent of the voters who cast ballots in the most

recent village election. By contrast, in the City of El Paso advocates have to gather signatures of registered voters in a number equal to only 20 percent of the number voting in the latest election.

Despite the higher requirement, Moody said that he has no doubt that discontent with the current council is so great that residents could easily gather enough signatures to convene a recall election.

Canutillo ISD board finalizes Galaviz contract

By Gustavo Reveles Acosta
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – The Canutillo Independent School District Board of Trustees finalized its contract last week with incoming Superintendent Dr. Pedro Galavíz, and established a timeline for his entry into the school district.

“The Board is excited to be moving forward in such a positive manner, and we are ready to welcome Dr. Galavíz into the CISD Family,” said Board President Armando Rodriguez.

The Board on Tuesday approved a 3-year contract for Dr. Galavíz and set his salary at \$171,000 per year.

Dr. Galavíz is seen as an up-and-coming educator in Texas with a strong record of high performance in schools with large numbers of minority students. In the Dallas Independent School District, he oversaw and achieved unprecedented academic gains for students in campuses that previously suffered from chronic low test scores.

In Round Rock, he administered 14 secondary schools – 13 of which were rated exemplary or recognized by the Texas Education Agency. Three of his schools were among the best public schools in the country according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

City of Socorro

PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held on June 4, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. during the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting at City of Socorro Chambers, 860 N. Rio Vista Rd., Socorro, Texas. Purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive public comments on the following:

1) On the proposed conditional use permit for Lot 2, Block 1, La Junta Subdivision, for childcare home.

2) On the proposed conditional use permit for Lot 21, Block 1, Lynn Park

Subdivision, for mechanic shop.

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.

Sandra Hernandez
City Clerk

WTCC: 05-16-13

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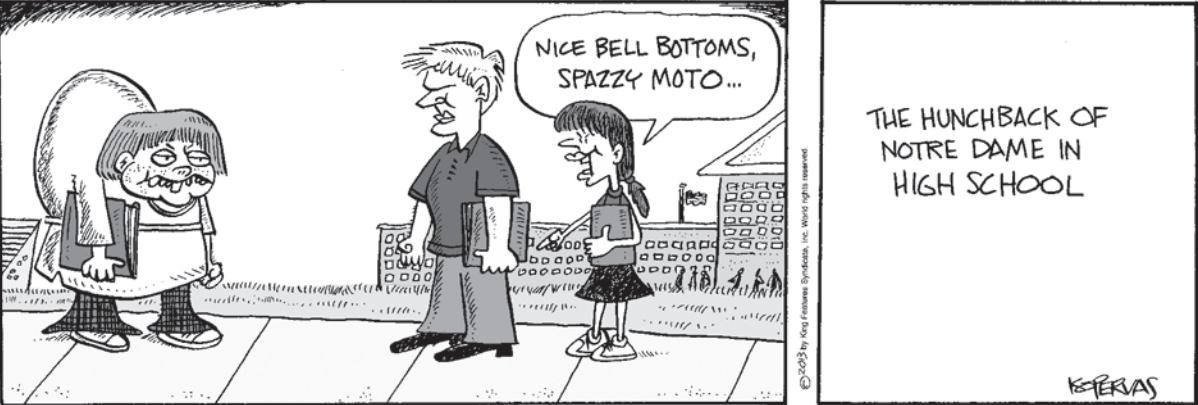
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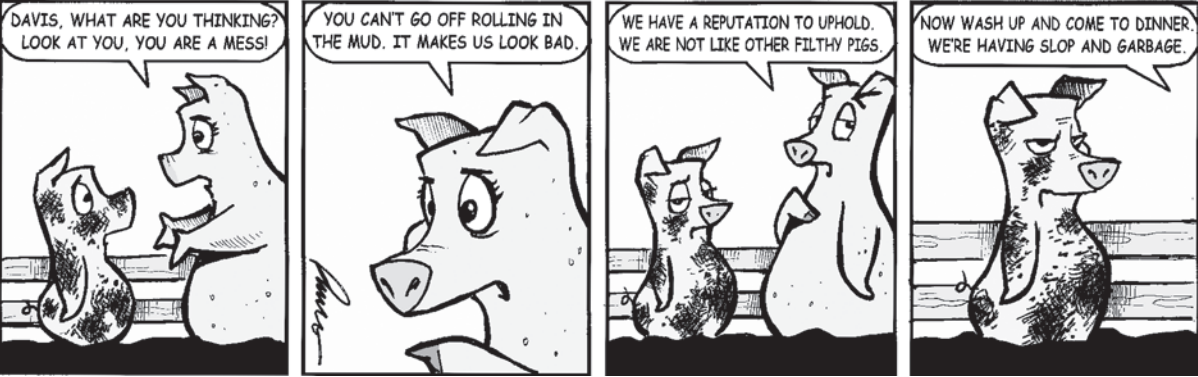
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



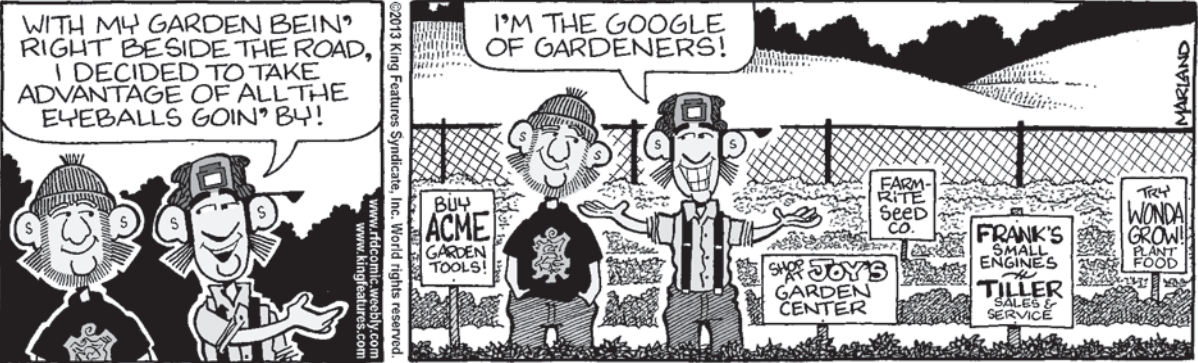
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Your good health

By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: While having dinner with my father, he suddenly had a blank look and stopped eating. He couldn't speak clearly. My brothers and I got him onto a couch, and he stayed there for about 15 minutes. Finally, someone suggested he might be having a stroke, and we called 911. In the emergency room, the doctor had a CT scan done and then gave him a clot-busting drug. It worked unbelievably. He regained his speech and could move. Is this common? I thought strokes came from bleeding in the brain. What's going on? – T.M.

The booklet on strokes provides information on this common and often tragic malady. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue – No. 902W, 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: My son is 33. During his last visit, he happened to mention that he had floaters in his eyes, and they drove him crazy. He didn't go into detail about this, but I would like to know about floaters and their implications. I never had them. – L.H.

Strokes come in two varieties. The less-common kind is bleeding from a broken brain artery, often one that has an innate weakness in its wall. That's an aneurysm. It has an explosive onset and produces a "worst headache ever." This is a hemorrhagic stroke, accounting for 15 percent of strokes.

The more-common kind of stroke is an ischemic (is-KEY-mick) stroke, one that results from a blockage of blood flow through an artery serving the brain. It's similar to what happens in a heart attack when a heart artery is plugged up. Your dad had this kind of stroke. The CT scan your dad had is one way of differentiating a hemorrhagic stroke from an ischemic one.

Signs of both kinds of stroke are a sudden inability to speak, an inability to understand the spoken word, loss of sensations from parts of the body, weakness of a leg or arm and vision changes.

Deprived of blood, brain cells and tissues die fairly quickly. As in your father's case, clot-dissolving drugs can establish circulation to the brain area deprived of blood. If such treatment is given within three to four hours from the onset of symptoms, people can make a complete or near-complete recovery of function.

Floaters are dark, small spots that dart across a person's field of vision when the person moves his eyes. They're deposits of debris in the vitreous, a gellike substance that fills the entire back two-thirds of the eye. Nearsighted people are prone to developing them. I bet your son is nearsighted.

There is no treatment for floaters. People learn to deal with them.

A sudden onset of a large number of floaters indicates that the retina is tearing away from its attachment to the back of the eye. Detachment of the vitreous can do the same. If such an event takes place, an immediate examination by an ophthalmologist is mandatory.

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) 2013 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

- STAR WHO NEVER TUMBLED ACROSS

1 Palm Sunday shout

8 Spots on the boob tube

13 Father of Isaac

20 Actor Carroll

21 Official helpers

22 Oozing liquid

23 Start of a riddle

25 Grew tired

26 Test-driven car

27 "Here, pigs!"

28 Wood smoother

29 Circular rubber gasket

31 Riddle, part 2

37 Sprinter Bolt of the 2008 Olympics

40 Imam's religion

41 Grenoble's river

42 Fleet head

46 Award for an ad

47 Turkish capital

48 Riddle, part 3

53 Novello of old films

54 Former capital of Yemen

55 Capital of Yemen

56 Haughty type

58 Lamb's mother

59 Entertainer

O'Donnell

61 Double curves

64 Je ne sais _
- 65 Defunct Russ. state

66 Riddle, part 4

71 Bit of a circle

74 Joker Jay

75 Impelled

76 Atelier stand

80 Prizm maker, once

81 "What _!" ("How hilarious!")

83 Mae and Adam

86 Axis-vs.-Allies conflict

87 Architect

Jacobson

89 Riddle, part 5

93 Nicely warm

95 "Well, old chap!"

96 Son of Agamemnon

97 Equine

98 Caesar's robes

100 Hourglass, e.g.

102 End of the riddle

105 Rupture

110 Jailbird

111 Green patch in a desert

114 Lecher

115 Like Mussolini

117 Riddle's answer

121 Friendly pact

122 Newswoman

Zahn

123 Gave fizz to

124 Spy's file

125 Awards for soap
- operas

126 Steady hum producers

DOWN

1 "_ you spell relief?"

2 Earthy tone

3 "Ditto"

4 Author Chekhov

5 Mobile-to-Memphis dir.

6 Rejections

7 Guitar-toting

Guthrie

8 Hoodwink

9 LP plastic

10 Busyness

11 Lawn moisture

12 1040 info

13 Teeming

14 Designer Geoffrey

15 Enters, as computer data

16 Relaxing time on the slopes

17 Coverers of some bald spots

18 Get long in the tooth

19 Pre-_ (undergrad study)

24 Like sound recordings that aren't sharp, for short

28 RR bldg.

30 Wise mentor

32 Leon Uris' "_ 18"
- 33 S "_ Sam"

34 Blocks up

35 "This way" signs

36 One charring something

38 Impertinence

39 Sporty Italian car, for short

42 A long way off

43 Carpentry groove

44 Married Fr. women

45 Old Aegean Sea region

46 Went in pursuit of

47 Put in _ word for

49 12 inches

50 Skin eruption

51 Judicial hearing

52 Verb go-with

57 Lose steam

60 "Enchanted" girl of film

62 Do wrong

63 Largo

67 "Bad" Brown

68 Getting _ years

69 Subcompact from Chevy

70 Sailboat varieties

71 Christie of mysteries

72 Put a new top on, as a building

73 Super dupers

77 "M*A*S*H" actress Loretta

78 Berlin article
- 79 Tells a falsehood

82 Leg part

84 _ McAn (shoe brand)

85 Parched

88 Hearts

90 Morales of Hollywood

91 French city

92 Belgrade citizen

94 Ends of railroad lines

98 Rip to bits

99 Suffix of sugar names

100 Sparkly crowns

101 _-bitsy

103 Detritus

104 Pious

106 From the city

107 Highway, e.g.

108 More positive

109 Gravitates

112 "If _ my way ..."

113 Fortuneteller

115 Grazed (on)

116 Portuguese for "year"

117 Orangutan, for one

118 "_ the Walrus"

119 Pirate's drink

120 Play-for-pay athlete

Answer Page 4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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Moore Texas by Roger Moore 1832: Sam Houston is secretly sent to Texas by Pres. Jackson to ask the Comanches to “play nice” if the U.S. buys the Texas territory.



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!

	×		−		26
+		÷		−	
	−		÷		1
÷		×		×	
	+		÷		1
4		10		6	

1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

Answer Page 4

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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: What can Social Security do to help me plan for retirement?

A: Social Security provides great financial planning tools that can help you make informed decisions. Visit www.socialsecurity.gov and open a My Social Security account to access your online Social Security Statement. The Statement lists your earnings and the Social Security taxes you paid over the years. It also estimates the Social Security benefits you (and dependent family members) may be eligible to receive. The Statement can help you plan for your financial future. Also, use Social Security’s online retirement planner and our online Retirement Estimator. These will give you estimates of your future Social Security retirement benefits. They also provide important information on factors affecting retirement benefits, such as military service, household earnings, and federal employment. You can access our retirement planner at www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2. Find the estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Q: I heard that my disability must be expected to last a year to qualify for Social Security disability benefits. Does this mean I have to wait

until I’ve been disabled an entire year before applying for disability through Social Security?

A: No. If you believe your disability will last a year or longer, apply for disability benefits as soon as you become disabled. It can take an average of three to four months to process an application. If your application is approved, we will pay your first Social Security disability benefits for the sixth full month after the date your disability began. For example, if your state agency decides your disability began on January 15, we will pay your first disability benefit for the month of July. We pay in the month following the month for which they are due, so you will receive your July benefit in August. For more information about Social Security disability benefits, refer to our publication, Disability Benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10029.html.

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

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: A equals P

NGVKCLG VFOGPJGEEG HKEG

XKL HCLS NFCDXS PYKAGL,

AGFAMG OJDXS VKMM SXGO

VCYSJE'L VCYSKJEL.

Answer Page 4

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FEAR KNIGHT
By: rj johnson
CONQUER THE WHIRLED

XTA
EXLUED
TREEX
XTTE
NITREO
♥ROF
ETTO
FFFUL
♥TAE
LOXFER
OODER
♥ETFE

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 ancient Roman dramatist, philosopher and statesman Seneca the Younger who made the following sage observation: “While we are postponing, life speeds by.”

• You might be surprised at some of the seemingly innocuous things that arouse passions in a group of people. Take the venerable 1960s television show “Mr. Ed,” for example. Evidently, an evangelist named Jim Brown took issue with the show’s theme song, claiming that when played backward, the tune contains the message “the source is Satan” and “someone sang this song for Satan.” His preaching on the subject was so persuasive that members of a church in Ironton, Ohio, made a bonfire of recordings of the song.

• If you’re planning to visit the Hawaiian island of Kauai, you might want to trek up to Mount Waialeale. If you do, though, be sure to take an umbrella, as that mountain holds the distinction of receiving more rainfall than any other place on Earth, with an average of about 40 feet – yes, feet – of rain annually.

• A recent national survey of adult children with living parents found that a whopping 70 percent of respondents are against the idea of a parent moving in with them. If it became necessary for one parent to move in, though, two-thirds would choose Mom over Dad.

• It was noted wit Ambrose Bierce who, in his “Devil’s Dictionary,” defined faith as “Belief without evidence in what is told by one who speaks without knowledge, of things without parallel.”

• Those who study such things say that an ordinary human being can live four weeks without food, four days without water and four minutes without air.

Thought for the Day: “Most people would sooner die than think; in fact, they do so.”

– Bertrand Russell

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