

NEWSBRIEFS

Tires collected

On Saturday June 8, 2013 the Village of Vinton hosted a Tire Recycling Drop Off day for the area residents. The event was hosted by Keep Vinton Beautiful and sponsored by Bridgestone's One Team One Planet program. This program focuses on three objectives: to be in harmony with nature, to value natural resources, and to reduce our CO2 and other significant emissions. Bridgestone's main focus is to maintain a healthy environment for today's world and for future generations. Bridgestone provided the trailer in which the tires were loaded onto and also proper disposal of the used tires at no cost to the village. The purpose of this event was not only to reduce the number of used tires in the community, but also to diminish the risk and amount of mosquitoes for the coming summer months. The event began at 8 a.m., as local residents and volunteers participated by bringing in used tires from their homes and by collecting illegally dumped tires from the side of roads. A total of 1,052 tires were collected throughout the day. There were 15 volunteers and over 40 area residents, which included individuals from Vinton, Anthony, Canutillo, Westway, and El Paso, who came out and dropped off tires. The Village of Vinton would like to thank the volunteers from ArcelorMittal for collecting 408 tires.

— Cesar Vasquez

Flag display

El Paso Museum of History announced recently that it was given a 45 star American flag which flew over the United States Consulate in Juarez in 1907. In observance of the upcoming Fourth of July celebration, the flag- along with a copy of the Declaration of Independence- is currently on display through July 7, at the entrance of the museum's Transportation Gallery. The exhibit is free and open to the public. El Paso Museum of History is located at 510 N. Santa Fe Street. The 45th star on the nation's flag was added on July 4th, 1896, in honor of the State of Utah. It was replaced by the 46-star flag on July 4th, 1908, after Oklahoma was admitted to the Union. A 45-star flag would have flown over El Paso's first City Hall, built in 1899, and would have been used during President McKinley's visit to El Paso in 1901.

— Alfredo Vasquez

Planning an event

If your non-profit group is planning an event and you would like it published, email the details to wtxcc@wtxcc.com at least 10 days prior to the event.

We reform others unconsciously when we walk uprightly.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

DOG PADDLING – This year, participants were allowed to bring their dogs, and the first rafter to make it down the river with his or her pet won a gift certificate.

Rio Grande offers afternoon of recreational fun

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

Enthusiastic, fun-seeking desert dwellers gathered at the Rio Grande recently to take advantage of the cooling waters' relief from the 100-plus heat that has been pervading the region this summer.

About fifty raft entries and more than 200 participants took part in the great river raft race held recently along a stretch of the Rio Grande between the Vinton and Canutillo bridges in El Paso's Upper Valley.

The race is in its third year back after a 28-year hiatus. This year's event was organized by radio station KLAQ 95.5 FM and was sponsored by the Viva Auto Group.

The race, which first started in 1979, ended after 1983 because of levee repairs and river regulations. It was resurrected in 2011 with approval from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office and the El Paso County Irrigation Water District, KLAQ General Manager Brad Dubow said.

New safety measures included a prohibition

on alcohol during the race and a rule prohibiting children younger than 10 to be riding on the rafts. In addition, members of the Sheriff's Office and Border Patrol Water and Rescue Team were on hand to ensure a safe experience, Dubow added.

More than \$1,000 in cash prizes were given out to the best-dressed crew, best-decorated raft, and most points earned in the obstacle course – balloons and flags were strategically

See RACE, Page 4



ARGH MATEY – The Rio Pirates, a group of co-workers from Casa Ford, carry their raft to the starting line during the recent KLAQ Great River Raft Race. Above, from left, are Rose Olvera, Valerie Martinez, Melissa Adauto, and Irma Rose.

Vinton could qualify for state water funds if it applies

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

The issue of water and sewer will be a top agenda item once again for the Village of Vinton's July 2nd council meeting. Up for discussion will be Vinton's selection to receive Disadvantaged Community Funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB).

Vinton ranks 10th in Texas for funds eligibility through the Clean Water Program; these funds would be used to construct a city-wide sewer system, according to Cesar A. Vasquez, Village of Vinton community outreach intern. And, the village ranks 22nd in the state for funds through the Drinking Water

Program, which would help increase the water capacity for the entire town, he stated.

"Both programs are funded as 'First Come- First Serve' for the disadvantaged funds which provide a guaranteed grant of 70 percent of the project amount," Vasquez explained. "Under the Clean Water Program, Vinton would be eligible for approximately \$14 million in state grant funds. The Drinking Water Program would provide approximately \$11 million in state grant funds," he stated.

"The balance of funding could come from a number of other funding agencies such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) or Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC), who in the past awarded Vinton additional funding for one

or both of the programs, if the Vinton City Council should decide collectively to apply for the TWDB and other agency funding," Vasquez said.

Vinton Mayor Madeleine Praino stated, "It is morally imperative that the Vinton city council ensures that each person in the village has access to safe and sustainable drinking water. Water is not an issue of luxury; it is a matter of equity and inclusion to create a community in which the well-being of everyone is protected at a fundamental level. As the Mayor of Vinton, I will continue to work toward this goal."

The Texas Water Development Board will begin taking applications September 2nd for both programs. For more information, call the Village of Vinton at 886-5104.

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Housing vouchers for homeless vets

Nine thousand veterans are going to receive vouchers for permanent housing.

A joint effort between Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Department of Veterans Affairs will spend \$60 million at public-housing agencies across the country to provide Section 8 housing for veterans.

Called HUD-VASH, for HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing, the program not only provides most of the cost of rentals, but also case management and services from nearby VA medical centers. Many homeless veterans suffer from chronic disabling conditions, such as mental health or substance abuse disorders, or physical disabilities. Veterans who are accepted into the program are expected to participate in case management, treatment recommendations and assistance for recovery.

Some specifics:

- Veterans in the program won't pay any more than 30 percent of their income for rent.
- Both single veterans and those with families are eligible for housing.
- Veterans must be able to complete daily living activities


and live independently in the community, with the support services and case management.

The VA is making headway in tackling homelessness, with the goal of putting an end to veteran homelessness by 2015. Statistics show a 17 percent decline since 2009. So far, it's put 42,557 formerly homeless veterans into housing through the VASH program. More funds will be announced this summer.

If you're a homeless veteran, or know of one, find out if you qualify for the housing assistance program by contacting the VA's National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838). You might be referred to the point person for the homeless program at the closest VA facility.

If you're also unemployed, ask about the Homeless Veteran Supported Employment Program for job development and vocational assistance.

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.




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Website: wtxcc.com



Publisher
Rick Shrum

Contributors
Alfredo Vasquez
Robert Grijalva
Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda

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Finances

By Jason Alderman

Disputing credit card charges

Have you ever ordered something online that was delivered damaged ‘ or never arrived at all? Or been double-billed by a merchant? Or spotted a charge on your credit card statement you didn’t make? Most of us have.

Fortunately, the 1975 Fair Credit Billing Act (FCBA) protects your rights during such credit card billing disputes. It also outlines the process for contesting charges made to your account. Here’s how it works:

First, FCBA protection applies only to “open-end” credit account transactions — those involving credit cards or revolving charges (e.g., department store accounts). It doesn’t cover installment contracts you repay on a fixed schedule, such as car loans.

Billing errors that are covered by the FCBA include:

- Fraudulent or unauthorized use of your credit card, whether it was stolen or merchants charged unapproved items to your account.
- Charges that list the wrong date or amount.
- Charges for goods or services you either did not accept or that weren’t delivered as agreed.
- Math errors, such as being charged twice for a transaction.
- Failure to post payments or other credits.

(Note: Report suspected fraud immediately. By law, you’re only liable for the first \$50 in unauthorized charges; however, most card issuers waive that liability if you report the charges quickly.)

Review all billing statements carefully upon receipt because in order to be covered under FCBA rules, most disputed transactions must be reported within 60 days of the statement date on which the error appeared.

First, contact the merchant and try to resolve the dispute directly with them. If this good-faith resolution attempt doesn’t work, you can escalate the process by filing a written report with your credit card issuer within the 60-day window.

The card issuer is then obligated to investigate the dispute on your behalf. They must acknowledge your complaint, in writing, within 30 days of receipt and resolve the dispute with the merchant within two billing cycles ‘ but not more than 90 days.

Send your letter via certified mail to the card issuer’s billing inquiry address, not the payment address. Include your name, address, account number and a description of the billing error. Include copies of sales slips or other documents that support your position.

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), you may withhold payment of the disputed amount and related charges during the investigation. In fact, many card issuers may voluntarily remove the charge until the matter is resolved since they are representing you, their client, in the dispute.

If it turns out your bill contains a mistake, the creditor must explain, in writing, the corrections that will be made. In addition to crediting your account, they must remove all finance charges, late fees, or other charges related to the error.

However, if the card issuer’s investigation determines that you owe part, or all, of the disputed amount, they must promptly provide you with a written explanation. If you disagree with the investigation’s results, you may further dispute your claim with the creditor, as outlined by the FTC at www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0219-fair-credit-billing. (That site also contains a sample dispute letter and other helpful FCBA information.)

If you believe a creditor has violated the FCBA, you may file a complaint with the FTC or sue them in court.

Hopefully, you’ll never have a billing dispute that goes to these extremes. But it’s good to know how consumer laws protect you, just in case.

Jason Alderman directs Visa’s financial education programs.

Museum shines spotlight on local history presentations

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

El Paso Museum of History will feature two fascinating presentations in June — one on ghost hunting in the Southwest and the other about the Socorro Mission’s past, present, and future. The special presentations are part of the museum’s on-going Spotlight on History program.

Chris Medina, founder of Ghost Hunters of the Southwest, will present an illustrated lecture on The History of Ghost Hunting, at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 27.

According to Medina, ghost hunting has become the new national past time. “Fueled by popular television shows on the History Channel and PBS, everyone has become enthralled by what paranormal activity may reside in their town or residence,” he stated.

“What is the true nature of ‘ghost’ hunting? Ghost stories have been haunting humankind since the beginning of time. They have been used to educate and inform children as they sat around campfires and kitchen tables. Ghost stories are parables warning against certain behaviors and they pass on cultural traits,” Medina explained.

Medina said that he has been performing investigations of local historic sites such as Southwest General Hospital, the Plaza Theater, ASARCO, and the El Paso County Courthouse. He added that he prides himself on the fact that all of the investigations begin with thorough research of existing archival material to ensure factual data.

The second featured presentation is part of the museum’s The Missions and Their People Lecture Series, which complements its



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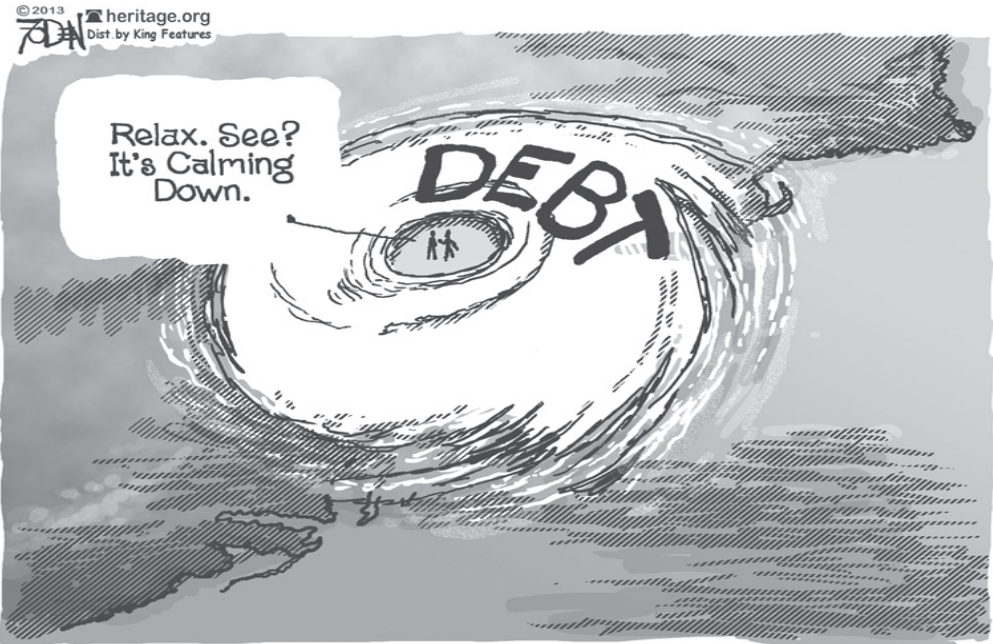


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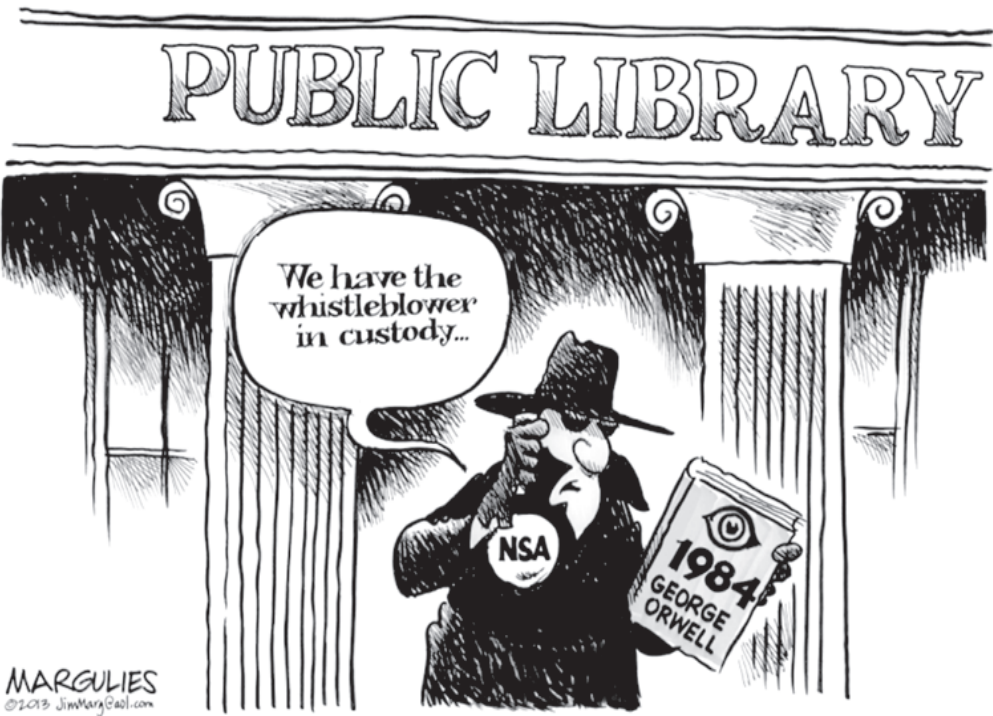
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See MUSEUM, Page 4



From the Eye of Hurricane Denial



– Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

Sergio Gomez

Gomez chosen for youth orchestra

By Gustavo Reveles Acosta
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – Trumpeter Sergio Gomez, an incoming freshman at Canutillo High School, will be one of a handful of student musicians who will take part in the year-long El Paso Symphony Youth Orchestra (EPSYO) during the 2014 season.

Gomez is one of about 50 students from throughout the El Paso region – and the only one from the Canutillo Independent School District – to be selected to participate in EPSYO.

“It’s exciting to be part of the symphony orchestra and to be playing with so many talented musicians from so many schools,” said Gomez, 14. “I am also honored to represent the Canutillo school district. I hope to make everyone proud.”

Gomez began playing the trumpet as a sixth

grader at Canutillo Middle School, where he was part of the CMS Honor Band. He expects to play with the Canutillo High School Eagle Pride Band this fall.

Christian Rodriguez, the director of bands at Canutillo Middle School, said Gomez is a deserving student who will do well in EPSYO.

“He is not only talented, he is also dedicated,” Rodriguez said. “He will learn a lot from the professional musicians who participate in the program, and he will also make friendships that will help him become a better trumpet player.”

Gomez is expected to practice with all other EPSYO participants on a weekly basis at Jefferson High School.

The young musicians will put together four concerts throughout the season. The concerts will be at either the historic Plaza Theatre or the Abraham Chavez Theatre — both in Downtown El Paso.



– Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

CHOWING DOWN – Angel Martinez and Ernesto Solorzano, both 11 and students from Borrego Elementary School finish up breakfast.

San Elizario ISD offers free summer meals

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

in only a few classrooms at San Elizario Independent School District campuses that have remained operational for hosting



– Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

IF IT FLOATS... – With record highs reaching 106 degrees, residents seeking a respite from the sweltering heat picked up a raft, canoe or kayak and floated down the Rio Grande for the three-mile race.



GIRLS AND THEIR PET – Adrian Pearson, left, keeps his eyes on the boa snake held by Nicole Lee, right, as she and Sammi Escriche cool off in the river before the start of the race.

Museum

From Page 2

Fourth Wall of Giants exhibit. This presentation will be at 2 p.m., Saturday June 29.

The mission’s presentation will feature noted local historian Bernie Sargent as he offers an illustrated talk, titled Socorro Mission: Its Past, Present, and Future. The mission’s past and present are stories of local legend, but what of its future?

According to Sargent, the mission

in Socorro has a long and interesting past. “The buildings that housed the mission have been flooded, burned, and finally moved,” he stated, “and a statue of an angel refused to be budged until it was seated inside the present mission building. Still boasting its original vegas, the mission has undergone extensive renovation with the local community pitching in to make new adobe bricks.”

Sargent attended California State University, at Fullerton, California. He has resided in El Paso for over twenty-five years and is currently

the chairperson of the El Paso County Historical Commission. He has been involved in historical research on a multitude of subjects including historical districts, sites, people, and events throughout West Texas and the Mexican border state of Chihuahua.

The public is invited to attend both free programs, which will be held at the museum located at 510 North Santa Fe Street.

For more information and to reserve a seat, contact Sue Taylor at 351-3588 or send email to taylorsl@elpasotexas.gov.

Food

From Page 3

summer school and other activities. Yet, several cafeterias in the district are still fully functional and continue to prepare meals for children. Breakfast and lunch are currently served free of charge to children one to 18 years old at different San Elizario schools from June through August.

The meals are offered as part of

the federal Summer Food Service Program to any child from the community under 18 years of age. It is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and the Texas Department of Agriculture.

According to Raul Jacques, San Elizario ISD Director of Child Nutrition Services, the program is an essential resource for parents during the summer months to help supplement their family’s diet.

“Children need access to nutritious meals to help them be healthy and to

learn, play and grow. The need does not stop when the school year is over,” Jacques stated.

Current sites providing summer meals and their dates of operation include Sambrano Elementary school from now until July 15; Borrego Elementary School starting July 29-August 8; and San Elizario High School from now through August 15. Breakfast and lunch are served Monday through Thursday only at different times at each location.

Race

From Page 1

placed throughout the race for contestants to pick.

It’s all meant to “enhance the experience,” stated to KLAQ’s Live Events Manager Veronica Hernandez.

This year’s participants were also allowed to bring their dogs. “We’re trying to get bigger and bigger,” said

Hernandez. “The most fun is seeing the families and either viewing someone rafting or going out on the raft.”

Participants convened at the Little Bit of Texas club for an after-race party, where the winners were announced. The party featured live music from bands including 3rd Edge and The Lusitania, a Boots ‘N’ Bikinis runway show, and food truck fare courtesy of Grub Street Food Grill.



DRY DOCKED – “I think this raft race is an awesome idea,” agreed El Pasoans Jesus Rivera, left, and Luis Gonzalez as they prepared for the race.

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TOWN OF CLINT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Construction Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The Town of Clint will receive bids for Brown Water Main Replacement (Texas Department of Agriculture/ Contract No. 712069) until 4:00 p.m. on July 09, 2013, at the Town of Clint offices located at 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, Texas 79836. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 4:00 p.m. on July 09, 2013 at 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, Texas 79836.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

1. Approximately 1,860 linear feet of 8-inch (PVC) Water Line;
2. Approximately 6, 8-inch gate valves;
3. Approximately 1, 8-inch wet tap and valve assembly;
4. Approximately 12 ¾-inch water service reconnections;
5. Four (4) new fire hydrants with associated valves and fittings;
6. Approximately 1,653 square yards of pavement removal and replacement with base course;
7. Approximately 25 square yards of pavement removal and replacement with 2-Sac;
8. Trench Safety & Traffic Control Systems.
9. Videotape pipeline route (before and after construction).

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at 10:00 A.M. on June 28, 2013, at the Town Council Room in the Town of Clint offices located at 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, Texas 79836.

Copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained by depositing \$75.00 with CEA Group (4712 Woodrow Bean Ste., F, El Paso TX 79924) for each set of documents obtained. The deposit will be refunded if the documents and drawings are

returned in good condition within 7 days following the bid opening. Checks are to be made out to CEA Group.

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to the Town of Clint or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age or national origin. Adherence to the grant recipient's Section 3 Policy is required for contracts and subcontracts in excess of \$100,000.00.

The Town of Clint reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by Town of Clint for a period not to exceed 45 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidders qualifications prior to the contract award.

All contractors/subcontractors that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

Town of Clint
Dale T. Reinhardt,
Mayor
June 20, 2013

WTCC: 06-20-13
06-27-13

City of Socorro

Adoption of Ordinances

On June 13, 2013 the City of Socorro, Texas adopted the following

ordinance(s):

1) ORDINANCE 304, AMENDMENT NO. 1, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ESTABLISHING RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCT OF MEETINGS OF THE SOCORRO CITY COUNCIL AND ALL OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS BY ELIMINATING CERTAIN PROCEDURAL RULES AND OTHER MATTERS GERMAINE THERETO.

The Ordinance(s) effective date is immediately upon adoption and publication.

Published by order of the City Council of the City of Socorro, Texas

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

Sandra Hernandez
City Clerk

WTCC: 06-20-13
06-27-13

City of Socorro

Adoption of Ordinances

On June 20, 2013 the City of Socorro, Texas adopted the following ordinance(s):

1) ORDINANCE 280, AMENDMENT NO. 1, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND AGENDAS AS PROVIDED BY SECTION 3.08 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER.

2) ORDINANCE 306, AMENDMENT NO. 2, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AMENDED BUDGET TO INCREASE FY-2013 ADOPTED BUDGET.

3) Ordinance 317, An Ordinance Establishing Regulations and Procedures for Naming Public Buildings, Parks, Naming Public Roadways and other Public Places in the City

of Socorro Texas, and for other Matters Germaine Thereto.

4) Ordinance 318, An Ordinance Declaring Fireworks A Public Nuisance and Prohibiting the Possession, Manufacture, Storage, Sale or Use of Fireworks Within the City Limits of the City of Socorro Texas, Providing for Exceptions, Permits, Penalties, a Severance Clause, Abolishing Ordinance 246 as Amended and for Other Matters Germaine Thereto.

Violation of this Ordinance is a misdemeanor, involving fire safety, public health and zoning, and is subject to a fine up to \$1,500.00. In addition to the fine imposed herein all fireworks or pyrotechnics offered for sale in violation of this Ordinance shall be seized and forfeited to the City of Socorro upon conviction or plea. Each day that a business, person, or other entity remains in violation of this Ordinance constitutes a separate offense

The Ordinance(s) effective date is immediately upon adoption and publication.

Published by order of the City Council of the City of Socorro, Texas

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

Sandra Hernandez
City Clerk

WTCC: 06-27-13
07-04-13

Town Of Horizon City

PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a Regular Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting on Monday, July 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers (Court/Police Dept. Bldg.), 15001 Darrington Rd., Horizon City, TX, 79928. The

purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding the following:

Aproposed Replat Application for Darrington Estate Lake Commercial Unit Two Replat A, legally described as being all of Lots 1,2,3,4, 5 and 6, Block 1, Darrington Estate Lake Commercial Unit Two, Town of Horizon City, El Paso County, Texas. Currently Zoned C-2 (Heavy Commercial). Request is to merge six (6) lots into two (2) commercial lots.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk at 14999 Darrington Rd., Horizon City, TX 79928 or call 915-852-1046. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; and individuals in need of special assistance for attending the hearing are encouraged to contact the City Clerk at 915-852-1046, forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Karen Ellefson
Town Clerk
Horizon City

WTCC: 06-27-13

Alliance of Border Collaboratives

PUBLIC NOTICE

Alliance of Border Collaboratives (ABC) is a recipient of HOME Contract for Deed #1001730, HRA PWD Contract (1001729), and HRA Contract (1001728) from Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

ABC will accept proposals from licensed Appraiser for up to 10 Single Family Home Appraisals for each contract. A Bid packet can be picked up starting June 27, 2013 through June 30th, 2013 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Bid packets or proposals can be picked up from and delivered to Alliance of Border Collaboratives, 5400 Suncrest Dr. Suite D-7, El Paso, TX 79912.

Submitted Bid Packets or proposals must have HOME Contract for Deed

Conversion and HRA Contract numbers written on the lower left hand side of the envelope. A public opening of the packets will take place on July 15, 2013 at 11:00 am at the office of the Alliance of Border Collaboratives. Phone (915) 584-2875 ext. 112.

The Appraiser must ensure that employees and applicants are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation or disability. Appraiser must be certified and licensed with El Paso County and the City of El Paso, TX. Appraiser must also know new current El Paso County Construction of Single Family Homes Codes with a minimum of 3 years of experience.

ABC has a conflict of interest procedure in accordance with 24CFR 92356. ABC has a Bidders Protest Rights Procedure. ABC reserves the right to reject any bids or to waive any informality in the bidding.

The Alliance of Border Collaboratives is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer.

WTCC: 06-27-13

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ABC will accept proposals from licensed Engineer for up to 10 Single Family Home Ponding Plans for each contract. A Bid packet can be picked up starting June 27, 2013 through June 30th, 2013 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Bid packets or proposals can be picked up from and delivered to Alliance of Border Collaboratives, 5400 Suncrest Dr. Suite D-7, El Paso, TX 79912.

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ABC will accept proposals from licensed Surveyor for up to 10 Single Family Home Surveys for each contract. A Bid packet can be picked up starting June 27, 2013 through June 30th, 2013 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Bid packets or proposals can be picked up from and delivered to Alliance of Border Collaboratives, 5400 Suncrest Dr.

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WTCC: 06-27-13

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Team’s name could take a while to catch on

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

A long, long time ago William Shakespeare asked the question, what’s in a name?

Of course, this question referred to the Capulet’s and the Montague’s of his famous Romeo and Juliet.

He was saying that names aren’t really important as long as the love is genuine.

Of course when Shakespeare wrote this he had no idea that the owners of the El Paso Triple-A baseball franchise would hold a name-the-team contest.

I have to admit that I was excited to hear what the baseball fans of El Paso would come up with.

Maybe they’d stay with the Diablos, maybe an old favorite like the Sun Kings, maybe something cool like the Coyotes, the Scorpions or the Rattlers.

Then the list of the final five names was released.

At first glance I was a little puzzled then I surmised that this list was a cute little joke and I read on to see what the real names actually

were.

Then to my sheer horror I realized those were indeed the names.

The final five names for the El Paso franchise are the Aardvarks, the Sun Dogs, the Desert Gators, the Buckaroos and last but not least... the Chihuahuas.

I know that many Triple-A baseball teams have weird regional names that eventually grow on people but I’m having a very difficult time believing that this is the best El Paso could come up with.

Really? The Buckaroos? Sounds like the mascot will be a cross between Sheriff Matt Dillon and Captain Jack Sparrow.

How about the Aardvarks, which everyone sees everyday around El Paso right? Oh wait, I’m sorry, Aardvarks can be found in Africa.

The only advantage of the name Aardvarks is that El Paso’s team will always be first whenever the league lists its team alphabetically.

The Sun Dogs and Desert Gators are probably the favorites but they too aren’t the most sexy names out there.

And that brings us to the Chihuahuas.

Now I don’t know if the sight of a team

with the word Chihuahuas printed on their uniforms will strike fear on any team, but it may make them laugh so hard that they couldn’t concentrate on the game.

I expect for the mascot to go around telling everyone, “yo quiero beisbol.”

I guess we should be grateful for the names we got. It could be worse.

We could have gotten names like the Rabid Squirrels with the motto, “if you think you can beat us your nuts.”

Or how about the Desert Zombies, “we may be dead from the neck up, but heck, how smart are the umpires?”

Maybe the Cucarachas, “visiting teams check in but they don’t check out.”

There’s always the Fighting NSA, “go ahead, make that dugout phone call.”

I think the vast majority of the city can’t wait to see the new stadium once it’s built and can’t wait until the first pitch is thrown in the first game.

But I think a lot of people are really hoping the owners would reconsider any of the names the new team will go by.

Hopefully Shakespeare was right, we’ll be a little uncomfortable about the new name at

first and then it will grow on us.

It will probably take a while.

One of the most controversial things I’ve ever seen the city go through was the whole baseball stadium process.

Some of us knew that we had to strike while the iron was hot and take advantage of the unique opportunity of having Triple-A baseball in El Paso.

While some other people are used to the status quo of watching other cities move on their opportunities while El Paso plays it safe and does nothing... again.

That’s fine, but don’t con us.

I’m speaking of Carl Robinson, Emma Acosta and Eddie Holguin, who all voted “no” to last week’s decision to allow the owners of the team to throw in an addition \$12 million of their own money to finance a better stadium.

They said “no” to free money and “no” to doubling the yearly rent to the city.

Thank goodness the others on the council had the sense to vote “yes.”

These three “no’s” are supposed to do what’s best for the city, not what’s best for their own egos.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

The new classics

Yes, that was George Brett taking batting practice at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City.

And you are correct... that was indeed Don Mattingly mixing it up with Alan Trammell, Don Baylor, Mark McGwire, Kirk Gibson and Matt Williams on the field during a recent West Coast trip. Riddick Bowe just stepped into the ring, and the Boston Bruins are taking on the

Chicago Blackhawks for the Stanley Cup.

Go ahead and do your best double take, but in the sporting world, what’s old is suddenly new again. Brett is now the Royals’ batting coach, attempting to bring some of his Charlie Lau knowledge and a winning spirit to a struggling Kansas City squad (it’s working). Former heavyweight champ Riddick Bowe

just had his Thai kickboxing debut (not working).

And the whole baseball bunch I described above? They just had a spectacular bench-clearing brawl – spectacular in that nobody was really hurt, Dodgers manager Mattingly body slammed Diamondback coach Trammell, and the entire fracas was broadcast live as Vin Scully provided the play-by-play (or blow-by-blow account, as it were).

All of this happened just last week. In 2013. All of these guys made their bones in the last century, yet here they are, reminding a lot of today’s players and fans that

theirs was an era of excellence and entertainment.

And while I don’t condone bench-clearing brawls (ironically, hockey was the most mild mannered sport the past few weeks), what transpired in the Dodgers-Diamondbacks game actually seemed justified. While it’s juvenile – the whole “you hit my teammate with a pitch so I’m going to hit yours” thing – it’s a part of the game and something that’s been going on since the 1800s. But the Diamondbacks’ pitcher, Ian Kennedy, threw at the heads of other ballplayers and that’s absurd. Who does he think he is? Burleigh Grimes or Joe McGinnity? It seemed right that baseball’s old guard actually stepped in and aired out their grievances by trading a few hands.

(Bowe, on the other hand, lost by TKO in the second round of

his “comeback” fight, and didn’t get off even one punch against his opponent. He should try his hand at something else... cooking, for instance.)

The nostalgia thing is everywhere. Maybe it’s a byproduct of the Baby Boomers refusing to grow old, I don’t know. Everyone is eager to crown “the next” George Brett, Denis Savard or Bobby Orr. There’s something to be said in finding something original that has a certain familiarity... something that brings on the pang (or pain) of nostalgia.

And you know, while a lot of the new stuff is great and all that... sometimes you just gotta go with the classics.

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

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Deadline: Mondays
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Horizon City, TX 79928

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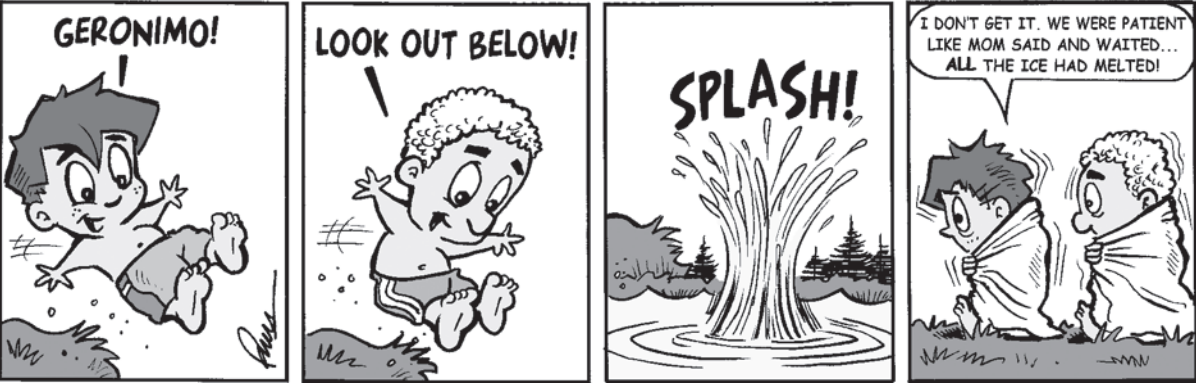
OUT ON A LIMB

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: I'm in my 60s and never had a major illness. I take no medicines. During the past three months, I have been wakened from sleep with a dull pain in the center of my chest. My husband told me to take Mylanta. I did, and got instant relief. What do you think of this pain? – V.P.

in the family? Their mother died of cancer at the age of 40, but we don't know what type of cancer. – Anon.

Pain that wakens a person from sleep must be taken seriously and ought to be reported to the family doctor.

However, the response you got from taking Mylanta (an antacid) makes me think of GERD – gastroesophageal reflux disease, more commonly known as heartburn. Stomach acid and digestive juices spurt into the esophagus, a structure not equipped to deal with them like the stomach can. If this nighttime pain of yours keeps coming back, put 6-inch blocks under the bedposts at the head of your bed to keep stomach juices in the stomach when you lie down.

My first statement about nighttime pain has to be observed. You need to see the family doctor to be certain this is heartburn and not one of the many other serious possibilities.

The booklet on coronary artery disease, another cause of chest pain, details its signs and symptoms. To obtain a copy, write: Dr. Donohue – No. 101, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Can. with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I had two cousins, sisters who died of pancreatic cancer less than a year apart. One was two years older than the other. They grew up and lived in the same Midwestern town. I am concerned about their other sister. Could the disease run

You're the second person in the past three weeks who is concerned about a low white blood count. The normal count is 4,500 to 10,000. The chief role of white blood cells is to battle attacking viruses and bacteria.

You have no symptoms from your lower-than-normal count. Your body defenses are in fine shape. Your count might be normal for you. It bears watching. Nothing you take can raise the count. In your case, it doesn't need to be raised.

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

- LUMINARIES ACROSS**

1 Oklahoma tribe

4 Placed in position

9 Restrict

14 Hair hides it

19 Sing barbershop-style

21 Make _ for (run to)

22 Threesome

23 Large tanks for marine life

24 Death, in Venice

25 Jul. 4 cookout

26 Los Angeles tourist draw

29 Blvd. crosser

30 Eternally, to bards

31 Fleur-de_

32 Cushy class

35 Military bigwig's garb

44 Early Beatle

Sutcliffe

45 "Get _ writing"

47 Maui necklace

48 "L.A. Confidential" novelist James

49 Gossip sheet

55 Carl Sagan's sci.

56 "Born Free" feline

57 Nike rival

58 Rejuvenation location

59 "There's _ Out Tonight"

60 Eye part
- 62 Grant, Tan, and Carter

64 Letters after zetas

66 Hunters' gp.

67 The Best Picture is its culmination

72 Diary writer Anais

74 Lead-in for byte or hertz

75 Shuttle org.

76 Cosmetician

Rubinstein

79 Bone: Prefix

81 "Walk-_ welcome"

83 Rescind

86 Toward shelter, to a sailor

87 Israel's Golda

88 June 14 "honoree"

91 Nautical chart

93 Feel lousy

94 Protein-rich bean, to a Brit

95 Wallach of film

96 Loose celestial grouping

101 Misplaces

103 Rocker Petty

104 Rebuffing responses

105 Cool, in the 1940s

106 Theme of this puzzle

116 Western holler

118 Bring down

119 Exact same

120 Soup utensil

121 Warning
- 122 1981-89, politically

123 Schmoes

124 Prescription bottle data

125 Old-style fax

126 Glistening grass stuff

DOWN

1 "Pick me! Pick me!"

2 Gordita kin

3 Sportscaster

Hershiser

4 MacBook Air alternative

5 Bedazzled

6 Beginner: Var.

7 Basso Pinza

8 Anesthetize

9 Hedy of "Algiers"

10 Major celeb

11 Author Twain

12 Analogy part

13 Viral illness

14 Fourth-cen. Greek prelate called "the Great"

15 Pack tight

16 Million or billion suffix

17 Test facility

18 "Stat!"

20 Indian Ocean archipelago

27 Teeny-tiny

28 Less coarse
- 32 Oleate, e.g.

33 "... _ told by an idiot"

34 Not trivial

35 Literature Nobel

André

36 Feminizing suffix

37 Swiss mountain

38 Rural tracts

39 Didn't guzzle

40 "The Flim-_ Man" (1967 film)

41 "Citizen Kane" director

42 Helicopter part

43 Loy of films

46 Angry lecture

50 Not of the clergy

51 Auction Web site

52 Grown girl

53 To the heavens

54 Partakes of

59 Tennis pro Arthur

61 Western mil. alliance

63 Postpaid encls.

65 Mary-Kate Olsen's twin

68 Land o' Blarney

69 Raving type

70 Captivated

71 Royal name of Norway

72 Chinese menu notice

73 "_ Dark Stranger" (1946 spy film)

77 1960 Wimbledon
- winner Fraser

78 Sponsorship

80 Writer Bombeck

82 Clic _ (Bic pen brand)

84 Make lighter

85 _ below cost

88 Author Sinclair

89 July third?

90 Store receipt add-on

92 Not merely words

97 "That pleases me"

98 Takes guns from, e.g.

99 Souse

100 Casual cotton top

102 Decide to join

105 Neolithic British Isles monument

106 Hammer-wielding god

107 Fish piercer

108 Unaided

109 "_ ever thus"

110 "Take one"

111 "Zip-_Doo-Dah"

112 Cutlet meat

113 Got 100 on

114 Hard to find

115 Picnic dish

116 Financial daily, briefly

117 Gibbon, e.g.

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Moore Texas by Roger Moore **June 26, 1832:**
The Battle of Velasco begins . It was the first real battle between Mexico and the Texians. The Mexican army surrenders due to a **LACK OF AMMUNITION.**



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!

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Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: *I am on disability. I would really like to try to work again. I understand Social Security's Ticket to Work might let me try working without jeopardizing my benefits. What can you tell me about it?*

A: Ticket to Work is a voluntary program offering disabled beneficiaries a variety of services such as vocational rehabilitation, training, and job referrals. Ticket to Work can help you get the support and services you need to help you achieve your employment goals. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/work or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). Work Incentives make it possible for you to explore work while still receiving health care and cash benefits designed to give you a safety net:

- You can keep your Medicaid/Medicare while you work;
- You can select part-time or work-from-home alternatives to help you reach your goal of financial independence; and
- You can try work with confidence, knowing your benefits continue during your transition period.

Q: *What is the earliest age I can begin receiving retirement benefits?*

A: The earliest age you can begin

receiving Social Security retirement benefits is 62. If you decide to receive benefits before your full retirement age, which for most people is age 66 or 67, you will receive a reduced benefit. Keep in mind you will not be able to receive Medicare coverage until age 65, even if you decide to retire at an earlier age. For more information, go to www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: *Are Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits taxable?*

A: No, SSI payments are not subject to federal taxes. We will not send you an annual form SSA-1099 to report your benefits to the Internal Revenue Service. However, Social Security beneficiaries may have to pay income tax. If so, you may ask Social Security to withhold your federal taxes from your Social Security benefit payments. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

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

CryptoQuip

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

Clue: K equals N

NVA BVQLROJOJVK BWORAVDP
UVD LVBMRH OMWO LRDUVDQ
SRWTOJUTCCP JK NVIKLVTDH:

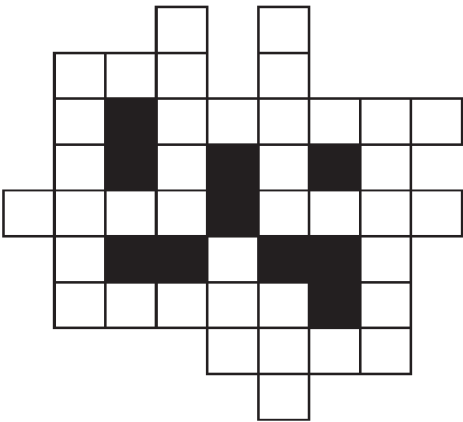
SRHO JK HMVIRD.

Answer Page 4

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UYO
♥ASHPER
LEHZA
♥OREP
PEDAPY
♥SDA
LOSD
♥RUESP
♥PSA
PRYHZE
DHYRA
♥LHUA



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 French Enlightenment writer Voltaire who made the following sage observation: "Faith consists in believing when it is beyond the power of reason to believe."

• If Niagara Falls emptied into the Grand Canyon, the giant chasm would be filled within 6 months.

• Next time you're rolling the dice, pick up a die and take a closer look. The opposite sides of each gaming cube always add up to 7.

• You might think of Uncle Sam as a fictional character, but he's actually based in fact. The original Uncle Sam was one Samuel Wilson, born in Massachusetts in 1766. When he was 14 years old, he joined the army to fight in the American Revolution. Once the war was over, he moved to Troy, N.Y., started working in the meat-packing industry, and became known locally as "Uncle Sam" due to his jovial manner and ethical business practices. During the War of 1812, Sam won a contract to provide meat to troops stationed nearby. To keep track of which crates of meat were destined for the troops, he stamped "U.S." on them, even though that abbreviation for United States was not yet in common use. When his packing plant was inspected in October of 1812, a government inspector asked a nearby worker what "U.S." stood for. Unsure of the abbreviation himself, the worker replied that it must stand for the name of the owner, Uncle Sam. Though the answer was in error, it took hold, and soldiers soon began calling military rations "bounty of Uncle Sam."

• If you remember the early-1960s TV series "Route 66," you might be surprised to learn that the show was actually shot in Florida and Oregon, nowhere near the fabled highway.

Thought for the Day: "Moral indignation is jealousy with a halo."

— H.G. Wells

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