

NEWSBRIEFS

Club opening

The long wait for Horizon diners and golfers is almost over. Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District (HRMUD) owns the property formerly named Emerald Springs Golf and Conference Center and has been in negotiations with two groups to run the facility. The freshly renovated clubhouse at the renamed Horizon Golf and Conference Center is set to open November 1. Golfers will need to wait a bit longer. The pro shop and course are tentatively set to open mid November. Nina Piña is opening the Moonlight Bar & Grill on Nov. 1. She says it will be open everyday, breakfast through dinner, with hours to be set. The renewed facility includes a full service restaurant with banquet, dance and conference facilities. “We want this to be a place people want to go to,” said Piña. She expects working phones this week. The golf course is still in limbo as negotiations between HRMUD and Delta Horizon, LCC continue. This group includes Philip Crowder, Aaron Means and Matt Pepe. They are seeking a lease with purchase option. The property is located at 16000 Ashford in Horizon City.

– Rick Shrum

Vinton festival

Keep Vinton Beautiful is hosting its first Dia de los Muertos festival on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The event will host local growers and bakers as well as handcrafted items from local artisans, games and free arts-n-craft activities for children. There will be presentations to the public, short story telling, and a retelling of the murder of John H. James, owner of the Vinton Mercantile, in 1932 by Mrs. Rebecca Powers. Mrs. Powers is a Vinton resident and the author of *Laura’s Children: the Hidden Story of a Chinese Orphanage* and the compiler and editor of *My Roots Go Back to Loving and other stories from “Year of the Family.”* She has published over 1000 parenting columns and family interest features in newspapers, magazines, and regional parenting publications, including the *El Paso Times*, *El Paso Scene*, *The Clinton Herald*, *Home Life*, *Grit*, *Space Coast Parent*, and *Inland Northwest Family Magazine*. Keep Vinton Beautiful promotes sustainability through environmental awareness, solid waste reduction and beautification projects. Vendors are still needed. For more information please call 886-5104.

– Jessica Garza

Literary fiesta

El Paso Community College (EPCC) will hold the 5th Annual Literary Fiesta on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2013 at the EPCC

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Never before has the fate of so many been at the whim of so few.

– Quips & Quotes

EPCC, Socorro ISD form partnership for Campestre students

By Paula R. Diaz
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO – With more than 600 students, teachers, parents, administrators from both Socorro Independent School District and El Paso Community College and even mascot Tejano Jack looking on, the teal and white EPCC flag unfurled in the cool morning breeze, proclaiming Campestre Elementary School a college bound institution.

The Lower Valley elementary is the first school in El Paso to be adopted by the college.

“We want to create a college going culture here,” said Dr. William Serrata, EPCC president, right before the flag-raising ceremony Oct. 21. “Studies have shown that students are deciding in the second and third grades if they are going to college. That is why we need to start at the elementary level.”

The College Bound initiative’s goal is to get

See COLLEGE, Page 2



– Photo by Acavius Largo / Socorro Independent School District

GET THEM STARTED YOUNG – Students – sporting free t-shirts – from Campestre Elementary School celebrate their school being designated “College Bound.” El Paso Community College and the Socorro Independent School District celebrated a partnership that will excite and motivate students about going to college at an early stage.

Quatrini named interim superintendent for Tornillo ISD

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

TORNILLO – Tornillo Independent School District Board of Trustees recently appointed Dr. Mike Quatrini as the new interim superintendent for the district. He takes over for Tornillo High School Principal Margaret Ruybe, who has served as both principal and interim superintendent for the past 11 months.

Quatrini, the former San Elizario ISD superintendent, took over the reins Oct. 14 and is expected to lead the district until a new superintendent is found. Tornillo ISD has been without a permanent leader since Paul Vranish resigned last school year.

Quatrini, who led the San Elizario district for 15 years and retired in 2011, said that Ruybe did a good job as interim but that she was needed at the high school, so the board



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

A FAMILIAR JOB – Dr. Mike Quatrini was named recently interim superintendent for Tornillo Independent School District. The small, rural district serves approximately 1,366 students and employs 179 persons. It is located about 35 miles southeast of El Paso and is one of 12 school districts in the Region 19 Education Service Center area.

allowed her to go back to her campus.

Quatrini said that he expects to be with the district for about four to six months to afford board members time to conduct a thorough search for a new superintendent. He said that he is not applying for the permanent position. As interim, Quatrini’s salary will be pro-rated based on an annual salary of \$117,000.

Vranish, Tornillo’s former superintendent, was put on leave in November of last year after a Texas Education Agency (TEA) review showed questionable reimbursements to him and his wife, also a district employee.

Vranish’s resignation was officially accepted last December. Since then, the district has been in search of an instructional leader. Initially, the board contacted Region 19 Education Service Center for assistance in its search, but apparently some of the board members

were not happy with Region 19’s proposed candidates. Also, the board wants to wait for the results of a forensic audit of the district before selecting the new superintendent, according to a recent news report.

Quatrini said that as far as he can tell, the schools are doing well and the district is financially sound. “I am very impressed with district personnel; staff members are positive and goal-oriented. So, I see my role as preparing the district for the new superintendent, sort of like smoothing out any bumps on the road,” said the new interim superintendent.

Among the things Quatrini said that he plans to do is get an overview of district operations by conducting an effectiveness compliance screening using an out-of-district consultant. “The screening will tell us where we need to improve or confirm that we are doing the right things,” he said.

Tornillo ISD, with an annual budget of nearly \$13.5 million, operates four campuses: Tornillo Elementary (Pre K through 3rd grade), Tornillo Intermediate (4th through 6th grade), Tornillo Junior High (7th and 8th grade), and Tornillo High (9th through 12th grade).

The four campuses earned the designation of “met standard” under the state’s new accountability system for the 2012-13 school year- the state’s most recent student performance ratings.

Anthony ISD observes National School Lunch Week

Highlights include regional recipes, healthy changes

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

ANTHONY – Anthony Independent School District’s (AISD) Child Nutrition Department celebrated National School Lunch Week (October 14-18) by highlighting the nutritious regional recipes, ingredients and traditions that

make their school cafeteria program unique.

During the weeklong observance, AISD cafeteria staff hosted special events with wellness activities for students and information for parents about the healthy changes in the schools’ cafeterias that address the new nutrition standards for school meals nationwide.

Throughout the week-long celebration, AISD cafeteria served healthy versions of regional recipes that incorporated local flavors to get students excited about eating school meals, according to Rachel Frayre, director of

AISD’s Child Nutrition Department.

As part of the event, a fruit and vegetable stand was on display at the school cafeteria entrance for students and visitors to view and realize that several of the foods they eat in the school cafeteria were grown in Texas.

“We pledged participation and are determined to undertake TDA’s challenge to schools state-wide of providing meals using Texas-grown products,” said Frayre.

The highlight of the week was Wednesday’s

See LUNCH, Page 5

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Who’s minding the store?

The Department of Veterans Affairs’ Office of the Inspector General are the folks who scrutinize all aspects of the VA, from care of veterans at the hospitals, to the security risks, to whether VA physicians have up-to-date licenses. Until recently, they hadn’t focused their laser beam on the VA’s spending on Separately Priced Items, aka SPIs, which are incidentals purchased to support VA programs and events. When it came to light that the VA spent \$15.5 million on three financial-management training conferences, the OIG went to work.

Here’s what it learned:

Of the \$15.5 million, \$5.3 million was spent on goods and services purchased as SPIs from their prime vendor. They should have required the vendor to provide firm fixed prices.

The VA hadn’t approved all SPI purchases in advance, nor was there adequate documentation. They’d apparently relinquished control by making the purchases through an interagency agreement with the Office of Personnel Management. The OPM did the purchasing – on the VA’s dime.

Instead of picking a new conference location when the

first was found to be too small, the VA paid to have 43 additional classrooms hastily built on the site!

The OIG identified approximately \$1.1 million that could have been saved via competitive contracting.

Approximately \$697,000 was spent in service fees, with an additional \$132,000 paid to the Office of Personnel Management in service fees, both inappropriate.

In other words, no one was keeping an eye on this money and where it went. And it’s not the first time. The OIG found three previous incidents where the VA handed over control of the money to the OPM.

The problem: Too many essential components of the project were labeled as incidental. OPM netted a 2.5 percent service fee on the whole cost. Where was its incentive to lower costs?

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

Don’t ignore tax deduction for moving expenses

Whether you’re relocating across town or across the country, moving is expensive. By the time you’ve paid to have your household goods packed and moved, cancelled and reconnected utilities and racked up storage fees, you could easily be out thousands of dollars.

Many people don’t realize that if they’re moving to start a new job, transferring with a current employer or even returning to the U.S. to retire after working abroad, their moving expenses may be tax deductible. Plus, moving expenses are an “above-the-line” deduction, which means they reduce your adjusted gross income and can be claimed even if you don’t itemize deductions.

Two tests generally must be satisfied to claim a moving-expense deduction:

Distance test. The distance between your new job and your former home must be at least 50 miles farther than your previous workplace is from that home. For example, if you used to work 10 miles from home, your new workplace must be at least 60 miles from your old home. If this is your first job or you were unemployed, the job must be at least 50 miles from your old home.

Time Test. Regular employees must work full-time at least 39 weeks during the 12 months after moving, although the weeks needn’t be consecutive or for the same employer. (For self-employed people, it’s 78 weeks during the first 24 months.)

If you moved this year, you can claim the deduction on your 2013 taxes even if you haven’t yet met the time test, provided you expect to during the coming year. If you later fail to meet the time test, you must reverse the deduction, either by including the amount as “other income” on your 2014 tax return, or by filing an amended 2013 return.

Qualified moving expenses include:

- Costs for packing and transporting household goods, personal effects, pets and vehicles.
- Fees to disconnect and/or connect utilities.
- Travel costs for you and household members to the new home. (Meals cannot be charged).
- Use of your car during the move.
- Storing and insuring your possessions for up to 30 days.
- Note: Family members needn’t move at the same time nor by the same means of transportation.

Expenses that do not qualify include:


- Expenses of buying or selling a home, including closing costs, mortgage fees, house-hunting expenses, home improvements or new furnishings.
- Loss on the sale of your old home.
- Charges for signing or breaking a lease.
- Fees for new car tags or driver’s license in your new locale.
- Expenses incurred on side trips en route to your new home (e.g., sightseeing).
- Security deposits (including any given up due to the move).
- Also, you cannot take a moving expense deduction and a business expense deduction for the same expenses.

See IRS Publication 521 for all eligible and ineligible expenses and other details about the moving expense deduction. To file for the deduction, complete IRS Form 3903 and attach it to a Form 1040 Income Tax Return. You don’t need to complete a Schedule A unless you are otherwise itemizing deductions. (You cannot claim moving expenses on a 1040EZ Form.)

Also note: If your employer reimburses you for any deductible expenses, you must reduce your moving deduction by that amount; and, employer reimbursement for non-deductible expenses will likely be treated as wages on your W-2 Form.

Take a few minutes to calculate whether you qualify for the moving expense deduction – you could save a bundle on your taxes.

Jason Alderman directs Visa’s financial education programs.




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Ballroom management pleads guilty

By Elhiu Dominguez
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — Mission Valley Ballroom administrator Donna Cortez Flores and ballroom’s manager Ricardo Espinoza were sentenced last week by County Court at Law # 4 Alejandro Gonzalez after each pled guilty to five charges of Deceptive Business Practice in 10 separate cases. The charges came the two shut down their party hall business without notice after taking thousands of dollars in advance payments from unsuspecting consumers.

Flores, 47, and Espinoza, also 47, were each sentenced to 12 months probation, complete 150 hours of community service, and were ordered to jointly pay more than \$76,000 in restitution to 34 different victims.

Police reports indicate that from September 2008, and up until January 2011, the defendants received thousands of dollars from dozens of residents who paid them in advance to hold events at the Mission Valley Ballroom. After closing the ballroom at the beginning of 2011, the defendants failed to return the money to the victims.

El Paso County Attorney Jo Anne Bernal explained that, after a prolonged process, the victims in this case were finally receiving justice.

“In addition to being punished for violating the public’s trust, the merchants were ordered to pay restitution to the residents they victimized,” Bernal said.

“The case serves as an example of how the Deceptive Business laws can and will protect unethical merchants when they choose to take advantage of consumers,” Bernal concluded.

College

From Page 1

students thinking about attending college at an earlier age. EPCC will be actively participating in everything Campestre students do such as providing materials, giving college tours to the children and getting parents involved, said Nita Corral-Nava, director of recruitment and school relations for EPCC.

“We are going to be present at all events,” Corral-Nava said. “We are going to come here and read to them, be here for parents night and, even, help with fund raisers.”

For the ceremony, students were given a “College Bound” T-shirt and a backpack with EPCC goodies.

Campestre Principal Nadia De La Rosa said the program is exactly what the school needs.

“What we are doing with this program here is preparing our students for years of academic success,” she said. “We are promoting a college-going culture at our school and the community.”

Ten-year-old Genevieve Maynez, a winner of the “Why it is Important to go to College” essay contest said she has seen what a difference not having a college degree can make in a person’s future.

“My mother is working two jobs just to have enough money to pay our bills,” said Maynez, a Campestre student. “She has said over and over again that I have to go to college, so that I won’t have to work two jobs. If I go to college, I can choose the job I want.”

One of EPCC’s recruiters who plans to help and encourage Maynez and other Campestre students to attend college is Miguel Reza. The administrative recruitment officer grew up in the Socorro area and is working on a degree in social work.

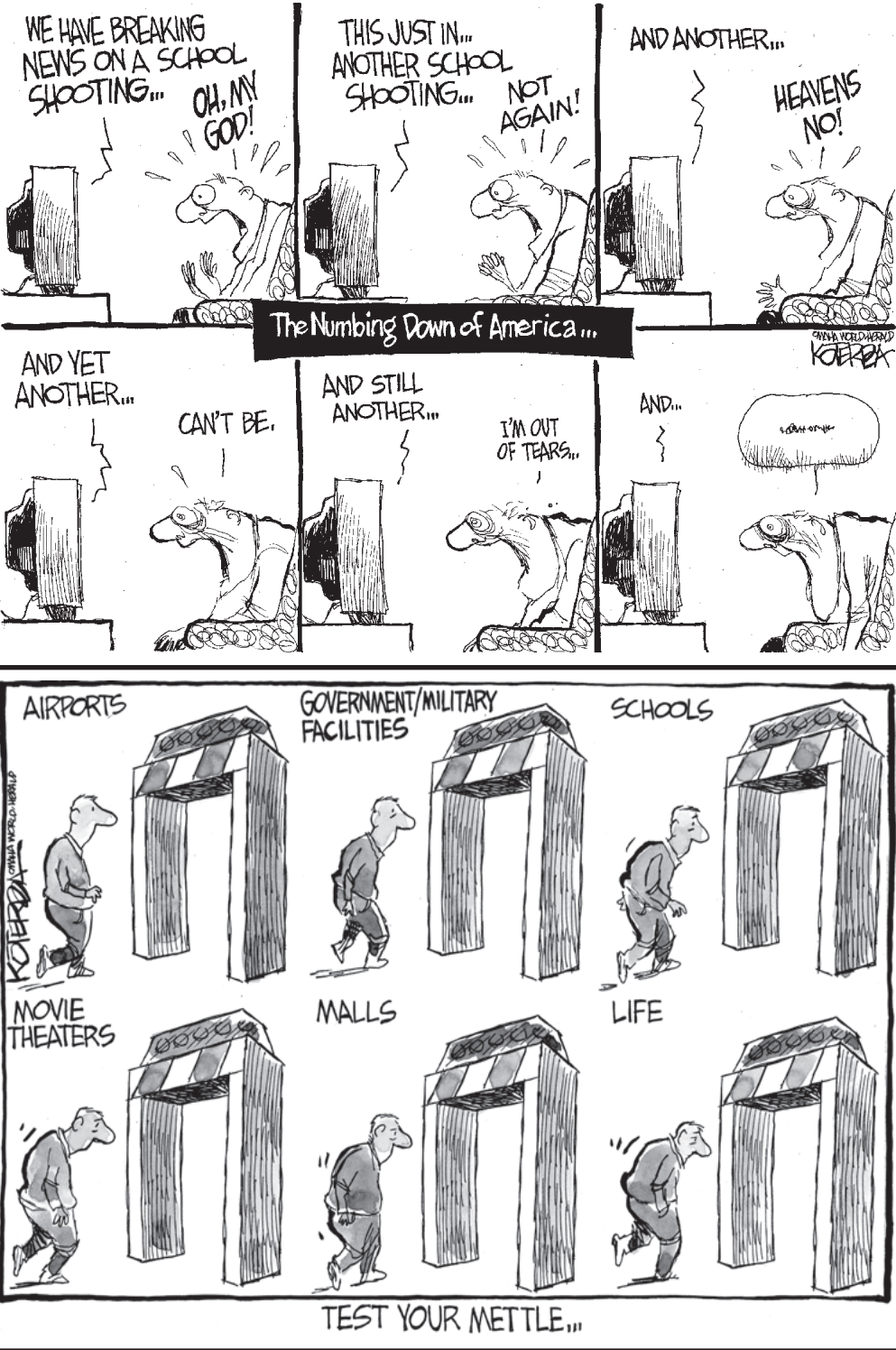
“I wish we had had this kind of program when I was growing up,” Reza said. “This is really great for our youth here in this area, for their future. I am thankful I get to be a part of it and give back.”

Luz Valenzuela, mother to kindergartner, Valerie Rios, is eager to see how this college-bound program will help her daughter and her other two children, who will be attending Campestre in the next few years.

“I am so happy about this,” Valenzuela said. “I didn’t have the chance to go to college. But I want to make sure my children go.”

The Socorro resident said her daughter, Valerie, was so excited about this event. She has been talking about it for weeks.

“She told me that I had to be here today because her plan is to go to college,” Valenzuela said. “Being here today and hearing all that they have said, gives me hope for my daughter and my other children. Maybe they will get the chance to go to college. That would be a dream come true.”



View from here

By Lisa M. Tatum

Lawyers are uniquely positioned to serve low-income Texans

A woman arrived at the pro bono legal clinic in a desperate state and suffering from severe disabilities. Thanks to the work of attorneys at LyondellBasell, a Houston-based plastics, chemical and refining company, she is getting the legal help she needs. The attorneys, led by chief legal officer Craig Glidden and pro bono coordinator Monica Karuturi, are helping her set up a special-needs trust to manage her disability benefits.

“It’s one of those unique opportunities that we as corporate lawyers have to contribute to the community’s overall prosperity,” Karuturi said. “Our work is very matter-specific on a day-to-day basis, and pro bono work gives us a way to contribute to broader social issues and interact with people who really need our help. It also grounds us and gives us a sense of what’s really important.”

Lawyers across Texas could share similar stories of making a difference in the lives of people who could not afford legal services. The National Pro Bono Celebration, happening Oct. 20-26, is about acknowledging the value and importance of this work and encouraging more attorneys to get involved.

The American Bar Association started the celebration in 2009, after the recession left more people in need of pro bono legal services. The goal is to recognize lawyers’ good work while recruiting more volunteers, mobilizing community support, and fostering collaborative relationships. The celebration is nationwide, with a focus on local projects.

The State Bar of Texas encourages Texas attorneys to provide at least 50 hours of pro bono legal services each year, and hundreds of attorneys regularly exceed that goal. Still, while nearly 6 million Texans qualify for legal aid, the state’s legal community meets only 20 percent of the need, according to a 2009 Legal Services Corporation study. As attorneys who care about access to justice, we can and should do more.

As president of the State Bar, I am pleased to announce the Care Campaign, a new program designed to further empower Texas attorneys to provide pro bono services. Through the Care Campaign, attorneys can find practical training tools, interpreters for clients with limited English-language abilities, and access to malpractice insurance through a specialized network. The program includes a Care Kit—a box containing all of the resources that local bar associations and legal organizations need to easily hold a legal advice clinic in your community.

Texas attorneys also continue making a difference through programs that serve U.S.

military veterans who cannot afford or lack access to legal services. One such program, the State Bar’s Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans, develops and assists pro bono legal clinics throughout the state.

“Anyone who needs pro bono work, by definition, is unable to afford legal assistance, but the ones I find the most significant and inspiring are people who have the quietest voice and the greatest need,” said Shauna Wright, partner and pro bono coordinator at



Lisa M. Tatum

the Fort Worth law firm of Kelly Hart & Hallman, LLP, which regularly sponsors veterans clinics and also represents families adopting orphans. “We have kids in the community who have been failed by people over and over and over, and the world has let them down. So it’s a powerful thing for us to help their new parents give them a forever home and a permanent family. It’s truly humbling to be a part of it.”

Marc Vockell’s extensive pro bono work includes helping victims of domestic violence navigate family law cases.

“You want to make a difference, and you want to help your clients improve their lives,” said Vockell, the head of intellectual property litigation at Dell Inc. in Round Rock who served on the Texas Access to Justice Commission from 2009 to 2012. “I’ve had clients who were very pleased to get on with their lives and clients who tell me I’m their guardian angel. But I think I get more out of it than my clients because I get to practice law in a way that is very personally fulfilling and rewarding.”

Other opportunities to volunteer abound. Attorneys interested in connecting with legal aid providers and pro bono organizations in their communities can find them and other pro bono resources at texasbar.com/atj. If you need an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one, you can contact the State Bar for a referral to a low-cost civil legal service agency in your area by calling (800) 204-2222, ext. 1855.

As attorneys, it is our privilege to be the ones who can help people in this essential way. “A lot of us serve on nonprofit boards or maybe volunteer at a soup kitchen or a homeless shelter, and those are good things to do,” said Wright, the Fort Worth attorney. “But pro bono legal work can only be done by lawyers. We are uniquely qualified to do it.”

Lisa M. Tatum is president of the State Bar of Texas and the founder and owner of LM Tatum, PLLC, in San Antonio with a practice that focuses on corporate, education, employment, and public finance law. She may be reached by email at statebarpresident@texasbar.com.

Briefs

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Administrative Services Center, 9050 Viscount, Building A. The Literary Fiesta will celebrate writers from El Paso and other nearby areas. There will also be a Mercado with book, food, and craft booths as well as a children’s corner with free books for the kids. Events include:

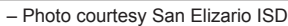
- A “Community Read” of *From This Wicked Patch of Dust* with Sergio Troncoso from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.;

- “Pitchfest!” Toss your book idea to a literary agent with Bree Ogden from 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.; and
 - “Spinning a Positive Publicity Web” with Teffanie Thompson White from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Wrapping up the event at 5:30 p.m., there will be an Awards Dinner celebrating Sergio Troncoso, author of award-winning novel, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, and *Free Hole Slam*, a local poetry venue. Admission to the Literary Fiesta is free and open to the public.

– Jim Heiney

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

The Mobile Dairy Classroom is a traveling milking parlor where a trained instructor demonstrates how to milk a cow, describes how milk goes from the farm to the consumer, and then answers questions from students. Visiting Alarcon Elementary School with Peach the cow was instructor Cody Lightfoot who not only informed students about milking technology and dairy production but also entertained them with fun facts. Lightfoot has been



Educational materials for teachers are also available as part of the

Mobile Dairy Classroom since the presentation incorporates math, science, health and nutrition, and agriculture concepts. Some of the topics that Lightfoot discussed with students included the anatomy of cows; nutritional content of milk; milking technology and equipment; and modern environmental and food

The Mobile Dairy Classroom is a division of the Southwest Dairy Museum, Inc., a non-profit, educational program funded by dairymen across the Southwest. It is offered to schools at no cost for students primarily in second through eighth grades.

By Melissa Pecorino
Special to the Courier

The awards recognize the best grassroots environmental programs in the state and are broken up into 10 different categories based on population size. The winner of the smallest population category is a community with up to 3,000 residents and receives a \$90,000 grant, while the winner of the largest category qualifies for \$310,000 and is a city with more than 180,000 residents. Funds are distributed proportionately to the other eight communities. Every community in Texas is eligible to apply for GCAA. A program

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CryptoQuip

Answer

When emotions run high during a trial, would people claim that there's "ardor in the court?"

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KTB

From Page 4

is judged on achievement in seven different areas: community leadership and coordination; education; public awareness; litter prevention and cleanup; illegal dumping enforcement; beautification and property improvement; and solid waste management. KTB will formally recognize these communities during its 47th Annual Conference in Austin from June 23-25, 2014, at the Renaissance Hotel.

Communities interested in applying may download the 2014 application from the KTB website at <http://www.ktb.org/programs/awards/governors-community-achievement-awards.aspx> or call 1-800-CLEAN-TX to request a copy. Applications are due to KTB on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, by 5:00 p.m.

Keep Texas Beautiful is a statewide grassroots environmental and community improvement nonprofit that strives to educate and engage Texans to take responsibility for improving their surrounding environment. KTB and its more than 360 affiliates work with the government, businesses, civic groups and volunteers to ensure that every Texan has the opportunity to make Texas the cleanest, most beautiful state in the nation. For more information on programs and events, call 1-800-CLEAN-TX or visit www.ktb.org.

Lunch

From Page 1

lunchtime reception for local area dignitaries including AISD board members, State Representative Joe Moody’s district director Ana Gonzalez, Anthony TX Mayor Lee Vela, Region 19 Child Nutrition Specialist Ulises Quiintero, Texas Department of Agriculture School Operations official Marcela Licerio, and Former AISD Superintendent Ron Haugen.

Other lunch week activities included daily student announcements by campus principals about healthy eating habits. Physical education teachers and coaches also got into the Texas-style theme by incorporating activities like country music dancing, roping skills, and horseshoe toss.

Frayre, who has supervised the district’s food service program since 2009, said that the small district, which lies on the Texas-New Mexico state line, serves 800 meals daily. With an annual budget of about \$500,000 and an additional \$250,000 for summer program, she said that the district serves meals that meet the federal nutritional guidelines in compliance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA).

“AISD’s child nutrition program is 100 percent self-sufficient and does not rely on district general funds to operate; instead we are funded 100 percent through federal and state funds and grants, and adult meal sales,” stated Frayre, who manages 16 regular school-year employees and up to 40 workers during the



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

HEALTH SMARTS – As part of the recent National School Lunch Week observance, Anthony Independent School District (AISD) Child Nutrition Program displayed a fruit and vegetable stand of Texas-grown products (pumpkins, cantaloupe, pears, cucumbers, broccoli, strawberries, turnips, bell peppers, apples, celery, spinach, rosemary, oregano, beets, jicama, and watermelon) at the school cafeteria entrance to help students and visitors realize just how much of what the school cafeteria serves is grown in this state. Joining in the observance were, from left, Lee Vela, Anthony TX mayor; Marcela Licerio, Texas Dept. of Agriculture school operations official; Ron Haugen, former AISD superintendent; Adrian Vasquez, student; Edgar Dominguez, student; Oscar Troncoso, Anthony HS principal; Adriana Cuellar, student; Carlos Hernandez, student; Rachel Frayre, AISD Child Nutrition Dept. director; and Ulisses Quintero, Region 19 child nutrition specialist.

summer program.

The School Nutrition Association (SNA) helped schools recognize National School Lunch Week with an official campaign theme, suggested menus and recipes, promotional resources and more to raise awareness of the importance of the National School Lunch Program, which feeds over 31 million of

America’s students each day.

According to its website, SNA is a national, non-profit professional organization representing 55,000 school nutrition professionals across the country. Founded in 1946, SNA and its members are dedicated to making healthy school meals and

nutrition education available to all students.

This year’s “School Lunch across the USA” campaign was sponsored by the non-profit SNA along with the Milk Processors Education Program (MilkPEP) and McCormick for Chefs.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

TOWN OF HORIZON CITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:30 pm on Tuesday, November 12, 2013, during a Regular Council Meeting** at City Hall at 15001 Darrington Rd. (Court/Police Dept. Bldg.) in the Council chambers, Horizon City, TX.

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

1) 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 207, An Ordinance adopting a zoning change within the municipal limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas; rezoning one parcel from R-2, Residential, to A-1, Apartments, for multi-family use, containing approximately 0.5180 acres; being Lot 1, Block 1, Arroyo Pass, Horizon City, El Paso County, Texas, located north and east of the intersection of Ashford Drive and Horizon Boulevard; and authorizing the notation of the change on the official zoning

map of the Town; providing for the following: findings of fact; repealer; severability; and proper notice and hearing.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk of Horizon City. 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 this hearing.

*Elvia Schuller
Interim City Clerk
Town of
Horizon City*

WTCC: 10-24-13

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The purpose of

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

A proposed Special Use Permit to allow the installation of an Electrical Sign with LED Display in an R-2 Zone consisting of the following property:

Location:
400 N. Kenazo, Horizon City, Texas, 79928

Legal Description:
Section 31, Block 78, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railway Company Surveys

Current Surrounding Zone:
R-2, R-4 (Residential) & PUD (Planned Unit Development)

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk of Horizon City. 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 this hearing.

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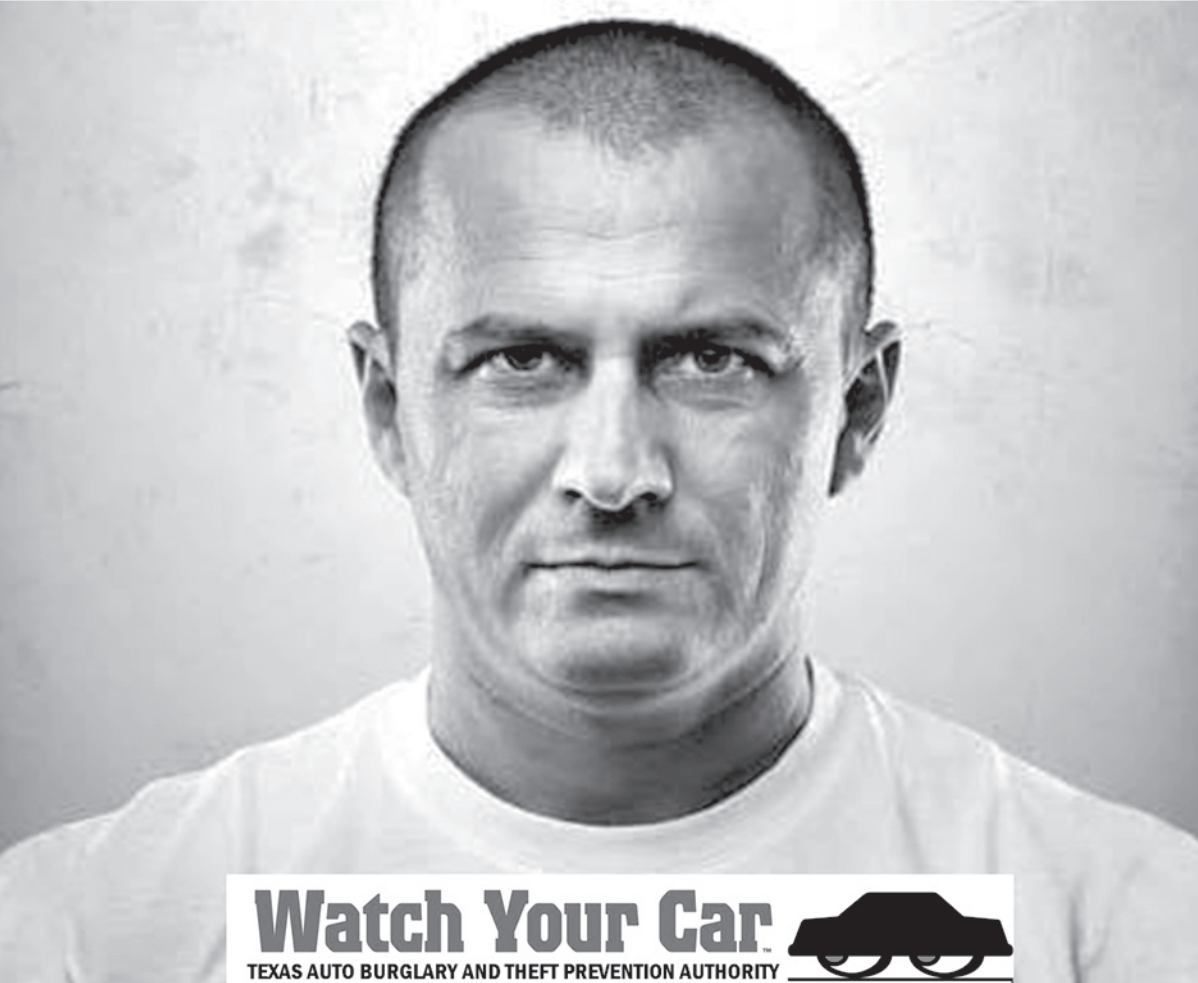
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NFL offense: Team names that make people unhappy

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

During this time of the year everybody seems to have an opinion or two concerning whatever’s going on in the National Football League.

But lately, a lot of the talk surrounding the NFL has had nothing to do with Peyton Manning and his record-breaking start to the season; or the surprising undefeated Kansas City Chiefs; or even the shocking disappointment that the New York Giants have become.

Most of the talk has surrounded the team in Washington.

But it has had nothing to do with the physical trials and tribulations of their fine young quarterback Robert Griffin III – it’s all been about their team name, the Redskins.

There are some in the Native American community who find the name to be offensive and a slur.

I don’t know a whole lot of Native Americans but of the few that I’ve asked, none has a problem with the name and frankly, never even considered it one way or another.

Most polls show that the majority of Native

Americans are not offended by the nicknames but there are still plenty who are.

Through the years, a few college teams have changed their names from Native American-related nicknames to something that those who were offended found more palatable.

Over the years, Stanford, Dartmouth, Siena, Arkansas State and Louisiana Monroe dropped their mascot of Indians. Others who changed were the St. Johns Redmen, Marquette Warriors, North Dakota Fighting Sioux and Miami (Ohio) Redskins.

Some schools who received complaints kept their nicknames because the tribes gave their blessing. Those were the Illinois Fighting Ilini, the Florida State Seminoles, Utah Utes and Central Michigan Chippewas.

I’ve never had a problem with the names because I always saw them as a celebration of the brave men who dedicated their lives to the tribes they represented. All those names reminded me of a proud people who were receiving nothing but respect from those teams.

Think about it, what college or pro team would call themselves something they felt was a slur or a sign of weakness or a source of ridicule?

What scares me the most about this trend of

doing away with the Native American names is that nowadays, these are the only daily references that young people hear concerning the tribes.

It’s like there’s a rush to erase all references to all tribes in this country. At least if these names are still out there they is a constant reminder of their existence.

NBC’s Bob Costas brought up a good point over the weekend that gave me pause.

He made the point that if you don’t consider the Redskins to be offensive, what if a team were called the Blackskins, or the Brownskins, or the Yellowskins or the Whiteskins?

I have to agree that there would be an uproar, and that they would be offensive.

But on the flipside, if this trend continues, where does it end?

We all know that the United States is chock full of people who make a living at being offended about something.

Some could make the argument that Native Americans should probably be more offended about nicknames like Cowboys (who fought and killed many in the old west) and the Patriots or Capitals (didn’t this government basically rob them blind).

What other names can be considered

offensive?

The Vikings plundered and killed; the Packers and Steelers represent the days of unfair labor practices; the Saints, Angels and Padres bring religion to the mix; the 49ers and Nuggets represent greed and a lust for gold; the Buccaneers, Raiders and Pirates glorify those who stole, raped and killed for their booty; the Giants and Titans don’t consider the fragile feelings of short people; the Heat and Rockets can be considered dangerous weapons; the Jets and Pistons represent man’s contribution to pollution; the Wizards and Magic may lead our innocent children toward sorcery; the Twins are an obvious reference to overpopulation and the Brewers promote alcoholism.

If you think all that is bad, imagine if PETA voiced their concerns about the nicknames Eagles, Dolphins, Bengals, Ravens, Jaguars, Eagles, Lions, Bears, Panthers, Falcons, Rams, Cardinals, Bulls, Hawks, Orioles, Tigers and Marlins.

The only team that is going to reap all the benefits from this hypersensitivity is all the teams of lawyers who will handle the complaints in court.

I think they’re called the Sharks.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

‘Get Loud’ is getting old

Paul Stanley and Gene Simmons, frontmen for the rock band KISS and the new Los Angeles KISS Arena Football Team like to remind anyone within listening range that they “Love It Loud.” They also like to declare that if “it’s too loud, you’re too old.” The Who were, at one time, credited in the Guinness Book of World Records with having played the loudest rock concert ever.

And that’s all pretty cool, until you

realize that Paul Stanley was born deaf in one ear and Who guitarist Pete Townsend is self described as “stone deaf” and wears hearing aids in both of his ear canals. (For that matter, so does Roger Daltry, The Who’s lead singer).

I bring this to your attention because the kid sitting next to me on the flight into Kansas City has passed the time by incinerating his inner cochlea with earphones twice the size of those being worn by the

guy on the Tarmac standing next to the spinning turbine of a jet engine. Tomorrow, The Kansas City Chiefs fans at Arrowhead Stadium will set the Guinness Book of World Records for the loudest outdoor stadium noise level ever recorded in a win over the r-r-rotten R-r-raiders of Oakland.

According to the Guinness judge (personally flown in from England by Chiefs owner Clark Hunt, who made no secret of the teams concerted effort to break the previous record recorded earlier this year at Seattle), Chiefs fans registered 137.5 tics on the decibel scale. To put that into perspective, the plane flying 100 feet over our heads as we taxi to our

gate is kicking out 140 decibels of sound.

“What were you listening to?” I ask the kid.

He answers with the brand name of the earphones.

“No, that’s what you were listening with,” his pink-faced and perturbed girlfriend interjects. She raises her voice for emphasis and clarity and says, “He asked what you were listening to!”

“We... we were listening to Insane Clown Posse,” he says. “Why, you could hear it?”

“Roger that,” I nod. His earphones carry a decal that says they pump out 120 decibels, 17.5 decibels lower than 80,000 Boulevard Beer and barbecue-fueled Chiefs fans maniacally screaming in unison.

“It’s gonna ruin your hearing,” the girlfriend says.

carry earplugs in my wallet now. You can judge me, but I’m not losing any more of my hearing so I can prove to C.C. Deville and Bret Michaels (both near deaf) that I can endure their guitar solos. Anyway, doctors say that nearly 30 percent of teens have already suffered permanent hearing loss of some kind due to loud noises being directly pumped to eardrums by headphones.

“Out of control!” Chiefs game-day sound engineer Zach Aaron would go on to say after the game. “We had constant obliterating loudness!”

The Raiders were flagged 11 times for noise-related penalties, courtesy of the insane Chiefs posse.

“Things they do look awful c-c-cold... hope I can hear any of it before I get old.”

Decades of rock concerts and stadium noise have taken their toll on my hearing, that’s for sure. I

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

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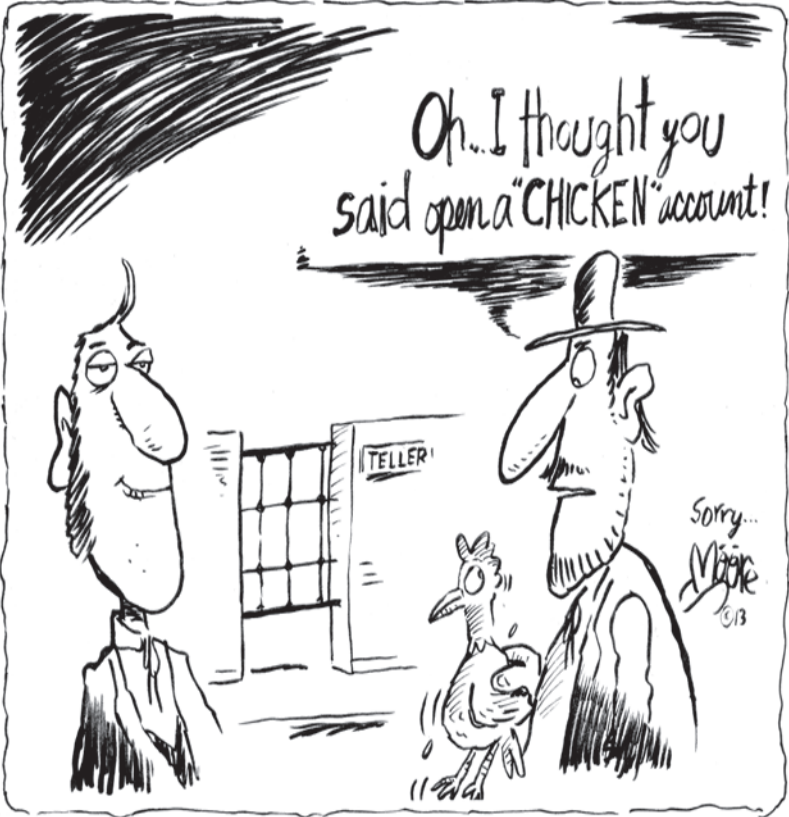
25 words - \$10 per week; 40 words - \$15 per week

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
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33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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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!

	+		÷		2
÷		+		-	
	x		÷		9
+		÷		÷	
	x		-		3
11		11		1	

1 2 3 5 5 6 7 8 9

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★ ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4 ★★ ★ HOO BOY!

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: What is the difference between Social Security disability and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability?

A: Social Security administers two major programs that pay disability benefits. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) payments are based on your work and earnings, while SSI disability payments are based on financial need. Both disability programs require that you have a severe medical impairment or combination of impairments that prevents you from working for at least a year or is expected to result in death.

Social Security taxes are paid by workers, employers, and self-employed persons. These taxes fund disability benefits under SSDI. To be eligible for a Social Security benefit, you must earn enough credits to be insured. We pay disability benefits to blind or disabled workers, widow(er)s, or adults disabled since childhood who are otherwise eligible. We base monthly disability benefits on the Social Security earnings record of the insured worker.

SSI is a program financed through general revenues, not Social Security taxes. We pay SSI disability benefits to adults or children who are disabled or blind, have limited income and resources, meet the living arrangement requirements,

and are otherwise eligible. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: I applied for a Social Security card for my baby at the hospital, but the card came back with the wrong name. What do I do?

A: This is very rare, but if it does happen, go to your local Social Security office or card center. We need to see original documents proving your child's:

- U.S. citizenship;
- Age; and
- Identity.

If you corrected the child's birth certificate, we will want to see that. We also will need to see a document proving your identity. All documents must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents. To learn what documents we will accept, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

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, 11111 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: D equals H

CDAU AVWRXWUN HZU DXBD
JZHXUB O RHXOE, CWZEJ
YAWYEA KEOXV RDOR RDAHA'N

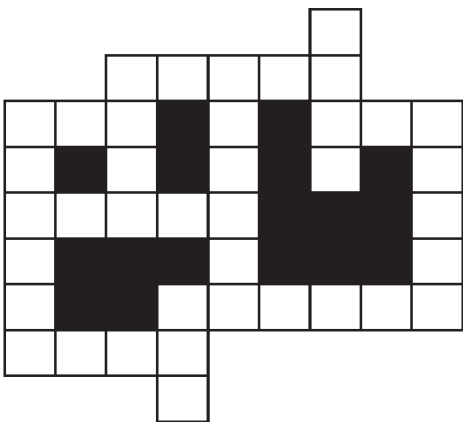
"OHJWH XU RDA KWZHR"?

Answer Page 4

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GEB
TREHIZ
TBICU
BHOO
ULNTEN
OZO
♥RBDA
♥RETHA
♥RCA
GLITBH
♥HONTR
EARZ



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 British author George Bernard Shaw who made the following sage observation: "If all the economists were laid end to end, they'd never reach a conclusion."

• If you're planning a trip to Hollywood next summer, you might want to make a stop at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery. Not only can you visit the graves of such stars as Rudolph Valentino, Jayne Mansfield and Douglas Fairbanks (both Sr. and Jr.), but in the summer you also can picnic there while watching classic movies.

• You might be surprised to learn that eggplants have fairly high levels of nicotine.

• You may have heard that painting your kitchen red or yellow can help stimulate your appetite, while painting it blue can help suppress it. The kitchen isn't the only living area in which color research has been done, though; those who study such things say that those who sleep in yellow bedrooms get an average of 7.7 hours of sleep per night, while those in purple bedrooms sleep only 5.9 hours per night on average.

• Penn Jillette, of the magic team of Penn and Teller, has a son named Zolten Penn Jillette and a daughter named Moxie CrimeFighter Jillette.

• Those of you who are pregnant might want to take note of some old superstitions: It was once thought that hiding a knife under the mattress of a laboring woman would cut the birth pains. Also, unlocking all the doors in the house and tying knots in the curtains were believed to guarantee an easy delivery. (Just don't try these in the hospital.)

• Thought for the Day: "Half of the harm that is done in this world is due to people who want to feel important. They don't mean to do harm, but the harm does not interest them."

— T.S. Eliot

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