



NEWSBRIEFS

Winter break

Students will be released early on Friday, Dec. 20. All schools and administrative offices in the San Elizario Independent School District will be closed December 23, 2013 to January 3, 2014 for the winter holiday break. Teachers return to work on Monday, Jan. 6, 2014 for professional development. Students will return to classes on Tuesday, January 7, 2014.

— Cynthia P. Marentes

C.A.N. before Christmas

Chuco Artist Network (C.A.N.) will present a special CAN Before Christmas event, from 2 to 10 p.m., Saturday, December 21, at the Five Points Bistro, 3019 Montana. The day-long family event will feature art, music, comedy, poetry and dance performances to celebrate the Christmas and Winter Solstice season. Hosting the show will be Comegician. Among the performers will be Manifique, Mr Crazy, Raheem, Fragile Balance. Some of the artists participating include Ayer Eternal, Chris Torresdy, Carolina Rico (Henna), Santita Muerta, and BrotherRat. Admission is free, but canned goods donations are encouraged for a local charity organization. Food and drinks will be provided by 5 Points Bistro. For more information contact Luis C. Rodríguez at 915-373-5757, send email to visionayer@gmail.com, or visit the website: www.chucoartist.com.

— Alfredo Vasquez

Social Security changes

As of February 2014, the Social Security Administration will no longer offer Social Security number (SSN) printouts and benefit verification information in our field offices. However, to ensure a smooth transition, we will continue providing these services if requested until April 2014. We are making these changes to meet the increasing demands for our services at the same time that our agency budget has been significantly cut by over \$1 billion in each of the last three years. During this same time period we have invested in technology that offers more convenient, cost-effective, and secure options for our customers to obtain certain services without visiting a local office. Because the SSN printout is not an official document with security features, and is easily duplicated, misused, shared illegally, or counterfeited, eliminating it helps prevent fraud. Employers, departments of motor vehicles, and other entities requiring SSN verification can obtain this information in real time or overnight using online government

See BRIEFS, Page 3

Praise does wonders for a person's hearing.

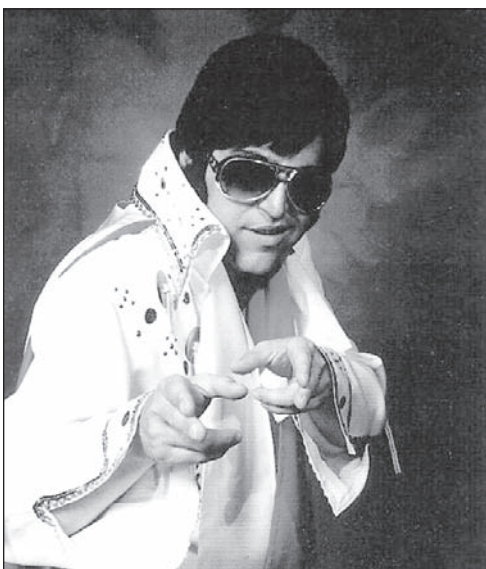
— Quips & Quotes



QUICK DRAW – Members of the Six Guns and Shady Ladies, Wild Bunch Gunfighters, and Old West Thunder will bring to life some of El Paso's Old West legends as they take-on real cowboy characters during the Museum of History's special Sun Bowl program.

Museum's Sun Bowl program features Elvis, El Paso's Old West

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier



— Photo courtesy of Doug Wilson

BLUE SUEDE SHOES – Doug Wilson, who portrays the famous Elvis Presley, is scheduled to perform at 2 and 3:30 p.m., during El Paso Museum of History's Sixth Annual Sun Bowl Special, Sunday, Dec. 29.

To complement the upcoming Hyundai Sun Bowl festivities, El Paso Museum of History will hold its Sixth Annual Special Sun Bowl program, from 1 to 4 p.m., Sunday, December 29, at the history museum (501 N. Santa Fe Street). The Sun Bowl game is scheduled for Tuesday, December 31.

The museum's afternoon event will feature live performances by an Elvis impersonator, Old West gunfighters, and other local talent.

Museum officials noted that Elvis Presley, the king of rock n roll, actually visited El Paso and stayed at the hotel that is located on Missouri Street directly across from the downtown history museum. Doug Wilson will portray the famous Elvis and is scheduled to perform at 2 and 3:30 p.m.

Throughout the event, members of the Six Guns and Shady Ladies, Wild Bunch Gunfighters, and Old West Thunder will bring to life some of El Paso's Old West legends as

they take-on real cowboy characters, roam the museum grounds, and tell their tall tales to visitors.

A special guest for the Sunday program will be Jimmy Daze, creator/writer of the local comic book series *Hell Paso: The Story of Dallas Stoudenmire*. He will be available to discuss how he created his series and to sign copies of his book, which will be available in the museum gift shop.

Some of the hands-on activities that will be available for participants include trying on old west clothes, riding a saddle, branding a piece of wood to take home, making rope, and competing in a kidney bean race.

Other activities lined-up for the event are: a butter churning demonstration, a display of jewelry made from real roses -a craft practiced by many 19th century ladies, and an antique firearms collection owned by Rod Linkous.

For more information about the upcoming event, call museum representative Sue Taylor, at 351-3588 or send email to taylorst@elpasotexas.gov.

San Elizario students stay warm with new coats

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

Hundreds of students from Alarcon Elementary School will be warm and toasty this winter sporting new jackets they received from Operation Noel. Over 500 coats were distributed to students at the San Elizario Independent School District campus on December 10. The cold weather gear came just in time too as temperatures dropped into the 20s that morning.

San Elizario ISD has a student population of more than 95 percent economically disadvantaged making the coats an essential item needed by many children in the community. According to assistant principal Yvette Hernandez, the donation by Operation Noel fills the basic need of keeping children warm so the school is then able to do



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

IT FITS – Alarcon Elementary School parent liaison Corina Lugo helps student Jose Puga try on a jacket while teacher Rick Garcia looks on.

See COATS, Page 4

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Operation Gratitude reaches milestone

On Dec. 7, Operation Gratitude reached a significant milestone: It sent the one-millionth care package to service members around the globe. That meant sending more than 100,000 individually addressed care packages each year, accomplished with the aid of hundreds of volunteers in Van Nuys, Calif.

The lucky recipient of the one-millionth package didn't just get a box full of high-value gifts, entertainment items and hand-written letters of appreciation – the service member will come home to a new Ford F-150 pickup truck.

During the past 10 years, OpGrat has grown as more and more volunteers have stepped forward to help, and the reach of the packages has expanded. It now includes veterans, first responders and Wounded Warriors, as well as active-duty personnel in hostile areas.

How can you help? It costs \$15 to mail each package. Consider making a \$15 tax-deductible donation four times a year to OpGrat, to coincide with their quarterly mailings. You can donate online at its website – www.OperationGratitude.com – or you can send a check to:


Operation Gratitude, 16444 Refugio Road, Encino, CA 91436

You also can keep an eye on its activities www.twitter.com/OpGratitude; and www.facebook.com/OperationGratitude.

If you're crafty, check the website for instructions on how to make handmade scarves, paracord bracelets (sent to first responders) and bandana cool-ties for the packages. If you're part of a group, look for fundraising ideas or assemble Care Kits to go in the individual packages. Write letters of appreciation to go in each package. Check the website for the list of most-needed items, as these change from time to time. Contact OpGrat at 262-674-7281 for shipping instructions, as the address above isn't for shipments.

It took from 2003 until now to ship 1 million packages. Let's help OpGrat cut that time in half for the next million.

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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Finances

By Jason Alderman

Why was your credit card transaction denied?

We've all had these moments: You're at a romantic restaurant and the evening went great. But just as you and your date are readying to leave, an embarrassed waiter appears and whispers, "I'm afraid your card has been denied." So much for romance.

The same thing can happen at the grocery store, when shopping online or worst of all, when you're traveling and don't have a back-up means of payment. Why do credit card transactions get denied and what can you do to prevent it?

Banks and other credit card issuers have developed complex algorithms that track credit card behavior and highlight unusual usage patterns commonly associated with card theft or fraud.

"Unusual activities" that jump out to card issuers include:

- When you ordinarily use your card only rarely, but suddenly make several charges in one day.
- Making multiple purchases at the same store (or website) within a few minutes of each other.
- An unusually large purchase – say for a major appliance, furniture or jewelry. Alert your card issuer before making large purchases.
- One small purchase quickly followed by larger ones. Thieves will test the waters to see if a small purchase is denied; if it's not, they'll quickly run up major charges.
- Exceeding daily spending limits. Some cards limit how much you can charge per day, even if you have sufficient remaining credit.
- Making large purchases outside your geographic area.
- Multiple out-of-town purchases in short succession. (Always tell your card issuer when you'll be traveling.)
- International purchases, whether online or while traveling. In fact, some card issuers automatically decline international transactions because of the high potential for fraud, so learn your issuer's policy before attempting one.

Other common triggers for credit card denials include:

- Outdated or incorrect personal information – for example, when you're asked to enter your zip code at a gas station. Always alert your card issuer whenever you move.
- Also, make sure you don't mistype your credit card number, expiration date, security code, address or other identifying information.
- Expired card. Always check the card's expiration date. You should receive a replacement card several weeks beforehand. It's often mailed in a plain envelope, so be careful what you toss. If the new card doesn't arrive, contact the issuer to ensure it hasn't been stolen.
- You've reached your credit limit. For the sake of your credit score, try to keep your overall and individual card credit utilization ratios (credit available divided by amount used) as low as possible – ideally below 50, or even 30, percent.
- A temporary hold has been placed on your card – say for a rental car or hotel reservation – that puts you over your credit limit. Always ask whether a hold will be placed, how much and for how long, and factor that into your remaining balance calculations.
- You miss a monthly payment. Card issuers may let this slide once or twice, depending on your history with them, but eventually if you don't make at least the minimum payment due, your card will probably be frozen.
- The primary cardholder made changes on the account and forgot to tell other authorized users – for example, reporting his or her card stolen, lowering credit limits or removing you from the account.

On last thought: If your card is denied, don't shoot the messenger – he's only following instructions. Rather, call the card issuer and find out what happened. Embarrassment aside, it's nice to know that someone is trying to ensure your card isn't being used fraudulently.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

Searls reappointed to El Paso CAD board

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

CANUTILLO – Laure Searls, a member of the Canutillo Independent School District Board of Trustees, has been reappointed to the El Paso Central Appraisal Board of Directors. She will begin her second two-year term in January.

Searls was reappointed to the CAD Board of Directors after receiving official support from the taxing entities in the Upper Valley, including the Anthony and Canutillo school districts as well as the Town of Anthony and the Village of Vinton. The governing boards of all four entities passed official resolutions to support Searls' appointment to the nine-person board.

The Central Appraisal District is responsible for assessing property in El Paso County for taxing purposes. The Board of Directors oversees policy and certain management aspects of the CAD, including the hiring of a chief appraiser and the establishment of an appraisal review board.

Searls was first appointed to the El Paso CAD in 2011.



Laure Searles

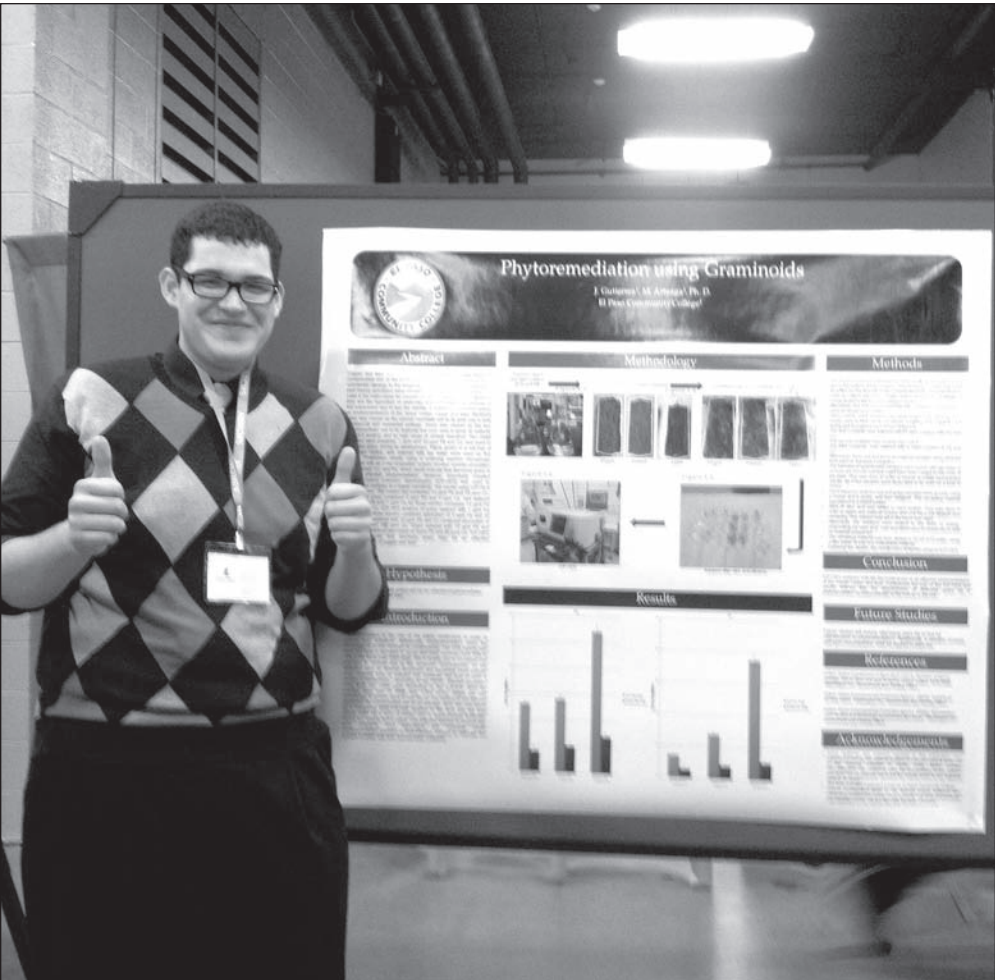
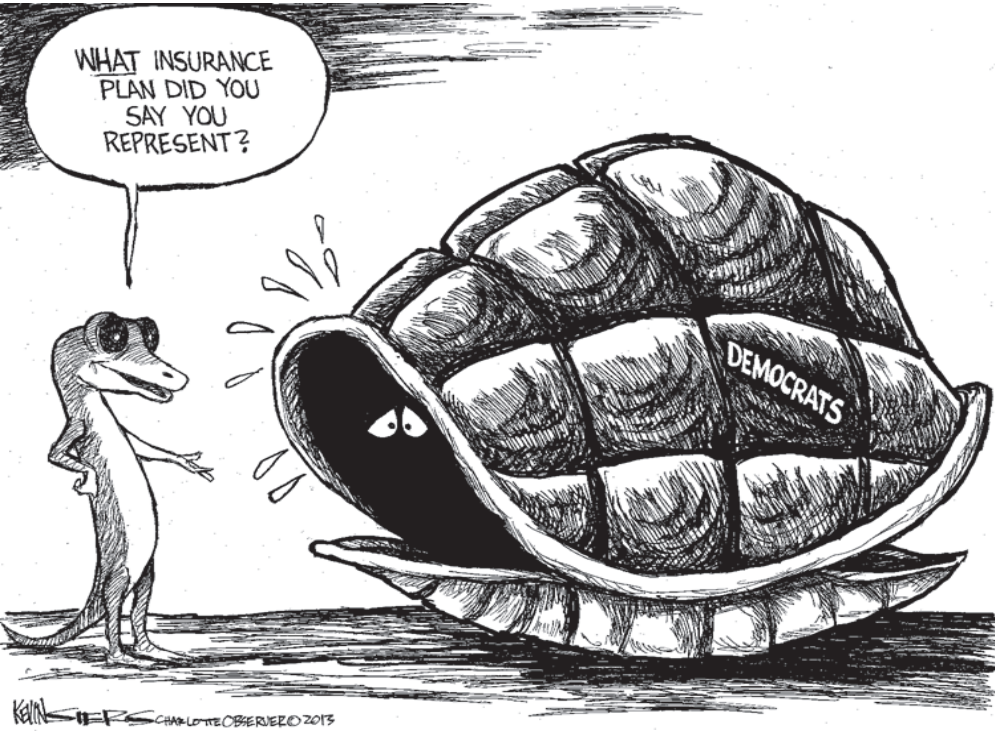
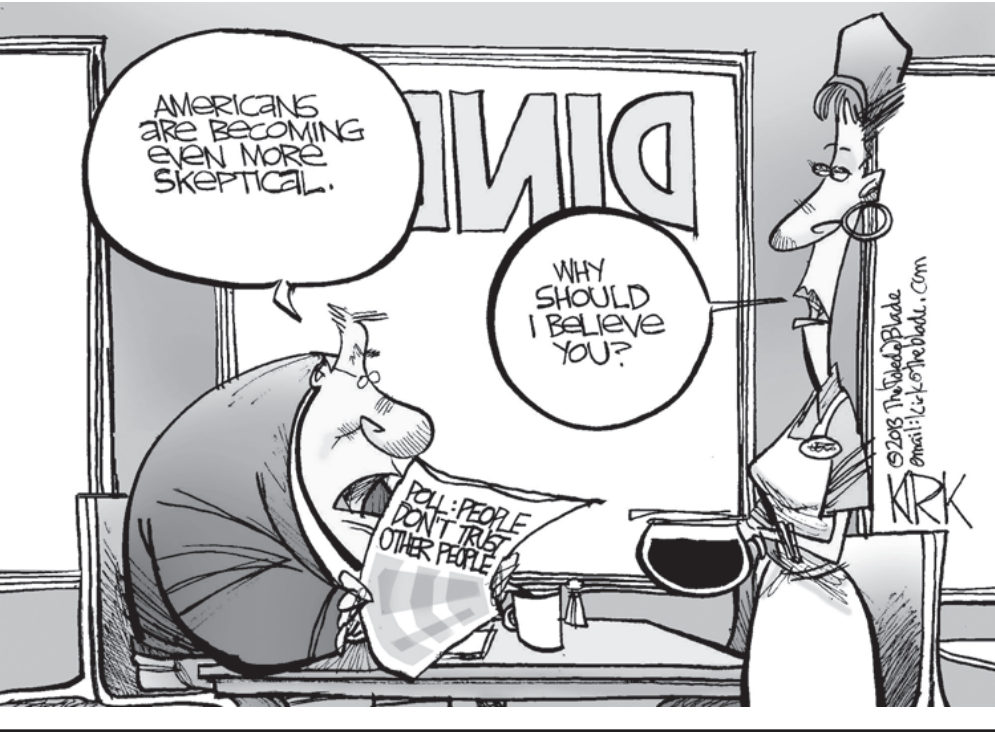
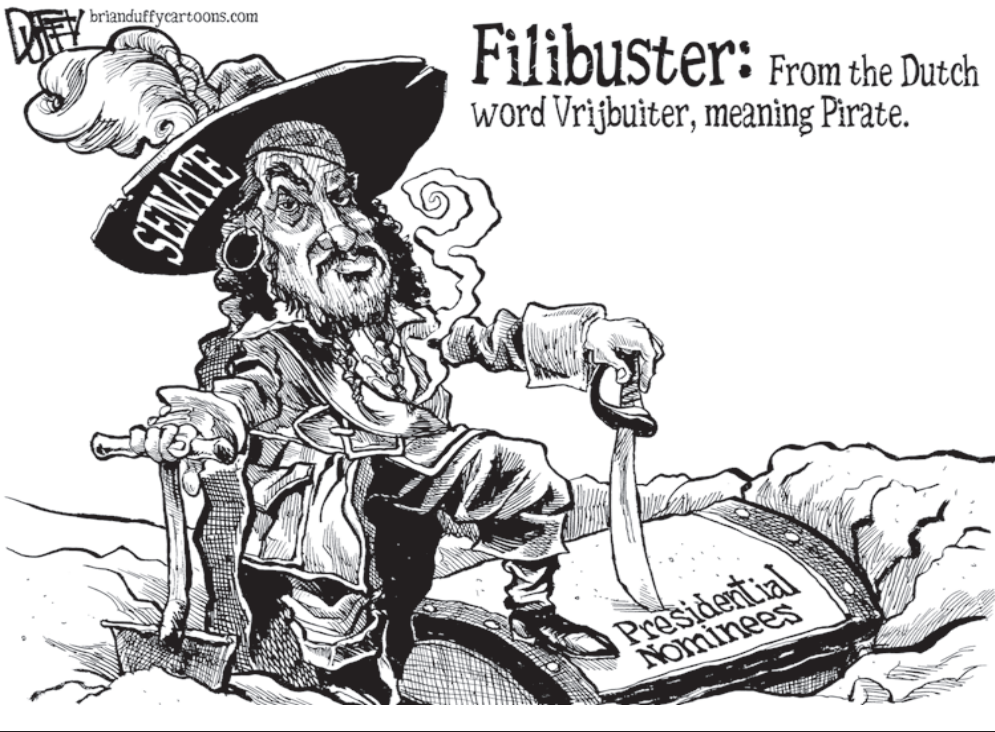
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– Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

EPCC students RISE to the occasion

The El Paso Community College (EPCC) Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) team attended the annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) in Nashville, Tennessee. Jesus Gutierrez received one of three awards given to sophomore students in the Chemistry category. He conducted his work on Phytoremediation using Graminoids and was supervised by EPCC Chemistry Professor, Dr. Socorro Arteaga.

Briefs

From Page 1

services such as E-Verify and Social Security’s Business Services Online. Beneficiaries and recipients needing a benefit verification letter can obtain one immediately by registering for a my Social Security account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount, or through the mail within 5-7 days by calling our national toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213.

– Ray Vigil

Tejanos hire coach

The El Paso Community College (EPCC) Board of Trustees approved the hiring of Roberto Martinez as Head Coach of the EPCC Men’s Baseball Team. He becomes the 5th Head Coach in the 18-years of the Tejanos baseball program. Martinez hails from El Paso, graduating from Eastwood High School in 2002. His collegiate career included Howard College and the University of West Alabama. His assistant coaching credentials are East Central Community College in Mississippi, EPCC for the 2010 and 2011 seasons and

Howard College.

– Jim Heiney

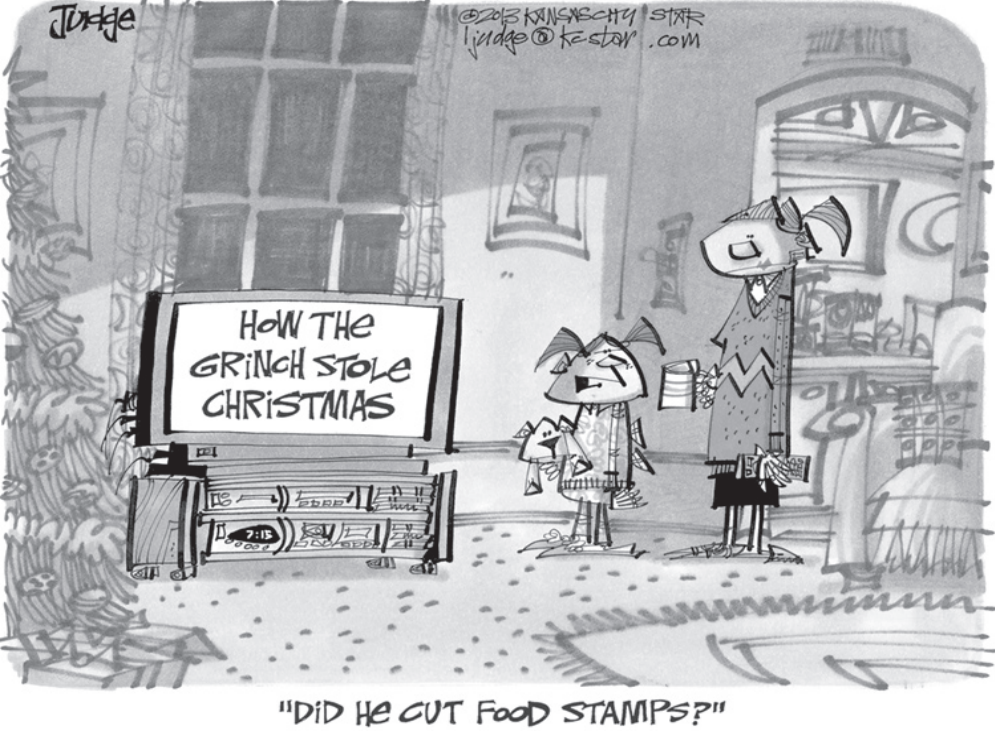
Accident

The Horizon City Police Department investigated a three-vehicle accident the morning of December 13 at 14521 Horizon Boulevard in Horizon City. One of the vehicles involved was a Clint Independent School District bus. Eight students were transported to various hospitals after complaining of minor injuries. The school bus was stopped at a stoplight and a second vehicle was immediately behind the bus also stopped. A third vehicle failed to notice the stopped traffic ahead and struck the second vehicle which then struck the school bus. The driver of the third vehicle, Brianna Cardenas, 21, of Horizon City was issued the following citations:

- No drivers license;
- Failure to maintain financial responsibility; and
- Fail to control speed.

Four Life ambulance units transported the injured students and the Horizon City Fire Department assisted in caring for the injured persons.

– Chief Michael McConnell





STAYING WARM – Kassandra Avalos and Gohan Castro wearing their new jackets.

Coats

From Page 1

its part in meeting a secondary need, which is their academic preparation. Hernandez added that the coat distribution is also an important experience for students that will benefit them in the long run.

“It is a motivation for the students to see that people care about them, that the community cares and intrinsically kids will see that we care,” Hernandez said.

Every winter Operation Noel provides thousands of new coats to children across the El Paso region including at several San Elizario schools whose families may not be able to afford the expense. This year the nonprofit will provide a total of 19,000 coats to children 12 years of age and younger. The coats are requested by school counselors, social workers and teachers who identify students

who may need a new coat for the cold season.


Yazmin Flores who is completing her internship as a social worker at Alarcon Elementary was responsible for registering the school and submitting the names of each student that needed a new coat to the organization. Flores stated that the students were very grateful for the jackets especially a few who were not able to get one last year.

“I think it was a great opportunity for the students,” Flores added. Flores was also pleased that Operation Noel provided additional coats on December 16 for two classes of students that were missing from the initial order.

The Operation Noel coats came in two color palettes similar to the colors of the San Francisco 49ers and Baltimore Ravens and ranged in sizes from 18 months to youth size 14/16. Alarcon students claimed their new coats by writing their names on the inside as soon they found a coat that fit well and will keep them properly dressed for the wintry days ahead.

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CryptoQuip Answer

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Museum offers opportunity to delve into art of repujado

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

El Paso Museum of Archaeology will hold a workshop to give interested individuals an opportunity to delve into the creative world of *Repujado* (Metal Embossing) art.

The free workshop will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, January 11, at the archaeology museum (4301 Transmountain Road). During the workshop, El Paso artist Maria Almeida Natividad will lead adults and children (age 6 and older) in creating personal masterpieces using the ancient art of embossing, or pressing shapes into metal, to create a unique design. Participants will be provided all

materials needed for the workshop.

The metal embossing technique, called *repujado* in Spanish, arrived in Mexico during the Spanish Colonization, explained Natividad. “At that time, churches were lit with candles and the smoke from candles damaged the sacred images painted on canvas, thus the change to using images painted on metal. Eventually the technique was used for decorative popular arts, not just for religious art. Mexican and South American artisans have used copper and tin for centuries to produce jewelry and ornamental works,” she related.

“Our design themes will include prehistoric pottery, rock art, and missions, but a wide variety of other design options are available or participants can create their own design.

An antique look can be added with paints and/or markers,” Natividad stated.

The workshop is offered through sponsorship by the City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

To participate in the workshop, persons may reserve a seat by calling 755-4332. For more information, contact Marilyn Guida, the museum’s education curator, at the phone number above or by sending an email to guidamr@elpasotexas.gov.



– Photos courtesy of the El Paso Museum of Archaeology

WORKSHOP OFFERED – Virgin de Guadalupe in copper repujado by Maria Almeida Natividad, who will present a workshop on metal embossing, January 11, at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology.



LEARNING FROM THE MASTER – Participants work on their repujado art during a recent workshop that was conducted by El Paso artist Maria Almeida Natividad.

Season's Greetings

DEMOCRAT

from DANIEL

ANCHONDO

for Judge 205th District Court

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LEGALS

City of Socorro

PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. at a Regular Council Meeting on January 2, 2014, at City Hall, 860 Rio Vista, Socorro, Texas. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following:

1) Ordinance 325, an Ordinance changing the zoning of TRACTS 1A, 1B, 1C, 1C1, 1D, 2A, 2C, AND 2E, BLOCK 10, and TRACTS 5A, 5B, 6A, AND 7B1, BLOCK

11, SOCORRO GRANT, from A-1 (Agricultural) to a combination of R-2 (Medium Density Residential) and C-2 (General Commercial).

Those unable to attend the public hearing may submit their views to the City of Socorro. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; handicapped persons in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the City Clerk (915) 858-2915, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Copies of ordinances are available for review at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., upon request.

City of Socorro

Adoption of Ordinances

On December 12, 2013 the City of Socorro, Texas adopted the following ordinance(s):

1) Ordinance 320, Amendment No. 2, 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, and

quest.

Sandra Hernandez
City Clerk

WTCC: 12-19-13

City of Socorro

Adoption of Ordinances

On December 12, 2013 the City of Socorro, Texas adopted the following ordinance(s):

1) Ordinance 320, Amendment No. 2, 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, and

establishing procedures and rules for conduct of the Socorro City Council and all of the City of Socorro boards and commissions and repealing Ordinance No. 304 amendment no. 1 and Ordinance 280 Amendment No. 1.

2) Ordinance 322, Amendment No. 1 of the City of Socorro, Texas adopting an amended budget FY 2013-2014.

3) Ordinance 324, an Ordinance designating Transportation Reinvestment Zone Number One for the City of Socorro, Texas; describing the boundaries of the zone;

providing for an effective date and a termination date for the zone; naming the zone “Transportation Reinvestment Zone Number One, City of Socorro, Texas”; establishing a Tax Increment Fund for the zone; and containing other provisions related 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: 12-19-13 12-26-13

TOWN OF CLINT

Adoption of Ordinance

On December 11, 2013, the Town of Clint adopted the following ordinance(s):

Amendment to Ordinance 90, to define terms and the maintain

of specified conditions constituting a nuisance, by clarifying existing provisions and adding new conditions; providing authority for the town to abate nuisances; providing for the following: findings of fact, repealer, and severability; and repealing and replacing Ordinance No. 90; the penalty being as provided in Article V of this ordinance, creating a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$2,000.00.

Copies of the ordinance are available for review at Town Hall, 200

N. San Elizario Rd., Clint Texas, 79836, Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Susana Rodriguez
City Clerk
Town of Clint

WTCC: 12-19-13

MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK

Position available at the Town of Anthony, Texas. Must have experience. Pick up application at 401 Wildcat Dr., Anthony, Texas. 40 hour work week. 915-886-3944. m/f/eo

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District

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By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Back in the 1980s a phenomenon hit the United States and it spread like wildfire. I don’t know who started it. I don’t know how the orders to follow it got out. I don’t know how it spread as quickly as it did. But somehow, someday, somewhere, a whole new culture of political correctness took over the country. It was a new way of looking at things. Or more appropriately – it was a new way of not looking at things – not looking at them honestly anyway. Suddenly, everything went through a type of cleansing. Words were softened to ease the blow. Some all-knowing entity decided that if a word or phrase were changed, it would somehow make the meaning more palatable. So after a while the word “fat” was a no-no and the accepted replacements went from “big boned” to “calorically challenged” to “enlarged physical condition.” A garbage man suddenly became a sanitation engineer. Anyone who was crippled suddenly

went from “handicapped” to “physically challenged” to “handicapable.” You want more? Housewives were now domestic engineers, the jungle was now referred to as the rainforest, a swamp was now a wetland and an ugly person was heretofore referred to as physically challenged. It has gotten so bad that if you now substitute an “a” at the end of the N-word, it amazingly has sadly become more acceptable. The idea is that if we keep lying to ourselves long enough, we’ll start to believe that the new word gives the condition new meaning. But naturally, it doesn’t. It’s just a knee-jerk reaction by someone who felt offended by a certain term or action. It morphed into other areas of society. I don’t know when it happened, but one day someone with no sense of adventure decided that it was dangerous for 6-year-olds to ride a tricycle without a helmet, then they added kneepads, then it was goggles. I’m not sure if they wore that much during Desert Storm. Another new word, or phrase, was born from this - the “wossification of America.” The U.S. was being transformed from a

strong realistic leader into a weak, apologetic victim. It was inevitable that these politically correct tentacles would reach all the way to professional sports. It was decided that the game of football was way too rough and, well, you’ve seen all the rules changes. The feverish attack on the game has worked. Over the last decade, the number of boys participating in youth football programs has dropped over 10 percent. They’ve convinced the moms out there that their sons are in immanent danger if they play football. If all that wasn’t enough, now Major League Baseball is getting into the act. For 100 years, players have been rounding third base with the catcher waiting for them at home plate. Everyone in the stadium knows what’s coming – an exciting play at the plate. Either the runner will be tagged out, or the runner will slide under the tag safely and score a run, or there will be a big collision and may the best man win. It’s hard to say who gets the best of the collision most of the time. The guy rounding

third has all the momentum running toward but the catcher is usually the biggest, toughest guy on the field. So what is baseball thinking of doing? It’s thinking about going along with the trend and making the play illegal, of course. Why? It’s another knee-jerk reaction to a star player getting injured. A couple years ago San Francisco Giants’ star Buster Posey was injured in a play at the plate. And magically, the play is now deemed too dangerous for today’s squeamish society. You can’t blame the fans, they love the play. It’s the pin-headed elitists who pay attention to every social interest group out there who threatens to boycott businesses who advertise on their network. Instead of standing up for their product, they cave like the spineless invertebrates they really are. I’ve known jellyfish with more backbone – okay, I don’t know any jellyfish personally but work with me here. It’s time for major sports entities to stop catering to groups who spend their lives looking for things to be offended by. Sports mascot names are even under fire. How long before PETA goes after the Chihuahuas?

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Sports in an instant

Google, the company of the moment, has for quite some time offered users a product called “Instant,” which automatically returns possible search terms as soon as just one letter is typed into its celebrated search bar. It works as advertised. Depending on the speed of your Internet connection, Google itself will return potential search terms in a blisteringly fast 0.27 seconds (my

personal time trial), but “Instant” happens almost simultaneously, So, playing around with Google Instant and Google Trends, I was able to gauge the top five or six sports topics of the day with relative assurance and ease. On this day, I learned that endurance matters. A few months back, when I initially tried this experiment, my results would kick out names like

Lebron James, Kobe Bryant and Manti Te’o. Also, names like Jackie Robinson, Michael Jordan and even Brett Favre persisted. One time, I even recall seeing Babe Ruth’s name back up in lights. This week it was Jameis Winston, Kobe Bryant and Lebron James. And Jackie Robinson and Jordan. That take reminded me of popular phrases used in sports over the years: “I am not a role model,” and “Don’t hate the player... hate the game.” Both have bothered me through the years, and I wasn’t really able to explain why until today, I guess. Robinson, Jordan, Bryant and

even Charles Barkley (who coined the “role model” phrase) are indeed role models. Contrary to their notions, however, nowhere is their role more dissected and valued than on the courts and playing fields. A player starts his career in practice, in clinics and Little Leagues before moving on to the higher levels of play. If I was to teach a child how to rebound, I would choose Barkley’s style if it made sense to teach. I may choose to skip over the off-duty proclivities of all players mentioned, but during the tutorial I would point out their sportsmanlike qualities instead. Don’t hate the player? Hate the game? No way! You can hate the player ... the bad players (though “hate” is a strong term) but, like the Earth, the game was here far longer than the player was and it will continue to be here long after that player has gone.

Sports, many agree, is an allegory for life. Google “meaning,” and “meaning of life” returns within milliseconds and in the top three picks for Google Instant. All things considered, I would say that “love of the game” has inspired many a person to create enduring legacies. In order to create an enduring legacy, you need to have the will to win, respect for the right role models, and yes, endurance. The longer you can endure, the more chances you will have to seize the particular moment that will propel you to everlasting fame. Nobody lives forever...they live in the moment. Your moment is now, and remember... it is gone in an instant. Make the best of it while you can. *Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.*

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THURSDAY | DECEMBER 19
MBB VS NORTHWESTERN STATE | 7:35 PM

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MONDAY | DECEMBER 23
MBB VS MONTANA STATE | 7 PM

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SUNDAY | DECEMBER 15
WBB VS SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA | 2 PM
CHRISTMAS WITH KEITHA

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 29
WBB VS TEXAS SOUTHERN | 2 PM

SATURDAY | JANUARY 11
WBB VS TULSA | 1:30 PM

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Years
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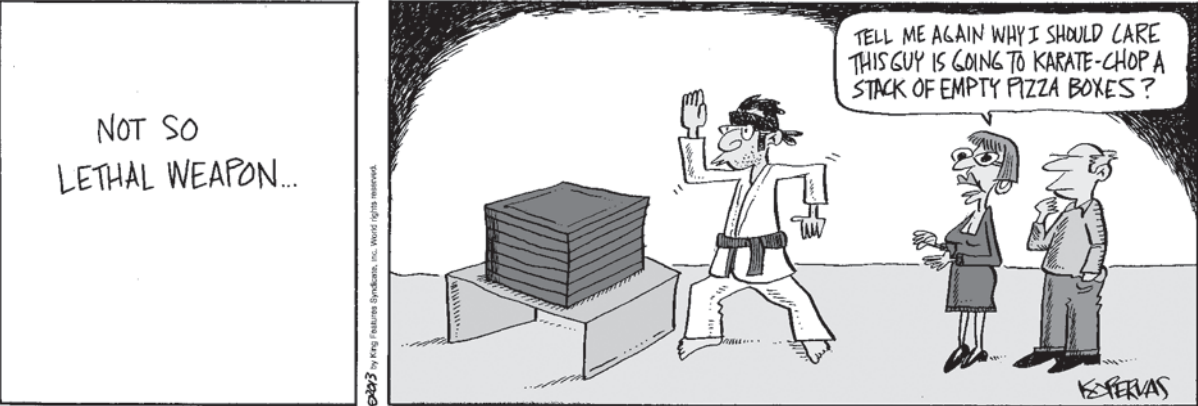
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OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



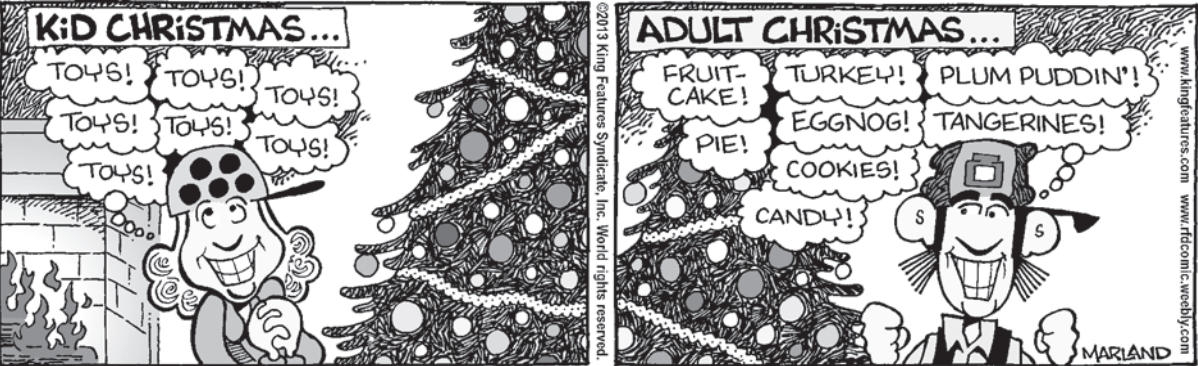
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Your good health By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have been with my husband for 33 years, and for the past six I have been suspicious of him being unfaithful. I went to the doctor and tested negative for HIV, but I was positive for herpes 1 and 2. My husband claims I could have had this since before we met and says that he's completely innocent. Do you think I could have had this for 30 years and not known it? It seems rather unrealistic to me. – D.F.

breath. I have seen my dentist and done all the things I was told to do, but there hasn't been any improvement. I have tried many mouthwashes, without success. What more can I do? – W.B.

Herpes viruses are a group of common viruses that share several traits, one of which is that they all stay dormant in the body and may cause recurrences in times of stress. Herpes simplex 1 causes an outbreak of cold sores: These often come out when people are ill or stressed. Herpes simplex 2 usually causes genital lesions. About 20 percent of adults in the U.S. are positive for HSV-2; many or even most of them don't know they have it. Once you acquire HSV-2, it stays in your body forever, and may (or may not) cause recurrent disease, which most commonly looks like a clear, fluid-filled blister. These are very infectious, but it is possible to transmit the virus even when there are no symptoms.

Products containing zinc have been sold since the 1970s and have gotten mixed reviews for their effect on halitosis. Listerine with zinc is one product. Another is SmartMouth.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I had a breast lump removed two years ago. After the removal, I had radiation. Everything has been going fine, except for a breast infection I got last month. Were the treatments responsible? – A.D.

Surgery and radiation could have caused changes in the breast that made it more susceptible to an infection. But neither was the actual cause of it.

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.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My husband tells me I have bad

Super Crossword

- NOW ZEE HERE

ACROSS

1 Place

7 Installs in advance, as software

15 Using ink, as a signature

20 Really stuck

21 Its capital is Bogotá

22 Dewy-eyed

23 Plate a World War II battleship with a certain metal?

25 Iron emission

26 Downed

27 Sea dogs

28 Biology subj.

29 Actor Guy

30 Fuzzy image

31 Woman on "Friends" being fervent?

34 Long guns

37 Grassy turf

38 " _ that time"

39 "Boy oh boy!"

40 Disquietude

41 Commercial forest area

46 "The Grapes of Wrath" migrants

48 African warrior answering to a captain?

50 "Put _ Happy Face"

51 Summer, in Montréal

52 NYPD rank

53 Advanced study group

55 Gibson and Brooks

59 "My life _ open book"

62 Chew the _

64 Notes after dos

65 Dye anew

67 Put lollipops in the microwave?

70 Greek god who's a physician?

72 Walking so as not to make a peep

73 Hither and _

75 Cambodian leader

Lon _

76 Safecracker

77 Critic Shalit

78 Baltimore ball team

81 M a s s a g e response

83 Investment option, for short

85 I n v e s t m e n t options, for short

87 Pigskin-passing actor Efron?

91 Juice, as a goose

94 Units of GIs

95 Glowing with light

96 Corp. name ender, often

99 Enthusiast

99 Sushi eggs

100 Huge meals

101 Place where injured animals are

brought to recuperate?

107 Pre-'91 world power

108 Garments

109 Hit tune by the Kinks

110 Having a tiff

111 Flip _ coin

114 Basel's river

115 Witty remark belted out without instrumental backup?

119 Uses a Nook or a Kindle

120 Gave birth to

121 Trick-taking card game

122 Young's partner in accounting

123 City near Los Angeles

124 Varieties of trapshooting games

DOWN

1 Ms. Minnelli

2 Doing the job

3 Sugar type

4 One side in the Pro Bowl: Abbr.

5 Least large

6 Very tired

7 Toxic chem. pollutants

8 French "king"

9 High trains

10 Willy of "Death of a Salesman"

11 Dweller in Muscat

12 Bric- _

13 Decrees

14 Hefty's Cinch _

15 Ripe

16 Birth-related

17 Potato-filled dumpling

18 Bolter before a hurricane, perhaps

19 Archenemies

24 Be off target

29 Rat, to some

30 Cordon _

31 Forenoon

32 Playwright Clifford

33 "Invader" on Nickelodeon

34 Regulation

35 Set in motion

36 Boon on "Wheel of Fortune"

37 Plaza figure

42 Weizman of Israel

43 Was irate

44 Writer Lurie

45 Part of RBI

47 Ini _ of reggae

49 One of a making-out couple

50 Filled cookie

54 Schoolroom for painting and sculpting

56 Mourns in verse

57 Ed Asner TV series

58 Sophs., two years later

60 Viewpoint

61 Filbert, e.g.

63 Get sober

66 Have a bawl

67 Veer back

68 Talks sweetly

69 _ eclipse

71 Crude

74 Roman tyrant

79 Mensa stats

80 Cache

82 12 1/2 and 20 1/2, say, in women's clothing

84 Isn't idle

86 Rid of trees

88 Heroic verse

89 Pool ball striker

90 Old Chrysler

91 Strange

92 One after _

93 Nova _ (certain Canadian)

94 German link

98 Is, pluralized

102 Chances on

103 Foil giant

104 Castle protectors

105 Greek letter

106 Stared in amazement

107 Stage star Hagen

110 Pierce player

111 Brutish sort

112 "Star Wars" character Boba _

113 God of war

115 Crank (up)

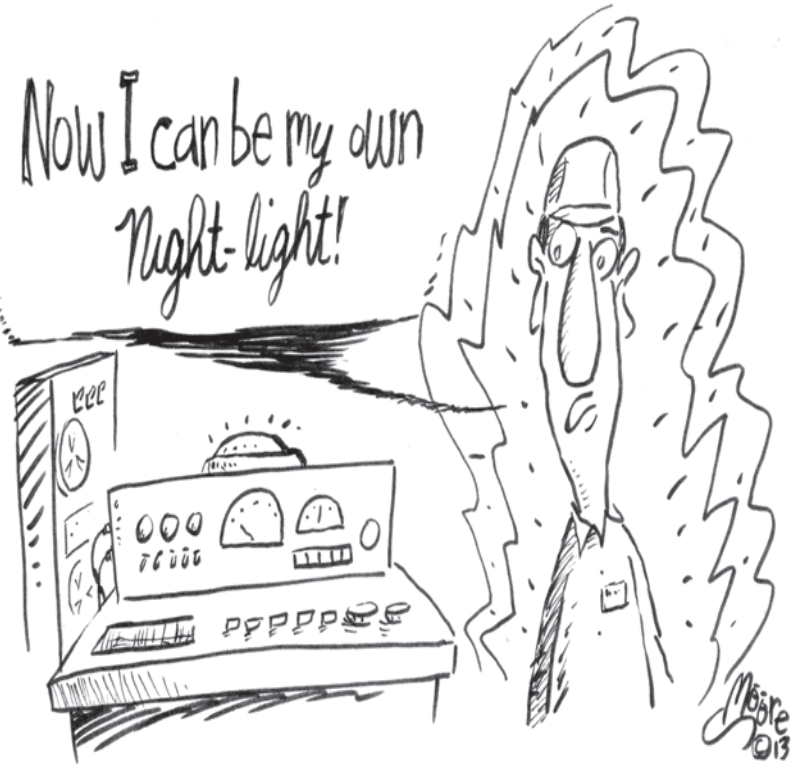
116 Afore

117 Cager Bias

118 No, in Fife

Answer Page 4
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| 122 | | | | | | | 123 | | | | | | | | | 124 | | | | | |

Moore Texas by Roger Moore **There was uranium production in South Texas as early as 1958. Many modern day precautions were not in effect then.**



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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×		×		÷	
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−		+		+	
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19		3		10	

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Answer Page 4

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Check with Social Security before traveling outside the United States

Mark Twain once advised people to “Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.”

Americans today have taken that advice to heart, and are visiting places around the globe—often for vacations, and sometimes to relocate in another country. If you are one of these people and receive Social Security benefits, we offer a special website: “Social Security Payments Outside the United States.” Here you can find answers to such questions as “will my Social Security payments be affected? Do I have to let Social Security know I’m out of the country? When should I do it? What happens if I need to contact Social Security while I am out of the country?”

You can find answers to all of these questions and others at www.socialsecurity.gov/international/payments.html. The website features a “Payments Abroad Screening Tool”, which asks you a few short questions to determine if your payments can continue.

The page also offers links to publications, such as *Your Payments While You Are Outside The United States*, which explains how your

benefits may be affected and other important information you need to know about receiving Social Security benefits while outside the country.

And one more important point to note. If you receive Social Security benefits as a dependent or survivor there are additional United States residency requirements that may affect your benefit payments while you are outside the United States.

It also is important to note that there are different provisions for anyone receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Once you have been outside the United States for 30 or more days in a row, your SSI cannot start again until you have been back in the country for at least 30 consecutive days. There are special rules for dependent children of military personnel who leave the United States and exceptions for students studying abroad.

So if you receive Social Security or SSI benefits and are planning to travel or live outside the United States, you’ll first want to pay a visit to www.socialsecurity.gov/international/payments.html.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It was beloved American pianist and comedian Jimmy Durante who made the following sage observation: “Be nice to people on your way up because you meet them on your way down.”

• Famed markswoman and exhibition shooter Annie Oakley was born the daughter of Quakers, who gave her the name Phoebe Ann Moses.

• It was in July 1911 when daredevil Bobby Leach became the second person (and the first man) to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel. His daring came at a cost, though; he spent six months in a hospital, recovering from injuries due to his feat. He later went on publicity tours, recounting his experience and posing with the barrel that took him over the falls. He was on one such tour in New Zealand in 1926 when he slipped on an orange peel, injuring his leg slightly. The leg became infected, necessitating an amputation – which still didn’t save him. He died two months later, the daredevil felled by a citrus rind.

• Those who study such things say that fully 10 percent of the country’s total income is due to organized crime.

• You might be surprised to learn that only two out of every 10 ears of corn grown in the United States actually ends up being eaten by people. The other eight are destined to feed animals and to be made into ethanol gasoline.

• If you’re like more than half of all Americans, you’d be willing to live in a haunted house – provided you didn’t have to pay rent.

• There are those who say that actor Johnny Depp is afraid of clowns.

Thought for the Day: “This country has come to feel the same when Congress is in session as when the baby gets hold of a hammer.”

– Will Rogers

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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	7			1			2	

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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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**

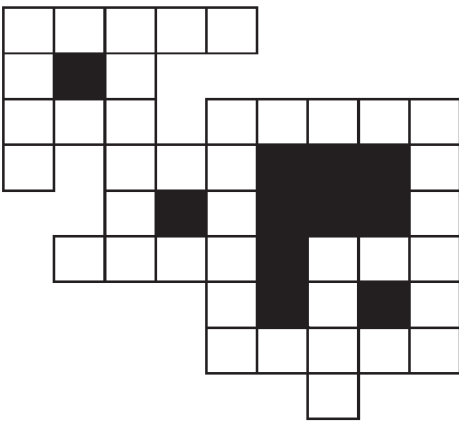
XY T DPLFWU FHTVVWHF T
NWBDVP WY FJXUSXUS XUFPNJF,
NWBVQ KWB JAPU FTK JAPLP
TLP JHW CPPF XU T CWQ?

Answer Page 4

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GPI
FRIPLE
TILPO
♥GLEO
GUTTHA
URF
♥ALPE
PALLE
♥EGL
MARLIP
♥APTE
♥OFMR



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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