newsbriefs

Fireworks ban

Fireworks have been banned in El Paso County for the fourth straight year by commissioners’ court. The ban, which passed 5-0 during a recent meeting, prohibits the sale and use of all fireworks but does not apply to professional shows. Judge Veronica Escobar issued a disaster declaration, and Gov. Rick Perry approved the measure that prohibits the ban to last until July 5, when fireworks are no longer allowed to be sold in Texas. Commissioners said that the decision was based on El Paso’s drought condition, which has a score of 643 on the Keetch-Byram Drought Index. Anything above 575 is considered very dangerous. A high drought index score indicates that the area is dry and a chance for brush fires exists.

– Alfredo Vasquez

Planting trees

America’s forestland is a prized natural resource, and anyone can help plant trees in these vital areas by joining the Arbor Day Foundation this month. Through the Replanting Our National Forests campaign, the Arbor Day Foundation will honor each new member who joins in July by planting 10 trees in forests that have been devastated by wildfires, insects and disease. The cost for joining the Arbor Day Foundation is a $10 donation. America’s national forests face enormous challenges, including unprecedented wildfires that have left a buckgolf of more than one million acres in need of replanting. The Foundation has worked with the United States Forest Service for more than 20 years to plant trees in high-risk forests. Our national forests provide habitat for wildlife, keep the air clean and help ensure safe drinking water for more than 180 million Americans. “Keeping our forests healthy is vital to the health of people and the entire planet,” said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “By planting trees in our national forests, we will preserve precious natural resources and the benefits they provide for generations to come.” To join the Arbor Day Foundation and help plant trees in our national forests, send a $10 membership contribution to Replanting Our National Forests, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, or visit arborday.org/july.

– Anthony Marek

wanted

A man is captured on video committing a theft at a Central El Paso retailer and that is one of the newest cities in Texas and that is not the El Paso event will benefit the Rio Cosmetology. Partial proceeds from.

EASY TO FIND – Look for the roadside marker to get to the Archaeology Museum. The museum can be recognized easily as the one-story reddish-brown color building on the north side of Transmountain Road, adjacent to the National Border Patrol Museum. The two museums are the only buildings on the north side of Transmountain Road, west of Highway 54, surrounded by the Castner Range open space.

Archaeology museum offers day camp

The El Paso Museum of Archaeology will offer Archaeology Day Camps, from 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday through Friday, July 8-11 for youths, ages 7 to 9 years old (Grades 2 to 4); and July 15-18 for ages 10 to 12 (Grades 5 to 7). The archaeology museum has been offering the annual day camps on the museum grounds (4301 Transmountain Road) for the past few years. The program is designed to educate participants about the science of archaeology, its tools, and the prehistory of the Americas, especially the El Paso-Juárez region, from the last Ice Age to European contact. Activities include learning to identify artifacts and then conducting a survey and a mock excavation. Campers will learn respect and appreciation for prehistoric, historic and contemporary Indian people.

Interested individuals should contact the museum to make a reservation as soon as possible. Registration fee for the camp is $55 for El Paso Museum of Archaeology members and $70 for non-members. Registration is accepted on a first-come-first-served basis at attendance is limited to twelve students per camp. For information and the camp registration form, contact George Maloof, museum curator, at (915) 755-4332 or send email to maloofg@elpasotexas.gov.

Gallego highlights San Elizario during ‘23 in 1’ series

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Representative Pete P. Gallego (D-Alpine) highlighted San Elizario, TX in a “23 in 1” segment – during which he takes viewers and listeners on a quick one minute journey through the 23rd District of Texas. The speeches take place while the House is in session and are broadcast on local C-SPAN channels and on www.c-span.org. Throughout 2014, U.S. Rep. Gallego will highlight places of interest, traditions, people, towns and cities in the Congressional District – to share with others in the country his joy of representing southwest Texas.

Anyone wishing to submit suggestions for the “23 in 1” series by U.S. Rep. Gallego can email: TX23PressPeteGallego@mail.house.gov. Below is a full transcript of U.S. Rep. Gallego’s remarks:

“Thank you so much, Madam Speaker.

“Today, as we continue our journey through 23rd District of Texas, I’d like to talk about the newest city in the 23rd District, and really one of the newest cities in Texas and that is the City of San Elizario, with a population of about 12,000 people.

Located south of El Paso, it is a small community that incorporated on November 5th of 2013, after its residents voted to make it a city.

“And recently, on May 10, the people of the...
If you pay someone to care for your young child (or other qualifying dependents) so you can work – or look for work – you may be eligible for this tax credit worth up to 35 percent of those expenses. Because it’s the IRS doling out the credit, there are a number of qualifying provisions:

• Typically the dependent must be a child in your custody under age 13.
• However, the credit is also available if you paid for the care of your spouse or other dependent who is physically or mentally incapable of self-care and lives with you more than half the year.
• Your tax-filing status must be single, married filing jointly, head of household or qualifying widow/wrong with a dependent. If you’re married but filing separately, you generally cannot receive the credit.
• You (and your spouse, if married) must be working or seeking employment when the care was administered. Exceptions are made if one spouse is a full-time student or physically or mentally incapable of self-care.
• The payment must be made to a care provider who is not your spouse; someone you claim as a dependent; the child’s parent; or your child under age 19.
• Typical eligible caregivers include: summer day camps (but not overnight camps); daycare, before-school or after-school care providers; babysitters or nannies; housekeepers who also provide care for your dependent; and nursing, home-care or other providers who care for a disabled dependent.
• You must provide the taxpayer ID number (usually the Social Security number) of each qualifying dependent on your tax return.
• You also must report the name, address and taxpayer ID number (either the Social Security number or the employer ID number) of the care provider.
• Employer-provided dependent care benefits could reduce your credit amount. For example, company-provided daycare or money you contributed to a dependent care FSA.

The maximum amount of expenses that qualify for the Child and Dependent Care Credit is $3,000 a year for one dependent and $6,000 for two or more. If your adjusted gross income is less than $15,000 you generally can claim a credit for 35 percent of eligible expenses. The percentage gradually decreases, the higher your income. It caps out for those earning more than $43,000, who can claim 20 percent.

To learn more about the Child and Dependent Care Credit, see IRS Publication 503 and Chapter 32 of IRS Publication 17 at www.irs.gov. To learn more about child care, try searching for something like “child care provider.”

For harried parents, the definition of true panic is realizing in April that you forgot to enroll your kids for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you’re feverishly looking for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you’re feverishly looking for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you’re feverishly looking for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you’re feverishly looking for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you’re feverishly looking for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you’re feverishly looking for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you’re feverishly looking for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you’re feverishly looking for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled.
The Senior Adult Program and ¡Qué Bonita Familia! of El Paso Community College, with the support of SunRidge Senior Living, invites El Paso to take a trip through memory lane during the college’s annual “Let the Good Times Roll” concert.

The journey through the golden era of rock n’ roll will take place from 6-9 p.m., Thursday, July 17 at the Chamizal Memorial Theater, 800 S. San Marcial.

During the concert, seasoned rock and roll musicians will be recognized for their 50 years plus of playing music in El Paso bands. The show will feature local musicians, singers and dancers celebrating the music of the 50s and 60s.

EPCC concert features 50s, 60s rock and roll

By Javier Sánchez
Special to the Courier

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Athletes earn academic honors

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) has announced its 2013-2014 academic awards. El Paso Community College (EPCC) is proud to announce the Men’s Half Marathon team was named the Academic Team of the Year in the nation for the second year in a row. The team had a combined 3.20 grade point average (GPA).

The EPCC Men’s Cross Country Team earned 2nd place in their sport with a combined 3.42 GPA. The EPCC Women’s Half Marathon was fifth in their sport with a 3.31 GPA.

Three EPCC Student-Athletes were awarded individual honors:

• Michael Grijalva, Men’s Cross Country and Half Marathon, Superior Academic Achievement, 3.89 GPA;
• Steven Robertson, Men’s Baseball, Exemplary Academic Achievement, 3.74 GPA; and
• Daniela Rodriguez, Women’s Cross Country and Half Marathon, Exemplary Academic Achievement, 3.66 GPA.

The NJCAA has been annually recognizing the academic success of its student-athletes for 31 years. During the 2013-14 academic year, the NJCAA saw 58,446 student-athletes compete on 3,705 teams in 28 different sports. Of those competitors, 3.08 percent (1,799 student-athletes) were recognized with academic awards for their achievements in the classroom.
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS
Border Highway East
Planning and Environmental Linkages Study
El Paso County, Texas; CSJ: 0924-06-090, etc.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) – El Paso District will host two public meetings for the Border Highway East (BHE) Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study. The public meetings will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the following locations:

Tuesday, July 15, 2014
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Education Center
11100 Santo Sanchez
Socorro, Texas 79927

Wednesday, July 16, 2014
Borrego Sr. Elementary School Cafeteria
13300 Chicken Ranch Road
San Elizario, Texas 79849

The purpose of the public meetings is to present the recommended alternatives/future projects for the BHE study area. The BHE study area begins at Loop 375 (Americas Avenue) near the Zaragoza International Port of Entry (POE) and extends approximately 20 miles southeast to the Fabens International POE (future Tornillo-Guadalupe International POE). In addition, IH-10 and the Rio Grande serve as east and west boundaries respectively.

The PEL process, initiated in May 2013, is ultimately intended to help identify the purpose and need for improvements, evaluation methodology, and conceptual alternatives or corridors to address the transportation needs in the study area. The PEL process follows current guidance for linking the transportation planning and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processes. In accordance with federal guidance and regulations, information and products developed in highway planning phases are authorized to be integrated into future Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) NEPA evaluations.

All interested individuals are encouraged to attend one of the public meetings to discuss the BHE Study. Comment forms will be available at the public meetings for individuals wishing to provide input. Public meeting materials will also be available on the TxDOT website at www.txdot.gov, keyword: Border Highway East.

Written comments about the study may be emailed to info@borderhighwayeast.com, or mailed to TxDOT-El Paso District, Attn: Gus Sanchez, RE: BHE Study, 13301 Gateway Boulevard West; El Paso, Texas 79928. Comments must be hand-delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, July 28, 2014.

The public meetings will be held in open house format and the same material will be presented at both meetings in English and Spanish. Spanish-speaking team members will be available at the open houses to assist with translation needs. If you have any questions, require other communication needs or special accommodations please call Blanca Del Valle, TxDOT Public Information Officer, at 915-790-4200 at ext. 229.

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The comments submitted at the meetings will be part of the project file and will be available to the public. Comments will also be transcribed and made available online at the TxDOT website.

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San Eli
From Page 1

weeks and crossed the desert until reaching the banks of the Rio Grande – in present day, yes you guessed it, in present day, San Elizario.

"On April 30 of 1598, the travelers, who were very thirsty, drank the cool water of the river and then celebrated with a Thanksgiving Mass and enjoyed a feast. They ate fish, fowl and deer."

That is actually considered the very first Thanksgiving ever celebrated in present day United States of America. Mr. Oñate performed a ceremony known as La Tomo, or the Take – declaring the land a new province of Spain and declaring it a land ruled by King Philip II.

"San Elizario was established around 1760 as a civilian settlement of Hacienda de los Tiburcios, and 1781 – the Spanish authorities established a fort there called el Presidio de San Elizario – the town grew around the fort and took the name San Elizario. The words San Elizario actually come from the Spanish Elizario. The Spanish Saint known as the, the Roman Catholic saint of soldiers. The patron saint of soldiers.

"The chapel there at the mission of San Elizario, La Capilla, is one of three missions in El Paso – Socorro and Ysleta being the other two – and is part of El Paso’s Historic Mission Trail. During the 20th century it served as the center of missionary work throughout the Mission Valley.

"The chapel was moved to its present site in 1789, to protect travelers and settlers along the Camino Real, the Royal Highway, which ran from Mexico through Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, which was then called paso del Norte, and on to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

"Upon Mexico’s Independence, the presidio fell into ruins, and rebuilding efforts didn’t begin until 1853 with a small church. The present structure completed in 1882, and little has changed since then.

"I invite everyone to visit the City of San Elizario and the historic mission valley of El Paso to learn more about the cultures and traditions of the 23rd District of Texas.

"I congratulate the new city!

"And Madam Speaker, thank you. And, I yield back the balance of my time."

-- Jose Borjon

U.S. Representative Pete P. Gallego, D-Alpine, represents the 23rd District of Texas, which includes all or parts of 29 counties in southwest Texas, stretching from San Antonio to El Paso. He serves on the House Armed Services and House Agriculture Committees.
DOG LOVER – Russell Van Kraayenburg says great toppings make a hot dog go from so-so to exceptional.

(StatePoint) Hot dogs are a perennial favorite for Americans, especially in summer. More than seven billion hot dogs are eaten in the three months between Memorial Day and Labor Day, according to the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council.

While traditional preparations and fixings are always a hit, consider packing a little more punch with your dogs this summer. From exotic meat preparations to buns to tasty toppings, there is room for creativity.

"When I think of hot dogs, I see endless possibilities. Toppings are what take a dog from ho-hum to haute," says Russell Van Kraayenburg, hot dog aficionado and author of the new guide to America’s favorite food obsession, "Haute Dogs: Recipes for Delicious Hot Dogs, Buns, and Condiments."

Inspired globally, Kraayenburg seeks to reinvent the wheel where this classic is concerned. This grill season, he offers a recipe for the "Michigan Dog" aka "The Michiganan," a spicy, tomato-heavy take on the chili dog that's popular all over the northeast and even in Quebec.

Ingredients:
- 2 lbs extra virgin olive oil
- 1 large white onion, diced
- 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tbsp ground chili powder
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1/8 tsp ground cayenne pepper
- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 cup beef stock
- 8 oz tomato paste
- 4 classic buns
- 4 all-beef hot dogs
- Yellow mustard
- Diced white onions
- Hot sauce, optional

Directions:
- Prepare the chili sauce: Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add onions and cook until soft and translucent, about eight minutes, stirring occasionally. Add salt, pepper, spices and beef. Cook until beef is browned and no trace of pink remains. Reduce heat to medium-low and add beef stock and tomato paste. Stir until evenly combined. Simmer for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Set aside.
- Get out 4 classic buns. Panfry all beef hot dogs on a grill. Place the dogs in the buns. Top each with a huge pile of chili, a handful of diced onions, and a thin line of yellow mustard. Add a few drops of hot sauce on top, if desired.

This grill season, don’t give your hot dogs the short shrift. Take a cue from experts and put some pep in your prep.
and as the sporting world often
Fielder's choice
Fielder's choice
players made fun of the San Antonio Spurs'
has gone through a transformation.
of an old NBA owner, the season appeared to
antics in the playoffs and the bigoted ranting
going on that haven't been revealed yet.
shocking if there were a ton more shady deals
call the game sometimes – it wouldn't be
coaches and even a couple murders.
there have even been a few referee game-
fixing instances.
And the way those guys in the zebra outfits
call the game sometimes – it wouldn’t be
shocking if there were a ton more shady deals
going on that haven’t been revealed yet.
Anyway, for some reason the 2014 season
just seemed a little different.
Aside from Lance Stephenson’s childish
antics in the playoffs and the bigoted ranting
of an old NBA owner, the season appeared to
have gone through a transformation.
For years commentators and fans
and players made fun of the San Antonio Spurs' style of play and called it boring.
They said it more resembled a WNBA
game, with lots of passes, very little individual
artistry and was played below the rim for the
most part.
They said you’d never see a Spurs’ highlight
on SportsCenter. The kind of highlights like
some guy dribbling through three defenders,
getting to the rim and dunking the ball
with authority as his teammates stood and
watched.
It seems like the selfish brand of basketball
of isolating a player on a side of the court
to go one-on-one against an opposing player was
what the fans and experts wanted. It certainly
is what the selfish players wanted.
But after watching San Antonio play this
season, after watching the character they
showed by coming back after suffering that
gut-wrenching loss to Miami in game 6
that cost them the championship in 2013 –
options of the Spurs started to change.
Always considered the goody-two-shoes
of the round and tough, tattoo-laced, renegade
league, the talk concerning the Spurs has gone
from “who do they think they are,” to “how
can we be more like them.”
After the team-first display they put on
against the Heat in the championship, no one
has uttered the word “boring” when describing
the Spurs, and it’s a good sign.
San Antonio is now considered the blueprint
that other organizations want to emulate.
As far as getting into trouble, contract
disputes, drug problems and arrests of any
type, the Spurs are the most boring team in
the NBA – there is none of that.

A sporting view
Fielder’s choice
Fielder’s choice
Fielder’s choice

We all make decisions in life, reflects the real world, the recent
and as the sporting world often talk regarding Carmelo Anthony
and LeBron James’ decision to take
the “player’s option” and opt out of
their guaranteed multi-million dollar
contracts hit home with me.
It’s not the talk about money that
intrigued me, it was the talk about
career trajectories. When Anthony’s
agent informed the New York
Knicks, the New York press, Knicks
fans and observers that he wanted
to test the market, it really sounded
like a divorce.
“Carmelo loves being a Knick,
he loves the city, and he loves the
fans,” Leon Rose, Anthony’s agent,
said, OK… but?
“At this stage of his career, he just
wants to explore his options.”
Ah, right… the old “it’s not you,
it’s me” line. Anthony didn’t even
say it in New York’s face… he used
a proxy. I’m not sure what’s worse
the way Anthony went about it or
the way LeBron James did when
he announced “The Decision”
after a one-hour, live broadcast TV
special.
Ironically, Anthony, who is
notorious for failing to share the
ball with teammates, is not going
through a selfish phase. He stood
ready to make more with the Knicks if he
re-signed, by about $30 million. No,
not instead he talked about his
aspiration for a championship.
In baseball, players often
are given contract options, but they
ever have a play called the “fielder’s
choice.” That’s when a fielder has
multiple ways to put somebody
out. My favorite fielder’s choice
however was executed by a guy
named Cecil… Cecil Fielder, to be
exact. In the mid-80’s, Cecil was
at a point in his career with the
Toronto Blue Jays where he had to
make a decision: Would he languish
his huge body on the bench behind
Toronto’s sluggers, or would he go a
different route?
His answer arrived in the form of
a million-dollar, one-year contract with
the Hanshin Tigers of Japan.
Fielder jumped at the opportunity,
moved his family to Kobe and
flourished. When he returned to
America he ushered in the Home
Run Era, a time when people trying
to emulate his stadium-shattering
blows resorted to drug use. In 1996
he won a championship.
Cecil has been having a hard
time of it of late and a lot has been
written about his estrangement from
his son, Prince. I’m not going to
speculate about that, but I will make
a prediction about Anthony: He’s
staying put.
Anthony always has been
up front about exploring free agency,
but he exposed a lot about himself
last season when he spent the
bulk of an interview talking not
about his career, money or his
aspiration for a championship.
No, instead he talked about his
son. He worried about moving
his family, and how his kid would
adjust to a new school district.
He had moved as a kid and hated
it, he revealed, and his son loves
New York.
Play the field or stay at home,
where your heart clearly remains…
it’s your choice to make.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter
who lives in Kansan City. (c) 2014
King Features Synd. Inc.

Archives: www.wtxcc.com
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas

THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering

R.F.D. By Mike Marland

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 85 and in fairly good health. I am in my ninth year of extremely painful post-herpetic neuralgia. Instead of disappearing, the pain is increasing. It could be that the gabapentin (600 mg, three times daily) is wearing off. I tried Lyrica, but stopped when it hurt my eyes. The pain can be excruciating, even from the touch of a shirt. A relative suggested cutting the affected nerve. What would you recommend? – F.S.

Post-herpetic neuralgia is a syndrome of pain due to inflammation of the nerves after an infection with herpes zoster. The older you are, the more likely you are to get this complication, and the longer the pain tends to last – but nine years is much longer than normal.

Treatment for post-herpetic neuralgia is often with several medications. Gabapentin (Neurontin) is one, but the effective dose is sometimes quite high, as high as 1,200 mg three times daily. Many people get very fatigued at that high a dose. A much older medication, nortriptylene, is more effective in some people and may be worth a try.

Capsaicin cream provides relief for many people, although it can cause some burning when first applied. I recommend starting with the regular, not high-potency, strength. Unfortunately, surgery – at any level, from the end of the nerve to the brain – has not been consistently effective and carries the risk of permanent nerve damage. A neurologist can advise you on other treatments, including injection of steroids around the spinal cord in extreme cases. Fortunately, this complication can be largely prevented with the use of the shingles vaccine, which most people over 60 should get, even if they have had shingles before.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have worn a sterling silver chain and cross for years. Over time, I have noticed that it’s gone from shiny to dark. I have never polished it. Right now it is almost black. Is it something in my body chemistry that does this? – V.S.

The black discoloration is tarnish, an oxidation of the metal. Even sterling silver can tarnish, and some people’s body chemistry can indeed make tarnishing more likely. Some people will complain of the dark discoloration if the tarnish rubs off on the skin. More acidic sweat, and more traces of sulfur, will cause more tarnish.

This is very different from nickel allergy, which can cause mild but occasionally more severe skin reactions. Sterling silver does not contain nickel.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. To view and order health pamphlets, visit www.rbmamall.com, or write to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2014 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Social Security honors veterans

In the United States, people do a lot to recognize and honor the heroes who serve in the Armed Forces and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. July 30 is an appropriate month to recognize veterans and wounded warriors, as we celebrate our nation’s independence.

On July 12, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed into law a measure to award the U.S. Medal of Honor to “such noncommissioned officers and privates as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action, and other soldier-like qualities during the present insurrection.” The first Medal of Honor went to Private Jacob Parrott during the Civil War for his role in the Great Locomotive Chase. In the United States, people do a lot to recognize and honor the heroes who serve in the Armed Forces and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. July 30 is an appropriate month to recognize veterans and wounded warriors, as we celebrate our nation’s independence.

According to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, a total of 3,487 medals have been awarded. Such recognition is important, but perhaps just as important is awarding Social Security benefits to veterans as well. Earnings for active duty military service or active duty training have been covered under Social Security since 1957. Social Security also has covered inactive duty service in the Armed Forces reserves (such as weekend drills) since 1988.

Social Security also has been covered under Social Security service or active duty training have been covered under Social Security since 1957. Social Security also has covered inactive duty service in the Armed Forces reserves (such as weekend drills) since 1988. If you served in the Armed Forces and you’re planning your retirement, you’ll want to read our publication, Military Service and Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov/page. If you are disabled and can no longer work, you may also want to read our publication, Disability Benefits for Wounded Veterans, available at the same web address. Note that Social Security offers veterans expedited processing on their applications for disability benefits.

Another reason July is significant to veterans: on July 3, 1930, Congress signed a bill to authorize the President to issue an executive order establishing the Veterans Administration, or VA. President Herbert Hoover signed Executive Order 5398 to create the VA on July 12, 1930. The first Medal of Honor went to Private Jacob Parrott during the Civil War for his role in the Great Locomotive Chase. In the United States, people do a lot to recognize and honor the heroes who serve in the Armed Forces and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. July 30 is an appropriate month to recognize veterans and wounded warriors, as we celebrate our nation’s independence.

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In 1811, London became the first city in the world to reach the milestone population of 1 million. If you’re like one-third of American men, you’d like a shot at hosting “The Tonight Show.” You might think that hot dogs are a relatively recent food offering, but you’d be wrong. The first sausages were created more than 3,500 years ago, when ancient Babylonians began stuffing spiced meat into the intestines of animals.

If you hear the word “Bilbo” you might think of a famously adventurous hobbit, but a bilbo also is a finely tempered Spanish sword.

In Western medicine in the 19th century, experts believed in a phenomenon called “maternal impressions,” which posited that what a pregnant woman looked at could influence the appearance of her child. This belief set off a rush of pregnant Parisian women heading to the Louvre to gaze at the lovely artworks, hoping to give birth to attractive babies.

If you were at a certain street corner in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, on a certain day in 1912, you would have seen a startling thing: After plunging through the atmosphere, a 21-pound chunk of the Soviet Sputnik IV spacecraft made impact at the corner of Park Street and North 8th Street.

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• Those who study such things say that after Paul Stevens made his famous midnight ride, he billed the Massachusetts state house 10 pounds, 4 shillings to cover his expenses.

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• If you hear the word “Bilbo” you might think of a famously adventurous hobbit, but a bilbo also is a finely tempered Spanish sword.

• In Western medicine in the 19th century, experts believed in a phenomenon called “maternal impressions,” which posited that what a pregnant woman looked at could influence the appearance of her child. This belief set off a rush of pregnant Parisian women heading to the Louvre to gaze at the lovely artworks, hoping to give birth to attractive babies.

• If you were at a certain street corner in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, on a certain day in 1912, you would have seen a startling thing: After plunging through the atmosphere, a 21-pound chunk of the Soviet Sputnik IV spacecraft made impact at the corner of Park Street and North 8th Street.

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