



NEWSBRIEFS

Elderly falls

Researchers at the University of Illinois in Chicago deliberately tripped senior citizens in the process of developing ways to prevent them from falling down, CBS News reported. Professor Clive Pai headed up the study and he says that it could become a virtual “vaccine against falls.” He calls it “implicit learning. We don’t give any instruction. They don’t have to be motivated – they’re naturally motivated because they don’t want to be on the floor.” The Association of Mature American Citizens says the procedure is not as cruel as you might think, explaining that the elderly participants in Pai’s study wear harnesses. After a while, they learn to catch themselves. Pai and his team say that after as few as 24 fake falls the older adults in the study were 50 percent less likely to fall as they go about their daily chores. Stretching exercises, vision exams, strategic handrails, the avoidance of sudden moves and the use of a cane, if necessary, are also good ways to prevent dangerous falls, according to AMAC.

– John Grimaldi

Food trailer stolen

A customized trailer that serves as a mobile kitchen, was stolen from a fenced lot in east El Paso County. Deputies from the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office are asking for assistance in identifying those involved in the theft through the Crime Stoppers “Crime Spot.” The theft is believed to have taken place between the early morning hours of Saturday, Oct. 25, 2014 and the afternoon of Monday, Oct. 27, 2014. A 2005 crew cab Ford Lariat F-150 with Texas license plates BA96267 that was used to pull the trailer was also stolen. The trailer is a white 2007 International modified utility trailer with Texas license plate 307790H. In total the amount of the property stolen is valued at more than \$100,000. Investigators from the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, are certain that someone has information on the theft. Anyone with any information on this case is asked to call Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-8477 (TIPS), on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org or you can send a text message by entering the key word “CRIME1” (no space and include the quotation marks) plus your tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637). You will remain anonymous, and if your tip leads to an arrest, you can

See BRIEFS, Page 8

Throwing mud at another man only soils your own hands.

– Quips & Quotes

Tech support scams prey on unsuspecting computer users

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Scam artists are using the phone to try to break into your computer. They call, claiming to be computer techs associated with well-known companies, like Microsoft or Dell. These scammers claim that they’ve detected viruses or other malware on your computer to trick you into giving them remote access or paying for software you don’t need.

The scam attempt happened to James Frazier of El Paso recently. He said that he got a call one Saturday afternoon. “I was told it was the Windows technical support center,” Frazier said. “They said there was a problem with my computer and that they would fix the problem and would install an antivirus program to protect against future attacks.”

So, Frazier proceeded to follow the caller’s instructions and before he realized it, he had given the caller control of his computer. He became suspicious, however, when the caller insisted that he pay a \$250 fee with a credit card before the problem can be fixed. Not sure if the supposed Windows technician was legitimate or a fraudster, he decided to hang up.

Frazier said that that night he was unable to sleep because he kept mulling



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

PREYING ON FEAR – Scammers take advantage of computer users’ concerns about viruses and other threats. They call their victims claiming there is an issue with their computer that can be fixed remotely. But the purpose behind their call isn’t to fix your computer; it’s an elaborate scheme to make money. Installing a reputable anti-virus program with online or phone support is a good start to computer security.

over the possible consequences for having given a stranger access to his computer, which has all his personal and financial information. The next morning, Frazier contacted a friend, Ismael Prieto, who is an IT support engineer and owner of TCB El Paso Computer Repair Service.

Frightened by the supposed virus – and

reassured because of the reputation of the company the fraudster is claiming to represent – many consumers agree to pay the fee and give the criminal remote access to the “corrupted” computer. The hackers charge a consumer to download harmless

See SCAMS, Page 4

History museum hosts DIGIE wall grand opening

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso Museum of History is inviting the public to celebrate Valentine’s Day at its DIGIE (Digital Information Gateway In El Paso) Wall grand opening, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at the museum’s entrance (located at 510 N. Santa Fe Street).

Dance groups, mariachi, salsa and country bands will be part of the festivities. Also, activities for kids and adults will be available during the day-long celebration. The grand opening event is open to the public and admission is free.

Currently, individuals are able to upload photos to DIGIE using the website www.digie.org. Participants are encouraged to share their history, heritage, family, etc. and make them a part of this region’s cultural story, stated museum representative Marilú Valenzuela Alemán.

Construction of the five-screen wall required global communication, as City of El Paso project managers worked with designers in New Zealand and



– Photo courtesy of the City of El Paso Engineering & Construction Management Department

OPENING FOR POSTING – Spend Valentine’s Day with the El Paso Museum of History and experience El Paso using the newly-installed DIGIE (Digital Information Gateway In El Paso) Wall. Museum officials will hold a Feb. 14 grand opening event to commemorate the introduction of this state-of-the-art technology to the region. It is the first of its kind in the country. An architectural rendition of the wall and pavilion is shown above.

manufacturers in Germany to complete some of the components, according to Aleman.

DIGIE and the pavilion which will

house it are funded by the 2012 Quality of Life Bonds. For more information, call Alemán at 915-351-3588 or send email to alemanmg@elpasotexas.gov

Archives: www.wtxcc.com

Finances By Jason Alderman

Five important money questions to ask

Valentine’s Day is often a time to reflect on your relationship, and consider the next step. If your relationship is heading toward joint finances, it’s essential to talk about it first – openly and honestly.

A 2014 survey (<http://www.nefe.org/press-room/news/financial-infidelity-poses->

challenge-for-couples.aspx) by the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) found that 13 percent said they had failed to share information about their personal debt or income, which had “an effect on the relationship.”

his year, consider thinking beyond the roses and candlelight dinners to a potential future of merged finances. Here are five key questions that should drive your conversation:

Where are you financially as individuals? Take time to talk about your household debt – including student loans, credit cards, mortgage and medical bills, and share your credit reports from the three major credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion). Each can be obtained once a year for free (<https://www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action>). It’s also important to discuss assets – not only the savings and investments you hold, but also how future job or education plans can improve the marriage or family’s financial health.

What are your money personalities? This is a personal finance question that many financial planners still ask to get a sense of your money management habits. It’s intended to identify which person in the relationship is the spender or the saver. It’s particularly important to ask each other whether you save or spend to make sure you’re on track to achieve your long-term goals.

How do you want to live? This question is about shared financial and personal goals and how you will achieve them together. Discuss how you’ve been living thus far, and what you might change. Be honest about where you want to live, what kind of home and family you want to have, what kind of career or retirement you want and start discussing concrete ways you both will get there.

How will you handle everyday spending? Determine how you will share accounts, pay bills, budget, save for the future and bank – jointly, separately or both. Figure out how will you jointly manage credit and the smartest ways to save for retirement. If you want a family, decide how you’ll plan for kids financially. Finally, work together when problems come up. As with all issues in a relationship, ongoing communication is key.

What if you need help? There are options if you or your partner doesn’t know where to start. Licensed financial and tax professionals can provide guidance on issues from

See FINANCES, Page 8

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

A decade of delays

What’s going on in Aurora, Colorado? A new Department of Veterans Affairs medical center, to be used by veterans in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming, was first approved for construction in 2004, and it’s still not up. Groundbreaking for the new facility began in 2009 with completion planned for 2013.

When the builder contract was signed in 2010, the agreed-upon price was \$582.8 million ... before the design was even completed. Since then, the contractor has complained about late payments, incomplete plans, change orders that went unprocessed for over a year, switching from a shared facility to a stand-alone hospital, relocation of the facility, and the discovery of an underground spring and a buried swimming pool.

No one was watching the architect, who had designed costly additions like curved walls. Medical-equipment planners weren’t used, and instead the VA got input from others with limited experience. By January 2013, they were still haggling about trying to redesign the hospital to fit the actual budget.

At a recent meeting of the U.S. House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, which was to sort out all the details, the actual cost of the project still wasn’t known. The guess at this point is that it will be more than \$1 billion – double the original estimate and a decade after the decision was made to build the facility.

In December, work came to a halt when the construction company pulled its workers off the site after a federal board of contract appeals said the VA had breached the contract. Then came word that the Army Corps of Engineers was taking over management.

Now, a decade into the project, the estimated opening will be in 2017... maybe.

Aurora isn’t the only location with these problems.

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) 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.

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Canutillo Independent School District
Public Notice

Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District’s 2013-2014 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) as part of a School Board meeting, which is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at the Canutillo Administrative Offices Board Room, 7965 Artcraft, El Paso, TX 79932.

The public is invited to attend. The TAPR report will also be available for review after the hearing at all Canutillo ISD campuses, the central office and at www.canutillo-isd.org.

For more information, call 877-7482.

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo
Junta Pública

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar sobre el “Reporte de Rendimiento Académica de Texas” (TAPR) del año escolar 2013-2014. El reporte sera parte de la reunión de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para el Martes, 17 de febrero del 2015 a las 6:00 p.m. en el Canutillo Oficinas Administrativas Sala de Juntas en 7965 Artcraft, El Paso, TX 79932.

Todos los interesados están invitados a asistir. El reporte TAPR estará disponible después de la reunión en todas las escuelas del distrito, en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas y en www.canutillo-isd.org.

Para mas información, favor de llamar al 877-7482.

WTCC: 02-05-15

Clint Independent School District
Public Notice

Clint Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District’s 2013-2014 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) as part of a School Board meeting, which is scheduled for 5:00 p.m., Thursday, February 19, 2015, at the Clint ISD Administrative Office Board Room, 14521 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, TX, 79928.

The public is invited to attend. The TAPR report will also be available for review after the hearing at all Clint ISD campuses, the Clint Administrative Office and at www.clintweb.net.

For more information, call 926-4031.

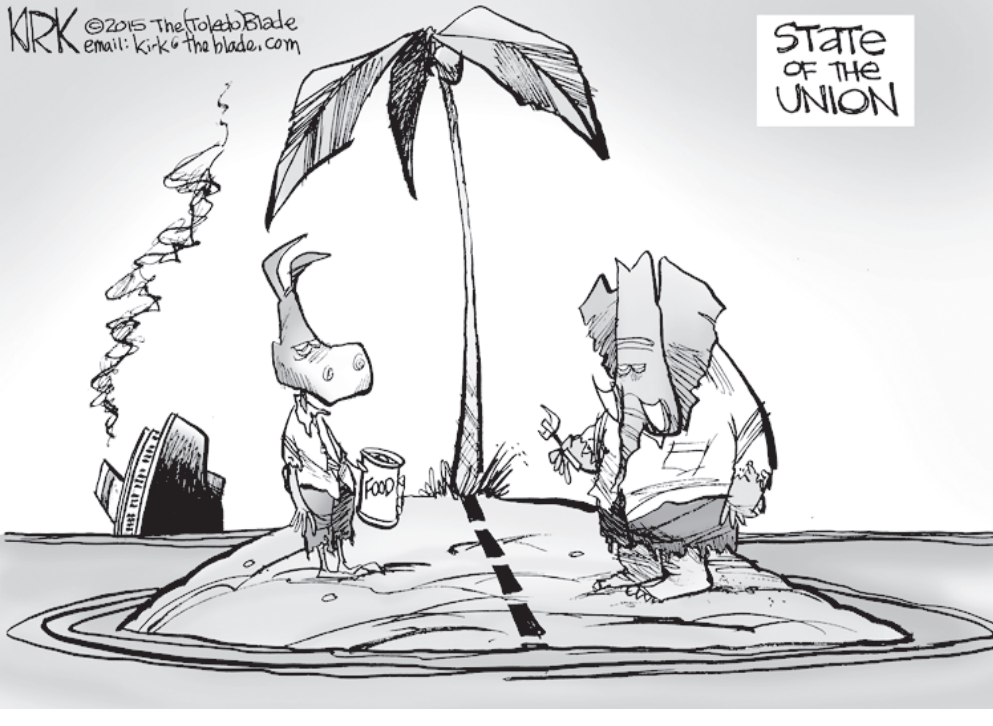
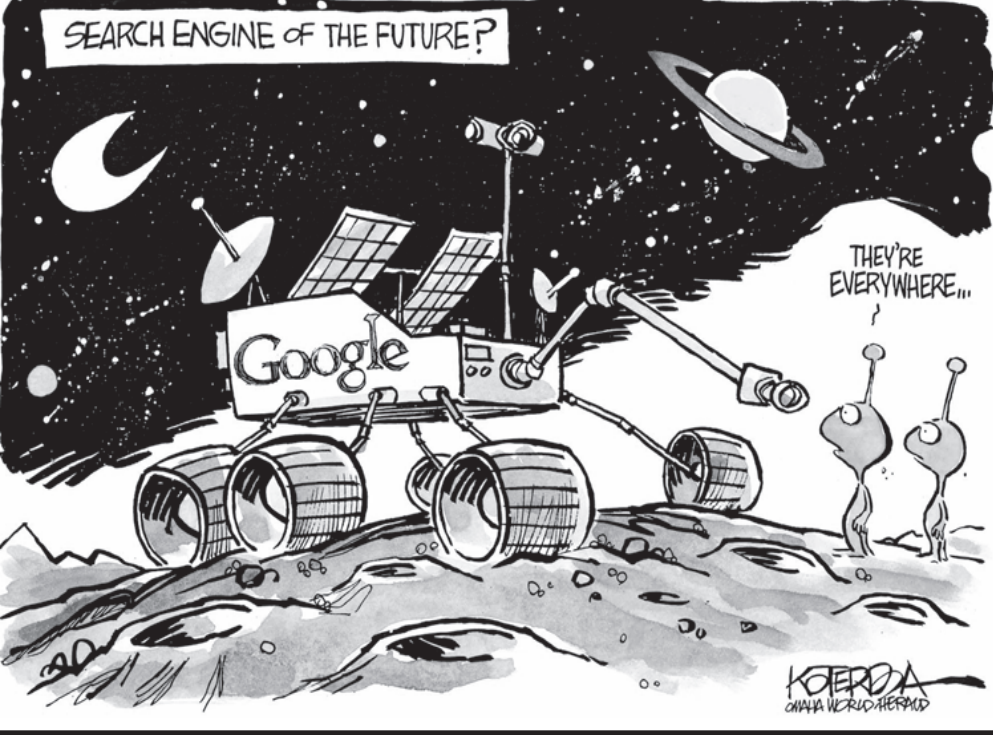
Distrito Escolar Independiente de Clint
Junta Pública

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Clint tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar sobre el “Reporte de Rendimiento Académica de Texas” (TAPR) del año escolar 2013-2014. El reporte sera parte de la reunión de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para el jueves, 19 de febrero del 2015 a las 5:00 p.m. en el cuarto de sala de Clint ISD oficina administrativa, 14521 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, TX, 79928.

Todos los interesados están invitados a asistir. El reporte TAPR estará disponible después de la reunión en todas las escuelas del distrito, en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas y en www.clintweb.net.

Para mas información, favor de llamar al 926-4031.

WTCC: 02-05-15



San Elizario HS students learn financial skills

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SANELIZARIO—SanElizarioHighSchoolsophomores received a crash course on how to provide for a family and maintain a household during a “Breaking the Cycle of Poverty” simulation held on January 28. Representatives from the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, El Paso Branch and United Way of El Paso County (UWEP) helped to guide San Elizario students through different role-



– Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD
DOLLARS AND SENSE – United Way representative Becca Curry guides sophomores Josh Benitez and Isabel Parada through a financial simulation activity.

play activities in this one of a kind financial literacy event. Jose Rojas, administrative intern and athletic trainer at San Elizario High School, stated that the simulation provided students a valuable experience where they were able to apply basic skills and knowledge of financial management to real world scenarios. “The event was a great opportunity for our students to discover for themselves how important financial literacy will be for them in the future. The event was also an excellent opportunity to promote college readiness amongst our students,” Rojas said. Students were divided into groups and assumed the lives of families in different situations. They were tasked with providing for basic necessities and shelter on a limited budget. Volunteers from the Federal Reserve Bank, UWEP and San Elizario High School hosted tables representing community resources and services such as a bank, a social service agency, an employer, utility companies, a grocery store, daycare provider, etc. The students visited the different tables to obtain assistance for their fictitious families. The overall purpose of the simulation was to enable students to look at their community from a variety of angles and recognize and discuss potential change within society. Students also received lessons on “College and Careers” and “Learning to Budget and Save” from the volunteer agencies. The “Breaking the Cycle of Poverty” simulation at San Elizario High School was only the second time the opportunity was offered to high school students in El Paso Country according to event organizers.

View from here By Traci Bruckner, Center for Rural Affairs

Congress slashes conservation

When thinking about the \$1.1 trillion spending bill recently passed by Congress, one might ask, what does Congress have against conservation? They made huge cuts to conservation programs, such as the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) that supports conservation practices on cropland, pastureland and rangeland, totaling \$402 million over ten years. This cut means 2.3 million fewer acres enrolled in the program. This anti-conservation spending bill also cut the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) by \$136 million for this fiscal year. While the CSP is designed to reward farmers and ranchers who have a history of integrating conservation, EQIP will help them develop a conservation practice for the first time. Both programs support practices such as cover crops, diverse cropping systems, as well as rotational grazing practices on pasture, rangeland, and cropland restored to a grass-based system. These are the conservation-based farming practices we need more support for, not less. This is especially true in the face of climate change impacts on agriculture, and the increased need to protect and restore water quality. So while they cut the conservation programs that help farmers and ranchers integrate risk management through conservation-based farming practices, they left intact the unlimited federal crop insurance premium subsidies and farm program payments that encourage risk taking and agriculture consolidation by the nation’s largest and wealthiest farms. This is an anti-farmer, anti-conservation bill that is representative of crisis-driven legislation stemming from a dysfunctional Congress. Join us and fight for annual spending bills that are forward-looking, and create opportunity.

Established in 1973, the Center for Rural Affairs is a private, non-profit organization working to strengthen small businesses, family farms and ranches, and rural communities through action oriented programs addressing social, economic, and environmental issues.

Scams

From Page 1

programs that are available for free online to demonstrate the alleged virus. Other times, they install tracking software that gives the fraudster access to personal information on the computer.

According to consumer reports, the estimates of the scope of this scam vary widely. For example, Microsoft reported that the average victim lost \$875 and had to pay \$1,700 in repair bills. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reported that it had received more than 40,000 complaints about this scam since it initiated a crackdown in October 2012, and an official with the FTC’s

consumer protection bureau said he thought the number of victims was probably higher.

Despite government action to identify and stop scam artists running these schemes, copycats continue to defraud consumers.

As for Frazier’s situation, Prieto was able to retrieve all of his files, clean his computer of viruses and malware, re-set the Internet’s network connection, and install new software. Prieto pointed out, however, that there was no telling what information the scam perpetrators were able to access and capable of using. Subsequently, Frazier contacted his bank and credit card companies to alert them of the incident, and he changed all of his passwords. Prieto said that the best way to

minimize the risk of falling victim to this scam is, first, know that legitimate companies will not call you without solicitation and tell you that you must pay for tech support; and never allow someone to take remote control of your computer unless you are absolutely certain that they are representing a legitimate company.

In addition, consumer advocates recommend that individuals refrain from disclosing sensitive financial information such as passwords, credit card, or bank account routing numbers over the phone; and when buying things over the Internet or phone, use a credit card or a debit card so that you can better dispute fraudulent charges.

If you believe that you are the

victim of a tech support scam, take the following actions:

- Immediately delete the tracking software from your computer.
- Call your credit card company and ask to have the charges reversed.
- Check your bank and credit card statements for inaccuracies. If you find any, ask that those charges be reversed.
- Contact the major credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) and notify them of the potential for fraud on your account.
- Change any passwords that you gave out.
- Visit FTC’s [identity theft website](#) ([ftc.gov/complaint](#)) and file a complaint.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was comedian Bill Maher who made the following sage observation: “Is [hunting] really a sport if you have all the equipment and your opponent doesn’t know a game is going on?”
- If you’re one of the many Americans who likes a good tailgate party, it’s entirely possible that it’s the highlight of game day for you. In a survey conducted by McCormick Grill Mates during the 2014 football season, 44 percent of respondents said they enjoyed the tailgating more than they enjoyed the game.
- Just like your fingerprint, your tongue print is unique.

- Spring is traditionally considered the most popular time for weddings, but 2014 saw a spike in nuptials in mid-December. More than 13,000 couples in the U.S. tied the knot on Dec. 13, due in large part to the fact that 12/13/14 fell on a Saturday. Anyone else who would like to marry on a number-sequential date will have a long wait; it won’t happen again until January 2, 2034.
- If you’re feeling a bit chilled and can’t wait for springtime, consider this: On the planet Uranus, winter lasts for 21 years.
- You might be surprised to learn that Pennsylvania was not named after William Penn, one of the colony’s founders; in fact, King Charles II granted the land charter to William Penn in repayment of a debt to Penn’s father, Admiral William Penn, and created the name of the sizable land grant by combining the name of the naval officer with the Latin word “sylvania,” which means “woods.” The younger Penn was embarrassed and feared that people would think he named the colony after himself. He petitioned the crown to change the name, but the king refused.

Thought for the Day: “Bigamy is having one wife too many. Monogamy is the same.”
— Oscar Wilde

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Tornillo Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 2014

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 763,293	\$ 132,610	\$ 1,020	\$ 896,923
5800 State Program Revenues	10,613,065	991,954	25,987	11,631,006
5900 Federal Program Revenues	952,320	—	1,587,713	2,540,033
5020 Total Revenues	12,328,678	1,124,564	1,614,720	15,067,962
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0011 Instruction	5,396,703	—	952,765	6,349,468
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	143,322	—	38,591	181,913
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	22,091	—	176,504	198,595
0021 Instructional Leadership	63,077	—	139,851	202,928
0023 School Leadership	569,137	—	4,014	573,151
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	120,647	—	—	120,647
0033 Health Services	79,143	—	—	79,143
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	327,199	—	159,040	486,239
0035 Food Services	966,348	—	27,340	993,688
0036 Extracurricular Activities	311,975	—	—	311,975
0041 General Administration	833,447	—	—	833,447
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,501,226	—	—	1,501,226
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	136,380	—	—	136,380
0053 Data Processing Services	310,289	—	—	310,289
0061 Community Services	29,661	—	75,314	104,975
Debt Service:				
0071 Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	68,000	255,083	—	323,083
0072 Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	27,472	669,206	—	696,678
0073 Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	—	606	—	606
Capital Outlay:				
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	571,924	—	—	571,924
Intergovernmental:				
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	12,175	—	—	12,175
6030 Total Expenditures	11,490,216	924,895	1,573,419	13,988,530
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	838,462	199,669	41,301	1,079,432
0100 Fund Balance – September 1 (Beginning)	5,668,305	44,353	11,291	5,723,949
3000 Fund Balance – August 31 (Ending)	\$ 6,506,767	\$ 244,022	\$ 52,592	\$ 6,803,381

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CryptoQuip Answer

Kid’s tune concerning a girl who was eating a tasty mollusk: “Mary Had a Little Clam.”

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Chester Jordan students take green message to Fort Bliss

By Paula Diaz
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Chester E. Jordan Elementary’s Green Science Team members don’t limit themselves to talking to others about the environment only on campus. They take their green message wherever they go.

Recently, the 21-member group, made up of third, fourth and fifth graders, decided to share the message with Fort Bliss soldiers and their families the only way anyone in today’s techno world can: by creating a flash mob.

These “recycling hero minis,” along with Fort Bliss Recycling’s soldiers, danced and sang in front of shoppers inside Freedom Crossing. The military spectators were surprised by the gesture.

“I take pride in all our student’s accomplishments,” said Principal Jesse Sepulveda, whose school is the first Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) in El Paso. “But what they did at Fort Bliss was extra special. This video went viral and made its way to the Pentagon. What a thrill and what an honor. As the only Silver Certified Green School in this region, our hard work is truly paying off. Our students truly are making ground in this technology-based and global world.”

The Green Science Team, who won a 2012 Texas Environment Excellence Award (TEEA) in the youth category for their work in the community and who last April participated in El Paso’s Earth Day celebration, were asked by its partner, the Fort Bliss Recycling, to help recognize the military community for keeping the Post green.

Three weeks before the event, students practiced the songs and dance for the flash mob event, said Mary C. Salas, advisor for the Green Science Team. The students did two songs, which were versions of existing songs but with lyrics about recycling. The songs were “I’m a Little Teapot” and “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.” The Fort Bliss recycling team provided the “Recycling Hero” masks and capes. The 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division produced the event.

“The spectators were truly surprised and there were quite a number of camera phones on,” said Salas, also SCI-E curriculum coach at Chester Jordan. “I can honestly say that the activity in the food court stopped for that moment. We had a great applause and many congratulatory comments.”

In fact, the children’s partner, Fort Bliss Recycling, was awed by what the group had accomplished in such a short time. Members said it was “better

than they had hoped it could be.” A video of the event was made and students saw it later on “Armed Services” online services, Salas said.

“The kids were greatly excited,” she said. “I had comments from ‘This was the best day of my life!’ to ‘When are we doing this again!’”

Sepulveda said besides the fun the students have, these activities help prepare them for their own careers.

“This creates opportunity for success in school academically and opens doors for success in their own futures,” Sepulveda said.

GOGREEN—Chester E. Jordan Elementary’s Green Science Team, made up of third, fourth and fifth graders got together with Fort Bliss soldiers – all dressed as “Super Green Heroes” – at Fort Bliss’s Freedom Crossing to spread their environmental message with Fort Bliss soldiers and their families. All of the participants met up the only way anyone in today’s techno world would – by creating a flash mob.



– Photos Courtesy of Chester E. Jordan Elementary

Clint Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 2014

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Funds	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 11,941,198	\$ 3,235,517	\$ 328,606	\$ 15,505,321
5800 State Program Revenues	75,757,983	9,003,541	1,479,709	86,241,233
5900 Federal Program Revenues	8,870,969	–	6,688,570	15,559,539
5020 Total Revenues	96,570,150	12,239,058	8,496,885	117,306,093
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0011 Instruction	47,524,892	–	6,611,540	54,136,432
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	1,140,820	–	–	1,140,820
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	1,003,482	–	459,656	1,463,138
0021 Instructional Leadership	2,088,616	–	684,605	2,773,221
0023 School Leadership	5,980,580	–	10,785	5,991,365
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	2,067,776	–	635,752	2,703,528
0032 Social Work Services	190,660	–	–	190,660
0033 Health Services	925,125	–	–	925,125
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	3,222,137	–	36,448	3,258,585
0035 Food Services	7,603,885	–	155,918	7,759,803
0036 Extracurricular Activities	2,510,565	–	–	2,510,565
0041 General Administration	3,065,877	–	1,635	3,067,512
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	12,207,088	–	1,383,342	13,590,430
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	2,320,537	–	3,264	2,323,801
0053 Data Processing Services	1,496,807	–	20,208	1,517,015
0061 Community Services	112,803	–	46,102	158,905
Debt Service:				
0071 Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	–	4,848,538	–	4,848,538
0072 Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	–	5,948,174	–	5,948,174
0073 Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	–	371,911	–	371,911
Capital Outlay:				
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	173,989	–	336,359	510,348
Intergovernmental				
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	265,281	–	–	265,281
6030 Total Expenditures	93,900,920	11,168,623	10,385,614	115,455,157
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	2,669,230	1,070,435	(1,888,729)	1,850,936
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7901 Refunding Bonds Issued	–	24,244,996	–	24,244,996
7916 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	–	3,113,526	–	3,113,526
8940 Payment to Bond Refunding Escrow Agent (Use)	–	(26,992,584)	–	(26,992,584)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	–	365,938	–	365,938
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	2,669,230	1,436,373	(1,888,729)	2,216,874
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	27,465,776	589,695	2,994,329	31,049,800
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 30,135,006	\$ 2,026,068	\$ 1,105,600	\$ 33,266,674

Miners, Floyd do their best with limited resources

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Everyone out there knows that eerie feeling that goes through the mind while experienced déjà vu.

We’ve all gone through it. That feeling you get when you know you’ve seen or done whatever you’re doing – before.

You can’t prove it. You can’t quite place it. You can’t even fully explain it. But you know it when it happens.

But how often does it happen? Not very often at all. That’s why it stands out so much when it does.

For some people though, it happens a lot more frequently.

Take UTEP head basketball coach Tim Floyd. It’s happened to him far too often for his liking.

In Floyd’s first couple of seasons he was saddled with rosters that were woefully depleted.

Either they were one of the most inexperienced teams in the country, or they’d lose players to injury or anything else.

And as everyone knows, a coach is only as good as his roster. He can make a

good roster better, and a very good roster, great.

But nobody can win without the horses.

After three years, Floyd finally got the program to the point where they could challenge for a conference title every year, then they were dealt a blow when 5-star recruit Isaac Hamilton changed his mind at the last minute and decided to go to UCLA instead.

That, of course, hurt the Miners because that roster spot could have gone to another strong recruit.

Losing Hamilton really stung the program but it was nothing compared to what was to follow.

In the middle of last season three players, McKenzie Moore, Jalen Ragland and Justin Crosgile were all kicked off the team in a gambling scandal.

Not only were the Miners short three players, but they were now short three more guards.

UTEP struggled mightily after that with no real point guard on the roster to lead the offense.

The Miners were so thin at guard that they had to pluck one of the better running backs in the country off the football

team.

Aaron Jones did the best he could but he’d be the first to tell you that he’s not a division-1 college basketball player. That’s why he puts on shoulder pads on Saturdays.

By this time Floyd must have been wondering if he was cursed or at least living the same nightmare over and over again.

Then comes this season. UTEP’s first priority was to fix the problems at the guard spot.

So Floyd recruited a ton of guards who are going to save the day. They already had bigger guys like Vice Hunter and Chris Lang and Julian Washburn and Matt Willms coming back.

So what happens? Two star recruits choose to play basketball for the Miners. But Chris Sandifer and Shaquille Carr both fail to qualify for the university and are forced to go the junior college route.

Now Floyd is having that all-too-familiar eerie feeling of having to go through the season with just one true point guard, freshman Omega Harris.

The Miners have three other guards on the roster but Floyd decided to redshirt

them this season so they aren’t available.

And now the Miners are going through yet another déjà vu moment of roster depletion. Center Matt Willms has suffered a stress fracture in his foot and will be out of the lineup for at least three weeks.

Ouch. Where have I seen this before?

The Miners are down to just six guys who see any regular action. Star forward Vince Hunter is playing a little more carefully after hurting his left knee and being forced to wear a brace.

Floyd will now have to count on help from little used center Hooper Vint and guard Lew Stallworth to give the other guys a breather.

The Miners, who looked like the best team in the league three weeks ago, have struggled immensely in recent games.

Maybe it’s the fatigue setting in. Maybe it’s bad luck. Maybe it’s something else.

But Tim Floyd has got to be wondering how many more times he’s going to have that “I’ve seen this situation before” feeling?

In the past though, the Miners have respond well to adversity for Floyd.

Maybe he’ll have a little déjà vu about that, too.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Dead-on balls accurate

New England Patriots Coach Bill Belichick has his trophies, but he is a cheater. I used to defend him, too. So what if he stole some signs? Baseball players do it all the time. It’s part of the fun. And if you can

hack one of those military-grade communication systems the NFL uses just to learn which side a team is running a sweep, I think you need to re-evaluate your career choice because you belong in the NSA, not the NFL.

Deflating the ball is another matter. It gives the running back and receivers an edge in holding onto the ball. For a receiver, it will not bounce off your pads as easily; for a running back, it will be easy to lock up in your arm as you matriculate the ball downfield. The statistics bear this out: The New England Patriots fumble ratio is other-worldly. Clearly, it has affected the

outcome of games, and Belichik had to know that he had solved one of a football coach’s greatest laments: the turnover.

“I would not say that I am Mona Lisa Vito of the football world,” Belichik said at a press conference while explaining his lack of knowledge of underinflated footballs. For the uninitiated, he referenced Marisa Tomei’s character, Mona Lisa Vito, from the film “My Cousin Vinny,” who provides expert testimony that acquits Ralph Machio’s character and his friend of murder charges.

Along the way, her combative nature proves useful when arguing with Joe Pesci over a dripping faucet. Pesci’s character, Vinny Gambini, surmises that maybe she did not tighten it enough.

LISA: *I twisted it just right.*

Vinny Gambini: *How could you be so sure?*

LISA: *[sighs] If you will look in the manual, you will see that this particular model faucet requires a range of 10 to 16 foot-pounds of torque. I routinely twist the maximum allowable torque.*

Vinny Gambini: *Well, how could you be sure you used 16 foot-pounds of torque?*

LISA: *Because I used*

used by Caltech high-energy physicists. And NASA engineers. Because a split second before the torque wrench was applied to the faucet handle, it had been calibrated by top members of the state AND federal Department of Weights and Measures... to be dead-on balls accurate!

Belichik blamed the atmosphere for his balls deflating. Physicists like Bill Nye and NASA engineers like Neil Degrasse Tyson publicly refuted his arguments. In response, Patriot’s owner Rob Kraft produced lucid, intelligent, well-thought-out objections of the NFL and media’s interest in the matter.

Mr. Kraft? Overruled. Because just as Mona Lisa Vito’s torque had been calibrated by top members of the state AND federal Department of Weights and Measures, the concern people have with the non-stop annoying pick-nit cheats and how they affect the outcome of games are serious. Belichick was dead-on balls accurate when he said he was no Mona Lisa Vito... he’s the colonel from “A Few Good Men.” Now let that trial begin.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.

UTEP
MEN'S BASKETBALL

TICKETS: 747-5234

THURSDAY
FEB. 12

VS CHARLOTTE / 7 PM



SATURDAY
FEB. 14

VS OLD DOMINION / 7 PM





UTEP WOMEN'S BASKETBALL


THURSDAY
FEB. 5

VS FLORIDA ATLANTIC / 7 PM

SATURDAY
FEB. 7

VS FIU / 2 PM





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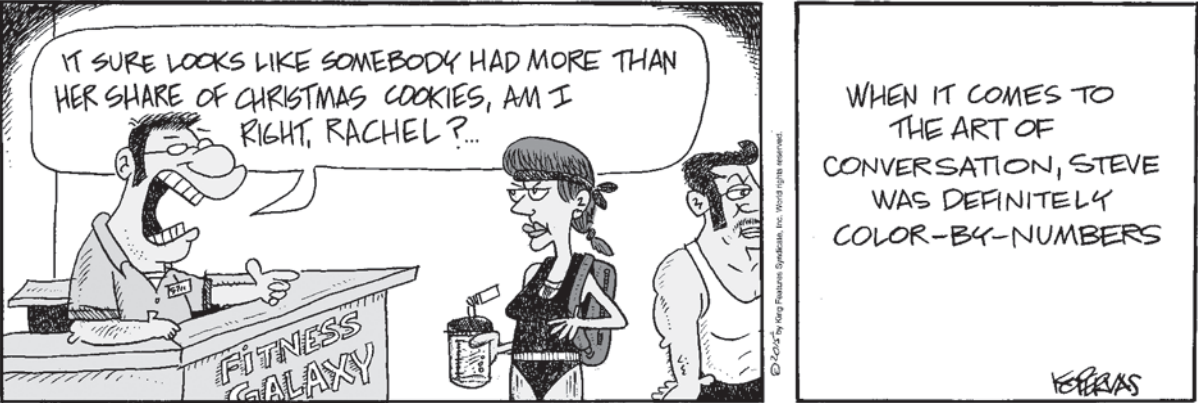
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Super Crossword

ACROSS	DOWN	ACROSS	DOWN
1 While away the hours	120 Tendency to stick together	31 Skin cream brand	82 “_ calling?”
9 Amorphous, sunken-into seats	121 “Casino Royale” Bond girl player	32 Ensnares	83 California’s _ Valley
17 Book divs.	122 Rds.	33 Cookie giant	84 TDs, e.g.
20 Adopts, as a belief	123 Outburst of wild emotion	34 Lead singer	86 Fortitude
21 Do a new layout of	124 Tokyo “ta-ta”	35 Beginning on	87 _-bitsy
22 Marina del _ , California		36 Have supper	88 Looking up
23 Start of a riddle		37 Son of Willy Loman	89 Attend
25 Musician Yoko		38 Skyscraper beam	90 Imminent
26 Fixes a seam, say		39 Many an app	91 Lard holders
27 Drink served with scones		40 Anguish	92 Seminal punk band
28 Suffix with final or solo		44 Actor Gibson	93 Distinguished
29 Heroic poetry		45 Had supper	97 Feared fly
30 Riddle, part 2		46 Sainted pope	98 Luxury watch company
37 7-Eleven drink		47 FDR follower	100 Vows
41 Isn’t on target		49 Hit the links	101 In a tizzy
42 Contract inker, e.g.		50 Boxing punch	102 Dol. divisions
43 “Stones for _” (1988 film)		55 London lav	103 Quotes
44 San _ , California		56 16 eighths	107 Farm building
46 Most fake		58 Tummy “six-pack”	108 Cruising
48 Riddle, part 3		59 Actor Marvin	109 South African Dutch
51 With 57-Across, descent before pulling a rip cord		60 Interstate stop	110 Actress Faris
52 Chilean cheer		61 Pal, in Calais	112 “_ bin ein Berliner”
53 Praise publicly		62 Earlier	113 Nerf ball, e.g.
54 Margarita glass		63 “No _ do!”	114 Make public
		64 Rock blaster	115 “_ will not!”
		65 Mauna _	116 Genetic ID
		66 Hog magazine pitches	117 Actor Liotta
		68 Suze with financial tips	118 Swelled head
		69 Stir up, as silt	
		70 NASDAQ kin	
		73 Polishes	
		76 Bride’s belongings	
		78 Green start?	
		79 Big Red, e.g.	
		80 Poet Lowell	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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		85			86	87				88	89			90	91			
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122				123									124					

Your good health

By Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have a question about hydrogenated and partially hydrogenated fats. What is the difference? Nutritionists tell us to look out for partially hydrogenated, but never mention the other one. Seems to me both would be bad for you. – D.D.F.

You are quite right. There are four kinds of fat. Two are healthier – monounsaturated and polyunsaturated, and these are found in healthy oils, like olive oil and canola oil. Two fats are unhealthy – trans-saturated, also called partially hydrogenated, and saturated, which is fully hydrogenated but isn’t ever really called that.

Trans-saturated fat is not healthy. Food companies make it by adding hydrogen to vegetable oil at high temperature. The chemical bonds are “trans,” which are not normally found in nature. The process makes the fat more solid at room temperature. It isn’t much of an exaggeration to call trans fat toxic, since even modest amounts increase risk for heart disease from blockage of the arteries. I recommend as little trans fat in the diet as possible – preferably none.

Saturated fat isn’t healthy either, but it isn’t as bad for you as trans fat. There are two major kinds of saturated fat: Those that come from animal products (butter, red meat), and those from tropical sources, like palm and coconut. Most experts think tropical saturated fats are not as unhealthy as those found in animal products. Nonetheless, I recommend keeping saturated fat intake low. The American Heart Association recommends less than 16 grams for a person on a 2,000-calorie-a-day diet.

DEAR DR. ROACH: In your column on atrial fibrillation, you did not address a procedure that can be done to cure the condition rather than taking medication. Could you discuss this, and whether medication would be

necessary afterward? – C.G.

Atrial fibrillation is a chaotic lack of rhythm in the heart muscle, caused by abnormal electrical impulses. The goal when treating atrial fibrillation is to reduce the risk of stroke and minimize symptoms.

One new approach to treatment is radiofrequency ablation – that is, using radio waves sent through a small tube placed directly into the heart through a leg or arm vein. The high-powered radio waves can destroy the cells causing the atrial fibrillation, or can isolate those areas from the rest of the heart. A surgeon can do a “maze” procedure to prevent the abnormal impulses from affecting the entire heart.

It isn’t clear yet who benefits most from these kinds of procedures, but early studies have suggested better outcomes and a good chance for cure, although sometimes it takes several procedures. There are potentially serious complications, so it should be done only in centers with extensive experience. It is a good choice for people who experience symptoms and can’t take medications or for whom medicines failed.

READERS: The booklet on heart attacks, America’s No. 1 killer, explains what happens, how they are treated and how they are avoided. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Roach – No. 102W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient’s printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. To view and order health pamphlets, visit www.rbmamall.com. (c) 2015 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

MOORE TEXAS

by Roger Todd Moore

Cuero calls itself the “Turkey Capitol of the World” and has had a Turkey Trot parade since 1916.



Pensive Elder by Bert Saldaña

San Eli exhibit

Visions of the Southwest, an exhibition featuring international prize-winning artist Bert Saldaña, opened on February 1 and will run through February 28, 2015. The exhibit will include new works by Saldaña. Saldaña will talk about his work, during the exhibit reception on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., at the Amado Peña Gallery, 12790 Alarcon Road, in the Historic San Elizario Art District. For more information visit www.SanElizarioHistoricDistrict.org or call (915) 851-8400.

– Al Borrego

Finances

From Page 2

basic budgeting (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/personalfinance/savingspending/budgeting/>) to prenuptial agreements. Friends and family are a good resource for recommendations. Also keep in mind that some religious denominations actually offer solid financial planning advice as part of premarital counseling and the NEFE has a quiz (<http://www.smartaboutmoney.org/>

Tools-Resources/LifeValues-Quiz.aspx) for potential spouses. For debt issues, the National Foundation for Credit Counseling is a good independent resource that can offer advice on improving credit issues as a couple. The earlier you can put together an advisory team that fits your needs, the better.

Bottom line: If you and your sweetheart are considering tying the knot or expanding your family, don’t ignore money issues. It can be a difficult conversation to initiate, but it’s an important one to start planning your financial

future together.

Jason Alderman directs Visa’s financial education programs.

Briefs

From Page 1

qualify for a cash reward.

– Javier Sambrano

Sexual predator

A sexual predator has been spotted in far-east El Paso County. Detectives from the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office are asking for your help in capturing this subject, making it this week’s Crime Stoppers, “Crime of the Week.” The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Crimes Against Persons Detectives are currently working a series of Indecent Exposure cases that commenced in July 2014 and continue – most recently in December 2014. A male subject has been reported to follow young teenage girls (13 to 14 years of age) as they walk along the road. The suspect follows closely in his vehicle. The suspect eventually exposes himself to the girls and begins fondling himself in front of the girls. Most recently, he was spotted in the Emeralds area near Eastlake High School. The male subject is described to be a heavy set Hispanic male in his 30s to 40s with acne scars on his face. The suspect’s vehicle is an older model, small blue passenger car possibly a 2-door with four windows (rear smaller windows). If you have any information at all about the identity of the suspect in this case, contact Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-8477 (TIPS), on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org or you can send a text message by entering the key word “CRIME1” (no space and include the quotation marks) plus your tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637).

– Javier Sambrano

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.

	+		×		33
–		×		+	
	+		+		16
×		–		×	
	×		–		30
24		38		24	

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 4 6 7 8 9

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See Answer Page 4

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

See 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: I equals T

UNWB’ IOZS FYZFSHZNZD L DNHK

VJY VLB SLINZD L ILBIP

RYKKOBU: “RLHP JLW L

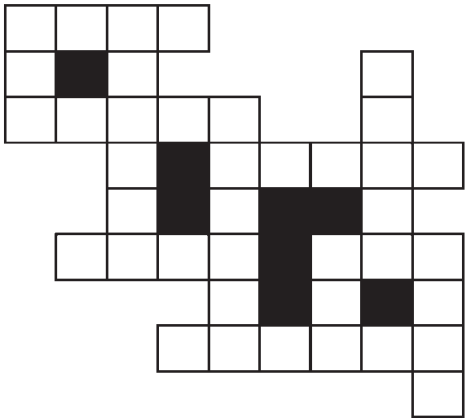
KNIIKS FKLR.”

See Answer Page 4

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EW F
ACCOIL
PULT
♥OWTN
♥ARPLOT
BOF
♥CEAF
PIENO
TFI
WROGLE
GIBON
♥R NAB



See 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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