



NEWSBRIEFS

Espinoza earns certification

Socorro ISD Superintendent Dr. José Espinoza was recently announced as one of 27 – the first superintendents in the country and the first superintendent in Texas – to earn National Superintendent Certification through AASA, a national School Superintendents Association. The superintendents completed an 18-month certification process. Launched in 2013, the National Superintendent Certification process is spread over 18 months and is tailored for superintendents who have been in the job five years or less. The forums, seminars, and coaching provide opportunities to define and examine issues that surface in real life situations. These issues include:

- Providing world-class instructional leadership;
- Building and managing a district budget;
- Mastering effective communication and political skills;
- Using 21st century technology effectively in instruction and management;
- Managing superintendent-school board relations; and
- Designing a career path for oneself.

The AASA National Superintendent Certification Program is a collaborative effort with AASA state affiliates, the National School Boards Association, and business and corporate leaders. The master teachers and guest instructors have all been sitting superintendents and have demonstrable track records of success.

– Christina Flores-Jones

Cold case

A 19-year-old teen was shot and killed more than four years ago in his car in northeast El Paso. Detectives from the El Paso Police Department are asking for your help identifying those involved in this unsolved murder through the Crime Stoppers, “Crime of the Week.” At about 7:40 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2011, 19-year-old Isaiah James Luna was driving a white 1999 Chevrolet Caprice in the area of 10400 Kendell St. along with a friend. During this time individuals in a blue pickup truck began to follow Luna and one of the persons

See BRIEFS, Page 4

Keep your temper to yourself. It's useless to others.

– Quips & Quotes



– Photo courtesy of Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition

PRESERVING THE MOUNTAINS – Castner Range in Northeast El Paso is shown above. Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition (FMWC) has initiated a petition to protect what is left of the publicly owned open space land on the West and East sides of the Franklins Mountains. FMWC members stated that setting aside these lands will form a buffer between much of the State Park and the development that will occur on the surrounding privately owned land.

Coalition aims to preserve Franklin Mountains

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

The Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition (FMWC) has launched a new “We the People” petition for interested individuals to sign calling upon local government leaders to work together in saving what remains of the lower elevations of the Franklin Mountains in El Paso.

FMWC will hold a public meeting, from 6 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 18, at the El Paso Public Main Library, downtown at 501 N. Oregon in the Maud Sullivan Room, to discuss the petition drive. All interested individuals are urged to attend.

FMWC Secretary Judy Ackerman said, “It is such an inspiration to see how many people care about our Franklin Mountains and want to conserve them! People of all ages, including visitors from around the globe, look at our beautiful mountains

and it lifts their spirits. We need to protect our natural wonders and scenic vistas.”

The committee organizing the new petition effort is encouraging concerned persons to help send a message to community leaders by printing out the petition and collecting signatures between now and May 1.

The petition calls for concerned citizens to sign a hard copy and/ or go online and sign the change.org document.

The petition reads: “We the people want preserved, in its natural state and in perpetuity, all of the undeveloped land owned by the City of El Paso on the western side of the Franklin Mountains that is north of Transmountain Road, east of the EPNG Pipeline Road and south of the New Mexico/El Paso boundary and on the eastern side of the Franklin Mountains that is north of Transmountain, west of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. and south of the New Mexico/El Paso boundary.”

FMWC member Jim Tolbert stated, “Preserving land means conserving our scarcest resource – water. We have more land than water. Signing this petition means that we are guaranteeing a good life not just for our grandchildren but for our grandchildren’s grandchildren. Our children and generations to come are far more important.”

Tolbert pointed out that reducing sprawl means lower property taxes. “Current sprawl projects in El Paso means that existing homes are paying for the uncompensated costs of sprawl which are at least \$10,000 per house, maybe considerably more, without even considering the costs of increased water needs. Sprawl also means additional services such as police and fire. It means more streets and the ongoing maintenance of those streets,” Tolbert asserted.

According to FMWC members, other benefits of preserving public lands also

Blanco files bill to provide financial relief for teachers

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – César J. Blanco state representative for District 76, which includes parts of east, central and northeast El Paso County, has filed legislation to provide financial relief for teachers facing rapidly increasing health insurance premium rates.

The state contribution for the teachers’ health insurance program, known as the Teacher Retirement System Active-Care (TRS-ActiveCare), has not increased since the program was created in 2003, according to Blanco. “As a result, school-teachers are paying significantly more each month for rising health premiums,” he stated.

Blanco’s House Bill 1597 would

increase the state contribution for health insurance from \$75 a month to \$150 a month.

“El Paso’s teachers are getting financially hit, and we have a responsibility to remove some of that burden,” said Blanco. “Our teachers should be focused on educating our kids and not worried about their rapidly increasing health care premiums. Increasing the state contribution after more than a decade is not only the right thing to do – it will help us to retain quality teachers,” he stated.

The state representative added that while the state minimum contributions have not changed since the inception of the program in 2003, an employee’s share of the total premium cost has significantly increased. Rapidly rising premiums are forcing some educators to select health care plans with fewer benefits.



César Blanco is a graduate of Eastwood High School and the University of Texas at El Paso. He also served in the U.S. Navy as an intelligence analyst.

See MOUNTAINS, Page 2

Finances

By Jason Alderman

Involving kids in family vacation planning

Family vacations produce memories for a lifetime, but they can also teach kids great money lessons they’ll need as adults. Involving kids in planning family vacations not only helps

them appreciate the overall benefits of travel, but offers an opportunity for even the youngest kids to learn lessons about budgeting, saving and essential money management

they will encounter every day.

If you have trouble tearing your kids away from their smartphones, you might be in luck. The technology kids use can be very effective in budgeting, pricing and planning travel. Surfing travel destinations can teach kids a great deal about what travel really costs.

The first step in planning the family vacation should be creating a budget for the trip. Set a realistic dollar limit for the trip and be prepared to discuss why that limit exists. For example, if there is a home renovation project scheduled that particular year, explain how that affects the overall family budget and the resources for the trip. It’s an important lesson in balancing fun and family priorities.

After these limits are discussed, work with kids to create a detailed budget for accommodations, transportation, food, special event tickets and souvenirs, particularly souvenirs kids might buy for themselves. For tips, check out

(<http://practicalmoneyskills.com/travel>) for saving on and this online calculator (<http://practicalmoneyskills.com/travelcalculator>) to help plan.

Once the budget is set, point kids in the direction of certain travel websites to start and let them bring back as much information as they can on potential locations and costs.

Putting the kids in charge of travel planning gives them an opportunity to learn about trade-offs. For example, a cross-country trip that involves substantial transportation costs might contain a valuable lesson in finding affordable accommodations. Depending on the age of the children doing the research and how much advance time is available to plan the trip, they can also learn how traveling in season and out of season might help the budget. Many peak summer destinations become significantly more affordable if a family chooses to travel over the winter holidays.

Above all, trip planning can

teach an important lesson in spending and savings. If children want to buy souvenirs or treats on the trip, that’s an opportunity to have them set aside part of their allowance or chore money to pay for their special purchases on the trip. To get them started, help them save for their goal using this online calculator (<http://practicalmoneyskills.com/savingforagoal>).

Finally, once everyone is home, parents and kids might find it useful to discuss how the vacation went overall and what improvements can be applied next time. Encourage kids to start researching next year’s destinations immediately so the money and activity conversation can begin even earlier.

Bottom line: Involving your children in family vacation planning allows them to see the world and to practice good budgeting, saving and spending habits.

Jason Alderman directs Visa’s financial education programs.

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Thieves busted

It boggles the mind that those who steal from the government (and especially from veterans) think they are going to get away with it. While there is sometimes a coordinated effort between a whole alphabet of government agencies, most of the time the VAOIG (Department of Veteran Affairs Office of the Inspector General) is right in there.

Here’s a small sample of the crooks who have been nailed recently:

- In San Antonio, a 71-year-old man is going to federal prison and paying back \$1.4 million for a whole laundry list of infractions over a five-year period: wire fraud, giving fraudulent info to the VA to get \$2 million in work, claiming his was a Service Disabled Veteran-owned small business and claiming that employees had certain qualifications.
- In Albuquerque, New Mexico, a man was convicted of theft and ordered to repay nearly \$180,000 for taking VA money that didn’t belong to him.
- In Newark, New Jersey, a company will repay \$1.3 million because of allegations that it overcharged the VA on construction contracts. Additionally, it listed itself as a Service Disabled Veteran-owned company and invoiced as such 68 times.
- In Sacramento, California, recently unearthed wrongdoing resulted in a company handing over \$44 million to “settle alleged false billing” allegations. The company handles records management, shredding, storage and more. It reportedly overcharged for services rendered between 2001 and 2014 when it failed to extend lower prices to government customers, as required by its contract. Also, it was alleged that the storage it did provide didn’t meet the requirements for which the government was charged. Two whistleblowers will share an \$8 million jackpot for coming forward to expose the fraud.

(c)2015KingFeaturesSynd.,Inc.

Mountains

From Page 1

means lands that can be enjoyed for hiking, biking, walking and more healthful outdoor activities, important to improving the quality of life, decreasing obesity

and diabetes which have become epidemic here in El Paso.

Petition advocates also claim that preservation means millions of dollars annually for El Paso from eco-tourism. “More people will come to El Paso to enjoy mountain biking, rock climbing, hiking and other recreational

activities in our mountains and the surrounding region,” one FMWC member stated.

Petition details may be found on the FMWC website at www.franklinmountains.org. For more information contact Tolbert at (915) 525-7364 or send email to diegotolbert@gmail.com.

1973

42

Years

2015

WEST TEXAS COUNTY

COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY VINTON, CANTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FARNS, SAN ELLIZABO AND TORNILLO

PUBLISHED:
Published each Thursday by Homesteader News, Inc. Appreciation to our many contributors. Office open Monday through Thursday.

COPYRIGHT:
Entire contents © 2015 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the West Texas County Courier may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:
Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The Courier reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.

AD DEADLINE:
Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

CLASSIFIED RATES
\$10 for 25 words, \$15 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

DISPLAY RATES:
Open rate — \$25 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:
Minimum 50 issues for \$45. Delivery via 1st class mail.

MAIL:
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928




Member Texas Community Newspaper Association

Phone: 852-3235
Fax: 852-0123
E-mail: wtxcc@wtxcc.com
Website: wtxcc.com


Publisher
Rick Shrum

Contributors
Alfredo Vasquez
Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda




Homesteader
Est. 1973
News, Inc.


THE SECRET TO QUITTING FOR GOOD?
NEVER QUIT ON YOURSELF.



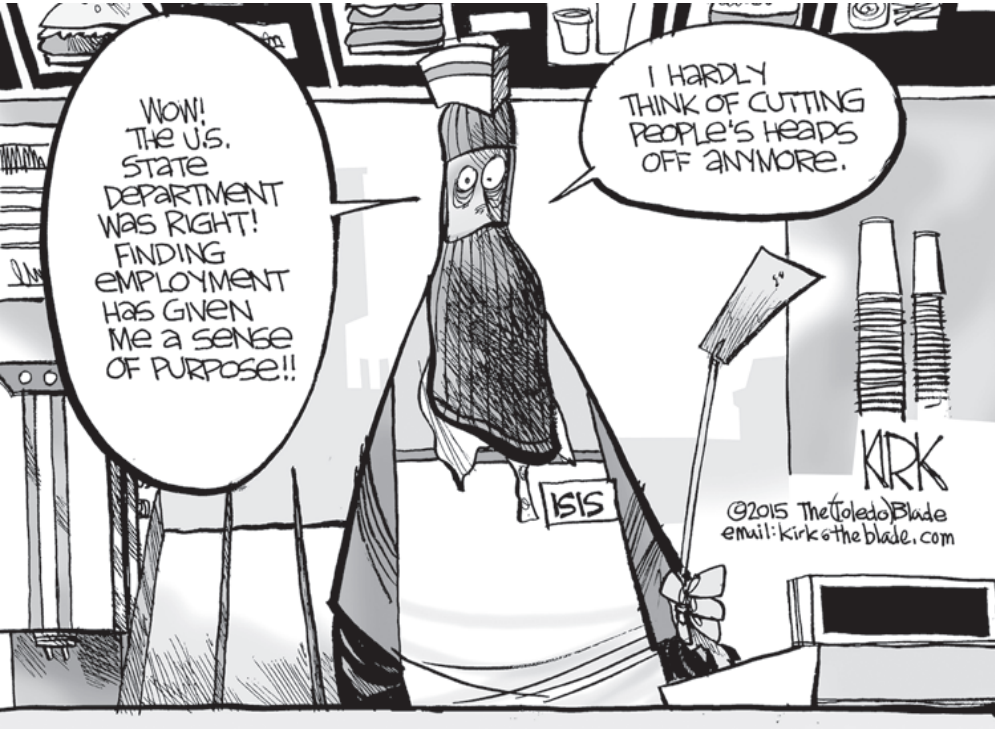
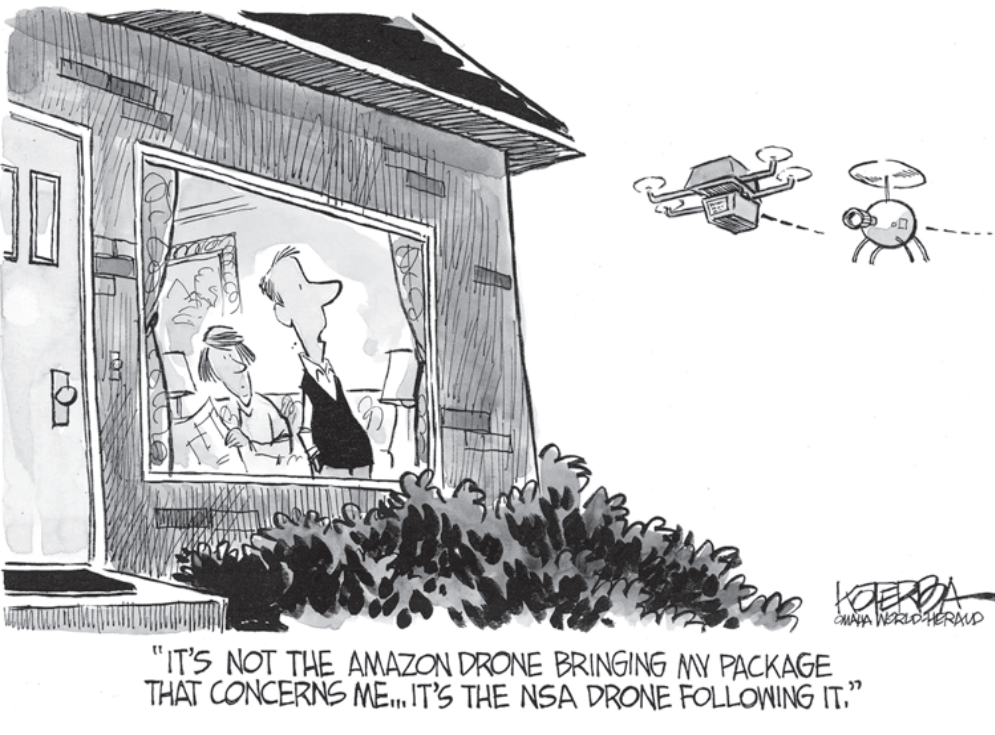
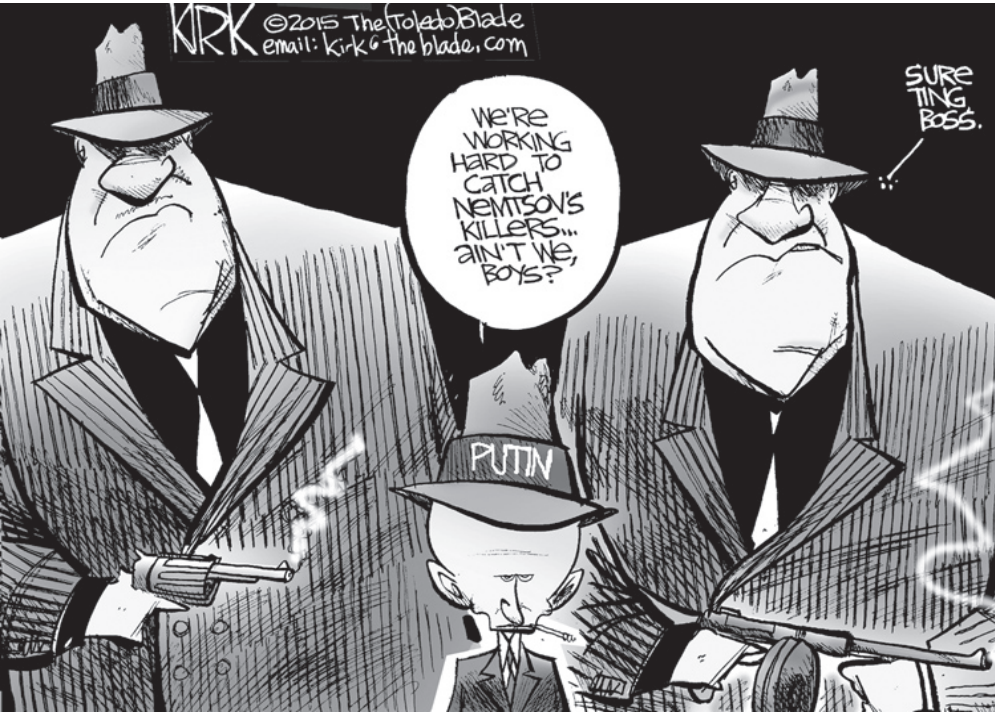
Saskia, 39, quit for good on the 7th try.



Most smokers take several tries before they quit for good. Each attempt brings you one step closer to success. Visit us online to see how we've helped more than a million people become ex-smokers.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION.

We support the quitter in you.
quitterinyou.org



View from here

By John Grimaldi

On its current financial track, Social Security is not sustainable

Lawmakers joined with the Association of Mature American Citizens [last] week at a Social Security Working Group meeting intended “to light a fire” in Congress on the issue, according to association president Dan Weber.

“On its current financial track, Social Security is not sustainable and AMAC members recognize that Congressional action is needed to protect this benefit for current seniors and future generations of Americans. This working group demonstrates a commitment by AMAC, many Members of Congress and policy professionals to finding a better path forward through responsible, commonsense legislation,” Weber said.

AMAC sponsored the session as part of its continuing effort to guarantee the future of Social Security for generations to come.

Rep. Diane Black (R-TN) was on hand for the session. She pointed out that the fix in which Social Security is in “is not a manufactured crisis. The numbers don’t lie. It becomes extremely unlikely that Congress will ever be able to balance the payments if something isn’t done now.”

She offered support for timely action in resolving issues, noting that one of the things we have already done is to pass a rule that says you cannot simply move money from the OASI fund to disability insurance.

Congresswoman Black’s colleague from Tennessee, Rep. Marsha Blackburn, offered up a few alarming numbers.

She said that the Social Security fund is currently borrowing 33 cents of every dollar in outlays and that since 2010 it has been paying out more in benefits than in the taxes it collects.

Representative Blackburn’s bill, the “Savings for Seniors Act,” is a contribution to a comprehensive solution, she said. The measure would force Congress to stop spending Social Security money on non-Social Security programs.

Under her legislation, if Social Security funds are not paying recipients, the money would go into an off-budget account where it would remain until Congress approves suitable investment vehicles other than the obligations of the U.S. government.

Also participating in the meeting were Jim Renacci (R-OH), Tom Reed (R-NY), Mike Kelly (R-OH), Frank Guinta (R-NH), and Keith Rothfus (R-PA).

Weber said that the Working Group meeting this week was part of an ongoing effort to make sure the AMAC Social Security Guarantee message is getting across in Congress. “We’ll continue to have frequent one-on-one meetings with lawmakers and to sponsor additional Group meetings until we make it the law of the land.”

The Association of Mature American Citizens (www.amac.us) is a conservative alternative to organizations, such as AARP, that dominate the choices for mature Americans that want a say in the future of the nation.

THE BEST TIME TO LEARN THE SIGNS OF STROKE IS BEFORE YOU HAVE ONE. STROKES ARE THE NUMBER-THREE KILLER IN THIS COUNTRY, YET MANY PEOPLE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THEY ARE. THEY DON'T KNOW THAT MORE OF THE BRAIN CAN BE SAVED IF A STROKE IS DETECTED AND TREATMENT IS RECEIVED IMMEDIATELY.

A STROKE ATTACKS THE BRAIN. THE BRAIN ALERTS YOUR BODY TO DANGER. SEE THE PROBLEM?

STROKES BEGIN WHEN A BLOOD VESSEL IN THE BRAIN BECOMES BLOCKED OR BURSTS. BLOOD FLOW IS CUT OFF. TISSUE IS STARVED FOR OXYGEN, AND PARTS OF THE BRAIN DIE. IF NOT TREATED QUICKLY, ABILITIES AND PRODUCTIVE LIFE CAN BE LOST. YOUR BRAIN IS YOUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION. GUARD IT WITH YOUR LIFE.

WITH A STROKE, TIME LOST IS BRAIN LOST.

If you suddenly have or see any of these symptoms, call 9-1-1 immediately: Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body • Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding • Difficulty seeing in one or both eyes • Trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination • Severe headache with no known cause

Learn more at StrokeAssociation.org or 1-888-4-STROKE.

Ad Council

©2004 American Heart Association
Made possible in part by a generous grant from The Bugher Foundation.

American Stroke Association
A Division of American Heart Association

SBOE announces new student recognition award



– Photo courtesy of State Board of Education

AT YOUR SERVICE – Martha M. Dominguez represents the El Paso region (District 1) on the State Board of Education (SBOE). She was elected to the state board in November 2012 and took office on Jan. 1, 2013. She currently serves as vice chair of the Committee on School Initiatives and previously served on the board’s Committee on Instruction. She also serves on the board’s Ad Hoc Committee for the Long-Range Plan for Public Education. To contact Dominguez, call (915) 373-3563 or send email to sboesupport@tea.texas.gov.

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – Texas State Board of Education (SBOE) is now accepting nominations for the inaugural Student Heroes Award, a new student recognition program approved by the Board in February.

The Student Heroes awards program recognizes Texas public school students in pre-kindergarten through high school who do outstanding things to benefit their fellow students.

Barbara Cargill, SBOE chairperson, presented the idea to the board and described the program as a way for state board members to recognize students, in all regions of Texas, who do kind acts that benefit their classmates or other students in a school district.

“I think of this as a way to honor those students who perform acts of kindness without thought of reward,” Cargill said. “While there are many awards that

recognize academic performance, the Student Heroes Award will recognize those students who exhibit good character and citizenship on their campus and in their community.”

One student per each of the 15 SBOE districts will be recognized for this annual honor, and anyone may nominate a public school student for the award.

Martha M. Dominguez is the SBOE representative for District 1, which encompasses the El Paso region. Dominguez is a veteran El Paso educator, having served as an instructional aide, teacher, instructional supervisor, assistant principal and central office administrator. She currently is the director of support personnel for the Ysleta Independent School District in El Paso.

Student heroes award requirements include: 1- The service/assistance or good deed must be voluntary and not part of any curriculum, graduation requirements or class or community project. 2- The

service/assistance or good deed must benefit other students, either individually or as a whole. 3- The benefit may be to students of one campus, a district or a community.

The deadline for 2015 nominations is April 16. Nomination forms and program guidelines for the Student Heroes program are available on the Texas Education Agency Awards web page at http://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/News_and_Multimedia/Awards/Student_Heroes/.

Recipients of the Student Hero award will be announced in May via the board’s new Facebook page and Twitter account. The new SBOE Twitter account is @TXSBOE and the Facebook address is www.facebook.com/TXSBOE.

For more information, please visit the Students Heroes web page at http://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/News_and_Multimedia/Awards/Student_Heroes/ or send email to heroes@tea.state.tx.us.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It was a wise man, Will Rogers, who observed, “Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save.”

• Cleopatra’s husband was her brother, Ptolemy.

• Melanie Roberts, a 41-year-old Ohio woman, was forced to have her left leg amputated. Shortly thereafter, while still recovering, she was shocked to receive a \$600 bill for the funeral of her leg. Evidently, she was supposed to pay for the limb’s burial – and the bill was even broken down into the separate costs for the plot, the minister, the hearse and the gravediggers.

• The name “Alice” means “noble kind”; “Amy” means “beloved”; “Angela” means “messenger of God”; and “Amanda” means “lovable.”

• During the Muslim feast of Al-Adha, a sheep was to be sacrificed on top of a four-story building in Cairo, Egypt. In a fit of terror or anger, the doomed sheep rushed the executioner, who then lost his balance and fell to his death.

• Ever wonder why so many coin banks are shaped like pigs? Here’s the story: In ancient times, a lump of clay was called a “pygg.” A clay bowl formed from this lump would often be used to hold loose change, and it was called a pygg bowl bank. According to legend, at a later point in history, a potter unfamiliar with the term received an order for several of these pygg bowl banks. Instead of the bowls, he made coin banks shaped like pigs; they became such a hit that they’re still around today.

• The Puritans wouldn’t allow the singing of Christmas carols.

Thought for the Day: “A little knowledge is a dangerous thing.’ That is why so many persons don’t fool with it.”

– Dan Kidney

(c) 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.

Briefs

From Page 1

in the pickup opened fire on Luna’s car. Luna was fatally shot and died hours later at University Medical Center. Luna’s passenger was not injured in the incident. The shooting to place at the intersection of Kendall and Norwood and investigators are certain that someone knows the identity of those involved in Luna’s murder. Anyone with information on this unsolved murder is asked to call 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

Drivers

Solos, O/OP’S & CO: Round trip Dedicated Lanes and Get Home Weekly! Top Dollars, Great Benefits, Newer Equipment! Plus-Monthly Bonus Program! 855-200-3671

Take the First Step to a Heart-Healthy Life.

Start! Walking. Start! Something.

Heart disease is the number one killer of men and women in America. But did you know that just 30 minutes a day of physical activity can improve your health and decrease your risk of heart disease?

An easy way to work physical activity into your regular routine is to start walking. For every single hour of regular, vigorous exercise, you can add two hours to your life expectancy.

It’s easy to Start! whether you’re by yourself or with friends, family and co-workers. You’ll all feel a difference and live longer, heart-healthier lives.

Join the movement.

heart.org/start

start!

American Heart Association

Learn and Live

©2010, American Heart Association 1/10DS3493

To Advertise Call 852-3235 • Archives: www.wtxcc.com

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

M	O	T							
A		A							
N		I						N	
G	A	L	E			U			
O		O			A	T	O	M	
	T	R	Y			E			
	O						S	A	G
G	R	I	M	Y					
A									

S	M	I	T	H		R	E	A	D	O	P	T	E	D		E	C	A	S	H
C	A	C	H	E		A	R	T	E	R	I	O	L	E		S	A	S	H	
R	O	K	E	R		S	I	L	L	Y	G	R	I	N		T	R	I	A	
A	R	E	A	M	A	P	S		D	E	B	U	G		S	A	V	A	N	
M	I	S	L	A	I	S									A	I	R	E		
P	I	S	M	O											Z	O	R	B		
A	L	T	O		N	E	W		B	I	C	M	O	E		M	O	A		
R	O	E																		
A	V	E																		
M	E	R																		
E	L	S																		
D	U	M	B	L	U	C	K		Y	T	D									
I	C	E	R																	
C	Y	N	I	C																
S	A	F	F	R																
T	R	I	C	O																
A	N	N	A																	
R	I	N	S	E																
R	E	S	E	T																

CryptoQuip Answer

When you’re lying on your stomach on a sweltering summer day, are you doing back-baking work?

3	×	7	–	1	20
×		–		×	
2	+	6	+	9	17
+		×		+	
8	×	9	÷	4	18
14		9		13	

San Elizario ISD rewarded for ‘go green’ efforts

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – For seven years now the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) has maintained a steady course towards becoming more environmentally friendly and has yielded substantial financial returns for its energy conservation ventures. On February 11 the El Paso Electric Company presented the school district a check for \$7,672.80 in energy incentives earned in 2014 through its SCORE Program.

The SCORE Program helps schools save energy and money by providing no-cost building system analysis, technical recommendations and financial incentives based on the total amount of energy the district will save. The program also provides district-wide facility energy benchmarking, and energy master planning workshops. By implementing these resources, San Elizario ISD is able to maintain and operate more cost-effective facilities while enhancing the classroom experience for students.

San Elizario ISD has received a total of \$58,583.80 in incentives from El Paso Electric and a total of \$94,278.60 annual energy saving for numerous energy efficiency projects completed since joining the SCORE Program in 2008. According to George Luevano, San Elizario ISD Director for Support Services, last year high-efficiency lighting was installed at Alarcon Elementary School, Garcia-Enriquez Middle School and San Elizario High School. Other major projects also included the installation of energy efficient cooling systems at Sambrano Elementary School and Garcia-Enriquez Middle School. A large percentage of the work for all the projects was performed by district staff and resulted in an annual energy savings of \$9,394.80 and 93,000-kilowatt hours of electricity usage for 2014.

SEISD is also making plans to continue earning additional incentives for energy conservation efforts currently in progress or planned for this school year.

“We are excited about this years prospects with additional lighting emergency lighting, re-roofing, custom construction and renovation projects for 2015,” Luevano added.

Representatives with El Paso Electric Company presented San Elizario ISD trustees with the incentives check during the regular monthly board meeting.

Clapsaddle, Kerney to head Canutillo schools

By Shane Griffith
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – The Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) has named two principals, Teresa Clapsaddle to Canutillo High School and Debra Y. Kerney, Ph.D., to CISD’s newest facility, Congressman Silvestre & Carolina Reyes Elementary School.



Debra Y. Kerney

Kerney, who has nearly 20 years of classroom and administrative experience, will begin her ninth year of employment with CISD as the leader of the Red Hawks. She received her Ph.D. in Teaching, Learning and Culture from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP).

Previously serving as the Assistant Principal at Jose H. Damian Elementary, Kerney keeps a realistic approach to the work ahead. “There are challenges that are faced by all principals at all schools. With the opening of a new campus there will be a few more, but I’m confident in the success of Reyes School because of

the support system in place,” Kerney said. “It takes a community to build a school, and Canutillo has that.”

Kerney will begin her full-time assignment as Reyes School Principal on March 23 where she will work collaboratively with all directors and departments at the CISD Administrative Offices to ensure students, staff and facilities will be ready for the August opening.

Clapsaddle comes to the namesake high school of the Canutillo ISD from the El Paso Independent School District, where she previously served as the principal of Laferelle Alternative Middle School. She received her M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from UTEP and has over 20 years of varied classroom and educational leadership experience from some of the most diverse campuses in El Paso County.



Teresa Clapsaddle

“Canutillo has been absolutely welcoming since beginning in February,” Clapsaddle said. “The state-of- the-art campus and idiosyncratic qualities of this special group of staff and students make me ecstatic to be here.”

\$328/mo

Average amount saved*

1

LOWER YOUR MONTHLY PAYMENT

By refinancing to a mortgage with a lower interest rate, you could pay less each month and over the life of the loan.

2

LOWER YOUR INTEREST RATE

Today’s market rates are more than 30% lower than in 2008.

3

GET A SHORTER LOAN TERM

By switching from a 30-year to a 15-year loan, you’ll build equity faster and pay less to the bank overall.

Save with a HARP mortgage refinance.

\$

↓

%

↓

30 YEAR

→

15 YEAR

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

HARP

Your best route to a better mortgage™

HARP.gov

*Fannie Mae Commentary: What motivates Underwater Borrowers to Refinance?

<http://www.fanniemae.com/portal/about-us/media/commentary/030613-seidenstein.html>

College coaches succumb to the ‘win at any cost’ theory

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Over the last few years there has been an unquestioned rise in entitlement in American.

No, I’m not talking about poor people who feel the country owes them something just for being here, whether they’ve earn it or not. That’s a topic for a different time.

I’m talking of the kind of entitlement rich people feel their financial status has earned them simply because they have more than most.

There seems to be a rising belief that the accumulation of wealth buys a certain amount of leeway when it comes to abiding by the rules.

Now I’m not naïve. I know that captains of industry, politicians, judges and famous entertainers have always enjoyed using their expensive “get out of jail free” cards when any hint of corruption escapes their “fortress of solitude” and lands in the media’s hands.

But we can now add another job title to the growing list of financially gifted untouchables.

There was a time that the college coach was considered a kind of second father to

many young athletes. Families often send their kids to a certain college based on who the coach is.

We all know what happened at Penn State and the beloved Joe Paterno. Talk about your father figure.

It ended up that father didn’t know best when it was leaned that Paterno knew about the rumors concerning his assistant coach molesting young boys. The coaching legend decided to do nothing for years while the list of young boys continued to grow.

Paterno’s name has been smeared forever.

In college basketball there is no coach revered as much as Duke’s Mike Krzyzewski.

Coach K has always been the antithesis of corruption or malfeasance of any kind.

For the first time in his 36-year tenure at Duke, Coach K kicked a player off the team because of his behavior. The player, Rasheed Sulaimon, has been accused of sexually assaulting two women.

Sounds like Coach K did the right thing. But it was recently reported by the Duke college newspaper that Krzyzewski waited 10 months to take any action.

It’s still unclear what will come out of these allegations. Did Coach K help

keep these crimes a secret hoping they’d fade away so that he could keep his star player?

It’s all speculation right now, but the facts will soon follow.

In another case where there is no speculation is at Syracuse and legendary coach Jim Boeheim.

It turns out that the second-winningest coach in the history of college basketball has been, let’s say, stretching the boundaries of what constitutes a legal basketball player.

Boeheim, who has long been considered one of the good guys in college athletics, finds himself knee-deep in allegations and controversy.

Over the last decade Boeheim has been associated with players who were in trouble involving illegal drugs, exam fixing and receiving illegal cash payments.

But Boeheim always did his best John Gotti imitation and nothing ever stuck to him.

Most recently, Syracuse assistant coach Bernie Fine was accused of sexual molestation by a former team ball boy and his brother. While charges were not filed against Fine, he was ultimately fired from his coaching position.

But like the infamous Teflon Don, Boeheim’s luck finally ran out.

The NCAA came down hard on the program with a five-year probation including a loss in scholarships, a nine-game suspension next year for Boeheim and he also had over 100 wins taken away from his resume.

In one of the funniest things I’ve read in a while, that sense of rich-guy entitlement came through in full force in Boeheim’s statement about the scandal.

“I am disappointed with many of the findings and conclusions as stated in the infractions report. The committee chose to ignore the efforts which I have undertaken over the past 37 years to promote an atmosphere of compliance.”

An atmosphere in compliance?

That’s like President Obama saying he’s promoted an atmosphere of cooperation.

When you get right down to it, a coach is still just a coach.

What changed everything is corruption’s dearest friend and confidant – money.

When the money went through the roof, so did the concept of winning at any cost.

“Why not,” asked the rich coach. I’m entitled.

A sporting view

By Mark Vasto

Batter up!

Baseball is not slow. It is untimed. This concept seems to baffle people. It is not losing popularity. It is the No. 1 spectator sport in the world in terms of attendance (yes, there are more games to watch, which pad the numbers, but a fact is a fact). It is fiscally sound. Last year Major League Baseball posted around \$8 billion in revenues (by contrast, the NFL had around \$9.5 billion), and even the worst-attended ballparks still hit the 51 percent of capacity mark.

And it’d be easy to grow the game. An official Wiffle Ball set costs about \$7. Isn’t it high time that MLB made those

guys manufacturing them from Connecticut whole? Enough with those knockoff versions with the plastic wrap around the flimsy plastic bat and a ball that doesn’t break correctly. Nobody wants them. If MLB could negotiate a wholesale price, they should give away a set to every kid attending a game from spring training through May. That would cost something like \$30 million, and it would instantly turn 10 million backyards and vacant lots into miniature fields of dreams.

Baseball lends itself to sappiness. Sappy sports writing, sappy poetry, sappy analogies and annoying monologues. That

in and unto itself is one of the great things about baseball!

Yes, when Bob Costas says a player is so old they use “Absorbine Sr.,” the joke is on him because nobody outside of the Korean War generation knows what Absorbine Jr. is in the first place. It’s great because Costas is like that uncle at the holiday table who always tells the same story. “I don’t like inter-league play!” We know, Uncle Bob, we know... but everybody should get to see the Yankees at least once a decade.

Baseball, unlike many sports, matters all the way through the game. Watching a starter at the top of his powers is like watching a matador. He strides confidently out to the mound, he mesmerizes the charging batters and asserts his will on the outcome. Never mind that we’ve never seen an

actual matador or understand the allure of the bullfight. We don’t know what’s in the hot dogs, either. It doesn’t matter.

Don’t overthink it. Let the ballpark metaphors wash over you like waves. Ride it out for all nine innings. Revel in the clutch hit, in the adept way the second basemen turns two, at how the closer didn’t even blink when the bases were loaded before striking out the side. Every game tells a different story.

This season, go to a game. Go to a game with no agenda other than being there to watch the game. Don’t complain about the prices.

Save up. Bring your kid. Tell your kid stories about the baseball players you watched growing up, and while you’re at the game, just watch the game. Relax, will ya?

The next morning, get a newspaper and show your kid the box score. Cut it out, paperclip it to the game program and tell him to keep it in a box. Decades later, it will be found. You thought the game was too long? The game isn’t too long... it lasts forever.

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



Where: San Elizario High School Auditorium 13981 Socorro Rd,
San Elizario, Texas 79849

Dates: March 16, 17, & 18 at 6 pm-7pm
March 23 & 24 at 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Admission Fee: \$ 2.00

1973
42
Years
2015

WEST TEXAS COUNTY
COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABIENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO

CLASSIFIED AD FORM

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

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

Deadline: Mondays
Please print. Send form and
payment (no cash) to:
West Texas County Courier
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Contact Information:
Name: _____
Phone: _____

Comix

Your good healthBy Keith Roach, M.D.

OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



DEAR DR. ROACH: I am in my 60s. About 40 years ago, I had a case of shingles. Can shingles reoccur, or having once had it am I protected from having it again? I've been given conflicting information about whether I need to be vaccinated. – M.F.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I heard a report from a recent study that said a person who has shingles early in life is more likely to suffer a stroke. Would you please explain why? – A.L.R.

Shingles is a disease caused by the reactivation of varicella zoster virus, the virus for chickenpox, which lays dormant in the body for years or even decades. Shingles itself is painful, but the most feared complication has been post-herpetic neuralgia, which can be horrifically painful and can last for months, especially in older people.

In January 2014, researchers in the UK found an increased risk of stroke and other vascular disease, including heart attack, in people who'd had shingles before the age of 40. The study could not answer why, but previous research has shown that blood vessels in the brain can be affected by the virus that causes shingles. There may be a role for the antibodies produced by the body as well.

It is clear that people with shingles at an early age should be even more careful about other risk factors for stroke, especially smoking, blood pressure and cholesterol. A previous history of shingles does not guarantee against further episodes, so the vaccine is recommended at age 60 with or without a history of shingles in the past. The recommendation for shingles vaccine may change: The vaccine has a Food and Drug Administration indication for ages 50-59, but is not recommended by the Advisory Committee.

Shingles questions are among

the most frequently asked. The booklet on the shingles virus answers many of them. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue – No. 1201W, 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.

DEAR DR. ROACH: My great-niece is 9 years old. She saw her doctor for a bad complexion, and was told that she is stage 3 for puberty. What does this mean, and how many stages are there? – F.N.

Puberty is a process, not an event. It goes on normally for several years. There are five stages of puberty, usually called Tanner stages. There are specific criteria for development that correspond to each stage. Nine years old is on the younger side for Tanner stage 3, but puberty starts at different times for different people, with significant differences that run in families and by ethnic background.

Your great-niece's complexion issue probably relates to high levels of adrenal hormones, which start increasing even before puberty. Very high levels early in puberty should raise concern for a condition called congenital adrenal hyperplasia, although most cases of acne in early puberty are quite normal. If the gynecologist is worried, some simple blood and urine tests can tell you more.

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, or write to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2015 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

PICTURE OF JOY

ACROSS
1 Will of "Men in Black"
6 Took back as one's own
15 Online money
20 Hidden store
21 Very small blood vessel
22 One of the Obama girls
23 Al of "Today"
24 Joker's self-satisfied expression
25 Base for a jazz chord
26 Aids in local orientation
28 Large black-and-tan terrier
30 Loses
31 Clean up, as a program
36 Scholarly sorts
37 True-crime writer
Rule
38 Fiery insects
40 Onyx, e.g.
41 _ Beach (city near San Luis Obispo)
44 Forgiveness of sins
46 "The Greek" of film
50 Voice range
51 Just-released
52 Lighter name
53 Stooze with a bowl cut

55 Biblical kingdom
56 Eurasian deer
57 2003 Julia Roberts film
61 Blvds.
62 Blvd.
63 Like galaxies
64 Engages completely
65 Pro at first aid
66 Sea, in Nice
67 Show delight in one's achievement
69 Kind of snake
70 See 103-Down
71 Fish that may be jellied
72 Places for 11-Downs
73 Previously named
74 Osaka sash
75 Pure chance
78 Thus far, on a quarterly stmt.
79 "I Got Rhythm" composer
81 Cake froster
82 Quite a few
84 Lock lips
85 _ Decor (magazine)
86 Scornful, negative sort
88 Sports cars
92 _ on a true story
93 Line of Canon cameras
95 Created, as havoc
96 Comic Abbott
97 Spice from a

crocus
101 Johnson's successor
102 Receivers' counterparts
106 Like the U.S. flag, in terms of hues
108 Bush pilot's runway
109 U.N.'s Kofi
110 Pleased look (as depicted by this puzzle's grid)
116 Pacific island kingdom
117 Washer cycle
118 Too enthusiastic
119 Pungent bulb
120 Adjust, as a watch
121 Gizmo that squeezes grapes
122 British nobles

DOWN
1 "Skedaddle!"
2 New Zealand native
3 Clinton adviser
4 Mission to remember
5 Spanish for "brother"
6 Coarse files
7 Deity of strife
8 Pt. of NATO
9 Tierra _ Fuego
10 Suffix with transit
11 Hog
12 Craggy hill

13 Director Kazan
14 Leary of "Rescue Me"
15 Emilio of the Brat Pack
16 Spice of the ginger family
17 Filipino, e.g.
18 Will, biblically
19 Styx locale
27 Writer Rand
29 Inferior paper
31 JFK or FDR's party
32 Food quality
33 Foundation
34 Without injury
35 VW model
38 Heat up again
39 Actress Elke
41 Lifesaver at an accident scene
42 Sitcom featuring the Ricardos
43 Helm holders
44 Avis offering
45 Clamorous quality
47 Games played on January 1
48 Robin's ride
49 Refrained from voting
51 Tiny biting fly
54 Evasive types
57 Silents star
58 Statutes
59 Small drinks
60 Some swords
68 _ for tat

76 Attaché
77 Be aware of
79 Encircle with a belt
80 Slab marking a grave
83 Spun thread
84 Sharp-witted
87 Small crown
89 Agnus _ (lamb figure)
90 Kenny G's specialty
91 Ref's ring decision
92 Public pickup point
94 Fa-la linkup
96 Liquor server
97 Ringo of rock
98 Palmer of the links
99 Swedes' neighbors
100 Not at all, in the sticks
102 Jetties
103 With 70-Across, 2012 British Open winner
104 Strictness
105 Runs across
107 Sitar star Shankar
108 Experts
111 Place for an 11-Down
112 Start to fix?
113 "Indeedy"
114 Not near
115 Become old

Answer Page 4

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	19
20							21									22				
23						24										25				
26						27							28		29					
30									31	32	33	34	35		36					
				37				38					39		40					
41	42	43				44							45		46		47	48	49	
50					51				52				53		54		55			
56					57			58				59			60		61			
62					63						64						65			
66					67						68						69			
70					71			72						73			74			
75				76				77		78				79			80			
81					82			83				84				85				
86				87		88			89	90	91				92					
				93		94		95						96						
97	98	99				100		101					102				103	104	105	
106						107							108							
109						110		111	112	113	114	115				116				
117						118										119				
120						121										122				

MOORE TEXAS

by Roger Todd Moore

The elegant Hotel Galvez in Galveston was designed with no kitchen in the plans.



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!

	×		-		20
×		-		×	
	+		+		17
+		×		+	
	×		÷		18
14		9		13	

1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9 9

© 2015 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Answer Page 4

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: I'm trying to decide when to retire. Can Social Security help?

A: Deciding when to retire is a personal choice, and you should consider a number of factors, but we can certainly help. First, take a few minutes and open a my Social Security account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. With a my Social Security account, you can access your Social Security Statement and estimate your retirement benefits at age 62, your full retirement age, and age 70. Also, we have several online calculators that can help you decide when to retire. Our Retirement Estimator gives estimates based on your actual Social Security earnings record. You can use the Retirement Estimator if:

- You currently have enough Social Security credits to qualify for benefits, and
- You are not:
- Currently receiving monthly benefits on your own Social Security record;
- Age 62 or older and receiving monthly benefits on another Social Security record; or
- Eligible for a pension based on work not covered by Social Security.

You can find our Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator. Also available at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/benefitcalculators.htm are several other calculators that will show your retirement benefits as well as estimates of your disability and survivor benefit if you become disabled or die. You may want to read or listen to our publication, *When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits*, available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

Q: What is the definition of disability for children filing for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)?

A: Social Security has a strict definition of disability for children under the SSI program. A child who is under age 18 is considered disabled if he or she:

- Has a physical or mental condition (or a combination of conditions) resulting in “marked and severe functional limitations.” “Marked and severe functional limitations” means that the condition very seriously limits the child’s activities; and
- The condition has lasted, or is expected to last, at least one year

or is expected to result in death. To decide whether a child is disabled for SSI purposes, we look at medical and other information (such as information from schools, parents, and caregivers) about the child’s condition(s), and we consider how the condition affects his or her daily activities. We consider questions such as:

- What activities is the child not able to do or is limited in doing?
- What kind of and how much extra help does the child need to perform age-appropriate activities—for example, special classes at school, medical equipment?
- Do the effects of treatment interfere with the child’s day-to-day activities?

Read *Benefits For Children With Disabilities*, available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs, for additional information on how we decide if a child under age 18 is disabled.

Q: I'm creating my budget for 2015. How much will my benefit increase at the beginning of the year?

A: The monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits for nearly 64 million Americans will increase by 1.7 percent in 2015. This annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is tied to the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics. This New Year, you can enjoy your COLA starting in January. Read our press release at www.socialsecurity.gov/news/#!/post/10-2014-2.

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

People know Pueblo for its...



Famous Hot Salsa?

In Pueblo, the free government information is also hot. Spice up your life by dipping into the Consumer Information Center web site, www.pueblo.gsa.gov. You can download all the information right away. Sorry, salsa not available through our web site or Catalog.



U.S. General Services Administration

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: J equals R

LVQC AKB'JQ MAECO KC AKBJ

ZXKTDUV KC D ZLQMXQJECO

ZBTTQJ WDA, DJQ AKB WKECO

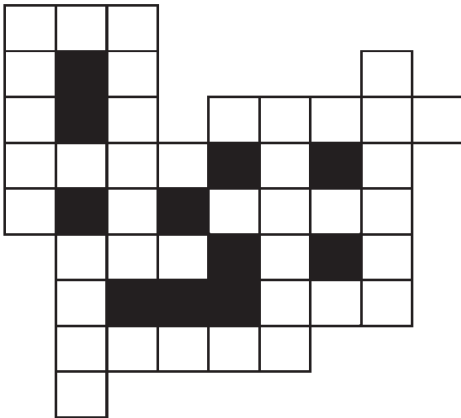
IDUS-IDSECO LKJS?

Answer Page 4

© 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.



RYT
YECTUS
OCTUS
ELGA
GUMENT
♥ MTO
♥ ATGO
RYMGI
♥ GSA
RATLIO
♥ NAGOM
♥ OMTA



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.

NEW! 30 Fear Knot puzzles \$3.50 • Six Volumes • Order at rbmamall.com