

# West Texas Count

VOL. 44, No. 6

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

**FEBRUARY 9, 2017** 

### **NEWSBRIEFS**

### Rangers on the hunt

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick has asked the Texas Rangers to assist the Houston Police Department in finding New England Patriots Quarterback Tom Brady's jersey, which was stolen from the Patriot's locker room at NRG Stadium in Houston [after the Super Bowl]. Brady wore the jersey during the Patriots comeback victory in the Super Bowl. "In Texas we place a very high value on hospitality and football. Tom Brady's jersey has great historical value and is already being called 'the most valuable NFL collectable ever.' It will likely go into the Hall of Fame one day. It is important that history does not record that it was stolen in Texas. I've called Colonel Steve McCraw to ask that the Texas Rangers work with the Houston Police Department on this case," said Patrick. "I'm a Texans and Cowboys fan first, but the unquestionable success of the Super Bowl in Houston last night was a big win for our entire state and I don't want anything to mar that victory. Whoever took this jersey should turn it in. The Texas Rangers are on the trail."

- Media Press Release

### Groundbreaking

The Tornillo Independent School District (TISD) will break ground for the District's new athletic facility on February 24, 2017. The TISD community voted for a \$10 million bond referendum during the May 2016 election. The bond provides funding for instructional facility improvement projects such as replacing roofs, heating and cooling; addresses Life & Safety issues; ADA accessibility; and athletic facilities. The athletic facilities include construction of a track and field with lights and artificial turf, bleachers, a press box and field house as well as the construction of tennis courts with lights. TISD is one of 12 districts in Region 19. At the present time it is the only district that does not have a track and field. However that didn't prevent the Tornillo Boys Cross Country Team from placing 2nd this year at the UIL State meet in Austin.

- Joanna Hernandez

### Plan your path

The Socorro Independent School District invites business and industry partners to participate in the second

See BRIEFS, Page 4

When saving for old age be sure to lay up a few pleasant memories.

— Quips & Quotes



- Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

El Paso County officials are looking to partner with the El Paso Border Youth Athletic Association (EPBYAA) to improve the baseball and softball fields, like the one above, at Canutillo's Gallegos Park in the west side of the county.

# **Commissioners consider** recreational areas proposals

By Alfredo Vasquez Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY - While El Paso County Commissioners mull over a plan for enhancing a park on the west side of the county, on a similar issue on the far access to a popular recreational area.

El Paso County officials are looking into partnering with the El Paso Border Youth Athletic Association (EPBYAA) to revitalize a portion of Canutillo's Gallegos Park, which is located in the west side of the county.

The association, a nonprofit organization that offers educational and developmental opportunities for children through athletics, is proposing that the group's members would improve the park's baseball and softball fields in exchange for their using the fields for youth programs,

according to a recent county report.

Dr. Dwayne Aboud, president and founder of EPYAA, told commissioners recently that the organization wants to help improve the park and to expand the association's programs in the west side. The group currently runs free after-school programs for elementary school children east side, they are considering restricting in the Clint Independent School District. riders. The court is considering making It serves children in the communities of the playground off limits to the public. Clint, Montana Vista, and Horizon.

Following the group's commissioners court authorized the Public Works Department to look into a possible private-public partnership for the long-term use of the baseball and softball fields at Gallegos Park.

Commissioner Andrew Haggerty stated that the association's proposal comes at a perfect time, as the county is looking into laying new sod at Gallegos Park's fields. He said that this could be a great opportunity to re-arrange some of the

fields in order to make the park more enjoyable for the public. As part of the proposed partnership, the park would continue to be open to the public, county officials stated.

Meanwhile in the county's far east side, commissioners are weighing in on a proposal that involves the locallyreferred to Red Sand dunes that are located off Montana Avenue near the Hueco Tanks State Park highway turn-off. The vast sandy-hilled area is popular with recreational gun shooters and off-road ATV (all-terrain vehicle) and dirt-bike

County Commissioner Vincent Perez request, is proposing that the county erect "No Trespassing" signs on county-owned land and rights of way on the far east side to reduce recreational shooting on county land, which can pose a danger to nearby residents.

> County officials stated that licensed gun owners can discharge a firearm in unincorporated areas of the county, so posting "no trespassing" signs could help keep people off of county property. They added that there are only certain areas where that could be done.

> County officials pointed out that currently licensed gun owners can discharge a firearm in unincorporated and private areas of the county; so posting "no trespassing" signs along county property could help keep people off. However, they noted that there's only certain areas where that could be done. Part of the problem, they said, is that different people own different slivers of land in the area, and the county has little authority over those properties.

> Commissioners court postponed taking action on this proposal to give county attorneys a chance to review it and the implications it might pose. Also, the county's Public Works Department was tasked with identifying where the signs could be installed and at what cost, and whether they could be placed along stateowned Montana Avenue. Additionally, being taken into account is the impact it would have on the El Paso County



Trespassing" signs on county-owned land and rights of way in the county's far east side to reduce recreational gun shooting on county property which, they said, poses a danger to nearby residents. By posting the signs, however, the county also would be closing the areas off to people who ride for recreational fun ATVs, motocross bikes, and other off-road vehicles in the open desert. The restriction would include the popular Red Sand dunes shown above.

See COMMISSIONERS, Page 6

### Finances By Nathaniel Sillin

# Refinancing your debt could be a good idea if...

lenders compare applicants? Typically, the lowest rate goes to those who have the highest on time. A lot of data goes into determining that probability, including the person's credit, income and outstanding debt.

termsonnewloansmightimprove taking out a new loan to pay off debts you took on earlier in life to take advantage of the changes. As a result, you might be able to decrease your interest rate, lower your monthly payment and save rises or falls with a benchmark. a lot of money.

Refinancing, which is often surprisingly simple. In some cases, you can submit all the information online, and the rate after refinancing and have entire process will only take a the same amount, or less, time few days. However, refinancing more complex debts, such as a money over the lifetime of the mortgage, can take considerably

always make sense, it's worth have a 30-year mortgage that considering if you're in one of you've been paying off for five the following situations.

benchmark interest rate, such as off approximately the same \$150 each month. You'll break fit your needs. the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR). Even if your likelihood of repaying the loan financial profile stays the same, be lower, but be sure to take into \$3,000 in monthly payments. This article is intended to provide when the benchmark rate rises or consideration the fact that you If you plan on selling the home general information and should falls, your interest rate on a new loan could rise or fall as well.

You want to change the terms the opportunity to change the terms of the loan. For example, You might be able to refinance with a fixed-rate student loan and done by taking out a new loan have certainty that your monthly to pay off existing debt, can be payments won't change in the

> If you have a lower interest to repay the loan, you can save

You want to lower your years. If you refinance with **Interest rates dropped.** Some another 30-year mortgage, you

amount of money. As a result, even after 20 months because your monthly payments could will likely wind up paying more before the break-even point, not be considered legal, tax or in interest.

Your loan has a cosigner. refinance. As these factors improve, your of your loan. Because you're Perhaps you asked someone to cosign your auto loan to improve to weigh the pros and cons of information on how certain as well. You could also refinance existing debt, you might have your chances of getting approved or getting a lower interest rate. If you're eligible for refinancing on you could have a variable-rate your own, you might be able to student loan whose interest rate release your cosigner and take full responsibility for the new

> Proceed carefully because applying for refinancing could **hurt your credit.** Applying for refinancing often results in a hard inquiry, when a potential lender reviews your credit. Generally, a single hard inquiry won't have a large negative impact on credit, but multiple hard inquiries might.

When you're refinancing a While refinancing doesn't monthly payments. Say you mortgage, auto loan or student loans you can still shop around and try to find the best rate without worrying about your credit too much. As long as the hard inquiries happen within a 14- to 45-day period (depending on the creditscoring model) the creditscoring model will consider them a single inquiry.

> Consider the fees and find your break-even point before refinancing. Depending on the type of debt and the lender, there could be costs associated with refinancing debt. For example, some loans have an origination fee, either a flat fee or a percentage of the loan amount, which could be significant.

> The break-even point is how long it'll take you to recoup the costs associated with refinancing. For example, it could cost you \$3,000 to refinance your

Have you ever considered how loans' interest rates depend on a have an extra five years to pay mortgage, but you'll save to try and find the terms that best that's when you'll have saved it likely doesn't make sense to

> refinancing other types of debts. laws apply to your situation and When it looks like refinancing about your individual financial could be beneficial, shop around *situation*.

financial advice. It's always a good idea to consult a tax or Usethesamesortofcalculations financial advisor for specific

### **Veterans Post** By Freddy Groves

### VA seeks better access for rural vets with HIV

human Veterans with immunodeficiency virus (HIV) who live in urban areas have Atlanta and Houston, which more access to treatments than have HIV specialty clinics, and those who live in rural areas. has involved 800 veterans who Dr. Michael Ohl, a Department are at least a 90-minute drive of Veterans Affairs researcher, has studied the limited access of those rural veterans and clinic closer to home. has conducted a pilot study to improve care using the VA's a veteran who does, check telehealth videoconferencing.

the 26,000 veterans with HIV who get VA care, 18 percent resources, living with HIV and live in rural areas, far from the much more. VA's specialty clinics. They illness is more advanced, are less likely to receive the latest survival rates.

psychologists and even treatment. Onsite primary-care telehealth appointments. doctors could then coordinate with the HIV specialists for continuing care.

The pilot study has focused on Dallas, San Antonio, from a specialty clinic facility but who have a primary-care

If you have HIV or know www.hiv.va.gov/patient/ According to the research, of index.asp for information on getting tested, clinical trials,

If you don't have HIV but typically start care when the have another medical condition and live in a rural area, the VA has 50 different telehealth in treatment... and have lower specialties, many of them using regular home phone lines or a Ohl's plan is to have veterans short trip to the nearest clinic. use the video telehealth If telehealth would allow you at nearby VA outpatient to get care without making clinics where care managers, a long trek to a medical facility, call to learn if you pharmacists can be included, qualify. Last year alone, over with nurses able to provide 700,000 veterans had 2 million

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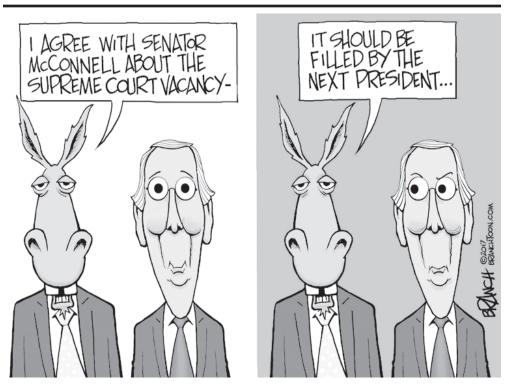
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**Archives: www.wtxcc.com** 

#### WORLD'S SHORTEST HONEYMOON









### View from here By

### Call for voter fraud investigation is valid

President Trump was dismissed out of hand when he called for an investigation of voter fraud. Former president Barak Obama even called it "fake news." So why does the respected and widely quoted Pew Center on the States say that there is "susceptible to fraud." Pew concluded that there is "evidence that America's voter registration system needs an upgrade."

The fact of the matter is that Pew's research showed that "approximately 24 million-one of every eight-voter registrations in the United States are no longer valid or are significantly inaccurate. More than 1.8 million deceased individuals are listed as voters. Approximately 2.75 million people have registrations in more than one state."

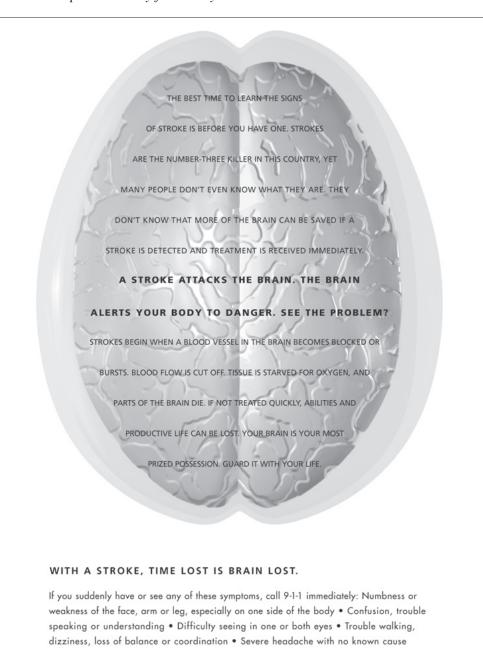
Dan Weber, president of the Association of Mature American Citizens, says he is dismayed to see that there is opposition to finding out "just how extensive is voter fraud in the U.S. We ignore the fraud potential at great peril to the nation. Whether you are a Republican, a Democrat or an Independent voter we need to at least be concerned by the threat. Thus, Mr. Trump's call for an investigation is, indeed, a legitimate one."

Weber cites numerous reports from authoritative sources that the fraud is real. Most recently The Detroit News found voting scanning machines at 248 of the city's 662 precincts – 37 percent – tabulated more ballots than the number of actual voters counted in the poll books. The discovery was made when Green Party 2016 presidential nominee Jill Stein's called for a recount in Michigan.

"Bear in mind, it was election officials who conducted the recount," Weber notes. He points out that a few years back the Wall Street Journal reported "coercion and chicanery are made much easier by the excessive use of absentee ballots. Most of the elections thrown out by courts-Miami, Florida's mayoral election in 1998, the East Chicago, Indiana's mayor's race in 2005-involved fraudulent absentee votes."

The AMAC chief points out "there are some who want to suppress an investigation of voter fraud because it is, indeed, widespread. But, whether that is true or not is not the issue. The issue is that our election system is vulnerable and only a broad-based investigation can find the vulnerabilities. We need to know who is perpetrating the fraud and why. We are a democracy in which every vote counts, but we must have fair and honest elections. It is a sacrosanct tenet of our national culture that must be protected at all costs."

The Association of Mature American Citizens (http://www.amac.us) is a senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. We act and speak on their behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today.





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

American Stroke
Association...

A Division of American Heart Association

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### **Briefs**

From Page 1

annual College, Career and Job Expo on March 23 from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Montwood High School, 12000 Montwood Dr. The College, Career and Job Expo will allow business and industry representatives to talk to students between the ages of 16 to 21 about the education and skill requirements and qualifications necessary for a career in their field. In addition, potential employers will have the opportunity to interview students for summer jobs and internship opportunities. Also invited are post-secondary institutions, colleges, technical schools and military representatives to participate in order to help students learn more about the opportunities to continue their education after high school and to explore education pathways to prepare them for future jobs and careers. To participate in the College, Career and Job Expo, contact Orlando Hairston, Career and Technical Education facilitator, by phone at 937-0317, or by email at ohairs@sisd.net, or visit www.sisd.net/CCJE to register online. Registration deadline is March 16, 2017.

- Christy Flores-Jones

#### Retirement

Those who think they will retire at the age of 65 may have another think coming, says the Association of Mature American Citizens. The world is growing older and more and more of us are remaining in the workforce past the traditional retirement age thanks to the marvels of modern medicine. Some experts are even suggesting that we raise the retirement age to 75. Government statistics show that in the year 1900, little more than four percent of the U.S. population lived past 65-just three million of the 62.5 million Americans who were around then. By the year 2050, nearly one quarter of the country – 90 million people – will be 65 and older.

– John Grimaldi

#### **Skipper caught**

A New Jersey man was arrested recently on a charge of racking up more than a million dollars in unpaid tolls on his E-Z Pass. The toll skipper was apprehended at the airport as he allegedly tried to skip town.

- John Grimaldi

### **Free trees**

Joining the Arbor Day Foundation is an ideal way to get in the mood for spring planting. Anyone who joins the Foundation in February 2017 will receive 10 free Colorado blue spruce trees or 10 free redbud trees to plant when the weather turns warm. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. "These trees will help beautify your home for many years to come," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "The trees will also add to the proud heritage of your state's existing Tree City USA communities." The Tree City USA program has supported community throughout the country for the past 40 years. The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between March 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge. Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree which contains information about planting and care. To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE TREES or TEN FREE EASTERN REDBUD TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by February 28, 2017, or visit arborday.org/ february.

– Danny Cohn

### Strange But True

By Samantha Weaver

- · It was Rose Bird, the first female chief justice of the California Supreme Court, who made the following sage observation: "We have probed the earth, excavated it, burned it, ripped things from it, buried things in it, chopped down its forests, leveled its hills, muddied its waters, and dirtied its air. That does not fit my definition of a good tenant. If we were here on a month-to-month basis, we would have been evicted long ago."
- Have you ever heard of an "oreo" cow? It's officially known as the Belted Galloway, a breed of cattle that originated in Scotland. A typical specimen is black with a broad white band around its middle.
- You might be surprised to learn that London Bridge has never actually fallen down. The bridge has had several iterations since the first one was built in 1170; wooden buildings constructed on the bridges have burned down, and some of the bridges have been torn down, but none has ever fallen of its own accord.
- The paintings of Dutch master Rembrandt are so detailed that modern specialists were able to diagnose a basal cell carcinoma a kind of skin cancer by examining a portrait of the artist's mother.
- The Guinness Book of World Records (now known simply as Guinness World Records) has earned a spot in its own roster: It is officially the best-selling copyrighted book of all time, with sales of more than 100 million copies in 100 different countries and 37 languages.
- According to ancient Chinese philosopher Confucius, an ideal meal is made up of one-fourth meat and three-fourths vegetables.

Thought for the Day: "The central function of imaginative literature is to make you realize that other people act on moral convictions different from your own."

William Empson

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### Moments in Time

**The History Channel** 

- On Feb. 20, 1985, in a highly controversial vote, the Irish government defies the powerful Catholic Church and approves the sale of contraceptives, a major turning point in Irish history. Up until 1979, Irish law prohibited the importation and sale of contraceptives.
- On Feb. 21, 1965, in New York City, Malcolm X, a black nationalist and religious leader, is assassinated by rival Black Muslims while addressing his Organization of Afro-American Unity in Washington Heights.
- On Feb. 22, 1959, Lee Petty defeats Johnny Beauchamp in a photo finish at the just-opened Daytona International Speedway in Florida to win the first Daytona 500. The race was so close that Beauchamp was initially declared the winner.
- On Feb. 23, 1945, during the bloody Battle for Iwo Jima, U.S. Marines take the crest of Mount Suribachi. The iconic image of six Marines raising the American flag on the peak was taken by photographer Joe Rosenthal.
- On Feb. 24, 1991, after six weeks of intensive bombing against Iraq and its armed forces, U.S.-led coalition forces launch a ground invasion of Kuwait and Iraq. By the end of the day, the Iraqi army had effectively folded, 10,000 of its troops were held as prisoners and a U.S. air base had been established deep inside Iraq.
- On Feb. 25, 1938, the city of Miami gets its first drive-in movie theater. At their peak in the late 1950s and early 1960s, there were some 4,000 drive-ins across America.
- On Feb. 26, 1919, the Grand Canyon is established as a national park. American geologist John Wesley Powell, who popularized the term "Grand Canyon" in the 1870s, was the first person to travel the entire length of the gorge in 1869. The harrowing voyage was made in four rowboats.

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# ClintIndependentSchool District Public Notice

Clint Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's 2015-2016 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) as part of a School Board meeting, which is scheduled for 5:00 p.m., Thursday, February 23, 2017, 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 2015-2016. El reporte sera parte de la reunión de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para el jueves, 23 de febrero del 2017 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: 02-09-17

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





### CryptoQuip Answer

If a kitty suddenly opts to make a sound, could you call that a purr-of-the-moment decision?

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_		×		+	
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17		15		16	





Save a Life Texas Department of Transportation

# Fabens Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds

For the Year Ended August 31, 2016

Data Contro Codes		10 General Fund	ESEA I, A Improving Basic Program	50 Debt Service Fund	60 Capitol Projects	Other Funds	Total Governmenta Funds
	REVENUES:						
5700 5800 5900	Total Local and Intermediate Sources State Program Revenues Federal Program Revenues	\$ 2,068,702 19,069,052 1,556,803	\$ – - 1,434,144	\$ 481,097 1,158,460 -	\$ 13,124 - -	\$ 316,125 348,847 1,269,830	\$ 2,879,048 20,576,359 4,260,777
5020	Total Revenues	22,694,557	1,434,144	1,639,557	13,124	1,934,802	27,716,18
	EXPENDITURES:				•		
	Current:						
0011 0012	Instruction Instructional Resources and Media Services	12,505,149 271,273	1,270,157 –	_ _	223,153	1,339,194 –	15,337,65 271,27
0013	Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	88,577	137,579	-	_	24,772	250,92
0021	Instructional Leadership	190,177	26,408	_	_	266,315	482,900
0023 0031	School Leadership	1,355,032	_	_	_	43,329	1,398,36
0031	Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services Social Work Services	771,197 33,652	_	_	_	213,537	984,73 33,65
0033	Health Services	298,493	_	_	_	2,114	300,60
0034	Student (Pupil) Transportation	400,377	_	_	_		400,37
0035	Food Services	1,273,529	_	_	_	18,095	1,291,62
0036	Extracurricular Activities	990,275	_	_	-	_	990,27
0041	General Administration	1,134,178	-	_	_	-	1,134,17
0051 0052	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	2,614,609	_	_	_	_	2,614,60
0052	Security and Monitoring Services Data Processing Services	291,501 254,606	_	_	_	-	291,50 254,60
0061	Community Services	15,989			_	68,296	84,28
	Debt Service:	10,000				00,200	01,20
0071	Principal on Long Term Debt	42,833	_	736,000	_	_	778,83
0072	Interest on Long Term Debt	1,708	_	1,164,794	_	_	1,166,50
0073	Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	_	_	252,284	_	_	252,28
	Capital Outlay:						
0081	Facilities Aquisition and Construction	57,000	_	_	2,278,969	_	2,335,96
	Intergovernmental:	21,222			_,,_,		_,,,,,,,
0099	Other Intergovernmental Charges	30,623	_	_	_	_	30,62
6030	Total Expenditures	22,620,778	1,434,144	2,153,078	2,502,122	1,975,652	30,685,77
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	73,779	-	(513,521)	(2,488,998)	(40,850)	(2,969,590
1100	OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):	70,170		(010,021)	(2,400,000)	(40,000)	(2,000,000
7011	Capital Related Debt Issued (Regular Bonds)			12 005 000	1 705 000		12 900 00
7911 7915	Transfers In	_	<del>-</del>	12,095,000	1,795,000 765		13,890,00 76
7916	Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	_	_ _	1,294,294	205,000	_ _	1,499,29
8911	Transfers Out (Use)	(765)	_	-		_	(765
8940	Payment to Bond Refunding Escrow Agent (Use)	· /	_	(13,130,653)	_	_	(13,130,65
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(765)	_	258,641	2,000,765	_	2,258,64
0100	Fund Balance – September 1 (Beginning)	73,014	_	(254,880)	(488,233)	(40,850)	(710,949
1300	Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	1,450,465	_	514,831	5,001,360	65,153	7,031,80
3000			<b>¢</b>				
3000	Fund Balance – August 31 (Ending)	\$ 1,523,479	\$ -	\$ 259,951	\$ 4,513,127	\$ 24,303	\$ 6,320,86

# Miners, Kugler looking for lightning to strike twice

By Steve Escajeda Special to the Courier

Since I was a little dude contributing mightily to my dad's accumulation of gray hair, I'd always heard the phrase, "lightning doesn't strike twice in the same place."

I've never been struck even once by lightning so I'm hardly an expert on the subject. But the saying makes sense.

I mean the odds must be infinitesimal.

But does that mean the phrase is true and happen in El Paso? Not very. it never happens? Or, maybe, on the rarest of occasions, two strikes of lightning can inexplicably find the same location.

That's exactly what UTEP head football coach Sean Kugler is counting on.

It isn't often, but once every decade or so, a local kid comes out of high school to make a major mark on the UTEP football program.

And once every quarter-century or so, a local kid comes out of high school to make a major mark on the national college football scene.

always looked the part with the Mustangs put up some amazing numbers. and everyone thought he'd have a successful college career. But no one had a clue he'd be as dominant as he turned

He is now easily the best running back in school history, was in the top five nationally in nearly every running category and he's currently getting himself ready for the NFL combine later this month and eventually, will wait to see what NFL team drafts him in late April.

Now let's face it, how often does that

I think lightning may actually strike the ground somewhere around here more often than some El Paso kid goes to the NFL.

Well, like I said earlier, coach Kugler is hoping that second lightning strike is Trailblazers' tailback Josh Fields.

Fields, like Jones, has spent his prep school years running around and through would-be tacklers using his lightningquick speed and deceptive strength.

Fields, who is the younger brother of former Americas running star Jack Fields Burges High School's Aaron Jones (who went on to play for Boise State), has

As a sophomore, Josh rushed for 1,016 yards and scored 11 touchdowns. His junior year he gained 1,658 yards and scored 15 touchdowns. Saving the best for last, Fields put together a senior season to remember, rushing for 2,477 yards and scoring 32 touchdowns.

That's why all signs pointed to Fields leaving El Paso for one of the bigger football programs elsewhere.

But in the end, just like with Aaron Jones, the 5-9, 195-pound Fields decided to stay home and take his chances with Kugler and the Miners.

It's obviously too early to say whether his decision will turn out to be the right one, but the fact that local talent is deciding to stay home instead of rushing on the horizon, in the form of Americas off to more established venues bodes well for UTEP.

> It used to be that local talent would only stay home if no other football teams showed any interest. And with the Miners perennially spending their time at the very bottom of the conference standings who could blame them?

But though the Miners are still searching for the sequel.

for consistency, let alone winning, local players are learning they won't just make the squad, they're actually playing vital roles on the team.

It's doubtful Fields will see a lot of playing time during his freshman season but the hope is that by the time he graduates, he'll be going through the same process Aaron Jones currently is.

So can lightning strike twice in the same place? Can a kid from the same unlikely town go to the same unlikely school and put up the same kind if unlikely numbers?

The odds are certainly against it. But then again, the odds were overwhelmingly against it happening the first time.

Just like with Jones, all UTEP fans will have their eyes on Fields, waiting for him to break into the secondary and outrace slower defenders into the end zone.

It's the kind of Hollywood script everyone loves. Local kid grows up and does good... great... better than anyone could have imagined.

Though UTEP fans just watched that movie, I think they're waiting anxiously

### A sporting view By Mark Vasto

### When a King bows to a Sir

large head. He used to get paid analyst for TNT.

Charles Barkley has a big for bouncing a ball, but for the mouth, which is appropriate past 10 years he's gotten paid considering he also has a very to break them as a game-day



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When you lose someone dear to you — or when a special person has a birthday, quits

smoking, or has some other occasion to celebrate memorial gifts or tribute gifts made for them to your local American Lung Association help prevent lung disease and improve the care of those who

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suffer from it.

the King – LeBron James.

to rip James' decision to leave title defense. Cleveland for Miami in his "The Decision" telecast that needlessly cuckolded a fan base that only loved the guy. "Punk move" was how Barkley put it out there.

This year he made a comment about how James will never be considered in the top five of basketball's all-time players (for the record, Barkley counts them as Michael Jordan, Oscar Robertson, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Wilt Chamberlain and Bill Russell). Last week Barkley him "inappropriate" "whiny" after James

Nobody knows this more than openly complained about the Cavs' inability to sign another Barkley was one of the first playmaker for their anticipated

> "The Cleveland Cavaliers, they have given him everything he wanted," Barkley expounded. player in the world. Does he want all of the good players? He don't want to compete? He is defending champs."

> Well, LeBron James has had enough. When an ESPN staff writer reached out to him after a loss for comment, James did another thing Barkley is pretty good at: He teed off.

"I'm not going to let him disrespect my legacy like that," James said. "I'm not the one who threw somebody through a window. I never spit on a kid. I never had unpaid debt in Las Vegas. I never said, 'I'm not a "They have the highest payroll role model.' I never showed up in NBA history... he's the best to All-Star Weekend on Sunday because I was in Vegas all weekend partying. All I've done for my entire career is represent an amazing player. They're the NBA the right way. Fourteen years, never got in trouble. Respected the game. Print that."

> And that's exactly we'll do. There's James' take on Barkley. James had every right to pursue championships in Miami. He has professional pride; he may become the alltime leading scorer, winner of championships... who knows? He's certainly in the top 10. He has represented the NBA the right way. He was great with Amy Schumer in "Trainwreck." And why shouldn't he be concerned with Golden State returning with a vengeance - this time with Kevin Durant in tow?

> Problem is, Barkley said nothing wrong. "The Decision" was a punk move. LeBron James isn't on the NBA's Mount Rushmore plus one, at least not yet. And Barkley was right, complimentary even, when he called him the "best player in the world."

> James asked why Barkley is even relevant in today's game. The answer is because James, the King, deigned to get into a mudfight with a lowly "Sir," so quit your whining!

> Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in New Jersey. (c) 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.

### **Fabens Independent School District Public Notice of Meeting**

Fabens Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's 2015-2016 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR). The meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 in the Fabens Independent School District's Board Room at 821 N.E. "G" Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

The public is invited to attend. For more information, call (915) 765-2600, x2102.

### Junta Pública

Distrito escolar independiente de Fabens celebrará una audiencia pública para discutir el informe de rendimiento académico 2015-2016 Texas del distrito (TAPR). La reunión se celebrará a las 6:00 p.m. el miércoles, 15 de febrero de 2017 en la sala de juntas de Fabens ISD, 821 N.E. "G" Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

El público está invitado a asistir. Para obtener más información, llame al (915) 765-2600, x2102.

WTCC: 02/09/17

### Commissioners

From Page 1

Sheriff's Office. Specifically, the court wants to know if cite violators?

Residents in those areas

have reported for many years that stray bullets have struck their homes. And increasingly, recreational shooting, unsafe riding of all-terrain vehicles, and underage drinking have been reported in the desert near homes in the growing East Montana and Red Sands communities. According to news reports, two men were seriously injured after they were hit by a pickup truck at the Red Sand dunes this past Fourth of July, and one person died in an ATV rollover the landscape. year before.

and the county are limited announced in the coming as to what they can do in months, officials reported.

unincorporated areas, officials acknowledged. They stated that the Sheriff's Office presently does not have the legal authority to tell people not to shoot their guns in the desert area; although, the Sheriff's Office has the officers have cited individuals resources to patrol the area and for disorderly conduct or aggravated assault. With the signs in place, deputies could enforce criminal trespassing regulations, they stated.

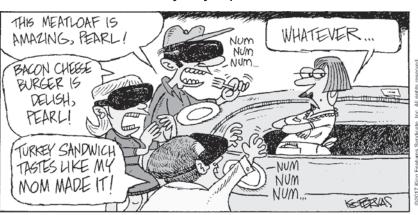
> By posting the signs, however, the county also would be closing the areas off to people who ride ATVs, motocross bikes or other off-road vehicles in the open desert, particularly in the popular Red Sand dunes.

A nearby business owner stated that he is fine with the signs but that he would rather see the red sand dunes be turned into a county or state park and let the public enjoy this amazing

Commissioners final say Currently, the Sheriff's Office on both proposals will be

### **Comix**

#### **OUT ON A LIMB** By Gary Kopervas



DOWN AT THE VIRTUAL (where you can eat all You want and neverget fat,

### AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps







### THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering







### R.F.D. By Mike Marland



### Your good health By Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have been bowel. It's a good idea to use it takingLipitorforhighcholesterol. Lately, my pharmacist said that all statins can cause memory loss. I hesitate to stop taking Lipitor, but I don't want this side READERS: The booklet on effect. Please advise. – P.C.

that some users of statins can have the unwanted side effect No. 504W, 628 Virginia Drive, of memory loss. This is quite variable: Some people never get check or money order (no cash) this effect, and it can be quite for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with severe in a few. It appears to be reversible in the majority of address. Please allow 4-6 weeks people who get it. I wouldn't recommend stopping unless you are having the side effect.

chronic constipation, and have had it most of my life. I have used most of the bulking (husk) things that are out there. Nothing works. Years ago, I went to my doctor, and he said that I could take MiraLAX and use it for the rest of my life. It has worked! Now my new doctor wants me off of it, and wants me to incorporate fiber into my diet. I already do this. Plus I drink a lot of water. I start my day with a 24 ounces of water every morning before anything else. Is there anything wrong with taking MiraLAX every day? I do not take the full every case of obstructive sleep dose. - V.B.

While I recommend non-drug treatments, such as increased water intake, high-fiber diet and exercise as treatment for constipation, that doesn't work for everybody. In that case, using a medication as recommended by your doctor makes sense. Polyethylene glycol (MiraLAX) is a generally safe treatment that works by increasing fluid in the

as little as is needed to keep the stool from getting uncomfortably

constipation explains common disorder and its Your pharmacist is quite right treatments. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Roach – Orlando, FL 32803. Enclose a the recipient's printed name and for delivery.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Have you ever heard of someone with sleep DEAR DR. ROACH: I have apnea outgrowing the need of a breathing aid, such as CPAP? -

> Most cases of sleep apnea are due to obstruction of the airway, caused by the relaxation of muscles in the back of the throat. Excess weight and obesity are the major risk factors for sleep apnea, but it can happen in normal-weight people. It is more common in older people, and men are at higher risk than women.

> Almost any condition can go away by itself, but in nearly apnea getting better without a specific treatment that I have seen, it has been associated with significant weight loss. It doesn't have to be extreme weight loss. Since alcohol can make sleep apnea worse, stopping alcohol occasionally is enough to get it under control.

I also recently mentioned singing exercises as a therapy for

See HEALTH, Page 8

### **Super Crossword**

### PAIR-A-PHRASING

- **ACROSS** 1 Music-licensing
- 6 With greatest frequency 14 Light, in a way 20 River to Lake
- Geneva 21 Many kids' art projects
- 22 "Any way is fine by 23 STARDOM WEALTH
- 25 "Bewitched" husband 26 F minor, e.g. 27 Albany hrs.
- 28 Abbr. on a pay stub 30 One of King Lear's
- daughters 31 Most like Solomon 33 STRIKE **DWELLING**
- 39 "... boy \_ girl?" 40 Gambling place, briefly 42 Planted "pet"
- 43 "Für \_" (Beethoven favorite) 44 HUDSON OCTET 48 "Peanuts" girl with glasses 52 Student's
- dissertation 53 Country's McEntire 56 Wyatt of the Old

- 57 Hector 60 "Mona
- 63 Makes match up
- 66 Pasty luau fare 67 Skating rink shape 68 PERFORM ZERO
- 74 Bovine sound 75 Global divide 76 NEGATIVE LEVY
- 81 Tomb-raiding Croft 82 Suffix of pasta names 83 "A Bell for \_"
- (classic novel) 84 Any minute 85 "Slim Shady" rapper
- 87 Blockhead 89 Half of Mork's goodbye
- 91 Gradually withdrew 93 Antigen attackers 96 EMERALD
- **JEALOUSY** 102 Path in a jet
- 105 Miami-\_ (Florida county) 106 Wasted 108 GREATLY
- 107 Small battery size OFFING 115 Of the hiphone
- 113 Guevara's commander 116 Prickly seedcase 117 Ark.-to-III. dir. 120 Frolic

- 122 ALLOWED STATUTE 129 Verdi tragedy
- 130 Hold dear 131 Flared dress 132 Forwarded, as mail 71 In a strict way 133 Furry marine
  - 134 Encou
  - **DOWN** Terrier noise 2 One-named Latina
  - singer 3 Approaches to
  - attack 4 Keep on (watch) 5 Pod spherule
  - 6 What touts tabulate 7 Liquor bottle 8 Overly
  - 9 Be incorrect 10 Met or Phillie rival 11 Avian runner
  - 12 RCA rival 13 Fly of Kenya 14 Pot coverer
  - 15 Reality TV celebrity fired by Donald three times 16 Cry from a member of an arriving group
  - 17 Ship's goods 18 Faith Hill's "Take Me 19 Wife of Dick Cheney
  - 24 Prickly plants 29 N.J. neighbor 31 Pan for stir-frying

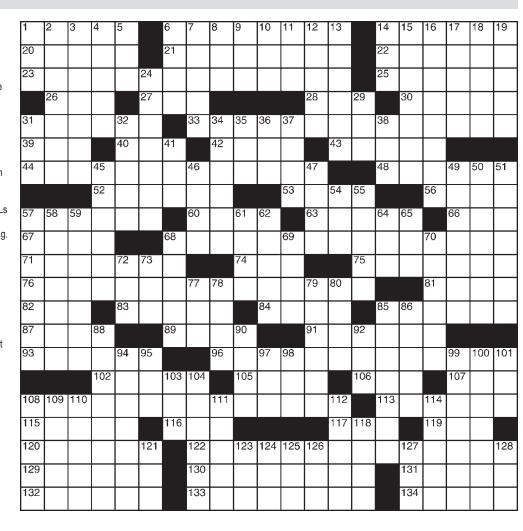
- 32 Ex-froshes 34 Strands postblizzard 36 Puff piece?
  - 35 Summer misery stat 85 Tempted 86 Maestro Zubin 37 Actor Bert in a lion 88 Like nondefective 90 Pakistani's

78 Ding-

80 De novo

79 Out-of-\_ (visitor)

- 38 Footballer Tebow 41 City transport 45 And others, in Latin 46 Grain storer 47 See 72-Down
- 49 El (peak in California) 50 Mined find
- 51 Clever adage 54 Party abbr. about drinks 55 Append
- 57 Certain wind musician 58 Of flight technology
- 59 Music of Scott Joplin 61 Highway rig 62 Parts of nerve cells
- 64 au vin 65 Good name for a chef? 68 Bob of folk 69 Country in West Africa
- 70 Silver \_ (photo lab compound) 72 With 47-Down, forensic tool 73 Kind of TV
- language 92 Feel sickly 94 Capital of Nebraska 95 135 degrees from 117-Across 97 Nosh on 98 End of some URLs 99 Cole of song 100 "Iglu" for "igloo," e.g 1017'6" Ming 103 R&D center 104 Bursts forth 108 Pep 109 Make thrilled 110 Country singer LeAnn 111 Brother, in Brest 112 Between, in Brest 114 Voque topic 118 -do-well 121 Roatload 123 Actor Stephen 124 Zedong 125 Suffix with 124-Down 126 Boy pharaoh 127 "Whack!" 128 Craven of horror Answer Page 4 77 A, in Aquila

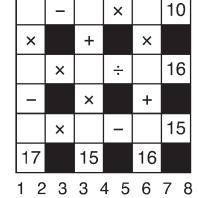


### Moore Texas by Roger Moore Feb. 6, 1879: The first Czech newspaper debuted... aptly named "THE TEXAN".



### GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.



**DIFFICULTY:** ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult \*\*\* GO FIGURE!

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Answer Page 4

# Weekly **SUDOKU**

### by Linda Thistle

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

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:** ◆◆





♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY! © 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.

### **Classified Ads**

Village of Vinton, Texas

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

The VILLAGE OF VINTON will hold a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. on February 15, 2017, before the Regular Council Meeting at Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Vinton, Road, Texas regarding approval the updated

Comprehensive this meeting may Master Plan.

The purpose of

meeting is this to allow citizens opportunity to discuss the updates done to the plan before approval, which includes future land use. The Village of Vinton encourages citizens to participate in and to make their views known at this public

submit their views proposals to Manuel Leos, Mayor, at Vinton City Hall.

Persons with that disabilities wish attend to this meeting should contact the Vinton City Hall at (915) 886-5104 to arrange assistance for Individuals require auxiliary hearing. Citizens aid or services meeting unable to attend for this

should contact the Vinton City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Para informacion español, comuniquese con Andrea Carrillo al 915-886-5104.

> Jessica Garza Village Clerk

WTCC: 02-09-17

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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: V equals R

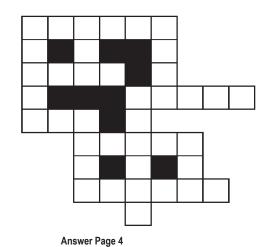
KW U OKGGL QHJJIBFL PCGQ GP ZUOI U QPHBJ, RPHFJ LPH RUFF GXUG U CHVV-PW-GXI-ZPZIBG

JIRKQKPB?

Answer Page 4

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### DOUBT? ...OR DARE! TTI TOCBBA WINTA **EBWR** RETISH **♥**NOE



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.

**♥**ASET

**♥** ERTBU

♥ NBI

HARWIT

BANGE

**♥** NUTA

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# Here's

By JoAnn Derson

- To make a deliciously flaky pie crust, use a normal cheese grater to grate butter in to the flour mix. The butter will stay cold, and it will come out tender and flaky.
- "I like to make a big presentation, so I use sliced fruit, nuts and fresh herbs for garnishes. I prepare them ahead of time and store them in the fridge to take dishes from stove to table quickly. I have found that if you use a little lemon juice on apple slices, they won't discolor and you can cut them up ahead of time, too." - T.C. in California
- · Because fabric softeners can leave residue on the dryer's lint trap, clean yours out at least every other month. Just scrub with plain old soap and water.
- · Create your own nonslip hangers for your closet with your glue gun. Run a thin bead along the top sides of your hanger. Allow to dry thoroughly and you will be able to hang the flimsiest of tops on the hanger without them falling off. No glue gun? Try wrapping a pipe cleaner tightly around each side; this works well for tank tops!
- "Print out recipes and tape them to your kitchen cabinets, or hang from a door pull with a pants hanger. You could even stack a week's worth of recipes on a clipboard and add a dedicated hook for them in your kitchen." - T.Y. in North Carolina
- · To save time making potatoes, try microwaving instead of boiling. Follow the manufacturer's directions on your microwave.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.

### Health

From Page 7

OSA, in addition to oral devices, CPAP or BiPAP devices, and surgery.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions ToYourGoodHealth@med. cornell.edu. To view and order health pamphlets, visit www. rbmamall.com, or write to Good Health, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2017 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.