



NEWSBRIEFS

SISD outreach

Team SISD – administrators, principals, assistant principals, counselors, and other staff members – will walk the district’s neighborhoods to encourage students who have left school to re-enroll during the fourth annual *Walk for Success* event Sept. 16. The program encourages students, who have left school to return to their campus, to graduate with a diploma or earn a GED. “Team SISD believes we should treat every student as if they were our own,” said SISD Superintendent Dr. Espinoza. “That includes a child who has left school. *Walk for Success* is a way for us to let students know that our doors are always open. We promise to provide the support and tools they need to graduate from high school. We want them to come back home.” The outreach isn’t limited to a door-to-door approach. On Aug. 26, Team SISD conducted a districtwide call-out to students who had not returned to school. They spent the day personally calling 254 students to invite them back to school. This year, the number of students on the call-out list decreased by more than 100, compared to the 366 calls conducted the previous year. The district’s graduation rate has gone up and the dropout rate has declined since the *Walk for Success* began in 2013.

– Christy Flores-Jones

San Elizario HS seeks nominations

San Elizario High School (SEHS) is asking for nominations to honor one outstanding former student for the 2017 homecoming celebrations. Nominees must be graduates from San Elizario High School, demonstrate service and professional accomplishments, and must be available to participate in homecoming festivities the week of October 2-6. All nominations for SEHS’s Outstanding Ex are due no later than 4 p.m. on September 20, 2017. Please send applications to Ms. Christine Jaksch, Assistant Principal via email cjaksch@seisd.net or mailed to San Elizario High School; P.O. Box 920; San Elizario, TX 79849. For more information, contact Christine Jaksch at 872-3970, ext. 3845.

– Hector Gonzalez

Gracious, spacious living

International house hunters in London might want to consider a new 1,500 sq. ft., four story, luxury town home

See BRIEFS, Page 2

Knowledge is knowing a fact. Wisdom is knowing what to do with that fact.

– Quips & Quotes

Commissioners look for new county judge

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso County Judge Veronica Escobar will remain in her position while a replacement is found.

Escobar announced recently her resignation so that she may seek the Democratic nomination for the 16th Congressional District seat which is being vacated by Beto O’Rourke, who has decided to challenge incumbent Republican Ted Cruz for one of the two Texas U.S. senate seats. (The other senate seat is currently held by John Cornyn.)

Escobar said that she will stay as long as needed but prefers it’s sooner rather than later for a smoother transition. She said that during the recent executive session the names of six individuals were suggested to succeed her, and that the public was still welcome to make suggestions to any of the commissioners.

The county judge’s successor will complete the remainder of her four-year term, which is set to end December 31, 2018.

Escobar stated that every member of the court actually shared names, and that she was glad that they had thought about it, so everyone did come prepared with an idea. She would not say who she recommended, but said that it was somebody she felt would work cohesively with the commissioners.

“Because (my decision to run for Congress) was so quick, and we had not talked about it before and couldn’t, it’s still something that members of the court want to think through and be deliberate about and take their time. And I respect that,” Escobar said.

“I feel a tremendous sense of obligation to leaving the county in as good hands as possible,” Escobar stated. She



RUNNING – El Paso County Judge Veronica Escobar says she will seek the 16th Congressional District seat in the US House of Representatives.

acknowledged that she felt confident that she was leaving the county in good hands, giving credit to the four commissioners, the county administrator (Betsy Keller), county attorney (JoAnne Bernal), assistant county attorney (Christina Sanchez), and the team department heads.

The county attorney stated that according to policy, Escobar can continue as county judge until the commissioners vote on a replacement and that Escobar would be allowed to vote.

Bernal stated that there is no particular process for choosing the next county judge and that the court could appoint someone at a later date or not appoint anyone and leave Escobar in the position. “She remains a holdover, and she can

exercise all the rights and responsibilities and duties of the county as long as she serves in the position. She will serve in that position unless and until you replace her,” Bernal told commissioners court.

Escobar announced her resignation shortly after commissioners court unanimously adopted the same tax rate the county has had for the last four years—45 cents per \$100 property valuation. That amounts to a county tax bill of about \$538 on the average \$123,726 home with a \$5,000 exemption. With an average home value increasing about \$127 over last year, the new tax rate translates to about 57 cents more a year. Homeowners whose properties declined in value may see a smaller tax.

Escobar said that the county was able to keep the same tax rate following years of fiscal reforms that are bearing fruit, including re-negotiating contracts with the Sheriff’s Department and restructuring operations.

Commissioners also unanimously voted to adopt an operating budget of \$327.6 million for the upcoming 2018 fiscal year, which begins October 1. The total budget will be about \$412.2 million.

During a recent presentation on the budget, Wallace Hardgrove, executive director of the Budget and Fiscal Policy department, told commissioners that the tax rate would levy \$180.34 million. Hardgrove said that the budget would provide funding for transportation, storm water mitigation, public works re-organization, and additional staffing. He said that the budget also includes the use of hotel occupancy taxes to complete a historic district survey, among other projects without raising taxes.

Additionally, commissioners voted 3 to 2 to adopt a tax rate of 25 cents per \$100

See COUNTY, Page 2

Over 90 years in the making



– Photo courtesy Tornillo ISD

BRAND NEWS DIGS – The Tornillo Independent School District (TISD) dedicated their new athletic facilities this week. In 2016 the TISD community voted for a \$10 million bond to make district-wide improvements. The bond paid to replace roofs; update heating and cooling systems; improve ADA accessibility; addressed Life and Safety issues; and upgrade the District’s athletic facilities. The improvements to the athletic facilities, that broke ground on February 14, 2017, included construction of a track and field and tennis courts. Artificial turf was installed on the football field. There are new bleachers, a press box and field house. All of the venues have new lighting. This marks the first time in it’s almost 93 year history that TISD has had a complete athletic facility. Interim Superintendent-Marco Tristan credits the community and District Trustees. “We are thankful to the Board of Trustees and our community members that made this possible,” he said. The Tornillo Coyotes will break in the football field on September 15 at 7:00 p.m. in a game against the Anthony Wildcats. They follow that up with their Homecoming game against the Clint Mountain View Lobos on September 22 at 7:00 p.m.

– Joanna Hernandez

County

From Page 1

assessed value for the University Medical Center (UMC) of El Paso. Commissioners Vince Perez and Andrew Haggerty voted against it. County officials said that the UMC tax rate is a 6.4 percent increase, which will raise more taxes for operations and maintenance. They stated that the tax rate would generate approximately \$104 million in revenue for 2018, of which \$80 million will be used for maintenance and operations and \$24 million will be used for debt service. The increase on the UMC portion of a tax bill on a \$123,853 home will be about \$22 a year.

Public Notice

Fabens Independent School District

SECTION 504 SERVICES

The Fabens Independent School District provides the following educational services/options to identified disabled students who reside within the district.

- ◆ Child find activities to notify students with disabilities and their parents of the their rights and the district’s obligation to provide a free, appropriate public education.
- ◆ Referrals to Sections 504 when it is believed the students have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities and the students are in need of educational accommodations.
- ◆ Procedural safeguards under Section 504.
- ◆ Evaluations of students to determine eligibility for the Section 504 program, and periodic re-evaluations or more often as needed.
- ◆ A manifestation determination evaluation.
- ◆ Placement into the Section 504 program, which means the student may receive:
 - ✓ individually planned accomodations in the regular classroom,
 - ✓ health services from the school nurse,
 - ✓ accommodations regarding access to any part of the campus, or
 - ✓ assistance in reading for students with dyslexia in a reading program which meets the state’s standards for a dyslexia reading program.
- ◆ Special education services are available to Section 504 students, if the students qualify for one of the specific disabilities under special education.
- ◆ Nondiscrimination protections of 504.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact Jorge Saenz, Special Education Director, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 765-2690.

SERVICIOS DE LA SECCION 504

El distrito escolar independiente de Fabens provee los siguientes servicios/ opciones educacionales a los estudiantes con discapacidades identificados que residen dentro del distrito.

- ◆ Actividades para encontrar a niños para notificar a los estudiantes con discapacidades y a sus padres de sus derechos y de las obligaciones del distrito a proporcionar una educación publica que sea gratuita y apropiada.
- ◆ Referimientos a la Sección 504 cuando se cree que el estudiante tiene una discapacidad mental o fisica que limita substancialmente una o mas actividades vitales importantes y los estudiantes necesitan modificaciones en su educación.
- ◆ Derechos legales garantizados bajo Sección 504.
- ◆ Evaluaciones de estudiantes para determinar si califican para el programa de la Sección 504, y re-evaluacion por lo menos cada tres anos.
- ◆ Una evaluacion de determinacion de manifestacion.
- ◆ Colocación dentro del programa de la Sección 504, lo que significa que el estudiante puede recibir:
 - ✓ adaptacionces en el salon de educación regular planeadas individualmente,
 - ✓ servicios de salud por la enfermera de la escuela,
 - ✓ cambios que garanticen el acceso a cualquier parte de la escuela,
 - ✓ ayuda en lectura para estudiantes con dislexia en un programa de lectura que cumpla con los requisitos que pide el estado a un programa de lectura de dislexia.
- ◆ Se ofrecen servicios de educación especial a los estudiantes Sección 504, si los estudiantes califican para una de las discapacidades especificas bajo educación especial.
- ◆ Proteccion contra la discriminacion 504.

Si usted desea más información o conoce a niños con discapacidades que no estan recibiendo servicios educativos, por favor comuniquese con Jorge Saenz, Director de Educación Especial, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 765-2690.

WTXCC: 09/14/17

Briefs

From Page 1

that will soon be built in the city’s historic Fitzrovia area, suggests the Association of Mature American Citizens. The developer believes that the place could fetch as much as \$3.5 million-a bargain for an abode that measures about

10 feet in width. That’s just six feet and a few inches wider than the doorway of an average American home. And, if that’s a bit too pricey for your budget, you may want to consider the 7-foot wide home that is on the market in London’s fashionable Kensington neighborhood. The asking price for that house is less than \$2 million.

– John Grimaldi

Public Notice

Fabens Independent School District

504 Child Find

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the District has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate and if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to disabled students. For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible children, or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation and placement into Section 504, please contact Jorge Saenz, Special Education Director, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 765-2690.

Aviso de Identificación de

Estudiantes Incapacitados

Bajo la Sección 504

Bajo la Sección del Decreto de Rehabilitación de 1973, el Distrito Escolar esta obligado a identificar, referir, evaluar, y propocionar servicios educativos apropiados y gratuitos a los estudiantes incapacitados que califican bajo esta ley. Si usted desea mas información sobre los derechos de padres de niños incapacitados, o si tiene preguntas sobre la identificación, evaluación, y colocación de niños en el programa de Sección 504, favor de ponerse en contacto con Jorge Saenz, Director de Educación Especial, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 765-2690.

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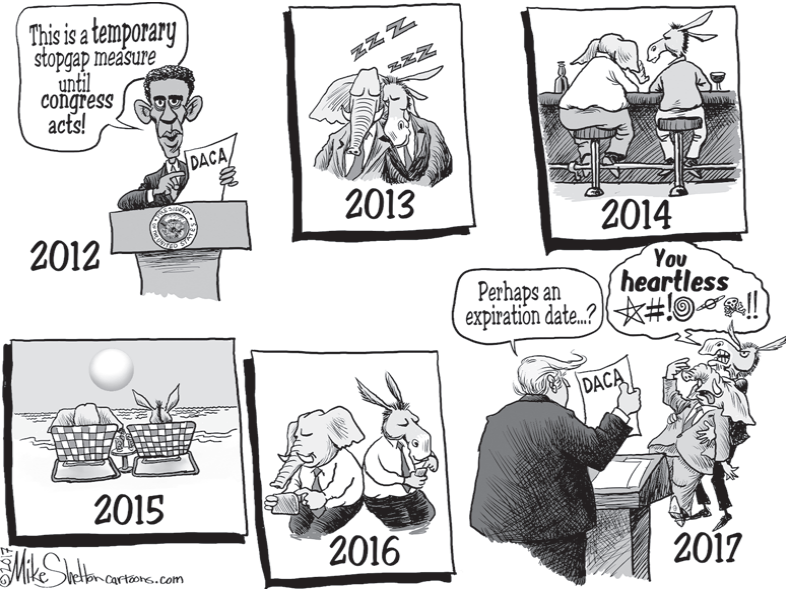
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WHEN DISASTER STRIKES, THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT CROWD HAS A MESSAGE...



Fabens Independent School District
Public Notice - Child Find

The Fabens Independent School District has a duty to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities ages 3-21 who reside within the district, including those attending private schools. This process is called Child Find, and all eligible students may receive services, at no cost, under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). For additional information, please contact Jorge Saenz, Special Education Director, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 765-2690.

Noticia Pública
En Busca de Niño

El distrito escolar independiente de Fabens tiene que identificar, localizar y evaluar todos los niños con deshabilitades que viven dentro del distrito comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta los 21 anos de edad, incluso niños que asisten escuelas privadas. Este proceso se llama Busca del Nino, y todos los estudiantes elegibles pueden recibir servicios, sin costo bajo el Acto de Individuales con Incapacidades (IDEA). Para información adicional, favor de comuniquese con Jorge Saenz, Director de Educación Especial, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 765-2690.

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Fabens Independent School District
SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

The Fabens Independent School District has the following instructional arrangements and services available to eligible students.

- 1) Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities (PPCD), 2) Inclusion Program, 3) Content Mastery, 4) Resource, 5) Transitional Learning Class (TLC), 6) Program for Academic and Vocational Skills (PAVS), 7) Vocational Academic Program (VAP), 8) Fundamental Living Skills (FLS), 9) Behavior Development (BD), 10) Homebound, and 11) Speech Therapy.

In addition to providing the above instructional arrangements for special education students, the district also provides the following additional services to eligible students:

- 1) Teacher for the Visually Impaired, 2) Physical Therapy, 3) In-home Training, 4) Occupational Therapy, 5) Counseling Services, 6) Physical Education, 7) Transportation, 8) Extended School Year Services (ESY), 9) School Health Related Services, 10) Adaptive Assistive Devices, 11) Psychological Services, 12) Visual Itinerant Specialist, and 13) Auditory Impairment Specialist.

Services are provided to identified auditory and visually impaired children who reside within the district from birth through age twenty-one.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Public Law 105-17, parents and adult students have the right to inspect educational records. District policy FL provides for record access, confidentiality, and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a child with disabilities who is not receiving educational services, please contact: Jorge Saenz, Special Education Director, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, Texas 79838, (915) 765-2690.

El Distrito Escolar de Fabens
SERVICIOS DE EDUCACION ESPECIAL

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens tiene las siguientes disposiciones y servicios de instrucción disponibles para los estudiantes elegibles.

Programa de instrucción: infancia temprana (comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta la edad de cinco años), 1) Programa pre-escolar para niños con discapacidades, 2) Programa de inclusion, 3) Salón de apoyo, 4) Clase de recurso, 5) Clase de trancisión de aprendizaje, 6) Programa de habilidades academicas, y vocacionales, 7) Programa académico vocacional, 8) Habilidades fundamentales de la vida, 9) Desarrollo del comportamiento 10) Clase en el hogar, y 11) Terapia del habla.

Además de proporcionar los arreglos educativos anteriores para estudiantes de educación especial, el distrito también ofrece los siguientes servicios adicionales a los estudiantes elegibles:

- 1) Maestro para estudiantes con problemas visuales, 2) Terapia física, 3) Entrenamiento en casa, 4) Terapia ocupacional, 5) Servicios de consejería, 6) Educación física, 7) Transportación, 8) Servicios del año escolar extendido, 9) Servicios de salud relacionados con la escuela 10) Dispositivos de ayuda de adaptación, 11) Servicios psicológicos, 12) Especialista itinerante visual, y 13) Especialista en discapacidad auditiva.

Se provee servicios a niños identificados como desabilitados audible y visualmente que viven dentro del distrito desde nacimiento hasta la edad de 21 años.

Conforme al Acto de Derechos y Confidencia Educacionales de Familia de 1974 y Ley publica 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derechos de ver los archivos educativos. Poliza FL explica los derechos, la confidencialidad, y el proceso para quejarse.

Si usted desea mas información o sabe de un niño/niña desabilitado que vive en el distrito escolar de Fabens que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con: Jorge Saenz, Director de Educación Especial, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, Texas 79838, (915) 765-2690.

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CryptoQuip
Answer

When you’re close enough to get on a kid’s three-wheeler, are you within triking distance?

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PUBLIC NOTICE
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

The *West Texas County Courier* will publish two editions early. The October 5 and October 12, 2017 issues will go to press on Thursday, September 28, 2017.

All material for these publications must be submitted to the *West Texas County Courier* no later than Friday, September 22, 2017.

The *West Texas County Courier* office will close beginning Wednesday, September 27, 2017. The office will open again on Monday, October 16, 2017.

Hernandez heads Clint Jr. High

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

CLINT – Students at Clint Junior High School started the 2017-2018 school year with a new principal – Noemi Hernandez. Hernandez’ plan as the schools leader is to “work with the feeder pattern to provide opportunities for students,” she said.

“I plan on supporting teachers so that they are their very best for our Cubs,” Hernandez said. Formerly an assistant principal at Horizon High School, Hernandez began her new position in the summer and immediately started to build relationships with staff, students, parents and community.

During the first week of school, Hernandez invited parents and the community to sit down and discuss plans and concerns for the school year.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to lead a school with such a rich tradition of excellence in education,” Hernandez states



Noemi Hernandez

as her message to parents. “I look forward to the opportunity to partner with you to provide our students with rigorous, engaging, and high quality middle school experience,” she added.

Hernandez began her career in education in 2003 as a high school math teacher and basketball coach. She took on the role of administrator in 2013 at Horizon High School as an assistant principal.

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination
in Career and Technology Programs at Fabens ISD

1) Fabens Independent School District offers career and technology education programs in Home Economics, Business Education, Drafting, Graphic Arts, and Automotive Technology. Admission to these programs is based on courses offered, age appropriateness, class space available, and individual graduation plans.

2) It is the policy of Fabens Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

3) It is the policy of Fabens Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

4) Fabens Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator / Section 504 Coordinator: Gilbert Alarcon, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, (915) 765-2600.

Notificacion Publica de no Discriminar
en los Programas de Carrera y Tecnologia de Fabens ISD

1) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens ofrece programas programas vocacionales en Carrera y Tecnología en Economia Domestica, Educación de Negocios, y Mecánica. La admisión a estos programas se basa en registrado en la escuela de Fabens y completar los requisitos necesarios.

2) Es norma de El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios, o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, que fue enmendada, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.

3) Es norma de El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens no discriminar por motivos raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975, según enmienda, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

4) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua inglés no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas vocacionales y educativos.

5) Para más información sobre sus derechos y procedimiento para quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX / Coordinador de la Sección 504: Gilbert Alarcon, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, (915) 765-2600.

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Fabens Independent School District
Public Notice
of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the Fabens Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or any person who has a disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The Fabens Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Gilbert Alarcon, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838. Phone: (915) 765-2600. Fax: (915) 764-3115.

Notificion Publica

Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de Fabens prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o deshabilidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de Fabens esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975 como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.

Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuníquese con Gilbert Alarcon, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838. Phone: (915) 765-2600. Fax: (915) 764-3115.

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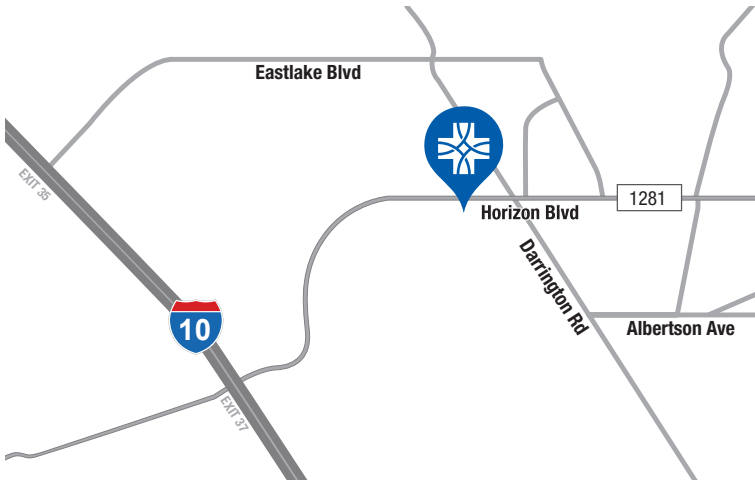
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It’s here and the NFL season opened with a shocker

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Like a kid waiting all year long for Santa to make his triumphant return, full-grown kids were down-right giddy last Thursday night when the New England Patriots and the Kansas City Chiefs opened the 2017 NFL season.

The opening of the season is great for all football fans because it’s still early and no team is out of the running yet. Even fans of teams that will certainly struggle through another disappointing season are hopeful. In other words, they’re hoping for a miracle from the football gods.

It isn’t often but sometimes the football gods smile upon a player or a team and grant them their unlikely wish. But it’s what the gods didn’t do last Thursday that has everybody buzzing.

For some reason, the football gods have been smiling on the Patriots even since the new millennium began. They blessed the team with coach Bill Belichick, they blessed the team with Tom Brady and they

blessed the team with the easiest division in the league.

For years and years, they have granted goodwill and success to the Pats, and didn’t care what Mother Nature or Father Time had to say about it.

Well, for the first time in nearly 20 years (not counting the first half of last year’s Super Bowl) the New England Patriots looked – I can’t even believe I’m saying this – mediocre.

And as if he was taking it personally, Father Time made sure that Tom Brady looked, well, like a 40-year-old.

In a stunner of an opener, the Chiefs pounded the Pats 42-27 in a game where they looked much younger, stronger and quicker.

Brady, the well-oiled passing machine, hit just 16 of his 36 passes and didn’t throw for a single touchdown. And it wasn’t just that he had a bad night – he missed some guys that were wide open. Some of his passes sailed over the receiver’s heads and his mobility now resembles that of those guys in Viagra commercials.

The gods may be allowing Father Time

to finally have his way with Brady, but they’ve still provided the team with the Dolphins, the Bills and the Jets. That means the Patriots will still win their division, which will guarantee them at least one home playoff game.

But the writing is definitely on the wall. Those who thought Brady would play until he was 50 are now having second thoughts. I’m not saying he won’t have a good season this year, but we all saw how quickly Peyton Manning’s talent deteriorated during his final season.

Brady looked nothing like what we’re all used to seeing. I know the old guy doesn’t play defense; and the New England defense looked horrible. But it’s also those long time-consuming drives that Brady can put together that has always helped his defense. There was very little of that last Thursday night.

I think the Patriots were exposed in last year’s Super Bowl when a younger and stronger Atlanta Falcons group just crushed them on the way to a 28-3 lead. They eventually ran out of gas and the veteran Patriots were smart enough and

wise enough to take advantage.

Brady and his pals will have to figure things out before they travel to New Orleans next week. The Saints aren’t the toughest team in the world but everyone knows that anytime you go against Drew Brees, anything can happen. And if Brees has one of those games, the Patriots could easily find themselves 0-2. Don’t worry, the Patriots still win their division. Thank you football gods.

I wonder if the unthinkable will happen this year, will New England fans start chanting for Jimmy Garoppolo? Okay, okay. I know one game doesn’t make a whole season. But 40 years old is 40 years old, and there isn’t any reason Brady shouldn’t look the part. Age gets all of us.

It takes its time, but age is patient... and deceiving... and reliable. Ask any extraordinary athlete of the last 100 years about age.

Brady may be the best quarterback in NFL history but like Namath and Staubach and Montana and Elway and Bradshaw and Marino and Manning will attest - the god’s gifts are just a loan.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

A Giant year in the NFL

I don’t know about you, but this summer seemed especially boring in the world of sports. Save for Aaron Judge’s first half, Dale Earnhardt’s retirement, Kyle Bush’s trifecta, Mayweather-McGregor and Federer’s win at Wimbledon, there was not a lot going on. Luckily, the NFL is back. I’m not going to give any fantasy predictions, but these are three things that I’d hang my hat on for the upcoming season:

Most Valuable Player: Eli Manning, QB, New York Giants

New CBS color commentator Tony Romo (who booted Phil Simms from the gig) got it right when he hailed Manning in a preseason interview with New York Newsday.

“He’s a legend of the game, and he’s still playing,” Romo said. “The good ones play through [rebuilding years] and come out of it with a good team on the end.

... I think Eli is one of those.”

Manning is a fierce competitor, even though his demeanor seems to indicate otherwise. Nobody takes a sack as well as Manning... it’s almost at the level of martial arts. Whenever he’s hit, he rolls with it and hits the ground on his terms. That’s why he never missed a start in 14 seasons. Also, it’s pretty easy to see whether or not the Giants will win any game. If Eli comes out firing and making completions, hitting that window, the Giants almost always win. They’re one of the Super Bowl favorites this year, and he’s a huge reason why.

Dud of the Year: Dak Prescott, QB, Dallas Cowboys

The NFL history books are littered with tales of quarterbacks who had one great season (think Matt Leinart, Scott Mitchell or Ken O’Brien) and were never able to do it again. History shows that in order to be worth anything in this league, you have to do it at least twice.

Prescott did it very well once, but now he has no running game with Ezekiel Elliott suspended for six games. Defenses can lay back and concentrate on stopping the pass. How Prescott reacts will determine whether or not the Cowboys made the right move in handing the franchise over to him. Personally, I think he is up to the task, but if I had to bet, he’d be the guy I’d be least surprised by having a bad year.

Super Bowl Pick: New York Giants defeat New England Patriots

In addition to the potent Manning-Beckham Jr. attack, the Giants will have one of the best, if not the best, defenses in the

league. I see them passing Green Bay in the playoffs in order to get New England, a juggernaut that defies description.

Looking at their schedule, it’s not a stretch to see the Giants, 11-5 last year, improving to 14-2, and if they don’t, it would be a MAJOR letdown. Really, the only tough teams on their schedule are the Seattle Seahawks and the Oakland Raiders. The Giants will battle every NFC East team, and although a loss to the Cowboys, Redskins or Eagles away certainly could be in the cards, this team is playoff-bound if it gets its running game together.

As far as New England goes? As long as Bill Belichick and Tom Brady are alive, there is no real compelling reason to choose any other team coming out of the AFC. I have them beating either the Chiefs or the rotten Raiders in the AFC championship. The rest is up to God and Tom Brady.

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

Classified Ads

Town of Anthony, TX

Invitation to Bid

Construction

The Town of Anthony, Texas will receive bids for Pavement Improvement Project until 4:00 PM on Thursday, September 28, 2017 at 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 4:00 PM on Thursday, September 28, 2017 at 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821.

A voluntary Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on September 13, 2017 at 10:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony Texas.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

Texas Community Development Block Grant. The subject project provides for construction, testing, project coordination, mobilization, de-mobilization, permits, warranty services and miscellaneous appurtenances, and fees

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at the offices of the Engineer of Record, Quantum Engineering Consultants, Inc., 720 Arizona Avenue, El Paso, Texas 79901 at which specifications can be obtained.

A CD of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained by depositing \$25.00 with the Engineer of Record for each set of documents obtained. The fee is non-refundable.

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid for those contracts that exceed \$100,000. A certified check or bank draft payable to the Town of Anthony, Texas or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion,

sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin.

The Town of Anthony, Texas reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by Town of Anthony, Texas for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

The Town of Anthony is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages propos-

als from small, minority and female-owned businesses (MBEs), as well as Section 3 Businesses and Section 3 Business Concerns.

Town of Anthony, TX
Cynthia Ramirez
Town Clerk

September 7, 2017

All contractors/subcontractors that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

WTCC: 09-07-17
09-14-17

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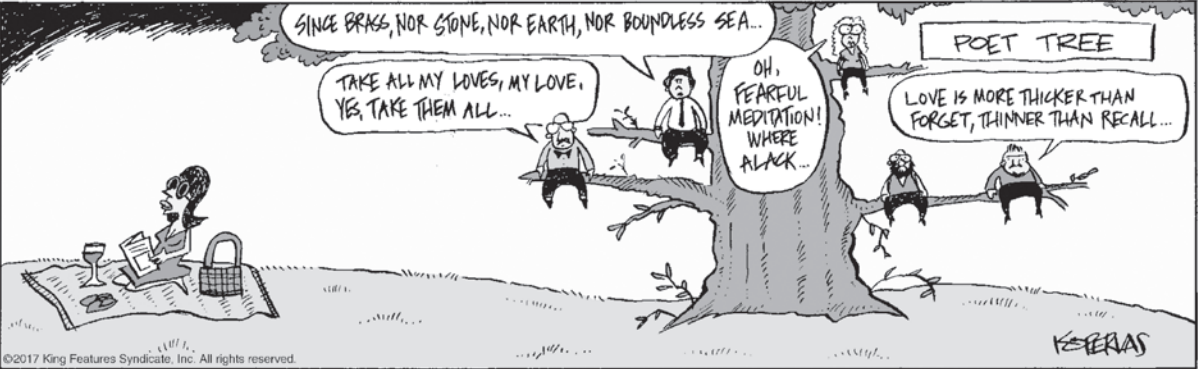
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMBBy Gary Kopervas



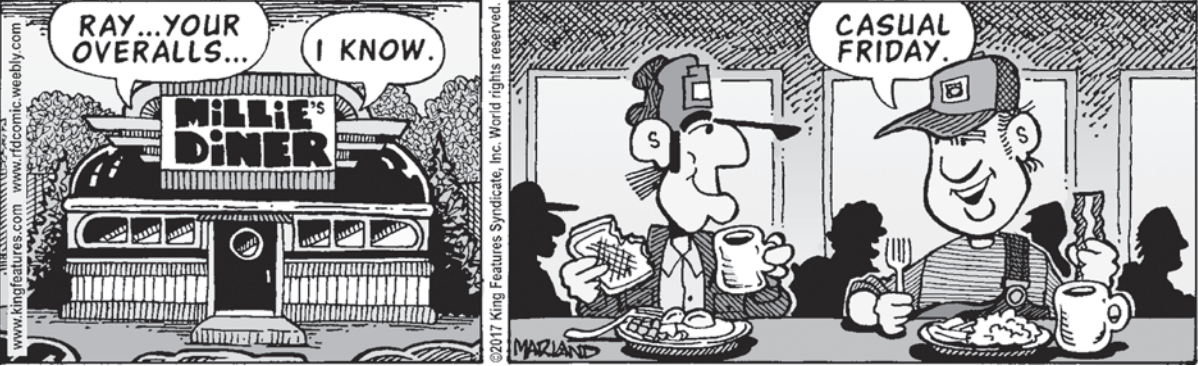
AMBER WAVESBy Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATSBy Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Your good healthBy Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am a 75-year-old man who recently experienced three episodes of lightheadedness. After testing, my cardiologist determined that these were not likely to be cardiac in origin. My concern is with the result of my 24-hour Holter monitor, which showed a little more than 1,000 isolated PVCs in 24 hours. I have been told that this is either “dire” or “not an issue.” I would appreciate your comments on this and any discussion of treatment for frequent PVCs. – J.G.

Normally in the heart, the electrical impulse starts at the sinoatrial node, often called the pacemaker of the heart. The impulse proceeds down clearly defined pathways (think of them as wires) to the atrioventricular node, where it waits for the mechanics of the heart to catch up with the electrical system. The electrical impulse then travels down the bundle of His to the Purkinje fibers, which stimulate the ventricle.

Occasionally, in everybody, an electrical impulse will come from a different part of the heart before the normal SA impulse. If it comes from the atria, it is called a premature atrial contraction; and if it’s from the much larger ventricles, a premature ventricular contraction. These are clearly distinguishable on an EKG. A PAC is early and narrow (since the impulse will go through the AV node), while a PVC is early and wide (since it does not, and must travel cell to cell).

My opinion is that frequent PVCs at your level is somewhere between “not an issue” and “dire.” One study showed that

people who had no known heart disease but more than 30 PVCs an hour (720 in 24 hours) have an increased risk of heart disease over people with fewer than 30 per hour. The overall increase in risk is not large in absolute terms, however.

Although there is treatment that can reduce PVCs, it’s not clear that this reduces the risk of heart disease, and some treatments actually increase mortality risk. I recommend treatment for frequent PVCs only if there are very bothersome symptoms that are clearly related to the PVCs, or in the very infrequent event of someone with so many PVCs that the fast heart rate damages the heart.

The booklet on abnormal heart rhythms explains the more common heart-rhythm disturbances in greater detail. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Roach – No. 107W, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. 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: What is Demodex of the eyelashes? Can it affect other parts of the body? Is it deadly? – Anon.

Demodex folliculorum is a mite, a small (0.1 mm) arthropod that lives on human skin in hair follicles. There is debate whether they cause disease, specifically inflammation of the eyelids. Most opinions I read suggest they do not. However, there are reports of eye symptoms in some people with more than usual amounts of

See HEALTH, Page 8

Super Crossword

- 51 PICKUP ACROSS

1 Move springingly

7 _ mater

11 Impact sound

15 Outfielder

Slaughter

19 With 49-Across, it's between Greece and Turkey

20 Hive buzzers

21 Moniker for Lincoln

23 Automobiles that are really dirty?

25 Edited work

26 Tooth doctors' org.

27 _ Fridays (dining chain)

28 "The Matrix" actor eases pain?

30 Draw up new boundaries for

32 Apple's mobile devices run on it

33 Olds antique

34 WNW's opposite

35 Showy flight maneuvers done by some birds?

40 Boy band of pop

42 Geologic time periods

43 Suffix with Wisconsin

44 _ Schwarz

45 Traffic sign

49 See 19-Across

50 Deep-down faiths?

55 Sound, as an argument
- 59 "That's clear"

60 Cloning material

61 Auto tankful

62 Alligator's cousin

65 Bit of design info

67 Persian Gulf country

69 Serenade your purveyor?

73 Horse riding movements

74 Bedazzle

75 Events with witnesses

76 NY hours

77 Lyric-penning

79 Longtime youth org.

81 Skilled in

85 "Whatever happened to your faith?"

90 Vow for the nuptials

91 What might follow "tra"

92 Bit of body ink

93 Fertility clinic cells

94 Ring sealing a junction

97 Seizes

100 Give some yuletide plants moisture?

103 Mrs., in France

106 "... and Stimpy"

107 Depressed

108 Chaise spot

109 Test done by a marine aquarium
- keeper?

114 Suffix with 36-Down

115 Diner bill

118 Providing nourishment

119 Bill of fare at an outdoor eatery on a clear night?

122 Had profits equaling losses

123 Helen of _

124 Grippers on golf shoes

125 Soup containers

126 For fear that

127 Besides that

128 Grammer of "Frasier"
- DOWN

1 "Que _?"

2 Necessary: Abbr.

3 Oceano filler

4 Tchr.'s union

5 W. Coast engineering school

6 Puzzles

7 Easy as _

8 Tap mishap

9 Piddling

10 Tear into

11 Drive-_(pickup windows)

12 One using a weeding aid

13 Promoted insufficiently

14 Dallas' _ Plaza

15 Major finale?
- 16 Easily fooled

17 Reed instruments

18 Get a feeling

22 Offshoot

24 Zoologist Fossey

29 Refusals

30 Rocker Ocasek

31 _-dieu (pew addition)

35 Real pain

36 Sword type

37 Part of S&L

38 See 121-Down

39 City on Utah Lake

40 Scot's refusal

41 Longtime CBS show

44 Least restricted

46 Forum robes

47 Studio sign

48 "Hey... you"

50 Sci-fi captain

51 Nature

52 Gym set

53 Rubber stamp go-with

54 Charles de _ Airport

56 Skin woe

57 Ziploc item

58 Pen fixtures?

63 "... longa..."

64 "Maybe later"

66 Inferior dog

68 Faint cloud

69 Obama girl

70 PC chip giant

71 Anesthetize

72 Chanteuse Edith

73 Cry weakly
- 78 Watchful

80 Opposite of 95-Down

82 _ torch (luau lamp)

83 "Zip-_-Doo-Dah"

84 Little 'uns

86 Tattle (on)

87 Owns

88 "_ had it!"

89 Frontier figure

94 Took ill

95 Just slightly

96 _-pitch

98 Palmer of the links

99 Actor Harvey

100 Nursery cry

101 " Fideles"

102 Greet

103 "Hardball" network

104 Tierney of "Liar Liar"

105 Rocker John

107 Fragrance

110 Ticks off

111 Part of YSL

112 PC key abbr.

113 Evil group in "Get Smart"

115 Caddy picks

116 Initial stake

117 Not at all idle

120 Seedy loaf

121 With 38-Down, old New York Giants great

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14		15	16	17	18	
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TRUE TEXAS FACTS *by Roger Moore* September 9 - 10, 1921
Thrall, Texas got 38.20 inches of rain in a 24 hour period.



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.

	÷		+		11
+		×		÷	
	×		÷		14
+		+		+	
	×		-		17
13		12		11	

1 2 3 5 5 6 7 8 9

DIFFICULTY: ★★ ★★
★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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Answer Page 4

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
Answer Page 4 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Operation Gratitude

You’ve read here about Operation Gratitude, the amazing group that sends care packages to active military in harm’s way, dependents, wounded warriors, new recruits and first responders. Over the years, it has sent out 1.8 million packages, averaging a quarter million packages each year.

That’s not all they do. During the horror of Hurricane Harvey, OpGrat sent truckloads of much-needed supplies to hard-hit areas in Texas and Louisiana. The first day alone, 10 pallets of goods left California for the damaged areas. More than 900 people showed up to help collect, sort and pack much-needed items. Within days, another 39 pallets were ready to ship.

People have stepped up in other ways, using OpGrat as a kind of clearinghouse to get a message out. A group in California arranged to send 500 bales of alfalfa to Texas to feed horses displaced by the floods.

Once the chaos starts to subside in Texas and Louisiana,

volunteers will be sending out First Responder “Thank You” kits. That’s where they’ll need more help in the coming weeks.

You know what I’m going to ask you to do, don’t you? Open your wallet and send them a few dollars.

Aside from their hurricane efforts, it costs \$15 to ship each box they send out. (No, they don’t get discounts from the Post Office. It’s all on us to help them.) A little info: Your donation is tax deductible. OpGrat has a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, where its Accountability & Transparency score is 100.

To help, you can go online to www.operationgratitude.com/make-donation. If you prefer to send a check, mail to: Operation Gratitude, P.O. Box 260257, Encino, CA 91426-0257

Visit www.operationgratitude.com if you’re not familiar with OpGrat and explore the site. They’re good people.

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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 S

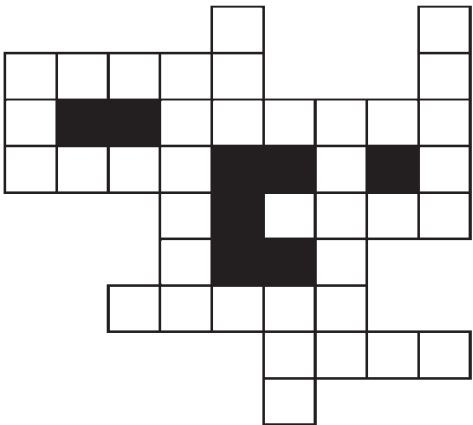
TOUL IAP’GU EQAVU ULAPCO JA
CUJ JOUGU AL R MKS’V JOGUU-
TOUUQUG, RGU IAP TKJOKL
JGKMKLC SKVJRLEU?

Answer Page 4

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WEM
RONAMO
GOIMA
♥TEAN
METSEE
EST
TEWL
♥EDSEN
♥GDA
♥TANSEM
ELEME
URET



Answer Page 4

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string’s word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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Strange But True

By Samantha Weaver

• It was American author and political activist Barbara Ehrenreich who made the following sage observation: “No matter that patriotism is too often the refuge of scoundrels. Dissent, rebellion and all-around hell-raising remain the true duty of patriots.”

• Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States, was one tough son of a gun. In his youth, his fighting prowess won him fame as a national hero for defeating the British at the Battle of New Orleans during the War of 1812 – and he never slowed down, it seemed. At the age of 67, he was at a speaking engagement when a member of the audience pulled out a gun and tried to shoot him. When the gun misfired, President Jackson used his walking stick to beat his attacker almost senseless.

• If you’re like the typical human, it takes your brain about 0.0004 seconds to retrieve any given memory.

• Even in these modern days, certain maritime traditions hold on. For instance, when a new ship is launched for the first time, the water that first touches the ship is caught in a bottle. Once sealed, that bottle stays with the ship; it’s typically displayed in the captain’s office, near the bridge.

Thought for the Day: “I have always supported measures and principles, and not men. I have acted fearless and independent, and I never will regret my course. I would rather be politically buried than to be hypocritically immortalized.”

– Davy Crockett

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Health

From Page 7

Demodex, which can be treated with medication. In most people, Demodex is considered part of the normal flora, like the bacteria and fungi we carry around as well.

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