



NEWSBRIEFS

Robotics

The El Paso Community College (EPCC) Jenna Welch and Laura Bush Community Library at the Northwest Campus has partnered with the UTEP College of Engineering to support robotic training geared for students as young as Pre-K and up to high school students. The EPCC team has training every Thursday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the library located at 6701 South Desert Blvd. All children ages 6 and up are welcome. Whatever your age group, robotic skills will be developed, but more importantly so will your team and life skills. Participants could be selected to partake in the Second UTEP's Lego League Championship to be held January 2018.

— Jim Heiney

Attention all Star Trek fans

Toyota has applied for a U.S. Patent on what the carmaker calls a "cloaking device," says the Association of Mature American Citizens. The company says it doesn't intend for a whole car to disappear, the way TV aliens made their space ships disappear on Star Trek. It just wants drivers to see through their cars' roof pillars in order to give them an unobstructed, 360-degree view of the road.

— Jim Grimaldi

Buddy Walk

The Down Syndrome Coalition for El Paso (DSCEP), in partnership with El Paso Community College (EPCC) will hold the 8th annual Buddy Walk from 9:00-11:00 a.m., Saturday, October 7th at the EPCC Valle Verde Campus Americana Language Village, 919 Hunter. The walk raises funds for the DSCEP, EPCC scholarships for students with disabilities and the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS). The three-quarter of a mile walk circles the beautiful Valle Verde campus. Activities include entertainment, food trucks and appearances by Spike, the El Paso Rhinos mascot, the EPCC Cheerleaders and other special guests. All individuals with Down syndrome and children in attendance will receive a Buddy Walk medal. Register in advance for the walk as an individual or as a member of one

See BRIEFS, Page 3

It's easy to believe that any American boy can become president when you consider some of them that have.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photos courtesy Socorro ISD

READY TO GO – Team SISD educators gathered at the District Service Center on September 16 before they walked the neighborhoods to reach out to students who have not returned to school in the annual Walk for Success event.

Socorro ISD reaches out to community

District's fourth Walk for Success encourages teens to return to school

By Paula Diaz
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Team SISD administrators, principals, assistant principals, counselors, and staff participated in the fourth annual Walk for Success on September 16 in the Socorro Independent School District neighborhoods.

About 300 educators, wearing red Walk for Success T-shirts, spent the morning knocking on doors, ringing doorbells, and walking through the SISD community to encourage students, who have left school without graduating, to return.

"It's about making those connections with students," said SISD Superintendent Dr. José Espinoza. "They might not be in school, but they belong with us. We treat our students as if they were our own children. Getting them back to school is part of our job."

The Walk for Success outreach is part of Team SISD's commitment to ensure every student succeeds and to provide them with endless opportunities for a lucrative future in college, careers and life. It encourages students, who have dropped out, to re-enroll and graduate with a diploma or earn a GED.

"Team SISD has done a great job of bringing these students back to school," said Cory Craft, academics and compliance officer. "It's amazing the number of students we've reached and the drop in the number of students

who have left school. Take for example, Socorro High School, we reached out to 20 students. We have never had that low of a number before."

During the walk, the goal was to reach

out to 80 students, a substantial decrease from the 300 students that the Walk for Success teams looked for when the event

See WALK, Page 3



EXPLAINING OPTIONS – Eastlake High School administrators reached out to a student to encourage him to return to school during the fourth annual SISD Walk for Success event.



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

PERSEVERENCE – Matthew Jay Martinez – known as JAM! – is the owner/curator/artist/designer of Dream Chasers Club gallery. His business has flourished despite many obstacles.

Martinez follows his dreams instead of money

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Art communicates across all cultures; it can show the stories of the past and present, and it can inspire thoughts of what the future could be for individuals both young and old. Art has the intrinsic ability to elevate the commonplace into another world.

For Matthew Jay Martinez (JAM!), sharing art, in all its forms, has become his life’s

mission. And so with little money but with a big dream, Martinez took a dilapidated building storefront on Santa Fe Street across from the dreary Greyhound bus station in downtown El Paso and launched his dreamboat nearly three years ago.

Following his long held motto – *Chase Dreams Not Money* – Martinez opened the Dream Chasers Club (DCC), a contemporary gallery that features artworks and crafts created by local and regional

artists whose creations might otherwise go largely unnoticed.

Not realizing, however, that his gallery would be in the midst of the downtown streetcar project upheaval when he started, the DCC owner has endured major challenges to remain in operation. But somehow or other he has managed to flourish.

Martinez exhibited mostly his artworks at the onset; then, gradually began attracting artists from the surrounding region including Mexico and New Mexico. He developed a strategy to gain art enthusiasts’ attention to his gallery offerings by establishing a network of communications that connected him to other artists, galleries, and museums... mostly using social media.

Last year, DCC joined other galleries in the Last Thursday Art Walk event, which is designed to

bring the community together to celebrate and support the artistic and cultural richness of the El Paso area. Sponsored by the Paso del Norte Charitable Foundation, the event’s mission is to showcase and empower galleries, local art businesses, art studios, art vendors, art makers, musicians, artists, and performers situated in the El Paso Downtown District, according to the event organizers.

The last Thursday of each month, individuals are invited to get out of their cars and stroll through unique studios and galleries that highlight the arts and crafts being produced locally and even meet many of these fascinating artists and crafts-persons.

Now, Martinez’s gallery is booked for the next twelve months with a different artists’ exhibit every month. He has also helped two other artists open their storefronts next to his gallery – one a jewelry and vintage merchandise outlet and the other a leather crafts shop.

Martinez also positioned himself to be the curator for a gallery housed on the first floor of the Outpost, located at 2317 E. Missouri, along I-10 West just outside of downtown El Paso. The first floor of the two-story building is a “community floor” that is open to the public and features acoustic sets by traveling artists, talks, art shows, and other events. Upstairs, visiting artists and musicians have healthy food options, as well as other necessities such as toothpaste, in a setting that resembles a “convenience store.” The upstairs area also has a full

kitchen, a hair salon, and a small recording studio.

The El Paso Outpost location is the first of five that will open across the country. Part of the Outpost’s mission is to bridge the gap between the community and traveling artists who may not know what this budding border town has to offer, stated officials from the New York and Los Angeles based firm that supervise the program.

More recently, Martinez is one of four artists who have been chosen to participate in a special competition as part of the tenth annual Chalk the Block festival in downtown El Paso that is scheduled for October 6 - 8 and is hosted by the city’s museums and cultural affairs department.

The four artists, along with Martinez, are Christin Apodaca, Stephanie Garcia, and Abel Saucedo. They will use chalk to create pieces on cars donated by the Rudolph car dealership to create “a moving, driving work of art,” according to event coordinators. Visitors to the festival will vote on the best car and the artist with the most votes will win a cash prize of \$2,500; second place will be awarded \$1,250; third place \$750; and fourth place \$500.

Thus, Martinez’s dreamboat journey continues, as he asserts that “Without art we wouldn’t have much, it’s something that everyone engages with on a day to day basis. From the bodylines of their favorite car to the latest blockbuster movie... It is pivotal to understand the importance of art and design and to support it. You can’t spell Earth without art.”

1973
44
Years
2017

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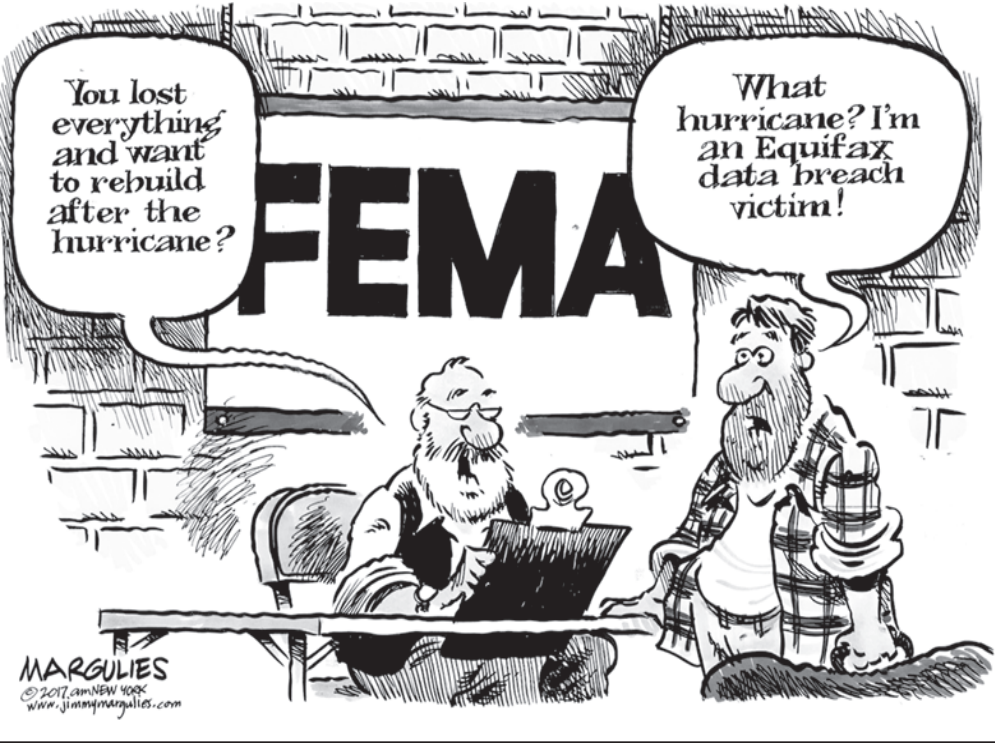
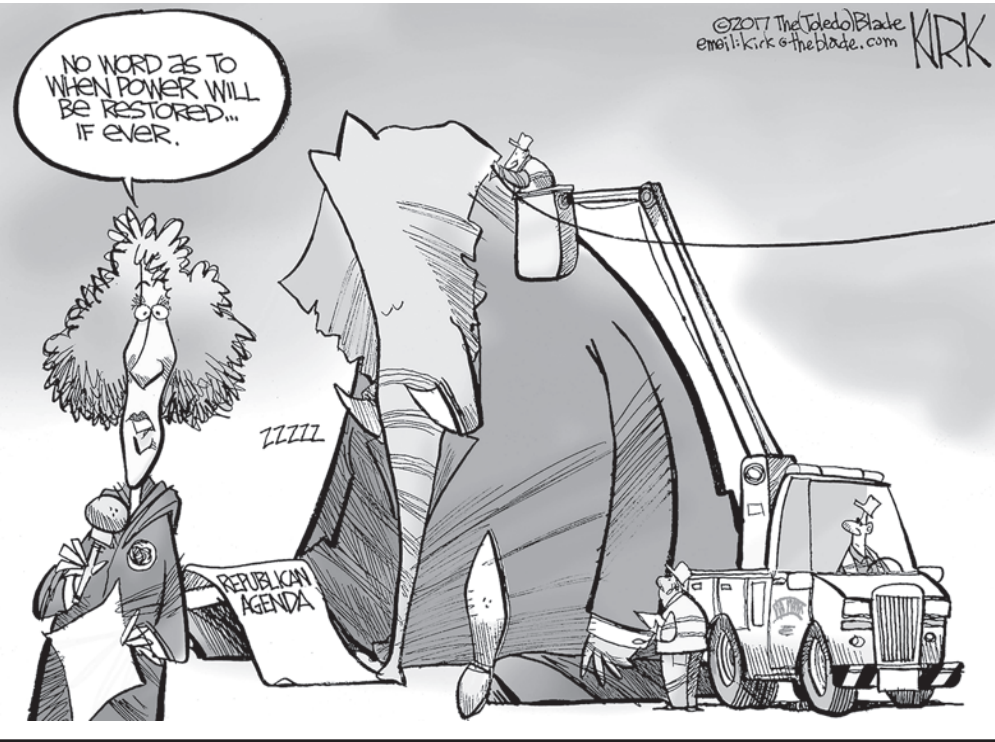
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Walk

From Page 1

began during the 2013-2014 school year. Since 2013, 179 total students have returned to school and 34 have graduated.

“SISD campuses are doing a great job in finding and retaining their students,” Craft said. “What an incredible achievement!”

Prior to the walk, SISD counselors and administrators participated in a call-out event on Aug. 26. The educators personally called students (who have not enrolled in school, are at another campus or have officially left the district) and invited them back to school. About 15 students returned after the call-out, Craft said.

The Socorro High School staff, including the principal, assistant principals, attendance clerks, and counselors, have seen a decrease in the number of students not returning to the high school. The staff has worked hard to reach out to students.

“At one point, we were having about 104 students dropout,” said Socorro High School principal Josh Tovar said. “Now we are searching for 20. It’s a great feeling knowing we are reaching these students.”

Whether during the walk- or call-out, the volunteers work hard to reach out to anyone in the household or even

neighborhood to find the students. Once they make a connection with the parent or student, the educators provide information on how to re-enroll at school and learn about a variety of educational options that support their educational career goals.

The goal is to find the student who has dropped out and help any way they can.

“We’ve had people so amazed that we are actually at their door looking for the student,” said Rosa Jimenez, assistant principal at Pebble Hills High School. “They look at you and say, ‘You are here for my child? You care?’ We really do. As educators, we understand the responsibility we have been given. These children are important not only to a parent, but to us, to the entire district.”

Mayra Garcia knows how much educators care about every student. Last year, the Montwood High School graduate was in the same position as some of the dropout students today. She quit school and received a call during last year’s call-out event. The outreach program helped her make the decision to return and earn her diploma.

“I am proud of myself for not giving up and reaching my goal,” Garcia told Team SISD before they went out to the neighborhoods before the walk. “My next goal is college. I am not giving up and will reach my goal. I want to thank my teachers and this district for never giving up on me.”

Briefs

From Page 1

of the many teams at www.epbuddywalk.org. Registration is available the day of the walk. The registration fee is \$15 and includes a 2017 Buddy Walk t-shirt. The DSCEP Buddy Walk is one of 250 walks nationally. October is National Down Syndrome Awareness Month. Down syndrome is a rare genetic disorder that occurs once in every 700 births in the United States. NDSS is the national advocate for the acceptance and the inclusion of people with Down syndrome as valued members of the community.

– Jim Heiney

A real fine diamond jubilee

Margaret Mussel of New Jersey lost her diamond engagement ring while on a trip to Italy nine years ago. Mary Grams lost hers 13 years ago on a farm near Edmonton, Canada. All’s well that ends well, says the Association of Mature American Citizen. AMAC reports that both of them coincidentally got their rings back earlier this month. Mrs. Mussel’s husband spotted his wife’s ring sparkling in the Italian sunshine, embedded in a local sidewalk, while on a return trip to Italy. Mrs. Grams’ daughter-in-law found hers gracing a carrot growing on the family farm.

– John Grimaldi

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**The office will open again on Monday,
October 16, 2017.**

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www.wtxcc.com

By Samantha Weaver

The History Channel

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Prep football teams enter league play in quest for title

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The feeling out process of the high school football season is over as district play begins this weekend all around the city.

I don’t mean that the games so far haven’t meant anything – I’m saying that the games from this point forward mean everything.

Some districts look like they have already been decided and some are still way too tough to call.

In case you didn’t know, the top four teams in every district qualify for the playoffs.

And coming into the season the teams expected to fight it out for the District 1-6A postseason were Montwood, Franklin, Americas, Eastwood, El Dorado, Pebble Hills and possible Coronado.

Talk about up for grabs – that’s seven of the eight teams in the league. Sorry Socorro.

Maybe the biggest surprise of the year so far has been everyone’s pick as the top team coming into the season. The El Dorado Aztecs have struggled in the early going.

El Dorado’s quarterback Cedarius

Barfield is having his usual MVP-caliber season but the defense is allowing over 43 points a game.

The Aztecs’ (1-2) defense has another tough task this Friday as they open at Eastwood (1-2), one of the most explosive offenses in the area.

The Troopers are putting up 41 points a game, largely due to sophomore quarterback Chris Castaneda, who is averaging 314 yards a game and has thrown for 12 touchdowns.

Montwood and Pebble Hills have each started 3-0.

Montwood opens district play at home against winless Socorro while Pebble Hills has a much tougher test against the Franklin Cougars.

Americas (1-2) and Coronado (1-2) have struggled in the early going, but one of them will start district play with a victory after they play each other this Friday.

District 1-5A is a little clearer with Chapin, Andress, Bowie and Burges leading the way.

The only team that looks like they may have a chance to join the party is El Paso High.

The marquee matchup of the district this weekend is Bowie (3-0) at Burges (2-

1).

Though the Bears are undefeated, their opponents have a combined record of 0-10.

The other crucial 1-5A opener is El Paso at Andress on Thursday night.

Andress has been not been as strong as its usual self and could be upset if they take the Tigers lightly.

Chapin opens against the Austin Panthers who have shown improvement but are definitely stepping up in class this week.

District 2-5A may be the class of all the local districts with the likes of Canutillo, Del Valle, Parkland and Eastlake. And then you have two teams on the rise in Bel Air and Hanks.

Unlike the other districts in the city, 2-5A will be entering its third week of league action because they simply have more teams.

Del Valle and Eastlake are each 2-0, while Canutillo, Parkland, Hanks and Bel Air are all at 1-1.

The key matchup this week is Del Valle at Canutillo.

Del Valle star quarterback Raymond Montes missed last week’s game with the flu but is expected to be ready for this one.

The other big game features Hanks and Parkland. Parkland’s star running back Deion Hankins rushed for over 350 yards last week, giving him over 1,000 in just four games.

Hanks and their first-year coach Aaron Price (former UTEP offensive coordinator) can put points on the board, but stopping Hankins and quarterback A.J. Briggs is another thing altogether.

Bel Air should have an easy time of it at Riverside.

The only district that won’t be starting this week is 2-4A.

League play won’t start for another two weeks but Andrews, Clint, Fabens and Mountain View are clearly the top teams in the league.

San Elizario is winless and scoring eight points a game while giving up 46.

Once again, Andrews is the class of the league, but Clint and Fabens should fight it out for second place.

In fact, Clint and Fabens will meet in their district opener on Oct. 13.

As I see it, the pound-for-pound top five teams in the city are Montwood, Pebble Hills, Eastlake, Del Valle and Parkland.

Oh, and the Cathedral Fighting Irish have started 3-1 in their quest for a second straight TAPPS state title.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Spanning the globe

With the exception of March, September is the best month there is for the sports world, and this year’s installment was

no exception. It’s the beginning of the football season, the U.S. Open concludes in tennis, there are prize fights, the President’s Cup in golf and what used to be called “pennant races” in baseball.

Nothing is more important than these first few weeks in the world of football. For the NCAA, championships are determined

in the first three weeks. If you’re considered a contender for the Bowl Championship Series, you had best not lose any of these first three games.

One loss can decide your collegiate fate. Gone are Kansas State, Stanford, Tennessee and UCLA as all four dropped out of the Top 25. To the surprise of nobody, Alabama, Clemson, Oklahoma and Penn State top the charts. As usual, it’s Alabama’s season to lose.

In pro football, these first three weeks are the best weeks for the bettor. A learned man once explained to me that it takes bookies and oddsmakers these first three weeks to calibrate their picks. In other words, they have no clear idea of what’s what yet, so you can bet on just about any game during the short “fluke season.”

What have we learned so far this NFL season? The Raiders and the Chiefs look superb

– rekindling a great, historic rivalry. The Falcons offense, like their new stadium, looks unreal. The Broncos defense turns their mile-high advantage up to 11, and the Giants, Bengals and Jets (oh my!) look terrible.

In baseball, while it looks like the Dodgers are the team to beat in the postseason, you never can tell. After all, Clayton Kershaw gave up a grand slam in September – the first of his career – so they look vulnerable (sarcasm). The excitement of what would have been a classic Yankees vs. Red Sox run in the American League East has been dampened by all of the wild card nonsense. I’m biased, but the streaking Bronx Bombers are going to be formidable in the postseason with that killer lineup and tough bullpen.

In tennis, 24-year-old American Sloane Stephens, long touted as the heir apparent for the Williams sisters, won the

U.S. Open with panache, and Rafael Nadal, reeling from his Wimbledon loss, careened in Queens and took home another attractive piece for his mantle.

And of course, in its usual inimitable fashion, boxing blew it once again. The much heralded “real fight” between Gennedy “GGG” Golovkin and Canelo Alvarez went to the scorecards, which gives us a chance to view the psychosis of the judges. This year, they called it a draw, but they should have called a doctor because the cards should have read, “Get well soon, boxing.”

Fix your scoring before Teddy Atlas drops dead of a heart attack right on the screen, the world of sports begs you.

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

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Your good health

By Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: After a few months of stress eating, I have gained a lot of weight. People swear that the Paleo diet would help me lose weight and feel better. Do you recommend it? – H.C.

Most diets have good points and bad points, and work better or worse for different people. The Paleo diet is no exception. The theory behind Paleo is that humans are best adapted to the diet that Paleolithic man ate 10,000 or more years ago, which was high in meat, with relatively large amounts of fruits and vegetables, and no grains or dairy.

I disagree with the theory on several points, especially that I think it is a fundamental misunderstanding of adaptation, in that there’s no guarantee that evolution produces a “best” adaptation, merely one that’s good enough. Paleolithic man ate what he had to to survive, not necessarily what was optimal for his health.

The part about the Paleodiet that I do like is its recommendation against highly refined grains and other processed foods. I don’t agree with the usual recommendation to eat so much meat. It’s important to remember that the meat Paleolithic man ate, until just before being eaten, was busily running away from him and did not have remotely the fat content of today’s supermarket meat. The nuts and vegetables available to modern man are vastly different from those available to Paleolithic man, according to a great talk from Christina Warriner. Finally, there is abundant evidence that preagricultural man, from

many different societies, had atherosclerosis in the unlikely event he lived into his 40s.

DEAR DR. ROACH: In my late teens and early 20s, I suffered bad acne that resulted in scarring that is still visible now, even though I am in my 40s. I assume it will be visible for the rest of my life. My acne was cured when I took Accutane. Now I also suffer from ulcerative colitis. Even though I can’t make a direct connection as a side effect of Accutane, the symptoms of UC first showed shortly after I completed my treatments for acne. Now that my children are entering their teens, is it possible for them to avoid my fate? Are acne problems like mine hereditary, or can they avoid the problems I experienced with proper hygiene? – B.B.

Acne, familiar to almost all teenagers, is caused mostly by the bacteria *P. acnes*, but also by hormonal changes that affect the skin oils and cells, predisposing the skin to bacterial growth. Hygiene has a limited effect on acne, with overwashing and oily cosmetics causing the most problems. Acne does tend to run in families, so your children are more likely to have worse acne than usual.

The association of ulcerative colitis, a type of inflammatory bowel disease, with isotretinoin (Accutane) is intensely debated, with the most recent data and the opinion of professional groups generally that isotretinoin probably does not cause IBD. While I can understand why you might wish to avoid it, it remains the most effective treatment, and

See HEALTH, Page 8

Super Crossword

PET NAMES

ACROSS

1 "Seinfeld" actor Alexander

6 Per normal procedures

13 Lemon drink

16 "The Big Bang Theory" airer

19 Surfing site

20 Actress Dillon

21 24-hour time

22 Pilot's fig.

23 1998 film with Joseph Fiennes as the Bard

26 Stew morsel

27 That ship

28 Tennis divider

29 Poem form

30 1987 Dustin Hoffman film

32 Whom you might have had your first kiss with

39 Pallid

41 Beige shade

42 Otherwise called, briefly

43 Magnate Onassis

44 Dodged, as a duty

47 "Li'l" Al Capp character

49 Gerbils, e.g.

53 Friend of Peter Pan

55 Pulitzer-winning William

56 Guevara in "Evita"

57 Work unit

58 Lyle Lovett's "If I Had _"

59 Wii or Xbox aficionado

61 It's ere noon

62 Spock player

Leonard

64 "Isn't that adorable!"

66 Novelist Joyce

Carol _

69 Bad pun

72 Words on a help-desk sign

73 Neonate

76 Hit the roof

79 Gucci rival

80 _ board (seance tool)

81 Words after guilty or ugly

83 First lady?

86 Formal promise

87 1976-81 skit series

88 What the Promised Land is said to flow with

92 Double nature

94 Singer Griffith

95 Fail, as a business

96 Partner of hither

97 Old name of Tokyo

99 DeLuise and DiMaggio

101 Discontinue

102 Observing one's curfew, idiomatically

108 Brown and simmer

109 Italy's cont.

110 Beseech

111 With 65-Down, car

tank topper

114 Suffix with fact

115 1983's Best Picture (and this puzzle's theme)

122 China's Chou En- _

123 Academic email ender

124 Become flat

125 Big blood line

126 Albeit, briefly

127 Bread variety

128 Backs out

129 Stroll along

DOWN

1 Joke around

2 Sore feeling

3 Hunting (for)

4 Acorn maker

5 Oklahoma-to-Iowa dir.

6 Jazzed (up)

7 Rage silently

8 Suffix with form

9 Title for Churchill

10 Parisian "a"

11 "Ta-ta!"

12 Big battle on the ground

13 Big whoop

14 Boat hoist

15 Visor

16 18th-century British exporer

17 Make dim, as with tears

18 Commence

24 Hit skit show, in brief

25 Onion cousin

31 See 113-Down

33 Buffalo group

34 Dark black

35 City SSW of Jacksonville

36 Asteroid path

37 Comic Nora

38 Moola maker

39 "... _ forgive those who..."

40 "Fer _!" ("Def!")

45 Mild yellow cheese

46 Actress Olivia

48 Instigate

50 Grimm brute

51 Play lazily, as a guitar

52 Smell, e.g.

54 Rainbow mnemonic

55 Old-style emblem with a motto

60 Wonderment

61 Hazy stuff

62 Neighbor of S. Dak.

63 Alternative to "equi-"

64 Baler input

65 See 111-Across

66 Like many Netflix flicks

67 Alphabet sequence

68 Walkie-talkie, e.g.

70 Old British rule in India

71 U.S. leader #44

74 Birds of myth

75 Mulling spice

77 Boxing place

78 Cancel out

81 Big name in lightweight metals

82 Be too frugal

83 Puts in peril

84 Signs flashed by Churchill

85 Bronte heroine Jane

87 Darkly evil

89 _Chinese

90 Fictional Finn

91 "That's _ hadn't heard"

93 TV's Anderson

94 Abstaining individual

98 "Carpe _!"

100 Overcome

102 Bit of hardware with a crosspiece

103 _ Heep (Dickens villain)

104 Strapped

105 Hidden treasure

106 Runs across

107 Links letters

112 Hand's cost

113 With 31-Down, "Don't go anywhere"

116 Deplore

117 Marshy area

118 Butyl ending

119 Yule quaff

120 Hit forcefully

121 Cattle call

Answer Page 4

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114					115		116				117	118	119			120	121			
122					123				124							125				
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