



NEWSBRIEFS

Trust fund

The family and friends of Arthur and Lesley Redelfs wish to thank the El Paso community for its continuous support during the past few weeks. People are continuing to ask what can be done to help little Rebecca. A trust fund in Rebecca Redelfs' name has been established at Wells Fargo bank. This fund is to ensure the future her parents would have wanted for her. Donations may be made at any Wells Fargo Bank location. Please make the check payable to Wells Fargo Advisors account # 2086-6274 with Rebecca Redelfs' name on the memo line. Donations may also be mailed to Wells Fargo Advisors, 201 E. Main St. Suite 101, El Paso, Texas 79901.

— Vicki Icard

Crime Stoppers



A man, threatening to have a gun, robs an eastside bank. The F.B.I. is asking for the public's help through Crime Stoppers to find this man, making this the "Crime of the Week." On St. Patrick's Day, Wednesday, March 17, the suspect walked into the Wells Fargo Bank located at 500 N. Zaragoza a little after 9:00 a.m. The suspect approached the bank teller and verbally stated that he had a gun and wanted the money. Fearing for her life, the teller turned over an undetermined amount of money. The suspect then ran out of the bank in an unknown direction. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, mid-20's to mid-30's in age, 5'6" tall, with a thin build. The suspect has a light complexion, brown eyes, a light beard or "5 o'clock shadow," with a noticeable mustache and hairy arms. He was wearing a blue baseball cap with white star logo, white t-shirt with red lettering in front (possibly "AKUMA"), blue jeans and white tennis shoes. If you have any information about the subject who committed this crime, please call Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (566-8477) or on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

— James Klaes

Golf tourney

The Junior Woman's Club of El Paso is

See BRIEFS, Page 6

The place to be happy is here, the time to be happy is now, the way to be happy is to make others so.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo and logo courtesy Socorro ISD

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD STUDENTS — The new Eastlake High School will open for its inaugural freshman class on August 2, 2010. The new facility will offer students wireless access throughout and technology will be integrated into all aspects of instruction. Each year, a new freshman class will be added. The campus was planned in phases, with future work to be completed as the District continues to grow and additional funding is identified. The current facility can accommodate 1,200 students. Completion of future phases will allow Eastlake to grow into a comprehensive 5-A high school.

Eastlake HS holds open enrollment

By Daniel R. Escobar
Special to the Courier

As the final touches are put on the new Eastlake High School, 13000 Emerald Pass, and community excitement soars for the opening of the state-of-the-art facility the Socorro ISD (SISD) has begun accepting transfer requests — in or out of district — for students who wish to be part of Falcon history. In addition to serving students from nearby schools Col. John O. Ensor and Desert Wind schools, the campus will offer a limited open enrollment for all El Paso students.

Eastlake, the District's fifth comprehensive high school, will offer a comprehensive college ready curriculum to prepare all students for success after graduation. Through a diverse curriculum and an array of extracurricular and co-curricular activities, the school's goal

is to cultivate global citizens by providing opportunities to maximize students' academic, artistic, athletic and social skills.

"In addition to specialized academic pathways available to them — such as engineering, biomedical sciences and global languages — what's exciting for Eastlake's first freshman class is the opportunity to forge traditions and create clubs and organizations that will leave a legacy of excellence for Falcon generations to come," said Principal Angelica Ramsey. "Also, with an expected opening enrollment of some 400 students, the student to teacher ratio will allow for personalized attention in the classroom and in athletic and fine arts training."

All eighth grade students in the SISD and surrounding communities are invited to become a part of the inaugural Falcon freshman class in 2010-2011. Students interested in transferring to Eastlake High School must



complete the Eastlake High School Transfer Application, available at the school's Web site, <http://schools.sisd.net/eah>, and return it to the SISD Department of Administrative Services at 12440 Rojas or fax to the campus office at 852-4072. For more information contact Eastlake High School at 937-3602.

Fabens High School sweeps division 3-A UIL competition

Courier Staff Writer

For the fourth year in a row, Fabens High School swept the district UIL competition held in Fort Stockton, Pecos and Anthony, Texas this past week. With a grand total of 467 points, Fabens won the sweepstakes and will be advancing 23 students to the regional competition to be held in Lubbock on April 23 and 24. Students who place first, second or third in an event advance to the regional competition.

Fort Stockton took second place with 340 points, and Pecos placed third with 271 points. UIL Coordinator and Poetry and Prose

Coach, Christine Gleason, said "we are very proud of our students. They dedicate themselves to these events and practice all the time. We are also proud of our amazing coaches who give up so much to help our students succeed." Gleason has been the coordinator for the past two years and plans to continue with another district victory next year despite the district realignment. "We will still compete against Pecos, Anthony, Clint and Tornillo, but new to our district will be Mountain View and Presidio. We are looking forward to the competition and to making it five district championships in a row" Gleason said. "But first, on to regionals!"

Elijah Bidwell, Angel De La Cruz,

Ashley Cortez and Christina Cortez advanced to state in the Debate competition held earlier this month. Coached by Fabens High School Principal Robert Sepulveda, the Debate competitors must compete in a minimum of eight rounds in order to be eligible to advance to state. The debate team also took first and second place in the district tournament Feb. 5.

Among the many accolades of the tournament, Calculator Applications, Mathematics and Number Sense Coach Manuel Cobos swept the Number Sense and Calculator Applications competitions

See FABENS, Page 3

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Outside contractors to fast-track claims

I cringe whenever I hear the words "outside contractor," especially when it's tied to veterans benefits. But that's what's going to happen — again.

The Department of Veterans Affairs plans to hire an outside contractor to fast-track Vietnam veterans' claims for "presumption of service connection" illnesses caused by Agent Orange.

Part of the process will be to determine what, if any, other information is needed on a claim. That will mean medical records and exams.

This is supposed to push the claims through more quickly.

Getting started will take time, however. At this point a contract should be awarded soon. Solutions proposed to the VA will take 90 days. Actually doing any of the work will take 150 days.

Even if you weren't in Vietnam, if you have any of the illnesses that are considered presumptive from Agent Orange exposure, file your claim now. VA chief Eric Shinseki recently added three more illnesses to the list. It's expected that 200,000 veterans will file in the next couple years, based on

those three new illnesses.

In case you haven't seen the whole list of presumptive illnesses, here it is:

acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy, AL amyloidosis, B cell leukemias, chloracne (or similar acneform disease), chronic lymphocytic leukemia, diabetes mellitus (Type 2), Hodgkin's disease, ischemic heart disease, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Parkinson's disease, porphyria cutanea tarda, prostate cancer, respiratory cancers, soft tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma and mesothelioma).

Shinseki has said that his No. 1 goal is to clear the backlog of veterans claims. Although it hasn't worked well in the past with outside contractors, many of those contracts were written before he came aboard.

Write to Freddy Groves in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com. (c) 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

New ramps will ease traffic

Hola mi gente. If any of you reading this have driven past the Interstate Ten and Hawkins Blvd. intersection, you would have noticed significant construction there. At long last, the funding was found to resolve a traffic problem at that intersection which has grown worse every year for the past twenty years.

Annually during the Thanksgiving to Christmas holiday season, dangerous traffic back-ups would occur at Hawkins. Sometimes traffic on the Interstate Ten would be backed up for more than a mile. Drivers found it difficult to maneuver around the line of cars that were completely stopped. Other drivers would complicate the matter by trying to avoid being last in line, drive to the closest point to the exit lane and try to force their way into the line of cars. All of those things created a very dangerous situation.

The traffic back-up problem was not a new one for the El Paso office of the Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The intersections of Interstate Ten with Zaragosa and with Horizon Blvd. had worse back-up problems which were

daily events. Both the Zaragosa and Horizon exits had cars in lines that extended a mile or more back on the freeway everyday during the evening rush hour.

It would have been the norm for the local engineers at TxDOT to go into the usual long drawn out process of finding a solution. No, they decided to find the simplest and easiest fix to the problems.

At Zaragosa, which was the first to be addressed, the engineers simply moved the exit from I-10 back to about seven tenths of a mile from the intersection. Although there is still back-up during the evening rush hour, the line of cars are well off of the freeway allowing for a smoother flow of traffic.

At Horizon Blvd., the TxDOT engineers went one step further. As with Zaragosa, the exit from I-10 was moved back almost a full mile thus eliminating the line of cars on the freeway. In addition, the engineers reduced the number of cars by putting an exit onto the freeway before the intersection. This allowed cars wanting to get on the freeway to avoid the traffic light.

When funding finally was

found, our local TxDOT engineers again decided on the simple fix at Hawkins. Having seen the positive results at both Zaragosa and Horizon Blvd., the designs for the Hawkins intersection incorporated both concepts used at the other two intersections.

The construction at Hawkins started just a few weeks ago and already the I-10 exit from the west bound lane has been opened. Before the work on the west bound traffic is completed, there will be an exit to the freeway finished just before the Hawkins intersection. Similar work will eventually be completed on the east bound lanes. Based on the results from the work done at Zaragosa and at Horizon Blvd., holiday shoppers next November and December will experience tremendous improvements in traffic.

I would also like to give the local TxDOT office my highest commendation for their efficient solutions to some very serious problems. To me, simple is always preferable to the usual drawn out bureaucratic process.

I remain your friend and public servant, Chente por la gente.

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WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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the write stuff

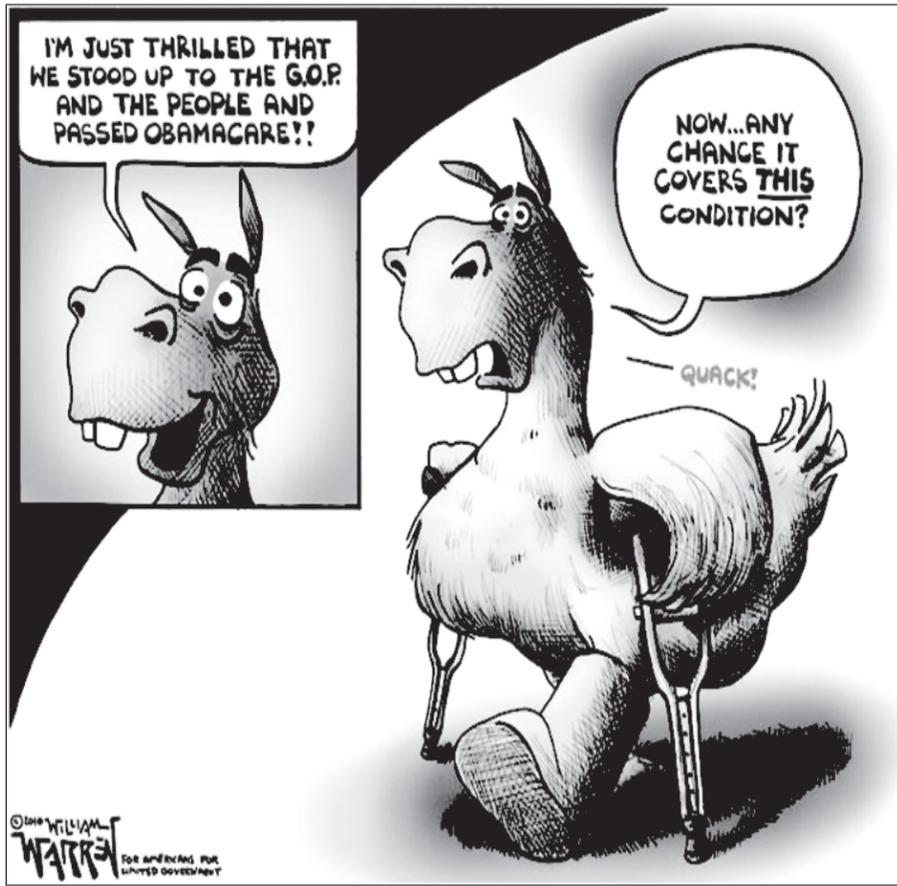
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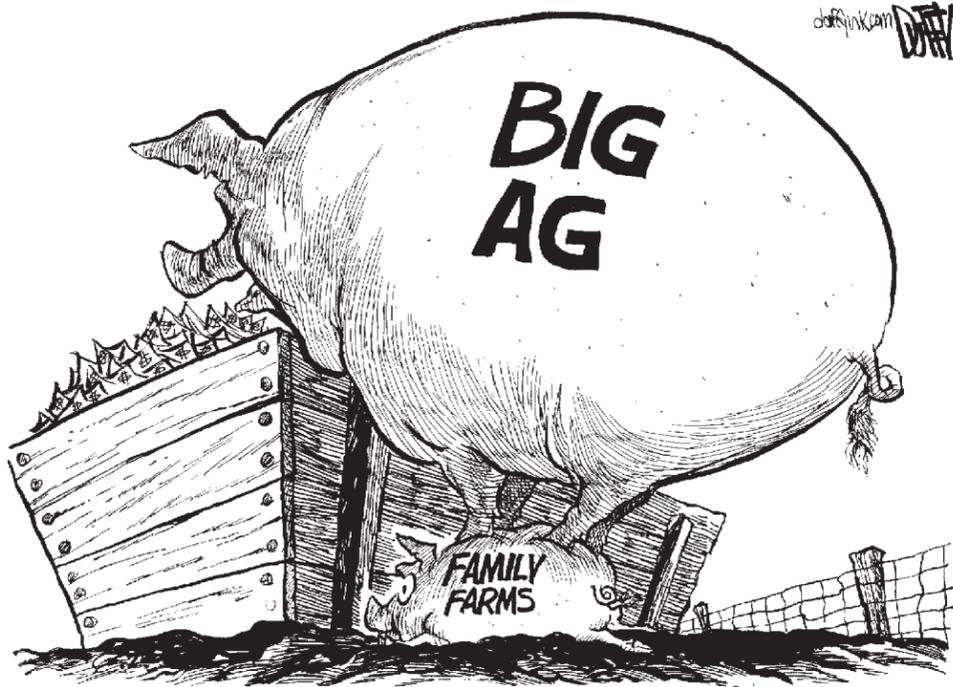
It is very sad when a candidate starts their campaign with negative advertising and give the public the wrong information as they see it fit in order to win a campaign. This information compromises their own campaign and the voters decisions too. Every election we complain and ask ourselves, "why we only have a small percent of El Paso voters take their time to go out to the polls and vote".

To me is very simple, this is one of the major reasons why voters do not trust our candidates and some elected officials. Is not as simple as to say I am young, beautiful, or have a degree please elect me. Some candidates have worked all their lives helping our community and experience does count.

Let's try and inform ourselves before we make the important decision of which candidate we want to vote for.

Norma Borunda
East Side





View from here By Robert Romano

Balanced budget or spending limit?

On March 2nd, in response to the escalating sovereign debt crisis spreading globally, House Blue Dog Democrats introduced a "Balanced Budget Amendment." A day later, the House Republican Caucus introduced their own "Spending Limit Amendment."

So, which is better?

A balanced budget sounds good, but if not coupled with limits on either taxation or spending, would become the means for annual automatic tax increases to "pay" for unbridled, ever-escalating spending.

Which, even without any amendments may be the plan Democrats have in mind anyway.

House Democrats, after all, have just presented another "deficit-neutral" version of ObamaCare. So, how do they balance their budget? In large part, with cuts in physician pay and Medicare, and by raising taxes by some \$438 billion, including a new "3.8 percent tax would be imposed on interest, dividends, capital gains and other investment income for individuals making more than \$200,000 a year and couples making more than \$250,000," as reported by FOXNews.com.

In short, to provide government-run health care to over 30 million new people, House Democrats plan to reduce quality, ration senior care, and put heavy burdens on an already fragile economy. All of which tells us a little bit about what a life might be like under the Democrats' Balanced Budget Amendment.

In contrast, under the Spending Limit Amendment, federal spending would always be limited to 20 percent of the Gross Domestic Product except by declaration of war or two-thirds votes in both houses of Congress.

That would inherently limit taxation and spending to what the economy could afford to pay for.

Not so under the Balanced Budget Amendment. For example, if Congress votes to spend \$4 trillion in a year, it has to find \$4 trillion in revenue unless the declaration of war provision is invoked, or there is a three-fifths vote in Congress to deficit-spend.

Curiously, for the first time ever in the history of the Federal Constitution, the "Balanced Budget Amendment" includes entitlements: disbursements to the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund can never be cut. Although, there appears to be no provision prohibiting the Congress from borrowing money out of those funds to pay for other items.

In short, a balanced budget can be good, but only if it includes a spending limit. Otherwise, raising taxes annually will become Congress' preferred means to pay for so-called "mandatory" spending on entitlements.

The hour grows late, and a spending limit is exactly the right prescription. As ALG News has previously reported, the U.S. could have its credit downgraded as soon as 2014, which would result in much higher interest rates, higher taxes, an even weaker dollar, and a devastated economy. As soon as possible, the U.S. needs to reduce interest payments on its debt. That number must stay below 14 percent. If it doesn't, the U.S. Triple-A debt rating will be downgraded.

The nation has to decide how it will restrain itself. Congress needs to be constitutionally constrained in how much it can spend, not constitutionally permitted to tax as much as it wants to maintain the entitlement state. The Spending Limit Amendment fits the bill.

Robert Romano is the Senior Editor of ALG News Bureau.

Fabens

From Page 1

with first, second and third place students. Cobos also took first place team in all three competitions.

"It's tough to travel. Our kids had to get up at 5:00 am and begin competing almost immediately when we arrived in Fort Stockton." Sepulveda said. The sweet part is we won while 'away' from home. Our students continue to impress us with their dedication and poise and worked very well even though the schedule was very taxing on them."

The One-Act Play cast and crew received the Alternate Play award, which means the play will advance should Fort Stockton or Anthony not be able to compete at the Area

competition. Elijah Bidwell received "Best Actor" for his role as Papa in "White Room of My Remembering" and Amber Jipson was announced as part of the "Honorable Mention" Cast. New directors Jennifer Garcia and Anna Montes took over the One-Act Play a mere six weeks ago. Garcia said "Our students put fourth a phenomenal effort. I am so proud of them. Next year, we're taking it!" Co-director Anna Montes agrees. "We are so proud of them. We had some tough circumstances to overcome, but our success came from [the students]. Expect to advance next year."

"I am so impressed with our students hard work and the dedication of the directors and coaches" Gleason said. "I can't thank them enough! They make me so proud to be a Wildcat!"



Moore Texas by Roger Moore **Oct 9, 1844: Texas signs a peace treaty with 11 tribes, including the Waco and Comanche.**

Sambrano students open their hearts for earthquake victims

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

Several San Elizario students have learned how to apply not only their minds but also their hearts towards a project that aimed to benefit the victims of recent catastrophic earthquakes that have occurred around the world. These Gifted and Talented (GT) students from Sambrano Elementary School successfully ran a fundraising campaign to collect money for disaster relief efforts as a result of major earthquakes in Haiti, Chile, and Taiwan. The six elementary students began their project named "Hearts for Haiti" in late January selling paper hearts for a dollar and special teacher hearts for five dollars. In total the students raised \$1,084 which they will be donating to the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

These fifth grade students were guided by their classroom teachers, Myriam Sanchez and Virginia Solis-Cera, but came up with the plan for the fundraiser on their own. Using any extra time they had during lunch, PE class and before and after school, the students made and sold all of the hearts by themselves.

According to 11 year-old Juan

Mesa, after explaining the purpose of the fundraiser it was easy to convince people to participate and donate. "They used their money to buy hearts because it was a good reason to help others because we are all the same," he said.

There were also prizes to be won for the grade level with the most hearts sold which assisted the students in marketing their fundraising campaign. With the help of the PE coaches, they were able to provide a prize for the top three grade levels including a popcorn party, a free dress day and a fun Friday during PE class. The fifth-grade classes snatched first prize by raising over \$400, second place went to the fourth-grade with \$230 raised while third-grade secured the final prize with over \$150 collected.

Although their fundraising efforts began slowly, the students soon found themselves being sought after by many others wanting to donate but also unfortunately having to expand Hearts for Haiti when earthquakes hit Chile in February and Taiwan in March. With the approval of Sambrano Principal, Marta Alvarez, they began including the two other countries in their campaign.

After the fundraising was completed in March the students were able to measure the results



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

HEALING HEARTS — Jesus Arias, Nicole Hernandez, Kahealani Archuleta (center), Juan Mesa, Savannah Martinez, and Ramon Hernandez helped raise money for Haiti by selling hand-crafted paper hearts.

of their hard work by the amount of money raised but also gained a valuable real life experience. "When we finished the project at the end it felt good because you know that you helped," 11 year-old student

Kahealani Archuleta said.

Fellow students Nicole Hernandez and Savannah Martinez, also 11 years-old echoed Kahealani's sentiment adding that they had a good time fundraising with their

classmates and encouraging other students to participate in fundraising activities for good causes. "It really doesn't matter how much money you raised but that you helped and had a lot of fun," Savannah said.

"It makes your heart feel warm and in helping people you know that you don't have to do it alone and can do it with your friends," Nicole added.

The Hearts for Haiti campaign will also enhance the Sambrano Elementary GT students' research project on plate tectonics and Pangaea which they will present at the annual district GT Showcase held at the end of the school year. The six students that coordinated the fundraising effort were Kahealani Archuleta, Jesus Arias, Nicole Hernandez, Ramon Hernandez, Savannah Martinez, and Juan Mesa.

Canutillo Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 2009

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	60 Capital Projects	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:					
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 13,868,222	\$ 3,204,377	\$ 180,189	\$ 320,730	\$ 17,573,518
5800 State Program Revenues	28,373,576	2,984,785	—	1,374,595	32,732,956
5900 Federal Program Revenues	4,325,106	—	—	4,904,611	9,229,717
5020 Total Revenues	46,566,904	6,189,162	180,189	6,599,936	59,536,191
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	24,949,208	—	—	3,665,105	28,614,313
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	672,978	—	—	294,713	967,691
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	338,074	—	—	1,100,088	1,438,162
0021 Instructional Leadership	735,730	—	—	237,705	973,435
0023 School Leadership	2,491,330	—	—	160,419	2,651,749
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	1,237,947	—	—	116,089	1,354,036
0032 Social Work Services	86,887	—	—	—	86,887
0033 Health Services	468,618	—	—	26,509	495,127
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	942,850	—	—	—	942,850
0035 Food Services	4,329,490	—	—	212,860	4,542,350
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	1,154,695	—	—	88,762	1,243,457
0041 General Administration	2,150,968	—	—	19,951	2,170,919
0051 Plant Maintenance and Operations	4,835,489	—	40,348	58,723	4,934,560
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	138,945	—	—	2,904	141,849
0053 Data Processing Services	819,348	—	—	42,847	862,195
0061 Community Services	265,481	—	—	513,517	778,998
Debt Service:					
0071 Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	—	1,705,000	—	—	1,705,000
0072 Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	—	3,540,140	—	—	3,540,140
0073 Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	—	13,758	—	—	13,758
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	368,172	—	3,295,443	5,281	3,669,436
Intergovernmental:					
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	241,059	—	—	—	241,059
6030 Total Expenditures	46,227,809	5,258,898	3,335,791	6,545,473	61,367,971
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	339,095	930,264	(3,155,602)	54,463	(1,831,780)
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	5,973,866	258,651	15,570,656	(136,142)	21,667,031
1300 Prior Period Adjustment	433,908	—	—	—	433,908
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 6,746,869	\$ 1,188,915	\$ 12,415,054	\$ (81,679)	\$ 20,269,159

CryptoQuip Answer

Would the bodybuilder who possessed the biggest pectoral muscles be a chestmaster?

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

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It was 19th-century French author Pierre-Jules Renard who made the following sage observation about his craft: "Literature is an occupation in which you have to keep proving your talent to people who have none."

• Guinness, that notoriously dark and bitter Irish brew, contains fewer calories than skim milk or orange juice. Stout for breakfast, anyone?

• Lawmakers in Phoenix once saw fit to make it illegal to walk through a hotel lobby while wearing spurs.

• It's hard to imagine what life was like before the widespread availability of refrigeration, isn't it? Some people have decided to find out — and you might be surprised at how many. Although 99.5 percent of all households in the United States have a refrigerator, that still means that more than 1.5 million households are fridge-less.

• Swedish chemist and engineer Alfred Nobel, famed inventor of dynamite and originator of the Nobel Prizes, could speak five languages fluently by the time he was 17 years old.

• Finland has more islands than any other country in the world.

• Those who study such things claim that the hair on people of European descent tends to whorl in a counterclockwise fashion, while on most Japanese people it whorls in the opposite direction.

• It seems that Warren G. Harding, the 29th president of the United States, was something of a gambler. During one hand of poker he bet the White House china — and lost it.

• The Australia Zoo was recently the site of an attempted escape — by a 137-pound orangutan named Karta. The ingenious primate evidently short-circuited the electric fence around her enclosure using a stick, then stacked up more sticks to climb over the fence.

• The English word "gelatin" comes from the French for "edible jelly."

Thought for the Day: "What sane person could live in this world and not be crazy?"

— Ursula K. Le Guin

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Truth or fable? Childress elementary students ponder tale

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Students at Bill Childress Elementary School (BCE), in the Canutillo Independent School District, recently enjoyed a very special storytelling experience when they heard a different version of the Three Little Pigs.

During BCE's spring reading event, students listened to "The True Story of The Three Little Pigs" as told from the wolf's point of view. Students learned that the wolf's version is very different than the original version written from the pigs' perspective.

BCE staff designed and created a special reading room filled with props for students to experience the feeling of being in the story. Trees, flowers, a jailed wolf, and a pond with fish were just some of the many designs in the reading room.

Administrators, teachers and other guest readers sat in a rocking chair in the make believe house complete with kitchen, a fireplace, and windows; as they read the story to students. Students were asked to think about both versions and decide which story they believed.

"Our students from pre kinder all the way through fifth grade

thoroughly enjoyed the hard work and efforts of those who worked on this reading project. It is an experience they will never forget," stated Gabriel Medrano, BCE Counselor.

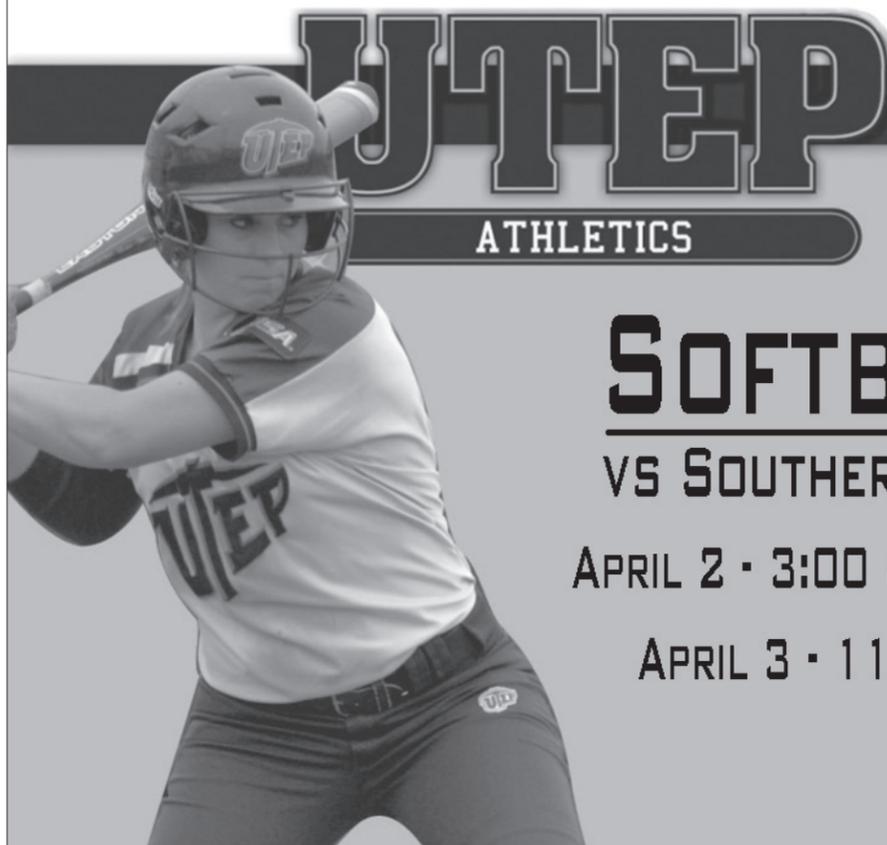
— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

PIGGING OUT — Fourth graders at Bill Childress Elementary School, Fidel Rodriguez at left and Oscar Chavez, are treated to marranitos (gingerbread cookies in the shape of a pig), after listening to "The True Story of the Three Little Pigs" during the BCE spring reading event.



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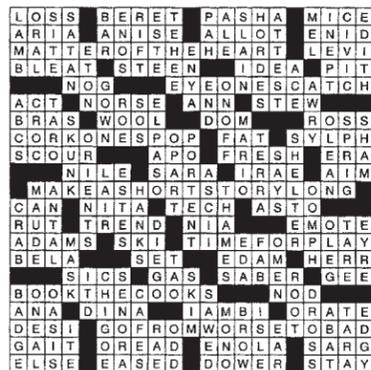
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TexasSure catches drivers without insurance.

Another UTEP basketball coach bolts after The Dance

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

When's the last time you had that eerie feeling of déjà vu?

I had it just a few days ago as soon as I sat down to collect my thoughts about Tony Barbee's departure from El Paso.

I seem to remember writing the exact same thing about Billy Gillispie and Doc Sadler.

And so it goes for the UTEP Miners — the place where great basketball coaches come from — or escape from — depending on your perspective.

As UTEP fans had feared since he signed his contract four years ago, Barbee skedaddled the Sun City the first chance he got.

And honestly, how can you blame the guy? The Auburn Tigers will pay him a million-and-a-half bucks while UTEP reaches deep into its pockets to dish out close to \$300,000.

If you were 38 years old and had a young family living in El Paso — what would you do?

What makes Barbee's decision to leave so painful is the fact that the Miners have a definite top-25 team returning next season.

Now we have to sit and see how many players will decide to leave the program, if any.

An El Paso Times article last week kicked up a lot of discussion around the city about how this town was the biggest in the country without affiliated professional baseball.

And that's not all.

Now we see another top-notch coach bolt El Paso faster than you can say "Western

Playland" or "El Paso SportsPark" or "Ascarate Olympic Swimming Pool" or "Downtown Arena" or any number of reasons young people are growing up here and then leaving for greener pastures.

They are leaving for cities that are on the move. They're leaving for cities that do whatever they can to get things done - instead of coming up with whatever excuse they can to explain why they can't.

It's too bad that a city of El Paso's size, which everyone knows is closer to a million people than the usually reported 650,000, suffers from such low self-esteem.

I truly believe that the only guarantee in life is that you will fail if you don't try.

If you give it a shot you may win or you may lose, but you will always lose if you don't take that shot.

Pretty simple stuff, but El Paso will always wallow among the lower echelon of American cities until it starts to take chances.

When's the last time El Paso did something daring? When's the last time El Paso did something extraordinary?

With Fort Bliss expanding by leaps and bounds, now is the time for the city to invite all kinds of industry, entertainment and quality of life entities to make their way here and enjoy the best weather in the United States.

Barbee leaving is just another reminder that this city isn't thought of as the place to be — El Paso is thought of as the place to be from.

Now Bob Stull and Diana Natalicio will try to find a suitable replacement for what should be one of the better basketball jobs in the country.

Of course they won't be busy hiring a coach, they're probably just rent a coach for two or three seasons.

The first names to arise were Billy Gillispie and Tim Floyd. The biggest problem with both these guys is the baggage they carry around with them.

Gillispie has made a habit of gulping a few beers and getting behind the wheel and Floyd made national news by paying someone to get a recruit to sign with him while at USC.

Can you imagine the field day other coaches will have reminding potential recruits and their parents of the actions of either coach.

But then again Mike Price did take UTEP to two bowl games.

Those of us who are old enough to remember knew a time when the sun always came up in the morning, the moon always showed its face at night and Don Haskins was the coach of UTEP basketball.

I guess the days of a successful coach hanging around El Paso for 38 years are long gone.

Though he's struggled to put a winning team on the field the last few years, you at least have to respect Price for sticking around El Paso and making himself available to the fans.

Again, you really can't blame Barbee for leaving. And you can't blame the next guy — or the next guy — or the...



A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Put up or shut up

This is the part of the season when sportswriters are supposed to earn their paycheck.

Anyone can write the Super Bowl and NCAA Tournament stories. The Brothers Grimm would make a killing with credentials. They easily could have filed the stories you read about winners and losers and upsets and adversity. Cinderella this, David and Goliath that, slap on the byline and hit the buffet. (Just once I'd like to see a team that wins

ugly referred to as the tournament's "Rumpelstiltskin.")

As we wait for the never-ending NBA and NHL regular seasons to shuffle into their never-ending playoff schedule, the NFL Draft and the start of the new baseball season dominate the heart and mind of the typical American sports fan. As luck would have it, expert journalists and talk-show hosts are standing by. They're the ones able to tell you about the kid's high-school career,

how fast he ran the 50-yard dash, how he hit in the Turks & Caicos winter league and, of course, his marital status and mistress count.

That is in no way meant to devalue or denigrate the fan's take on these weighty matters of professional sport. There are people out there who can make Bill James blush when it comes to rattling off statistics. I know a guy who is four fish sticks short of being the Rain Man when it comes to his favorite player's vitals.

But if you've ever listened to sports talk shows, you know that the gap between most callers and the host is pretty seismic. I grew up listening to Art Rust Jr. in New York, and he had a very strict rule for callers: no hypothetical trades. He had to, because it got out of hand. You'd get Moishe in Yonkers calling the show every night, proposing Bobby Meacham for Nolan Ryan, straight up.

So yeah, this is the time for the pros to step up, shake off the lingering fallout from the Ryan Leaf predictions and hand in this year's draft forecast and preseason baseball picks. For only a seasoned professional armed with a four-year journalism degree (five-year, if you wanted to learn more) and a host of custom spreadsheets filled with all sorts of algorithms and matrices can tell you to pick the stud quarterback in the first round. It takes a village of bright-eyed and bushy-tailed college interns with high-speed Internet

connections and Android phones the size of a smart car to bring him to the profound conclusion that, yes, it appears the Yankees may win it all this year.

Somewhere in that great pressbox in the sky, Grantland Rice and the Brothers Grimm are munching on the complimentary popcorn and laughing.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter and publisher of The Kansas City Luminary. (c) 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

Briefs

From Page 1

gearing up to host its 8th Annual Golf Tournament to be held the morning of Friday, April 23, 2010 at the Painted Dunes Desert Golf Course. Entry includes continental breakfast, beverages on the course, luncheon with fabulous raffle prizes, and a great goodie bag! The price is \$400 for a team of 4; all men and women in El Paso are welcome to play. Proceeds to go to local charities. If you are interested in participating in this worth while event, please contact us at epjwcp@yahoo.com or call Grace at 915-949-2293.

— Beth Podol

HPV vaccine

Beginning March 2010, Immunize El Paso made Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine available to male patients. The vaccine originally received the nod from the FDA allowing use

for men back in October 2009, however funding through the Vaccines for Children program was not available until recently. This is a great opportunity to help curb cervical cancer by combating the issue on both sides. Vaccinating men against HPV will impact the spread of HPV. It is estimated that HPV will affect 75% to 85% of men and women in their lifetime. HPV has been linked to cervical, vaginal and vulvar cancers in women. Although men cannot contract these types of cancers, the vaccine protects males against 90% of HPV caused genital warts. Male HPV vaccination can also protect males from contracting and spreading HPV to women. For more information on how to protect yourself or your children against HPV, please contact Immunize El Paso at 915-533-3414 or visit the clinic at 222 S. Campbell, El Paso, TX 79901. General vaccine information can be found at immunizeelpaso.org.

— Dusty Warden

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Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Informacion: 838-6264.



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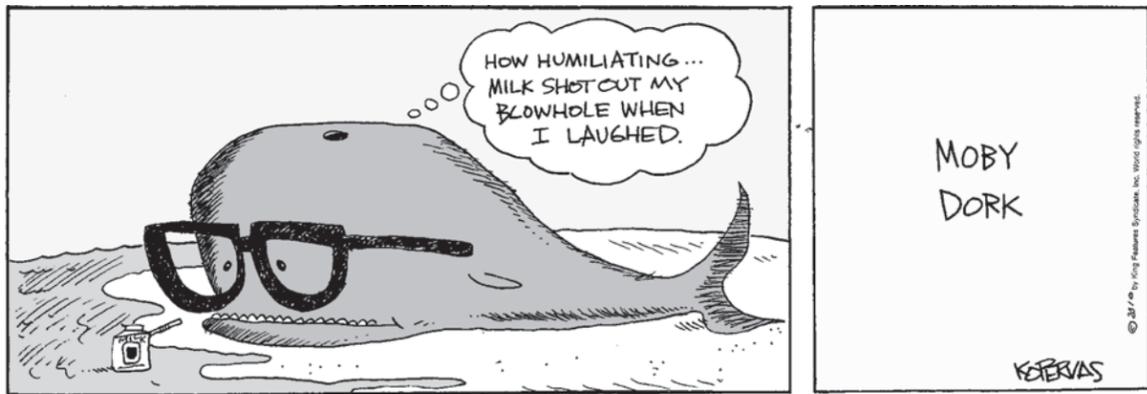
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OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Your good health By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: For the past six months, I have had no energy. I teach third grade. My doctor checked my thyroid gland, and it turns out it's not working well. I am now taking replacement thyroid hormone. How long does it take for me to recover my former energy? Also, my cholesterol was high. Is that part of this deal? — M.O.

such warts disappear without any treatment. Some can return, and there is not a whole lot to do about preventing a second visit.

However, there is much to do about a plantar wart that hurts. The method chosen for wart removal must not leave a scar. A scar on the bottom of the foot causes more trouble than does a wart.

It can take three to six months for your hormone level to reach a normal plateau. That's when you'll feel like your old self again. A person with low thyroid hormone often has a rise in blood cholesterol. The level will fall as soon as the replacement hormone is working.

Look on the shelves of any drugstore for wart-removal products that contain salicylic acid, and follow the directions for application carefully. Be patient. It takes more than one application to get rid of the wart.

The booklet on thyroid problems discusses both under- and overactive thyroid glands. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donahue — No. 401W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

Duct tape sometimes works. That's right — duct tape, the tape you buy in a hardware store. Cover the wart with a piece of it for six days. Remove the tape, soak the foot and then gently rub the wart with a pumice stone, obtainable in drugstores. Reapply the tape after 12 hours. You might have to repeat this procedure for two months before the wart leaves.

If home remedies bring no success, the family doctor can step in with more involved treatments.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Would you address plantar warts? I've been told they're from a virus in the body and that nothing can be done for them or keep them from recurring. Is this so? — D.W.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: What causes skin tags? They hang from my neck and under my arms. — D.H.

Their cause isn't known. Your doctor can clip them off without any fuss. By age 69, 60 percent of us have one or more of them.

All warts, wherever they are, come from an infection with one of the more than 100 human papillomaviruses — HPV. Individual members of the HPV family have a preference for particular body sites. Some head for the soles of the feet to cause plantar warts. "Plantar" is derived from a Latin word meaning "sole of the foot."

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2010 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

If a plantar wart isn't kicking up a fuss, it can be left alone. It's not going to do any harm. Many

Super Crossword

- REVERSE LOGIC ACROSS**
- 1 Deprivation
 - 5 Tours topper
 - 10 Turkish title
 - 15 They squeak for themselves
 - 19 "Carmen" highlight
 - 20 Absinthe ingredient
 - 21 Parcel out
 - 22 Oklahoma city
 - 23 Romance?
 - 26 Stubbs or Strauss
 - 27 Sound from 1
- DOWN**
- 28 Dutch artist
 - 29 Scheme
 - 31 Cavity
 - 32 Eggy beverage
 - 34 Count the fish?
 - 38 Make believe
 - 41 Scandinavian
 - 45 Novelist Radcliffe
 - 46 Prepare prunes
 - 47 Some underwear
 - 49 Coat material
 - 50 Comic DeLuise
 - 52 Marion of "Happy Days"
 - 56 Stifle Dad?
 - 60 Steak trimmings
 - 62 Graceful girl
 - 63 Clean the sink
 - 64 GI's address
 - 65 Straight from the garden
 - 67 Historical period
- 68 Khartoum's river
 - 71 Likable Lee
 - 73 "Dies _"
 - 74 Prepare to shoot
 - 75 Write a novel?
 - 80 Pantry item
 - 81 Talbot or Naldi
 - 82 Part of MIT
 - 83 Concerning
 - 84 Furrow
 - 85 Statistical focus
 - 87 Long or Peeples
 - 88 Chew the scenery
 - 92 Monroe's successor
 - 94 Go downhill fast
 - 95 Recess?
 - 99 Lurid Lugosi
 - 100 Congeal
 - 102 Cheeseboard choice
 - 103 Munich mister
 - 104 Incites Rover
 - 108 Vapor
 - 110 Cavalry weapon
 - 112 "Well, I'll be!"
 - 113 Hire a caterer?
 - 118 Wordless greeting
 - 120 Literary collection
 - 121 Actress Merrill
 - 122 Metrical feet
 - 126 Declaim
 - 130 Actor Amaz
 - 132 Improve?
 - 136 Trot or gallop
 - 137 Mountain nymph
 - 138 "_ Gay"
 - 139 Puppeteer Tony
- 140 In addition
 - 141 Mitigated
 - 142 Widow's inheritance
 - 143 Collar feature
- DOWN**
- 1 It becomes ewe?
 - 2 College exam
 - 3 Location
 - 4 Lucifer
 - 5 Candy quantity
 - 6 Adam's grandson
 - 7 Fissure
 - 8 Tivoli's Villa d'_
 - 9 Snicker sound
 - 10 "Fie!"
 - 11 Ginger _
 - 12 Murdered
 - 13 Mobs
 - 14 Bear out
 - 15 Tillis or Ferrer
 - 16 Bumbling
 - 17 Communal
 - 18 Mrs. Archie
 - 24 British school
 - 25 "Wild Child" singer
 - 30 "Stroker _" ('83 film)
 - 33 Wedding wear
 - 35 Terminate accessory
 - 36 Switch words
 - 37 Crooked
 - 38 Basics
 - 39 Gator's cousin
 - 40 Poi base
 - 42 Caviar
- 43 Sea plea
 - 44 '59 Marty Robbins hit
 - 48 Scenter of attention?
 - 51 Tenor Del Monaco
 - 53 New York city
 - 54 Bit of parsley
 - 55 Mock
 - 57 Sets straight
 - 58 '60s designs
 - 59 Sign
 - 61 _ cotta
 - 62 Asylum
 - 66 Emulates Simon
 - 69 Den
 - 70 Senator Kefauver
 - 72 Computer acronym
 - 75 Bea Arthur role
 - 76 Maestro Dorati
 - 77 "Big" star
 - 78 Runnymede's river
 - 79 Vitality
 - 80 Zodiac crustacean
 - 86 San _ CA
 - 89 Colleague of Yves and Christian
 - 90 Grocer's measure
 - 91 Bronte heroine
 - 93 Halloween
 - 96 Author LeShan
 - 97 Super, for short
 - 98 Harbinger
 - 101 Eastern "Way"
 - 105 Common contraction
- 106 Sand flea
 - 107 Lady of Spain
 - 109 - milk
 - 111 Carrot or parsnip
 - 113 Scout's honor?
 - 114 Ryan of "Barry Lyndon"
 - 115 "Wonderwall" rockers
 - 116 Java joints
 - 117 Worked wood
 - 119 Refuse
 - 123 Non-stereo
 - 124 Forehead
 - 125 Belle _ FL
 - 127 Blind as _
 - 128 Skater Lipinski
 - 129 High-strung
 - 131 Mineral suffix
 - 133 _ Dawn Chong
 - 134 Peculiar
 - 135 Organ of equilibrium

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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: Q equals B

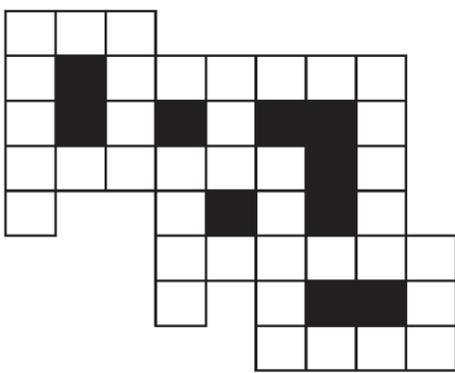
EBAPN MOC QBNLQADPNCG
EOB ZBJJCJJCN MOC QDHH CJM
ZCYMBGTP FAJYPCJ QC T
YOCJMFTJMCG?

Answer Page 4

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- OB Y
- S M A L T O
- U M B L P
- R E S E
- B Y D O M E
- T T O
- ♥ Y A R T
- M O R R U
- ♥ P S A
- R Y M R A T
- ♥ R A Y S E
- ♥ T A P R



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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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: How does Social Security decide if I am disabled?

A: For an adult to be considered disabled, Social Security must determine that you are unable to do the work you did before and unable to adjust to any other work which exists in significant numbers in the national economy. Also, your disability must last or be expected

to last for at least one year or to result in death. Social Security pays only for total disability. No benefits are payable for partial disability or short-term disability (less than a year). For more information, we recommend you read *Disability Benefits* (SSA Publication No. 05-10029), available online at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10029.html.

Q: What is "full retirement age" and what happens if I apply for Social Security benefits before then?

A: Full retirement age is the age when you are eligible to receive Social Security retirement benefits without a reduction in your benefits. If you were born before 1938, your full retirement age is 65. If you were born in 1938 or after, your full retirement age will be higher, depending on the year you were born. You can find your full retirement age at www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/retirechart.htm. If you decide to apply for retirement benefits before your full retirement age (as early as age 62), your benefits will be reduced. For example, here's how it would work if your full retirement age is 66. If you start your retirement benefits at age 62, your monthly benefit amount is reduced by about 25 percent. The reduction for starting benefits at age:
 • 63 is about 20 percent;
 • 64 is about 13.3 percent; and
 • 65 is about 6.7 percent.
 You can learn more by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: I am nearing my full retirement age, but I plan to keep working after I apply for Social Security benefits. Will my benefits be reduced because of my income?

A: No. If you apply for benefits once you've reached your full retirement age, you can work while you receive Social Security and your current benefit will not be reduced because of the earned income. If you keep working, it could mean a higher benefit for you in the future. Higher benefits can be important to you later in life and increase the future benefit amounts your survivors could receive. If you receive benefits before your full retirement age, your earnings could reduce your monthly benefit amount. After you reach full retirement age, we recalculate your benefit amount to leave out the months when we reduced or withheld benefits due to your excess earnings. You can learn more by reading our publication, *How Work Affects Your Benefits*, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10069.html.

Q: My brother had an accident at work last year and is now receiving Social Security disability benefits for himself, his wife, and daughter. Before his accident, he helped support another daughter he had by a woman he never married. Is the second child entitled to some benefits as well?

A: Even though your brother wasn't married to the second child's mother, the child may qualify for Social Security benefits. Someone should file an application on the child's behalf. If she is found to be eligible, both children would receive equal benefits. Learn more by reading our online publication, *Disability Benefits*, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10029.html.

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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