



NEWSBRIEFS

Anthony parade

The Town of Anthony will sponsor its annual 4th of July Parade with a two day festival the 2nd and 3rd of July. The town is soliciting entries in the parade and also vendors for the festival. The parade will take place on Monday the 4th at 10:00 a.m. The route will start at the Anthony Sonic in New Mexico, going south to Franklin Street in Anthony, Texas and then east to the Anthony Municipal Park. The festival will be on Saturday and Sunday the 2nd and 3rd from 5:00 p.m. to midnight (gates open at 4:00). There will be food booths, live music, arts and crafts, and refreshments. The Saturday highlight will be "Lucha Libre" and Sunday will be the annual fireworks extravaganza put on by the Town of Anthony following Wet N Wilds fireworks. For information on entering the parade or to be a vendor contact the Town of Anthony at 886-3944 or Mayor Art Franco at 726-6788 and afranco@townofanthony.org. The public is invited to attend and participate in this 4th of July celebration. This year's theme will be, "Our Protectors, Past and Future."

— Art Franco

In command

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Ivan A. Jimenez, a 1992 graduate of Fabens High School, recently took command of the USS Dubuque (LPD 8) during a change of command ceremony at Naval Station San Diego, CA. Command of the ship was passed down from Capt. Christopher E. Bolt. The ceremony took place April 7 and was held in a traditional Navy fashion. Everything from the sailor's uniforms to the patriotic decorations and music was the same as it would have been almost 50 years ago, when the ship had its first change of command. The Dubuque has had 29 commanding officers since its commissioning in 1967. Jimenez will be the 30th and final commanding officer of the warship, and is the only one to hold a rank under that of captain. Three noteworthy accomplishments of the ship are its extraction of the last operational Marine Corps helicopter from Vietnam in 1971, its presence in the first amphibious readiness group on scene at the start of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2001, and its involvement in the takeover of the motor vessel Magellan Star in 2010. Jimenez joined the Navy in June 1996.

— Kathleen Sullivan

Day of Prayer

Gov. Rick Perry has proclaimed Saturday, Aug. 6, as a Day of Prayer and Fasting for our Nation to seek God's guidance and wisdom in addressing the challenges that face our communities, states and nation. He has invited governors across

See BRIEFS, Page 5

The greatest paradox of them all is to speak of "civilized warfare."

— Quips & Quotes

SEISD honors Teachers and Employees of the Year

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – In a dining room adorned with hundreds of twinkling lights and silver foil decorations, the only ones shining brighter were the 13 outstanding teachers and employees from the San Elizario Independent School District who were honored on May 26 at the district's 2011 Star Recognition Banquet. The annual ceremony recognizes top staff members and teachers nominated from different campuses and department for the district's highest achievement awards. The top winners announced that evening were Laura Rodriguez – Employee of the Year, Maria Carrillo – Elementary Teacher of the Year, and Cecilia Fogerson – Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Laura Rodriguez has been an elementary school nurse in San Elizario ISD since 1998 and currently serves at Alarcon Elementary School. She is active both at the campus and district level participating in the Health Advisory Council, Book of the Month Committee, and Campus Safety Committee among others. Rodriguez promotes health and wellness to students, faculty and the community in general through the numerous presentations she offers throughout the school year and by working cooperatively with her colleagues on different campus initiatives. Besides holding a health science bachelor's degree in nursing, Rodriguez also has extensive healthcare experience in numerous nursing specialties.

As a former San Elizario High School student, Maria



Maria Carrillo

Carrillo can offer her students a firsthand perspective on how to overcome challenges to become academically successfully. Carrillo's present position is as a fourth-grade teacher at Alarcon Elementary school where she has taught for five years. She began her career in San Elizario ISD as a crossing guard and monitor while also attending school and raising two children on her own. In 2006 she realized a significant personal goal when she proudly walked across the graduation stage to receive her diploma in interdisciplinary studies with a minor in bilingual education.

With over 45 years of teaching experience, Cecilia Fogerson has had a front seat view to the evolution of education gaining vast knowledge that has helped her enhance learning for her students. She serves as an ESL teacher at San Elizario High School where she works diligently to prepare



Laura Rodriguez

newcomer students to learn a new language, pass their courses and state-mandated tests, and assume their place in their new home in the United States. Fogerson holds a reading certification and an ESL endorsement and regularly partners with fellow teachers and administrators to find effective strategies to address the needs of all students in her classroom.

The three district winners were each awarded a star trophy, a bouquet of roses and a \$500 stipend. Carrillo and Fogerson have now advanced to the Region 19 Teacher of the Year competition where they will represent the San Elizario Independent School District this summer.

All 13 nominees received a star award and were recognized by Board Vice-President Ramon Holguin, Trustee Jose Rodriguez, and Superintendent Dr. Mike

See SEISD, Page 8



Cecilia Fogerson

Honorable mentions

- Maggie Benavidez - Loya Primary School Employee Of the Year
- Sylvia Rey-Duran - Borrego Elementary School Employee Of the Year
- Rachel Quiñonez - Sambrano Elementary School Employee Of the Year
- Patricia Frausto - Garcia-Enriquez Middle School Employee Of the Year
- Janie Lopez - San Elizario High School Employee Of the Year
- David Gossett - Support Services Employee Of the Year
- Nora Almanzar - Loya Primary School Teacher Of the Year
- Yvette Magallanes - Borrego Elementary School Teacher Of the Year
- Maribel Corral - Sambrano Elementary School Teacher Of the Year
- Michael Young - Garcia-Enriquez Middle School Teacher Of the Year

EPPC library offers variety of summer classes

By Don Woodyard
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – You name it; they probably have it.

We are talking about the varied and fun-filled activities available through the multi-faceted summer program at the Jenna Welch & Laura Bush Community Library at the Northwest Campus of El Paso Community College.

Registration for the program is currently under way at the library and runs through June 17. A total of 48 one-hour classes will be offered. Most classes meet twice a week. They begin June 13. There is a \$10 processing fee for some classes. Others are free.

Summer programs at libraries once focused largely on providing a reading environment for children. That concept has changed. It has expanded and evolved, embracing high-tech teaching tools in an outreach to not only the children, but also their families for a more well-rounded learning experience.

Reflecting these changing times is the

upcoming summer program at the EPCC community library located at 6701 South Desert Blvd., adjacent to Canutillo High School. The program began in 2005 and has grown in popularity and attendance over the past six years.

Approximately 6,000 attended summer classes last year, says head librarian Monica Wong. (In explanation of the large number: If one person attends three classes, then he or she is counted as three attendees.)

Classes, a blend of traditional reading methods and high-tech accessories (I-pods and talking E-boards), cover a wide variety of interests and activities for both adults and children. They include bead-working, creative writing, technology for toddlers and families, ballroom dancing, sign language, Chinese soccer, belly dancing, Tai Chi, story time, read to your pet and discover our desert.

"It is really fun," says Wong. "Kids are learning side by side with their parents."

Annette Brigham, executive director for school resources for the Canutillo Independent School District, sees another benefit.

A hint of the fun to come is found in titles of

some of the classes offered.

- Magic Treehouse Mondays: "Have fun reading Magic Treehouse books and creating projects to share with each other."
- Parent Child Book Club: "Learn about different books to share with your children."
- Discover the Desert Series: "Learn about desert wildflowers, rocks, bats, butterflies, owls and insects."
- Backyard Ecology: "Have an outdoor adventure in the library. Learn about camping, nature and more."

"This reading program has been very beneficial to the children of the school district," she points out. Brigham, a former elementary and middle-school teacher, says some of her former students have participated in the program.

"This summer time can be a period when learning takes a backseat," she adds. "And this reading program is a great way to keep children from sliding back. On top of everything else, it also helps them keep their vocabulary development going through a love

See LIBRARY, Page 4

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 22, 2011 in the Canutillo ISD Administration Office, Board Room, 7965 Artcraft, El Paso, Texas 79932. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Maintenance Tax | \$1.170000/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations) |
| School Debt Service Tax | |
| Approved by Local Voters | \$0.252100/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness) |

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Maintenance and Operations | 3.82% Increase |
| Debt Service | 22.07% Increase |
| Total Expenditures | 5.79% Increase |

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

| | Preceding Tax Year | Current Tax Year |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
| Total appraised value* of all property | \$ 2,037,502,273 | \$ 2,218,097,050 |
| Total appraised value* of new property** | \$ 67,096,683 | \$ 66,577,174 |
| Total taxable value*** of all property | \$ 1,370,208,326 | \$ 1,532,601,599 |
| Total taxable value*** of new property** | \$ 64,916,919 | \$ 66,252,924 |

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$69,894,991

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

| | Maintenance & Operations | Interest & Sinking Fund* | Total | Local Revenue Per Student | State Revenue Per Student |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Last Year's Rate | \$ 1.040000 | \$ 0.252100* | \$ 1.292100 | \$ 3,175 | \$ 5,388 |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$ 1.045630 | \$ 0.281720* | \$ 1.327350 | \$ 2,769 | \$ 5,358 |
| Proposed Rate | \$ 1.170000 | \$ 0.252100* | \$ 1.422100 | \$ 3,597 | \$ 5,849 |

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

| | Last Year | This Year |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Average Market Value of Residences | \$ 136,936 | \$ 142,123 |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences | \$ 121,481 | \$ 125,876 |
| Last Year's Rate Versus | | |
| Proposed Rate per \$100 Value | \$ 1.292100 | \$ 1.422100 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence | \$ 1,570.00 | \$ 1,790.00 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes | | \$ 220.00 |

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.292910. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.292910.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$ 5,045,692 |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) | \$ 974,825 |

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

WWII vets deserve to see memorial

We're losing some 1,000 World War II veterans per day due to advancing age. Sadly, many of them have died without ever seeing the World War II memorial built in their honor in Washington DC.

Honor Flights Network is a not-for-profit all-volunteer grassroots effort started in 2005 to bring as many World War II veterans as possible to Washington, D.C. at no cost to the veteran. By the end of 2010, the group had flown 63,000 veterans to see their memorial.

To keep costs down, the trips are made one day, flying in and out and traveling on special buses. If you want to go, don't let any medical condition, need for oxygen or wheelchair stop you. You can be accommodated if you want to make the trip. Check the website for scheduled trips. If there is no hub city near you, sign up anyway, as new hubs are opening all the time.

Here's how others can help:
 • Gather contributions from your service group, friends, church and workplace. (Honor Flights

won't accept a dime if you're a World War II veteran, however.) Donations are tax deductible. Send to Honor Flight, Inc., Attn: Diane Gresse, 300 E. Auburn Ave., Springfield, OH 45505

• Volunteer as a Guardian: an escort for up to three veterans. If you have a medical or EMT background, even better. Or volunteer to escort a veteran who doesn't live near an air hub city. (See the Solo and Lone Eagle information on the website.)

• Print out an application for a veteran who has no Internet access. Help him or her fill it out and send it in. Send email to veteran-application@honorflight.org, or call 937-521-2400 for more information.

Given the age of these veterans, time is really running out.

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) 2011 King Features Synd., Inc.

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www.texaslung.org

1-800-LUNG-USA



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

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Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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

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Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Water voting rights

Hola mi gente. Well the regular session is now history but I am still in Austin for the special session. Since some appropriation bills did not pass, and the session failed to pass other issues, the governor proclaimed a special session.

In the regular session, my office worked on several bills with the intent of passing them or incorporating them in other bills. Over the next weeks, I shall update you on those bills.

One of two priorities in the session was passing a bill that protected agriculture in the rural areas of the county. Water is the key to farmers; especially irrigation water. Recently, there have been attempts to wrestle control of irrigation water from the farmers to special interests.

In past sessions, attempts to weaken the El Paso County Water Improvement District #1(District) were stopped by the efforts of my chief of staff and myself on the house floor. For example, we drew up a point of order that killed a senate amendment in 2007.

House bill 1464, a bill I had previously filed in 2005, would allow the District to define the eligible voters who elect officers. This would allow those who pay the taxes for irrigation services to be the only voters.

Many during this session, as happened in 2005, mistakenly argued that the bill violated the voting rights of minorities in the county. The bill was referred to as a voter restriction bill.

Nothing could have been further from the truth. Even the *El Paso Times* refused to understand the true benefits of passing the bill.

The provisions of the bill have been supported by Supreme Court decisions since 1973 throughout the United States. It concurred that those who bear a disproportionate share of sustaining the district should have the exclusive right to vote.

Although the bill is rather simple, it took most of the session to argue our points and to convince the El Paso delegation members that it was a bill beneficial for El Paso County.

Now other legislators and senators understand that the thousands of minority farmers who own the smaller farms – and are the taxpayers to the District – could lose their voice in District matters if the bill failed. Even MALDEF, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, withheld their protest (that killed the bill in 2005).

I appreciate the help of Senator Jose Rodriguez in passing the law. His identical bill, SB 832, actually went through the house and senate eventually being signed by the governor.

Now that this legislation has passed, farmers can be confident of controlling their destiny by controlling the irrigation water that flows from the Rio Grande. Many in El Paso do not realize that agriculture accounts for tens, if not hundreds, of millions of dollars in commerce for our county.

I am very proud of the work that my office did in order to pass the bill. We were determined not to be hindered by false public claims or by the refusal by the press to admit that the bill was very beneficial for El Paso.

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



2011 UTEP FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS ON SALE STARTING AS LOW AS \$75!

UTEP fans who renew or purchase football season tickets prior to June 1 will be entered into a special "30 Prizes in 30 Days" drawing. For each day in the month of June, a variety of prizes will be given away, including polos, t-shirts, back packs, jerseys, flags, footballs and more. The grand prize, to be awarded on June 30, is a trip for two to the Miners' game at UCF in Orlando. Award-winners will be contacted and posted on the UTEP Athletics Facebook page.

Call 747-6150 Today For Your Tickets!

2011 UTEP FOOTBALL HOME SCHEDULE

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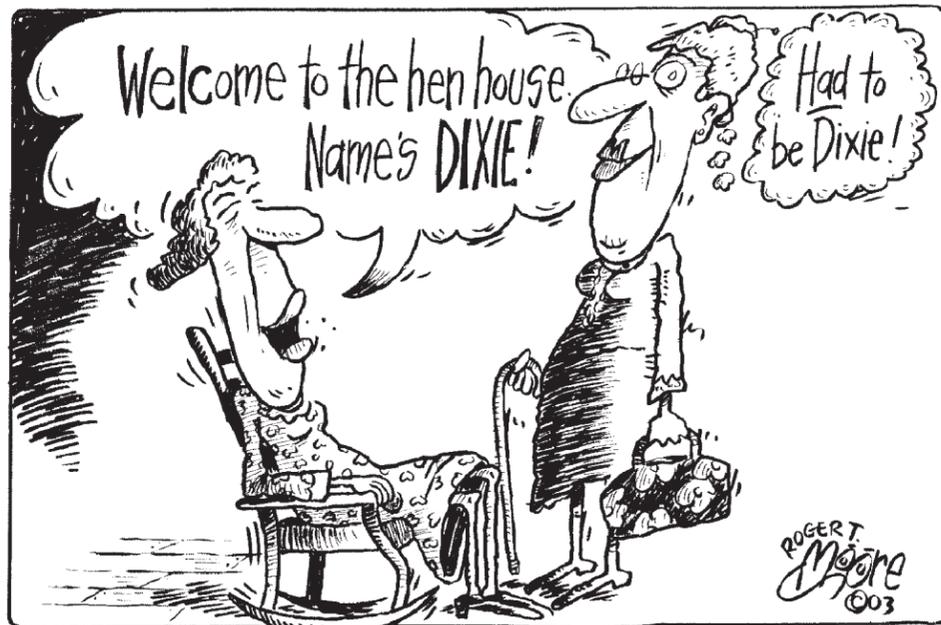
TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger Moore June 3, 1908, The Confederate Woman's Home opens near Austin to care for widows of Confederate soldiers.

Q. Does the Catholic Church have a position on pedophilia?

A. Judge @222.kansasatt@star/judge@kestar.com



Yes.



ArcelorMittal Vinton recognized for community involvement

By **Alfredo Vasquez**
Special to the Courier

Local 6424-1, was awarded the 2011 Community Involvement Award by the Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA). ArcelorMittal Vinton General

ArcelorMittal Vinton, in partnership with United Steelworkers along with other representatives of the local facility, accepted this award at the SMA Annual Members Conference in Washington DC in May. According to the SMA, ArcelorMittal Vinton was

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

TDHCA
221 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701
512-475-0430

West Texas County Courier
June 9, 2011

On or about June 17, 2011, the TDHCA will submit a request to HUD for the release of HOME funds under Title II of the Cranston Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, to undertake a project known as HOME Reservation Funds for contracts #1001280 and #1001309, for the purpose of the rehabilitation/reconstruction of single family homes in the colonias of El Paso County, Texas. Reconstructed homes will range from 1-3 bedrooms and between 800 – 1200 square feet. This project is following a tiering plan, and site specifics will be submitted as addresses are known. Funding in the Reservation System is on a first-come, first-serve basis, but as funding available, the intent is to assist a minimum of (4) and up to (12) low-income family households.

The activities proposed are Categorically Excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR 58.35(a) from National Environmental Policy Act requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at TDHCA, 221 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701 and may be examined or copied weekdays 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the TDHCA. All comments received by June 16, 2011, will be considered by TDHCA prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The TDHCA certifies to HUD that Lora Myrick in her capacity as Director of Program Services consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows AYUDA, Inc. to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and the TDHCA certification received by July 5, 2011, or for a period of fifteen days following its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the TDHCA; (b) the TDHCA has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the project have committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to HUD Fort Worth Regional Office at 801 Cherry Street, Unit #45 – Suite 2500, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Certifying Officer: Tom Gouris, Deputy Executive Director, Housing Programs, TDHCA.



PRO-COMMUNITY –The Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA) 2011 Community Involvement Award was given to ArcelorMittal Vinton. The SMA presented the award during its Annual Member Conference held in May in Washington DC. Company representatives – with the award – from left are Penny Sexton, Corporate Responsibility Manager; Jose De La Cruz, Quality Control Foreman; Rangaswamy Kesavan, General Manager; and Cynthia Moreno, Human Resources Coordinator/ Training.

recognized for its continuous efforts in building and sustaining quality community partnerships, managing stakeholder engagement and increasing involvement in local programs and initiatives reflecting corporate goals. In 2010 the company provided approximately \$50,000 in financial support to nonprofit organizations in the areas of education, the environment and health and safety.

“Corporate responsibility is about more than being a good corporate citizen. It’s a promise to operate in a responsible way, demonstrating leadership in the areas of workplace, sustainability, communities and governance,” said Kesavan.

According to company officials some of the highlights of the local plant’s commitment to community involvement include:

- Emphasizing strong local leadership through the establishment of a Council for Stronger Communities (CSC), which ensures the company is transparent and engaged with the local community;
- Donating to nonprofit organizations in Vinton and

surrounding communities;

- Employee participation in volunteer activities donating more than 900 hours of community service throughout local communities;

- Establishing a community response e-mail and phone line to allow timely responses for local stakeholder inquiries;

- Serving as a charter member of the Canutillo Independent School District (ISD) Business Education Success Team to ensure students graduate from high school better equipped to attend college; and

- Participating in Keep Vinton Beautiful, an initiative that sponsors Rio Grande River Way clean-up as well as highway and bulk waste clean-up.

This mini-mill operation produces approximately 260,000 metric tons of steel using electric arc furnace (EAF) technology and rolls approximately 240,000 metric tons of steel. They specialize in producing rebar for the commercial and industrial construction industries, as well as fabricated products, grinding balls and smooth rounds. They currently employ about 350 people.

Library

From Page 1

for reading.”

The Canutillo school district came to EPCC in 2008 to ask its help in developing activities for its migrant education program. The thrust of

the effort was to teach parents and toddlers technology and literacy.

With the expertise of 18 Central American educators, the program combined technology with storytelling, singing and reading. Among other things, children and parents get library cards. They learn about the book collection and how to check books in and out.

According to a 2009 article written by Roxanne Shroeder, “The visiting instructors from Central America sat in on a Family Literacy and Technology with migrant worker moms and their kids to learn how to use high tech tools like a ‘smartboard’ to teach literacy through sharing stories and using color, shape and number games.”

For more information on EPCC’s summer program, call 831-8840.

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CryptoQuip Answer

If a tombstone is about to fall over and hit you, you might say you’re in grave danger.

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Briefs

From Page 1

the country to join him on Aug. 6 to participate in The Response, a non-denominational, apolitical, Christian prayer meeting hosted by the American Family Association at Reliant Stadium in Houston. Perry also urged fellow governors to issue similar proclamations encouraging their constituents to pray that day for unity and righteousness for our states, nation and mankind. "Given the trials that beset our nation and world, from the global economic downturn to natural disasters, the lingering danger of terrorism and continued debasement of our culture, I believe it is time to convene the leaders from each of our United States in a day of prayer and fasting, like that described in the book of Joel," Perry said. "I urge all Americans of faith to pray on that day for the healing of our country, the rebuilding of our communities and the restoration of enduring values as our guiding force."

— Katherine Cesinger

Arrested

Former Mission Valley Ballroom administrator Donna Cortez Flores and the ballroom's former manager Ricardo Espinoza have been arrested for taking thousands of dollars in advance payments from consumers and the not returning it when the party hall closed. Police reports indicate that from September 2008 up until January 2011, the defendants received more than \$98,000 from 36 residents who paid them in advance to hold events at the Mission Valley Ballroom scheduled for 2011. After closing the ballroom at the beginning of this year, the defendants are alleged to have failed to return the money to the victims. El Paso County Attorney Jo Anne Bernal said, "A business owner who takes money in advance, receives that money in trust. If they choose to violate that trust, the law holds them accountable." El Paso County Attorney's Office filed criminal charges in relation to six of the victims, and continues investigating the cases for the remaining 30 victims. Additional arrests are likely. Residents who believe they might be victims of this or any other similar case, are asked to contact the Criminal Section of the County Attorney's Office, at 546-2050.

— Elhiu Dominguez

Crime Stoppers

The El Paso Police Department is investigating two incidents in which the same man has gone into a store and exposed himself to a female, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." On Tuesday, March 8, the suspect went to the children's clothing area in the Walmart store at 7101 Gateway West and exposed himself to a female. He fled from the building before security personnel were called in. Two and a half weeks later,

on Thursday, March 31, the same suspect entered the same store and went to the same area, where he again exposed himself to a female. The victim walked away from the suspect, but the suspect later returned and exposed himself again. Once again, he fled before security personnel could reach him. The suspect in both incidents, as seen in surveillance video, is a white or Hispanic man who appears to be in his 40s. He has a balding head, mustache, and prescription glasses. The suspect is wearing a black short sleeve shirt that appears to have the logo of Montwood High School or Montwood Middle School on it. The photos have been shown to employees at both schools, but the suspect remains unidentified. If you have any information about the identity of the suspect involved, please call Crime Stoppers immediately 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

Wanted

Ricardo Vasquez, Jr., 27, of San Elizario is wanted for violently assaulting his common-law spouse and holding her against her will. Vasquez is 6' tall and weighs 200 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. He sometimes goes by Ricardo Varela. On May 28, 2011 at 3:45 a.m. Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to an undisclosed location in San



Ricardo Vasquez, Jr.

Elizario for a violent family assault that had just taken place. Deputies arrived and met with a woman who told them she had been kept captive in her home and had been brutally beaten by her common-law husband for over 3 hours. Vasquez had repeatedly punched the her face, head and body causing her pain and injury. Vasquez also placed his hands on her neck and choked her. He also restricted her from calling for help or 911 by taking her cell phone. After several hours of assaulting her, he finally allowed her to leave with family members who had arrived to pick her up. Vasquez knows he is wanted and remains on the run. He is believed to be in the Borderland and has several contacts in the El Paso area. Officials are asking the public for any information on the whereabouts of Vasquez. People can contact the Sheriff's Office (915) 546-2280 or Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension of the individual featured.

— Deputy Jesse Tovar

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Socorro Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 21, 2011 in the District Service Center, Board Room, 12440 Rojas, El Paso, Texas 79928. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Maintenance Tax | \$0.946140/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations) |
| School Debt Service Tax | |
| Approved by Local Voters | \$0.263654/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness) |

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Maintenance and Operations | 0.602% Decrease |
| Debt Service | 8.180% Increase |
| Total Expenditures | 0.290% Increase |

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

| | <u>Preceding Tax Year</u> | <u>Current Tax Year</u> |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total appraised value* of all property | \$ 8,580,449,608 | \$ 8,661,818,767 |
| Total appraised value* of new property** | \$ 229,207,312 | \$ 269,002,493 |
| Total taxable value*** of all property | \$ 7,216,610,768 | \$ 7,322,638,768 |
| Total taxable value*** of new property** | \$ 217,993,580 | \$ 252,131,290 |

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$310,308,523

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

| | <u>Maintenance & Operations</u> | <u>Interest & Sinking Fund*</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Local Revenue Per Student</u> | <u>State Revenue Per Student</u> |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Last Year's Rate | \$ 0.946140 | \$ 0.233550* | \$ 1.179690 | \$ 2,053 | \$ 5,701 |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$ 0.951410 | \$ 0.268450* | \$ 1.219860 | \$ 2,072 | \$ 5,331 |
| Proposed Rate | \$ 0.946140 | \$ 0.263654* | \$ 1.209794 | \$ 2,064 | \$ 5,325 |

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

| | <u>Last Year</u> | <u>This Year</u> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Average Market Value of Residences | \$ 123,622 | \$ 123,965 |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences | \$ 108,505 | \$ 108,584 |
| Last Year's Rate Versus | | |
| Proposed Rate per \$100 Value | \$ 1.179690 | \$ 1.209794 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence | \$ 1,280.02 | \$ 1,313.64 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes | | \$ 33.62 |

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.256745. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.256745.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$ 36,447,671 |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) | \$ 12,158,760 |

More bad behavior: The coach and the hockey player

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Anybody who follows sports at all has heard about the goings on involving Jim Tressel and the Ohio State football program.

Tressel, of course, resigned last week as coach of the Buckeyes amid a scandal involving many of his former players.

What makes Tressel's situation so unique is that he had all of us fooled.

With his "father knows best" sweater vest and the calm demeanor in which he conducted himself, he came away as a cross between Tom Landry and Mr. Rodgers.

Every time he spoke he gave off the appearance of a man deeply rooted in things like honesty, integrity, fairness and success.

Well, it turns out that Mr. Tressel has been successful as a football coach, but the list abruptly ends there.

There has been a long line of Ohio State football players who had been selling their awards and memorabilia for money and (believe it or not) tattoos.

The NCAA says college athletes are forbidden to sell this kind of stuff while

they're still competing in college. And I can understand the argument that says it's their stuff; they can do with it whatever they want.

But that's an argument for another day.

What you totally cannot do – is do what coach Tressel did and that's lie about knowing anything about it.

Because did his best Richard Nixon imitation and tried to cover-up what his players were doing, he now finds himself out of job and out of credibility.

And it appears that the situation is going to get much worse in the future as stories of impropriety emerge from the program almost on a daily basis.

What really gets me is how some of his former players are still sticking up for Tressel saying that he didn't turn the players in because he loves them and he was trying to protect them.

Excuse me. Freud would have a field day dissecting this kind of denial.

The only reason Tressel didn't turn his players in is because he was trying to save his football team – and it turn, his own butt.

In other words, Tressel turned out to be no different than all the other coaches who break the rules to sustain a winning program.

He thought he was larger than the system and now he can join the ever-growing list of coaches who have been forced, in one way or another, to leave their programs in shame.

And Tressel had to go. How in the world can he ever tell a player to have some integrity when he displays none of his own?

Now there are allegations of players receiving cars and other gifts in exchange for signed Ohio State equipment.

Any of you out there who still aren't convinced that Tressel is bad news, just look at his past. This is not the first time he's been in trouble with the NCAA.

At Youngstown State, he was the coach when a scholarship scandal broke out at the school. Before they could get down to the bottom of it, Tressel was hired at Ohio State.

Youngstown State's football program received scholarship and recruiting restrictions after Tressel's departure.

While at Ohio State, the football program has gone through many scandals involving players like star running back Maurice Clarett and Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Troy Smith.

For some reason, coaches are turning more and more into politicians. They just can't seem

to learn from the mistakes of other coaches who preceded them.

I'm sure Tressel will run for governor of Ohio some day.

Tough to swallow

It's funny how much irony rears its head in the sports world.

Take the Stanley Cup playoffs for instance. The Boston Bruins have been taking on the Vancouver Canucks.

During game one, which Vancouver won with just 18 ticks left on the clock left, Alex Burrows was involved in one of those fights the NHL is famous for.

Only this time he didn't punch anybody in the face, he took a page out of the Mike Tyson playbook and bit Patrice Bergeron's finger.

Most in the hockey community figured Burrows would be suspended for game two after the finger-licking-bad incident.

But surprisingly, Burrows was not suspended by the league.

And guess who scored the winning goal in overtime of game two to beat the Bruins – Mr. Burrows.

What an ironic story – chew on that for a while.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Everyone loves a race

Leave it to Memorial Day weekend to remind everybody out there – kids and the kid in all of us – that we all enjoy watching a good race or two.

There are 20 laps remaining in the Indy 500 as my wife meanders into the living room with our 2-year-old son.

"Whatcha doin'?"

That question seems innocent,

maybe even quaintly earnest for a lot of people reading this. Those people are single. That question wasn't asked out of curiosity, it was a gauge, kind of like sticking a ruler into an icy pond to see if it's safe to skate on. Only in this "whatcha doin'?" scenario, you don't get to skate.

You never get to skate.

I'm watching the Indy 500, dear, I

explain. Moreover, there are 20 laps remaining and Danica Patrick just took over the lead.

"Oh," she responds. She feigns interest, tilting her head to one side and moving closer to my chair, our young son hoisted in her arms. It is the equivalent of having someone stand behind you and read over your shoulder while you're trying to type something. For a brief moment you're kind of grateful for the attention, then it progresses into a mildly uncomfortable situation as they start to point out your spelling mistakes or something.

They're not there because they

care about your grammar and usage. No, as a rule, they want something else from you – your time. Rules, however, can generally be broken with little consequence. "Don't run in the hallway" or "don't talk loud in the library" are rules. You break them and you're not heading over to Riker's Island.

Laws, however, are another thing entirely. Break one and you end up in court, and it's up to your skilled representation to get you out of the hot seat.

Not so in the court of wifely judgment, where the juror is an increasingly squirmy 2-year-old son that wants to go outside and look for dump trucks and firemen. To her, 20 laps is an eternity, so will I "watch him for a second" while she goes off to do whatever it is that she has decided must be done at this very second? Probably something to do with responsibility and maturity or

something boring like that.

Well, experience has shown it's never "a second." She hands that baby off and she's off to the tropics. The back and forth that is a staple of courtroom drama ensues as my baby boy's and my own fate hang in the balance. My opening argument lays out the facts.

Babe ... I'm watching the race. There are 15 laps left.

"I thought you said there were 20 laps left."

They are race car drivers traveling at speeds of 215 miles per hour.

"Oh, OK... so it's almost over. Then will you watch him?"

Of course, honey... right after the Coca-Cola 600. It should only take a second.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter and publisher of *The Kansas City Luminary*. (c) 2011 King Features Synd., Inc.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

Village of Vinton

Request for Proposals

Planning and Capacity Building Program

The Village of Vinton Texas has recently received a contract from the Office of Rural Community Affairs under the Planning and Capacity Building Fund of the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program. Accordingly, the Village of Vinton is seeking to contract with a qualified planning consultant to assist in several aspects of contractual compliance with the Office of Rural Community Affairs. RFP packages are available at the Village of Vinton

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please submit your request for a proposal package, a statement of qualifications and references to the Village of Vinton City Clerk at 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton Texas 79821.

Proposals must be received by the city no later than June 30th at 2:00 p.m. to be considered. The city reserves the right to negotiate with any and all firms or consultants that submit proposals as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act.

The Village of Vinton is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

WTCC: 06-09-11

El Paso County Emergency Services District #1

Public Notice

El Paso County Emergency Services District #1 is now accepting resumes for the position of Fire Commissioner. To be eligible applicants must be:

- 18 years of age;
- A resident of the state;
- A qualified voter within the ESD or the owner of land subject to taxation in the ESD; and
- May possess knowledge of fire prevention or emergency medical services. See Texas Health and Safety code 775.034.

Commissioners are responsible for budgeting, financial interests, and investments of the Fire Departments tax income. The position of Fire Commissioner is made by appointment by the County

Commissioners and is a voluntary position. Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month at the Horizon Fire Station and begin at 6:30 P.M. Resumes may be sent to:

El Paso County ESD #1
14151 Nunda Ave.
Horizon City, Texas 79928

Resumes will be accepted until 5:00 P.M., June 22, 2011. Any questions may be directed to Ron Larson at 915-820-8640.

WTCC: 06-09-11

The Anthony ISD will have a public Auction/Sale of surplus property on Saturday, June 11, 2011 from 8:00 AM – 12:00 [noon] at the Anthony ISD Bus Barn, 610 Sixth Street Anthony TX, 79821. All sales are "Cash Only". Items include, but not limited to, Cafeteria and Classroom Equipment / Furniture.

WTCC: 06-09-11

COUNSELING SERVICES

D A M I A N MAUREIRA, LCSW - Professional Counseling/Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family, Health insurance and FEE SCALE ACCEPTED. Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP. 657 Winn Rd. in Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment.

DRIVERS

TL Carrier is looking for Class A company drivers; 1 year OTR experience. 48 states; teams and solos; MILES!!! 915-504-3408.

WTCC: 06-09-11

READY DRIVERS LLC NOW HIRING!

CDL Drivers, Class A "OTR" 2 Years Min. Exp.,

Clean MVR & Background. We Have Positions Available For:

- FLATBED DRIVERS
 - DOUBLES DRIVERS
 - HAZMAT DRIVERS
 - 53' VAN OTR
- 915-590-2100
11601 Pellicano Dr., Ste. A-8

WTCC: 06-09-11

SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL WINDOW TINTING • FREE ESTIMATES (915) 562-1300 *Proline*

SELF-HELP

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

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



CLASSIFIED AD FORM

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

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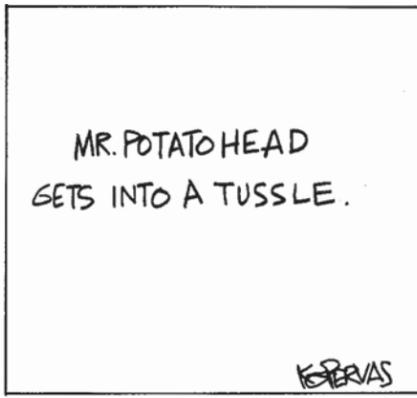
Deadline: Mondays
Please print. Send form and payment (no cash) to:
West Texas County Courier
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Contact Information:

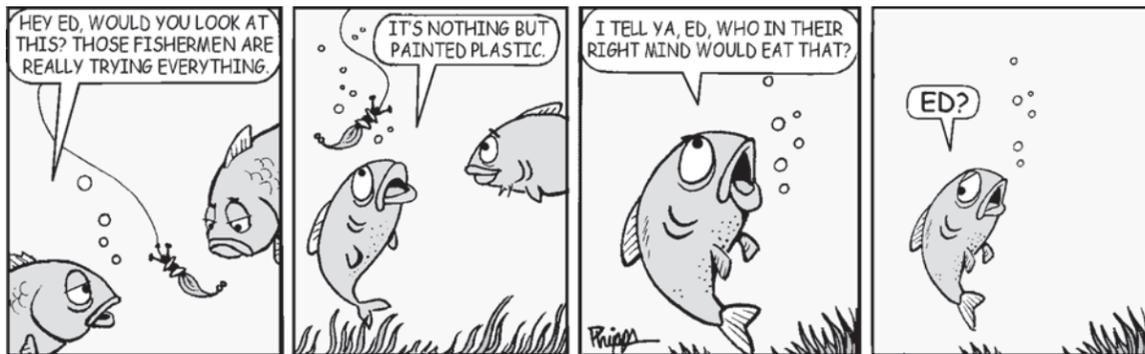
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Comix

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: My daughter, 37, has rheumatoid arthritis. Is it genetic or a diet/lifestyle illness? What can be done to alleviate her discomfort? I read somewhere that cod liver oil brings relief. – H.B.

call them amazing. Some names are Humira, Kineret, Actemra, Enbrel and Remicade. They also have powerful side effects that have to be quickly attended to. Your daughter lives at a time that is a good one for people with this illness.

Arthritis comes in many guises. Osteoarthritis is the most common kind. Nearly everyone has a touch of it before death. Rheumatoid arthritis affects about 1 percent of adults, with two women afflicted for every man. It makes its appearance most often in the 40s and 50s. The lower two knuckles of the fingers, the wrist, elbows, ankles and foot joints are the ones most often attacked, but any joint can be affected, including the shoulders and hips. It's a symmetrical arthritis, meaning that the same joint on the right is stricken as the one on the left. It's also a systemic illness. The body as a whole suffers. Fever, weight loss and fatigue are common in many stages of this illness. The eyes can become inflamed, as can blood vessels. Changes in the lungs are possible.

The booklet on arthritis describes the various kinds and their treatments. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donahue – No. 301W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

It's not a diet/lifestyle illness. Genes play a role, but not the entire role. The immune system is involved. Cod liver oil is no longer used for treatment.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I am a 76-year-old man with COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease – emphysema and chronic bronchitis). I am relatively symptom-free and have reduced the use of my inhaler to one puff in the morning and in the evening. I jog and walk two miles, three times a week, in 25 minutes and have done so for the past four years. Am I putting undue stress on my heart? Am I hurting or helping myself? – R.S.

A new dawn has broken for the treatment of this often-disabling affliction. Formerly, anti-inflammatory drugs like Motrin and aspirin were the initial treatment. Now treatment most often begins with drugs called disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs, DMARD. These medicines have the potential to stop the progression of the illness. Methotrexate is one example.

You've stuck with this program for four years and are now using less medicine than you did. It appears to help you. Your regimen isn't a dangerous one. However, I have to stop short of giving you carte blanche approval. Only your doctor can do so. He or she knows all aspects of your medical history; I don't. I'm pretty sure you'll get the doctor's OK.

A brand-new class of rheumatoid arthritis drugs, the biologicals, neutralizes body chemicals that lead to joint inflammation and deformity. They can halt the arthritis process in its tracks – not always, but enough of the time to

Dr. Donahue 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) 2011 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| M&MS ACROSS | 66 Like some watches | 134 Humourist George | 38 Math subject | 89 Actor Pickens |
| 1 It may be tipped | 68 Bradley or Epps | 135 Babbed | 39 Shearer of "The Red Shoes" | 92 Berry or Olin |
| 4 W.C. Fields quote? | 70 "Heat and ..." ('83 film) | 136 Mame, for one | 40 "As You Like It" setting | 94 Sped |
| 7 Poisonous plant | 73 Writer Rand | 137 Consumed a knish | 41 Silly Skelton | 95 Construct |
| 12 Social groups | 74 Education pioneer | 138 Gender | 42 Periodontists' org. | 96 Bartok or Peron |
| 18 Palindromic name | 78 Woods' grp. | 139 Lady of Spain | 43 Campus digs | 98 One of the Osmonds |
| 19 Important numero | 81 Indication | 140 Moshe of Israel | 45 Whips up a waistcoat | 99 Directional suffix |
| 20 Ages | 82 Wordsworth works | 141 Contemporary | 46 Spanish city | 103 Command |
| 22 Lama or imam | 83 Magazine employee | 142 Use a shuttle | 47 Croce's Mr. Brown | 104 Stem |
| 23 Singer Shannon | 86 Air bear? | DOWN | 48 Leno's network | 107 "_ Hand" ('81 hit) |
| 24 CEO, e.g. | 88 _ Gatos, CA | 1 Muslim pilgrimage | 51 Loses control | 109 One in a million |
| 25 Silent performer | 90 MA hours | 2 Lost | 53 Noted | 110 Salted snack |
| 27 Like Donne's poetry | 91 Winter wear | 3 Soft mineral | 55 Dutch treat? | 111 Purrfect pet? |
| 30 Aquatic mammal | 93 Bearded | 4 "Bah! _!" | 56 Patriot Deane | 113 South American capital |
| 31 Slight | 97 Lamb's dam | 5 Boxer Johansson | 58 Ramble | 116 Current amount |
| 32 Zombie ingredient | 100 Wear away | 6 Baird or Witherspoon | 59 Animal that roared? | 117 Unwind a rind |
| 33 Memphis deity | 101 Illinois city | 7 Theological sch. | 61 Singer Amos | 118 Mikita of hockey |
| 36 Obligation | 102 Financial abbr. | 8 _ tree (cornered) | 63 Melville novel | 119 Conductor |
| 39 Famed | 103 What trumpets do | 9 Sulky | 67 Tenor Beniamino | Klemperer |
| anthropologist | 105 Diarist Anais | 10 Part of 12 Down | 69 Hwys. | 121 Stentorian |
| 44 _ fin | 106 Homeric combatants | 11 Atkins or Huntley | 71 Fountain order | 122 Writer O'Brien |
| 48 Scand. nation | 108 5th Dimension member | 12 Calculating person? | 72 Threefold | 124 Neighbor of Pakistan |
| 49 Summarize | 112 Farmer's place | 13 O'Hare info | 75 "I'm _ Cowhand" ('36 song) | 125 _ Haven, CT |
| 50 Computer acronym | 114 Yemeni city | 14 Incites Rover | 76 Getty or Parsons | 126 Brainstorm |
| 52 Kitchen utensils | 115 Bond rating | 15 Rock hound? | 77 "Take _ leave it!" | 127 Casanova's cry? |
| 54 _ one's time (waits) | 116 Lhasa _ | 16 Jacob's twin | 78 Heart, e.g. | 129 "_ Alibi" ('89 film) |
| 57 Weber's _ | 120 Ocean vessel | 17 Pencil piece | 79 "Peer Gynt" composer | 130 Author LeShan |
| Freischutz? | 123 Glass' _ on the Beach" | 21 "Ethan Frome" prop | 80 "Maltese Falcon" actress | 131 Nicole on "Fame" |
| 58 '98 home run king | 128 "Full Metal Jacket" star | 26 Eloquent equine | 84 Maine town | 132 Browning's bedtime? |
| 60 Praise | 129 Caroline, to Ted | 28 Rink legend | 85 Chatter box? | |
| 62 Female goat | 133 Team scream | 29 Caroline, to Ted | 87 Square measure | |
| 64 "O Sole _" | | 34 Celebrity | | |
| 65 Sour fruit | | 35 Little devil | | |
| | | 37 Comice kin | | |

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| 139 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 142 |

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Figuring out retirement

For almost every American worker, Social Security is “part of the plan” for a secure retirement. If you are among the roughly 95 percent of workers in the United States who are covered under Social Security, here’s a primer on retirement coverage.

When you work and pay Social Security taxes, you earn “credits” toward Social Security benefits. If you were born in 1929, or later, you need 40 credits or 10 years of work to qualify for retirement benefits. No retirement benefits can be paid until you have the required number of credits. If you stop working before you have enough credits to qualify for benefits, the credits will remain on your Social Security record. If you return to work later, you can add

more credits so that you qualify.

Your benefit amount is based on how much you earned during your working career. Higher lifetime earnings result in higher benefits. A worker with average earnings can expect a retirement benefit that replaces about 40 percent of his or her average lifetime earnings. Social Security was never intended to be your only source of income when you retire. You also will need other savings, investments, pensions, or retirement accounts to make sure you have enough money to live comfortably when you retire.

Your benefit payment also is affected by the age at which you decide to retire and begin receiving benefits. If you were born in 1942 or

earlier, you already are eligible for your full Social Security benefit. If you were born from 1943 to 1960, the age at which full retirement benefits are payable increases gradually to age 67.

You can get Social Security retirement benefits as early as age 62, but if you retire before your full retirement age, your benefits will be reduced, based on your age. If you retire at age 62, your benefit would be about 25 percent lower than what it would be if you waited until you reach full retirement age. You may choose to keep working even beyond your full retirement age. If you do, you can increase your future Social Security benefits – up until age 70.

Choosing when to retire is an important decision, but it’s also a personal choice and one you should carefully consider. When’s the best time? There is no one-size-fits-all answer. Social Security offers a list of factors to consider in the

publication *When to Start Receiving Retirement Benefits* at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html. In addition, Social Security provides an online Retirement Estimator to get immediate and personalized retirement benefit estimates to help you plan for your retirement. The Retirement Estimator is a convenient and secure financial planning tool, allowing you to create “what if” scenarios. For instance, you can change your “stop work” dates or expected future earnings to create and compare different retirement options. If you have a few minutes, you have time to check it out at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

When you’re ready, you can apply online for retirement benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov or call our toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 (TTY: 1-800-325-0778). Or, you can make an appointment to visit any Social Security office to apply in person.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was American author Paul Auster who made the following sage observation: “Only the good doubt their own goodness, which is what makes them good in the first place. The bad know they are good, but the good know nothing. They spend their lives forgiving others, but they can’t forgive themselves.”

- If summer where you are is starting to heat up, just be grateful you don’t live in western Australia. There, the average temperature is 96 degrees F. – all year long.

- Those who study such things claim that the supposed pirate tradition of walking the plank is a myth. Whenever pirates wanted to get rid of something – or somebody – they just tossed the offender overboard without ceremony.

- When a baby is born it has more than 300 bones in its body, but due to bone fusion, adults end up with only 206 bones.

- The next time you’re planning a European vacation, make time to visit the coast of the Netherlands, where you can stay in one of the world’s most unusual hotels. Along the banks of the Wadden Sea you’ll find Harlingen Harbour Crane, an actual derrick that was once used to haul timber. These days it holds aloft luxurious sleeping quarters designed for only one party at a time. If you need a change of scenery, just head to the control room to swing the crane around until you find a view that strikes your fancy.

- You may be surprised to learn that there is a growing interest in the new sport known as chess boxing. It’s a hybrid sport in which competitors alternate 4-minute rounds of speed chess with 2-minute rounds of boxing. Since 2008, there have been 10 international competitions in London alone.

Thought for the Day: “It is useless to attempt to reason a man out of a thing he was never reasoned into.”
– Jonathan Swift

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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.

| | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|----|
| | + | | × | | 30 |
| × | | ÷ | | - | |
| | - | | × | | 25 |
| + | | + | | × | |
| | × | | + | | 21 |
| 10 | | 6 | | 9 | |

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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SEISD

From Page 1

Quatrini. They were each interviewed by a panel of judges who determined the winners using a selection criteria based on the following qualities: reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism, and uniqueness of contribution.

Former San Elizario ISD teacher of the year winners, Virginia Cera, Melanie Mendez, and Perla Andujo each spoke during the program, congratulating the nominees and sharing their past experiences before the winners were announced. More than 100 co-workers, friends and family were present to applaud all the honorees and enjoy the evening banquet held at the Lancers Club.

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 N

WT U JRDMIJRVQ WI UMROJ JR
TUA A RSQC UVK PWJ HRO, HRO
DWFPJ IUH HRO' CQ WV FCUSQ

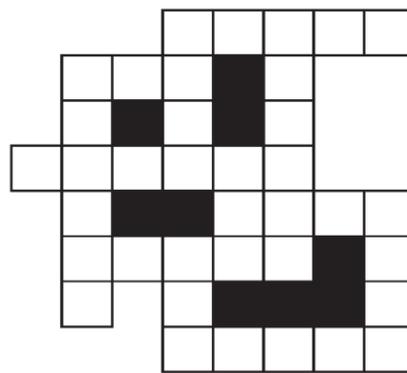
KUVFQC.

ANSWER PAGE 4

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- ISK
- SOARUE
- AALUR
- ♥ERLE
- ♥DICENO
- ♥RAE
- ♥NIKL
- NISKE
- ♥EAL
- SACREO
- CLOLA
- ♥INLA



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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| | | | |
|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| HAT | HIC | SUMAC | CASTES |
| ASA | UNO | EPOCHS | PRIEST |
| DEL | MGR | MARCEL | MARCEAU |
| JACOB | BEAN | OTTER | SNUB |
| RUM | ISIS | DEBT | |
| MARGARET | MEAD | DORSAL | |
| NOR | RECAP | DOS | SIEVES |
| BIDES | DER | MARK | CGWIRE |
| CREDIT | DOE | MIO | SLOE |
| ANALOG | OMAR | DUST | AYN |
| MARIAM | ONTESSORI | | |
| PGA | SIGN | ODES | EDITOR |
| URSA | LOS | EST | ANORAK |
| MITCH | MILLER | EWIE | ERHODE |
| PEORIA | DIV | BLARE | NIN |
| GREEKS | MARILYN | MCCOO | |
| DELL | ADEN | AAA | |
| APSO | OILER | EINSTEIN | |
| MATTHEW | MODINE | RAH | ADE |
| PRATED | AUNTIE | ATE | SEX |
| SENORA | DAYAN | NEW | TAT |