



NEWSBRIEFS

Paper closed

The *West Texas County Courier* will close for the last two weeks of 2011. The office will close on Wednesday, Dec. 21 and open on Thursday, Dec. 29. There will be no paper on Thursday, Dec 22 or 29. The paper will publish again on Jan. 5, 2012.

Christmas in the Village

The Village of Vinton presents the 6th Annual Christmas in the Village event on Saturday, Dec. 10, from noon to 6:00 p.m. at Vinton Municipal Park, 436 Vinton Rd. This annual event features, games, activities, food and entertainment throughout the afternoon, a tree lighting ceremony and a visit from Santa Claus with gifts for the first 200 children, ages 10 and under. Prizes are awarded for the "best" decorated home and a drawing for 10 special gifts to be delivered by Santa. Residents of Vinton wishing to participate in the decorating contest should register their home at Vinton City Hall by December 8. For more information call 886-5104

— Jessica Garza

Business taxes

With the end of the 2011 tax year right around the corner, small business owners can help prepare themselves for the upcoming filing season by clicking in to the U.S. Small Business Administration's free web chat for tips on potential year-end tax savings on Thursday, Dec. 15, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., EST. Chat participants can get valuable information on how to prepare now with useful tax savings tips and a set of red flags on mistakes to avoid.

— Cecelia Taylor

Crisis management

Being a small business owner also makes you the person in charge of making sure everything flows without a hitch, from product development to the safety of your employees. Yet in the midst of a crisis or in the aftermath of a disaster the plans you made to keep your business open could become lost in the shuffle of stress and chaos. On Tuesday, Dec. 20, Agility Recovery Solutions and the U.S. Small Business Administration will host a webinar focusing on best practices to help those in leadership positions navigate the road to recovery. Agility president and CEO Bob Boyd will share real-world disaster recovery scenarios and engage participants in a discussion on practical strategies to develop the wisdom and skill needed to become a more resilient leader. SBA has partnered with Agility to offer business continuity strategies via its "PrepareMyBusiness" website. Visit

See BRIEFS, Page 4

An argument is a question with two sides – and no end.

— Quips & Quotes

Artifacts from Mexican civilizations on display

Maya, Aztec pieces on exhibit through January 15 at El Paso Museum of History

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

In collaboration with the El Paso Museum of History's current temporary exhibit, titled

Mystery of the Mayan Medallion, which is on display through January 15, noted Maya expert Dr. Mark Van Stone will conduct a hands-on workshop for adults and children (ages nine and up) on how to write their names, dates, and even short notes using

ancient Maya glyphs.

The Maya Glyph hands-on workshop will be held from noon to 4 p.m., Saturday, December 10, in the Museum of History's Seminar Room, 510 N. Santa Fe.

The Medallion exhibit includes artifacts representing the Maya, Aztec, and lesser known civilizations from Mexico. Prints of ancient Maya murals and ruins and a map of ancient Maya territory were added to the gallery to link the artifacts with the unique artistic accomplishments and monumental architecture of these past civilizations. In addition, five featured Maya ceramic vessels were loaned by the University Museum of New Mexico State University for this exhibit.

To enhance the exhibit's offerings, Van Stone will teach the rudiments of Maya hieroglyphs and calligraphy during the Saturday workshop. Topics will include how to read the Maya Calendar, how to read Maya texts plus instruction on how to reproduce the glyphs. He will also share information about the date, December 21, 2012!

"There is something one learns by actually making such an artwork that one can learn no other way, and Van Stone's unique combination of scientific training, passion for beauty, and calligraphic expertise bestows profound insight into the script technique of all these diverse traditions," stated Marilyn Guida, curator of education for the El Paso Museum of Archaeology.

Van Stone has co-authored Reading the Maya Glyphs with Dr. Michael Coe, now the

See EXHIBIT, Page 5



— Photo courtesy of El Paso Museum of History

NO TOUCHING – Priceless Maya ceramic vessels are on loan from University Museum, NMSU at Las Cruces for the Medallion exhibit. A Polychrome Olla (top), Redware Jar (left) and Basal Flange Bowl are in the case above. The Polychrome Olla and the Basal Flange Bowl are from the Early Classic Period circa 100-200 AD. The Redware Jar is from the Early Post-Classic Period circa 1000 AD.

New agri-business learning program crops up in Clint

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

While rural life seems great for older persons, today's youths long for other things. Kids are certainly not playing video games or watching movies about farming and ranching. For, agriculture is just not a profession with the glitz and glamour and instant gratification that young people expect today.

But a group consisting of a Lower Valley farmer, a local teacher, and a park ranger have initiated an agri-business program recently to do something about this situation. This group of individuals is using a hands-on approach to get the word out about the exciting adventures in agriculture and the great outdoors.

"Our signature program, called Furs-N-Spurs, compares farm and desert animals through hands-on activities. It offers hayrides, petting zoos, roping lessons, and farm games and crafts," stated Alex Mares, Furs-N-Spurs co-owner and program organizer.

"There is no better way to get youngsters to learn about something than with a hands-on learning experience," said Mares. "Our goal is to teach youth and families about agriculture using cowboy history, outdoors fun, and educational activities."

To promote its venture, Furs-N-Spurs will hold a special event called Straw Claus, Friday through Sunday, December 16, 17 and 18, at the Avila Farm in Clint, Texas. Entries for the Straw Claus contest



— Photo courtesy of Barbara Payan

SURROGATES – Alexis Alvarez and Mikayla Mares learn to care for an orphan Dorper sheep including what and how they are fed now that it no longer has a mama.

are currently being accepted.

"We are inviting local schools, youth organizations, and families to register for our scarecrow building contest which is designed to encourage participants to create a Christmas display at the farm. Hayrides will be offered to view and vote for participants' favorite displays. The displays

will be judged in two categories. The first place winner will win \$200, second place \$100, and third place \$50. Hot chocolate and biscochos alongside a holiday campfire will be provided," said Mares.

In operation since March, the Furs-N-Spurs

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San Elizario High School recognized for college prep efforts

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – San Elizario High School (SEHS) is making strides in preparing more students for college success and its efforts have not gone unnoticed. Recently, the Texas ACT Council recognized the San Elizario ISD campus with the “2011 College Readiness Award” for increasing the number of students taking the ACT Assessment over the past five years and significantly increasing their level of achievement and college readiness.

SEHS was one of only 10% of all high schools in Texas to receive the honor from this state organization comprised of secondary and

postsecondary educators.

“We were excited to learn that SEHS was recognized as one out of five schools in the El Paso area for not only participation, but also improvement in the areas of composite scores and college readiness,” Principal Francisco Huizar said.

According to counselor Paula Hernandez, SEHS has seen improvement in ACT composite scores by implementing a college preparation class at the junior level and providing students fee waivers for two chances at the test.

“The class is a state elective that we emphasize for juniors because we have noticed that in combination with the two testing opportunities, students will see a jump in their test

scores the second time they take the ACT,” Hernandez said.

For 17-year-old senior Christa Luna an increase in her ACT scores may possibly better her chances of being admitted to Texas A&M where she wants to major in biology in order to become a zoologist someday.

“The first time I took the test I was not prepared at all but then I took it again and felt more confident because we had reviewed a lot in college prep class and my teachers Mr. Hinz, Ms. Whittington, and Ms. Mendez really helped me get ready,” Christa said.

The class consists of one full year of intensive college preparation that includes researching post-secondary schools, resume writing, math, English and composition. The focus

on the ACT is what has also helped students like Cassandra Martinez, a 17-year-old senior, know what strategies to approach the test with and resources to turn to for a little extra help.

“Last year I took the class where I learned shortcuts and about a week or two before I took the test again I practiced with ACT online. During the test I paced myself and skipped questions that I could not figure out,” Cassandra said. Cassandra

expects to earn a scholarship and attend the University of Texas at Austin to major in psychology or anthropology.

Hernandez added that San Elizario High School was also able to maintain or increase the number of students testing despite not having mandatory participation. Students will have at least two more opportunities in February and April to take the ACT test before the end of the school year.



– Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

PREPPING – Seniors, from left, Denise Heredia, Cassandra Martinez, Belen Ruby Vargas and Christa Luna, all benefited on the ACT college entrance exam by taking a college preparation class during their junior year at San Elizario High School.

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Make it easy on your survivors

Do you keep your service files organized? Most of us don't, unless pushed. But here's something to consider: Can your family easily find what it needs to handle your affairs if something happens to you?

Here are a few documents your family will need to lay their hands on quickly:

- Your DD214 or service equivalent. If you don't have your discharge papers, send for them.
- A list that includes Social security number, branch of service, dates of service, date and place of birth. Include all the places you were stationed, and dates.
- Immunization record, birth certificate and will. (You do have one, right? And it's updated, not one you wrote 20 years ago?) Add your government life-insurance policy, copy of all marriage certificates and divorce decrees and copy of children's birth certificates.

Download online (or send away for) the following blank forms, to be kept in the file: Application for United States Flag for Burial Purposes; Claim for One Sum Payment Government Life Insurance; Claim for Monthly Payments National Service

Life Insurance; Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker.

If you have an ongoing claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs, put all related documents in a separate file, newest at the top. Keep several sheets of blank paper in the file so you can note the date, time and whom you spoke with whenever you call the VA so the information is always current. Go online to www.vba.va.gov, click Veteran Services, then Survivors. Scroll down and look for any additional information that might apply to you. Send for the appropriate forms. Print out the VA Benefits for Survivors pamphlet and put it in the file, or call the VA (1-800-827-1000) and have one sent to you.

You only need to do this once. When you've assembled and organized your information, you just need to keep it updated.

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.

MINER BASKETBALL

SUNDAY DECEMBER 11

3:00pm

First 5,000 will receive UTEP pom poms provided by Sonic

utepathletics.com

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Canutillo ISD CBAC names officers

By Gustavo Reveles
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – The Canutillo Bond Accountability Committee (CBAC) met for the first time Wednesday night (Nov. 30) to review their charge and responsibilities, as well as to select a Chair and Vice-Chair. Committee members selected Canutillo resident and area businessman Jim Maxfield as chair, and with district resident and media sales manager Adrian Medina as Vice-Chair.



Jim Maxfield



Adrian Medina

Maxfield will head the 23-member committee made up of taxpayers, parents, employees and business stakeholders in the district. The CBAC's charge is to assist the Canutillo Independent School District Board of Trustees and Superintendent Dr. Damon Murphy with the monitoring and progress of the 2011 Canutillo Bond Program.

"This is a very important group of people,"

said Canutillo Board President Laure Searls. "We promised transparency and accountability in our bond, and this group will help us guarantee that both of those things are delivered to the taxpayers in Canutillo."

Voters in Canutillo approved the issuance of \$43.9 million in bonds to open a new school, build additions, upgrade existing campuses and address deficiencies in sewage in the district. The CBAC will meet at least four times a year to review documents, tour construction projects and oversee the proper expenditure of funds. Their meetings will be open to the public and they are expected to produce an annual report to the public and the

Board of Trustees.

"We are a committee working on behalf of the taxpayers of the district," Maxfield said. "We have a great group of people, all of whom bring different perspectives and expertise that in the end will help us bring thorough accountability to the Canutillo Bond Program."

Some Texans to receive additional weeks of unemployment benefits

By Lisa Givens
Special to the Courier

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) today announced a six-week extension of Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Act benefits (Tier IV) for unemployed Texans. The extension comes as a result of the state's average unemployment rate reaching an estimated 8.5 percent or higher over the previous three months.

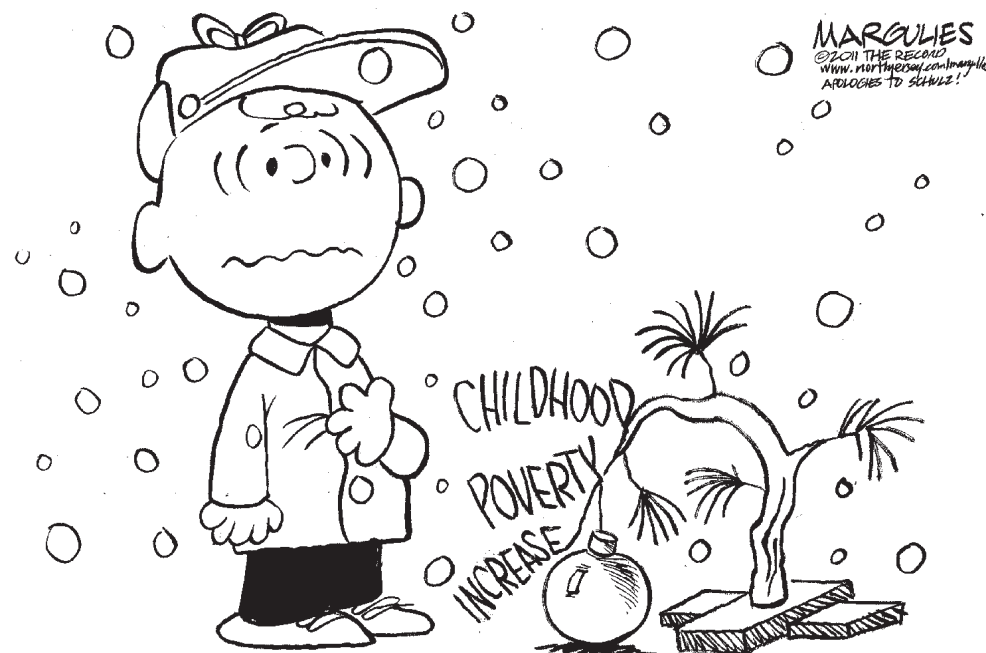
The U.S. Department of Labor authorized TWC to begin processing claims starting December 11, 2011. This extension is not retroactive and therefore does not cover weeks of unemployment prior to December 11, 2011.

TWC will mail letters to approximately 220,000 claimants who have exhausted all benefits and may be eligible for the extension, with instructions on how to apply for the additional weeks of benefits. The letter will direct claimants who are still unemployed

to call a special toll-free phone number, available 24 hours a day, to apply for the new extension.

Claimants currently receiving unemployment benefits will automatically have the additional benefits added to their benefit period and will receive a letter showing the additional amount of benefits they could potentially receive. Claimants do not need to contact TWC unless they receive a letter instructing them to do so.

This extension brings the total number of benefit weeks an individual in Texas may qualify for to a maximum of 99 weeks. Claimants currently receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits should continue to request payment as scheduled. Claimants may update their address information online at ui.texasworkforce.org or by contacting a UI Tele-Center toll free at 800-939-6631. Reemployment services are available through local Workforce Solutions Offices statewide or job seekers may visit www.WorkInTexas.com to register and search for job postings.



A Charlie Brown Christmas

Doctors' advise: Get a new bike, get a new helmet

By Brent Annear
Special to the Courier

If you are buying your child a new bike this holiday season, throw in a new helmet too, suggest Texas Medical Association (TMA) physicians. Your child's old helmet or a sibling's hand-me-down helmet may not provide the head protection needed, and could be dangerous to your child's safety.

Even if your child's old helmet appears in good shape, "there may be unseen dangers that could lessen its benefit," cautions Craig Manifold, MD, emergency physician and a member of TMA's Hard Hats for Little Heads Advisory Panel.

"It's hard to see if a child's helmet is damaged or not," he says. When a helmet is involved in a crash, the inside foam crushes to absorb the impact. After the crash, the crushed foam no longer protects properly, even if the outside shell appears unharmed. To guarantee safety, Dr. Manifold says parents should always discard helmets after an accident and purchase a new helmet.

Used or hand-me down helmets also carry safety risks: Worn-out chin straps let helmets

sit incorrectly on heads, and ozone and sunlight weaken and crack the outer plastic shell over time. The tiniest of these cracks can split open during a fall, injuring a child's head. During scorching Texas summers, Dr. Manifold says, it's important to "keep helmets stored in areas away from extreme heat" to prevent further damage.

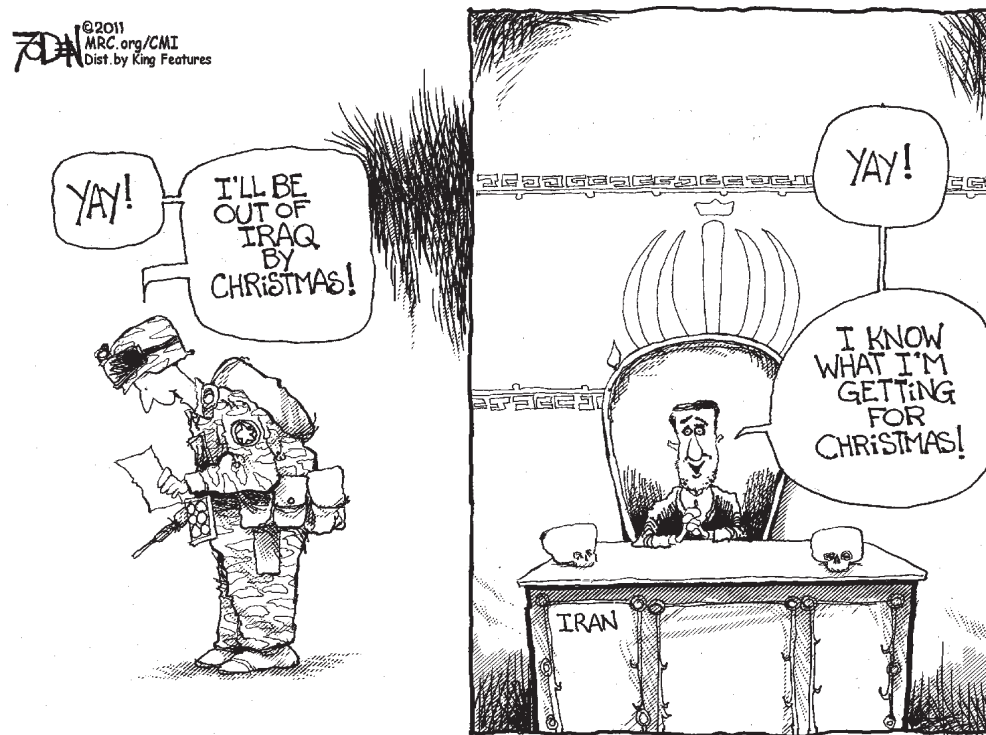
Helmet manufacturers recommend replacing helmets every three years, even if they have not been involved in a crash. Inexpensive, new helmets are safe and as effective at preventing a head injury as expensive ones.

Texas physicians work year-round to encourage safe cycling. TMA's Hard Hats for Little Heads program encourages children and adults to wear helmets. The program has donated more than 100,000 new helmets to Texas children since 1994.

TMA urges children and adults to stay active and safe this holiday season: Wear the appropriate helmet for the appropriate sport, and ensure it is properly fitted and structurally sound.

"Always wear a helmet, not just when bicycling, but also when skateboarding,

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Helmet

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horseback riding, and participating in other sports," adds Dr. Manifold. "It can save your life."

TMA's Hard Hats for Little Heads is sponsored by the association's philanthropic arm, the TMA Foundation, thanks to generous donations from Blue

Cross and Blue Shield of Texas and Prudential Financial, and gifts from physicians and their families. TMA is the largest state medical society in the nation, representing more than 45,000 physician and medical student members. It is located in Austin and has 120 component county medical societies around the state. TMA's key objective since 1853 is to improve the health of all Texans.

Briefs

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www.preparemybusiness.org to access past webinars and get additional preparedness tips. The SBA provides disaster recovery assistance in the form of low-interest loans to homeowners, renters, private nonprofits and businesses of all sizes. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov/disaster.

— Carol Chastang

Fabens ISD report

The Fabens Independent School District Special Education Department received a 100% Compliance Report from the Texas Education Agency associated with indicators 11, 12 and 13 on the State Performance Plan (SPP), in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. All districts throughout the state are required to submit data to the Texas Education Agency to determine compliance in regard to timely evaluations for students referred for special education services (SPP 11); timely and effective transition from IDEA Part C early childhood intervention into IDEA Part -B early childhood special education (SPP 12); and secondary transition individualized education program requirements (SPP 13). Districts that do not receive 100% compliance must correct any noncompliance issues as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year, after the State's written notification to the Local Education Agency of the finding of noncompliance.

— Richard Ortega

Desktop history

The Texas Historical Commission's (THC) improved Atlas now features nearly 300,000

site records, including data on Official Texas Historical Markers and National Register of Historic Places properties in Texas. You'll also find historic courthouses, museums, and sawmills across the state. You may search by historic designation, keyword, county, address or site name to get instant access to details textual descriptions, historic photographs, and interactive maps to help you discover what makes Texas and your areas of interest unique. THC has recently changed the software used to display map data. As a result, the maps now look better, are easier to use, and display more useful data. You can access the THC Atlas by visiting atlas.thc.state.tx.us. For information on Texas archeology, visit the THC's partner site, Texas Beyond History at www.texasbeyondhistory.net.

— Debbie Head

Crime Stoppers

A shopper at Wal-Mart comes out of the store to discover that his car had been stolen, even though he had only been in the store a few minutes, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." Approximately 5:20 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011, a shopper parked his 1994 white-on-white Honda Accord, Texas license plates 343-HNC, in the parking lot at the eastside Wal-Mart located at 7101 Gateway West. Three minutes later, he returned to find the car was gone. Investigators from the El Paso County Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Task Force learned from surveillance video that two unknown male suspects were seen approaching the car, and that it took them only 7 seconds to enter it and another 20 seconds to exit the parking lot. The vehicle was locked and the owner had the keys, but even that did not stop the thieves. If you have any information at all about the

identity the suspect in this case, or the location of the vehicle, please call Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may earn a cash reward.

— James Klaes

Wanted

Gary Prentice, 49, is this week's Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. He also uses Roberts, Denton and Robinson for his last name. He is 5'9" tall and



Gary Prentice

weighs 160 pounds. He has graying blonde hair and hazel eyes. He has multiple tattoos on his chest and a skull on his right forearm. Prentice is a convicted sex offender. He was recently discharged from a local hospital and failed to return to a court ordered halfway house in east El Paso County. Prentice is currently on parole for sexually assaulting two women in different cases. His criminal history shows various arrests for offenses including burglary, narcotics, theft, DWI, aggravated assaults and several parole violations. Prentice's whereabouts are unknown. Information just received indicates Prentice was recently spotted panhandling in El Paso around Zaragosa. Anyone has seen or has any information on the whereabouts of Prentice can contact 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 Prentice.

— Deputy Jesse Tovar

Anthony Independent School District Notice of Public Hearing AEIS Report

Anthony Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's 2011 Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) report as part of the regular monthly School Board meeting, which is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at the Anthony ISD Board Room, 813 Sixth Street, Anthony, TX.

The public is invited to attend. The AEIS report will also be available for review after the hearing at all Anthony ISD campuses, central office, and the district website.

For more information, call 886-6506.

Junta Publica Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony El reporte "Sistema de Índices de Excelencia Académica"

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar del reporte "Sistema de Índices de Excelencia Académica" (AEIS) del año escolar 2011. El reporte será parte de la reunión mensual de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para de 2011 el Martes 13 de diciembre a las 6:30 p.m. en el auditorio de la escuela preparatoria en la calle Sixth Street #813, Anthony, TX.

Todos los individuos interesados están invitados a asistir. El reporte AEIS estará disponible después de la reunión en todas las escuelas del distrito, en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas, e internet del distrito.

Para mas información, favor de llamar al 886-6506.

WTCC: 12-08-11

archives: www.wtxcc.com



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Even in the back seat.

Buckle up every rider for every trip.

State law now requires both adults and children to be buckled up in the front or back seat. A child less than 8 years old, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in a child safety seat. Most children between 4 and 8 years old will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Fines range from \$25 to \$250, plus court costs. TexasClickItorTicket.com



Click It or Ticket
TEXAS

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CryptoQuip Answer

I'm a true connoisseur of seafood. I suppose that some could call me an afashionado.

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— Photo courtesy of El Paso Museum of History

Dr. Mark Van Stone has been studying the complex and little-understood script, Maya hieroglyphs, since the 1980s.

Exhibit

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standard introduction to the topic. His expertise has also led to some peculiar jobs, such as producing movie props like the “Pirate’s Code Book” for the Pirates of the Caribbean films.

He is presently Professor of Art History at Southwestern College in San Diego, California and recently published a new book, “2012 – Science and Prophecy of the Ancient Maya”.

To complement the History museum’s ancient Mexico exhibit, the El Paso Museum of Archaeology is currently showcasing its early Mesoamerica collection at its Transmountain site.

A “Zip Tour” of the artifacts at the archeology museum will be presented by Curator Matt Taylor. The tour is scheduled to start at 2 p.m., Saturday, December 17, at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain Road.

Both events are free to the public. For more information about Van Stone’s presentation, contact Sue Taylor at (915) 351-3588 or send email to taylorst@elpasotexas.gov. For information about the Zip Tour, call 915-755-4332; or send email to guidamr@elpasotexas.gov; or visit their website at www.elpasotexas.gov/arch_museum/.

People know Pueblo for its...



Famous Hot Salsa?

In Pueblo, the free government information is also hot. Spice up your life by dipping into the Consumer Information Center web site, www.pueblo.gsa.gov. You can download all the information right away. Sorry, salsa not available through our web site or Catalog.



Fur

From Page 1

program offers educational fieldtrips and customized programs for organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, FFA, and for families and youth groups throughout the year. It is also available for special occasions like parties, celebrations, and summer camps.

“We are a place of instructional learning – as well as a working farm,” stated Rudy Avila, Avila Farm owner and Furs-N-Spurs program facilitator. “Coming to one of our programs renews the spirit, leaves you with a sense of wanting to know more about farming and encourages participants to try other outdoor adventures,” Avila added.

“All of our programs are not only guided and educational but also fun and engaging. For example, our unique night program, referred to as Blaze and Gaze, links star gazing with farming, Native American storytelling, and outdoor survival,” said Lilian Mares, Furs-N-Spurs co-owner.

Program participants have the opportunity to travel through



— Photo courtesy of Barbara Payan

LISTEN UP – Alex Mares, Furs-N-Spurs co-owner/program organizer, discusses with a group of visitors the difference between farm and desert animals.

multiple learning stations where they can compare and contrast farm and desert animals, learn about roping, discover the importance of healthy

eating habits, tour a working farm, play popular farm games and explore new crafts, Mares commented. For Straw Claus Contest entry

forms, directions to the farm, and more information about the Furs-N-Spurs program, visit its website at furs-n-spurs.com, or call 539-3939.

Socorro Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Ten Months Ended June 30, 2011

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	\$ 69,005,471	\$ 16,371,317	\$ 47,224	\$ 3,214,803	\$ 88,638,815
5800 State Program Revenues	187,201,149	17,055,007	–	3,585,571	207,841,727
5900 Federal Program Revenues	5,001,487	–	–	47,675,798	52,677,285
5020 Total Revenues	261,208,107	33,426,324	47,224	54,476,172	349,157,827
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	151,780,866	–	386,187	20,687,319	172,854,372
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	3,839,278	–	15,700	303,333	4,158,311
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	906,175	–	–	3,509,874	4,416,049
0021 Instructional Leadership	3,192,896	–	–	407,015	3,599,911
0023 School Leadership	16,880,957	–	36,007	4,954	16,921,918
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	7,242,142	–	–	2,580,247	9,822,389
0032 Social Work Services	1,238,237	–	–	151,667	1,389,904
0033 Health Services	2,879,475	–	4,202	259,279	3,142,956
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	8,000,428	–	–	113,750	8,114,178
0035 Food Services	–	–	–	14,169,657	14,169,657
0036 Extracurricular Activities	7,513,878	–	32,769	83,995	7,630,642
0041 General Administration	5,668,229	–	–	–	5,668,229
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	21,313,204	–	8,169	6,424,349	27,745,722
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	5,015,603	–	16,019	19,079	5,050,701
0053 Data Processing Services	2,746,926	–	83,984	480	2,831,390
0061 Community Services	682,165	–	–	1,151,451	1,833,616
Debt Service:					
0071 Principal on Long Term Debt	1,041,481	2,228,545	–	–	3,270,026
0072 Interest on Long Term Debt	26,272	12,285,116	–	–	12,311,388
0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	–	14,218	–	–	14,218
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	259,637	–	8,838,522	1,824,962	10,923,121
Intergovernmental:					
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	1,095,690	–	–	–	1,095,690
6030 Total Expenditures	241,323,539	14,527,879	9,421,559	51,691,411	316,964,388
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	19,884,568	18,898,445	(9,374,335)	2,784,761	32,193,439
0100 Fund Balance – September 1 (Beginning)	45,405,872	12,158,760	14,150,357	3,937,349	75,652,338
1300 Prior Period Adjustment	(37,718)	–	–	447,651	409,933
3000 Fund Balance – June 30 (Ending)	\$ 65,252,722	\$ 31,057,205	\$ 4,776,022	\$ 7,169,761	\$ 108,255,710

Scandals highlight importance of right role models

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The month of November, 2011 will always be remembered as one of the strangest in the annals of American collegiate sports.

First there was the Jerry Sandusky scandal at Penn State that cost a cast of administrative characters their jobs, including the once beloved head coach, Joe Paterno.

Then there was the equally troubling news concerning Syracuse assistant basketball coach Bernie Fine, who was recently fired for his alleged extracurricular activity with former ball boys.

The scary thing is that the very ugly details of each case are just beginning to come out.

In the Penn State case, there have been eight accusers that have come forward to say Sandusky had sexual encounters with them as boys.

But the most damning evidence seems to be coming out of the mouth of Sandusky, who is far and away becoming his own worst enemy.

If you remember, in his impromptu interview with Bob Costas, he was asked if he was sexually attracted to young boys?

Anyone asks me that question, not only will they get an answer in about a half a second, it might be accompanied with a bucket full of anger for having the gall to ask me that question in the first place.

But Sandusky paused, thought about it, and repeated the question, "Do I have a sexual attraction to young boys?"

It sounded like he was actually really digging deep for the truth.

Of course, he eventually came to his senses

and answered no.

Now Sandusky has decided to do a four-hour interview with the New York Times.

This is going to be the equivalent to Casey Anthony taking the stand in her own murder trial defense. She, however, was smart enough not to do it.

Sandusky is obviously trying to sway popular opinion toward his side by saying over and over that he is innocent.

Will it work? Of course it won't work. They didn't dismiss that many high-profile people at Penn State for nothing.

Now for the goings on at Syracuse, where only one person has been dismissed but there could more on the horizon.

Long-time assistant Bernie Fine has been accused of sexual molestation by three former ball boys for the basketball team.

Head coach Jim Boeheim made one of the dumbest moves of his life when he came out so strongly for Fine.

It's okay to say I believe in my coach but don't say anything more on the subject until the justice system works everything out.

But instead, here's what Boeheim said. "The Penn State [scandal] came out and the kid behind this is trying to get money. If he gets this, he's going to sue the university and Bernie. What do you think is going to happen at Penn State? You know how much money is going to be involved in civil suits? I'd say about \$50 million. That's what this is about, money."

Pretty tough talk accusing the accuser of lying, especially after phone tapes surfaced between the accuser and Fine's wife.

In an episode that can be best described as "Hoosiers meets Deliverance," phone tapes reveal a sickness throughout the Fine

household.

Fine's wife Laurie admits throughout the conversation that her husband enjoys being with young boys and that she is unable to give him the male companionship that he desires.

She said many times that she is aware of her husband's sexual encounters with the former ball boy and even admits of the times when she took advantage of the youth sexually.

There were so many disgusting details in the phone conversation.

I don't know what is going on out there but sadly, everyone is beginning to realize that these are not just isolated incidents.

Now the questions will turn to what should be done to Boeheim for his less-than-thoughtful remarks about the accusers.

And inquires will start about whether he, or anyone else at Syracuse, ever heard anything about what Fine was doing – and looked the other way like they did at Penn State.

November has always marked the end of the baseball season and the beginning of the basketball season.

Gone is any solid trust for those charged with turning boys into strong, decent, mature, well-adjusted men. How can they teach it when they haven't acquired it themselves?



A sporting view By Mark Vasto

The instant classic

The classic rubber salmon and cold chocolate-chip cookie award banquet is, sadly, going the way of the two-martini lunch and corporate expense account.

We used to complain about them, but nostalgia has a way of making even the most unfortunate catered affairs in dingy hotel "ballrooms" seem like a night at the Playboy Mansion.

My old pal Bill Grigsby, rest his soul, was the longtime voice of the Kansas City Chiefs, the inaugural broadcaster for the Super Bowl, and the announcer guy for the local professional wrestling telecasts back in the day. As such, he was a

mainstay in the Midwest's cocktail circuit.

We had been to so many luncheons and award banquets that we could almost call ourselves a comedy duo. Though Grigsby never liked to share microphone, I was always happy to toss him a few softballs to get him started, usually with the tried and true "Hey, Grigs, tell us about the time you ..." opening line.

Invariably, he'd begin with his "nursing home" shtick. It seems that one time he met up with an elderly lady in the lobby of one such home. "Do you know who I am," he asked her. "No," the lady replied, adding, "but if you ask the people at the

front desk, they can tell you."

That always killed.

Then there was that story "about that one time" he and legendary coach Hank Stram were hired to speak at a banquet of some sort. Grigsby spoke first, probably told the nursing home story, and then ceded the stage to Stram. This was back in the days of receiving cash for your work, so Grigsby collected the envelope from the event sponsor, then took the envelope to the bathroom where he cranked up the hot water in the sink and used the steam to open the envelope, which yielded \$400. Grigs pocketed a c-note, left \$300 and then resealed the envelope. Grigs gave the envelope to Stram after he got off the stage. Later that night, driving home, Grigsby asked how they made out money-wise.

"Cheapskates," Stram replied.

"They only paid us \$200."

I'm reminded of this as I watch the video of former quarterback Joe Kapp deck former defensive tackle and pro-wrestler Angelo Mosca at a recent Canadian Football League banquet. For those who managed to miss it, the 70-something Kapp decked the 70-something Mosca before they were set to recount stories of their playing days. Mosca hit Kapp with a cane, Kapp decked

him with a movie star-worthy right to the jaw.

And then the two of them dusted off and went on to tell stories "about that one time ..."

Like the ol' cocktail circuit – unfortunate as it was – it was an instant classic.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2011 King Features Synd., Inc.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TxCDBG CONTRACT NO. R729010

The Town of Anthony will conduct a public hearing to review the performance and to obtain citizens comments on its completed Texas Community Development Block Grant Program – Community De-

velopment Fund TxCDBG Contract No. R729010 SCADA System Installation and Water Well 2 Improvements Projects. The public hearing will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at the City Hall Council Room located at 401 Wildcat Drive in Anthony, Texas. Persons with disabilities who may require auxiliary aids or services to attend this meeting should contact the Office of the Town Clerk at (915) 886-3944 at least two

days before the meeting to make arrangements.

Art Franco Mayor

WTCC: 12-08-11

El Paso County Emergency Services District No. 2

Public Notice

The El Paso County Emergency Services District No. 2, is currently taking applications for six part time ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

POSITIONS. The ideal candidates must have, at the minimum, two years experience or one year of accredited business school in:

- ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE
- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
- ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE
- COMPUTER SOFTWARE

Closing date is when positions are filled.

To apply send completed resumes to:

El Paso County Emergency Services District No. 2
PO Box 683
Clint, TX 79836

or e-mail: rterrazas@epcountyesd2.org

or fax: (915) 996-0010

The El Paso County Emergency Services District No. 2 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Rebecca Terrazas Administrator

WTCC: 12-08-11

BARGAINS

Prevue/Hendryx bird cage. Gloss enamel grey finish. Barely used. Suitable for small to medium birds or night-time/day perch for larger birds. Size: 5'x18"x18". Perch inside and on top. 4 stainless steel food dishes. Floor sheild, removable waste trays. On rollers. New \$225. Sell for \$125. Please leave message at 449-4779.

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38
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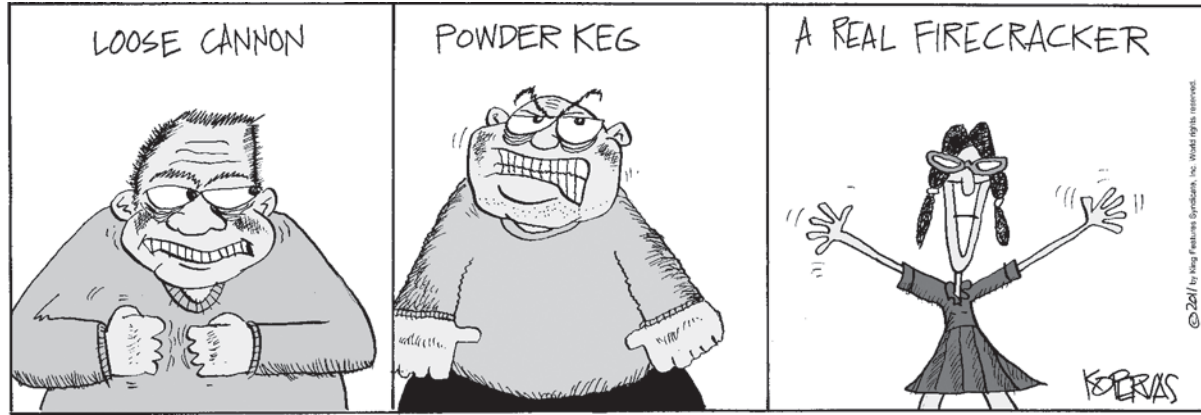
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Comix

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. Donohue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have faux gout. At least that's what I've been told I have. It's in my left foot. I understand it's not caused by uric acid but by calcium. Can you tell me more about it and what can be done for it? – C.B.

allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My wife of 41 years has tremors. She is 62. The tremors started in her mid-50s. Her mother is 85 and shakes so bad she can't write or hardly help herself. They told her it is hereditary. Is there any medication or treatment available? My wife is getting very frustrated. She's not able to carry out simple tasks. – P.E.

Faux (French for "false") gout – or pseudogout, as it is more commonly called – is like gout in many respects, but the differences between the two are significant.

In gout, uric acid crystals infiltrate joints and inflame them. In pseudogout, the crystals making their way into and around joints are calcium pyrophosphate dehydrate, CPPD. Just as uric acid crystals do, CPPD crystals inflame the joint and cause great pain. That's not true of everyone who has these crystals. Some never experience a minute of pain.

Your wife and mother-in-law most likely have familial tremor, also called essential tremor. It does run in families. There is treatment. Propranolol (Inderal) and primidone (Mysoline) work very well for most. Both your wife and her mother should be getting treatment. A neurologist is the doctor who specializes in tremors and their treatment.

The joints most affected in pseudogout are the knees and the wrists. Shoulders, ankles, elbows and hands also might be targets.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My husband and I wish to leave our bodies to science but do not know whom to contact. How do we go about this? – E. and C.D.

Who told you that you have this condition? A doctor requires X-ray examination of the affected joint before declaring that a person has pseudogout. Stronger evidence of the diagnosis is obtained by drawing fluid from the joint and examining it microscopically. The distinctive crystals of CPPD can be seen – proof positive.

You and your husband deserve a round of applause. Most medical schools have a body-donation program. Contact the medical school nearest you and ask for the anatomical donation committee or the anatomy department.

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs – Aleve, Motrin, Advil and many others – usually can control this illness and the pain it causes. If they don't, an injection of cortisone into the joint will. For recurrent attacks, colchicine – the same drug used for gout – works for pseudogout, too.

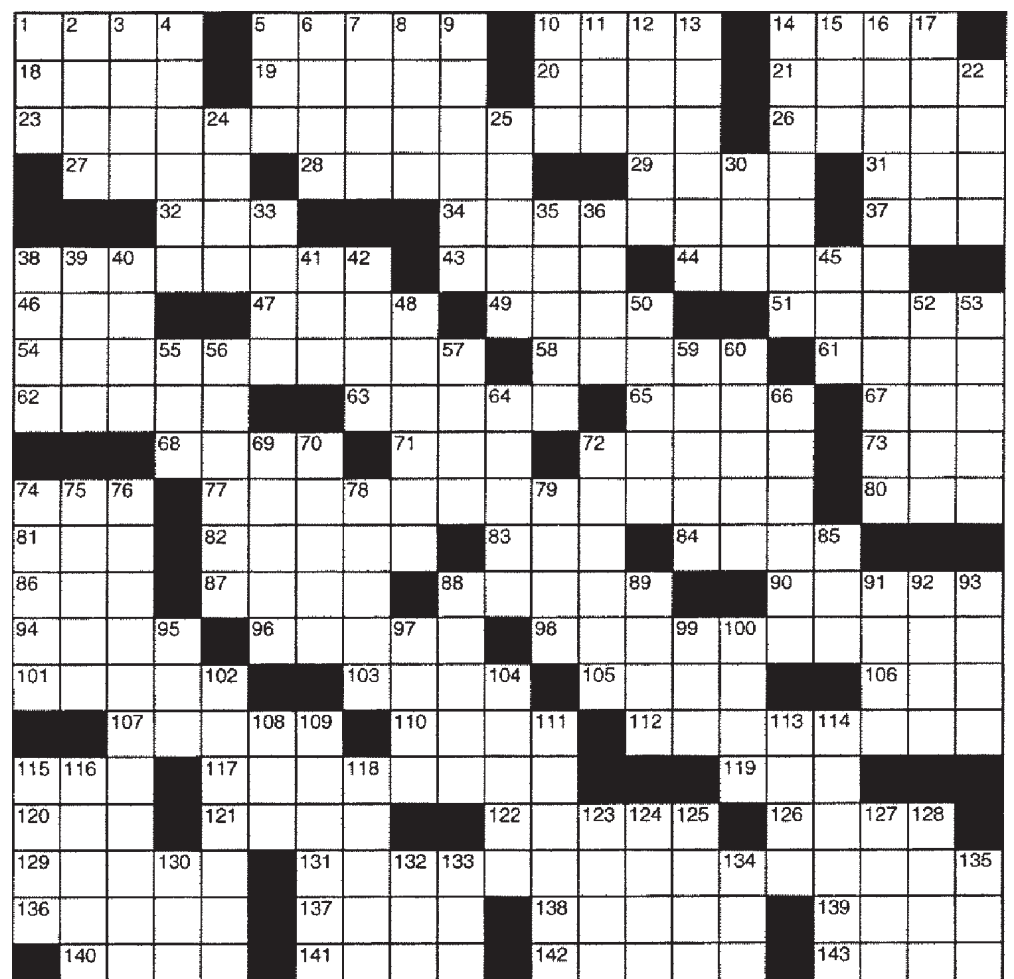
If you can't make contact with a medical school, three organizations can assist you in donating your bodies: MedCure (866-560-2525), BioGift (866-670-1799) and Science Care (800-417-3747).

The pamphlet on gout and pseudogout explains both illnesses and their treatments. To obtain a copy, write: Dr. Donohue – No. 302W, 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

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

Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| ROSE GARDEN ACROSS | 65 Pesticiferous person | 126 Architect Saarinen | 24 Grocer's measure | star |
| 1 "it the truth?" | 67 Unmatched | 129 Conductor Seiji | 25 Tearjerker? | 85 Wine and dine |
| 5 Restrain | 68 Went like hotcakes | 131 Rose McGowan movie | 30 Vane letters | 88 Moral man? |
| 10 Conduit fittings | 71 Apprehend | 136 Murcia mister | 33 Gullet | 89 Stowe sight |
| 14 Active volcano | 72 Cumin or coriander | 137 Take _ the chin | 35 Perch | 91 A swan was her swain |
| 18 "The Green _" (56 hit) | 73 Stretch the truth | 138 Spring for | 36 Run through | 92 Summertime treats |
| 19 Victorian ornament | 74 Health concern | 139 Actress Ward | 38 Male swans | 93 Lamebrain |
| 20 Rachel's sister | 77 Billy Rose song | 140 Live on lettuce | 39 Help a hood | 95 Russian space station |
| 21 TV's "The Wonder _" | 80 Organ of equilibrium | 141 Bean on the bean | 40 Formal ceremony | 97 Tranquil |
| 23 Guns n' Roses hit | 81 Poetic pot | 142 Hope's "The Prisoner of _" | 41 _ blond | 99 Lilly of pharmaceuticals |
| 26 _ nous | 82 Reference volume | 143 North Carolina campus | 42 Goes downhill fast? | 100 Morning wear |
| 27 Soprano Gluck | 83 Patriotic org. | | 45 Stephen of "Interview with the Vampire" | 102 4 p.m. vehicle? |
| 28 "_ a day's work" | 84 Prepare prunes | | 48 Loses a lap | 104 Muslim dietary term |
| 29 Sleuth Nancy | 86 Bar supply | | 50 Phi Beta _ | 108 Sgt. or cpl. |
| 31 Herriman's "Krazy _" | 87 Linguist Chomsky | | 52 79 Down's | 109 Like lemons |
| 32 Mythical monster | 88 Scope | DOWN | | 111 WWII admiral |
| 34 In flight | 90 Unbroken | 1 Pitches | | 113 Shorten a sail |
| 37 Adjective suffix | 94 "Divine Comedy" figure | 2 Where the tall corn grows | | 114 Threat words |
| 38 One of "The Three Tenors" | 96 Caroline, to Ted Rose" author | 3 Gallagher of Oasis | | 115 Desire deified |
| 43 Rock's _ & the Gang | 98 "The Name of the Rose" | 4 Aftershock | | 116 Looked longingly |
| 44 Pine | 99 "The Name of the Rose" author | 5 New Deal agcy. | | 118 _ a customer |
| 46 Kimono | 101 Send the money | 6 "Very funny!" | | 123 Concerning |
| 47 Interrogates | 103 Salt serving | 7 Runner Zatopek | | 124 Lightweight gun |
| 49 Cranny's companion | 105 _ Alto, CA | 8 Room without a view? | | 125 Large herring |
| 51 Toomey or Philbin | 106 Dover's st. | 9 Alaskan bear | | 127 Whirl |
| 54 Rose Nylund's portrayal | 107 Fight site | 10 Shady character? | | 128 Christiania, today |
| 58 Okefenokee, for one | 110 Temporary wealth? | 11 Wahine's wreath | | 130 Affliction |
| 61 Skin problem | 112 Butcher's offering | 12 Joe of "Dr. Quinn" | | 132 Wolfram _ Eschenbach |
| 62 Irwin of "The Crocodile Hunter" | 115 "The _ and I" (47 film) | 13 '62 Four Seasons hit | | 133 Squid's squirt |
| 63 '78 Peace Nobelist | 117 "Fait _" | 14 Glasses | | 134 "Wings" abbr. |
| | 119 Ending for "auction" | 15 Dress size | | 135 Solo of "Star Wars" |
| | 120 Sought office | 16 "Ramblin' Rose" singer | | |
| | 121 Penny or peseta | 17 Stage backdrop | | |
| | 122 Wrong | 22 Clockmaker Thomas | | |
| | | 79 "Elephant Boy" | | |



Moore Texas by Roger Moore The burg of Round Top once had a factory that created a cross between a cigar and a cigarette called a **SEGAR**.



Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: Can I apply online for retirement benefits?

A: Yes. It's quick and easy. Apply online and save yourself a trip to the office. Once you submit your online application electronically, in most cases, you're done. There are no forms to sign or documents to send in. If we do need more information to process your application, a representative will contact you. For more information about applying online, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Q: If I receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits, what is the effect on my benefits if I work?

A: In most cases, your return to work would reduce your benefit amount, and in some cases, discontinue your payments. Unlike Social Security disability, there is no "trial work period" for people who get SSI disability benefits. In most cases, if your only income besides SSI is from your work, you can earn up to \$1,433 in a month (in 2011) before we stop your payments. We have several publications about SSI, including Reporting Your Wages When You Receive Supplemental Security Income, available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10503.html. Note that there are other work incentives that can help you return to work when you receive SSI. You can read about them in What You Need To Know When You Get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/11011.html#part6. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: Are Social Security numbers reassigned after a person dies?

A: No. We do not reassign Social Security numbers. In all, we have assigned more than 460 million Social Security numbers, and each year we assign about 5.5 million new numbers. The current system has enough new numbers for several more generations. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

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 any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

STRANGE BUT TRUE By Samantha Weaver

- It was megalomaniacal French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte who made the following sage observation: "Four hostile newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand bayonets."

- Orchids are lovely flowers, and many people dedicate years to growing them and finding rare specimens. If you're like most people, though, you probably don't realize that the word orchid comes from the Greek word "orchis," which means "testicle."

- Records show that the town of Helena, Montana, had more millionaires per capita than any other city in the world – way back in 1888.

- In the early 1970s, a British plumber named John Hancock replaced an antique toilet in the home of John Lennon, then kept the old toilet for the rest of his life. In 2010, after Hancock's death, his heirs put it up for auction. Even the auction house was surprised when the former Beatle's throne fetched a whopping \$14,740.

- When you're in an unpopulated area and gaze up at the night sky, it's easy to be overwhelmed by the profusion of stars. But what's truly overwhelming is this: All the stars that are visible from Earth represent only 0.000000000000001 percent of all the stars in the known universe.

- You may not be aware of this, but there is a new fad that is catching on among some groups across the country: tall biking. Hobbyists construct bicycles with normal-sized front and rear wheels, but with frames and seats that extend anywhere from 6 to 10 feet off the ground. Some riders actually use these bikes to joust, using lances made out of PVC pipe and foam rubber. It's unclear, however, exactly how the riders mount their steeds.

Thought for the Day: "If you wish to be loved, show more of your faults than your virtues."
– Edward Bulwer-Lytton

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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.

	x		-		11
+		-		+	
	x		-		23
x		x		-	
	+		÷		2
10		25			13

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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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: X equals T

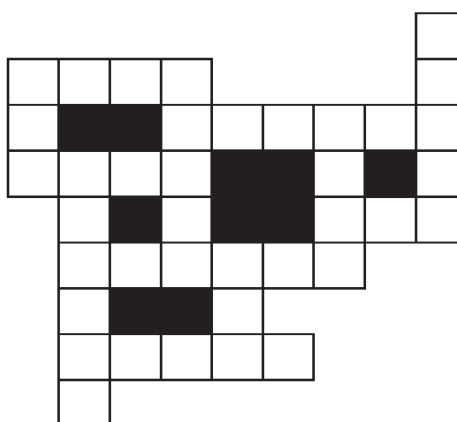
R'O P XQZB VTIITRLLBZQ TH
LBPHTTJ. R LZWWTLB XNPX LTOB
VTZMJ VPMM OB PI PHRLNRTIPJT.

Answer Page 4

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- BSO
- ♥GREINS
- ♥EBLAT
- ♥OLSE
- GARLEN
- ♥OBG
- TBLE
- LEGBO
- OBL
- LEVESH
- ♥HURBS
- ♥AGBR



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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