



NEWSBRIEFS

Making plans

As part of a weeklong series of events regarding the Transmountain Corridor and Northwest Masterplan, the Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) is hosting El Paso's Open Design Studio from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Friday, Jan. 27, in the CISD Boardroom, 7965 Arcraft Rd. The public is invited to stop by the studio to talk with the design team and provide input as plans evolve. Once all input is gathered, the design team will give a Work-In-Progress Presentation from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Jan. 28, in the Canutillo High School auditorium. The public will have a chance to see renderings of the work that has been done by the design team using the input from the community. For information regarding the Transmountain Corridor and Northwest Masterplan sessions please contact Carlos Gallinar or Fred Lopez at 541-4056, or via e-mail at gallinarRC@elpasotexas.gov and lopezAR@elpasotexas.gov

— Gustavo Reveles Acosta

Water money

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) through the Water and Waste Disposal Program has awarded a \$3,111,500 grant and a \$500,000 loan to El Paso County to provide potable water to Colonia Revolución. There are around 280 people occupying approximately 80 homes and businesses in the colonia that is located north of Horizon City. The project will connect to El Paso Water Utilities services and provide water to the residents. Officials say the proposed project "will address the many health concerns and safety concerns in trucking their own water, and storing it in unapproved tanks." People in the colonia were warned before buying property that the area had no water service. Large signs in English and Spanish spelled out water restrictions to perspective buyers. In June 2011 a fire consumed two pallet factories, 30-plus cars and killed a horse. It took twenty tanker trucks from multiple agencies to extinguish the blaze.

— Rick Shrum

Crime Stoppers

A business owner closes her store at the end of the week and discovers the next day that the business had been robbed, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." On Saturday, Dec. 10, 2011, the owner of Hommework Contemporary Fashions at 2603 N. Stanton closed the business at 7:00 p.m. The next day a neighboring store called to say the business's front door was propped open. When the owner checked, she found the front door lock was broken and merchandise in the store was strewn

See BRIEFS, Page 4

No freedom is so outrageously and so often abused as the freedom of speech.

— Quips & Quotes

Vinton hosts forum to attract businesses

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

VINTON – Village of Vinton officials want to spread the word that their Upper Valley community is open for business.

Village administrators held a business forum recently and attracted over 50 participants from the surrounding area's businesses and government agencies.

The Power Networking and Business Development Forum, Vinton's first business forum, was designed to bring together businesspersons and community residents to establish a network of communication, stated Madeleine Praino, mayor of the Village of Vinton.

Through the forum, "We want to provide businesses with enough information about us and what we have to offer, so that they will consider locating their enterprises in Vinton," said the mayor. "We want to give them the feel-right-at-home treatment and give them a personal tour of our town."

During the four-hour event, village representatives provided information about business development opportunities in Vinton. They pointed out that the town has a regionally prominent geographic location, it is near the Interstate and railroad routes, and it has a viable workforce- its approximately 2,000 residents' median age is 25. Also, they boasted that the town has low property taxes and that it has the lowest crime rate in El Paso County.

Village leaders also promoted their plans for developing industrial park zones and for managing commercial expansion along Vinton and Doniphan highways, the area's main thoroughfares.

Government representatives provided



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

CAN WE TALK – Vinton Mayor Madeleine Praino, center, speaks with local business owners Bobby Carrasco, left, and Santos Lucero during the Village of Vinton's Power Networking and Business Development Forum. The forum brought together business people and community residents to establish a network of communication.

information regarding federal and state agencies' cost reduction programs and assistance with changes in wage laws and small business regulations.

"We want to attract businesses like retail stores, a bank, and industries to our village, so that we can build up our tax base; in that way we can continue to fund our infrastructure projects and still keep our taxes low," said Yolanda Lucero, Village of Vinton council member.

Town officials are currently wrestling with plans to extend water and wastewater infrastructure to all segments of the Village. Cost estimates for construction of a wastewater treatment plant is \$18 million and for the water delivery system another \$12 million, according to Jessica Garza, Village Clerk. "We are counting on federal and state

loan and grant programs to help defray most of these construction costs," Garza stated. Vinton's current annual revenue is about \$2.3 million.

One company that participated in the forum and recently moved to Vinton is Crane Service Inc., a heavy equipment rental company that is a subsidiary of Power Equipment Co., which is headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

"Our nearest Crane office to this area was in Albuquerque NM, and we had a lot of business going on in the El Paso-Las Cruces region because of all the construction projects happening here," related Larry Hampton, manager of the new Vinton branch office.

"We were sending our staff and equipment from Albuquerque to meet our customers'

See VINTON, Page 4

San Elizario ISD moves to limit multi-family housing

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Facing more funding shortages from the state legislature the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) has taken a first step in addressing the difficulties that come with having one of the lowest assessed valuations of taxable property per student of all school districts in the state of Texas. On Jan. 2, the SEISD Board of Trustees approved a resolution to oppose any further multi-family developments that are subsidized, low-income or receive tax credits. Concerns over having an increase of students without a corresponding influx of additional funding drove the district to take an official position against a situation that could potentially be detrimental to the district.

Over the past few years, four multi-family housing developments have been completed or are in progress within district boundaries each consisting of anywhere between 35 to 80 units. While it is not yet known what specific impact these residential complexes will have on SEISD, an estimated increase of several hundred students would have a serious negative financial and social effect on the operations of the district and the education provided to students.

"We may have to prepare ourselves for



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

EIGHTY RENTAL UNITS – San Elizario Palms Apartments, a large multi-family complex, is open for business just across the street from San Elizario High School. The District says complexes like this put a strain on a diminishing budget.

the possibility of looking at increased class loads which will impact our school district," Superintendent Sylvia Hopp said.

The San Elizario community has a population of about 13,600 according to the 2010 U.S. Census while SEISD serves nearly 4,000 students at six schools. Additionally, the school tax rate of \$1.16 per \$100 valuation was last increased in November 2009 and is still the lowest among all school districts in El Paso County. This translates into a tax

base that cannot support a sudden student population growth without more funding from the state.

SEISD expects another monetary loss of about \$700,000 for the 2012-2013 school year due to further state budget cuts. The resolution approved unanimously by board members opposing multi-family housing developments is just one way SEISD is moving forward and finding solutions to alleviate impending financial pressures on its schools.

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Gulf War Syndrome, diet sodas linked?

Gulf War Syndrome is often a mystery to the medical profession because there are so many varieties of symptoms. What happens in one veteran doesn't happen in another. Even the source isn't completely clear. Was it from the vaccines given? Bug sprays? Depleted uranium dust? How about the oil-well fires?

Or was it from something completely innocuous – the diet sodas?

Aspartame is a sweetener that's used in diet sodas. Cooks realized long ago that using it in recipes was a bad idea because the sweetener breaks down at high temperatures.

What happened to all those cases of drinks over in Iraq and Afghanistan? Were they kept chilled the whole way? Not likely. A better scenario is that they sat on the hot tarmac before being transported to a hot storage area. The temperature at which Aspartame breaks down in a mere 85 degrees F, turning into chemicals such as formaldehyde and formic acid.

I'm not a doctor or a researcher,

but from reading the studies it looks like there are biologic effects from putting Aspartame in the human body. In the U.K. and Canada, special product labeling is required when the sweetener is used in food.

Is there a link between the ingestion of Aspartame and the symptoms of Gulf War Syndrome? Arguments exist on both sides of the issue. If you want to do your own research, put these all words in an Internet search engine: aspartame methanol formaldehyde formic acid. Look for the scholarly articles, not those a non-medical person has written.

If you are suffering with any of the myriad symptoms of Gulf War Syndrome, try cutting Aspartame completely out of your diet for one month and see how you feel. You'll need to read the ingredients in everything you consume.

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) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

Hopp welcomed to, jumps into new job

By Don Woodyard
Special to the Courier

SANELIZARIO—The symbolism for a change in leadership has gently changed in the San Elizario Independent School.

Reflecting the district's new superintendent, Sylvia Hopp, the traditional passing of torch has morphed into a glittery tiara and scepter. Mounted on a board, they were presented to her by an appreciative SEISD staff.

The two items are prominently displayed next to her new desk in her new offices in the district's administrative building on Chicken Ranch Road in San Elizario. Those offices were previously occupied by Dr. Mike Quatrini who retired in July of 2011 after 15 years at the helm of the Lower Valley school district.

The tiara and scepter are not the only things that reflect a new order of things in San Elizario. Hopp opens a scrapbook of remembrances from former students of hers at Borrego Elementary. Page after page offers touching sentiments and pictures from the young students. One in particular connects with the scepter and tiara gift. "You rule like a princess." Others are:

- "You are as smart as Albert Einstein."
- "You are as gentle as a ladybug."
- (Attention Larry Baskind, the district's counsel:) "You are as organized as a lawyer."

• "You deserve to be superintendent because you are a shooting star."

Hopp, assistant superintendent since 2005, was then named interim head by the board of trustees in August of 2011. After completing the search process, trustees subsequently approved her as its superintendent on Dec. 14.

Board president Antonio Araujo says trustees have "total confidence in her." He adds that she is a "natural fit" for the job. "She's got the experience; she knows the community.

"She will succeed for the school district; she will succeed for the



Sylvia Hopp

community."

"I am very excited to be here, Hopp says. "The district will achieve even greater success. I will give it everything I've got. There are a lot of things I want to achieve."

Candidly she says her first reaction to being named superintendent was one of shock. "It was not the career path I had thought I would be taking. It is such a daunting job."

She says she has gone to the various campuses that comprise the district. She realized that she was responsible for the children's education and future.

To make sure the district is "successful in all areas," she says we need to look at the way we are teaching."

She emphasizes that teachers and administrators must be trained and fully informed and aware of the changes and new statewide academic guidelines and standards as formulated in STAAR which stands for State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness. It replaces the TAKS system.

In carrying out the new academic standards program, she notes that she has "very strong instructional leadership on the campuses."

She says that STAAR is more "rigorous and demanding" of what students are expected to know.

Confidently she adds, "I have to be consistent and lead by example in everything I do.

"I can make a difference here."

To make a difference in the lives of others in the district, she writes a personal thank-you note to those for their good work. "I look for good, and I acknowledge it."

While looking ahead, she also looks back appreciatively to the work of her predecessor. For Quatrini she has only the highest praise.

"I was very fortunate to work under Dr. Quatrini. He was a good teacher, a good mentor and a good role model. He worked very hard behind the scenes to do what was right for the students. I was fortunate to see it first hand.

"The district is where it's at because of him."

While praising Quatrini for his efforts, Hopp also recognizes the important role of the board of trustees.

"The board is very supportive; it is a good group to work with." Proudly she points out that, combined, the trustees have 100 years of board service.

"That's dedication; that's commitment; that is consistency.

"They are very proud of this community. They want to be involved."

A native El Pasoan, Hopp is 58, "but I feel 28."

Her early education found her going to school in Mexico City, Virginia and El Paso. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from UT El Paso. She began her educational career in June of 1975 as a reading teacher at Clardy-Fox Elementary School in the El Paso Independent School District (EPISD). She says she got the idea of being a teacher from doing a research paper on schizophrenia in the human brain as a high school junior. "I was intrigued by the idea of helping people," she adds.

She spent 25 years in EPISD before coming to San Elizario in 2000 as principal of Alarcon Elementary. She later was named principal of Borrego Elementary when it was built.

Congressional debate run by students makes impact

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

The Congressional Democratic Primary Debate held in mid-January was a great example of the political process in action; American citizens getting involved in a local election with national implications.

Hosting a political debate, however, is nothing new. It is something that is being done by members of civic organizations, political parties and action committees throughout the country this election year. But, what made this recent local debate unique is that it was coordinated by high school students.

Yes, six Coronado High School (CHS) students took it upon themselves to organize the debate and invite the public to attend. And, nearly 400 persons showed up for the Monday evening event, which was held at the CHS Auditorium in West El Paso.

CHS students Meagan Abel,

senior; George Chidiac, senior; Hazel Hermawan, sophomore; Jasleen Shokar, sophomore; Adi Soto, senior; and Jackie Wang, junior; with CHS Social Studies Teacher Gary Berglund as their advisor, planned the event, confirmed the candidates' participation, publicized the debate through media outlets, and conducted an exit survey after the debate. They also recruited about 60 student volunteers to help ensure that everything ran smoothly during the event.

Abel said that they pursued this project on their own time (it was not a class assignment) for several reasons: they wanted to get a sense of the mood of voters regarding the upcoming 16th Congressional District Democratic primary election, they wanted to make an impact in local politics, and they wanted to show that high school students are interested in and quite capable of organizing and presenting important political events.

The public debate pitted the four

Democratic candidates who are vying in the primary election this spring for the House of Representatives seat held by Silvestre Reyes for almost 16 years. Reyes, who is seeking his eighth re-election bid, along with Beto O'Rourke, Jerome Tilghman, and Ben E. Mendoza showed up for the Congressional Democratic Primary Debate to answer questions posed by these students.

The student organizers selected twelve questions to use for the two-hour debate from about a couple of hundred entries submitted by CHS students, teachers, and parents, according to Berglund. Questions asked covered issues ranging from improving education and protecting small businesses to helping veterans find jobs.

Before the debate in front of the audience, the candidates participated backstage in a mock press conference set-up by the CHS organizers and attended by student

See DEBATE, Page 3

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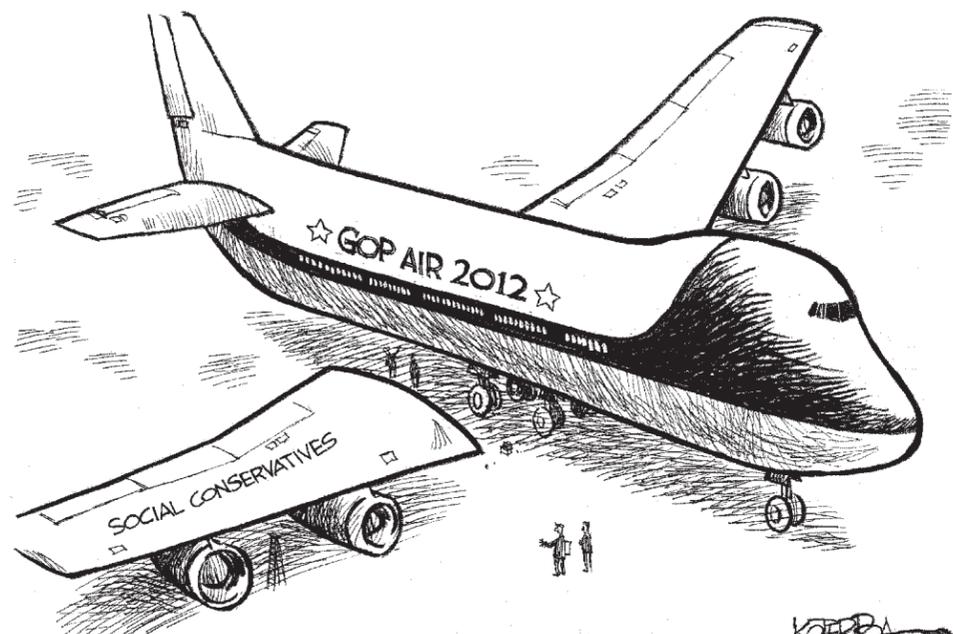
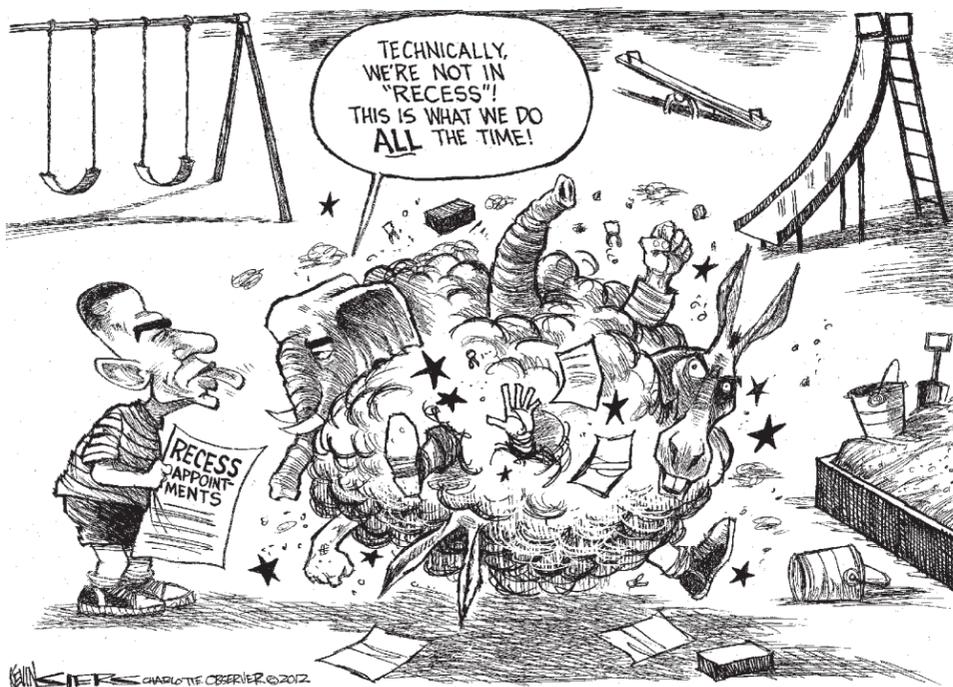
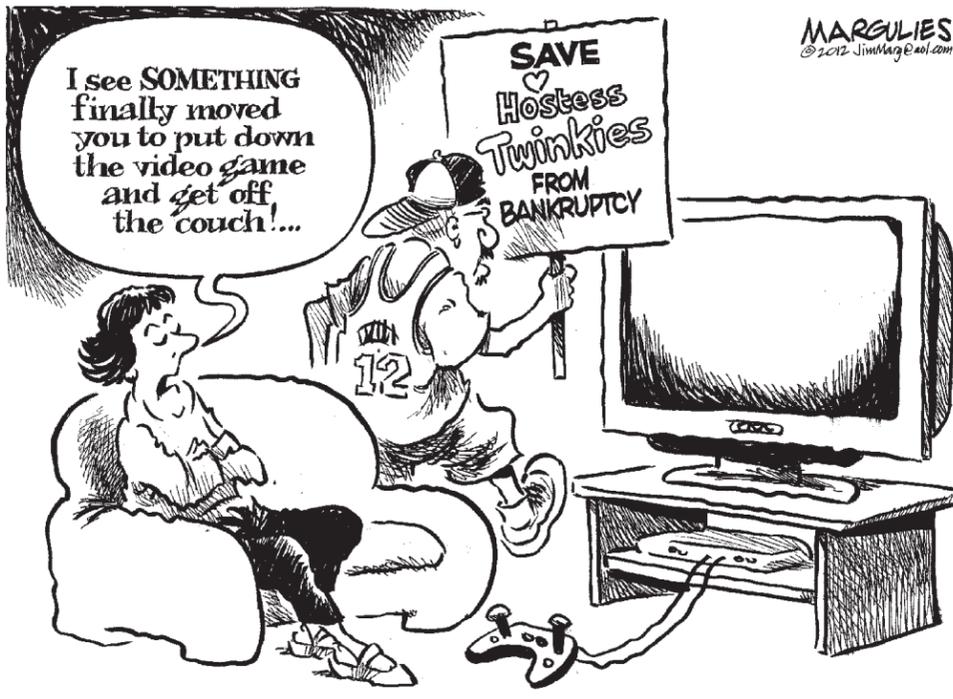
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Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Economic effects on seniors

Hola, mi gente. For more than three years now our economy has been very sluggish. One of the by-products of such an economy is the low rate of inflation. Demand for products is low so the production of goods slows down. When that happens, the market is over stocked. That brings down the rate of price increases so the cost of living rises very little, does not rise or even goes down. That would be a good thing.

Well, in most cases it would be a good thing. Because of no inflation or stagnation, the federal government does not increase some benefits. Hence, Social Security beneficiaries do not receive a cost of living increase (COLA). Seniors especially get hurt when there is no COLA.

Many things that are used daily did increase in costs. When oil went up, so did many thing associated with it. But the overall index remained flat. Heating oil, natural gas, electricity and gasoline all had sharp increases over that period of time. Seniors have little room for higher expenses with their fixed incomes.

For the first time in years, those on Social Security did receive a COLA that means a little more money each month. For many seniors, it was about time. For some however, the increase caused some concern and stress.

Many of the elderly in the district I represent received notices from the State of Texas informing them that some benefits were being reduced. The fact that the household income had increased because of the COLA meant that the eligibility for food stamps, for example, had changed.

Many of the seniors who called my office were very stressed about getting less in food stamps. The Department of Health and Human Services assisted us in answering these issues. It was not easy explaining that federal dollars that come to the state for such entitlements were also reduced.

My office had a community meeting in Montana Vista last week to answer the questions from the seniors. The majority of calls to my office originated from there. I had state employees from the Department of Aging and Disability Services there to explain the overall situation. They also touched on another hot item.

There is a program in place that was started in 1993 as part of a budget bill in Congress. The law was changed so that states receiving benefits from the feds for certain Medicaid benefits had to arrange with beneficiaries a means to recover assets. In simpler terms, the state would be granted property ownership of the senior's property after both spouses died. This has caused even more anxiety among seniors.

I feel it is a shame that these seniors have to experience these types of anxieties. I wish many in congress would fight as hard for these seniors as they do to protect wealthy estates from death taxes; to protect oil executives from scrutiny on exorbitant bonuses; to protect entrepreneurs from paying the same tax rates as poor people.

It is not right to nickel and dime citizens who only want to live their last years in peace.

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

Debate

From Page 2

journalists from area high schools as well as representatives from the local media.

"This was a really unique opportunity to influence the democratic process we are so lucky to have in America. This also gives a voice to the youth who are usually overlooked in politics and proves that we have what it takes," stated Shokar.

After the debate, 122 of the 370 persons in attendance completed a student-generated exit survey, which consisted of nine questions regarding their age, political concerns, party affiliation, voter status, candidate-preference before and after the debate, and whom they thought won the debate.

The survey's general profile indicated that 84 percent of the respondents were 26 years of age or older (16%, 18-25; 31%, 26-44; 43%, 45-64; and 10%, 65+) and that 92 percent of them were registered voters. Nearly half of the survey-takers (52%) considered themselves Democrats with 35 percent declaring that they were independent; six percent said they were Republican, and seven percent marked other as their political party affiliation. Most respondents also specified that the three major issues this election were the economy, education, and immigration.

"We hoped to bring the issues to the forefront of public attention, and demand accountability

from our potential representative. Based on the data from the exit poll, I believe that we did what we set out to do," stated Abel.

According to the students' survey, 74 percent of the respondents said that O'Rourke won the debate and that 23 percent of individuals changed their preference after listening to this debate.

The fact that individuals changed their preference "shows that our event truly educated and influenced the people in attendance. This is a good start in informing the community of El Paso about the candidates for congressional district 16," Abel stated.

"The best part of the event was the actual debate itself. We allowed for an important exchange of information that allowed the audience to

get a better picture of each of these candidates," Abel said.

These politically-active students have already started talking about their next debate, which will probably be for the candidates running in the Republican

primary for the congressional office.

"My students just found out that there are two individuals seeking the Republican nomination in this congressional race, and they think that it is only fair that they hold another debate for these candidates," stated Berglund.

"For the next debate, I would definitely like to get more media attention before the event. The more people that attend these debates, the greater benefit they will serve to the community," Abel added.



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

GETTING INVOLVED—Student organizers, from left, Jasleen Shokar, George Chidiac, Sofia Al-Dasouqi, Samantha Skory, and Teacher Advisor Gary Berglund finalized last-minute details before the debate. The Coronado High School students planned, coordinated, and presented a recent Congressional Democratic Primary Debate.

Q&A – Village Clerk Jessica Garza responds to question from businessmen, from left, Sean Barl Farley, a land developer; Garza; Bob Cook, REDCO director; and Ron Rodriguez, an Arizona business owner. The Village of Vinton's first business forum attracted over 50 participants from businesses and government agencies throughout the region.



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

Vinton

From Page 1

needs in this area. It was just not cost-effective. So, the company decided to establish an office in this area, and we chose to locate in Vinton because of its central location and proximity to the Interstate highway,” Hampton said.

The heavy equipment rental company has hired 16 employees with plans to double in size within the next year or two, according to Hampton. “Our company saw the potential in this area because our business is thriving in El Paso,” Hampton said.

The forum was sponsored by

CASEEM Staffing Solutions and the Doubletree. Bob Cook, REDCO director, gave a special presentation on the Village of Vinton’s Economic Development potential.

For information about the Village of Vinton, call (915) 886-5104.

Briefs

From Page 1

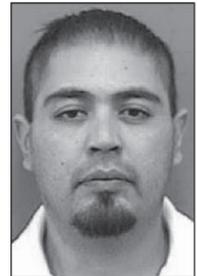
around. Store merchandise and cash from the register were missing. The losses were determined to be approximately \$30,000. Investigators from the El Paso Police Department found that surveillance cameras at a nearby business captured two suspects in the act of the burglary. One suspect is a woman with a thin build, approximately 5’2” inches tall, wearing jeans and a white hoodie with a dark design on the back. The other suspect is a man with a medium build, approximately 5’6” inches tall, wearing jeans and a dark colored hoodie.

If you have any information at all about the identity of the suspects in this case, 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

Lorenzo Jose Silva, 35, is this week’s Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. He uses the aliases Cesar de la O, Ivan de la O and Jose Silva. He is 6’ tall, weighs 150 pounds and has brown hair and eyes. On Dec. 19, 2009 just before 5:00 p.m., Silva b e g a n following a



12-year-old girl at a department store in the Northeast El Paso. Silva exposed himself to the young girl. He smiled and winked at the girl during the incident. Charges have been filed against Silva. He knows he is wanted and is believed to remain in the area hiding with friends or family. If anyone has seen or has any information on the whereabouts of Silva they 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 Silva.

– Deputy Jesse Tovar

Clint Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 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	\$ 10,804,749	\$ 2,871,158	\$ 64,487	\$ 157,721	\$ 13,898,115
5800 State Program Revenues	64,714,117	7,398,301	–	1,289,298	73,401,716
5900 Federal Program Revenues	7,971,114	–	–	13,580,323	21,551,437
5020 Total Revenues	83,489,980	10,269,459	64,487	15,027,342	108,851,268
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	42,255,741	–	–	10,621,802	52,877,543
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	1,012,856	–	–	249,940	1,262,796
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	72,223	–	–	314,727	386,950
0021 Instructional Leadership	1,339,487	–	–	1,192,695	2,532,182
0023 School Leadership	5,532,644	–	–	263,263	5,795,907
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	1,847,359	–	–	842,761	2,690,120
0032 Social Work Services	225,528	–	–	117	225,645
0033 Health Services	811,099	–	–	9,583	820,682
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	2,824,125	–	–	165	2,824,290
0035 Food Services	7,494,125	–	–	122,350	7,616,475
0036 Extracurricular Activities	2,421,520	–	33,635	–	2,455,155
0041 General Administration	3,188,821	–	–	78,880	3,267,701
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	8,819,628	–	178,485	608,414	9,606,527
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	2,097,852	–	–	1,377	2,099,229
0053 Data Processing Services	1,067,623	–	–	507,954	1,575,577
0061 Community Services	102,216	–	–	200,038	302,254
Debt Service:					
0071 Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	–	5,271,677	–	–	5,271,677
0072 Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	–	6,155,424	–	–	6,155,424
0073 Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	–	158,592	–	–	158,592
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	221,564	–	26,867,170	–	27,088,734
Intergovernmental					
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	192,621	–	–	–	192,621
6030 Total Expenditures	81,527,032	11,585,693	27,079,290	15,014,066	135,206,081
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	1,962,948	(1,316,234)	(27,014,803)	13,276	(26,354,813)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):					
7901 Refunding Bonds Issued	–	12,305,000	–	–	12,305,000
7915 Transfers In	32,197	–	–	–	32,197
7916 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	–	956,625	–	–	956,625
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	–	–	–	(32,197)	(32,197)
8940 Payment to Bond Refunding Escrow Agent (Use)	–	(13,103,938)	–	–	(13,103,938)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	32,197	157,687	–	(32,197)	157,687
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	1,995,145	(1,158,547)	(27,014,803)	(18,921)	(26,197,126)
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	21,200,170	2,863,212	49,906,371	135,870	74,105,623
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 23,195,315	\$ 1,704,665	\$ 22,891,568	\$ 116,949	\$ 47,908,497

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

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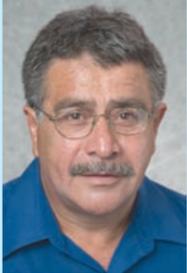
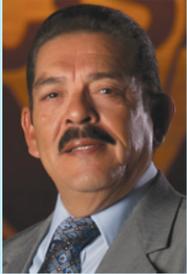
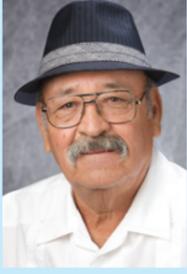
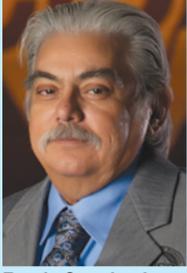
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C	H	R	I	S	T	O	P	H	E	R	D	O	D	B	E	N	I	N	
H	E	I	D	I	S	T	I	L	E	L	E	X	T	A	D				
E	L	M	C	L	A	U	D	E	D	E	B	U	S	S	Y				
E	N	C	R	O	A	C	H	A	S	T	O	S	U	N					
L	E	O	S	T	R	A	P	Y	E	L	L	R	I	C	H				
S	A	L	T	T	I	L	E	T	U	B	S	T	E	E	D				
E	R	I	K	A	F	R	O	Z	E	C	O	S	T	E	L	L	O		
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C	H	A	R	L	E	S	D	A	R	W	I	N	E	R	R				
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O	P	E	N	S	C	O	L	L	E	E	N	D	E	W	H	U	R	S	T
S	P	L	A	T	T	O	Y	E	D	A	G	E	E	N	I	T	A		
S	O	A	P	Y	S	P	E	D	E	K	E	D	O	E	R				

CryptoQuip Answer

Bureau compartments that hold underwear could be referred to as drawers for drawers.

4	–	1	×	6	18
÷		+		×	
2	×	7	+	6	20
+		×		–	
9	÷	3	+	8	11
11		24		28	

School Boards Make a Difference

Anthony	Canutillo	Clint	Fabens	San Elizario	Socorro	Tornillo
 Angel Cuellar	 Laure Searls	 Jim Pendell	 Rey Sepulveda	 Antonio Araujo	 Antonio "Tony" Ayub	 Rachel Avila
 Eddie Chavez	 Monica Cazares	 Janice Armstrong	 Aurora Alviljar	 Vicente Delgadillo	 Gary Gandara	 Ofelia Bosquez
 Sally Flores	 Sergio Coronado	 Robert Lara	 Adan Escobar	 Ramon Holguin	 Paul Guerra	 Bertha Brew
 Mary Jones	 Leticia Gonzalez	 Mary Macias	 Orlando Flores	 Irene Jaquez	 Cynthia Ann Najera	No Photo Available
 Martin Lerma	 Patsy Mendoza	 Fred Martinez	 Viola Hernandez	 Fernie Madrid	 Michael A. Najera	 Pat Guerra
 Guadalupe Perez	 Rachel Quintana	 Pat Randleel	 Marcos Salcido III	 Armando Martinez	 Craig A. Patton	No Photo Available
 Christine Singh	 Armando Rodriguez	 Fernie Sepulveda	 Greg Spence	 Jose Rodriguez	 Angelica Rodriguez	 Joe Tittle
 Ron Haugen	 Damon Murphy	 Edward Gabaldon	 Poncho Garcia, Jr.	 Sylvia Hopp	 Xavier De La Torre	 Paul Vranish

Superintendents

Thank You For Serving

Yet another Bengals player takes the low road

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

If you football fans remember, Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Jerome Simpson probably delivered the play of the year when he leaped over a defender on the way to the end zone a month ago.

Simpson had only one player between him and the goal line and just when the defensive guy was about to make the tackle, he flipped completely over him and landed on his feet for a touchdown.

And with that play, Jerome Simpson kept a long legacy alive for the Bengals.

Not leaping over a defender for a touchdown, I'm talking about his arrest on drug charges last week.

After making a name for himself with that unbelievable play, Simpson has joined a long and embarrassing list of Cincinnati Bengals who have made their way to a police station for a variety of malicious behavior.

There is no team in professional football that has had more arrests since the year 2000 than the Bengals.

Here's a small list of players who have played for an organization that hasn't learned that character can go a long way toward winning.

Among the many infamous Bengals are former wide receiver Chris Henry, who was arrested for providing alcohol to underage women (as young as 15), possession of a concealed firearm and aggravated assault with a firearm, driving under the influence and for possession of marijuana, among many other things.

Henry eventually died in 2009 when he fell off the back of his estranged girlfriend's truck during an argument; he fell and hit his head on the pavement.

Remember defensive back Adam "Pacman" Jones? He was arrested for assault, vandalism, drug possession, probation violation and disorderly conduct.

He was also involved in a shooting incident where one man was paralyzed from the waist down and two others were hit. He was suspended from the NFL in 2007 for violating the league's player conduct policy.

More naughty Bengals include A.J. Nicholson, who was arrested for burglary, vandalism, grand theft and domestic abuse.

Frostee Rucker was arrested for vandalism

and spousal battery.

Reggie McNeal was arrested for drug possession and resisting arrest.

Odell Thurman was arrested for drunken driving.

Matthias Askew was arrested for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Cedric Benson was arrested for misdemeanor assault.

Marvin White was arrested after a dispute at his child's daycare center.

There are many other players who have been in trouble with the law for one reason or another, but we only have so much room in our paper.

Anyway, Jerome Simpson is just another Cincinnati player who has very little regard for the law.

At least he enjoyed about three weeks of positive publicity. For the rest of his life he'll just be another punch line because of the three pounds of marijuana he received via a Federal Express delivery.

Receiving drugs through the mail and expecting not to get caught – forgive the pun related to his flip – but that is the very height of stupidity.

Death of a legend

I have to admit that I grew up a huge fan of Joe Paterno.

Who am I kidding? I still am.

I know he made an unforgivable mistake when he chose not to push anyone at Penn State to get to the bottom of the allegations against his former assistant Jerry Sandusky.

But I was still saddened when I heard that Paterno, 85, had passed away of lung cancer on Sunday morning.

He died 73 days after being fired from the college that saw him become the winningest coach in college football history.

I've got to think that the whole scandal concerning the sexual abuse of young boys by Sandusky had to weigh heavily on him and it certainly couldn't help his health problems.

It's too bad that Paterno's legacy has been so tainted because of the scandal. We shouldn't forget about all the good he did and stood for.

Let's remember, we were all shocked that this scandal occurred at Penn State, which had an impeccable record up to that point. What was the reason for the great record on and off the field? Joe Paterno.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

You "like" this

One of my favorite things to do on a Monday morning after a big playoff game is to check on the Facebook status of every obscure or inconsequential person in my life and then mock him or her without mercy. Today, let's incorporate these – let's just call them "jibes" – into a sports column.

Everyone becomes a football pundit on Monday. Hey, they even invented a term for that! I didn't know that my college roommate, sophomore year,

was a Baltimore Ravens fan. Well, I do now! That's because he changed his profile picture to a large "GO RAVENS!" banner. But he didn't stop there, he also served up this tasty nugget of insight:

"Everyone needs to quit cryin' about the fact that we WON the game! We had a game plan, which we did not execute perfectly, but well enough to win. The Patriots are just another team in our way. We will put together a game plan

for them, and if we execute it, we will go to the Super Bowl, and if we don't, we won't."

Thanks for that profound statement, my old friend from the top bunk.

Ironically, I found the most mean-spirited commentary coming from Packer fans – some of it pretty crude, too. They're always quick to say New Yorkers are obnoxious and rude, too. These two knickerbockers on the bandwagon decided to take the high road. Let's listen in on their erudite conversation:

Fan 1: "I get accused of not being a sports fan. Well, try this: I understand our local squad of footballers prevailed today and vanquished the opposing faction!

Huzzah!"

Fan 2: "Yes, that is correct... our cleated boy wonders of the gridiron did a swell job in the relevant meat-packing town of Green Bay, Wisconsin, yester-eve. The fella quarterbacking our offensive efforts named Eli Manning made such stunning use of the forward pass that it could only be classified as effective!"

Fan 1: "It certainly was! Kudos to our golden boy and his squad-mates of the foot-and-ball team known as the Giants of New York!"

Fan 2: "Well, they certainly lived up to their moniker, as they played an astounding match against a worthy foe with a reputation for excellence. They were simply titanic during that well-played contest. It was positively delightful to set for a

spell and forget about the war for a few ticks of the clock."

Fan 1: "I know our doughboys overseas will feel inspired as they march against the enemy! Just like every sports contest, the game gave us another chance to buy war bonds!"

Fan 2: "Why, of course! Also, remember to limit your usage of nylon, meat and steel. And now a dance number from the ravishing and buxom Marilyn Maxwell as she gives her authentic interpretation of a Tonganese "hula" dance while smoking a pack of Lucky Strikes!"

Some of my Facebook "friends" are weird, but I "like" them.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

MINER BASKETBALL NOCHE LATINA

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4 VS UAB
7:00PM at DON HASKINS

- 3,500 special edition replica Jersey koozies
- Commemorative Mineros jerseys worn by the team
- A silent auction will be held on the concourse for commemorative Mineros Jerseys
- Live mariachi music & mexican food specials
- Amazing halftime show by acrodunk






Get your tickets at the UTEP ticket center, the miner store on Zaragoza at Don Haskins or call 747-5234

San Elizario Independent School District Public Notice of AEIS Meeting

The community is invited to attend a public hearing of the Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) annual report to be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the San Elizario ISD Board Room, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas, 79849.

Junta del AEIS

Se invita a la comunidad entera a que asistan a una audiencia publica del reporte anual del Sistema Indicador de Excelencia Academica (AEIS) que se llevara acabo el miercoles 8 de febrero del 2012 a las 4:00 p.m. en la Sala de Juntas de San Elizario ISD, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas, 79849.

WTCC: 01/26/12

Classified Ads

LEGALS

City of Socorro

Adoption of Ordinances

On January 19, 2012 the City of Socorro, Texas adopted the following ordinance:

1. ORDINANCE 301, AN ORDI-

NANCE OF A CURFEW VIOLATION FOR MINORS UNDER THE AGE OF 17 AND ESTABLISHING EXCEPTIONS AND DEFENSES THERETO; CREATING THE OFFENSE OF ENCOURAGING OR ASSISTING IN THE COMMISSION OF A CUR-

FEW OFFENSE; PROVIDING FOR THE ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF ALL PROVISIONS AND FOR A REVIEW OF ORDINANCE, PENALTY.

Copies of the ordinance are

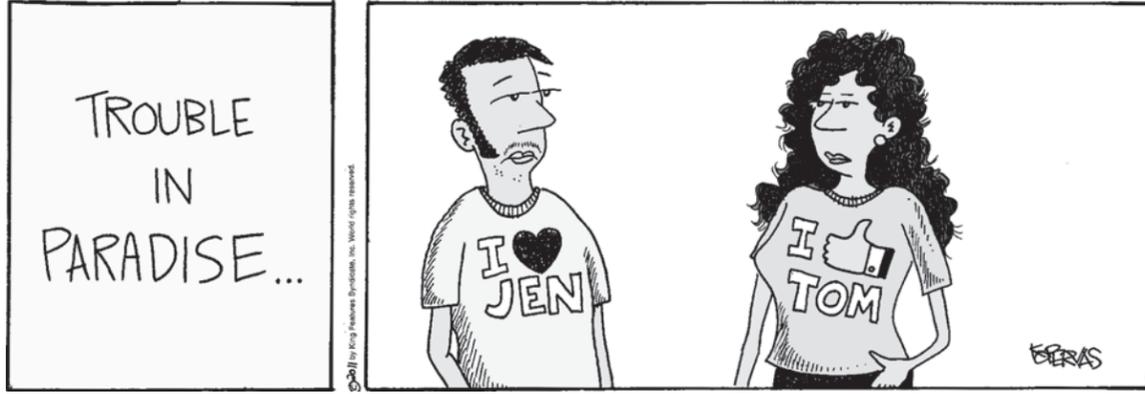
available for review at the City Administration Building, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas 79927; Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Manuel Rubio
City Clerk

WTCC: 01-26-12

Comix

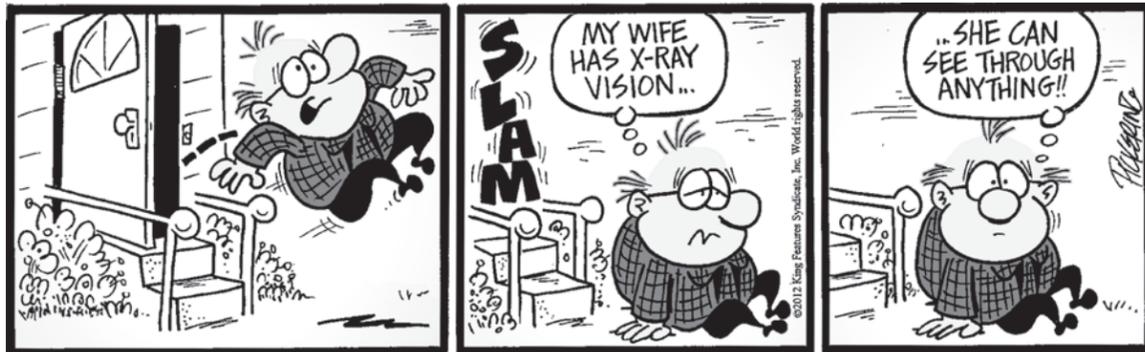
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



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: I haven't seen an article about vaginal yeast infections. The doctor gave me an oral antiyeast medicine for it and a cream to apply. In addition, he gave me something to stop the itching. It seemed worse after the treatment, so the doctor gave me five more days of the oral medicine. What would you suggest if it comes back again? Could it be something I am eating or taking? - N.F.

infection include eating yogurt with live lactobacillus in it to repopulate the vagina's normal bacterial population. Another unproven approach is to treat the male partner. It hasn't been shown that such an approach works, but some experts resort to it.

Vaginal infections are discussed at length in the booklet on that topic. To obtain a copy, write: Dr. Donohue - No. 1203W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada, with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

Candida is the name of the yeast responsible for vaginal infections. Itching is a prominent sign. The vaginal lining also often is irritated and painful. Intercourse can be uncomfortable. White patches adhere to the vaginal lining, and there may be a white discharge. Close to 75 percent of all women will experience at least one Candida infection during their life. It has nothing to do with what you eat or take.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: What can you tell me about hypothyroidism? Does taking iodine help? I hear that taking thyroid hormone is a lifetime commitment. - C.N.

Somewhere between 20 percent and 50 percent of woman harbor this yeast in their vagina but don't have any symptoms of it. If these women are put on an antibiotic for an unrelated infection, the vaginal bacteria that keep the population of Candida at small numbers die off. Without those good bacteria, the Candida yeasts reproduce at a rapid rate and lead to symptoms.

Hypothyroidism is a thyroid gland that's putting out way too little thyroid hormone. All body processes slow. People become weak and are exhausted. They're cold when others are pleasantly warm. They gain weight without overeating. Their skin dries. The face becomes puffy. The heart beats slowly.

You were put on a standard treatment for Candida. Those treatments are antiyeast medicines that come as ointments, creams or vaginal suppositories. There are many of them. The oral antiyeast fluconazole (Diflucan) is another approved treatment.

Worldwide, iodine deficiency is the main cause of a sluggish thyroid gland. It is not in North America. Here, the main cause is an attack on the gland by the immune system.

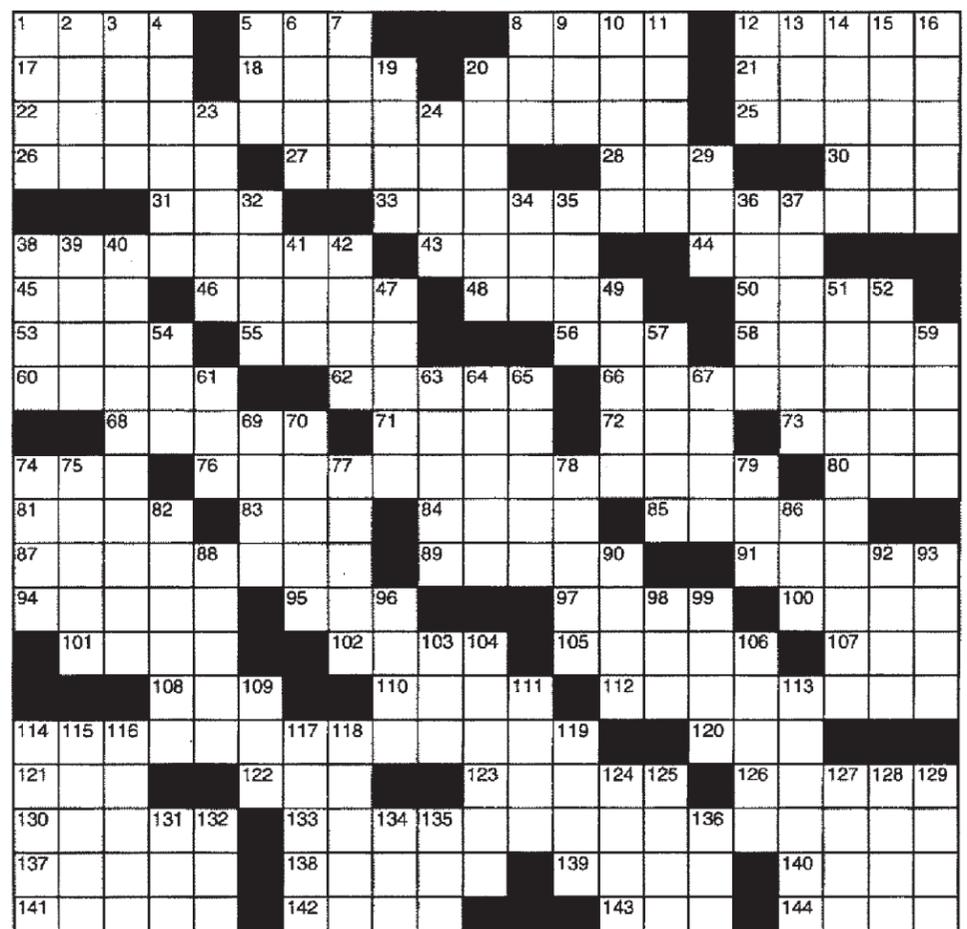
Recurrence of this infection is common and hard to abolish. If it happens, longer treatment with vaginal antiyeast medicines coupled with a weekly dose of oral Diflucan for six months is a reasonable action. If that fails, referral to a center that has the capability to check Candida's sensitivity to antiyeast medication can end the problem. Unproven but popular ways of attacking this

The appropriate treatment is supplying the hormone in pill form. It usually is a lifelong treatment, but it's not an onerous one. It's taking only one pill a day.

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) 2012 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

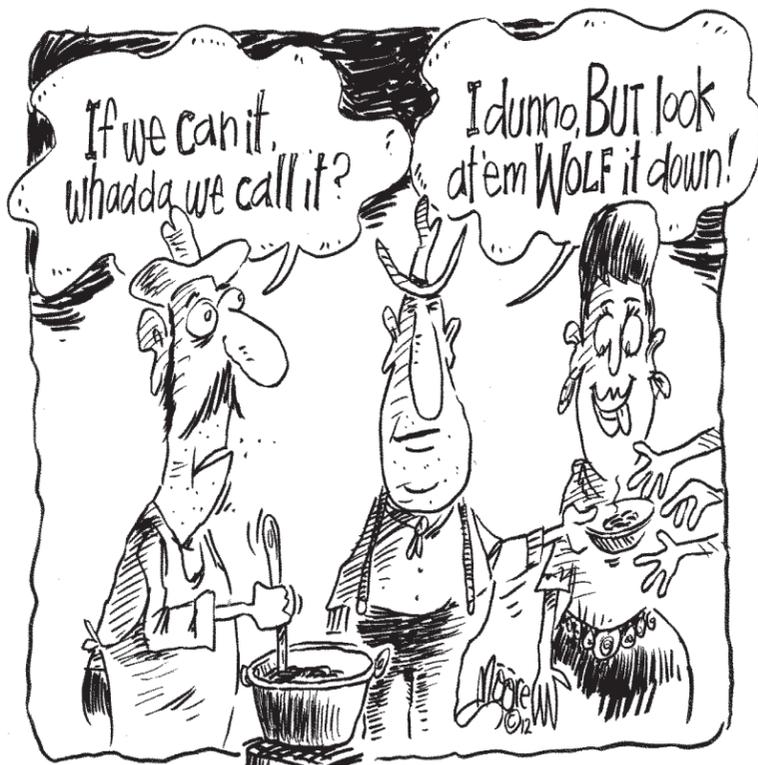
Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CD COLLECTION | 72 _ Jima | 130 Removes the cork | 19 Stylish | soprano |
| ACROSS | 73 Window part | 133 1974 Tony-winning actress | 20 Bathed in butter | 79 Pirate's quaff |
| 1 Pinza or Chaliapin | 74 _ "Eyes" ('79 hit) | 137 "Killer Tomatoes" sound | 23 Corn holders | 82 Flatt or Pearson |
| 5 Basilica feature | 76 "New Look" couturier | 138 Fiddled (with) | 24 Actress Joyce | 86 Indistinct |
| 8 Page | 80 Cambodia's Lon _ | 139 Screenwriter James | 29 Makes one's mark | 88 Tenor Georges |
| 12 _ pants | 81 Articulated | 140 Talbot or Naldi | 32 Swimmer Biondi | 90 Auctioneer's cry |
| 17 Relative of PDQ | 83 Gridiron position | 141 Like the kitchen sink | 34 Multipurpose vehicle | 92 43,560 square feet |
| 18 Crude cartel | 84 Art deco name | 142 Risked a ticket | 35 Lamebrain | 93 Cassandra, for one |
| 20 Comic Radner | 85 Clementi | 143 Scrape by, with "out" | 36 Pop | 96 Part of NB |
| 21 It's down in the mouth | 87 Fit neatly | 144 Action figure | 37 Joins forces | 98 UK honor |
| 22 Connecticut senator | 89 Philharmonic section | | 38 Different | 99 Ruminant |
| 25 Cotonou's country | 91 He had a gilt complex | DOWN | 39 Around the corner | 103 Legendary Bruin |
| 26 Swiss miss? | 94 Pennsylvania sect | 1 Big name in Baroque | 40 Covent Garden conductor | 104 Used a divining rod |
| 27 Rustic sight | 95 Velvet finish | 2 '68 US Open winner | 41 Dernier _ | 106 High spirits |
| 28 Villainous Luthor | 97 Tragic fate | 3 Amritsar attire | 42 Grapefruit serving | 109 Nourished |
| 30 Bit | 100 They squeak for themselves | 4 Miss Muffet's nemesis | 47 Shimon of Israel | 111 Surprised shout |
| 31 "Nightmare" street | 101 Vino center | 5 Word with cheese or roast | 49 Clear | 113 Terra firma |
| 33 "Pelleas et Melisande" composer | 102 Crucifix | 6 Homer's field | 51 "The Power of Love" singer | 114 Misfortune |
| 38 Intrude | 103 Subordinate | 7 Bawled | 52 Opening remark? | 115 Hefty herbivore |
| 43 About | 104 Sky light? | 8 Cover | 54 Tyson stat | 116 Writer Rogers St. Johns |
| 44 Sky light? | 105 Photo book | 9 "Evil Woman" rockers | 57 Crockett colleague | 117 Factions |
| 45 August one | 107 Trams transport it | 10 Confuse | 59 TV's "My Living _" | 118 Sag |
| 46 Watchband | 108 Subordinate | 11 Lost luster | 61 Eyebrow shape | 119 1492 vessel |
| 48 Say "Hey!" | 109 Footbal's Aikman | 12 Wheel part | 63 Aquatic mammal | 124 Brink |
| 50 Drummer Buddy | 110 Architect, for instance | 13 "Hi, Horace!" | 64 Former African nation | 125 Pursue |
| 53 Cold-war accord | 111 "The Descent of Man" author | 14 Puniest pups | 65 Bring bliss | 127 The Chipmunks, e.g. |
| 55 Scrabble piece | 112 Fumble | 15 Inventor Howe | 67 Santa's problem | 128 Ferrara first family |
| 56 Ring site? | 121 Empty (of) | 16 Actor Patinkin | 69 Mets' milieu | 129 Galaxy glitterer |
| 58 Hero's horse | 122 Wagner's _ | | 70 Singer Maresca | 131 Short snooze |
| 60 Actress Slezak | 123 Sneaks peeks | | 74 Fountain order | 132 Hog heaven? |
| 62 Stopped in one's tracks | 126 Carries | | 75 Luncheonette lure | 134 Caustic substance |
| 66 Singer Elvis | | | 77 Gentleman of leisure? | 135 Rock's _ Zeppelin |
| 68 Scandinavian | | | 78 "Pagliacci" | 136 Diminutive |
| 71 Handy bit of Latin | | | | |



Moore Texas

by Roger Moore The famous canned chili, WOLF BRAND, was born in Corsicana.



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		18
÷		+		x	
	x		+		20
+		x		-	
	÷		+		11
11		24		28	

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 6 6 7 8 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: If both my spouse and I are entitled to Social Security benefits, is there any reduction in our payments because we are married?

A: No. We independently calculate each spouse's Social Security benefit amount. Each spouse receives a monthly benefit amount based on his or her own earnings. Couples are not penalized simply because they are married. If one member of the couple earned low wages or did not earn enough Social Security credits to be eligible for retirement benefits, he or she may be eligible to receive benefits as a spouse.

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: How much will I receive if I qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits?

A: The amount of your SSI benefit depends on where you live and how much income you have. The maximum SSI payment varies nationwide. The maximum Federal SSI payment for an eligible individual is \$674 a month and \$1,011 a month for an eligible couple. However, many States add money to the basic payment. For more information, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi.

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 20th-century American critic John Leonard who made the following sage observation: "To be capable of embarrassment is the beginning of moral consciousness. Honor grows from qualms."

• You've probably never heard of the Spanish village of Lijar, located in the south of that country. This village, though, was involved in a nearly 100-year war that lasted well into the 20th century. It seems that in 1883, Alfonso XII, the king of Spain, made a state visit to Paris and received a less-than-royal welcome. Led by mayor Don Miguel Garcia Saez, the citizens of Lijar, after hearing that their monarch had been insulted and possibly accosted by mobs, declared war on France. Though there were no casualties – not even any gunfire – the war lasted until 1981. That was when the town council ruled that it would end hostilities with France thanks to the warm welcome King Juan Carlos of Spain received in France in 1976.

• The town of Adamant, Vermont, was once named Sodom. The townspeople voted to change the name in 1905.

• The first portable computer was made available to the public in 1975. In this instance, however, "portable" was used as a relative term; the IBM 5100 weighed 55 pounds.

• Only 5 percent of American men report that they feel satisfied with their looks. With women, it's only 1 percent.

• In 2008, a study was conducted in the United Kingdom to determine what, if any, effect the consumption of tomatoes had on the human body's reaction to sun exposure. The university students enrolled in the study who consumed the equivalent of about five tomatoes per day were 33 percent less likely to get sunburned than those who ate no tomatoes.

Thought for the Day: "Several excuses are always less convincing than one."
– Aldous Huxley

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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: N equals R

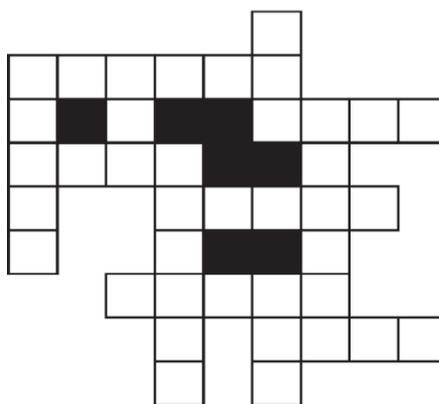
ASNROS MTIVONUIRXUY UWOU
WTJG SXGRNZRON MTSJG AR
NRLRNNRG UT OY GNOZRNY LTN
GNOZRNY.

Answer Page 4

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- OAD
- MEXEUH
- RUMAN
- ADED
- AMATUR
- HOR
- ♥WSON
- GUTHA
- ♥AWD
- ♥NEWDAR
- SYTTE
- ♥NHWE



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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