



NEWSBRIEFS

Reunion

Canutillo High School Class of 1967 will hold its 45th class reunion and is extending a special invitation to CHS graduates from the classes of 1963 through 1968. "This year marks the 45th year since the class of '67 graduated from Canutillo High School. We were only the fifth group to graduate from CHS; the first graduating class was in 1963. The class of '67 is honoring the graduates who came before us as well as the class of '68 with a special invitation, but all CHS graduates are welcome to attend," commented Lilia (Teddy) Martinez, Class of '67 reunion committee member. The reunion festivities, which will be held during CHS's annual homecoming week, are scheduled for Saturday, September 22, at La Bella Palacio Ballroom, 7250 Doniphan Drive, in Canutillo. The event will include a meet and greet mixer from 6 to 7:30 p.m., followed by dinner, then music, dancing and entertainment until midnight. Cost is \$30 per person. As part of the reunion, a memorial mass in remembrance of the classmates from the graduating classes of 1963 to 1968 who have passed away will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Church, in Canutillo at 5 p.m., Saturday, September 15 (mass in Spanish) and at 11:30 a.m., Sunday, September 16, (mass in English). For more information contact Danny Morales at (915) 203-7124 or Teddy (Arellano) Martinez at (915) 503-3067 or send email to liliamartinez48@hotmail.com.

— Alfredo Vasquez

Crime Stoppers

A woman's credit card is compromised and thousands of dollars of merchandise are purchased without her permission, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." On Monday, July 16, 2012, a woman discovered that her credit card had been cloned by an unknown offender who used it to purchase more than \$5,000 in merchandise within 30 minutes. The woman still had the credit card in her possession but, somehow, the offender managed to obtain her account information to create a duplicate card with a false name on it. The false card was used between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. at Toys R Us at Gateway & McRae; K-Mart on McRae, and Walgreen's on Wedgewood. Surveillance video from the stores shows the same subject used the card. He is described as a Hispanic man in his 30s, medium height, and thin build. He was last seen wearing a dark baseball cap, a collared long-sleeve shirt with blue, back and white crisscrossed stripes, and blue jeans. If you have any information at all about the identity of the suspect in this case, contact Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (566-8477), on-line at www.

See BRIEFS, Page 3

Archeology museum presents story of 21st century Maya Woman

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

Dr. Christine Eber, anthropologist and professor emerita at New Mexico State University, met Antonia, a Tzotzil-Maya woman from the highlands of Chiapas, Mexico in 1986, and she has followed her life's journey ever since.

Together they have written a book titled, *The Journey of a Tzotzil-Maya Woman: Pass Well over the Earth*. It is Antonia's life story in her own words, and it will be featured in a special presentation by Eber at 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8, at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4300 Transmountain Road.

In her presentation, Eber will read passages from Antonia's book and discuss the process of writing her life story. The book details the challenges and rewards they experienced working to organize weaving cooperatives and to support the struggle for social justice in Chiapas.

"With so many stories of violence and social breakdown coming out of Mexico, Antonia's

life story provides a vision of hope through its focus on building a new world, one free of want and injustice," Eber stated. "Antonia's journey is about hope and resistance, about one Maya woman's persistence in the face of poverty and racism, and doing so in solidarity with others," she added.

Eber has written other books including *Women and Alcohol in a Highland Maya Town: Water of Hope; Water of Sorrow; and Women of Chiapas: Making History in Times of Struggle and Hope* (co-edited with Christine Kovic).

Eber is also founding member of Weaving for Justice (formerly Las Cruces-Chiapas Connection) that is a volunteer network that assists Chiapas weavers with selling their products through fair trade.

The special presentation is being held in conjunction with the exhibit, *Look Close See Far, A Cultural Portrait of the Maya and the Tzotzil Maya textiles*, which is on display at the museum. The event is free and open to the public.



— Photo courtesy of El Paso Museum of Archaeology

Dr. Christine Eber, a professor emerita of anthropology at New Mexico State University, will discuss her latest book which details the challenges and rewards experienced by Antonia, a Tzotzil-Maya woman from the highlands of Chiapas, Mexico.

Flores-Salom is State finalist



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

IN THE RUNNING — Irene Flores-Salom, a teacher at Sambrano Elementary School in the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD), is one of three finalists for the Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year. She was named Region 19 Elementary Teacher of the Year this summer. SEISD was notified on August 16 that Salom had been selected to move on to the final round for the Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year competition. Salom was surprised with the news of her selection as a state finalist on August 20 when Principal Marta Alvarez made the announcement at a luncheon for faculty. Her next step is going to Austin to be interviewed by a panel of judges on September 15. The winners will be announced at the Texas Teacher of the Year Awards Ceremony in October.

— Cynthia P. Marentes

New identification rules for vehicle titling, registration

By Kim Sue Lia Perkes
Special to the Courier

Texans titling a vehicle in the state and first-time registrants will soon have to show identification, enhancing public safety and paving the way for more customer-friendly automation.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) Board passed new identification rules at its Thursday meeting. The rules were required as part of two new state laws (HB 2017 and HB 2357) that mandate identification for titling a vehicle and first-time registrants. This change does not apply to registration renewals.

The identification requirements are a two-phase process designed to give Texans, tax assessor-collectors and businesses an opportunity to become educated on the new procedure. Beginning Sept. 3, 2012, vehicle buyers can show any government photo identification if it includes a current photo, unique identification number, birth date and expiration date.

On Sept. 1, 2013 and thereafter, the only acceptable government photo identification will be:

- State driver's license or identification certification issued by one of the U.S. states or territories;
- United States or foreign passport;
- United States military identification;

- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) identification;
- United States Department of Homeland Security identification-issued document;
- Identification issued under a U.S. Status of Forces Agreement; or
- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation.

The new identification requirements are another step towards creating more electronic services for customers, and ensuring the integrity of the motor vehicle database.

Next year Texans can expect to see is the replacement of paper titles with electronic ones or "eTitles," that will take the burden off vehicle owners to keep track of their title and help to reduce title fraud. The eTitle system is expected to launch in fall 2013.

The TxDMV plans to further automate the motor vehicle database so vehicle owners can be found by name. Currently the system can only find an owner in the database by the vehicle identification or license plate number.

"As we build out our new automation system, we will be able to use your Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) driver's license number as the unique identifier to make sure we find all the vehicles in the TxDMV motor vehicle database that are under your name," said Randy Elliston, TxDMV Vehicle Titles and Registration Division director. "For instance, you can imagine how many John

Smiths we might have recorded among the millions of title records, but by tying John Smith's name to his driver's license number we can find the right one."

Eventually this will allow vehicle owners to access their own information in the motor vehicle database. "We want to deliver to Texans a customer-centric system that is both useful and secure," said TxDMV Executive Director Whitney Brewster.

The agency is in the process of securing a vendor to retool its Registration and Titling System so it can support additional online services for customers and streamline business processes.

The TxDMV continues to offer registration renewal, email registration renewal reminders, specialty plate ordering, customer address changes, vehicle transfer notifications and vehicle transfer permits online. Consumers can also check whether a moving company is licensed and any complaints filed with the TxDMV against moving, bus or truck companies on the TxDMV website, www.TxDMV.gov.

"The TxDMV is dedicated to improving customer service and convenience for citizens," said TxDMV Board Chairman Victor Vandergriff. "Our employees and board members are focused on our mission to promote and protect the interests of the motoring public and citizens in the state of Texas."

A person's language is an index of their mind.

— Quips & Quotes

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

The VRAP scam

If you're signed up for Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) and are expecting to hear about approval and payments, beware... especially if you get a call from a 202 area code.

There's word of a scam going around to steal money from VRAP recipients. As posted on the Department of Veterans Affairs page, it works like this:

The scammers will call you and congratulate you on being approved for the program. You'll be told you can have your money within minutes... if you give your bank deposit information and agree to a \$205 service fee.

Whomever it is, that person isn't affiliated with the VA. The scammer takes your money. Nobody at the VA will ever call you like that and ask for your banking information. If you get a similar scam call, phone the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-382-4357.

(As a side note, I hunted down some information on the scam and found a phone number. If the powers-that-be want to look for the scammer, it shouldn't be too hard: The phone is a landline in Washington, D.C.)

VRAP is a training program for high demand occupations. If you haven't signed up for VRAP and want to start school in September, there's still time. The early group (until September) is limited to 45,000 veterans. They've reached that number of applications, but only half have been accepted. If you want to apply now, it's worth a shot. Otherwise you'll be in the next group, which starts in October and runs until March 2014.

- The qualifications are:
- Ages 35 to 60;
 - Unemployed;
 - Don't have a dishonorable discharge;
 - Aren't eligible for other education benefits through the VA;
 - Don't get compensation for not being employable; and
 - Aren't in a federal or state job training program.

For more information go online to benefits.va.gov/vow/education.htm or call the VA at 1-800-827-1000.

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.

FSA helps fund agricultural youth projects

By William H. McNally
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – The Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes loans to individual rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America (FFA), and similar organizations.

Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.

Each year, many young entrepreneurs take advantage of these loans and gain valuable business experience in the process.

To qualify for a loan, an applicant must:

- Be a citizen of the United States;
- Be between 10 and 20 years old; and
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work, as outlined above.

Applicants must also be capable of

planning, managing, and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project adviser. The project adviser must recommend the project and the loan, and agree to provide adequate supervision.

These loans may be used to finance nearly any kind of agricultural income-producing project. The maximum amount for FSA youth loans is \$5,000.

Loan recipients may use the money to buy livestock, equipment, feed, and supplies; buy, rent, or repair needed tools and equipment; and pay operating expenses for running the project. Only projects of modest size can be financed. A modest project is limited in physical size, capital requirements, and overall objectives.

Applicants must sign a promissory note and be responsible for repaying

the loan. In some cases, a cosigner may be required. Loan collateral normally consists of crops produced for sale, livestock, equipment, and other items purchased with loan funds.

The repayment schedule will be worked out with FSA. Payments will be tailored to the type of project for which the loan was made. For example, if the loan is to raise livestock or crops, it would normally be paid when the produce/livestock is sold.

The FSA Farm Loan Office is located at 2306 West Dickinson, Suite 1, Fort Stockton, Texas and serves the fourteen westernmost counties in Texas. For an application or additional information contact the Fort Stockton Office at (432) 336-5206 or by email at ryne.mckinney@tx.usda.gov.



FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS

***MILITARY DISCOUNT**



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

AD DEADLINE:
Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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

DISPLAY RATES:
Open rate — \$25 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:
Minimum 50 issues for \$36. Delivery via 1st class mail.

MAIL:
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928



Phone: 852-3235
Fax: 852-0123
E-mail: wtxcc@wtxcc.com
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CryptoQuip Answer

If you have to send your dog or cat to a different vet, some might call it a re-furral.

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Briefs

From Page 1

crimestoppersofelpaso.org or you can send a text message by entering the key word CRIME1 (no space) plus your tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637). You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

— James Klaes

Wanted

Michael Daniel McSwain, 29, is this week's Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. He also goes by Daniel McSwain and Michael or Daniel Reyes. He is 5'6" tall and weighs 152 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. McSwain has multiple tattoos. On Friday, Aug. 16, 2012 just after 6:00 p.m., authorities were called a 7-11 located at

10898 Montana. Officers made contact with McSwain standing next to a White Hyundai Santa Fe SUV (TX plate 513-STD) at a fuel pump. McSwain had two outstanding warrants. He jumped into the Hyundai and put the vehicle in drive as officers were struggling to take him into custody. McSwain continued driving forward as officers kept holding onto him causing bodily harm to one of the officers. He knows he is wanted and may still be driving the Hyundai Santa FE. If anyone has seen or has any information on the whereabouts of McSwain they can call Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension of McSwain.

— Deputy Jesse Tovar

2012 Property Tax Rates in Village of Vinton

This notice concerns 2012 property tax rates for the Village of Vinton. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$ 186,208
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 132,937
Last year's total taxes	\$ 319,145
Last year's tax base	\$ 114,096,491
Last year's total tax rate	\$ 0.279715 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 319,103
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 115,744,286
= This year's effective tax rate	\$ 0.275696 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 186,183
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 115,744,286
= This year's effective operating rate	\$ 0.160857 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$ 0.173725 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$ 0.541980 /\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$ 0.715705 /\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the Town of Anthony adopts a 2012 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.275696 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2011 taxes by \$ 3,666.

SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$ -0-
Debt Service (I&S)	\$ -0-

SCHEDULE B – 2012 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Office Equipment	\$2,154	\$0	\$0	\$2,154
Tax Notes	\$30,000	\$54,000	\$0	\$84,000
Engineering Services	\$548,448	\$0	\$0	\$548,448
Total required for 2012 Debt Service				\$ 634,602
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year				\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2012				\$ 634,602
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2012				\$ -0-
= Total Debt Levy				\$ 634,602

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 221 N. Kansas, Suite 300, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Name of person preparing this notice: **Maria O. Ramos, RTA**
 Title: **Tax Deputy Administrator** Date prepared: **August 21, 2012**

2012 Property Tax Rates in Town of Anthony

This notice concerns 2012 property tax rates for the Town of Anthony. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$ 343,774
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 258,944
Last year's total taxes	\$ 602,718
Last year's tax base	\$ 152,590,312
Last year's total tax rate	\$ 0.394991 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 602,096
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 141,423,641
= This year's effective tax rate	\$ 0.425739 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 343,419
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 141,423,641
= This year's effective operating rate	\$ 0.242830 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$ 0.262256 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$ 0.168100 /\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$ 0.430356 /\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the Town of Anthony adopts a 2012 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.425739 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2011 taxes by \$ 40,701.

SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$ -0-
Debt Service (I&S)	\$ 47,655

SCHEDULE B – 2012 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Tax Refunding Bonds 2010	\$118,000	\$88,396	\$0	\$206,396
SIB	\$43,920	\$3,735	\$0	\$47,655
Total required for 2012 Debt Service				\$ 254,051
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year				\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2012				\$ 254,051
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2012				\$ -0-
= Total Debt Levy				\$ 254,051

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 221 N. Kansas, Suite 300, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Name of person preparing this notice: **Maria O. Ramos, RTA**
 Title: **Tax Deputy Administrator** Date prepared: **August 20, 2012**

When you should file an amended tax return

By Jason Alderman
Special to the Courier

Not every interaction with the IRS

must necessarily induce flop sweat.

Case in point: A few years ago a friend of mine decided his income taxes had become sufficiently complicated to merit hiring an

accountant. After examining previous tax returns, the accountant discovered my friend had claimed the standard deduction for two years when he should have itemized expenses. He

filed a couple of amended tax returns and voila – the IRS wrote him checks totaling more than \$1,200.

Of course, not all tax-filing mistakes end on such a happy note. Sometimes people find out after submitting a return that their employer had sent an incorrect W-2 form, or they forgot to report self-employment income, or they incorrectly claimed someone as a dependent.

Although it's tempting to let such mistakes slide, chances are the IRS will discover the error eventually, and when they do you could be liable for interest and penalties going back to the due date of the original tax return. Worst case: You could even face criminal charges for filing a fraudulent return.

Here's a guide to when – and how – you should file an amended tax return:

If you discover an error on your federal income tax return after having already e-filed or mailed it, you may file an amended return using IRS Form 1040X (at www.irs.gov). The following rules apply:

- Amended returns cannot be e-filed; you must submit a paper version.
- Submit a separate Form 1040X for each year's return you wish to amend and mail them in separate envelopes.
- Generally, you must file Form 1040X within three years from the date you filed your original return or within two years from the date you paid the tax, whichever is later.
- If your amended return involves changes to another schedule or form, you must attach a revised version of that schedule or form.
- If you're filing to claim an additional tax refund on a recently filed return, wait until you've

received the original refund before filing Form 1040X. You're allowed to cash the original check while waiting for any additional refund.

- On the other hand, if your amended return will result in you owing additional tax, file it right away to limit interest and penalty charges that might accrue.

- The normal processing time for a Form 1040X is eight to 12 weeks.

You needn't file an amended return because of simple math errors – the IRS will automatically make corrections and bill you for any additional tax required (or increase your refund). Nor must you file a 1040X if you forgot to attach tax forms or schedules to your return. The IRS will send a request if it needs them.

However, you should file an amended return if you:

- Received additional or amended tax forms or statements from employers, banks or investment brokers after you filed your return (e.g., W-2 or 1099 forms).
 - Forgot to report income.
 - Overlooked tax deductions or credits you could have claimed.
 - Claimed deductions or credits for which you weren't eligible.
 - Didn't claim a dependent you were entitled to, or claimed someone you shouldn't have.
 - Chose the wrong filing status.
- One last tip: If you're going to the trouble of filing an amended tax return for a specific reason, review the entire original return carefully for any other deductions, credits or exemptions you might have missed the first time.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

Notice of Public Hearing on Adoption of the Proposed 2012/2013 Budget

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town of Horizon City will hold a public hearing on the proposed amendments to the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 budget. The hearing will be held:

Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 6:30 PM
City Council Chambers, Horizon City Town Hall
14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas

The public hearing is for the purpose of allowing the public to question and comment on the proposed amendments to the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 budget. Any person with questions on the accessibility of the facility should contact the City Clerk at the above address or by telephone at 915-852-1046. Persons needing interpreter services must notify the City Clerk no later than September 7, 2012.

Copies of the proposed budget are available for your review at the City Clerk's Office at the Town of Horizon City, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

WTCC: 08-23-12

Classified Ads

LEGALS

City of Socorro

PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. at a Special Council Meeting on August 28, 2012, at City Hall, 860 Rio Vista, Socorro, Texas. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following:

1) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, ON AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 293 AMENDING THE BUDGET.

Those unable to attend the public hearing may submit their views to the City of Socorro. Accommodations for handicapped per-

sons will be available; handicapped persons in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the City Clerk (915) 858-2915, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Copies of ordinances are available for review at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., upon request.

Olivia Navarro
Assistant
City Clerk

WTCC: 08-23-12

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A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Crushing on England

The United States of America “won” the XXX Olympics – which is fitting in oh-so-many ways. For if there’s any country that can turn an XXX trick, it’s the United States.

No, I’m not a self-loathing liberal or a drum-beating right winger – there’s a reason why I write sports. I typically care not about the political arena, and I consider myself to be one of those “moderate” types in that I don’t stockpile shotgun shells, but still, on occasion, brush with

fluoride toothpaste.

My point is this: England – sorry, Great Britain and (more to the point) the great city of London – showed why they’re our favorite crush. Try as we might, for all of our preening and American braggadocio, England always socks us right in the kisser, and we love her all the more for it, don’t we?

That little island once dominated and colonized most of the world. Sure, their food always sucked (still does, save for the chocolate and

genuine Indian food), and for a time they just kind of hung out in the soot and smog of their industrial age, but at least they have been around long enough to have “ages.” And they had character – characters, I should say. When they weren’t burning down the White House (Wikipedia that, kids), they were still careful to avoid the Plague, Nazis and the Artful Dodger.

Ever since the Fab Four caught that flight into Idlewild Airport, we’ve been smitten with our one-time oppressors. Sure, every so often they pull our pigtails and say silly things like “we invented baseball, divorce and tank warfare,” but we are able to look past that because we’re in love.

The television coverage of the 2012 Olympics reminded us of that fact in so many ways. We certainly looked – NBC pulled in its biggest ratings ever. And what a show it was. The Queen jumping out of planes with James Bond. The Spice Girls, pleasant weather, Mitt Romney’s dancing horse and no terrorism. Simply smashing!

So we “won” the games, hauling in 104 medals in total – 46 of which were of the golden variety. China came in second, scoring 88 medals, but they can take solace in the fact that our athletes have to pay taxes on those medals (partly true, according to Snopes.com), so a chunk of our medals will be going to them anyway.

In the end, our National Broadcasting Company made sure to sell out. When it wasn’t holding back the goods by delaying coverage (but telling us the outcomes beforehand), NBC was cutting off the closing ceremonies. Britain was giving us The Who, and we were off screwing around with some stupid sitcom.

Maybe, like most long relationships, we can just laugh off our faults (and Bob Costas) and hope our lovers see them as charming quirks. At least we’re consistent.

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

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The TOWN OF HORIZON CITY will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 3.19 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on September 4, 2012 at 6:30 PM at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas 79928.

The second public hearing will be held on September 11, 2012 at 6:30 PM at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas 79928.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: Mr. Ruben Mendoza, Mr. Juan “Jerry” Garcia, Mr. Luis Najera, Ms. Kathy Masters, Mr. Johnny “Doc” Duran, and Ms. Carole Zimmerman

AGAINST: NONE

PRESENT and not voting: NONE

ABSENT: Mr. Bill Armas

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in TOWN OF HORIZON CITY last year was \$115,739. Based on last year’s tax rate of \$0.301250 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$360.23.

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in TOWN OF HORIZON CITY this year is \$116,100. If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$0.312791 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$363.15.

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$0.322791 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$374.76.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

WTCC: 08/23/12

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 1.14 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on August 30, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the West Valley Fire Department, 510 E. Vinton, Vinton, TX 79821.

The second public hearing will be held on September 5, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Socorro Fire Department, 11440 North Loop, Socorro, TX 79927.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: Bill Adler, Jerry Knots, Pamela Padilla and Carlos Sandoval

AGAINST: NONE

PRESENT and not voting: NONE

ABSENT: Nick Sierra

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 last year was \$75,235. Based on last year’s tax rate of \$0.100000 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$75.24.

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 this year is \$76,323. If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$0.098875 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$75.46.

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$76.32.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

WTCC: 08/23/12

Some athletes find it hard to play by the rules

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Do you remember when you were a kid and you tried to pull a fast one on your mom or dad?

It almost always exploded in your face didn't it?

Before I realized I wasn't smart enough to fool them, I thought I was miles ahead of them on the "sneaky meter."

Not until years later did I realize I was just fooling myself.

It's funny how you can fool yourself into thinking that you're smarter than you really are until it's too late. Only until after you were caught do you think to yourself, "boy that was

stupid, what the heck was I thinking?"

And that brings us to San Francisco Giants outfielder Melky Cabrera.

Cabrera, who has always been a serviceable player, has spent much of his career in the background. Kind of like a nice character actor behind the Brad Pitts of the world.

For some unknown reason (so we thought) he exploded onto the scene this year with the kind of offense from his bat not seen in his first six years in the majors.

Cabrera had a batting average of .266 for over 2,300 at bats in six seasons.

Then last year with the Kansas City Royals, he suddenly hit .307 with 201 hits. Not bad for a guy who averaged 127 hits a year.

But that's nothing compared to this season with the Giants. Cabrera was second in the

National League in batting at .346 with 159 hits with about 40 games still to go.

I'm sure by now most of you have heard that Cabrera achieved his sudden success through better chemicals.

He was given a 50-game suspension for testing positive for a performance-enhancing substance.

Initially, Cabrera took responsibly for his actions and apologized to coaches, teammates and fans.

Remember I said initially. What Cabrera really did was think that he was smart enough to pull a fast one on Major League Baseball. And now it's all exploded in his face.

Knowing that he failed a drug test, Cabrera got together with some unsavory characters who allegedly paid \$10,000 for the creation

of a fake website that claimed there were supplements out there that were essentially causing positive results for steroids.

These less-than-competent buffoons tried to link Cabrera to this fictitious supplement in an attempt to provide a false excuse for the positive test results.

Remember that Cabrera is also the reason the National League will enjoy home-field advantage in the World Series because of his home run that helped the National League beat the American League in the All-Star game.

Embarrassingly, Cabrera was named the MVP of the game. I wonder if that will carry an asterisk with it in the record books?

Any way, Cabrera thought he was sneaky

See RULES, Page 8

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The City of Socorro will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 14.66 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on September 4, 2012 at 5:00 P.M. at Socorro City Hall, 860 N. Rio Vista Rd., Socorro, TX 79927.

The second public hearing will be held on September 11, 2012 at 5:00 P.M. at Socorro City Hall, 860 N. Rio Vista Rd., Socorro, TX 79927.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: **Guillermo Madrid Jr., Mary Garcia, and Gloria Rodriguez**

AGAINST: **Maria Reyes**

PRESENT and not voting: **NONE**

ABSENT: **Jesus Gandara Jr.**

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in the CITY OF SOCORRO last year was \$78,481. Based on last year's tax rate of \$0.496757 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$389.86.

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in the CITY OF SOCORRO this year is \$80,114. If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$0.493462 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$395.33.

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$0.565805 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$453.29.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

WTCC: 08/23/12

Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 11 of El Paso County

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 11 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2012 on Thursday, September 13, 2012, at 11:30 a.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal: **Curtis R. "Pete" Sellers, Mary Suzann Pell, Darwin Voge, Jose R. Soto and Marisa Lascurain**

AGAINST the proposal: **NONE**

PRESENT and not voting: **NONE**

ABSENT: **NONE**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 127,856	\$ 129,659
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 127,856	\$ 129,659
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 958.92	\$ 972.44
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	+ \$ 13.52	
and percentage of increase (+/-)	+ 1.41%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

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 am a diabetic male, age 96, with many aches and pains but no high blood pressure. I have low cholesterol and am in control of my diabetes. In the past few weeks, I've noticed swelling of my ankles and feet. I have been taking two water pills a day for it. I never use salt or eat salty foods. What can you suggest for me? – S.S.

Try the things I mentioned. See if they bring down the swelling. If they don't, you'll have to consult your doctor.

A much more important cause of ankle-foot edema is heart failure, something that your doctor must check you for.

The booklet on edema and lymphedema explains this kind of swelling in detail. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donahue – No. 106W, 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.

That swelling is edema, and it has many causes. One is sitting for long periods with the legs dangling down. With the legs in that position, gravity pulls fluid from the legs' blood vessels. Treatment for this kind of edema consists in elevating the legs. Every hour, lie down for 10 minutes with pillows under your legs and feet so that they are above heart level. When sitting, squeeze the leg muscles over and over. Muscle contractions stop the oozing of fluids from the blood vessels. And take a morning and afternoon walk. Elastic hose can keep fluid in blood vessels and out of the surrounding tissues.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I'd been on Ambien for three years. I'm off it now. I take melatonin. It works better. What are the good things and bad things about it? – R.M.

The pineal gland in the brain makes melatonin, a hormone-like substance that contributes in regulating our internal clock. Melatonin is secreted at night and signals the body to go to sleep.

Dilated leg veins – varicose veins – promote edema. A clot in a leg vein is another cause. That's usually quite painful, and you'd be aware that something is going on if you had a clot. Liver ailments can lead to edema. The liver makes a blood protein, albumin, that keeps fluid in circulation. With a low production of this protein, fluid leaks out of vessels. Kidney failure is another reason why edema occurs. Medicines can lead to it. The popular nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medicines such as Advil and Aleve are two examples. So are medicines called calcium channel blockers, such as nifedipine and verapamil. If you increased the dose of your water pill on your own, you shouldn't. You can develop a potassium deficiency from overuse of water pills.

The benefits ascribed to melatonin are amazing: quelling inflammation, acting as an antioxidant, bolstering the immune system, preventing cancer. The evidence for these benefits is not overwhelming. It does, however, prevent jet lag and foster sleep. Long-term side effects and safety are not known.

Chronic insomnia is best treated by consulting a sleep specialist.

Dr. Donahue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2012 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOOFERS ACROSS | 63 Short story | cartoonist? | 31 Pantyhose part | 85 Dickens title start |
| 1 Martin Sheen, to Emilio Estevez | 65 Cognizant | 129 Neighbor of Somalia | 34 Rembrandt or Whistler | 86 Peel off |
| 4 Photo tint | 67 In the manner of | 130 Singer Phoebe | 35 Ward of "Sisters" | 87 Move like mad |
| 9 Pipe part | 68 Bare | 131 Entertain | 37 Wreckage | 89 Self-esteem |
| 13 TV's "The _ of Life" | 70 Viva _ | 132 Sour fruit | 38 Reject | 90 Make a mumuu |
| 18 Baal or Elvis | 72 Dancing comic? | 133 Novelist Danielle | 39 Touch up the text | 93 Psychologist Pavlov |
| 20 Bonus | 76 _ of Gold" (70 hit) | 134 Bronte heroine | 41 Journalist Jacob | 95 Obligation |
| 21 Soccer superstar | 77 Gray matter? | 135 Aden's locale | 42 Jeanne of "Jules and Jim" | 99 TV host John |
| 22 Cold sound | 78 Northwestern st. | 136 Minnesota twins? | 44 Mrs. Kramden | 102 Village |
| 23 Dancing president? | 80 Philips of "UHF" | | 45 Bandleader Severinsen | 103 Sgt. or cpl. |
| 25 Landed | 81 Tonto's horse | | 46 "... man _ mouse?" | 104 Disney cricket |
| 26 Range rope | 84 More disreputable | DOWN | 47 Dancing statesman? | 105 Margin |
| 27 _ a customer | 86 Director Lang | 1 Mustard type | 52 Numbers pro | 106 Mallard or teal |
| 28 Whip | 88 Flusters | 2 Hersey setting | 53 Push a product | 107 Suffers |
| 30 Tranquil | 91 Percussion instrument | 3 Like the Taj Mahal | 55 Trick stick | 108 Acts like a chicken |
| 32 _ 4 (Toyota model) | 92 Feel awful | 4 Use a straw | 56 Tie the knot | 110 Neighsayer? |
| 33 Little lumps | 94 Bean | 5 Word form for "environment" | 57 Thames town | 112 Actress Berry |
| 36 Fawning | 96 Make cheddar better | 6 It may be bitter | 58 Funnyman Foxx | 113 Synthetic textile |
| 39 Parisian pronoun | 97 Prohibit | 7 "... Dinka Doo" ('33 song) | 59 Enormous | 114 "The Highwayman" poet |
| 40 Dancing colonist? | 98 Wine vessel | 8 '92 Wimbledon winner | 60 Veneration | 116 Genuine |
| 43 Go Fish and golf | 100 Yuletide | 9 Health resort | 61 | 118 Fancy fabric |
| 45 Comic DeLuise | 101 Piglet's parent | 10 - Aviv | 62 Less vivid | 119 Horner's fruit |
| 48 Muse with a scroll | 102 Hunt or Hayes | 11 Draw forth | 64 Van _ , CA | 122 Carrie or Louis |
| 49 Command to a corgi | 104 Dancing boxer? | 12 Copper or cobalt | 66 Piece of fencing? | 124 On behalf of |
| 50 Meyerbeer's _ Huguenots" | 108 Kid at court | 13 "Green Acres" setting | 70 Enormous | 125 Ovine female |
| 51 Prospector's prize | 109 Hailing from Hunan | 14 "Stroker _" ('83 film) | 71 European capital | 127 Poetic monogram |
| 52 "The Twelve _" (70 film) | 111 Mention briefly | 15 Dancing bodybuilder? | 73 Akbar's city | 128 _ Buddhism |
| 54 At once | 115 Aussie walker | 16 Wrecks the Rolls | 74 "... the Mood for Love" ('35 song) | |
| 56 Freezin' season | 116 Space | 17 Italian wine | 75 "... bet!" | |
| 59 Finger food | 117 Assistance | 19 Abate | 76 Sprout | |
| 61 Trickles | 120 Spanish guitarist | 24 Seafood selection | 78 It's up in the air | |
| | 121 "Crazy" singer | 29 Coop crowd | 79 Volcano part | |
| | 123 Widespread | | 82 Peruvian port | |
| | 126 Dancing | | 83 Keats composition | |

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Rules

From Page 6

enough to fool everyone.

He was only fooling himself. But at least he'll have the rest of the season (with no pay) to learn from his mistakes.

Fallen angel

It really annoyed me this week when I heard that Montwood quarterback Angel Garcia had been arrested for possession of marijuana.

As a Football Friday Night commentator, I've loved watching him play.

It appears that he was joy-riding with some dudes that had allegedly stolen a sign. They were stopped by the police, who found two baggies of pot on Garcia.

I was young once and I did some pretty stupid things too. Hopefully, he is humiliated enough to turn his

life around and stay away from doing anything illegal again.

What frustrates me more are the El Pasoans who are outraged that the El Paso Times printed a story on the arrest.

Like it or not, Garcia is the highest profile player on probably the highest profile team in the city.

If he isn't practicing with the team or doesn't play in any games, people are going to want to know why.

Let's face it, if he was just any old kid at Montwood his arrest would have never been printed.

But that's the responsibility you accept when you are a star athlete. I've never heard a single complaint when stories are written about his great play on the field.

The best thing a fallen star athlete can receive, especially because they are not used to hearing the word "no," is receive some just punishment.

The most important thing is that it may turn his life around.

Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: Do Members of Congress have to pay into Social Security?

A: Yes, they do. Members of Congress, the President and Vice President, federal judges, and most political appointees, have paid taxes into the Social Security program since January 1984. They pay into the system just like everyone else, no matter how long they have been in office. Learn more about Social Security benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: I have never worked, but my spouse has. What will my Social Security benefit be?

A: You can be entitled to as much as one-half of your spouse's benefit amount if you start your benefits when you reach full retirement age. If you want to get Social Security retirement benefits before you reach full retirement age, the amount of your benefit will be reduced. The amount of reduction depends on when you will reach full retirement age.

For example, if your full retirement age is 66, you can get 35 percent of your spouse's unreduced benefit at age 62. The amount of your benefit increases at later ages up to the maximum of 50 percent if you retire at full retirement age. However, if you are taking care of a child who

is under age 16 or who gets Social Security disability benefits, you get full benefits, regardless of your age. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/yoursouse.htm.

Q: Who can get Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug coverage?

A: Anyone who has Medicare can get Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. Joining a Medicare prescription drug plan is voluntary, and you pay an additional monthly premium for the coverage. People with higher incomes might pay a higher premium. If you have limited income and resources, you may be eligible for Extra Help to pay for the costs—monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments—related to a Medicare prescription drug plan. To qualify for Extra Help, you must reside in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia. Your resources must be limited to \$13,070 for an individual or \$26,120 for a married couple living together. (Resources include such things as bank accounts, stocks, and bonds. We do not count your house and car as resources.) Your annual income must be limited to \$16,755 for an individual or \$22,695 for a married couple living together. Even if your annual income is higher, you still may be able to get some help.

Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

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.

archives: www.wtxcc.com

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		28
+		+		x	
	-		x		21
÷		+		-	
	-		x		28
3		6		21	

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 7 9

Answer Page 2

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

★★★ 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: K equals L

SE WGN TLUI YG ZICQ WGNX
QGA GX MLY YG L QSEEIXICY
UIY, ZGHI HSATY MLKK SY L

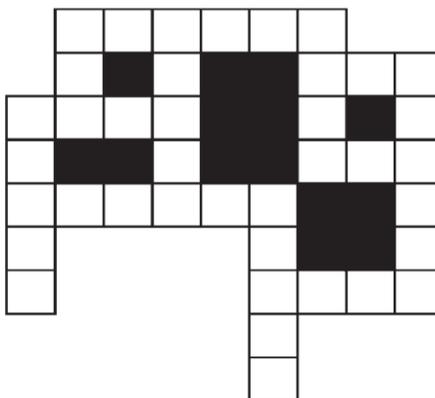
XI-ENXXLK.

Answer Page 2

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- OYN
- YIRNEW
- SEENU
- ♥WASY
- ♥RIDNES
- ♥OND
- VYNE
- SYRUT
- ♥RWA
- TUGYOR
- DYGUE
- OTDR



Answer Page 2

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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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It's still not known who made the following sage observation: "To succeed in politics, it is sometimes necessary to rise above your principles."

• It was beloved American poet Robert Frost who made the following sage observation: "A bank is a place where they lend you an umbrella in fair weather and ask for it back when it begins to rain."

• In 1938, Time magazine featured Adolph Hitler on the cover as its Man of the Year.

• You might be surprised at some of the amazing feats that can be accomplished with the aid of modern medicine. In 2008, two women in India gave birth at the age of 70. With the aid of egg donation and postmenopausal in vitro fertilization, Rajo Devi Lohan gave birth to her only child, a girl. Charan Singh Panwar and his wife, Omkari Panwar, already had two daughters and five grandchildren, but they wanted a son. Using the same procedure, Omkari had twins, a boy and a girl.

• The first time a toilet was ever seen on television was in the pilot episode of "Leave It to Beaver," in 1957.

• The most common name in the world is Muhammed.

• If you live in the South, home of huge roaches, you probably won't be surprised to learn that a cockroach can live for a week without a head. When the headless insect does finally die, it's from starvation, not from the loss of its head.

• Those who study such things say that there are 45,000 chickens for every person on the planet.

Thought for the Day: "The reason that adulation is not displeasing is that, though untrue, it shows one to be of consequence enough, in one way or other, to induce people to lie."
— Lord Byron

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