



NEWSBRIEFS

Outstanding Ex wanted

CANUTILLO – Canutillo High School is currently accepting nominations for the Outstanding Ex for 2012 Homecoming activities. Candidates who have graduated from Canutillo High School and have achieved success in a chosen field of endeavor should be nominated. The Honored Ex should also be available to attend Homecoming activities during the week of September 17 through September 21 in Canutillo. Nominees should submit the completed application form located on the district's website or request the form through the CISD Public Information Office, P.O. Box 100, Canutillo, Texas 79835, or by email through kguzman@canutillo-isd.org. For more information, contact the CISD public information office at (915) 877-7482.

– Kim Guzman

Open house

The Town of Anthony and El Paso Accent Homes are hosting an open house at the Las Altos De Anthony Subdivision. Homes will be open and Las Torres Altos Park will have music, food, jumping balloons and door prizes. The event will run from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on September 8. Take I-10 west to Anthony Exit 0, right on Mountain Pass then left on Torres Altos.

– Art Franco

Business summit

The Small Business Development Center at El Paso Community College invites business owners and those interested in starting a business to attend the annual International Business Summit from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 19 in the Boardroom, Building A, at the college's Administrative Services Center, 9050 Viscount. Get the latest industry and market information presented by experts in international business. Each presentation is packed with information and resources that guarantee high-value information for your global enterprise. Grow your business internationally. Registration is \$50 including continental breakfast and lunch. Sponsorships are available. Register on-line at www.elpasosbdc.biz or call the SBDC 831-7742.

– Audrey Marrufo

Crime Stoppers

Two subjects enter a central convenience store and, instead of just taking beer and not paying for it, they savagely beat and kick the clerk, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." On Friday, June 29, 2012, about 2:30 in the morning, a clerk was cleaning up at the 7-11 store located at 3601 Montana when two subjects walked in. One appeared

See BRIEFS, Page 4

A politician is a man that gets sworn in and then cussed out.

– Quips & Quotes

Tornillo bridge expected to create jobs, boost economy

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

TORNILLO – When it is completed in 2013, the new United States Land Port of Entry at Tornillo-Guadalupe Bridge will be the biggest port of entry on the U.S.-Mexican border.

The 117-acre border-crossing facility on the U.S. side is expected to create jobs, boost the region's economy, increase property values in the Lower Valley and alleviate traffic at other ports of entry in the El Paso region.

The U.S. project is estimated to cost around \$133 million, with the federal government contributing about \$93 million. It will consist of a six-lane commercial and non-commercial toll bridge and will replace the existing Fabens-Caseta crossing (about 500 yards downstream from the new site) which was constructed in the 1930's and is currently the county's oldest working international bridge.

For the project, the County of El Paso purchased 110 acres for the border facility site and transferred the land to the General Services Administration (GSA). The county, however, will own the bridge and the toll facility.

The county has already completed the two-mile roadway from the bridge facility to



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

NO HANDPRINTS ALLOWED – Construction of the Tornillo-Guadalupe Bridge is a month ahead of schedule and within budget, according to Jesse Grado, project superintendent for the Dan Williams Co. (DWC) which is responsible for the concrete work. DWC has 15 workers assisting with the bridge project. Shown in photo are DWC employees pouring another slab of concrete on a hot August morning.

Alameda Street (Texas Highway 20) at a cost of about \$15 million.

TxDOT is overseeing the construction of

the new six-mile roadway that will connect the

See BRIDGE, Page 5

New road should improve traffic in Canutillo

By Gustavo Reveles Acosta
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – Officials from the Canutillo Independent School District met with representatives from the Texas Department of Transportation in late August to discuss the upcoming construction of Spur 16 – a new state roadway that will better connect traffic from Talbot Avenue/Trans Mountain Road to Doniphan Drive.

Robert Bielek, TxDOT's District Engineer in El Paso, told Canutillo Superintendent Dr. Damon Murphy that the new Spur 16, formerly known as Spur 276, will help alleviate the traffic flow issues that have affected Isela Ruvalcaba Boulevard for years.

Once open, the 1.5-mile roadway will allow commuters to enter or exit Isela Ruvalcaba either through South Desert Boulevard or Spur

16. As it stands right now, drivers coming into Canutillo High School and Northwest Early College High School can access the campuses only using South Desert.

"Canutillo ISD has as its neighbors the El Paso Community College and the Region 19 Head Start Program, as well as the Westside Sports Complex," Murphy said. "People who need to get to these facilities have one way in and one way out, which of course leads to traffic jams, safety concerns and headaches."

Bielek said the four-lane roadway would have a traffic light-controlled intersection at Isela Ruvalcaba. The light will allow traffic to flow south to Doniphan or north to Talbot in order to ease the impact on South Desert. The expansion of Isela Ruvalcaba to Spur 16 is not a TxDOT project and must be completed by the city of El Paso.

Construction on Spur 16 will start in January and is expected to take about two years to

complete, officials at TxDOT said.

Jennifer Matthews, Canutillo's executive director for facilities and transportation, said the new road will do more than alleviate traffic around the district's schools, it will also improve school-bus service to the campuses of Canutillo High and Northwest Early College.

"Because of the current street layout and connectivity patterns, the amount of miles we take per bus trip can be higher than they need to be," she said. "The spur will allow the district to cut back on the number of miles traveled and save the District some money. It will also mean that students will get to and from school in a much more efficient way and spent less time on the bus."

Canutillo officials expect traffic counts to increase near its schools along Isela Ruvalcaba as the District continues a pattern of fast growth, especially along the Arcraft and Resler corridors.



– Photo courtesy of Mark Howe

HOT WORK – Mark Howe is on the job at a forest fire. Howe has seen how rock art sites are impacted by fire and has recorded sites in California, Arizona and Texas.

BAER assessment begins before a wildfire has been contained

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – While many wildfires cause minimal damage to the land, some fires cause damage that requires special efforts to prevent problems afterwards.

After a fire, the first priority is emergency stabilization in order to prevent further damage to life, property or natural and cultural resources. The stabilization work actually begins before the fire is out and may continue for up to a year. Rehabilitation focuses on the lands unlikely to recover naturally from wild land fire damage.

The Forest Service Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) program is designed to address these emergency situations through

its key goals of protecting life, property, and critical natural and cultural resources. The objective of the BAER program is to determine the need for and to prescribe and implement emergency treatments on federal lands to minimize and prevent unacceptable degradation to natural and cultural resources.

BAER teams are staffed by specially trained professionals: hydrologists, soil scientists, engineers, biologists, vegetation specialists, archeologists, and others who rapidly evaluate the burned area and prescribe emergency stabilization treatments.

One such BAER staff member is archaeologist Mark Howe, who has been invited to share his experiences as part of a presentation, entitled *Fire, Archeology and*

See BAER, Page 4

El Paso County Water Control and Improvements District No. 4 Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact

The USDA, Rural Utilities Service has received an application for financial assistance from the El Paso County Water Control and Improvements District No. 4 (District). The proposal consists of water and wastewater improvements within the town of Fabens, El Paso County, TX and is summarized below:

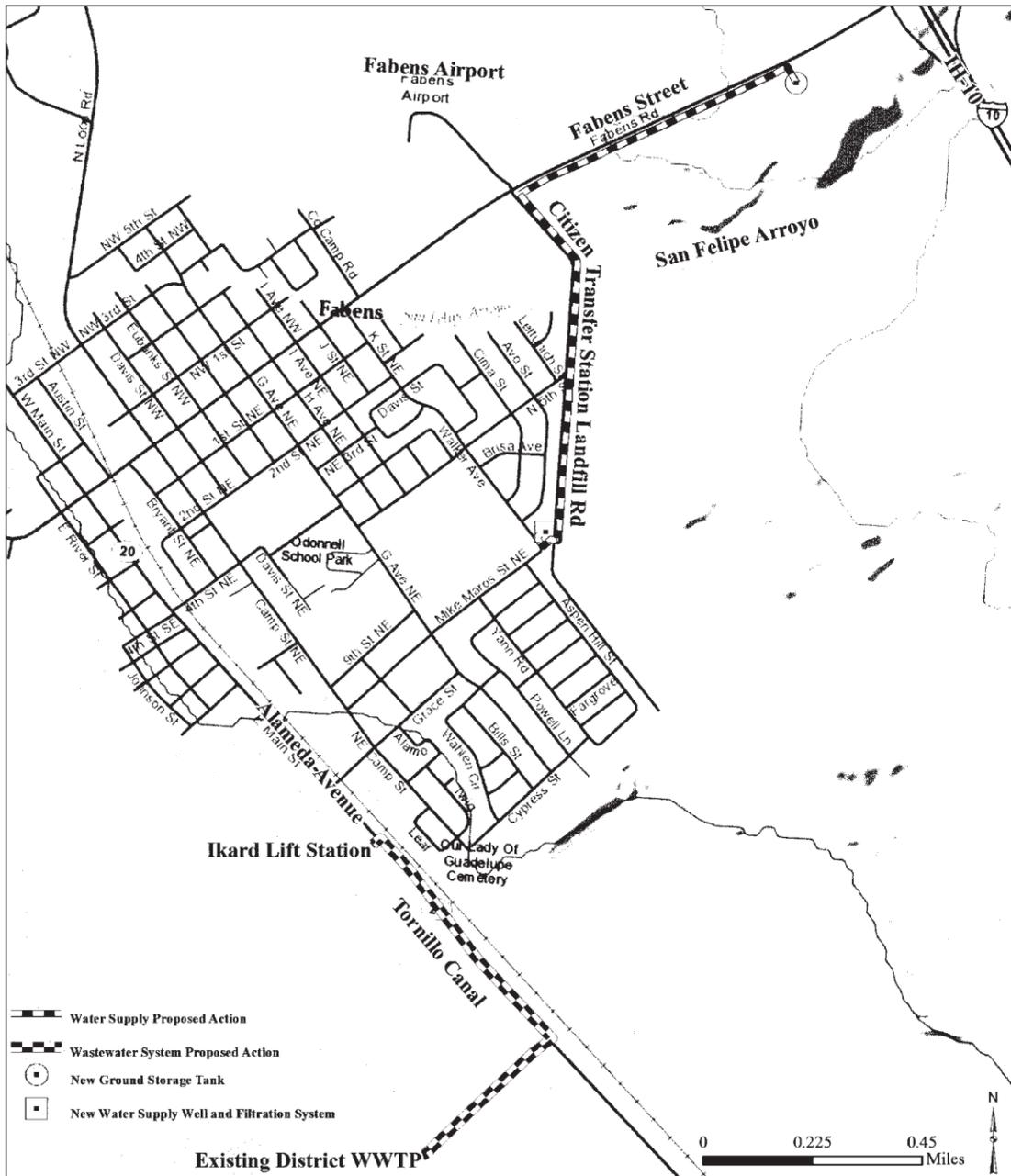
- A new 500,000-gallon ground storage tank, booster station and 8-inch water main (I-10 site) would be constructed at 1770 N. Fabens Street within University Land property.
- A new 450-foot deep water supply well (10th Street site) would be drilled and equipped with a well pump, motor, piping and appurtenances within the existing Booster Station site at 991 Walker Street.
- A new 700 gallon per minute nano-filtration system (10th St. site), building, piping and appurtenances would be installed within the existing Booster Station site at 991 Walker Street.
- 8,100 feet of 16" water main pipeline would be constructed between the 10th Street Booster Station site at 991 Walker Street and the proposed 500,000-gallon ground storage tank (I-10 site) at 1770 N. Fabens Street on Citizens Transfer Station Landfill Road.
- 5,025 feet of 12" force main would be constructed between the Ikard Lift Station at 1212 E. Main Street and the District's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) at 17270 Alameda Street within Alameda Ave (TxDOT ROW).

As required by the National Environmental Policy Act and agency regulations, the Rural Utilities Service prepared an Environmental Assessment of the proposal that assessed the potential environmental effects of the proposal and the effect the proposal may have on historic properties. The Environmental Assessment was published on July 12, 2012 and July 19, 2012 for a 30-day public comment period. No comments were provided, therefore, no changes to the Environmental Assessment document are required. Upon consideration of the applicant's proposal, federal and state environmental regulatory and natural resource agencies, and public input the agency has determined that the proposal will not have a significant effect on the human environment and for which an Environment Impact Statement will not be prepared. The basis of this determination is the lack of adverse impacts to prime and unique farmlands, formally classified lands, floodplains, wetlands, waterbodies, and water quality. The proposal is not likely to adversely impact federal or state protected species. The proposal will not result in disproportionate adverse impacts to high minority and low-income populations. The impacts to air, noise, and traffic patterns within the project area will be temporary and minor.

In order to avoid or minimize any adverse environmental impacts, the Rural Utilities Service will require the applicant to incorporate the following mitigation measures into the proposal's design: Ceasing all work in the immediate area of discover if cultural materials are encountered during construction and notifying the appropriate authorities; and implementing standard dust and noise minimization measures with construction activities occurring between 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment can be reviewed or obtained at the USDA, Rural Development Office at 2306 W. Dickinson Blvd., Ste 2, Fort Stockton, TX 79735; and at the District Office at 117 E Main, Fabens, TX 79838. For further information, please contact Mr. John Perkins at (432) 336-7585 ext. 4.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below.



WTCC: 09-06-12

SISD Board of Trustees selected as 2012 Region 19 School Board of the Year

By **Christie Flores-Jones**
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO ISD – The Socorro Independent School District Board of Trustees has been selected as the 2012 Region 19 School Board of the Year as part of the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) School Board Awards Program.

“The Socorro ISD Board of Trustees truly deserves this prestigious recognition,” said SISD interim superintendent Pat O’Neill. “They are an outstanding team of citizens who are dedicated to the students and families in this community.”

The SISD school board members are President Michael A. Najera, Vice President Cynthia Ann Najera, Secretary Paul Guerra, Craig A. Patton, Gary Gandara, Angelica Rodriguez and Antonio “Tony” Ayub.

The TASA School Board Awards Program recognizes school boards across the state that demonstrated outstanding dedication and ethical service to the children of Texas.

A regional selection committee organized at the Region 19 Education Service Center chose the SISD School Board for their exemplary service in leading the District and supporting educational performance improvement.

The Board was recognized for excellence in policy making, commitment to a code of ethics, provision of financial support for the District, participation in workshops

and performance improvement programs, community awareness and a focus on the welfare of students over personal or political motives.

SISD board members are active in the Socorro community and have supported many District programs to increase student achievement, such as the Make it Count attendance campaign, the district-wide bullying prevention program and public forums to inform parents and the community about issues such as STAAR testing and the migration to a new schedule in secondary schools.

The Board was also instrumental in the passage of Bond 2011 and they now play a significant role in supporting the implementation of Bond 2011 projects.

In March 2012, the SISD Board of Trustees began the intricate process of selecting a new superintendent for the District, which has highlighted their collaborative and harmonious working relationship to select the best candidate for the job. The board members worked diligently to take on their biggest responsibility and unanimously selected a superintendent finalist on Aug. 4.

The SISD Board of Trustees is now in the running to be named TASA’s 2012 Texas Honor Board and will go up against school boards from regions across the state. All regional and honor boards in the state will be recognized at the TASA/TASB convention, which will be Sept. 28–30 in Austin.

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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.

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Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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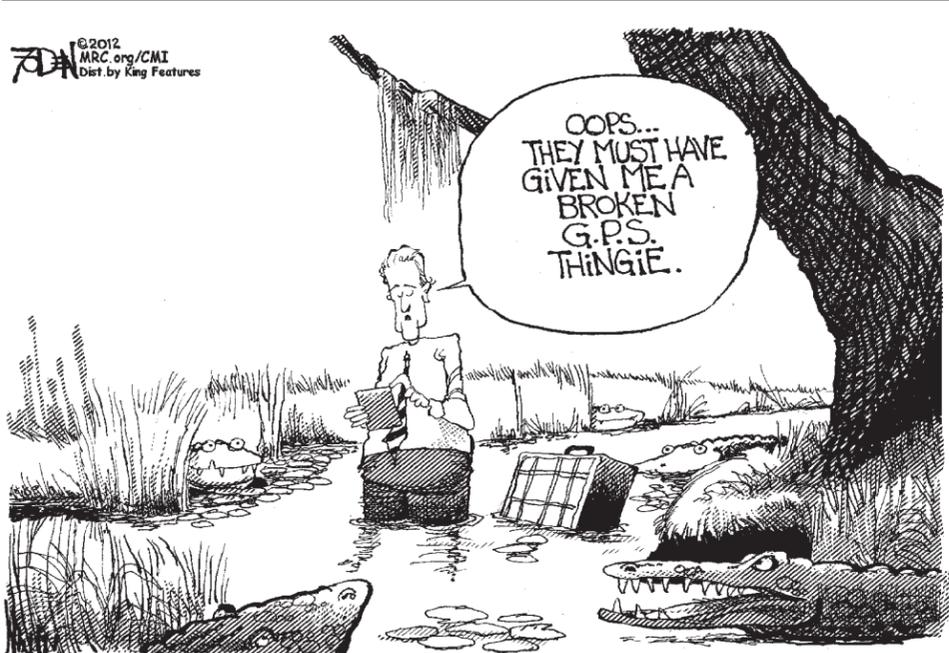
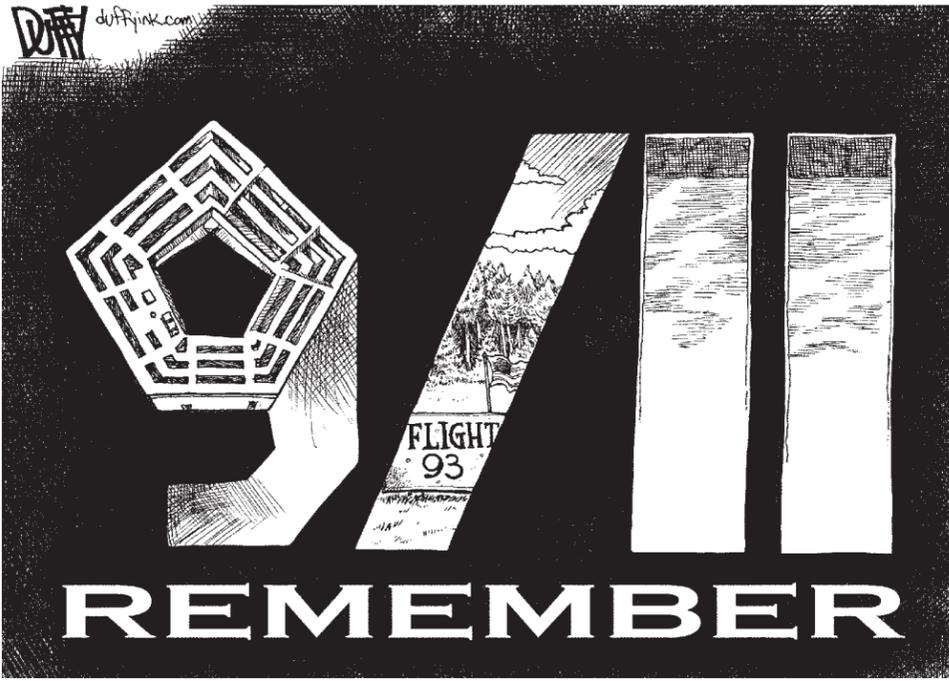
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THE REAL REASON THE WHITE HOUSE IS SENDING JOE BIDEN TO FLORIDA.

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Military records

There are two good reasons to have a copy of your military records:

For family: If something happens to you, your spouse and child will have to get your military records if you're to be buried in a military cemetery. Make it easy on them and have the paperwork in your files.

For health: If you need to file a claim for benefits with the Department of Veterans Affairs, in some cases, being able to prove where you were stationed and when is crucial. Save time by getting your records now and having them on hand.

Go online to www.archives.gov/veterans and click Request Military Service Records. Per the instructions, you'll need to start by getting your DD 214, if you don't already have it. (If nothing else, you should send for that and always have a copy available.) Click on eVetRecs and follow the steps.

Not just anyone can get military records – it's limited to either the veteran or a deceased veteran's next of kin, which is mother, father, spouse, son, daughter, sister or brother.

For family members, if the veteran is

deceased, be prepared to provide proof of death: a copy of the death certificate, a letter from the funeral home or a published obituary.

If you're not an immediate next of kin, such as a grandchild, you need to complete a SF 180 form. Download one online, fill it out, then mail to one of the addresses on the back of the form. If you cannot print out a form, you can request one from your local VA office or write to:

National Personnel Records Center
1 Archives Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63138

If you have an urgent situation, such as burial or medical care, you can call the emergency number at 314-801-0800. You'll likely wait on hold a long time, but once someone answers you should be able to get the information the same day.

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.

Notice of Tax Revenue Increase

The **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2** conducted public hearings on August 30, 2012 and September 5, 2012 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2** from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 1.14 percent.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$2,713,607.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,742,008.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,807,180.

The Board of **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2** is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 12, 2012 at the San Elizario Fire Department, 1425 San Antonio St., San Elizario, TX 79849. at 7:00 PM.

Bridge

From Page 1

bridge to I-10. TxDOT plans call for building an overpass above Alameda Street and the Union Pacific railroad track. The 3.5-mile leg from Highway 20 to Interstate-10 will cost about \$20 million.

GSA awarded the contract for the port of entry project to Turner Construction Co., which has its main office in New York. The general contractor brought a crew to El Paso to do most of the work. Texas contractor Dan Williams Co. was hired to do the bridge's concrete work. Richter Architects of Corpus Christi designed the facilities.

The port of entry facilities will include a new main building, headhouse, commercial inspection facilities, commercial and POV lanes and canopies as well as kennels and other agency facilities. It will provide site utility distribution

for electrical and technology, new central plant facility, high mast site lighting, emergency power generation and renewable energy systems.

Other features include design excellence project expected to be a Landmark Port Facility that meets LEED Silver Certification or higher and incorporate new GSA Building Information Modeling (BIM) Standards. In addition, the new facilities will improve working conditions for employees and tenants at the current location.

On the Mexican side, officials have yet to announce whether a government agency or private company will build and operate the bridge in Guadalupe, a small community in the Valle de Juárez. Mexico's project will cost an estimated \$26.7 million and construction on the Mexican side is expected to start in September, according to government officials.

Potential developers in Mexico have said that the bridge project should include



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

MAJOR BUSINESS – The United States Land Port of Entry at Tornillo Guadalupe will provide enhanced border services to facilitate anticipated major trade growth at the southern border of the U.S. Increased traffic flow through this area with the establishment of new LPOE facilities will encourage economic growth for the neighboring communities of Fabens and Tornillo on the United States side and Casetas on the Mexico side. The Tornillo-Guadalupe Bridge will divert east-bound commercial traffic from the Downtown and Ysleta bridges, easing congestion in the central areas of Juarez and El Paso and on the bridges.

building a new highway that will connect Samalayuca, Chihuahua, to the bridge in Guadalupe. Also some Mexican government officials support plans for a railroad loop that bypasses Juárez and extends from Tornillo-Guadalupe to the

San Jeronimo-Santa Teresa NM border.

And, according to news reports, a separate contract will be offered to connect the Tornillo-Guadalupe Bridge to the Panamerican Highway, which connects Juárez to Mexico City. That project is

expected to cost about \$100 million.

Earlier this year, Mexican officials also announced plans for a massive development in San Agustin, another small community near the new border crossing. The bridge project was one of the drivers for the proposed development.

U.S. Congressman Silvestre Reyes, who was instrumental in securing federal funding for the Tornillo-Guadalupe Bridge, said that there were many hurdles that had to be overcome to bring this new bridge to fruition, and that it is coming at a critical time to boost this region's economy.

In 2002, Congressman Reyes helped secure funding in Congress requiring GSA to conduct a feasibility study for the new port of entry, and in 2003 he urged then-GSA Commissioner Joseph Moravec to support its planning and design.

In 2005, a presidential permit was issued for the project. Funding for the \$4.29

million planning and design of the Tornillo-Guadalupe port of entry was secured by Congressman Reyes and former Congressman Ciro Rodriguez in 2007; and in 2009, the House of Representatives allocated nearly \$93 million for the facility's construction in the FY2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act.

The idea for the new international bridge began with former County Judge Alicia Chacon, who was seeking a way to remove heavy commercial traffic from Socorro Road. That was about 17 years ago.

In 2001, then-County Commissioner Miguel Teran helped shepherd the bridge project, first as a county planner and as planning coordinator, then as administrator of the project.

Now, it is under the guidance of County Commissioner Tania Chozet. She took over for Willie Gandara Jr. who resigned as county commissioner in 2011.

Notice of Tax Revenue Increase

The **CITY OF SOCORRO** conducted public hearings on September 4, 2012 and September 11, 2012 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the **CITY OF SOCORRO** from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 14.66 percent.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.496757 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$4,053,507.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.565805 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$4,640,185.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.565805 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$4,745,233.

The City Council of **CITY OF SOCORRO** is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 14, 2012 at City Hall located at 860 N. Rio Vista at 5:00 PM.

WTCC: 09/06/12

Notice of Tax Revenue Increase

The **TOWN OF HORIZON CITY** conducted public hearings on September 4, 2012 and September 11, 2012 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the **TOWN OF HORIZON CITY** from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 3.19 percent.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.301250 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$1,912,500.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.322791 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,164,168.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.322791 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,233,271.

The City Council of **TOWN OF HORIZON CITY** is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 25, 2012 at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas 79928 at 6:30 PM.

WTCC: 09/06/12

Miners hold their own against ranked Sooners team

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The 10,000 or so fans who didn't show up at the Sun Bowl last week, preventing a sellout, really missed something special.

After watching decades of UTEP football and the customary 61-7 style blowouts against top-ranked teams, it was quite the change to see the Miners trailing 4th-ranked Oklahoma just 10-7 in the fourth quarter.

Yes, the Miners eventually lost 24-7, but the final score wasn't even a close indication of how much sweat was pouring off the brows of the Sooners' coaching staff late in that game.

From the very beginning, UTEP and Oklahoma looked like they both belonged on the field together. The powerful Sooners didn't look any better or stronger than the Miners.

The amazing thing is that UTEP brought with it something it hasn't had in five years - a defense.

Long ridiculed as consistently one of the poorest units in the country, the Miners' defense stymied Oklahoma and Heisman trophy candidate quarterback Landry Jones

all night long.

If you can remember, the Miners defense hasn't just been bad in recent years - it has been practically non-existent.

Game after game, the defense would miss simple tackles, never put any pressure on the quarterback and never come up with a big stop on critical third downs.

But the defense did all of that against Oklahoma, frustrating the team into calling several timeouts while on offense to figure out what to do.

Let's face it, the game really came down to one crucial mistake. In the fourth quarter, trailing just 10-7, the Miners were near their own 30 yard line and had to punt.

At 10-7, nobody wants to make any mistakes that could cost them the game.

But inexplicably, coach Mike Price called for a fake punt on third-and-eight. Of course the Miners didn't make it, Oklahoma takes over deep in UTEP territory and they go down and score and make it 17-7.

It was the back breaker,

That was it, the only real bad play the Miners had all night. Otherwise they looked very much like a team that belonged on the field with the fourth ranked team in the nation.

The biggest disappointment of the night came from UTEP quarterback Nick Lamaison, who completed just 6 of 23 passes for 39 yards.

After getting heavy pressure early in the game, you could tell Lamaison saw his life flash before his eyes a few times. You could tell he eventually became much more worried about his physical wellbeing than waiting for his receivers to get open.

The pleasant surprise was the emergence of a Miners' superstar.

Nathan Jeffery, who looked so good last season in his limited role as a freshman, rushed for 177 yards against the usually tough Sooners defense.

Jeffery, who was clearly the best player on the field, also participated on special teams and returned a blocked punt for UTEP's only touchdown of the night.

Though the Miners couldn't get anything going in the passing game and failed to score an offensive touchdown, they made tremendous strides on defense.

And it's defense that I've heard wins championships.

There is little doubt that if the Miners can continue to play the way they played against

Oklahoma, they can win the Conference USA title.

Lamaison is way too good to throw for just 39 yards on a regular basis.

The one unit that was just horrible for the Miners against the Sooners was the kicking game.

UTEP missed three field goals in the game, two them from around 30 yards out.

The Miners will have to correct that part of the game because they will threaten to score many times this season and like last Saturday, if they don't take advantage it can cost them dearly.

So now the Miners will travel to Oxford, Mississippi to take on Ole Miss this weekend.

Mississippi has a storied tradition but struggled last season with two wins.

This is a game the Miners can definitely win, but it is on the road and the Miners like the road as much as Rosie O'Donnell likes rice cakes.

Last week's loss to Oklahoma could be the beginning of a very special season.

The Miners have shown they can play with the best, which should give them great confidence as they deal with the rest.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Get rid of the bums

In an uncharacteristic departure from my usual columns, I pointed out a few of the underachievers in sports last week. "Bums" was how I referred to them.

And, of course, one of the players I put into the crosshairs, Luke Hochevar of the Kansas City Royals, went out there the next game and nearly tossed a no-hitter.

He then followed it up with a complete game loss, but still a great performance. So maybe Hochevar isn't a bum after all... maybe he's just a bust. (Andrew Jones, though? Still a bum.)

Roger Clemens came out of retirement. He's pitching for the Sugar Land Skeeters, and he absolutely dominated the Bridgeport

Bluefish over 3 1/3 innings. The Royals and Astros were scouting him. He holds the record for most Cy Youngs. The Royals later said they were not going to sign him. That sounds silly to me ... he was pumping 88-mph fastballs. Sounds like a pretty solid deal, at least from a marketing standpoint.

But Clemens cheated everyone over his 'roid-raging career, turning the baseball record books into a meaningless mess of statistics. So letting him stay under some mosquito-laden port bridge like a bum is fine by me, too.

Speaking of people I wouldn't mind seeing skulking around on the benches of the world, there is wide receiver Terrell Owens. Owens holds a zillion NFL records. Great for him. He's also one of the more annoying characters in the history of sports. You can't blame the guy for keeping his career going... a man has a right to earn a living. But he won't be making it in Allen, Texas, where he was cut from the Indoor Football League's Wrangler franchise, and he won't be making it in Seattle either, as he was released just before this writing.

So that means we'll be subjected to more "TO" everywhere else. On our TVs, the Internet, in the gossip rags and in retweets around the world. He has a right to make a living, sure, and we can always turn the station or page, but you can basically spend half your life trying to avoid the guy.

Finishing off the trend of just bummin' around is Chad Johnson, the wide receiver formerly known as "Ochocinco." He's another guy who let his flamboyance get in the way of his actual fame. He owns a trillion NFL records too, but in recent years he's been bouncing around, even going so far as to try to play professional soccer. He's another guy who will do just about anything to get his mug in your face. And that's exactly what he did a few weeks ago when he headbutted his wife in the face. That led to his release from the Miami Dolphins on-camera during HBO's "Hard Knocks."

That's really using your head, Chad. You're a bum; now get out.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

The West Texas County Courier will publish two editions early. The October 4 and October 11, 2012 issues will go to press on Tuesday, September 25, 2012.

All material for these publications must be submitted to the West Texas County Courier no later than Wednesday, September 19, 2012.

The West Texas County Courier office will close beginning Friday, September 21, 2012. The office will open again on Thursday, October 11, 2012.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

TOWN OF CLINT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code 102.006, the Town of Clint will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2012/2013. The hearing will be held on September 18, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the Clint Community Center, 200 N. San Elizario Rd.

Susana Rodriguez
City Clerk
Town of Clint

WTCC: 09-06-12

City of Socorro

PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 5:00 p.m. at a Special Council Meeting

Persons with disabilities whomay

require auxiliary aids or services to attend this meeting should contact City Hall (915) 851-3146 at least two days before the meeting to make arrangements.

on September 14, 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 persons 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.

Sandra Hernandez
City Clerk

WTCC: 09-06-12

City of Socorro

Adoption of Ordinances

On August 28, 2012 the City of Socorro, Texas adopted the following ordinance:

1) ORDINANCE 295, AMENDMENT NO. 3, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, ADOPTING AN AMENDED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO TEXAS.

2) ORDINANCE 293, AMENDMENT NO. 1, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, ADOPTING AN AMENDED GENERAL FUND BUDGET.

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.

Sandra Hernandez
City Clerk

WTCC: 09-06-12



CLASSIFIED AD FORM

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

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
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33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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

Contact Information:
Name: _____
Phone: _____

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



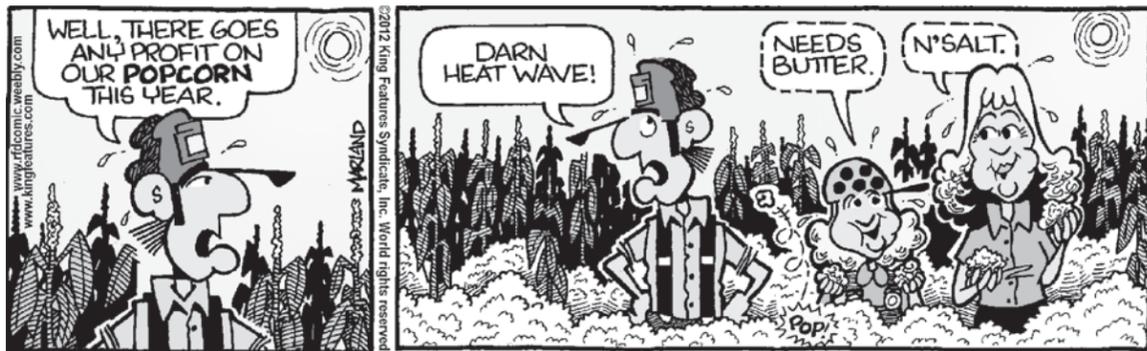
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



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 an 82-year-old woman. My body cannot tolerate antibiotics, vitamins or painkillers. I am told I have macular degeneration and was advised to take Ocuville once a day. My sister suggested I write to you to see if you have an idea of how to take Ocuville in some other manner or some other way to get the ingredients in it. Help. — L.M.

not yet published, contains lutein and zeaxanthin, which you can obtain in kale, spinach, collard greens, corn, green beans, carrots, squash and tomatoes. Omega-3 fatty acids are found in fish like salmon and tuna.

The booklet on macular degeneration explains this common malady and its treatment. To obtain a copy, write: Dr. Donahue — No. 701, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Can. with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

In 2001, the results of the first AREDS report (Age-Related Eye Disease Study) was published. It showed that the combination of beta carotene (a form of vitamin A), vitamin E, vitamin C, zinc and copper could slow the progression of moderate macular degeneration to severe macular degeneration. Macular degeneration is a wasting away of the macula — a small, round area of the retina necessary for clear central vision, the kind needed to read, sew and drive. Ocuville is one capsule that incorporates all these nutrients.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My heart misses a beat every now and then. The doctor tells me this isn't dangerous. He has said nothing about food or drink as being a cause of this. I drink two cups of coffee a day. I can't tell any difference on the days I drink it or on the days I don't. What's the thinking on this? — P.M.

Currently a new study, AREDS 2, is being conducted. The vitamin-mineral combination has been altered a bit and new ingredients have been added: lutein, zeaxanthin and omega-3 fatty acids. Some Ocuville pills also contain these materials.

Moderate amounts of caffeine have little effect on the heart. Two to four cups of coffee a day shouldn't affect your heartbeat. However, if a person is quite sensitive to caffeine, then that person should abstain from coffee.

Since you're unable to tolerate vitamins, you'll need to get these nutrients from foods. You might not be able to reach the high levels found in pills, but you'd be getting all the ingredients in those pills.

There appears not to be any relationship between coffee drinking and artery hardening, artery obstruction or heart pumping. Heart attacks and strokes are no more frequent in coffee drinkers than in those who never touch it.

Beta carotene is found in colored vegetables like carrots and peppers, in dark-green vegetables and in colored fruits. Vitamin E is widely available in many foods: meats, nuts, cereal grains, wheat-germ oil and sunflower oil. You find vitamin C in citrus fruits, tomatoes, potatoes and broccoli. Zinc is in meats, shellfish, nuts and legumes, like peas. Copper is in shellfish, nuts and organ meats.

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.

The new version of AREDS,

Super Crossword

- DOUBLING UP ON STAGE ACROSS**
- 1 Snow coaster
 - 5 Lemon or lime drinks
 - 9 Skiers' lift
 - 13 Leaf through rapidly
 - 19 Not yet final, legally
 - 20 Big name in mouthwash
 - 22 Loving sort
 - 23 Business letter abbr.
 - 24 Start of a riddle
 - 26 Gossip blogger
 - Hilton
 - 28 It airs "Nova" and "Nature"
 - 29 _-de-sac
 - 30 Comes by
 - 31 Riddle, part 2
 - 38 Slip behind
 - 39 Groves
 - 40 GPS display
 - 41 Moral nature of a group
 - 44 Summer, in Nantes
 - 45 Bic _ Stic (pen brand)
 - 46 Religious sister
 - 47 Flat _ pancake
 - 49 Water, in Nantes
 - 50 Riddle, part 3
 - 56 Morrow and
 - 57 Parked it, so to
- DOWN**
- 11 James Bond creator Fleming
 - 112 GA neighbor
 - 113 Interminably
 - 114 Riddle's answer
 - 121 Avonlea girl
 - 122 Entertainer
 - Durbin
 - 123 Certain resident of Manhattan
 - 124 Lasting mark
 - 125 "A" symbols
 - 126 Gives a new hue to
 - 127 Pine product
 - 128 Golfing pegs
- DOWN**
- 1 Lipton rival
 - 2 Erudite folks
 - 3 Female hormone
 - 4 Feasted
 - 5 "Thrilla in Manila" fighter
 - 6 "What's the _?" ("Who cares?")
 - 7 Hook shape
 - 8 _ if you've heard this one...
 - 9 Plait of hair
 - 10 Baby's wear
 - 11 Year, in Oporto
 - 12 Station porter
 - 13 Singer Lou
 - 14 Chlor- or fluor- suffix
 - 15 Drew a blank
 - 16 Uninhibited
 - 17 Resident of Riga
 - 18 Bow-wielding god
- DOWN**
- 21 Get on a Greyhound, e.g.
 - 25 Brynner of "Anastasia"
 - 27 Squash type
 - 32 Common baby illness
 - 33 "Iliad" and the like
 - 34 "Mary" writer
 - Sholem
 - 35 "You can stop trying to wake me!"
 - 36 Supporting sticks
 - 37 Lend an ear
 - 42 Guy rowing
 - 43 Title girl of a Stephen Foster song
 - 46 A step below so-so
 - 47 Burning up
 - 48 Not hollow
 - 51 OH neighbor
 - 52 Alexis I, e.g.
 - 53 "America's Most Wanted" host John
 - 54 Bus line, e.g.
 - 55 Ex-Giant Ott
 - 60 Oversees
 - 61 Shout in tag
 - 62 Occasion for the Vietnamese holiday Tet
 - 63 Words before nails or roses
 - 64 "I've got my eye _!"
 - 69 Amoco rival
 - 70 Drop heavily
 - 71 High peaks
 - 72 Destructive
- DOWN**
- a precipitation
 - 75 Bygone fast jet, briefly
 - 79 Dictator Amin
 - 82 One of a pair of biblical nations
 - 84 Fabric that shimmers
 - 85 In pieces
 - 87 Verdi work
 - 88 Thick porridge
 - 89 Mere commoner
 - 90 Savagery
 - 91 Insect head parts
 - 97 People dozing off
 - 99 "Juarez" actor
 - Brian
 - 100 Chopped up
 - 101 Eliot's Mamer
 - 102 Tilted type
 - 105 Louise and Fey
 - 106 Very cross
 - 107 Mini-pies
 - 108 Bread that's browned
 - 109 Electrically versatile
 - 110 Mets' former stadium
 - 115 Colony insect
 - 116 Horse feed
 - 117 L e g a l addendum?
 - 118 Oath answer
 - 119 Guy doll
 - 120 Before

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
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23					24						25							
26				27			28				29			30				
31					32	33	34			35	36			37				
38				39					40				41			42	43	
44				45					46			47	48			49		
	50			51				52	53			54				55		
				56				57			58					59		
60	61	62					63			64		65				66		
67				68	69	70				71				72		73		
74				75					77					78	79			
80							81			82		83			84	85		
86							87				88			89			90	91
92							93							95			96	97
98									100			101	102					103
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109	110																	
114																		
122																		
125																		

Moore Texas by Roger Moore The Texas legislature has designated the **CHUCKWAGON** as the official **VEHICLE** of Texas, disappointing some.



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: My mother receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. She may have to enter a nursing home later this year. How does this affect her SSI benefits?

A: Moving to a nursing home can affect your mother's SSI benefits, but it depends on the type of facility. In some cases, the SSI payment may be reduced or stopped. Whenever your mother enters or leaves a nursing home, assisted living facility, hospital, skilled nursing facility, or any other kind of institution, it is important that you tell Social Security. Call Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). We can answer specific questions from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. We also provide information by automated

phone service 24 hours a day.

Q: I currently receive Social Security disability benefits. I now have a second serious disability. Can my monthly benefit amount be increased?

A: No. Although your Social Security disability benefit eligibility is based on having a severe disability, the benefit amount is based on the amount of your lifetime earnings before your disability began and not the number, degree, or severity of your disability. For more information, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/dibplan/dapproval2.htm.

Q: What are the limits on what I can own to be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)? Can I have money in the bank, a car, and a furnished house?

A: We count real estate, bank accounts, cash, stocks, and bonds toward the resource limits on what you can own. You may be able to get SSI if your resources are worth no more than \$2,000. A couple may be able to get SSI if they have resources worth no more than \$3,000. Keep in mind that we usually don't count the house you live in, personal items such as furniture and clothing, or the car you drive towards that resource amount. You can find out more about

SSI by going to www.socialsecurity.gov and selecting the "SSI" banner at the top of the page.

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 American singer Josh Groban who made the following sage observation: "There's no half-singing in the shower, you're either a rock star or an opera diva."

- If you're considering having a child sometime in the near future, you might want to consider this: It's said that the cost of caring for a newborn during its first year of life is more than \$6,000.

- In 1986, actor and director Clint Eastwood took on a new and unfamiliar role: political candidate. He ran for mayor of Carmel, Calif. He defeated the incumbent mayor in a landslide, and he kept the position for two years. His salary? A whopping \$200 per week.
- Often these days you'll see someone carrying a tiny dog around with them, but you might be surprised to learn that this is not an entirely new fashion. In ancient Rome and Greece it was not uncommon for a noble lady to carry her tiny Maltese dog around in the sleeve of her robe.

- In the early days of motion pictures, Will H. Hays became known as the "Czar of Hollywood." He presided over the earliest incarnation of the MPAA, charged with ensuring the morality of movies. Some of the changes the so-called "Hays Office" insisted upon were removing the image of a cow's udder from a Walt Disney cartoon; and removing any direct reference to adultery in the 1935 adaptation of the Tolstoy novel "Anna Karenina" – despite the fact that Anna's affair is at the heart of the novel.

- Those who study such things say that a woman's sense of smell tends to be better than that of a man.

Thought for the Day: "I think that I am better than the people who are trying to reform me."

– Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	+		×		32
×		-		×	
	÷		+		9
+		×		-	
	-		×		12
25		10		25	

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

2 3 4 4 5 6 7 8 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	5			2			3	7
4		2			6	1		
8			4		3		9	
9					5			4
	6		3			9		1
		4		8			2	
	4		5		7	8		
	9			1		2	6	
1		5	2					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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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: D equals H

BVHO XRJXWPJVJC N UNP RB

CPNGW UIVXW AGVHHVJC RJ

AROWRJW'A ADVPZ:

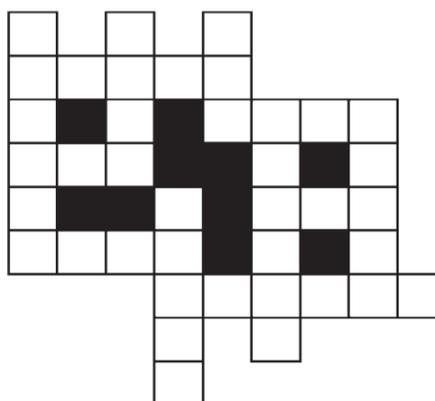
"ZDW XRHHNP GIPGHW."

Answer Page 4

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- TVA
- ♥ EVALOC
- ATLOD
- ERCI
- ♥ VYELLO
- AYL
- ♥ OTTR
- CRILE
- ♥ ATC
- VOCREL
- ALVRA
- ♥ RAYD



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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