



NEWSBRIEFS

Trees offered

Residents of Texas can ring in the New Year with 10 free flowering trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation any time during January 2013. By becoming a part of the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation, new members will receive two white flowering dogwoods, two flowering crabapples, two Washington hawthorns, two American redbuds and two goldenrain trees. "These beautiful trees will give your home in Texas lovely flowers with pink, yellow and white colors," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "These trees are perfect for large and small spaces, and they will provide food and habitat for songbirds." The free trees are part of the Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between February 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch tall trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. Members will also receive a subscription to the Foundation's bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care. To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE FLOWERING TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by January 31, 2013. Texas residents can also join online at arborday.org/january.

— Sean Barry

Crime Stoppers

A man is murdered at his place of business on Christmas Eve, and seven years have passed without an arrest. Crime Stoppers is assisting the El Paso Police Department in solving this long-overdue case, making it the "Crime of the Week." On December 24, 2003, 44-year-old Fernando Martinez was found murdered inside his business. Detectives from the El Paso Police Department's Crimes Against Persons Unit have been asking for the public's assistance in bringing this case to a close. The investigation suggests that the murder happened around 12-noon on Christmas Eve 2003 in Northeast El Paso when an unknown suspect, or suspects, entered Martinez's business at 4496 Titanic and fatally shot him in the upper torso. Martinez was originally from Artesia, New Mexico, and left behind a 4-year old child. If you have any information about this case, even if you don't think it's important, please call Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (566-8477) or on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You can remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

— James Klaes

People might practice economy if they had something left to practice with.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy of the El Paso Museum of History

The T-38 Talon supersonic jet arrived at the El Paso Museum of History in 2009 initially as part of an El Paso Aviation exhibit. The jet was disassembled recently and will be moved to the US Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama where it will be on display.

Iconic, supersonic jet moves to Alabama

TouchCity Digital 3-D Wall coming to museum

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

The stoic T-38 Talon Supersonic Jet has been greeting visitors to the El Paso Museum of History for nearly four years, but it was disassembled recently and is now on its way to the US Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, where it will be on display permanently.

The departure of the T-38 Talon Supersonic Jet was spurred by the need to make room for a permanent El Paso Transportation Gallery that will focus on El Paso's ground transportation history and for a state-of-the-art TouchCity 3D Digital Wall.

The T-38 Talon arrived at the Museum February 22, 2009, as part of the El Paso Aviation exhibit. Before being reassembled inside the Museum of History, the jet had been laying disassembled in the NASA facility at the El Paso International Airport. Prior to this,

the T-38 had been modified to train Space Shuttle pilots and commanders.

While at the museum, the aircraft was part of an on-going educational program that attracted a variety of aeronautical professionals including Steve Nagel, a four-time Space Shuttle astronaut, and Ginger Kerrick, a Hanks High School graduate who works at NASA's Mission Operations Directorate at Johnson Space Center in Houston TX.

El Paso Museum of History will now have the space for an innovative TouchCity Digital 3-D Wall that was approved by the passage of the recent quality of life bond election. Currently, there is only one TouchCity Wall in the world. It resides in Copenhagen, Denmark. The El Paso museum will install only the second one in the world and the first in the United States, according to museum representative Jim Murphy.

The 3-D Wall is designed by media mogul, the Gibson Group which is based in New Zealand. The Wall is approximately 36' long by 6' high. More than 400,000 visitors viewed the Copenhagen Wall in its first six months. The El Paso Museum of History is hoping for similar numbers, stated Murphy.

"What is the Wall? Dreamlike – the city will rise up before its audience as a 3D image. With a mere wave of your hand across the screen you will be able to glide effortlessly from neighborhood to neighborhood through city streets and interact with El Paso's rich cultural heritage and its present day city landscape," Murphy explained. "Visitors will be able to stop the imagery and move closer to whatever catches their interest. By tapping on an image, related historical text will appear," he stated.

According to Murphy, the Wall will be built as part of the museum's communication strategy to correspond with El Pasoans around the world and become the Ambassador of El Paso's Positive Image. Another goal of the Wall, he stated, will be to become a single resource and recipient for historic digital imagery and fact-finding text. Students and teachers will be able to turn to the Wall to upload history projects. "The depth of imagery and community input will be endless," he added.

For more information, call Katherine Vandertulip at 351-3588 or send email to vandertulipkw@elpasotexas.gov.

County implements construction inspection program

By Elhiu Dominguez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso County Judge Verónica Escobar and State Representative Marisa Márquez have implemented a Residential Construction Inspection program for the unincorporated areas of El Paso County. The main purpose of the program is to provide residents with information regarding the quality of residential construction prior to making a purchase by requiring builders to

have the homes inspected.

Texas law does not currently give County governments general authority to implement building codes for private residential structures. As a result, individuals interested in buying homes in the unincorporated areas have been making a decision to purchase their home without really knowing the quality of the construction.

"In the last year we have seen a tremendous growth of residential construction in the unincorporated areas of the County. Projections indicate that over the next 15

years between 11,000 and 12,000 new single family homes are planned to be developed in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County" said Escobar. "By implementing this inspection program, we are giving residents an important tool that will help them make better decisions about whether to buy a property, and to protect their investment," Escobar concluded.

Márquez, who in 2009 was instrumental in getting House Bill 2833 approved in the Texas

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Were you in Okinawa for Project 112/SHAD?

Project 112, also known as SHAD, began in 1962 to test the vulnerability of ships to biological-warfare chemical attacks. SHAD (Shipboard Hazard and Defense) was conducted on ships. Project 112 was conducted on land. But the end result was the same: being sprayed with chemicals.

While the Department of Defense admitted this went on in other locations, nobody mentioned Okinawa. Nobody mentioned Johnston Island. They're not even on the list. When it comes to getting benefits for chemical exposure, the Department of Veterans Affairs has said there's no specific illness related to service at those locations.

Here are some items to jog your memory:

The 267th Chemical Platoon was in Okinawa from December 1962 until August 1965, assigned to the Army Ordnance Group to prepare the Red Hat area Site 2 for receipt and storage of chemicals in DoD Project 112. If you were there, heads up.

If you were part of Operation Red Hat in 1971 and moved the 12,000 tons of chemicals from Okinawa to Johnston Island, heads up.

If you were there for training in 1972 and came across the barrels of chemicals that allegedly had already been removed, heads up.

If you were at Futenma Air Station in 1981 when 100 leaky barrels of Agent Orange were unearthed, heads up.

People are stepping forward, those who were there and were sprayed while handling the chemicals and who are now sick. They want the DoD to open the records.

This is going to take time, but get ready. If you were there, organize your paperwork. If you're sick, get your claim going and make sure it's noted that you were in those locations.

For background:

- www.truth-out.org – Search for articles by Jon Mitchell.
- www.publichealth.va.gov – Put SHAD in the search box.
- www.wikipedia.org – Put 267th Chemical Company in the search box.

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) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.

Finances By Jason Alderman

Avoid these home-seller mistakes

Now that the housing market has finally begun to stabilize and interest rates remain at historically low levels, more and more homebuyers and sellers are dipping their toes back in the water.

If you're planning to sell your home, you need to understand the tax implications of selling a home as well as be aware of structural and cosmetic flaws in your home and neighborhood that could undermine your asking price or keep the property languishing on the market for months.

First, the tax tips:

- In general, if you make money on the sale, you can exclude the gain from your taxable income (as outlined below) if you've owned and used the home as your residence for two out of the past five years.
- You may be able to exclude up to \$250,000 of the gain from your income (\$500,000 on most joint returns).
- If you can exclude all of the gain, you don't need to report the sale on your tax return.
- Gains that cannot be excluded are taxable. You must report them on Form 1040, Schedule D.
- You cannot deduct a loss from the sale of your main home.
- For more information, see IRS Publication 523, Selling Your Home (at www.irs.gov).

Many factors can negatively impact your being able to attract buyers and ultimately get the price you want. Sometimes there's not much you can do:

- If you're located on a busy street or the local school district is subpar, you probably won't fetch as much as for the same house in a better neighborhood.
- If your house is the only contemporary model in a sea of colonials or if your remodeled McMansion is

surrounded by two bedroom/one bathroom cottages, many buyers might be turned off. Not everyone wants to stand out from the crowd.

• If you started remodeling and didn't complete the job, many people won't want to take that on, even with a significant reduction in price.

However, there are many relatively minor changes that may boost your home's marketability. For example:

- If your interior or exterior walls are painted with bold colors or textures, it might be worth toning it down with a more neutral palette.
- If you can afford it, have your home professionally staged, since they know how to maximize space and show off a home's strong points (while hiding its defects.) But if you're using your own furnishings, thin them out.
- Mismatched appliances, cabinetry and plumbing fixtures stand out like sore thumbs. The same goes for worn floors or carpeting. Discuss with your realtor which improvements might be worth the investment.
- Make sure your yard is well-tended and has at least basic landscaping. Overgrown weeds and abandoned junk don't help your curb appeal. The same principle applies for common areas if you live in a condominium.

If there are foreclosed homes in the neighborhood, chances are they aren't being well-maintained. Make contacts with the lenders taking over these properties so you can report problems such as vandalism, trash or overgrown yards. If they're unresponsive, ask your city's building department whether they can charge fines or penalties.

Also, work with your neighbors to keep an eye on empty homes. Take turns mowing the lawn, picking up trash and removing graffiti. Anything you can do to bring up the quality of the neighborhood will improve your chance of selling.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

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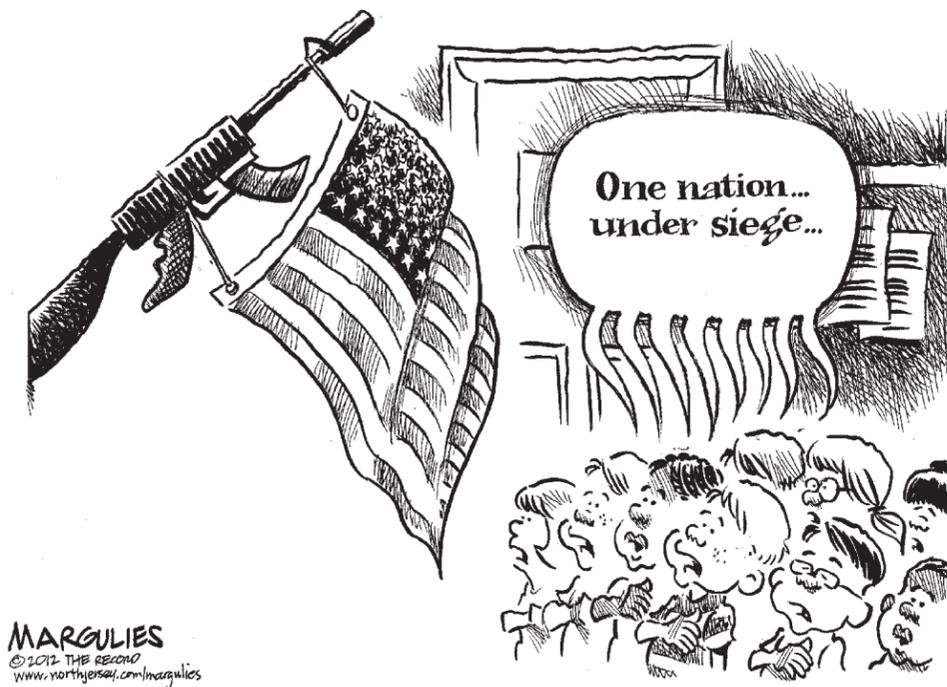
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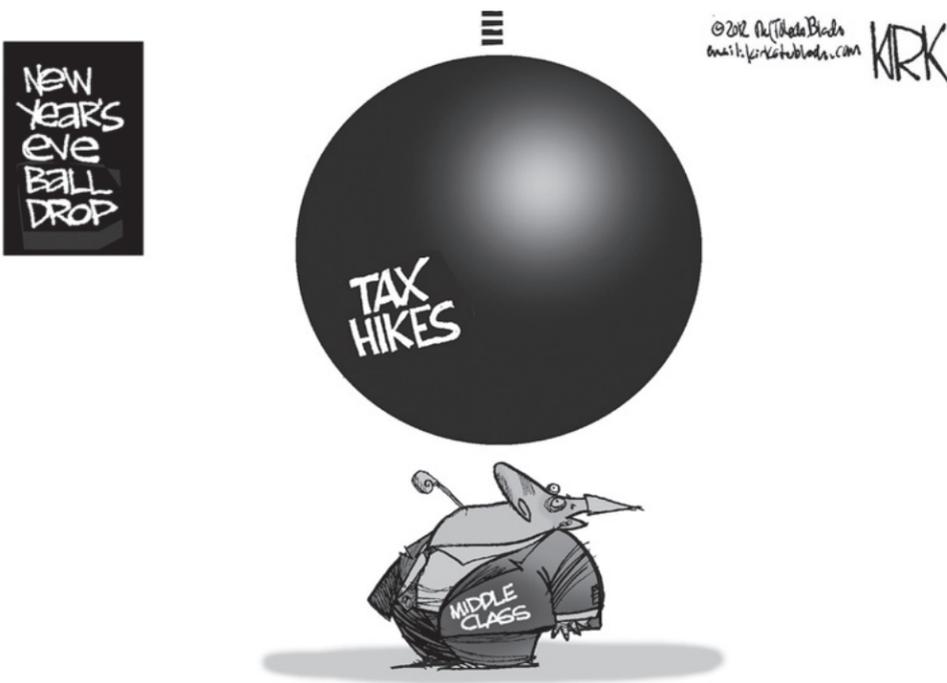
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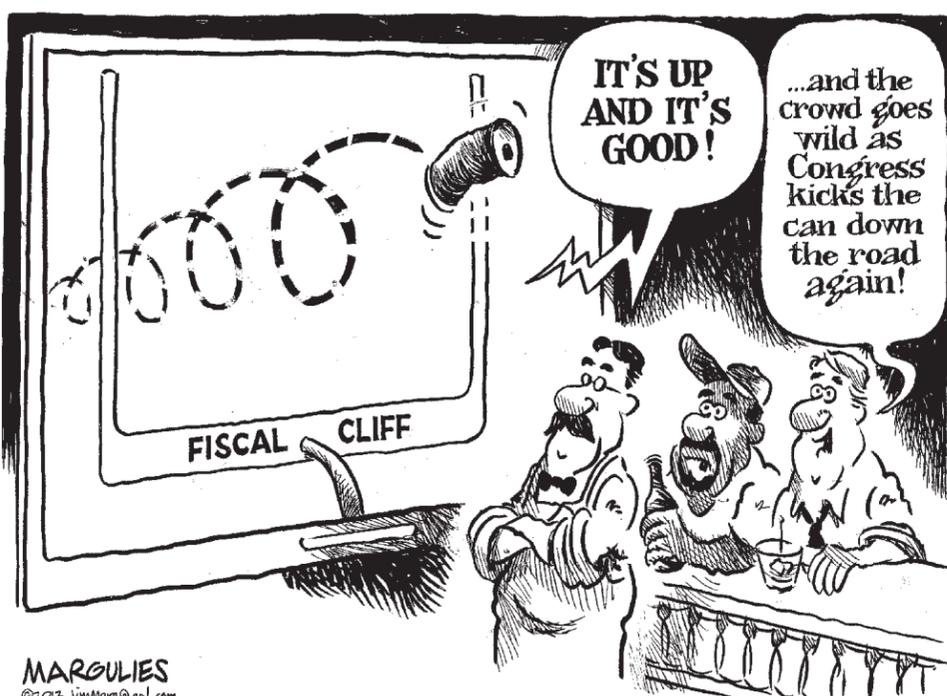


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Texas physicians back text-free driving

By Brent Annear
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – With the hustle and bustle of everyday life, Texas physicians worry drivers are more distracted than usual on our roadways, especially with the advent of texting.

“Distracted driving is a major cause of death and disability. The Texas Medical Association (TMA) supports all reasonable and enforceable efforts to reduce this problem,” said Stephen Brotherton, MD, Fort Worth orthopedic surgeon and TMA president-elect.

The popular activity of texting while driving concerns several state legislators, who have filed bills to ban the practice. These include:

- Senate Bill 28 by Sen. Judith Zaffirini (D-Laredo) and House Bill 63 Rep. Tom Craddick (R-Midland) would ban text-based communications except when using a GPS device, pressing a button to make a call, and using voice-operated technology. SB 28 would exempt texting for emergency situations and by emergency responders.
- House Bill 27 by Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer (D-San Antonio) would ban reading, writing, or sending a text message on a handheld device and establishes fines for offenders.
- House Bill 41 by Rep. Jose Menendez (D-San Antonio) would prohibit wireless communication devices except hands-free device and establishes fines for offenders.
- House Bill 69 by Rep. Eddie Lucio III (D-Brownsville) would ban text-based communications.
- House Bill 108 by Rep. Patricia Harless (R-Spring) would ban text-based communications excepting GPS devices, pressing of a button to make a call, and voice-operated technology.

In 2011, legislation to ban texting while driving passed the House and Senate, but in

the end, Gov. Rick Perry vetoed it. “Some forms of distracted or impaired driving are already discouraged with some success, such as driving while intoxicated,” said Brotherton. “The ability to effectively prevent texting while driving – though challenging – will encourage the reduction of incompetent driving in all forms. Safe driving saves lives and health costs.

“A motor vehicle is a potentially lethal weapon,” added Brotherton. Include texting in the mix and the chances of dying in a car wreck increase dramatically. The Virginia Tech Transportation Institute found that when drivers text, they are 23 times more likely to crash their car. The Texas Department of Transportation said distracted driving caused more than 81,000 collisions and claimed more than 360 Texans last year.

In addition to saving countless lives, Texas physicians say new legislation banning texting could save Texas money. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports on-and-off-the-job traffic injuries cost Texas businesses \$4.3 billion annually in the form of lawsuits, medical bills, property damage, and lost work.

“Texting is one of the most controllable and potentially most deadly distractions on the road,” said TMA physician leader Arlo Weltge, MD. “At 70 miles per hour, taking your eyes off the road for even a brief moment can lead to loss of vehicle control and terrible crashes.

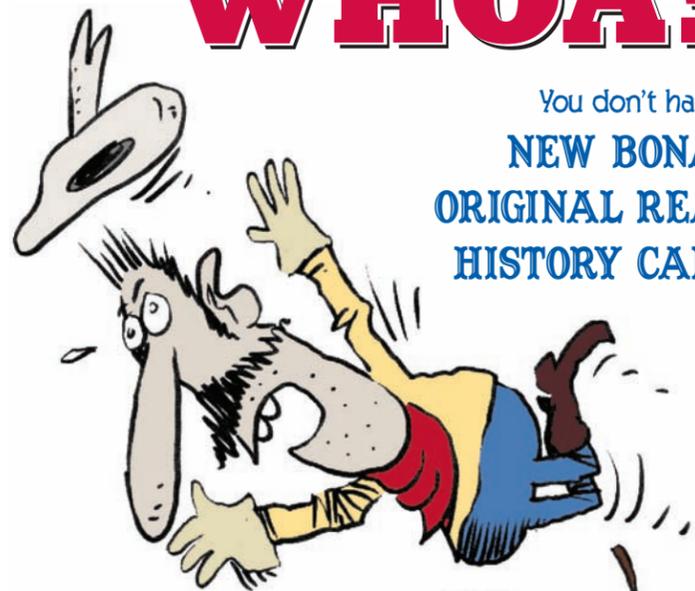
“Even good drivers can suffer permanent life-changing consequences when they decide to text and drive,” warned Weltge.

TMA is the largest state medical society in the nation, representing more than 46,000 physician and medical student members. It is located in Austin and has 120 component county medical societies around the state. TMA’s key objective since 1853 is to improve the health of all Texans.



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

By Christy Flores-Jones
Special to the Courier

The Socorro Independent School District Board of Trustees was selected as the 2012 Region 19 School Board of the Year in August 2012 as part of the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) School Board Awards Program.

“The Socorro ISD Board of Trustees is an outstanding school board dedicated to this community,” said SISD Superintendent José Espinoza. “Each board member is truly committed to governing this district with the highest ethical standards to ensure every child

receives an equitable and high quality education.”

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 have 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 districtwide 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 now they 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 Espinoza as the superintendent finalist on Aug. 4.

The SISD Board of Trustees was recognized in September 2012 at the TASA/TASB convention in Austin for being named the Region 19 School Board of the Year.

TEA website provides college and career planning options

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

Texas high school students who want to go to college but don't know where to start the planning process should take advantage of the new free online college and career planning website introduced recently by the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

TEA announced last month that it has launched the college and career planning website to help Texas students, parents and educators become more familiar with the college preparation and admissions process.

TEA officials stated that The Texas College & Career resource site, www.texascollegeandcareer.org, provides information about college options, academic and financial preparation for college, higher education admissions and career research.

“We want to help students get into college. This website provides a rich array of information that can help students successfully navigate the complex

college preparation and admissions process,” stated Commissioner of Education Michael L. Williams in a recent TEA press release.

The website provides portfolio building tools that include: a career interest and values survey, career profiles with emphasis on high-growth career paths, college awareness, college search and match tools, resume building, interviewing skills, college application and essay guidance and college admission portfolios.

The site also provides resources (in English and Spanish) to accommodate unique populations such as students living in foster care and English language learners.

The site is available to all secondary students in Texas public schools. Training for teachers, counselors, parents and students is available within the site's training center at <https://support.connectedu.net/Texas/training-center.html>.

Visitors to the training center can participate in one of several weekly live webinars or view recorded webinars immediately on-demand.

Village of Vinton PUBLIC NOTICE

Texas Community Development Program

The Village of Vinton will conduct a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 17, 2013 at City Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton Texas, to review the performance of and obtain comments on its Texas Department of Agriculture- Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Fund Contract No. 710711. The City encourages citizens to participate in the review of the Municipal Park Rehabilitation Project and make their views known at the public hearing.

Persons with disabilities wishing to attend this meeting and need a special accommodation should contact the City Secretary at (915) 886-5104 at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Jessica Garza
Village Clerk

WTCC: 01-10-13

Inspections

From Page 1

Legislature, said the implementation of this Texas law will assist county residents in having access to safer and healthier living conditions.

“With this inspection registration program, families will have information to know whether or not their new home or construction was inspected for basic building code compliance and whether the home meets the minimum code requirements,” Márquez said.

The Residential Construction Building Inspection program began on January 1, 2013, and will be run by the El Paso County Public Works Department. The program applies to builders of new residential housing (single family homes or duplexes), or builders of an addition to an existing home (if it increases the square footage or value by more than 50%) in unincorporated areas of the County.

The builder/contractor or the owner of the property will be required to provide notice of a construction project prior to beginning the project. The

program also requires them to hire a third party inspector to conduct inspections during 3 different stages of the construction:

- During the foundation stage;
- During the framing and mechanical system stage; and
- At the completion of the project.

The builder/contractor will have to submit the results of the inspections to the El Paso Public Works department. Failure to disclose the results of the inspections to El Paso County could result in sanctions, such as referral to a state agency for an enforcement action, filing of a civil lawsuit in state court, or filing of criminal charges (a class “C” misdemeanor).

The complete details of the program and required forms, in English and Spanish, are on the website of the El Paso County's Public Works Department, at <http://www.epcounty.com/publicworks>.



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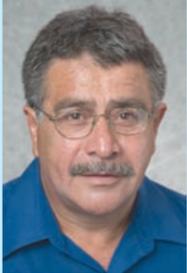
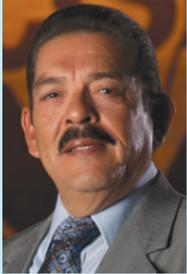
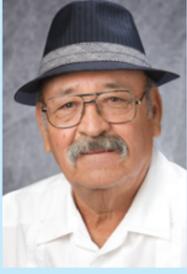
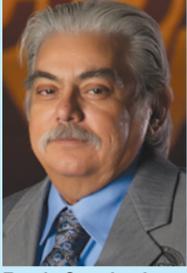
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CryptoQuip Answer

If a man were afraid of the Christmas season, I'd want to call him Noel coward.

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Superintendents

Thank You For Serving

Peyton should be NFL Comeback Player of the Year

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

There's been a lot of talk on who should win the Most Valuable Player award for this year's NFL season.

With all the young talent around the league it's rather compelling that the two obvious finalists are a couple of established veterans who will someday be teammates in the Hall of Fame.

Under normal circumstances, nobody would be surprised that Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson and Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning would be the two at the top of the list.

But neither arrived at their fantastic seasons the traditional way.

In the final regular season game a year ago, Peterson sustained a massive knee injury that looked as though it would sideline him a few games into this season and possibly render him half the runner he used to be.

Peyton's condition was even worse. He didn't have a final regular season game a year ago. He didn't even have a regular season.

Manning went through a fourth neck surgery

that kept him out of 2011 and there was real doubt whether he'd ever play again.

Even if he did, few thought he would be able to throw the way he was accustomed to.

But each player defied the odds and each had the kind of season that will be talked about for decades.

Peterson finished the year just eight yards behind Eric Dickerson's all-time single season rushing record of 2,105 yards. He scored 12 touchdowns and averaged six yards per carry.

Manning finished his regular season with 4,659 yards passing with 37 touchdowns and just 11 interceptions.

While Peterson helped lead the Vikings to a 10-6 record and a playoff berth, Manning led the Broncos to a 13-3 record and an 11-game winning streak to close out the season.

Both guys have great cases to be named the league's MVP. Both have great cases to be named the league's Comeback Player of the Year.

But if the voting were left to me the choice for MVP would go to Peyton Manning.

He took a team in Denver and transformed them from a curiosity with Tim Tebow, to a legitimate Super Bowl contender with the #1

seed in the AFC.

And remember, this was Manning's first season with the team. He had to get used to new personnel in a new city after years of success in Indianapolis, and after not playing for a year.

So that must leave Peterson with the "Comeback" award, but in all honesty, what in the heck did he come back from?

What fans seem to forget is that Peterson didn't miss a single game from his injury.

Peterson played in the final game in 2011 and he played in the first game of 2012.

Don't get me wrong, I'm a huge Adrian Peterson fan but I've also got to be objective.

Manning, on the other hand, missed the entire season because of his neck injury.

Big difference.

Maybe it's just me but if you're going to win a comeback trophy, you've got to come back from something.

JERRYactric

Dallas Cowboys' owner, general manager, team president, messiah, grand wizard, head cheese, top dog, cat's meow and imperialistic dragon Jerry Jones announced last week that things were going to be very uncomfortable

around Jerryland over the next few weeks and months.

Of course, this was following this team's failed attempt to make the playoffs – again.

Jones emphatically said that there were going to be some changes coming and that everything was on the table.

Except himself of course.

So what is Jerry going to do? Replace his head coach who obviously can't call a play and manage the clock at the same time.

Is he going to replace his defensive coordinator, who may have a great head of hair, but can't seem to get the right personnel on the field at the right time.

Maybe he'll change the star on the helmet to a hexagon.

My choice is that he hire a competent, aggressive offensive coordinator who will take the shackles off the offense and let them start attacking from the opening kickoff, instead of waiting until they are 21 points down.

This way, Jason Garrett can focus on being head coach instead of doing both jobs.

Jones might also want to focus on some new offensive linemen. He's lucky Tony Romo is still in one piece.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Go left, young man

My son is only 3 years old, so I'm not putting too much strain on his left arm. "They" say that you can't really tell if a kid is righty or lefty until he is 4 or older, so I'm holding out for lefty status.

You ask why. It's because he's not going to play football. Why? Because even though I know he's far more likely to suffer a concussion in an unsupervised backyard football game that doesn't require pads or mouth guards, it's not worth fighting over. I wouldn't want him to spend his entire life

fighting off migraines, and if we're not in it to win it, there isn't much point anyway. Who wants their kid to aspire to be the third-string quarterback? In the fall, he can play soccer... he's got the prerequisite looks. (Aren't most soccer players lookers?)

In the winter, he's pretty much on his own. I'm a terrible basketball player, so I won't be able to teach him how to hit a jump shot. Seriously, it's worse than you can imagine.

A few years ago, a friend of a

friend invited me to a pickup game at the local college. He warned me in advance that it was pretty competitive. When I got to the gym, I looked the part in my vintage Jordan's and Under Armour... that is, looked the part of a giant tool who couldn't even get a shot off because he was being guarded by a former college player who seemed a bit too tenacious for a pickup game.

To make things worse, they had me playing the point. I could pass the ball pretty well, but my lack of on-court experience showed when I tried to run a fast break and threw up an alley-oop from midcourt. It was a real showstopper in that everyone stopped playing and made faces indicating utter befuddlement.

"Was that a shot?" one guy asked. "A buzzer-beater?"

"No," I shot back (rhetorically... not with a basketball). "I was setting you up for the dunk."

After the laughter subsided, the guy I was passing to took the opportunity to provide me with a teaching moment.

"Look, dude... I'm 50 years old," he said. Then he pointed to his knee brace. It resembled scaffolding. You could get a few masons and build the foundation to a skyscraper around his knee. "I've got 10 pounds of steel wrapped around my knee."

"Yeah, and we don't really dunk, like, ever," another helpful person. "We're kind of happy when we find someone who can go to their left.

Which you can't."

Real friendly guys.

Which brings me to my original point. If you're a lefty, you need to play baseball or tennis... baseball in particular. I cannot think of any institution that employs, per capita, more lefties than the game of baseball (at least outside of the Massachusetts state Senate). Even crappy lefties put together 10-season, journeyman careers. That's job security.

Who's looking out for ya, kid? Dad, that's who. Now stop throwing off your back right foot, and we'll work on your slider after Mickey Mouse. It's time to step it up.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

Village of Vinton

govoffice2.com/Bid Opportunities link. Please submit your request for proposal package to the Village of Vinton City Clerk at 436 E. Vinton Rd. Vinton Texas 79821. Proposals must be received no later than 4:00 pm, January 22, 2013 at Vinton City Hall to be considered. The Village reserves the right to negotiate with any and all firms or consultants that submit proposals as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act.

The Village of Vinton has recently received a Contract award from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs under its Amy Young Reservation System and HOME Reservation System Programs. The City is seeking to contract with a qualified individual/management firm to administer the contracts.

RFP packages are available at the Village of Vinton City Hall, Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on the website: <http://www.vinton.tx>

The Village of Vinton, Texas is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer.

Jessica Garza
Village Clerk

WTCC: 01-10-13
01-17-13

PUBLIC NOTICE

El Paso Collaborative for Community and Economic Development

Invitation to Bid

The El Paso Collaborative for Community and Economic Development is accepting bids for the construction of 3 new homes in the Lower Valley area starting Thursday January 10, 2013 through Friday January 18, 2013 4:00 pm. Bid packets may be picked up at El Paso Collaborative 1359 Lomaland, Suite 538, El Paso, Texas 79935 M-F from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Packets include home design, a site plan and specifications. The house must meet visitability guidelines and

have energy efficiency features incorporated into construction. For further information, contact Joyce Davidoff, Program Coordinator at the El Paso Collaborative (915) 590-1210 ex116.

WTCC: 01-10-13



WTCC: 01-10-13

PUBLIC NOTICE

El Paso County Emergency Services District #1

Notice of Location

The El Paso County Emergency Services District #1 (Horizon Fire Department) is located at 14151 Nunda Ave., Horizon City, TX

79928. Phone (non-emergency): (915) 852-3204; EMERGENCY: 911; Fax: (915) 852-4236; Ambulance (county): (915) 779-2111.

WTCC: 01-10-13

PUBLIC NOTICE

El Paso County Emergency Services District No. 2

Notice of Locations

The El Paso County Emergency Services District #2 has ten locations. EMERGENCY, call: 911. Ambulance: (915) 779-2111.

Clint 851-3528
708 FM1110
Clint, TX 79836
1501 FM 1110
Clint, TX 79836

14885 Las Colonias
El Paso, TX 79928

Fabens 764-3168
219 West Main
Fabens, TX 79838

601 O.T. Smith,
Tornillo, TX 79853

Montana Vista 857-1080
13978 Montana Ave.
El Paso, TX 79938

5411 Paso View Dr.
El Paso, TX 79938

San Elizario 851-2020
1425 San Antonio
San Elizario, TX 79849

Socorro 851-8855
11440 N. Loop
Socorro, TX 79927

West Valley 886-2323
510 Vinton
Vinton, TX 79821

Rebecca Terrazas
Administrator

WTCC: 01-10-13

Lower Valley Housing Corporation

Public Notice

Job Opening

The Lower Valley Housing Corporation has an opening for a Construction Supervisor, experienced in all phases of home building. Start in January. Must be able to teach inexperienced people how to build homes. 32 hours per week, evenings and week ends. Salary open, depending on experience. Contact: Eric at (915) 494-1454.

The Lower Valley Housing Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WTCC: 01-10-13

DRIVERS ED

5-Star Driving School

1540 Pendale & George Dieter #2
598-1898
Teen Driver's Ed Classes
Dec. 3rd, Jan. 7th & Feb. 4th
6HR/TX
Mandated License Class(18-24 yrs.)
Saturdays
9 am to 3:30 pm

HELP WANTED

Market Research Analyst (El Paso, TX) Provide mkt research & analysis for Co. engaged in dvlpmnt of Subway sandwich stores. Analyze & seek info on competitors' to dvlp research plans & matrixes, target mktg strategies, qualifications analysis & customized product & business strategies. Evaluate mkt conditions & evaluate potential sites by conducting mkt research

People know Pueblo for its...



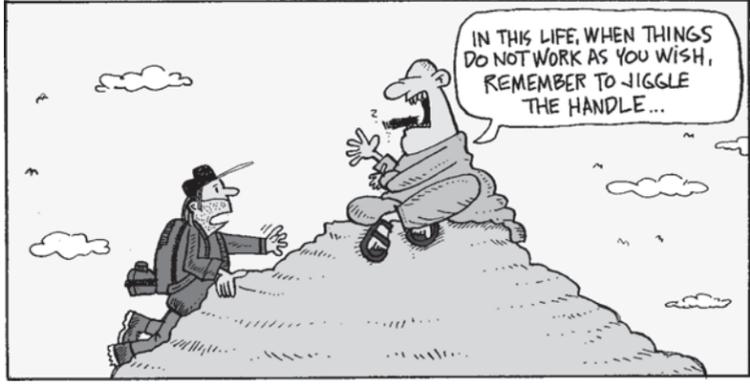
Famous Hot Salsa?

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

U.S. General Services Administration

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



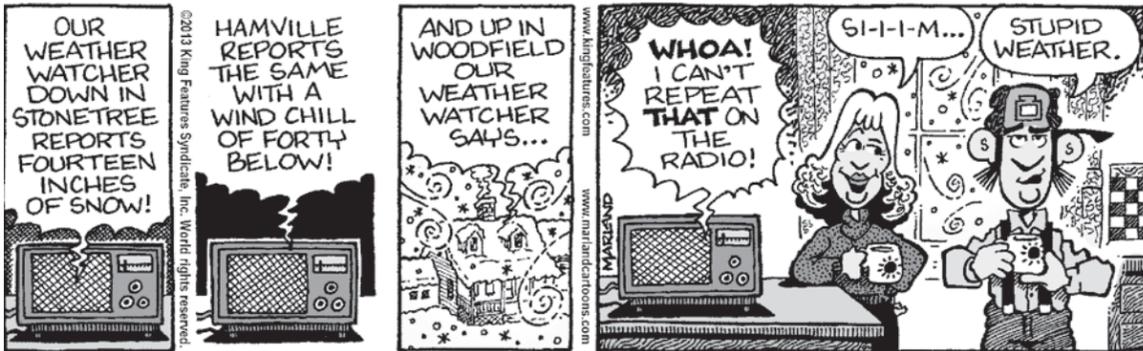
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



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 17 years old. I have pimples all over my face. The only thing that helped was an antibiotic, but it made me sensitive to sunlight. My parents don't want me to continue to use an antibiotic. Can you help? – G.G.

then oral antibiotics are the next step. Tetracycline, doxycycline and minocycline are examples. Your parents should reconsider their ban on their use. Even if they sensitize you to sunlight, simply stay out of sunlight when using them. They worked for you.

Let's start with a couple of mistakes made by most people with acne. Don't scrub your face or any place where acne has broken out. Scrubbing causes irritation and worsens acne. Use a mild soap like Dove when washing. Don't squeeze pimples, whiteheads or blackheads. You force bacteria into adjacent skin.

I haven't listed all acne medicines. Bad acne, like yours, calls for treatment by the family doctor or a dermatologist.

Acne develops because of clogged pores through which hairs grow and through which sebaceous (oil) glands empty their oil onto the skin. The first signs of trouble are whiteheads or blackheads. They indicate that the pore is plugged. Deep in the pore, down from the blockage, the oil glands continue to secrete oil and greatly distend the pore, which can rupture. Bacteria thrive on the oil. At this point, a pimple is born. Acne control involves unplugging the pore, eliminating the bacteria and putting the brakes on oil production. The oil production is in high gear because of the increase of male hormones at this time in life.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I am writing on behalf of several neighbors who have started soaking golden raisins in gin. Each of them takes nine such raisins a day. They claim this was a method shown on television to remedy arthritis. Have you ever heard of this? Our curiosity is getting the best of us. – E.G.

I have heard this many times. No one has proven it works. No reliable information suggests it might work. I don't believe it's a legitimate arthritis treatment.

Benzoyl peroxide unplugs pores. Brand names include Clearasil and AcneClear, both available without prescription, as are many other brands.

However, if you like gin and like raisins, then the practice is OK, so long as you don't go overboard on taking in too much alcohol.

From this point on, effective medicines require a prescription. The first choice is retinoids – Renova cream and Retin-A. They're often used on alternating days with benzoyl peroxide. The next step up is antibiotics. In creams and lotions, they aren't absorbed very much. Clindamycin and erythromycin are two such products. If no progress comes from skin-applied antibiotics,

The booklet on arthritis describes the different kinds of arthritis and their treatments. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue – No. 301W, 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.

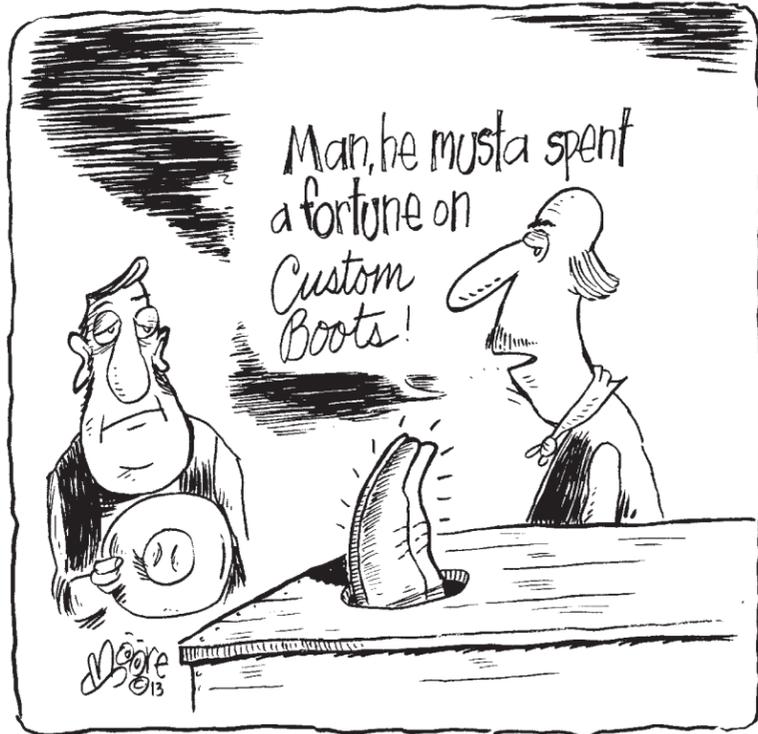
Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2013 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

- DEDICATED TO STRAY CHARLES ACROSS**
- 1 Northern Italian city
 - 8 Dip for tortilla chips
 - 13 Wailing spirit of folklore
 - 20 Tag again
 - 21 Join forces
 - 22 Order followers
 - 23 Impute
 - 24 Buy sipping aids on the cheap?
 - 26 Pulsations
 - 27 Sick-dog link
 - 29 Ways of reasoning
 - 30 Choice of any non-solid pool ball you'd like?
 - 36 Drift (off)
 - 37 _ disease (tick-borne ailment)
 - 38 Steve of country rock
 - 41 Zeus' mother
 - 44 Anguish
 - 46 Very weird Moranis, compared to slightly odd Springfield?
 - 52 Berlin "a"
 - 53 On terra _
 - 55 Glossiness
 - 56 Yield
 - 57 House pets exerting great effort?
 - 62 In a crowd of
 - 63 " _ shocked!"
 - 64 The Brady boys or girls
 - 65 Participated in a race walk?
 - 75 T. _ Price
 - 76 Tic _ (mint brand)
 - 77 Ancient Asia Minor region
 - 78 Throw hooks and jabs while ambling?
 - 86 "Encore!"
 - 87 One-eyed female on "Futurama"
 - 88 Availing oneself of
 - 89 Ending for Tokyo
 - 90 Flashing lights for a singing group?
 - 94 Pro _ (acting)
 - 95 Gorbachev's fed.
 - 96 "Irma la _"
 - 97 Fail to win
 - 99 Long stretch of history
 - 101 Best violin player ever?
 - 111 "Omen II" title role
 - 112 Ovid's "I love"
 - 113 Previously, poetically
 - 114 Guitar technique in Kingston?
 - 120 Serve as a sign of
 - 122 Brewpub offering
 - 123 Pooh's marsupial pal
 - 124 Piano keys
 - 125 Gives a prize
 - 126 Baseballer Warren
 - 127 Relevant (to)
- DOWN**
- 1 Sea food crustaceans
 - 2 Adjust, as a clock
 - 3 Actor Dana
 - 4 Navratilova of tennis
 - 5 San Luis _
 - 6 Cornhusker State: Abbr.
 - 7 Shaking like _
 - 8 Sweet
 - 9 Hex- ending
 - 10 Plastered
 - 11 Unfresh
 - 12 Famed fable writer
 - 13 Containing element #5
 - 14 Taken _ (caught unawares)
 - 15 More informative
 - 16 Guitarist Barrett
 - 17 Te- _ (titter)
 - 18 Wisk rival
 - 19 Immigrants' class: Abbr.
 - 25 _ Friday's (eatery)
 - 28 Very serious
 - 31 Track great Moses
 - 32 Registered names: Abbr.
 - 33 Riled (up)
 - 34 Prefix with -lepsy
 - 35 "Peer Gynt" composer Edvard
 - 39 Some PC screens
 - 40 Barely squeeze (by)
 - 41 Cut again, as a board
 - 42 Blackjack call
 - 43 Scandalous company of 2002
 - 45 "... _ quit!" (threat ender)
 - 47 Run after Q
 - 48 Exam room sounds
 - 49 Under, to poets
 - 50 Artistic style
 - 51 "The _ near!"
 - 53 The barber of Seville's name
 - 54 Play - (perform out with the band)
 - 58 Tiny colony crawler
 - 59 Half- _ (java order)
 - 60 Like _ to the flame
 - 61 Pouring on the love
 - 66 Lazies about
 - 67 Baby hooter
 - 68 Not as old
 - 69 Disloyal sort
 - 70 "Ac-cent- - -ate the Positive"
 - 71 Giant bird of lore
 - 72 "He's Got the Whole World _ Hands"
 - 73 Slims down
 - 74 Alleviator
 - 78 Arty area in NYC
 - 79 Brook catch
 - 80 Old German state
 - 81 Nobel-winning
 - 82 Café check
 - 83 Value highly
 - 84 Quiche, e.g.
 - 85 Not reached, as a goal
 - 86 Ovid's 1,400
 - 91 More thin
 - 92 Polar pixie
 - 93 Pub crawler
 - 95 Unvarying
 - 98 Magical illness curer
 - 100 Rally rouser
 - 102 Like tied shoes
 - 103 Actors Epps and Sharif
 - 104 _ Tin Tin
 - 105 Dorm room fixtures
 - 106 From the keg
 - 107 Edna Ferber novel
 - 108 Motorola alternative
 - 109 Envy's color
 - 110 Feel
 - 114 _ Tolkien
 - 115 Positive vote
 - 116 Kitty's cry
 - 117 Atty.'s gp.
 - 118 Cellular stuff
 - 119 "Ick!"
 - 121 Adam's mate

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
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90						91				92	93		94				95				
96										97		98			99	100					
				101				102	103	104	105	106				107			108	109	110
114	115	116	117								118	119				120	121				
122										123						124					
125										126						127					

Moore Texas by Roger Moore Jan 7, 1899:
 Legendary Texas Ranger Bigfoot Wallace dies in Frio County...wonder if he had a special casket...Hmmm.



Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: What are some of the documents Social Security will accept as proof of identity for a child?

A: While you can use a birth certificate to prove age or citizenship, you cannot use it as proof of identity. For identity, we prefer to see the child's U.S. passport. If you don't have a passport, we may accept the child's:

- Adoption decree;
- Doctor, clinic, or hospital record;
- Religious record (e.g., baptismal record);
- Daycare center or school record; or
- School identification card.

We generally can accept a non-photo identity document if it has enough information to identify the child (such as the child's name and age, date of birth and parents' names). All documents must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents. To find out more, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

her benefit amount, and she could be penalized if she does not report the change on time. Also, we need her correct address so we can send correspondence, even if she receives her payments electronically. Please have your mom call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). Visit our website for more information at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: What is the earliest age that I can apply for my Social Security retirement benefits?

A: The earliest age to receive retirement benefits is 62, but you can apply up to three months beforehand. If you retire at age 62 today, your benefit would be about 25 percent lower than what it would be if you waited until you reach full retirement age. Even if you are not ready to retire, you still should sign up for Medicare three months before your 65th birthday. You can do both online at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline.

Q: My mom receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI). She soon will be coming to live with me. Do we have to report the move to Social Security?

A: Yes. She must report a change in living arrangements within 10 days of moving. The change may affect

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.

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		14
+		x		-	
	÷		+		3
+		+		x	
	-		x		25
20		12		25	

DIFFICULTY: ★

- ★ Moderate
- ★★ Difficult
- ★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 5 7 8 8 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: J equals E

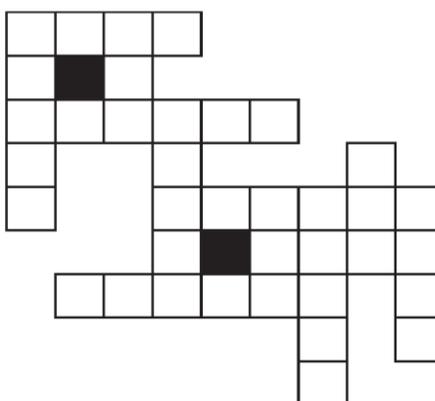
CT K SKO YJQJ KTQKCI HT MUJ
 XUQCVMSKV VJKVHO, C'I YKOM
 MH XKGG UCS OHJG XHYKQI.

Answer Page 4

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- SWE
- ♥ TEF SER
- MELUP
- ♥ APRE
- MOTRAF
- ♥ RAE
- ♥ TPSE
- ♥ RIFEN
- ♥ PSA
- ♥ NIPDUW
- EERAT
- ♥ EMTE



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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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

It was humorist Jerome K. Jerome who made the following sage observation: "It is impossible to enjoy idling thoroughly unless one has plenty of work to do. There is no fun in doing nothing when you have nothing to do. Wasting time is merely an occupation then, and a most exhausting one. Idleness, like kisses, to be sweet must be stolen."

Though it is unconstitutional and therefore unenforceable, there is a law on the books in Tennessee which prohibits duelists, preachers and atheists from being elected to public office.

According to most history books, the first shots of the Civil War were fired at Fort Sumter, S.C., in April of 1861, but that's not entirely true. The first shots of the war between the North and the South actually were fired in January of that year in Pensacola, Fla., where a garrison of Union troops was stationed at Fort Barrancus. A contingent of Florida and Alabama troops marched on the fort with the intent to throw out the Yankees in their midst. However, the Southerners' dedication to the cause was somewhat lacking; as soon as the Union soldiers fired at them, they beat a hasty retreat.

Those who study such things say that the average lightning bolt has a temperature of approximately 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit. For comparison, the sun's average temperature is only 10,000 F.

If you've ever been told to shut your pie-hole, you might have wondered where the expression came from. The term was first used in 1983, in the film version of Stephen King's horror novel "Christine."

Thought for the Day: "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. It may be necessary from time to time to give a stupid or misinformed beholder a black eye."

— Jim Henson

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