



NEWSBRIEFS

Century mark

Clint First Baptist Church will celebrate 100 years as a religious institution from October 11-13, 2013. There will be games, food, Christian music bands, speakers, TEAM IMPACT, jumping balloons, clown evangelist, and "olden" day fun such as sack races, hula-hoop contests, and horse shoes. All activities are free to our guests. Call 851-3939 or 851-3145 for more information.

— Erma Nelson

Canutillo HS seeks Ex

Canutillo High School is currently accepting nominations for the Outstanding Ex for 2013 Homecoming activities. Candidates who have graduated from Canutillo High School and have achieved success in their chosen field should be nominated. The Outstanding Ex should also be available to attend Homecoming activities during the week of Oct. 21 through Oct. 25 in Canutillo. Nominees should submit the completed application form located on the district's website by the deadline of October 4, 2013. Requests for a hard copy of the nomination form may be submitted to the CISD PIO at P.O. Box 100, Canutillo, TX 79835, or via email at kguzman@canutillo-isd.org.

— Kim Guzman

San Eli HS seeks Ex

San Elizario High School is asking for nominations to honor one standout former student during the 2013 homecoming celebration. Nominees must have graduated from San Elizario High School in order to be eligible, demonstrate service and professional accomplishments, and should be available to participate in homecoming festivities the week of October 14-18, 2013. All nominations for San Elizario High School's Outstanding Ex are due no later than 4 p.m. on October 4, 2013 and should be sent to Assistant Principal Christine Jaksch at cjaksch@seisd.net or mailed to San Elizario High School; P.O. Box 920; San Elizario, TX 79849. For more information, contact Christine Jaksch at 872-3970, ext. 3845.

— Cynthia P. Marentes

Wanted

Angel Flores, 29, is this week's Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. He also goes by Angel Mendoza and Menace. Flores is associated with the Sureno gang. He is 5'7" tall, weighs 150 pounds and has brown hair (or bald) and eyes. He has tattoos on his right arm, right hand, chest, back, neck and face. In August 2013, Flores and two accomplices violently assaulted two men in El Paso's Lower Valley around the 500 block of Lafayette. During the assault Flores produced a knife stabbing one of the men twice (on

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They call it a "dream house" because it usually costs twice as much as you dreamed it would.

— Quips & Quotes

November election will be first with photo ID requirements

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

Last day to register to vote for the Tuesday, November 5 General Election is Monday, October 7, and for the first time voters will have to show a photo ID to cast their ballot.

Up for El Paso County voters' consideration in the November election are nine state constitutional amendment proposals; in Horizon City are the mayor and three aldermen's races as well as five city charter amendment propositions; in San Elizario is the incorporation issue; and in the City of Socorro are races for three aldermen positions.

The new requirement for voters to show photo identification when voting in person was created in 2011, when the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 14 (SB 14). While pending review within the judicial system, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its opinion in *Shelby County v. Holder* this summer, which effectively ended all pending litigation. As a result, voters are now required to present an approved form of photo ID in order to vote in all Texas elections.

According to the Texas Secretary of State's office, acceptable forms of photo ID include a Texas driver license, Texas Election

Identification Certificate (EIC), Texas personal identification card, and a Texas concealed handgun license- these are issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS). Also acceptable are a U.S. military identification card containing a person's photograph, a U.S. citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph, or a U.S. passport.

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the identification must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place.

The new ID requirement law states that your name on your driver's license must exactly match the name on your voter registration card or you will be required to show another form of identification that matches.

If you do not present valid identification

and/or the name on the identification is not similar, you will have to vote a provisional ballot. You will have 6 (six) calendar days to bring your ID to the Voter Registrar to have your ballot counted.

To help voters who need Election Identification Certificates (EIC), four mobile stations will be in El Paso County, October 1 through October 4, to issue the certificates. (Visit the El Paso County Elections website for dates and locations.)

EICs are available without charge to qualified Texas voters who do not already have an approved form of photo ID, which is now required for voting in person. Most Texans already have an

approved form of ID and do not need an EIC. Applicants for an EIC would normally have to travel to a DPS driver license office in order

Acceptable ID

- Texas driver license;
- Texas Election Identification Certificate (EIC);
- Texas Personal Identification Card; or
- Texas Concealed Handgun License.

These are issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Also acceptable are a U.S. military identification card containing a person's photograph, a U.S. citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph, or a U.S. passport.

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Texas physicians say it's flu shot time

By Brent Annear
Special to the Courier

As fall begins, flu season follows close behind. Texas Medical Association (TMA) physicians urge Texans to get vaccinated now against this potentially serious, even fatal illness.

"The flu vaccine is the best defense against getting the flu," says John Carlo, MD, chair of TMA's Council on Science and Public Health. "It's a safe and effective way to protect yourself and those around you."

Doctors say everyone 6 months of age and older should get a vaccination every year to protect themselves from the flu. Dr. Carlo, a public health and preventive medicine specialist, says now is the time to get the shot for protection throughout the entire flu season.

New this year: an additional flu

vaccination option. Talk with your doctor about which option is best for you.

• The standard flu shot, which protects against three different flu viruses, two influenza A viruses and one influenza B virus (called "trivalent" vaccines). Various versions of this vaccine, including one for people allergic to eggs, are available for children 6 months of age through adults.

• An intradermal vaccine uses a much smaller needle than the regular flu shot for injection into the skin instead of the muscle. It is appropriate for people ages 18 to 64.

• A high-dose trivalent shot, called Fluzone, is approved for people 65 years and older to give extra protection against the flu.

• A new quadrivalent vaccine protects against two influenza A and two influenza B viruses. It is available in the standard flu shot or as a nasal spray. The nasal spray

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Mediation can resolve disputes

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

El Paso County Dispute Resolution Center (EPCDRC) is getting the word out that it offers a tried and true process for settling disputes. The process is called mediation. It is less expensive and takes less time than other methods of settling disagreements. More importantly, mediation can resolve a dispute so that everyone wins.

Mediation is a voluntary process. Individuals are invited to meet with neutral mediators who will help them design their own solutions to the dispute, according to Raul Gonzalez, regional services planner for the Rio Grande Council of Governments and

West Texas Economic Development District.

EPCDRC mediators can help in disputes dealing with families, neighbors, businesses, landlords and tenants, threats and assaults, and restitution for vandalism, said Gonzalez.

When individuals choose to settle their disputes using the resolution center, a mediation session is scheduled at a convenient time for everyone involved, Gonzalez said. "During the session, trained mediators give everyone a chance to explain his or her side of the dispute without interruption. Then, mediators help design solutions to their problem. When the issues have been resolved, the mediators will write an agreement and give both parties

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Obstructive Vinton council members leave under pressure

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

Three Village of Vinton council members have agreed to leave office for alleged incompetence, ignorance and carelessness. Almost a year after a lawsuit sought to remove the three, they settled out of court instead of going to trial.

Juvenicia Rios Ontiveros, Martha Garcia, and Maria Medina signed settlement agreements and Judge Stephen Ables signed off on them September 26. In the agreements, the three stated that they would not run for council in the upcoming November election and not seek any office for two years.

The three council members brought attention to their political antics when they refused to accept millions of dollars in state and federal funds to bring water and sewer services to the village. Ontiveros' properties were already on "good" water through previous grants. They also blocked passage of a budget the past two years.

The recent settlement was a result of a lawsuit filed by two village residents. Brandy Gardes and Robert Williams filed a petition in October of 2012 to remove the three from office.

The nearly 50-page lawsuit contained allegations of dozens of state and federal violations by the trio.

Residents hope that with the three gone from office, it will allow the village to move forward. "The fact is they remain in office until November and have continued with

See VINTON, Page 3

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

VA health care for women vets

The American Legion recently released its report on the status of Department of Veterans Affairs health care for women veterans. Members of the System Worth Saving Task Force visited 15 VA facilities in 12 states around the country. Its purpose was to learn what barriers keep women veterans from enrolling in VA health care, understand the challenges women veterans face and make recommendations.

The 2013 Task Force Report on Women Veterans Health Care centered on three points:

1) Women veterans don't identify themselves as veterans and don't know about their benefits.

2) VA medical centers don't use baseline enrollment and marketing and outreach programs to keep women veterans in the health system. Women make up 15 percent of active-duty service members, yet the number of women using VA health care is considerably smaller.

3) Models of care need to be assessed for effectiveness. For example: Women veterans don't receive mammograms results quickly; VA facilities don't all have inpatient or residential

mental-health programs for women; and the child-care pilot program is about to expire.

Here are some results of the survey, both good and bad:

- Women veterans keep their appointments when childcare is available during appointment times.

- Patient file flags about veterans "at risk" for violent behavior stay in-house, and therefore don't show up on the national records if a patient goes to a different facility.

- Not all facilities are equal. Patients often are required to go to other facilities for care, or even go out of state.

The American Legion program has been in operation for 10 years, visiting VA medical facilities to assess veterans' health care and offering information and recommendations to the VA, Congress and government officials.

Freddy Groves regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Send email to columnreply2@gmail.com. (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.

Finances By Jason Alderman

Lower income: Don't pass up the saver's credit

In 2002, Congress passed legislation to create an income tax credit designed to encourage lower- and middle-income people to save money for retirement. The saver's credit, worth up to \$1,000 a year for individuals (\$2,000 for couples filing jointly), rewards people for contributing to an IRA or 401(k) plan.

Regrettably, the people most likely to benefit from the saver's credit are also those who can usually least afford to set aside money for retirement. It doesn't help that only one-quarter of people earning less than \$50,000 even know the credit exists.

But if you can squeeze a few dollars out of your budget, the saver's credit is worth pursuing. Tax credits reduce the amount of income tax paid, dollar for dollar; so many low-income people can recoup the amount they contribute to retirement accounts by up to 50 percent through reduced taxes. And those whose employers match a portion of their 401(k) contributions reap even bigger rewards.

Another good selling point: Parents or grandparents who want to jumpstart their low-income kids' retirement savings can fund their IRA or 401(k) contribution, thereby making them eligible for the saver's credit even if they can't afford to contribute on their own.

Here's the nitty-gritty on the saver's credit:

- The saver's credit is a "nonrefundable" tax credit, which means it reduces income taxes owed, dollar for dollar – although it won't generate a tax refund if the credit is more than the taxes you owe.

- The saver's credit helps offset part of the amount you voluntarily contribute to an IRA or 401(k) plan.

- Your credit amount is based on your tax filing status, adjusted gross income and the amount you contribute to qualifying retirement programs. It can be claimed by:

- Married couples filing jointly with adjusted gross income (AGI) of no more than \$59,000.

- Heads of households with AGI up to \$44,250.
- Singles (or married filing separately) with AGI up to \$29,500.

The credit rate is 10 percent, 20 percent or 50 percent of the first \$2,000 you contribute (\$4,000 for married couples filing jointly), depending on your AGI; the lower your AGI the higher the percentage. For example:

- Single filers with an AGI up to \$17,500 receive a 50 percent credit on the first \$2,000 they contribute (i.e., up to a \$1,000 credit); 20 percent on AGI up to \$19,250 (\$200 credit); and 10 percent on AGI up to \$29,500 (\$100 credit). Anything over \$29,500, you don't qualify.

- For joint filers the credit amount limits are: 50 percent on up to \$35,500 AGI (50% X \$4,000 = \$2,000); 20 percent on up to \$38,500 (\$800); and 10 percent on up to \$59,000 (\$400).

Other eligibility rules:

- You must be at least age 18.
- You can't be claimed as a dependent on someone else's return.

- You can't have been a full-time student during any part of five calendar months in 2013.

- You must contribute to a 401(k) by December 31, 2013, or to an IRA by April 15, 2014.

Important Note: You cannot claim the credit using IRS Form 1040 EZ, the form many lower-income people file. To claim it, you must submit IRS Form 8880 with Form 1040, 1040A or 1040NR. It's a little extra bookkeeping, but could be worth the effort.

Saving money for the future is never easy, especially when you're struggling to pay daily bills. But if you can somehow manage to take advantage of the saver's credit now, you'll thank yourself at retirement.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

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Notice of Public Hearing to Discuss Tornillo Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

Tornillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, Tuesday, October 23, 2013, in the boardroom of the Tornillo Administration Building, at 403 D Oil Mill Road, Tornillo, Texas 79853.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 10/03/13 & 10/10/13



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

To Discuss Socorro Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

Socorro Independent School District will hold a public meeting at:

6:00 PM
October 15, 2013
in the Board Room
District Service Center
12440 Rojas Drive El Paso, Texas 79928

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Socorro Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

The Socorro Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment.

WTCC: 10/03/13 & 10/10/13

Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Canutillo Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

The Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 22, 2013 in the boardroom of the Canutillo ISD Administration Facility, 7965 Aircraft Road, El Paso, Texas.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Canutillo Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 10-03-13 and 10-10-13



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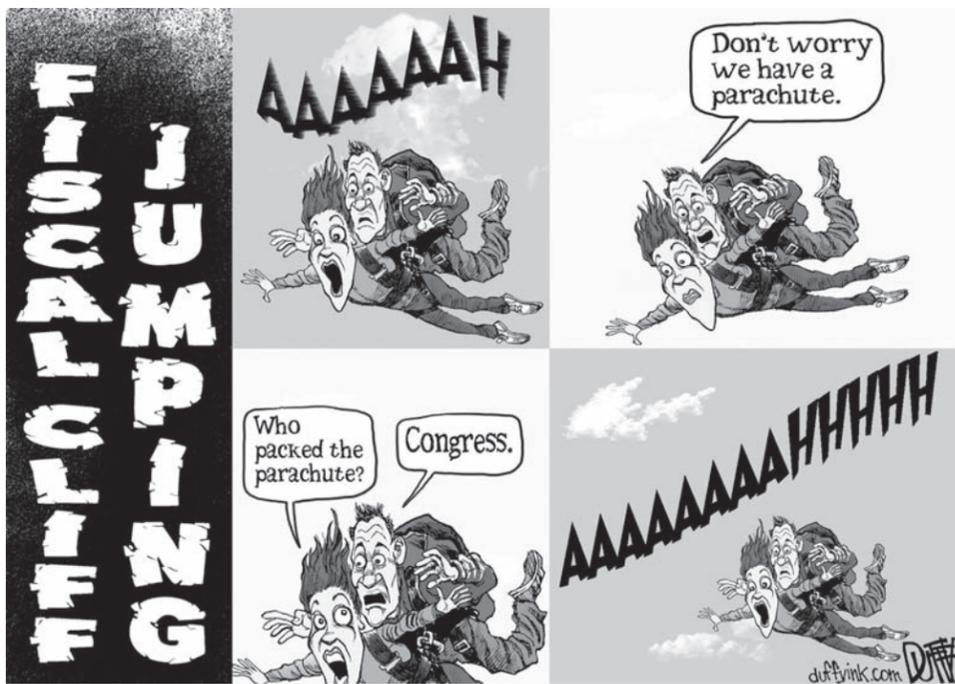
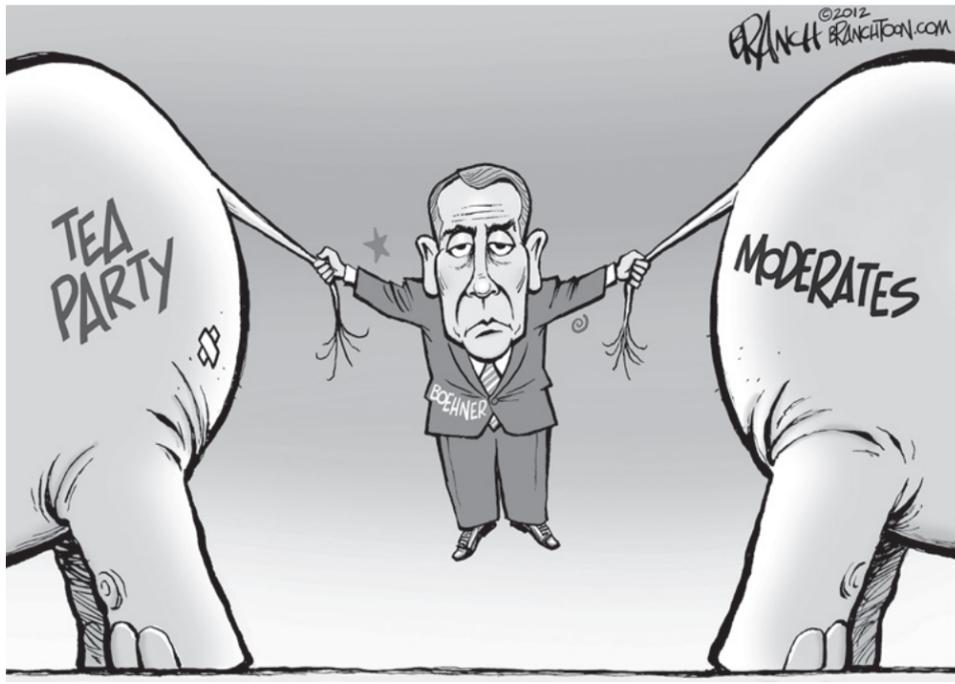
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View from here By Mayor Madeleine Praino, Village of Vinton

Vinton council members agree to leave office

The situation in Vinton and this case was unique. It had all the makings of becoming a historic landmark case in the State of Texas. The facts were clear and resounding and I am disappointed that the District Attorney's Office was not able to handle the case expeditiously because of its uniqueness. There were many times that we felt the injustice being done to the Village of Vinton was ignored in favor of political correctness. While they enjoyed the comforts of a safe home with all the services that the people of Vinton lack, the residents of Vinton continued to suffer with inadequate water supplies, contamination and potential health risks with no relief.

statement gave the impression these council members have been removed from office. The fact is they remain in office until November and have continued with their agenda of disruption and destruction. In any case, I believe Divine justice is greater.

There were a number of officials during this time who attempted to mediate, assist and support Vinton and I am grateful for their compassion and desire to help, such as our county judge, the late commissioner Haggerty and many others.

I would like to thank specifically former State Representative Dee Margo and the current State Representative Joe Moody for their constant support and efforts to provide alternative legal recourses for

the residents of Vinton. It is because of their efforts, and Senator Rodriguez, that there are now two legal remedies for Vinton and other small towns in Texas.

I would also like to thank the members of the press who covered the council meetings throughout the last two years. Without their coverage our plight in Vinton would not have gained the support we needed to weather through.

May this be a hard and valuable lesson for the citizens of Vinton and other voters in the area; their mistake in choosing the wrong people to represent them can have a devastating impact on their lives.

As for Vinton, we will close this difficult chapter in November and look forward to a better future.

Vinton

From Page 1

their agenda of disruption and destruction. In any case, I believe Divine justice is greater," stated Madeleine Praino, Vinton mayor.

"There were a number of officials during this time who attempted to mediate, assist and support Vinton and I am grateful for their compassion and desire to help, such as our county judge, the late commissioner Dan Haggerty and many others," Praino said.

"I would like to thank specifically former State Representative Dee Margo and the

current State Representative Joe Moody for their constant support and efforts to provide alternative legal recourses for the residents of Vinton. It is because of their efforts, and State Senator Jose Rodriguez, that there are now two legal remedies for Vinton and other small towns in Texas," Praino said.

"I would also like to thank the members of the press who covered the council meetings the last two years. Without their coverage our plight in Vinton would not have gained the support we needed to weather through," she added.

Three new council members will take their seats in November. Praino said that they will wait until that happens to pass a budget.

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Archaeology museum offers journey to prehistoric El Paso

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

The public is invited to learn about the prehistoric people of the El Paso and Juarez region in a tour of the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, beginning at 2 p.m., Saturday, October 12. The museum is located in the foothills of the eastern slopes of the Franklin Mountains, at 4301 Transmountain Road.

The free tour will be conducted in Spanish and will be led by the museum's curator, George Maloof, who joined the staff in May and is in charge of the museum's oversight.

Maloof, a New Mexico native with undergraduate degrees in History and Anthropology from Arizona State University and a master's degree from the University of Costa Rica, will guide visitors through a journey that encompasses 14,000 years of El Paso's Indian heritage including the Paleoindians, Archaic hunter-gatherers, Pit Dweller-Horticulturalists, Pueblo, Manso, Piro, Suma, Tigua and Mescalero Apache.

The museum's galleries also include Casas Grandes culture that encompasses the ancient city of Paquimé in Chihuahua and the major regions of ancient Mexico – West, Central, North, Maya, and the Hohokam of ancient Arizona.

The new curator has been an academic researcher as well as



– Photo courtesy of the El Paso Museum of Archaeology

A group of young visitors view the Cliff Dwelling Diorama at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology.

participant in various cultural resource management projects, the most recent being the Diquís Hydroelectric Project, which is currently the largest dam project in Central America. He has also been employed by museums in both Arizona and Costa Rica. His professional interests include Southwest, Mesoamerican and Lower Central American

archaeology, geoarchaeology and the application of remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems use in an archeological context.

Maloof's archaeological work includes sites in Northeastern New Mexico, Central Arizona, Veracruz Mexico, Central El Salvador, and throughout the three principal archaeological

regions of Costa Rica.

For more information about the upcoming tour and the museum, contact Marilyn Guida, the museum's curator of education, at 915-755-4332 or send email to guidamr@elpasotexas.gov. You may also visit the museum's website at www.elpasotexas.gov/arch_museum/.

SISD breaks ground in Sparks

By Christina Flores-Jones
Special to the Courier

The Socorro Independent School District broke ground on Wednesday, Sept. 18 for the second brand new campus to be built from 2011 bond program money – an elementary school in Sparks.

The 46th school in the district, which will be located at 150 Nonap Road, will accommodate an elementary student population of 800. PSRBB Architects is designing the new school. Banes General Contractors will build the new \$18 million facility. The school is scheduled to be completed by July 2014 and be open for students for the 2014-2015 school year.

Bond 2011 includes \$297.4 million of new construction and improvement districtwide. The voter-approved bond program has already added a new elementary and middle combo school, completed Eastlake High School, added three science wings and upgraded and improved 16 existing campuses in SISD. Another elementary school will be built and El Dorado 9th Grade Academy will be converted to Pebble Hills High School in Bond 2011. All projects have been delivered on time and within budget, keeping true to the "Promises Made, Promises Kept" pledge.

Voter ID

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to get one, but these mobile stations will provide improved opportunity to get an EIC closer to home. Only EICs will be issued from these mobile units.

Additionally, DPS offices are offering Saturday hours at nearly 50 driver license sites across the state as part of an ongoing effort to provide EICs to individuals in need of proper identification required to vote in elections in Texas.

Select offices will be open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. through November 2, to allow residents to apply for EICs only. No other transactions will be conducted during Saturday business hours. Furthermore, applicants may apply for an EIC at all Texas driver license offices during regular business hours

Monday through Friday.

To qualify for an EIC, an applicant must bring documentation to the office to verify U.S. citizenship, bring documentation to the office to verify identity, be eligible to vote in Texas, be a Texas resident, and be 17 years and 10 months or older.

The EIC receipt an individual receives will include their photo and can be used for voting until the permanent card is delivered by mail. EICs are valid for six years. There is no expiration date for an EIC for citizens 70 years of age or older. The EIC can only be used for the purpose of voting in an election and may not be used as personal identification.

Texans with a documented disability may apply at their county voter registrar for a permanent exemption from the photo ID requirement. If approved, they will not need a photo ID to vote. Also, if individuals are voting by mail, they

do not have to submit a photo ID.

For more information on voting in Texas, visit the Secretary of State's website at www.votetexas.gov, or call the El Paso County Elections Department at 546-2154.

Briefs

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the back and forearm) striking an artery. The other man also sustained injuries. Charges were filed. In a separate incident in September 2013, Flores and an accomplice violently assaulted an individual in the 3600 block of Saul Kleinfeld. The victim in this incident was struck on the face with a hammer. Charges



Angel Flores

were also filed in this case. Flores knows authorities are looking for him and remains on the run. Law Enforcement Officials are asking the community for assistance in locating Flores. He is to be considered armed and dangerous. If anyone has seen or has any information on the whereabouts of Flores can contact Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension of Flores.

– Javier Sambrano

Mediation

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a signed copy," he related.

According to Gonzalez, mediation works because it is voluntary. "Everyone involved is committed to resolving their differences. With the assistance of impartial mediators, the parties are able to come to an agreement in which everyone wins," Gonzalez asserted.

The resolution center's mediators are highly trained volunteers who have received a minimum of 40 hours in mediation skills development. They are professionals from a variety of fields, including education,

business, law, government and human services, Gonzalez explained.

A mediation session usually costs about \$20; however, if an individual or party has already filed a lawsuit, the center's services are free.

EPCDRC is a project of El Paso County and the Rio Grande Council of Governments, paid for through a special fund administered by El Paso County.

For more information about this county service, interested individuals may call 533-0998, 546-8189, or may come by the El Paso County Dispute Resolution Center offices, which are located inside Patriot Plaza, at 8037 Lockheed Drive, Suite 100.

Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Fabens Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating (FIRST)

The Fabens Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 16, 2013 in the boardroom of the Fabens ISD Administration Building, 821 NE "G" Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Fabens Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/26/13 & 10/03/13

Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Clint Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

Clint Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:00 PM, Thursday, October 17, 2013, in the Central Office Board Room, 14521 Horizon Blvd., El Paso, Texas 79928.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Clint Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/26/13 & 10/03/13

Really, mate, American football overseas is a bad idea

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

There's an old saying that I learned a long time ago, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Obviously, if something is working just fine and isn't giving you any problems – why try to fix it. There's nothing to fix.

In fact, if something is working just fine, fiddling with it might cause some serious problems.

Very true – but that hasn't stopped the guys at the very top of the NFL food chain from tinkering with their product, which is doing just fine.

Everyone knows the NFL is the most popular sport in these United States.

If you don't believe me, go to your nearest supermarket on Sunday morning and count the number of people you see wearing a team jersey with a cart full of chicken wings, hamburger meat or hot dogs buns.

Oh, and they may also have a case or two of beer tucked away in their cart as well.

With that kind of a following you would

think that the NFL would be very careful not to rock their money-making boat.

But over the last five years or so the league has begun to fiddle with their product.

Since as long as humans began recording what is now called "history", the gladiator mentally has existed. We humans love the whole idea of mortal combat.

It's buried deeply into our DNA. We love to watch two guys, or two teams, go at it in competition of some kind.

Of course there was a time that the loser would pay with his life. These days, the loser pays by only being to afford just one Lamborghini.

A few years ago the league started messing with the most popular aspect of the game, hard hitting. Football fans just love a hard hit that sends a player's limbs in one direction while his body is forced in another.

While I think every fan hates a cheap shot and is glad that is being forced out of the game, the fact that a clean hard hit is often flagged (many times incorrectly as shown on the replay) shows that the game is going in a dangerous direction.

We all know that the NFL just paid out a significant amount of money to former players who claimed the league withheld information it had on the affects of concussions.

The settlement from the players' class-action lawsuit has made the league leery of what other liability they could incur in the future.

So the league is trying to make any kind of angry hit illegal.

It's like the government's knee-jerk reactions to any complaint Americans may have about anything. They'll pass the dumbest laws if it'll give the illusion that they care and are doing something to appease the masses.

Now the commissioner, Roger Goodell, is talking about putting a team in England.

Why in the world does the NFL need a team in England? Oh I know – it doesn't.

Can you imagine playing for the England TeaSippers, or Killer Bobbies, or Fighting Fish Chippers or whatever they'd call themselves; think of the traveling they'd have to do for their eight road games in the states.

The logistics are mind-boggling and totally unnecessary. And what players would like to

move their families to a foreign country for five months out of the year.

Well, maybe if they put a team in the Bahamas.

Another thing the NFL is thinking about is expanding the playoff system.

There are 32 teams in the league. Twelve teams advance to the playoffs right now. That is a perfect number.

What do fans complain about most with the NBA and the NHL? There are too many teams in the playoffs and the postseason is way too long.

The NFL is thinking about adding two more teams to the playoff mix, raising the number to 14. We're getting dangerously close to half the teams in the league qualifying for the playoffs.

In any sport, the playoffs should be reserved only for the very best in the league.

The NFL had better take some lessons from ancient Rome, Mike Tyson, the Titanic, Goliath, Phi Slama Jama and Adolph Hitler, among many others.

At one time they too all were considered unbeatable.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

The elevator story

"The Dean Martin Show" used to have a novel way of introducing guests.

"Dean was famous for not wanting to work too hard... it was part of his charm," a gentleman remarked to me during an elevator ride. He saw I had a copy of "Dean and Me" by Jerry Lewis, and said he was one of the show's producers once upon a time.

"He would come in one day and shoot half of the season's shows over the course of about eight hours... so we would have to get all the scripts prepared, have all the entertainers ready to go that day, and it wasn't always easy. Sometimes we'd be running around the back lots of the studio, grabbing any celebrity we could get our hands on and taking them right over, while we were

shooting!

"We'd put them behind the door of Dean's 'bachelor pad' set, and he would open it and act all surprised by who was on the other end, only it wasn't an act... he was really surprised. We would pray he would recognize the other person, but he always did, thankfully."

The story checks out, but it doesn't really matter... it's all part of Hollywood lore, and besides, everyone has that "elevator story" – the time the door opened to reveal a sports star or celebrity or rich investor, etc. Here's one that may or may not have happened:

The elevator door of a Los Angeles hotel opens to reveal a stocky man with a golden coiff in a white turtleneck and navy-blue sport jacket. The two young, long-haired men – one of them swigging from a beer bottle – immediately recognize him as the 51-year-old owner of the New York Yankees, George Steinbrenner. The Yankees have lost three straight games to the Dodgers in the World Series, and the guy wearing the Dodger hat decides to get fresh.

"The Yankees are a bunch of chokers," he chuckles. "And they play for a bunch of animals in New York."

"[Bleep] you, buddy," Steinbrenner cracks from the side of his mouth, not making eye contact. The guy with the bottle cheapshots him, wacking him in the head with it. Enraged, Steinbrenner

reels around and clocks him in the mouth with a left uppercut. As he crumbles to the floor, Steinbrenner throws two right hooks to the other miscreant's face. He hits the deck, too. Steinbrenner tidies up his jacket and hair and walks out into the lobby to meet his wife for dinner, leaving the two wallowing in a pool of blood and cracked teeth... but only after he has a press conference to show his arm in a cast.

"There are two guys in this town looking for their teeth," Steinbrenner said.

Funny thing is, we're still looking for those guys. They've never been heard from again. Looks like they were the real quitters after all.

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

UTEP FOOTBALL
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THE KUGLER ERA
GAME DAY ENTERTAINMENT
UTEP VS
LA TECH
10.05 | 5:30 PM

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SOCCER

ALL GAMES LISTED ON UNIVERSITY FIELD

UTEP VS RICE | SEPT. 27 | 7 PM
UTEP VS SOUTHERN MISS | SEPT. 29 | NOON

VOLLEYBALL

ALL GAMES LISTED AT MEMORIAL GYM

UTEP VS FLORIDA ATLANTIC | OCT. 4 | 7 PM
UTEP VS FIU | OCT. 6 | NOON



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

CLASSIFIED AD FORM

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

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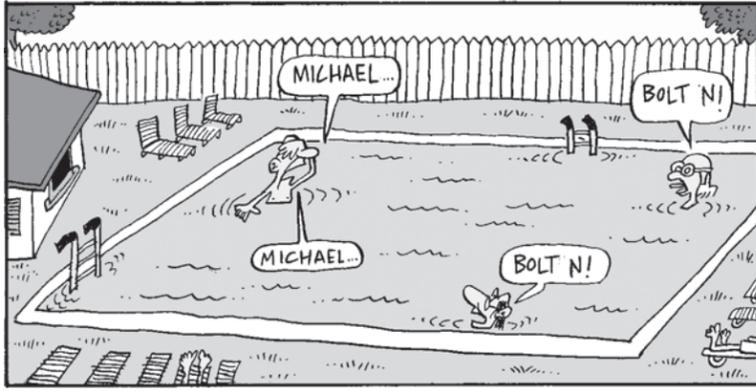
Deadline: Mondays
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Horizon City, TX 79928

Contact Information:

Name: _____
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



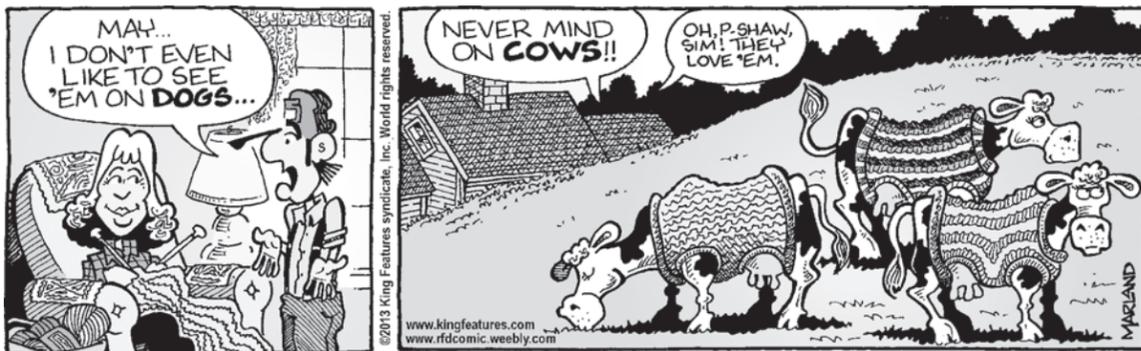
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Your good health By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My question is about taking blood pressure readings. I am 87 years old, female, about 5 feet, 5 inches tall and weigh about 130 pounds. When I go for a checkup with my general practitioner, the nurse takes my blood pressure before I see the doctor. The cuff feels comfortable, and the reading is always in the normal range. I have had my blood pressure checked at other places (clinics, etc.) and usually the cuff is inflated very tight (so tight that it hurts) and the reading is very high. If the cuff is inflated too tightly, could it cause a high reading? – I.S.

nurse who takes blood pressure readings every day is not likely to make errors consistently. You can ask your doctor to double-check the nurse's reading.

High blood pressure is one of the most common ailments for the general population. The booklet on it describes what it does and how it's treated. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donahue – No. 104W, 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.

High blood pressure is one of the most common medical conditions, and correct treatment of blood pressure is essential in order to reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke. It is not uncommon for blood pressure to vary from day to day, or even during a single day, but the changes you describe suggest two possibilities.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Have you ever heard of this? Fifteen minutes after taking a shower, I start itching, and the itch lasts about 20 minutes. It doesn't matter if I use hot or cold water. What is this? – O.J.

The first is that the reading at your own doctor's office is right, and the other places are wrong, which is probably the most likely. Having blood pressure tested in a new place or by someone you don't know certainly can cause the reading to be elevated. Automated blood pressure cuffs in pharmacies, etc., are sometimes right but often are wrong – occasionally spectacularly. A very high pressure in the cuff, high enough to cause pain, can cause the blood pressure to go up, but not usually high enough to put people into the hypertensive range.

I'm not sure. It might be aquagenic pruritus. "Pruritus" is the medical word for itchiness. Pretreatment with an antihistamine before showering can sometimes prevent the itching. Take it about an hour before you shower. Tiny hives also break out on the skin. They may be so tiny you can't see them, or they may be in places where you can't see them. I don't know if I'm correct. Aquagenic pruritus is so rare that I never expected to hear anyone complain of it. Get this confirmed by a dermatologist.

Another possibility is that the nurse in your doctor's office isn't inflating the cuff high enough to get the correct reading, or deflating the cuff too quickly. The wrong-size cuff can lead to large errors in blood pressure readings. While all of these are possible, a trained

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

SOMETHING IN COMMON ACROSS

- 1 Move belly-up on all fours
- 9 Take _ (do some traveling)
- 14 Capital of Tanzania
- 20 Restricted zone
- 21 Espresso with steamed milk
- 22 Reaming appliance
- 23 One using a spare bedroom
- 25 New York's _ Island
- 26 Minister to
- 27 Scottish refusal
- 28 Metalliferous rock
- 30 Quiver
- 31 Gloria of pop
- 35 Surf zone sights
- 39 Bicycle spokes, e.g.
- 41 With 3-Down, many a tax auditor
- 42 Inventors of new words
- 43 What many corporations are listed on
- 49 Trio after K
- 50 Angels' rings
- 51 Poetic dusk
- 52 Husband of Sarah Palin
- 54 Droid or iPhone, e.g.
- 57 9-Down seaport
- 58 Lions lie in it
- 59 "Filthy" gain
- 61 Retro hairstyles
- 63 Strike and ball caller
- 64 It's smart to back this up
- 68 19th-century king of Sweden and Norway
- 70 Sothern of "Maisie"
- 71 Butterfly's title
- 72 People who call without being asked
- 77 Prefix with car or law
- 79 "Soap Talk" co-host Lisa
- 80 _ to go (fired up)
- 81 Kind of PC monitor
- 82 Stratford's river
- 83 Hang behind
- 84 UPI bulletin
- 85 Pollen carrier
- 86 Capitol body
- 88 Good bud
- 90 Daytona 500 entries, e.g.
- 94 Tiny air sacs in the lungs
- 98 OPEC supply
- 99 Toughen, as to hardship
- 100 Loud couple in a marching band
- 104 Artificial fat
- 108 They require double reeds
- 109 It's all wet

- 110 Missions, for short
- 112 Rail supports
- 113 Italian-style ice cream
- 115 What this puzzle's seven longest answers have in common
- 121 High dice roll
- 122 Bird claw
- 123 Priced separately, as 46-Down items
- 124 Nitrate and nitrite, e.g.
- 125 Actor Edward James _
- 126 Phys ed

DOWN

- 1 10 sawbucks
- 2 Gads about
- 3 See 41-Across
- 4 Abuts
- 5 Obi_ Kenobi
- 6 NPR's Shapiro
- 7 Drumstick
- 8 Madeline of "Clue"
- 9 Like Casbah natives
- 10 Hellenic "T"
- 11 Hwy.
- 12 "There, there"
- 13 _ dish
- 14 45 spinners
- 15 Defeat in a pool race
- 16 "Julia" star Carroll
- 17 Scale range
- 18 Less bold
- 19 James of westerns
- 24 Diner bill
- 29 Env. addition
- 32 Lot in life
- 33 Fusses
- 34 Actor Cage, to friends
- 36 Transgress
- 37 Request
- 38 Victor's color
- 40 " _ Forgettin' " (1982 pop hit)
- 43 "How Great _ Art"
- 44 Goddess of concord
- 45 Sliding by
- 46 Eatery list
- 47 Aquatint, e.g.
- 48 War film, when tripled
- 53 Actor Mulroney
- 54 Of the earliest ages
- 55 Pigeon shed
- 56 Ending for enzymes
- 58 Chemist Mendeleev
- 59 Red Square honoree
- 60 Banquet coffeepots
- 61 Uses a "+"
- 62 Italian monk
- 64 Vena -
- 65 "..._quit!"
- 66 Rikki-tikki_
- 67 Women's patriotic org.
- 69 It aired "Crossfire"
- 72 Google find
- 73 Work to get
- 74 Actress _ de
- Matteo
- 75 Wine cooler
- 76 Rome's _ Fountain
- 78 Snake eyes
- 82 Of one's forebears
- 84 Dog relative
- 85 Gets bloated
- 86 Torah locale
- 87 Emerald Isle
- 88 Deprive (of)
- 89 Farm alarm?
- 91 Weep
- 92 U.S. spy org.
- 93 Brian of rock
- 94 Orbital point
- 95 Stereotypes
- 96 Bluish-purple
- 97 Suffix with robot or poet
- 101 _ come (in the future)
- 102 Taj _
- 103 UV ray-blocking stat
- 105 Pageant crown
- 106 Takes ten
- 107 Embers
- 111 Male caribou
- 114 Roll_ (deodorants)
- 116 A hardwood
- 117 "_-hoo!"
- 118 Bridge writer Culbertson
- 119 "Rambo" site
- 120 CL doubled

Answer Page 4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20								21					22					
23								24					25					
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63				64	65				66				67					
	68		69						70				71					
72							73	74			75	76				77	78	
79							80				81				82			
83						84					85			86	87			
				88	89			90	91	92			93					
94	95	96					97			98			99					
100							101	102			103		104			105	106	107
108							109				110		111			112		
113					114		115	116	117				118	119	120			
121							122						123					
124							125						126					

Moore Texas by Roger Moore James Swann, an artist famous worldwide for his etching style, was born near Merkel Texas in 1905 .



Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: What is the difference between Social Security disability and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability?

A: Social Security administers two major programs that pay disability benefits. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) payments are based on your work and earnings, while SSI disability payments are based on financial need. Both disability programs require that you have a severe medical impairment that prevents you from working for at least a year or is expected to result in death.

Social Security taxes are paid by workers, employers, and self-employed persons. These taxes fund disability benefits under SSDI. To be eligible for a Social Security benefit, you must earn enough credits to be insured. We pay disability benefits to blind or disabled workers, widow(er)s, or adults disabled since childhood who are otherwise eligible. We base monthly disability benefits on the Social Security earnings record of the insured worker.

SSI is a program financed through general revenues, not Social Security taxes. We pay SSI disability benefits to adults or children who are disabled or blind, have limited income and resources, meet the living arrangement requirements,

and are otherwise eligible. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: I applied for a Social Security card for my baby at the hospital, but the card came back with the wrong name. What do I do?

A: This is very rare, but if it does happen, go to your local Social Security office or card center. We need to see original documents proving your child's:

- U.S. citizenship;
- Age; and
- Identity.

If you corrected the child's birth certificate, we will want to see that. We also will need to see a document proving your identity. All documents must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. We cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents. To learn what documents we will accept, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

Q: Are Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits subject to federal income tax?

A: No. SSI payments are not subject to federal taxes. However, if you also receive Social Security benefits, those benefits may be subject to income taxes. Learn more about SSI

by visiting our publications library at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs and selecting the "SSI" topic on the left.

For more information on any of the questions, 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, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It was Albert Einstein who made the following sage observation: "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle."

• Many people believe that one should never remove one's wedding ring. However, one superstition holds that doing so is perfectly acceptable – as long as the ring is being used to ward off a witch.

• There's nothing surprising about the fact that upon the death of British novelist, poet and essayist D.H. Lawrence, the author's body was cremated. What is unusual is that, at Lawrence's request, his ashes were mixed into the plaster used to build the D.H. Lawrence Ranch in Questa, N.M.

• As Halloween approaches, if you live in New Jersey, Pennsylvania or Iowa, you might want to keep in mind your state's tax policy. If you're buying a pumpkin to carve into a jack-o'-lantern, you'll need to pay tax on the gourd. Pumpkins used for food purposes, however, are subject to no such tax.

• In 2009, a Saudi couple who had spent their honeymoon in Malaysia encountered difficulty on the return flight home. It seems that the groom felt the bride was taking too long in the airport restroom, so he boarded the flight back to Saudi Arabia before she did. When he allowed the plane to leave without her, she insisted on an immediate divorce.

• The next time you've enjoyed a happy hour out with friends, you might want to consider the virtually unknown adjective "gambrinous," which means "to be content and happy due to a stomach full of beer."

Thought for the Day: "My advice to you is to get married. If you find a good wife, you'll be happy; if not, you'll become a philosopher."

– Socrates

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

	-		x		7
x		x		+	
	÷		+		4
-		-		÷	
	-		x		10
10		3		2	

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 W

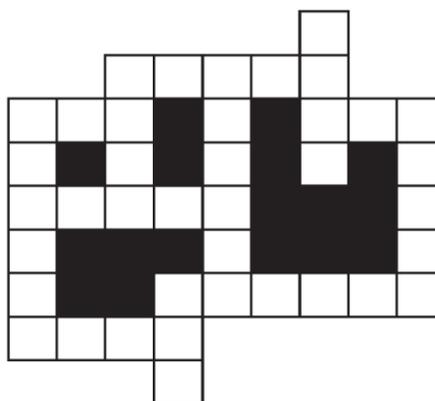
DPJV EZDKJGX QMO UPGIFAP
LIFGU XJXXMIVX GZOMCEK, M
AFJXX UPJK LIFEC NJ LZEEJC
UGMZE NEZQJGX.

Answer Page 4

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- GEB
- TREHIZ
- TBICU
- BHOO
- ULNTEN
- OZO
- ♥RBDA
- ♥RETHA
- ♥RCA
- GLITBH
- ♥HONTR
- EARZ



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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