



NEWSBRIEFS

FAFSA nights

El Paso Community College (EPCC) has partnered with The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce to assist students and families afford college. Beginning February 3rd and continuing into March, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., financial aid experts will visit the computer labs of 47 area high schools to help students and parents complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and be available for questions. The University of Texas-Ray Marshall Center found that filling out a FAFSA increases your chances of enrolling in college by 350%. Every year, billions of dollars are available in federal grants, work-study positions, and loans to millions of students to help pay for college or technical school by making it possible and affordable. For a complete list of the days and which schools will be visited, go to www.epcc.edu/financialaid. For more information, contact Raul Lerma at (915) 831-2565.

— Jim Heiney

Career expo

The Career Services Department of El Paso Community College (EPCC) will hold its annual Career Expo from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2014 at the EPCC Valle Verde Campus Cafeteria Annex, 919 Hunter Dr. The event is free and open to the public. Career Expo 2014 offers students and individuals interested in pursuing higher education the opportunity to explore different programs available at EPCC. Over 25 EPCC program representatives will be providing career information to EPCC students and community members. The EPCC Career Services Department provides awareness of career options, career guidance and promotes lifelong career management. For more information, contact Carla Cardoza at (915) 831-2638 or visit www.epcc.edu/careerservices.

— Jim Heiney

Wanted

A man is believed to be responsible for two armed robberies at convenience stores in east El Paso. Surveillance cameras captured the man in both robberies and now investigators from the El Paso Police Department are asking for the public's assistance in identifying him through Crime Stoppers. The first robbery took place on New Year's at 5:37 a.m., at the Circle K located at 1471 N. Zaragoza. In this case the suspect walked into the business and began to walk toward



See BRIEFS, Page 3

It may be true that to err is human, but to remain in error is stupid.

— Quips & Quotes

Longtime San Elizario ISD athletics director retires

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Bernie Del Hierro could not have imagined having any other job other than the one he ended up with at the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) for the past 18 years. On December 31, Del Hierro officially retired from his longtime position as the Athletics Director for the district. In his capacity with the district he was single handedly responsible for the management of all activities related to district sports teams. Del Hierro has no definitive plans for the next phase of his life but is excited that the door is open for many possibilities.

"I could not have scripted my time at San Elizario any better. It was an enjoyable and great job in a great district," Del Hierro said.

Del Hierro was on board to see different sports programs such as tennis and soccer flourish in SEISD. He was instrumental in

recruiting coaches to the district, upgrading equipment and facilities, and securing resources for the various teams. Despite all of his professional accomplishments, Del Hierro states that what he will miss the most will be the student athletes. He added that he enjoyed witnessing the growth and successes of those students and getting to know them and their families over the years. Students like Victoria Valencia who went on to play Division I volleyball with a scholarship to the University of Texas at El Paso. Those relationships are what also brought him the greatest sense of fulfillment.

SEISD honored Del Hierro at its regular board meeting last month recognizing his contributions and commitment to the district and all of its sports programs.

"He has impacted many student athletes

and coaches over the years, and I know all of us want to wish him well in a new chapter in his life," Superintendent Sylvia Hopp stated.

Before beginning his tenure with the SEISD almost two decades ago, Del Hierro served as a bilingual teacher in the Socorro Independent School District for six years. Becoming a teacher was a major career shift for Del Hierro who had worked in pharmaceutical sales for 15 years prior to getting his alternative teaching certification and going into education. He also has over 40 years experience as a sports official and belongs to the Texas Association of Sports Officials. Del Hierro is married to Terry Lopez and has three children Michael who is 8 years old, Danielle who is 12 years old, and Bernardo Mario who works for W. Silver, Inc.



Bernie Del Hierro

Facility to provide foundation for international transportation hub

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

SANTA TERESA – A \$400 million Union Pacific railroad facility is rapidly take root in the sprawling desert lands of New Mexico near the border town of Santa Teresa (about 25 miles west of downtown El Paso).

Union Pacific spokesman Aaron Hunt stated recently that the railroad yard project near the

communities of Santa Teresa and San Jeronimo is ahead of schedule and that the facility could be operational before the end of the year.

Hunt reported that more than 50 contractors are involved in the project, that forty percent of the current subcontractors are New Mexico-based with most of the others from Texas. He stated that there is an average of 250 workers on site daily.

Development in the Santa Teresa-San Jeronimo region started after the Santa Teresa

Port of Entry opened in 1993. The New Mexico Border Authority said last year that the port of entry processed more than 81,000 commercial trucks – 13 percent higher than any year on record.

The region's growth has been a keystone to plans by Gov. Susana Martinez for New Mexico economic expansion.

According to local officials, however, it is

See HUB, Page 4



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

MAKING GOOD TIME – Construction of the Union Pacific rail yard, above, is ahead of schedule with the mechanical, electrical, architectural and engineering work expected to be completed in the coming year. The multi-million dollar railroad project near Santa Teresa, NM would not likely have happened if not for legislation passed under both New Mexico Governors Bill Richardson and Susana Martinez to provide a tax exemption for locomotive fuel.

Archaeologist to shed light on prehistoric cultures of the southwest

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Archaeological studies of communities such as Kayenta of northeast Arizona and Hohokam of southern Arizona are providing a new understanding of how different groups adjust to each other as they attempt to occupy the same geographic area.

To highlight these recent studies, the El Paso Museum of Archaeology will host a special presentation, entitled *Prehistoric Migrants and Mounds Archaeology of the San Pedro Valley, Southeast Arizona*, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.,

Saturday, Jan. 25 at the archaeology museum, 4301 Transmountain Road. The event is free and open to the public.

Guest speaker for the presentation is Arizona archaeologist Dr. Jeffrey Clark, who will speak on his recent research on relationships among

See CULTURES, Page 2

— Photo courtesy of Arizona State Museum

HANDLE WITH CARE – This Salado polychrome vessel was made by Kayenta descendants. The artifact has strong appeal for its Mesoamerican artwork of serpents, birds, and bird-serpents.



Finances

By Jason Alderman

A guide to managing someone else’s finances

Anyone who’s ever been asked to step in and manage their parents’ or someone else’s personal finances can tell you that it’s an awesome responsibility – and by “awesome,” I don’t mean “totally cool.” It’s more like “inspiring an overwhelming feeling of fear.” (Thank you, Dictionary.com.)

In recognition that millions of Americans act as fiduciaries (i.e., manage money or property) for loved ones, often with no formal training or expertise, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has created four, easy-to-understand caregiver guides called “Managing Someone Else’s Money” (at www.consumerfinance.gov).

CFPB Director Richard Cordray notes that there are 50 million older Americans – and millions of aging baby boomers are rapidly approaching retirement. Some 22 million people over 60 have already given someone power of attorney to make their financial decisions, and millions of others – including younger disabled adults – have court-appointed guardians or other fiduciaries. “In order to protect our seniors, we must educate the caregiver generation,” he explains.

Sometimes that means learning more about the financial products and services available to seniors to help them make informed choices. But often, it’s the caregivers themselves who must make critical decisions – whether they’ve got power of attorney for a parent with Alzheimer’s or have been tapped to manage Social Security benefits for a disabled friend.

The CFPB guides are geared toward people in four different fiduciary capacities:

- Someone has granted you “power of attorney” to make money and property decisions on his or her behalf.
- “Court-appointed guardian,” where a court appoints you guardian over a person’s money and property when they can’t manage it themselves.
- You’re named as “trustee” under someone’s revocable living trust and have decision-making powers over the trust’s assets.
- “Government fiduciary,” where you’ve been appointed by the government to manage someone’s Social Security or Veterans Administration income benefits.

The CFPB cites four main

responsibilities for fiduciaries:

- Act in the person’s best interest. For example, a fiduciary shouldn’t loan or give the person’s money to themselves or others and should avoid other conflicts of interest. The guides provide examples of actions that may pose conflicts.
- Manage money and property carefully. This includes paying bills on time, protecting unspent funds, investing carefully, and maintaining a list of all monies, properties and debts.
- Keep your money and property separate. This means paying the person’s expenses from his or her own funds, and avoiding joint accounts.
- Maintain good records: Keep detailed lists of money received or spent on the person’s behalf, avoid paying in cash in order to have a record of purchases, and keep all receipts.

The guides walk caregivers through their fiduciary responsibilities and provide practical money-management ideas, such as what sorts of records you should keep, how to interact with banks and other professionals on their behalf, and suggestions for avoiding conflicts with family members and friends who disagree with your actions.

They also provide tips for spotting financial exploitation and avoiding scams. As Cordray notes, seniors “make attractive targets because they often have tangible household wealth – whether it is in retirement savings or home equity – but they may be isolated or lonely or otherwise susceptible to being influenced by a

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

VA deals with rising sexual trauma cases

The U.S. Code is specific about what constitutes military sexual trauma (MST). It covers physical assault of a sexual nature, battery of a sexual nature or sexual harassment. The harassment can be verbal or physical. Those who experience it can be either male or female.

The number of reported cases has risen dramatically, and the powers-that-be say it’s because more incidents are being reported. Or could it be that the actual number of assaults has gone up? The answer remains to be seen.

The bottom line is this: If you were subjected to sexual assault while on active duty, get help. You owe it to yourself, and whether or not you have another claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs, your treatment and services will be free. Left unaddressed, the past assault can result in future mental-health issues, including PTSD.

Go online to www.mentalhealth.va.gov/msthome.asp and click on VA Programs & Services tab. You’ll find information on outpatient care, inpatient care and screening.

Look also for the link to benefits

related to military sexual trauma. If you didn’t report the assault at the time and wonder how you’ll prove it, get treatment and file anyway. The VA has learned how to spot the “markers” for assault. Maybe you put in for a transfer, or maybe you sought tests for sexually transmitted diseases. That’s evidence. Maybe you talked to the chaplain or a friend. Even if your only sign is panic attacks that appeared for no apparent reason, that’s still a marker that the VA will pay attention to.

Every regional office has MST specialists. Women Veterans Coordinators are available to help file claims as well. To find your regional office, call 1-800-827-1000.

If you know someone who experienced military sexual assault, give him or her this information.

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) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

Notice of Public Hearing Tornillo Independent School District

Tornillo Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District’s 2012-2013 Texas Academic Performance Report (TARP). The meeting will be held at 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 22, 2014 in the High School Cafeteria, 430-D Oil Mill Rd., Tornillo TX.

The public is invited to attend. For more information, call 915-765-3000.

WTCC: 01 -16-14

Cultures

From Page 1

two unrelated ancient communities, the Kayenta of northeast Arizona who migrated into southern Arizona, which was home of the Hohokam at the time.

Clark stated that he has been conducting excavations and research in southern and central Arizona and southwest New Mexico for more than twenty years, focusing on the late pre-contact period (A.D. 1200-1450). He has also worked extensively in Southwest Asia, including Israel, Syria, and Iraq. He stated that his primary research interest is assessing the scale and impact of migration using archaeological data.

According to Clark, several thousand Kayenta natives left their homeland during the late

13th century A.D. never to return. Some of these groups traveled over 300 miles by foot to reach the river valleys of southern Arizona. These valleys, however, were already occupied by established irrigation communities associated with the Hohokam culture.

Clark explained that although the Kayenta were an immigrant minority, their strong identity and attractive ideology gave them power disproportionate to their numbers. Clark related that initially relations between immigrant and local groups were tense with immigrants building walled enclaves and local groups aggregating into large villages and constructing platform mounds to mark their territory.

Clark pointed out that over the long run, frequent interaction between the

two groups resulted in a hybrid culture and an inclusive religion that archaeologists call the Salado. He noted that Salado pottery is found in ancient sites of the Jornada Mogollon region, where

El Paso is now located. For more information about the upcoming presentation, call Marilyn Guida, museum education curator, at (915) 755-4332 or send email to guidamr@elpasotexas.gov.



– Photo courtesy of Archaeology Southwest

DIGGING IT – Jeffery Clark, Ph.D. is a preservation archaeologist for Archaeology Southwest, a non-profit organization based in Tucson. Clark received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Cornell University and masters and doctoral degrees in Anthropology from the University of Arizona.

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41
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TAHC revisits prohibition of dairy cattle

By Bonnie Ramirez
Special to the Courier

WEST TEXAS – The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) will have field personnel working in portions of El Paso and Hudspeth counties in the coming months conducting a Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) risk assessment of livestock and wildlife. A law passed during the 83rd Texas Legislative Session authored by State Representatives Mary González and Poncho Nevárez and sponsored by State Senator José Rodríguez, directed the TAHC to conduct a study to determine the current risk level for Bovine TB in the area.

The ultimate goal of the study is for the TAHC to reconsider the current prohibition of dairy cattle in parts of El Paso and Hudspeth counties, in a report to be completed by September 1, 2014. The original prohibition on dairy cattle in the region was implemented by the TAHC in 2003 as a result of recurring and long term TB infection in local dairies, and the loss of Texas’ TB Free designation by USDA. Approximately 12,000 head of cattle

in 10 dairies were located in the El Paso milk shed prior to the prohibition.

Tuberculosis testing of susceptible livestock will be an essential part of the risk assessment process. Testing of all cattle in the existing high-risk area, along with representative sampling of small ruminants (goats/sheep), swine, and selected wildlife is scheduled to begin February 3, 2014. Dairy cattle near the high-risk area will be tested as well.

Agency representatives will hold two informational public meetings prior to the beginning of the testing. Texas Animal Health Commission representatives will provide key information regarding the disease, testing, and the overall risk assessment process. El Paso and Hudspeth County livestock owners, veterinarians, and stakeholders are encouraged to attend the meetings. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 5:30 p.m. in Hudspeth County at the Community Center/ Building, 561 S. Knox, Fort Hancock, Texas. The second meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 22 in El Paso County at 9:00 a.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center, 1380 A&M Circle, El Paso, Texas.

Briefs

From Page 1

the clerk. The clerk noticed that the suspect was following her and she tried to run to the office. The suspect ran after her and threatened her with a knife while demanding money. The suspect also demanded a package of cigarettes. The second robbery took place on Wednesday January 8, 2014 at 1:02 a.m. at the Seven Eleven Store located at 1330 N. Zaragoza. In this case the suspect walked to the restroom and waited for a customer to leave. Once the clerk was alone the suspect exited and displayed a weapon described as an ice pick. The suspect threatened the clerk and demanded money from the register and a package of cigarettes. The suspect is described as an Hispanic male between his late 20s to his early 30s. The suspect attempted to conceal his identity by using a baseball cap and hooded jacket. If you have any information at all about a suspect in this case, contact Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-8477(TIPS), on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org or you can send a text message by entering the key word “CRIME1” (no space and include the quotation marks) plus your tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637). You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

– Javier Sambrano

Wanted 2

This week’s Crime Spot involves a man that is believed to have been involved in a stabbing on the morning of January 1, 2014 in Northeast El Paso. The man was captured

on surveillance video and investigators from the El Paso Police Department are asking for the community’s assistance in identifying them through Crime Stoppers. On the early morning of Wednesday, January 1, 2014, at 1:45 a.m., an argument escalated to a fight between two different groups of men at the Circle K store located at 4501 Woodrow Bean. The men began to fight outside and during that fight one of the men produced a knife that resulted in 20-year-old man and a 23-year-old man being stabbed and hospitalized. The fight also left three other men with injuries however they did not require medical attention. The suspect on the video is described as heavy set Hispanic male, with a mustache and wearing a blue Los Angeles Dodgers jacket and a dark colored baseball cap. The suspect is believed to have been driving a tan or gold late 90s or early 2000 Ford Explorer. Anyone with any information on the identity of the individual captured on video, is asked to call Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-8477(TIPS), on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org or you can send a text message by entering the key word “CRIME1” (no space and include the quotation marks) plus your tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637). You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

– Javier Sambrano



The Olympic Flame



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

TAKING SHAPE – The new Union Pacific railroad facility is coming and with it are more jobs and housing in the area. The railroad company is expected to employ about 600 people by 2025. A new 56-room hotel with a 24-hour diner is scheduled to be open in Santa Teresa. An Oak Tree Inn and a Penny’s diner will go up near the facility.

Hub

From Page 1

critical that funding be provided for the local roads needed to support the facility, especially with the site set

Classified Ads

LEGALS

*Sandra Hernandez
City Clerk*

City of Socorro

Adoption of Ordinances

On January 2, 2014 the City of Socorro, Texas adopted the following ordinance(s):

1) Ordinance 325, an Ordinance changing the zoning of TRACTS 1A, 1B, 1C, 1C1, 1D, 2A, 2C, AND 2E, BLOCK 10, and TRACTS 5A, 5B, 6A, AND 7B1, BLOCK 11, SOCORRO GRANT, from A-1 (Agricultural) to a combination of R-2 (Medium Density Residential) and C-2 (General Commercial).

The Ordinance(s) effective date is immediately upon adoption and publication.

Published by order of the City Council of the City of Socorro, Texas

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

MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK
Position available at the Town of Anthony, Texas. Must have experience. Pick up application at 401 Wildcat Dr., Anthony, Texas. 40 hour work week. 915-886-3944. m/f/eo

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this year. Consequently, Doña Ana County commissioners will request \$2.3 million in capital outlay funding from the NM Legislature for improvements to Airport Road, a main artery in the Santa Teresa industrial park.

It’s just part of what will eventually be needed to provide

local access between the rail hub and the manufacturers servicing it, Jerry Pacheco, of the Santa Teresa-based Border Industrial Association, told reporters recently. He stated that funding will also be needed for Industrial Drive, another main thoroughfare in the area.

Anthony Independent School District Notice of Public Hearing

Anthony Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District’s 2012-2013 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) as part of the regular monthly School Board meeting, which is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at the Anthony ISD Board Room, 813 Sixth Street, Anthony, TX.

The public is invited to attend. The TAPR report will also be available for review after the hearing at all Anthony ISD campuses, central office, and the district website.

For more information, call 886-6506.

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony Junta Publica

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar sobre el “Reporte de Rendimiento Académica de Texas” (TAPR) del año escolar 2012-2013. El reporte será parte de la reunión mensual de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para de 2014 el miércoles 22 de enero a las 6:00 p.m. en el auditorio de la escuela preparatoria en la calle Sixth Street #813, Anthony, TX.

Todos los individuos interesados están invitados a asistir. El reporte TAPR estará disponible después de la reunión en todas las escuelas del distrito, en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas, e internet del distrito.

Para mas información, favor de llamar al 886-6506.

WTCC: 01-16-14

The Union Pacific facility itself is expected to employ about 600 people by 2025, and that doesn’t count the other businesses expected to develop around the rail yard.

The new railroad plant already has attracted other business interests including a 56-room Oak Tree Inn, with a 24-hour diner, in addition to three more deals in the works,

Pacheco related. He stated that the fast pace of Union Pacific’s construction has caused other businesses to push up their plans to move into the area.

“We’re scrambling to make sure the roads and infrastructure can handle increased traffic,” Pacheco said. “We have to keep infrastructure ahead of development,” he added.

Canutillo Independent School District Public Notice

Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District’s 2012-2013 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) as part of a School Board meeting, which is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at Canutillo High School, 6675 S. Desert Blvd.

The public is invited to attend. The TAPR report will also be available for review after the hearing at all Canutillo ISD campuses, the central office and at www.canutillo-isd.org.

For more information, call 877-7482.

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo Junta Publica

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo tendrá una Reunión Pública para informar sobre el “Reporte de Rendimiento Académica de Texas” (TAPR) del año escolar 2012-2013. El reporte sera parte de la reunión de la Mesa Directiva del distrito programada para el Martes, 21 de enero del 2014 a las 6:00 p.m. en la escuela preparatoria de Canutillo localizada en el 6675 S. Desert Blvd.

Todos los interesados están invitados a asistir. El reporte TAPR estará disponible después de la reunión en todas las escuelas del distrito, en el edificio de las oficinas administrativas y en www.canutillo-isd.org.

Para mas información, favor de llamar al 877-7482.

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CryptoQuip Answer

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Eddie Chavez	Sergio Coronado	Janice Armstrong	Aurora Alvillar	Vicente Delgadillo	Antonio "Tony" Ayub	Rachel Avila
						
Angel Cuellar	Leticia E. Gonzalez	Robert Lara	Adan Escobar	Ramon Holguin	Gary Gandara	Ofelia Bosquez
						
Oswaldo Gomez	Adrian Medina	Mary Macias	Sylvia Gonzales	Irene Jaquez	Hector Gonzalez	Javier Escalante
						
Robert M. Haro	Patsy Mendoza	Fred Martinez	Viola Hernandez	Fernie Madrid	Paul Guerra	Hector Lopez
						
Mary Jones	Armando Rodriguez	Pat Randleel	Marcos Salcido III	Armando Martinez	Michael A. Najera	Maria Kika Saldana
						
Martin Lerma	Laure Searls	Fernie Sepulveda	Rey Sepulveda	Jose Rodriguez	Angelica Rodriguez	Sally Upchurch
						
Steven Saldivar	Pedro Galaviz	Juan I. Martinez	Poncho Garcia, Jr.	Sylvia Hopp	José Espinoza	Mike Quatrini (Int.)

Superintendents

Thank You For Serving

El Pasoans needs to stop griping and show some support

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

I’m not exactly sure when it started or even how it became the norm in my beautiful city of El Paso.

But even though we’re consistently ranked as the safest big city in the United States and even though we’re voted as one of the best places to raise a family, El Pasoans have this propensity for being pessimists.

Some El Pasoans feel the need to complain about... well, everything.

The progressive thinking people in the city have labeled the negative thinkers around here as “haters.”

And the “haters” are a very local group who make their opposition known, in no uncertain terms.

Whether it’s a political topic like immigration, or a financial issue like building a new downtown ballpark, or even a quality-of-life issue like the constant bickering over the placement of billboards, El Pasoans seem to complain about everything.

Thank goodness we live in a country where

everyone is free to voice his or her opinion as long as they don’t infringe on the rights of others.

But the one thing that bothers me the most about the so-called haters is how many are totally against any type of change. It seems that when El Paso takes a step forward, they fight for it to take a step back.

It’s a shame that some people can be satisfied with the status quo. I was always taught not to be satisfied with anything.

Anyway, with or without their support, the haters are watching the Chihuahuas’ downtown stadium go up. And they’re going to have to face the fact that the city is going to be better off because of it.

And if that isn’t enough, another unfortunate trait swirling around El Paso is apathy.

Too many times when things go bad for local sports teams, the fans jump off the bandwagon quicker than Hillary is distancing herself from Barack.

No matter how many bowl games (3) Mike Price took the Miners to, once he started to have trouble sustaining wins everyone was calling for his head.

The one thing in his favor is that UTEP’s

recent 2-10 season couldn’t be blamed on him.

Another unfortunate blow to the university just occurred with the basketball program losing three players for catching Pete Rose-syndrome and betting on sanctioned sporting events.

Losing the players has put the Miners in a very precarious situation just entering Conference USA action.

The team has been decimated at the guard spot and their bench as that much thinner.

Over the years I’ve noticed that when Americans are facing adversity, their neighbors are quick to come to the rescue.

The players left on the UTEP squad could use a rescue of sorts, in the form of a large contingent of El Pasoans at their games for support.

It was unsettling to see the Don Haskins Center only half full in UTEP’s first two games since the announcement of the suspensions.

I have to admit that I thought El Pasoans would flock to the rescue to show their support for a group of young men who are stuck in a tough spot.

I thought especially with five El Pasoans

on the team, that the fans would show their spirit and pride, and come close to filling the joint.

But they didn’t come close.

I even heard some local fans on talk radio saying that they weren’t going to support a team that had no chance of winning.

It’s that kind of attitude that often gives El Paso a bad reputation. For some reason rallying around something just isn’t very appealing to some people.

It’s true the Miners are not one of the better teams in the country and they are going to have to scratch and claw for every single win, but the one thing this team has an abundance of is heart.

Though they lost their first conference game against a tough Charlotte team, they never quit fighting and had a chance to pull the game out late.

Then they went on to beat Marshall two days later.

Only problem is there weren’t very many people who saw it.

El Paso, it’s time to come to the rescue and do something positive for your team, your university, your city, your reputation.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Money changes everything

Like all of my favorite stories, this one starts in Philadelphia.

It is one day before the New Orleans Saints come marching into town to take on the slightly favored Eagles in the wildcard playoff game. It is also one day before the “polar vortex” is scheduled to ruin everyone’s travel plans ... or at least the congregation huddled at the bar inside the Westin Rittenhouse Square. For the most part, we’re low rollers, and rates have skyrocketed.

At the end of the bar, a pretty woman who we learn is a New Orleans Saints fan sends back her

French fries. She explains in a London accent that because she so seldom orders French fries, she would like an order that is, you know, good. I have to admire that. We’re at the point in America where if you mess up a hamburger or fries, you’re either a jerk or you’re not trying hard enough.

We agree to retreat to the airport hotels as we pay our bills – all of us except for the Saints fan, who got her meal free due to poor French fries. She suggests we decamp to Atlantic City instead. At checkout, I watch her roll the front desk like

Obi Wan Kenobi at a storm trooper checkpoint in Mos Eisley.

“These are not the charges I am looking for,” she huffs. She gets comped, and yeah, I’m going to Atlantic City to learn the ways of the force.

During the trip, I learn she isn’t British, but from New England, and some of her stories make her more Artful Dodger than Jedi knight. Still, she does take the time to explain how hotels and casinos offer reward points.

“Money is, like, where you put it,” she says to me. “Understand?”

I don’t, but I get the general gist of offering a cheap room to get people into the casinos.

Atlantic City is the Mos Eisley of America... it can be a retched hive of scum and villainy. It stands,

for many, as a symbol of casino gambling’s failed promise: Since gaming was legalized in the ‘70s, the school system has gotten worse and crime rates and unemployment have skyrocketed. To stave off competition from Pennsylvania and Connecticut casinos, AC has tried to offer more of a Las Vegas resort-style vibe. It really isn’t working.

It does, however, have more Philadelphians at the steakhouse bar watching the football games the next day as compared to Vegas, and they’re a riot... even after Drew Brees rips their hearts out. But, like all Philadelphians do in their great every-man, working-class tradition, when faced with another Eagles loss, they complain about Andy Reid.

“Yeah, well at least Kansas City lost!” “Andy Reid! Ten years as a head coach and he still cannot figure out how to run the clock. Lost a timeout at the 2:00 warning!” “Best

head coach in the NFL... Monday through Friday!”

Me, I’m upset that I can’t bet on the games. I’m not even a gambler, but I love visiting the sports book in Vegas during the NFL playoffs. That’s when the absurdity of AC and the Artful Dodger’s comments hit me with full force.

How come I’m listening to people complain about failed revitalization and lack of revenue when New Jersey won’t even take my money? The Super Bowl is coming to New Jersey, at great expense to the taxpayers of the state, and you can’t bet on the game at their gambling Mecca. Brilliant. What are they afraid of? An increase in crime?

Money changes everything and money is where I put it... how come Atlantic City won’t take mine?

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

Instrument art on display in San Eli



The Peña Gallery in San Elizario is hosting the “Painted Guitar” Exhibit. It features the work of CJ Wells, Amado Peña, Helen Hall, Archie Bransom, MS Franco, Diana Brach-Stamper (her work is featured above), Michelle Ferran, Christopher Joseph, Rob Mack and Barry Johnson. The exhibit runs through February. The gallery is located at 12740 Alarcon Rd. in the San Elizario Historic District. The gallery is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed Mondays). Call (915) 851-8400 for more information.

– Al Borrego

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41
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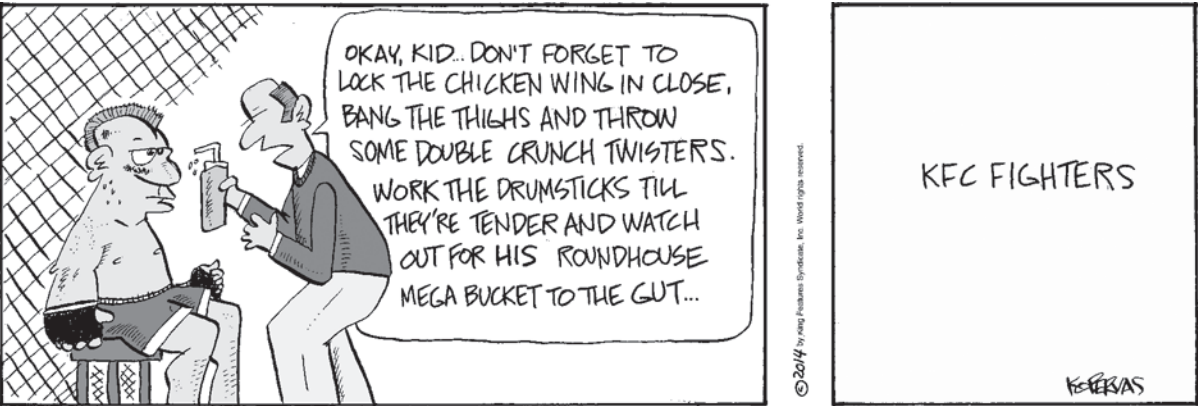
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Comix

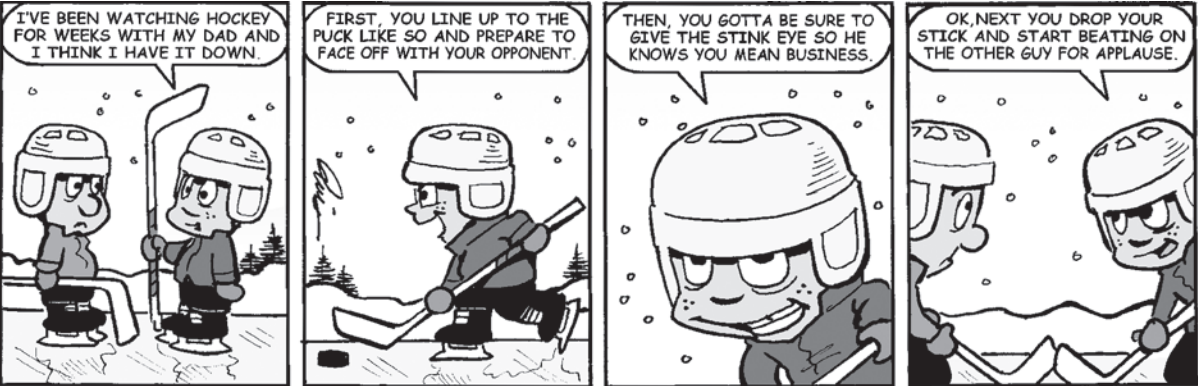
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



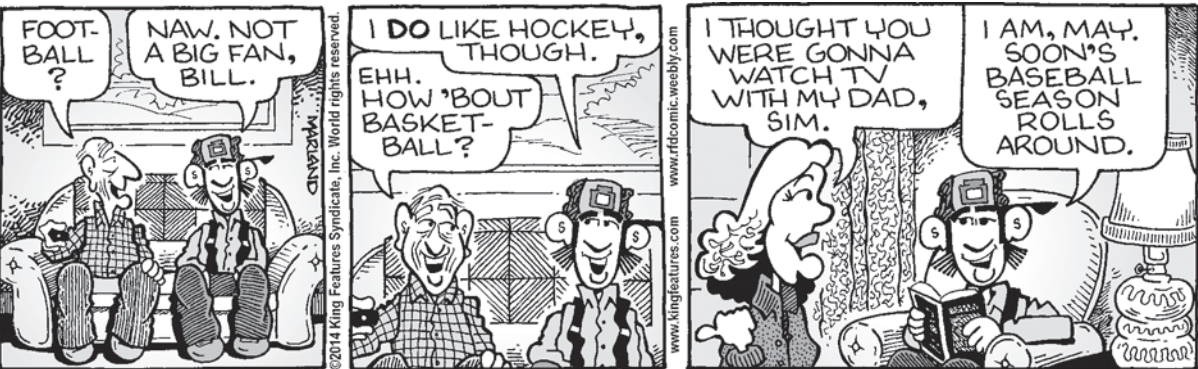
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Super Crossword

GETTING PREPOSITIONED ACROSS

1 Symbol before a key signature

5 Neighbor of Kauai

9 Actress Fox

14 Produces a winter blanket?

19 Arriving like fog

21 Prefix with anthropology

22 Smith's tool

23 Out of character

25 Hard up

26 Barks in pain

27 Suffix with meteor

28 Without face value, as stock

30 Theologian's subj.

31 Not up on current trends

36 Take a whack

37 States north of Nebraska

40 Bauxite, e.g.

41 Pizazz

43 Applying to all

48 Ones going a-courting

51 Reassuring words after an accident

52 "... Mac _ PC?"

53 Suffix with schnozz or Motor

55 "Come again?"

56 Brief moment

57 Past proper limits

64 Ending for opal

65 Bring forth

66 Union topic

67 Lower exterior part of a ship's hull

69 L'Oréal rival

72 "Nothing _!"

74 Finer in meaning

76 Taxing work

77 Construction beams with 90-degree angles

79 Buenos _

80 Gold, to Julio

81 Loony

85 Drink like Fido

88 S-X linkup

90 Woodsy, e.g.

91 Have unpaid bills

92 Washoe County seat

93 "So long"

95 Irrelevant

102 Its capital is Nuku'alofa

104 "... for Cookie" ("Sesame Street" tune)

105 Awakens

106 Oom-_

108 Subjected to severe trials

113 Golf surprise

114 "Ad _ per aspera" (Kansas' motto)

115 Co. offering a Buddy List

116 "The Family Circus" cartoonist Bil

120 Shah, e.g.

122 A bit ill

127 Shah, e.g.

128 Hen's resting place

129 Remove from a computer

130 Arranged for

131 Spanish for "others"

132 Challenge for a lab rat

133 "To be," to Tiberius

DOWN

1 Big name in early computers

2 Theater area

3 Airline to Ben Gurion

4 Publication that's quickly thumbed

5 Add-_ (peripherals)

6 Bus. rep

7 Arrive at, as a solution

8 Not masked

9 Stat of fuel efficiency

10 Gift for music

11 One peeking

12 Vowel string

13 Amateur

14 Italian Riviera city

15 Dayton-to-Toledo dir.

16 Way up there in years

17 Broader

18 In a foxy way

20 Enlarged map details

24 D.C. summer hrs.

29 Declaration

32 Holds

33 Suffix with 58-Down

34 "Woo-_!"

35 Momentous time

37 Speech spot

38 Peak

39 Ray of fast-food fame

42 Punch noise

44 Give a _ (care)

45 Suffix with east

46 With 62-Down, rotten sort

47 Dumbbell

49 Extent

50 Handle the helm

54 Timmy's TV dog

57 Yogi of baseball

58 Inflated head

59 Lemon-hued

60 Be snaky

61 Sci-fi's Solo

62 See 46-Down

63 Tapered off

65 Prefix with diversity

68 "_ a snap!"

69 Coagulates

70 Lash of Western films

71 Exempt from regulations

72 Pol Quayle

73 Municipal statute: Abbr.

75 Banquet liquid holder

78 Onion or lily

79 Help in crime

82 Beats (up)

83 Coal carrier

84 Lea lady?

85 Luau gifts

86 Bancroft of "Women"

87 Ollas, e.g.

89 Ida. neighbor

92 Casino game

94 Ottawa site

96 Quito's land

97 Autograph: Abbr.

98 Suffix with child

99 Easter eats

100 "_ tu" (Verdi aria)

101 Oktoberfest dances

103 Maestro Toscanini

106 City of Light

107 Lexus rival

109 "To be _ ..."

110 Rat-a-_

111 Dull

112 Justice Kagan

117 Figuring-out shouts

118 "Little House on the Prairie" shopkeeper

119 _ Stanley Gardner

121 Oscope-wielding doc

123 That, to Tito

124 ACLU issues: Abbr.

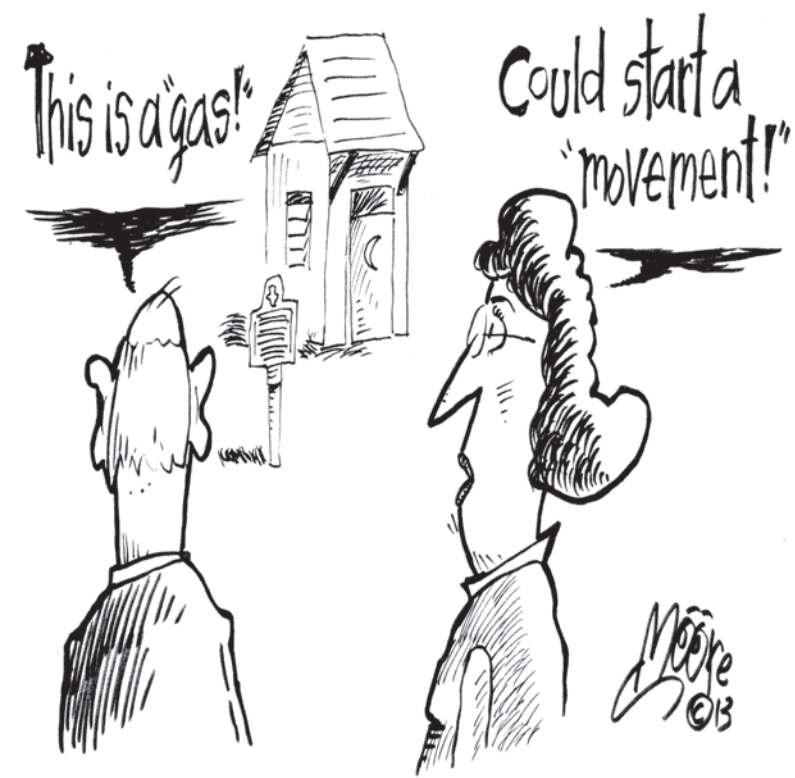
125 Oz musical, with "The"

126 Suffix with propyl

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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37	38	39								40				41			42				
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88																					
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106	107							108						110	111	112					
113																					
120																					
127																					
130																					

Answer Page 4

Moore Texas by Roger Moore The “Arnold Outhouse” in Henderson is the only outhouse in Texas to have its own Historical Marker... it’s a 3 holer !



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.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	+		×		33
×		÷		+	
	×		+		13
÷		+		÷	
	+		+		18
3		18		2	

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 9 9

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Answer Page 4

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Strategies keep payments accurate

Making proper Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments is no game. But improving our accuracy has some similarities to a good football strategy. You’ve got to be strong on both defense and offense.

Social Security is committed to reducing improper payments. Our goal has always been to pay the right person the right amount at the right time. And we’re highly successful at doing that.

In paying retirement, survivors, and disability benefits to more than 55 million people each month, our accuracy rate is over 99 percent. When it comes to Supplemental Security Income – the means-tested program for elderly, disabled and blind people who have limited

income and resources – our payment accuracy is about 91 percent.

As with a good game of football, we need a game plan to improve payment accuracy. Here is ours.

On offense, we check and recheck our benefit computations and recipient information. That’s done at kickoff, before we ever make a payment.

On defense, we have game plans, or strategies, to collect funds back from the person we improperly paid, especially if the error was the result of a beneficiary failing or incorrectly reporting an event that affects his or her payment amount. When an individual commits fraud in order to receive payments not due, we prosecute him or her to the fullest extent of the law.

We will continue to work on

offense and defense in our efforts to perfect our game plan and to make each and every payment a touchdown. Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/improperpayments to learn more about what Social Security is doing to prevent improper payments.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

• It was Lebanese poet Kahlil Gibran who made the following sage observation: “I have learnt silence from the talkative, toleration from the intolerant, and kindness from the unkind; yet strange, I am ungrateful to these teachers.”

• In Japan, black cats are considered to be good luck.

• If you’re ever longing for the “good old days,” you might want to keep this tidbit in mind: In 19th-century America, one of the most popular cure-all remedies was “snail water,” which was made by pounding earthworms and snails together, adding the paste to beer and boiling the whole thing. Those in need of a tonic drank it.

• Sea turtles can breathe through their backsides.

• If you could leap over the St. Louis Arch unassisted, you would have jumping power equivalent to that of a flea.

• If you’re planning a trip to Oregon, you might want to stop off in Gold Hill to see the Oregon Vortex, where strange phenomena are said to occur. In the mid-20th century, a scientist and mining engineer named John Litser conducted experiments on the property and came to the conclusion that the site contains a spherical field of force and 15 crisscrossing magnetic fields. Before his death in 1959, he burned his notes, reportedly saying, “The world is not ready for this.” Those who tour the attraction today might see balls roll uphill or brooms stand on end. Some people appear to be much shorter and some much taller. There are even those who say visiting the Vortex eases back pain.

• Before he became famous, singer Rod Stewart briefly had a job as a grave digger.

Thought for the Day: “Television makes so much at its worst that it can’t afford to do its best.”

– Fred W. Friendly

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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: A equals T

AQS BHP YNTSYENO, YSSMROP
AG ENMS AQS EGYA GD TRDS’Y
GFFGBAHORARSY, VBRSC

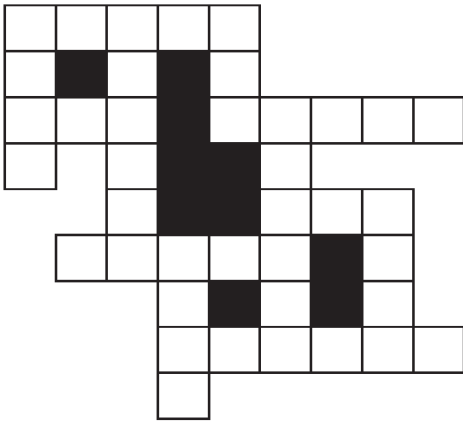
“VNBFSА CRSE!”

Answer Page 4

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MVI
GOYEVA
GREEM
LUCR
GOYNIT
♥TGA
♥ERTO
♥ARLEG
AYR
♥VYRIEL
♥ITVEC
ONOM



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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