



NEWSBRIEFS

CORRECTION Horizon PO moves

Last week the *Courier* reported that the United States Postal Service (USPS) contract station in Horizon City had closed. It actually just changed locations. The USPS contract station is now located in Postal Works at 125 N. Kenazo Ste. E (in the Market Center) in Horizon City. Customers can also order stamps by calling (800) Stamp24, visiting www.usps.com or going to the Socorro Station at 10550 N. Loop in Socorro.

— Rick Shrum

Mothers-daughters conference

All SISD sixth- through 12th-grade girls are invited to attend the 5th Annual Growing Together Mother-Daughter Conference with their mother or a mother figure. The conference will be held at Eastlake High School, 13000 Emerald Pass on Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015 from 7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. The event is free and breakfast and lunch will be provided. Organizers ask that those participating bring canned goods, which will be donated to families in need within the school district. The conference goal is to help mothers and daughters bond and explore topics such as career choices and college opportunities, as well as participate together in self-esteem and self-confidence workshops. Participants will have a variety of sessions to select from during the conference. For more information, contact Sergio Jaurrieta at 937-1616 or sjaurr@sisd.net. You may register for the event at: <http://www.sisd.net/Page/26149>.

— Christina Flores-Jones

You've been served

He was suing for an undecillion dollars. The dictionary defines the word undecillion as a cardinal number represented by one followed by 36 zeros, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens. It also is the dollar amount sought by a disgruntled New Yorker who sued the city and several other named and unnamed respondents for what the New York Post described as a "fabulously frivolous" variety of claims. They included a dog bite while riding a bus and invasion

See BRIEFS, Page 3

Love does not keep a ledger of the sins and failures of others.

— Quips & Quotes

Sign on the dotted line



— Photos by Eastlake High School Journalism Class

ALL SMILES — Eastlake High School Senior Johanna Wilson, center, a varsity wrestler, signed a letter of intent to attend and wrestle for the University of Eastern Michigan, a Division 1 school. Seated to the left is her brother, Eastlake sophomore Joshua Z. Wilson. On the right is her father, Jimmy Jonathan Wilson, Jr. and behind them is Eastlake Wrestling Coach Aldo Gonzalez. The signing ceremony took place on December 19, 2014 at Eastlake High School.

— Christina Flores-Jones

County begins year with new top-level administrators

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso County Commissioners Court will begin a new chapter in local county governance with the start of a new year as it hires a chief administrator, a medical examiner, and is looking to appoint four other key county administrators.

Commissioners unanimously voted in December to hire Steven P. Norwood as the first chief administrator for El Paso County. Norwood is scheduled to start his new job January 20.

County Judge Veronica Escobar said that commissioners' court will vote during its first meeting in January on a contract for Norwood, who has 17 years working as a city manager in Round Rock TX and Prescott, AZ. She said that Norwood will be earning an annual salary of about \$191,116 because of his experience.

The position of chief administrator was approved by Commissioners Court in July and will be similar to a city manager. It was created to help commissioners run the county and will supervise several county departments. Escobar said the creation of the position was a result of a deliberate desire to modernize El Paso County.

Norwood, who has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Sam Houston State University and a master's degree in urban affairs from the University of Texas at Arlington, was among four finalists for the position.

The county judge said that commissioners agreed that Norwood was the best choice because of his leadership and positive reviews from his past employers. The three other candidates for the position were former Laurinburg, NC, City Manager Joseph R. Huffman; Berkley, MI, City Manager Jane Bais-DiSessa; and Moody Air Force Base GA Manager Michael A. Longoria.

Commissioner Vincent Perez said Norwood stood out because of his impressive background, which includes being an aggressive economic development leader. "He will be a good fit for El Paso County, a good fit for our team, and his experience will help us move forward," Perez stated.

According to Norwood, one of the biggest challenges in his new job will be to show citizens and staff that this position is needed because he will be able to do some of the things that the commissioners were doing and that will free them up so

See COUNTY, Page 4

Flu shot still recommended

By Marshall Dawer
Special to the Courier

TEXAS — While, the flu season was a bit late in spreading in Texas this winter, it is in full force now. And since some strains are resistance to the flu vaccine, it is more important than ever for healthy protection from the flu outbreak.

Influenza—or the flu, as it is commonly known—is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization and sometimes even death. About 5 percent to 20 percent of U.S. residents get the flu each year, according to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

The flu costs the United States more than \$87 billion annually and is responsible for the loss of about 17 million workdays and substantial classroom time each flu season, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Unfortunately, the flu is not just a cause of missed work and school. Every year, thousands of people die from Influenza and its complications, and more than 100 of the victims this past year were children—twenty of them here in Texas.

The best way to protect yourself and reduce your chances of getting the flu is to get a flu vaccine. According to the CDC, everyone who is at least 6 months of age should get a flu vaccine. Getting vaccinated is especially important for people who have certain medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes or chronic lung disease, and for pregnant women, young children and people 65 and older.

Despite the evidence and recommendations, many people won't get vaccinated this year—which makes it more likely they will get and transmit the flu. That puts your own personal health and well-being at risk, and it could increase the chances of your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors getting sick, too.

Consider the following:

- The flu shot is not expensive. In most cases, the cost of a flu shot is covered by your health plan, whether you buy health insurance on your own or are covered through your employer, Medicare or Medicaid. More employers are now offering free onsite flu shot clinics at the office. The financial and personal costs and the potential for missed days of work or school from the flu far exceed the cost of the vaccination.

- Young, healthy people get the flu, too. Influenza does not discriminate against age or health habits. Just because

See FLU, Page 8

Finances

By Jason Alderman

Pros and cons of reverse mortgages

Over the last decade, reverse mortgages have been marketed as an easy way for seniors to cash in their home equity to pay for living expenses. However, many have learned that improper use of the product – such as pulling all their cash out at one time to pay bills – has led to significant financial problems later, including foreclosure.

In actuality, there are some cases where reverse mortgages can be helpful to borrowers. However, it is imperative to do extensive research on these products before you sign.

Reverse mortgages are special kinds of home loans that let borrowers convert some of their home equity into cash. They come in three varieties: single-purpose reverse mortgages, Home Equity Conversion Mortgages (HECMs) and proprietary reverse mortgages.

Who can apply? Homeowners can apply for a reverse mortgage if they are at least 62 years old, own their home outright or have a low mortgage balance that can be paid off with the proceeds of the reverse loan. Qualifying homeowners also must have no delinquent federal debt, the financial resources to pay for upkeep, taxes and insurance and live in the home during the life of the loan.

Consider the following pros and cons as a starting point for

trying or bypassing this loan choice. Even though HECM loans require a discussion with a loan counselor, you should bring in your own financial, tax or estate advisor to help you decide whether you have a safe and appropriate use for this product.

Pros of reverse mortgages:

- They're a source of cash. Borrowers can select that the amount of the loan be payable in a lump sum or regular payments.
- Proceeds are generally tax-free. Final tax treatment may rely on a variety of personal factors, so check with a tax professional.
- Generally, they don't impact Social Security or Medicare payments. Again, important to check personal circumstances.
- You won't owe more than the home is worth. Most reverse mortgages have a "nonrecourse" clause, which prevents you or your estate from owing more than the value of your home when the loan becomes due and the home is sold.
- Reverse mortgages may be a smarter borrowing option for some downsizing seniors. With proper advice, some borrowers use them to buy new homes.

Cons of reverse mortgages:

- You may outlive your equity. Reverse mortgages are viewed as a "last-resort" loan option and certainly not a singular solution to spending problems.
- You and your heirs won't

get to keep your house unless you repay the loan. If your children hope to inherit your home outright, try to find some other funding solution (family loans, other conventional loan products) first.

- Fees can be more expensive than conventional loans. Reverse mortgage lenderstypically charge an origination fee and higher closing costs than conventional loans. This adds up to several percentage points of your home's value.
- Many reverse mortgages are adjustable rate products. Adjustable rates affect the cost of the loan over time.
- If you have to move out for any reason, your loan becomes due. If you have to suddenly move into a nursing home or assisted-living facility, the loan becomes due after you've left your home for a continuous year.

Bottom line: Reverse mortgages have become a popular, if controversial, loan option for senior homeowners. For some, they may be a good fit, but all applicants should get qualified financial advice before they apply.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Film salutes flag ladies of Freeport

Every Tuesday morning since Sept. 11, 2001, the Freeport Flag Ladies – Carmen, Elaine and JoAnn – have stood on a corner in downtown Freeport, Maine, holding flags to honor those in uniform who've worked to guarantee our freedoms. Rain, wind, snow, ice, heat of summer... they haven't missed a single day. On most Tuesday mornings, the ladies aren't alone. People come from all walks of life to stand with them: leaders of groups like the American Legion or the Veterans of Foreign Wars, parents of active-duty military, or school kids or neighbors. Many are veterans.

But the ladies do so much more than bring people together on Tuesday mornings. Wearing their instantly identifiable flag shirts, they attend military funerals, take photos of incoming and outgoing service personnel at the airport and post them on the website (FreeportFlagLadies.com), send packages to veterans in hospitals, place flags at veteran cemeteries, and more.

Now you can meet these lovely ladies in a film that's been made about them, and hear their philosophies and beliefs about heroes and freedom, and why they do what they do. A Maine filmmaker has produced a spot-on documentary that captures the essence of the Freeport Flag Ladies.

The film 'One Tuesday Morning' is available now on Vimeo for \$2.99 to rent (for a 48-hour period) or for \$8.99 to buy. The link is vimeo.com/ondemand/onetuesdaymorning. If you prefer to use DVDs, one is being created now and should be available within a month or so. The price likely will be in the \$15 range. If you'd like to wait for the DVD and be notified when it's ready, send an email note to info@onetuesdaymorning.com and you'll be put on the list.

To watch the trailer, visit onetuesdaymorning.com. Don't miss the Extras section, linked from the left.

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) 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

CONFERENCE PLAY

VS LA TECH | JAN. 8 | 7 PM

VS SOUTHERN MISS | JAN. 10 | 7 PM






WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

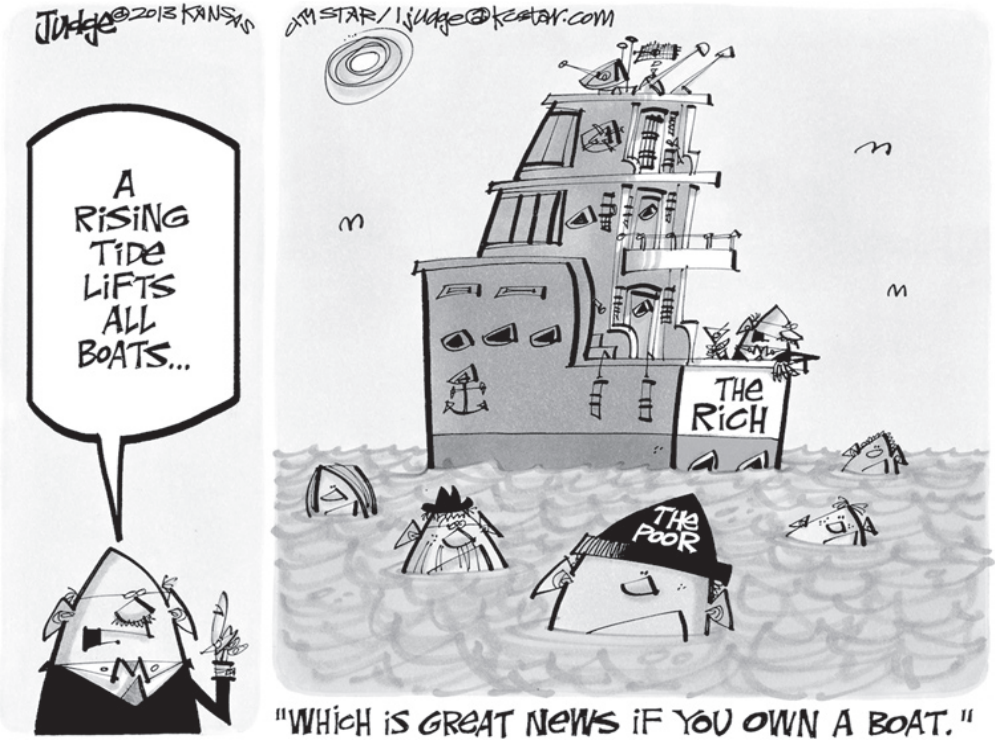
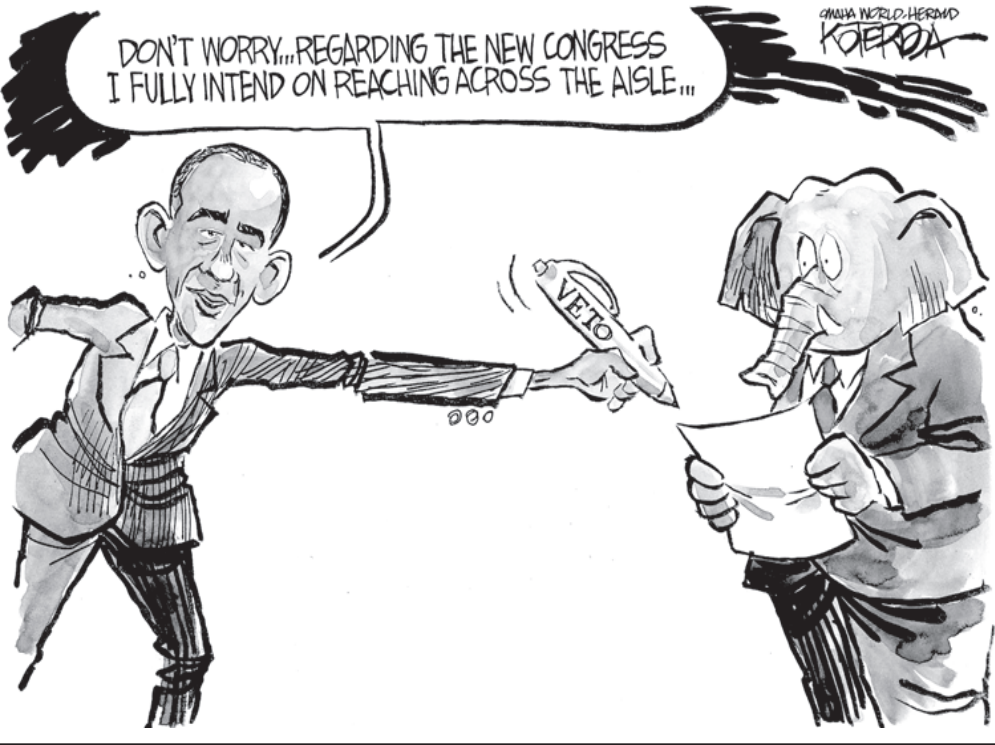
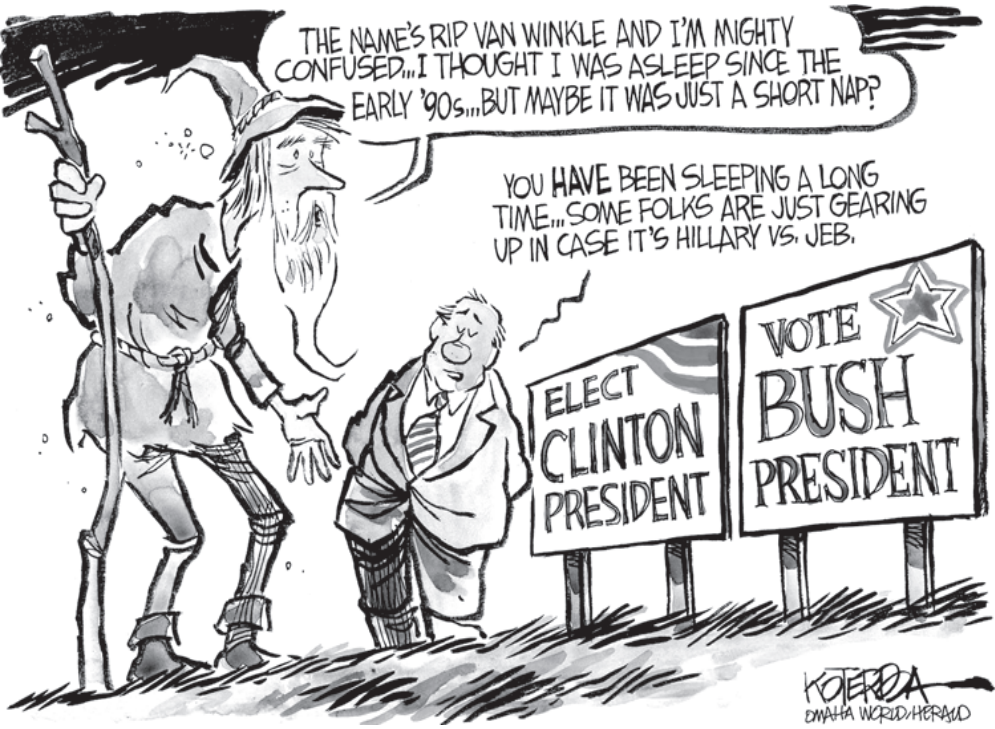
CONFERENCE PLAY

VS NORTH TEXAS | JAN. 2 | 7 PM

VS RICE | JAN. 4 | 2 PM

VS UTSA | JAN. 17 | 2 PM





View from here

By Traci Bruckner, Center for Rural Affairs

Congress slashes conservation

When thinking about the \$1.1 trillion spending bill passed by Congress last month, one might ask, what does Congress have against conservation?

They made huge cuts to conservation programs, such as the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) that supports conservation practices on cropland, pastureland and rangeland, totaling \$402 million over ten years. This cut means 2.3 million fewer acres enrolled in the program.

This anti-conservation spending bill also cut the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) by \$136 million for this fiscal year.

While the CSP is designed to reward farmers and ranchers who have a history of integrating conservation, EQIP will help them develop a conservation practice for the first time. Both programs support practices such as cover crops, diverse cropping systems, as well as rotational grazing practices on pasture, rangeland, and cropland restored to a grass-based system.

These are the conservation-based farming practices we need more support for, not less. This is especially true in the face of climate change impacts on agriculture, and the increased need to protect and restore water quality.

So while they cut the conservation programs that help farmers and ranchers integrate risk management through conservation-based farming practices, they left intact the unlimited federal crop insurance premium subsidies and farm program payments that encourage risk taking and agriculture consolidation by the nation's largest and wealthiest farms.

This is an anti-farmer, anti-conservation bill that is representative of crisis-driven legislation stemming from a dysfunctional Congress. Join us and fight for annual spending bills that are forward-looking, and create opportunity.

Established in 1973, the Center for Rural Affairs is a private, non-profit organization working to strengthen small businesses, family farms and ranches, and rural communities through action oriented programs addressing social, economic, and environmental issues.

Briefs

From Page 1

of privacy when he was allegedly photographed by an unidentified woman while being treated at a local hospital. The suit certainly ranks as one of the oddest lawsuits of 2014, if not the most ridiculous of the year. As the newspaper pointed out, there is not that much money on planet Earth.

– John Grimaldi

Tax relief

U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) has cosponsored S.126, legislation to provide Texans with a permanent deduction for state and local general sales taxes on their federal income tax returns. “This is a matter of fundamental fairness for Texas taxpayers and one that puts them on a level playing field with taxpayers who can deduct their state income tax,” said Cornyn. “As Texans continue to face higher health care costs under Obamacare, now more than ever they need relief from burdensome taxation so they can keep more of their hard-earned money.” Cornyn is an original cosponsor of S.126 introduced last week by Sen. Dean Heller (R-NV). This deduction provides Texans with more than \$1 billion in federal tax relief annually.

– Ben Voelkel

CREST awards

A record 10 Socorro Independent School District counseling programs are winners of the prestigious Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas (CREST) award. It is the most per capita of any school district Texas. They are El Dorado 9th Grade Academy, SPC. Rafael Hernando III Middle, Sgt. Roberto Ituarte Elementary, Paso del Norte

School, Hurshel Antwine Elementary, James P. Butler Elementary, Montwood Middle, Montwood High, Jane A. Hambric School and John Drugan School. “SISD received more awards than any district in the state of Texas, per capita,” said Tammi Mackeben, director of Guidance and Counseling for SISD. “Since the inception of the award almost 10 years ago, 26 SISD campuses have received a CREST, 13 campuses multiple times. SISD has had 9 winners for the past two years and now 10 this year. It is so exciting and a true testament to the quality and compassion of SISD school counselors.” Of note is John Drugan, who has received the award seven years in a row, more than any other school in the state of Texas. Hernando Middle School has been a CREST winner for five years. The CREST award, sponsored by the Texas School Counselor Association, is given to school counseling programs that meet CREST requirements. The program must demonstrate effective communication and a commitment to obtaining results, she said. The counselors will be acknowledged at the TSCA conference Feb. 8-10 in Galveston.

– Christina Flores-Jones

Computer medicine

People are living longer these days than ever before and they are healthier, too, as a result of breakthroughs in medicine, but innovative uses of information technology might play an increasingly important role, as well, in the future, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens. A new report published by Kaiser Health News suggests that the ability of computers and software

County

From Page 1

that they can meet more often with their constituents.

Major assignments awaiting Norwood’s immediate attention are updates on the county’s major undertakings currently in the works including the new Tornillo-Guadalupe port of entry, the 16 transportation construction projects, and the study to replace or remodel the downtown jail.

Commissioners Court also voted recently to appoint Dr. Mario Rascon as the chief medical examiner for the county. Rascon, who was hired as the deputy medical examiner earlier this year, will be appointed to the position on Jan. 12 with an annual salary of \$298,553.

Escobar said that Dr. Rascon grew into the top contender for the position. “What we found in Dr. Rascon was that he was a great leader and that as he spent time with El Paso County and the Medical Examiner’s offices, it just became more and more clear that he was the right person,” she stated.

The current Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Juan Contin, is retiring, but he may still

assist the medical examiner’s office, according to Escobar. The county had been without a permanent chief medical examiner since 2010. That was when Dr. Paul Shrode’s contract was terminated.

Aside from selecting the county’s first chief administrator and a permanent medical examiner, county commissioners are expected to look at filling four other key administrative positions in the near future including elections administrator, public works director, budget director, and the newly created intergovernmental relations director.

The county’s elections administrator Javier Chacon resigned in November after nearly seven years on the job and 30 years of working for the county. The next election administrator will be selected by a commission that is comprised of the county judge, county tax assessor, county clerk, and the chairs of the Democratic and Republican parties.

A committee will interview the top applicants then recommend five candidates to the elections commission. The commission will interview the candidates then appoint the new administrator

through a resolution. The salary range for the position is from \$85,600 to \$90,000, according to county documents.

The public works director position became available after Ernie Carrizal announced his retirement in November. Carrizal worked for the county 26 years and was promoted to public works director in August 2011. The new director should be hired by the county commissioners at a salary from \$140,000 to \$157,000, according to county documents.

The top candidates to replace Carrizal will be interviewed by a committee that consists of a community member with background in engineering and some of the top level county officials. The top five candidates will be interviewed by the new chief administrator, who will make a recommendation to commissioners’ court for approval.

The position of executive director for budget and fiscal policy was approved earlier this year during the 2015 budget process and will have a salary of up to \$157,000. With this position, the budget function will be removed from under the auditor’s office, according

to Escobar. The new chief administrator will recommend a finalist for commissioners’ approval.

Commissioners also approved recently the creation of a position for an intergovernmental relations director with an entry level salary of about \$64,700. The position will be funded by the money that became available when the county opted not to renew its contract with federal lobbyists. This new position will be responsible for improving relations with federal offices to help leverage federal dollars for the region, county officials explained.

Commissioners are currently reviewing the job descriptions, salary ranges and hiring process for these positions. The four posts will be advertised through January, according to county officials.

Escobar stated that these new hires should create a stronger organization and lead the county into the next decades. “We’ve had dedicated people who have led us to a good place over the last years, and now we will look to our new administrators for greater innovation and positive change moving forward,” she stated in a recent news report.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- Those who traveled by air over the recent holiday season may sympathize with political satirist Mark Russell, who made the following sage observation: “The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage.”
- If you’re planning a visit to rural Texas anytime soon, you might want to keep in mind that in that state, it’s against the law to milk a cow that belongs to someone else.
- The elephant shrew is more closely related to the elephant than to the shrew.

- You may have heard of bridezilla, but what about momzilla? In a survey by David’s Bridal, 22 percent of respondents claimed that it was the mother of the bride who caused the most conflict when planning the event, while another 22 percent said that it was the mother of the groom. You might want to take these results with a grain of salt, though, considering the fact that the survey respondents were actually brides themselves.
- Even an honest person might have some sympathy for the deceit attempted by a man named Corey Taylor in 2007. He was so desperate to get out of his cell-phone contract without paying the high fee that he attempted to fake his own death. Unfortunately for him, it didn’t work.
- You may be surprised to learn that condoms date back to at least the 1600s.

- If you’re afraid that peanut butter will stick to the roof of your mouth, you suffer from arachibutyphobia.
- Thought for the Day: “My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start. So far I’ve finished two bags of M&Ms and a chocolate cake. I feel better already.”
- Dave Barry

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Briefs

From Page 3

to sort and analyze patient data can take a lot of the guesswork out of diagnostics and treatment. “Computers could ultimately help doctors match specific treatments at the molecular level to the people for whom they would work best. Software might also detect patterns in data that would suggest new uses for existing drugs,” according to KHN. The report envisions a day when patients might wear “wireless” patches that

continuously relay health data that can detect problems on the fly “before they blossom into expensive diagnoses.”

– John Grimaldi

Help needed

The murder of a man in a central El Paso Parking lot has remained unsolved for, four years. Detectives from the El Paso Police Department are asking for your help in bring those responsible to justice through the Crime Stoppers, “Crime of the Week.” On Monday, Feb. 7, 2011, a 57-year-old man was found critically injured in the parking lot of the

Stage Coach Motel located at 4110 Alameda. The man, Elias Nicarsio Perez, was found inside of his van and was taken to the hospital for treatment. Perez died the following day. Perez was visiting El Paso and was a field worker in New Mexico. Perez was known to frequent the area where he was found, visiting bars and friends in the area. Perez was also known to carry large amounts of money at times. Detectives from the Crimes Against Persons Unit, believe that Perez was attacked on the evening of Saturday February 5 or the early morning hours

of Sunday, Feb. 6. Anyone that remembers seeing Perez between that period or has information about the brutal attack is asked to call Crime Stoppers of El Paso 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 may qualify for a cash reward.

– Ben Voelkel



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Buckle up every rider for every trip.

State law now requires both adults and children to be buckled up in the front or back seat. A child less than 8 years old, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in a child safety seat. Most children between 4 and 8 years old will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Fines range from \$25 to \$250, plus court costs. TexasClickItorTicket.com



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CryptoQuip Answer

Old American military figure who threw eggy desserts at his enemies’ faces: General Custard.

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School Boards Make a Difference

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Mary Jones	Rachel Quintana	Pat Randleel	Rey Sepulveda	Armando Martinez	Michael A. Najera	Sally Upchurch
						
Martin Lerma	Mary Yglesias	Seat Vacant	Greg Spence	Jose Rodriguez	Angelica Rodriguez	Enrique Vega
						
Steven Saldivar	Pedro Galaviz	Juan I. Martinez	Poncho Garcia, Jr.	Sylvia Hopp	José Espinoza	Jeannie Meza-Chavez

Superintendents

Thank You For Serving

Hosting the Olympics sounds better than it really is

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

One of the first things we teach our kids is to develop the ability to reason. You know what I mean; the fundamental knowledge to learn from life’s interactions; to not make the same mistake twice. Some of us master this ability pretty early, some of us need a little more time and yet, some of us will never obtain this necessity of life. One common definition of the word “insanity” is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. While the whole concept of learning from one’s mistakes, or the mistakes of others, seems like an incredibly simple one, it’s frighteningly alarming how many of our fellow human beings believe that they will be the exception. This lack of recall, or downright arrogance, is prevalent throughout the world of sports. Because athletic contests pit physical strength against physical strength, the just-as-important mental aspect of the

game often takes a back seat. And though it usually costs the athletes on the losing team, you can almost justify it because of their sheer physical talent. But how about when the lack of vision comes from the administrative types in thousand-dollar suits who are paid to use their brains? A great example of not learning from the mistakes of others, or utter arrogance in the face of logic, is bidding for any Olympic games. Time after time, in this modern era of “that’s nothing, wait till you see what we can do,” one-upmanship, the price of staging the games could feed starving children in some countries for a year. And time after time, we’ve seen all the huge construction projects, many of which are only used for that two-week period, nearly bankrupt the area. Hosting cities are shut down for two weeks, it’s a logistical nightmare, the cleanup process costs millions and the project always loses money. In case you were wondering, the usual price tag to host an Olympics today is \$19 billion.

Then someone please tell me why in the world the intimate town of Boston is bidding for the 2024 Olympics? Boston? I didn’t say Los Angeles or New York or Las Vegas or Chicago or Dallas or San Francisco or even Atlanta. Don’t get me wrong, Boston is a great place to visit and learn about our country’s history, but the population of Boston is smaller than El Paso. I know Boston is near a lot of larger metropolitan cities, but Boston is an area of narrow streets, cramped older buildings and aging infrastructure. And aside from all that, what about the cost of hosting an Olympic games? Are the citizens of Boston ready to pony up billions of dollars to mess up their beautiful area? Leaders of Olympic-hosting-cities past have said over and over that in retrospect, the games were a disaster for their towns and that if they could turn back the clock, they would resend their bids. And yet, cities still stumble over each other to be the next “see-what-we-can-do” ambassadors of the games. Of course they feel their investment in

the games will have a different result - Insane. Boston is a great American city with tons of history buried in its backyard, but today’s Olympics calls for a big-budget city with big-budget stadiums that can deal with big-budget problems. I’m all for the underdog going against the odds and succeeding, that’s always a great story. But even if Boston were to defy the odds and win the bid and host the games, at what ultimate cost to the people of that city? How long will they be paying that price tag? Too many cities, much larger and more capable than Boston, have regretted hosting the big event. It’s like buying that expensive sports car you know you can’t afford. But it’s so alluring and shiny. And have you seen the way the chicks look at me when I drive by? That’s all the Olympics have become to the leaders of a city, state and country. It’s a shiny new sports car and the leering chicks are the citizens of the world.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX

PUBLIC NOTICE

REZONING REVIEW

The Town of Anthony will conduct a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, February 2, 2015, at Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas, to review the proposed rezoning map for the Town of Anthony, Texas. The map is available for viewing at Town Hall during normal business hours. Persons with disabilities wishing to attend this meeting should contact the City Secretary at (915) 886-3944 at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Luis Vela
Mayor

WTCC: 01-15-15

El Paso County Housing Authority

Public Notice

Job Opening

The El Paso County Housing Authority has an opening for a Family Self

Sufficiency Case Worker. Qualifications: Social Work, Housing Counseling Experience, Grant Writing and Bilingual. Salary negotiable. Resumes must be submitted to EPCHA by January 29, 2015, by mail to EPCHA, PO Box 279, Fabens, TX 79838 or email to ed@epcha.com.

The El Paso County Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WTCC: 01-15-15
01-22-15

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

Bye-bye boo-yah

One of my first “real” newspaper assignments for a small weekly newspaper in a small town was to take a big picture of somebody’s big Halloween display in their small front yard. With a clear sense of duty and purpose, I grabbed the house digital camera and marched over to the property, where, as promised, a big pumpkin-head ghost thing awaited. I took the shot and turned it over to the editor. “That’s a page one, right there,” I said. “What’s the headline?” he asked. “Duh... BOO-YAH!” Nobody else in the room got it but he and I, and that’s because we were both avid watchers of ESPN’s “SportsCenter.” “BOO-YAH,” for the uninitiated, was the catchphrase of ESPN anchor Stuart Scott. He used it as a punctuation during highlight reels, typically

basketball ones, and usually at the end of a tremendous slam or celestial three-pointer. It became a catchphrase that was featured on video games (“NBA Jam” comes to mind) and an utterance that could be heard on any wiffleball diamond or basketball court across the country after school from that point on. It also led to a lot of acrimony and apologetics. Comedians loved to zero in on Scott’s self-proclaimed “hip-hop stylings,” most notably the acerbic Daniel Tosh. “Easy, Stuart,” he would say, pointing out that Scott had little “street cred” in that he had a degree from the University of North Carolina. It also was common knowledge that early on in his career, the African-American Scott was told to “tone it down” more than once by the brass at ESPN for fear of alienating viewers, as if his brand of commentary was just too hardcore for the

home audience to endure... the audience that mirrored the same demographic that made Eminem, Dr. Dre, NWA and Snoop Dogg household names. True, it sometimes felt forced, but it never felt unprofessional. For the better part of a decade – and I do mean better part – Scott and his battery mate Rich Eisen held down the early-morning “SportsCenter” slot, and it was just about perfect. The two had a comedic timing that rivaled Abbott & Costello, a presence behind the desk that exceeded McNeil and Lehrer. Eisen, now the lead anchor for the NFL Network, realized it, too. “Who would have thought that the perfect guy for me, a Jewish kid from Staten Island, would be an African-American guy with North Carolina roots? Sometimes neither one of us knew whom the other was talking about, but it worked. It was always a trip doing a ‘SportsCenter’ with Stuart.” In 2007, Scott was diagnosed

See BOO-YAH, Page 8



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Comix

OUT ON A LIMBBy Gary Kopervas



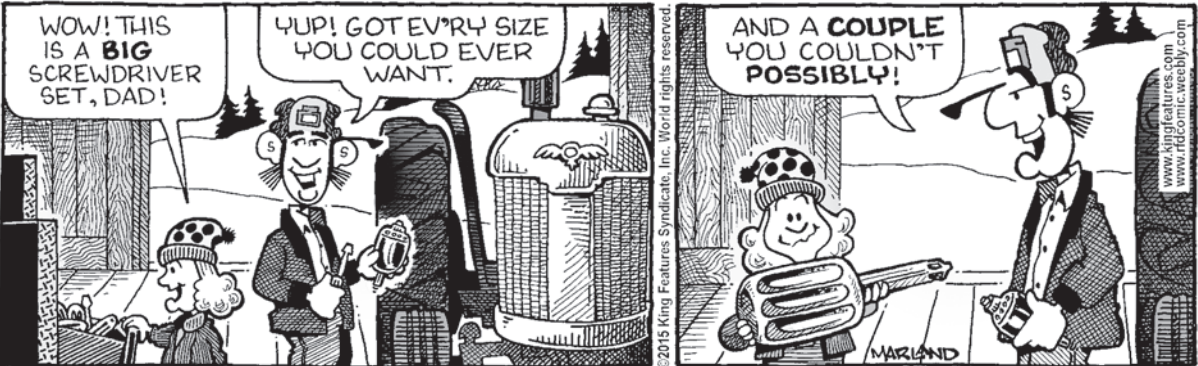
AMBER WAVESBy Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATSBy Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Your good healthBy Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have just returned from seeing my doctor, and was told that the cause of what I experienced is a mystery! In the late afternoon, my husband and I were sitting at the kitchen table. He noticed that a bruise was forming on my right temple – a dime-size purple mark, with a bump near the hairline. Over the next few hours the bruise grew larger, with red discoloration down the right side of my face, to the jaw. I had not been injured in any way, and it did not hurt! I called a 24-hour advice nurse, and was told I probably had broken a blood vessel. The next day, I called my doctor for an appointment, just to be on the safe side, but my doctor didn't have anything to look at. When I got up, all the bruising and discoloration was gone! She told me that there would still be some discoloration if it had been a broken blood vessel, so therefore it was a mystery. – C.C.

304W, 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.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Are men less likely to wash their hands after using the bathroom (for any reason) than women? Are there any studies providing statistics? I "preach" hand-washing as the single greatest preventive for most illness. – L.P.

If you can think of it, it's probably been studied. In 2003, a study at a university found that after using the washroom, women washed their hands with soap and water 61 percent of the time, and men 37 percent of the time. Placing a reminder sign increased the rate to 97 percent of women, but only 35 percent of men washed their hands with the reminder, although 53 percent rinsed their hands without soap.

Keeping hands clean reduces infection transmission to yourself and to others. Unfortunately, too often even doctors forget to wash our hands (only 65 percent of the time, in several studies). Our nursing colleagues are better at washing their hands. Many hospitals, including mine, have policies in place to improve hand-washing compliance.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. To view and order health pamphlets, visit www.rbmamall.com, or write to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2015 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

- SITCOM MOMS

ACROSS

1 Lundgren of "Rocky IV"

6 Bathers' scrubbers

12 Like alcoves and nooks

20 Mr. T's TV group, with "The"

21 Approach and speak to boldly

22 Loathed one

23 Vinton, Eunice and Ellen's mom

25 Planted again

26 _ Lingus (Irish carrier)

27 "It's cold in here!"

28 Hold together firmly

30 Also

31 Outpatient facility

34 "Allow me, _ may..."

37 Bud and Kelly's mom

40 _ acid (fat product)

41 Garcia of fashion

43 Applies, as a coat of wax

44 Wednesday and Pugsley's mom

48 Proficient

52 Salad green

53 Suffix with bureaucrat

54 May honorees

56 Curly's buddy

57 Casino client

61 Rudy, Vanessa, Theo, Denise and Sondra's mom

65 Scented

66 Long green

67 Work with

68 Milk, in Paris

69 Comic Leary

70 Coin of Chile

71 Sped

73 TV actress Jennie

74 Pizzazz

75 In favor of

76 Pious person

78 _ jumping (extreme sport)

79 Portrayer of

82 Big vultures

83 Once _ blue moon

84 Outlaw Rob

85 Reindeer kin

86 Like single-purpose committees

88 Slow, to Solti

90 Portrayer of

96 How blackbirds may be baked?

99 Otoscope views

100 Pollen piece

101 Portrayer of

105 Assembled

106 Wildlife

107 From _ Z (thoroughly)

108 Brunei ruler

110 Post-op area

112 Muhammad _

113 Whale's kin

116 Portrayer of

44-Across

121 Precise

122 Little hills

123 Physicist Mach

124 They include Saturdays

125 Least crazy

126 Alloy of zinc and copper

DOWN

1 Digital

2 Literature's "Moor of Venice"

3 More wary

4 Bud

5 "Let's see now..."

6 Oz Lion player

Bert

7 Wind instruments with finger holes

8 Bar code scanner: Abbr.

9 Dandy dude

10 "Hang on _"

11 Razor sharpener

12 Krypton, e.g.

13 Force

14 Stengel and Kasem

15 Summer, to Jules

16 The lady

17 Many a taxi

18 Edit

19 Pa

24 Easy as _

29 "A Doll's House" family name

32 Louse-to-be

33 Winter spikes

35 Giant flops

36 Ky. neighbor

38 Talk big

39 German for

30-Across

42 "I thought we had _!"

45 Street _ (urban acceptability)

46 Suffix with court or hotel

47 Like part of Russia

49 Official ban

50 Less rude

51 Cuts canines

54 Be reflective

55 Wood splitter

57 Kid's sled

58 "Sweet _" (barbershop song)

59 Monte Carlo resident

60 Very edge

62 How pajamas fit

63 Harm

64 _ flowing with milk and honey

66 Feline call

70 Address God

72 Four roods

73 Firearm storage

item

75 Mahmoud Abbas' gp.

77 Often-sprained joint

78 Churlish type

80 Literary twist

81 Nuke, maybe

82 "-ching!"

87 Purifies, as whiskey

89 Even score

90 Baby oinkers

91 "- shocked!"

92 Health facility

93 Biblical shout of praise

94 Innocent

95 Halts

97 Allocate

98 Took a break

101 "Bam!"

102 Right wrongs

103 Egggy cake

104 Doesn't have

106 Hot dog base

109 Mom's mom

111 Abnormal body sac

114 Plen-T-_ (Wrigley's gum unit)

115 Metal deposit

117 Pitchman Popeil

118 Pelota cheer

119 Brother of George Bush

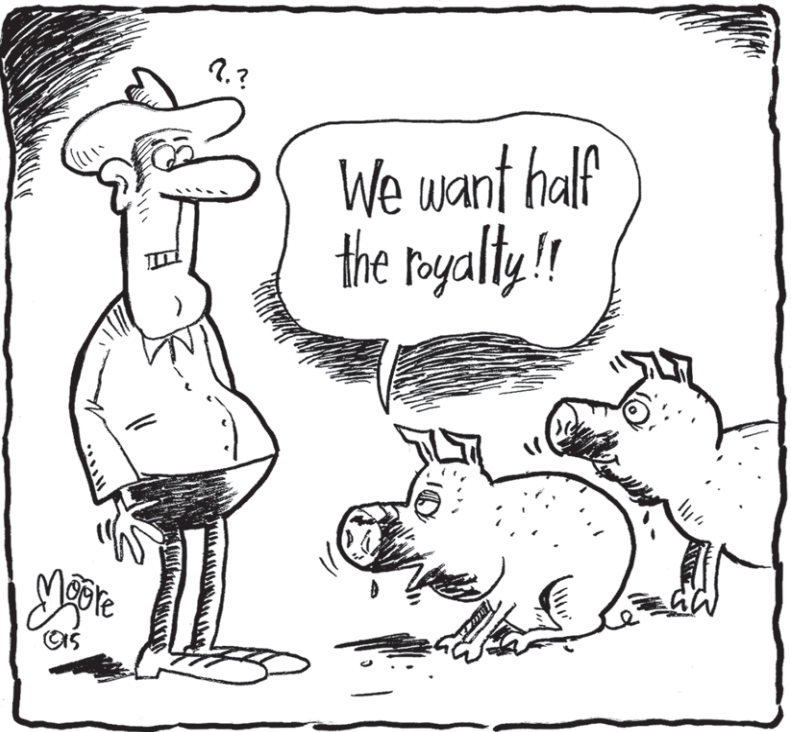
120 Bobby of hockey
- Answer Page 4

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MOORE TEXAS

by Roger Todd Moore

Saratoga Texas circa 1850 : J.F. Cotton’s pigs come out of a thicket with slick and glossy snouts, leading to a big oil discovery... did the pigs get a finders’ fee???



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.

	+		×		16
×		×		+	
	+		+		24
÷		-		÷	
	×		+		21
3		16		2	

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 3 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★ ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: What is the earliest age that I can receive Social Security disability benefits?

A: There is no minimum age as long as you meet the Social Security definition of disabled and you have sufficient work to qualify for benefits. To qualify for disability benefits, you must have worked under Social Security long enough under to earn the required number of work credits and some of the work must be recent. You can earn up to a maximum of four work credits each year. The amount of earnings required for a credit increases each year as general wage levels go up, and, currently, the amount is \$1,200. The number of work credits you need for disability benefits depends on the age you become disabled. For example, if you are under age 24, you may qualify with as little as six credits of coverage. But people disabled at age 31 or older generally need between 20 and 40 credits to qualify, and some of the work must have been recent. For example, you may need to have worked 5 out of the past

10 years. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/disability.

Q: What is the purpose of Supplemental Security Income, or SSI?

A: The purpose of SSI is to help aged, blind, and disabled people who have little income and few resources to support themselves. It provides financial assistance to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter. You can receive SSI even if you have not worked and paid into Social Security. SSI is a federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues (not Social Security taxes). Find out more at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi.

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

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: S equals W

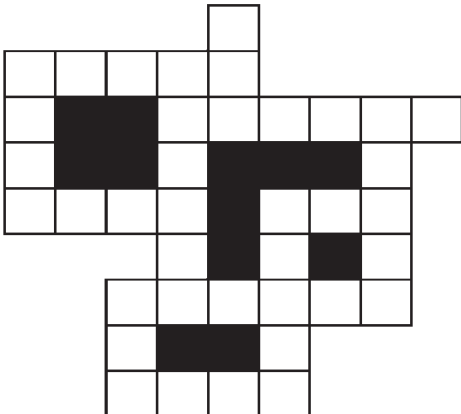
TKJ OFCVBQOH FBKBPOVN
ABXMVC SET PEVCS CXXN
JCRRCVPR OP EBR CHCFBCR'
AOQCR: XCHCVOK QMRPOVJ.

Answer Page 4

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EBE
STAJME
♥ERABS
♥RYLE
CYLAGE
BAJ
♥TESA
ARCME
♥ERO
HILBET
BLOIM
♥RUBL



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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Flu

From Page 1

you're young or don't typically get sick doesn't mean you can't catch the flu. You can catch the flu from someone who has yet to exhibit any signs or symptoms of being sick.

• Getting the flu shot vaccine is fast, easy and convenient. Getting a flu shot takes no more than five minutes. Most neighborhood pharmacies even offer walk-in options, so you don't need to make an appointment. If you are unemployed or your employer doesn't offer flu shots, you can go to your primary care doctor or nearby wellness clinic, most retail pharmacies or contracted flu shot providers. To find a list of flu shot providers near you, visit Flu.gov (<http://www.flu.gov/prevention-vaccination/vaccination/index.html>) and enter your zip code.

• Take preventive measures. In addition to getting vaccinated, please remember to take preventive measures like washing your hands regularly to help reduce the spread of germs. And if you are sick with the flu, stay home to prevent spreading flu to others.

Flu season runs from October through May. So if you haven't gotten a flu shot, now is the time to make your and your family's health a priority. Get a flu shot. If you do, you'll likely be able to enjoy the winter and early spring a little more.

Marshall D. Dawer M.D. M.S. F.A.C.P. ABEM is the Market Medical Director of UnitedHealthcare of North Texas.

Boo-yah

From Page 6

with cancer, and it was a battle he lost a few weeks ago at the age of 49. He leaves behind two teenage daughters, legions of fans – including those who are only now, begrudgingly and belatedly, giving him the respect he deserves, myself included – and a congregation of colleagues that Stuart addressed best in what became his own eulogy upon accepting the Jimmy V Award a few years ago.

“You beat cancer by how you live.”

Mr. Stuart, the congregation stood in witness. Well played.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.

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