



NEWSBRIEFS

1099s in an instant

Getting ready to prepare your income tax returns can be a hassle, especially for those of us who haven't been diligent in holding on to our records. Seniors who misplace their SSA 1099 forms have the extra aggravation of having to call and/or visit their local Social Security office to get replacements, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens. But, now all you have to do is use the Internet to open a free mySocialSecurity account and access your 1099s electronically. You can view and print them in an instant. Carolyn W. Colvin, Acting Commissioner of Social Security, says: "beginning this tax season, any mySocialSecurity account holder who misplaces their original SSA-1099 will be able to request an instant replacement from our menu of online services. Setting up a mySocialSecurity account is quick, easy, and secure; plus it's a great way to do business with Social Security."

— John Grimaldi

Childish behavior

The family of 5-year-old Alex Nash thought it was a joke when he came home from school in Plymouth, England with a 16 pound invoice (about \$24). It seems that he was a no-show at his friend's birthday outing and was being held responsible for his share of the costs, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens. The Nash family says Alex decided to spend the day with his grandparents instead of going to the party. The invoice stated clearly that it was a "No Show Fee." But what really upset the Nash family was that the bill was delivered directly to young Alex. There was talk of lawsuits, but British lawyers say it will be almost impossible for the "injured" party to get a judgment in court. Meanwhile, Alex has apparently lost a playmate.

— John Grimaldi

Wanted

A man steals a bicycle and two gardening trimmers from an East El Paso Wal-Mart Store. Detectives from the El Paso Police Department are asking for assistance in identifying him through the Crime Stoppers "Crime Spot." On the afternoon of Wednesday, Jan. 28 2015, a man

See BRIEFS, Page 8



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

GETTING READY TO ROLL – Brunswick Bowling and Billiards employees put the finishing touch on the bowling lanes built inside the Judson F. Williams Convention Center in Downtown El Paso. Above, from left, are Ty Bradley, of Silver Lake MI, and Darryl Bishop, of Cleveland TN, who have been working on the temporary bowling installations since January 5.

Tournament to attract thousands of bowlers, millions of dollars to El Paso

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – When the five-month long 2015 United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Men's Championship Tournament starts next month, it is expected to attract almost 90,000 bowlers and fans to the El Paso and Southern New Mexico region. And while here, tournament and city officials estimate that they could give the area as much as a \$75 million economic boost.

El Paso hosted the USBC Women's Open Championship Tournament in 2010, and the economic impact was nearly \$48 million, according to city officials. That

included direct spending on lodging, food, shopping, entertainment, and transportation by about 30,000 bowlers and another 10,000 spectators during the women's 100-day bowling event, officials reported.

Bryan Crowe, General Manager of Destination El Paso (the city's tourism agency) said that preparations are nearly complete as the latest tournament is scheduled to start the second week in March.

The 2015 USBC open championships will mark the 112th edition of the event and USBC officials estimate that El Paso can expect to welcome more than 48,000 participants and an estimated 22,000 guests over 128 days. Bowlers from leagues throughout the country will be

vying for \$5 million in prize money.

Set to take place at the Judson F. Williams Convention Center from March 7-July 12, the upcoming tournament will feature a total of 62 lanes, which is an 18-lane increase from the 2010 USBC women's championships.

"We anticipate that the 2015 USBC open championships will be a huge victory for the entire El Paso region," said Crowe at a recent press conference. "We exceeded the bowlers' expectations in 2010, and when they return this year, we're going to host a tournament that will be talked about for many years."

The general manager stated that the tournament's return to the West Texas region was made possible through the coordinated efforts among the city and county of El Paso, the El Paso Sports Commission, the El Paso Hotel Motel Association, and local USBC President Karl Kielich.

"The city of El Paso really rolled out the red carpet for the bowlers and staff during the women's championships in 2010, and we're excited about being able to return with the men's open championships in 2015," said USBC Executive Director Stu Upson. "The event has been to many different places over the years, and it will be great to add another amazing city to the list."

After a successful 2010 USBC women's championships at the El Paso Convention and Performing Arts Center, the city of El Paso made a strong proposal to hold the 2015 men's open championships in the same venue. The offer was accepted with the full support of the USBC Board of Directors, city officials related.

"The venue in El Paso played a huge role in the history of the women's championships as

EPCC committee helps warm community



— Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

On February 16 the Humanitarian Outreach Committee of the Professional Staff Association at El Paso Community College (EPCC) presented to the El Paso County Sheriff's Department over 100 coats and articles of clothing donated by EPCC employees in their Keeping El Paso Community Warm Coat Drive. The Sheriff's Department will distribute the clothing to those in need throughout El Paso County. Above, from left, are Sgt. Steve Porras, Dep. Martha Espinosa, EPCC Professional Staff Assoc. Carmen Wages, Dep. Monica Varela and Dep. Adrian Gonzalez.

— Jim Heiney

No one appreciates the value of constructive criticism more thoroughly than the one that's giving it.

— Quips & Quotes

See BOWLERS, Page 2

Finances By Jason Alderman

Making sure loved ones are prepared for retirement

What if a sudden, debilitating illness, fraud or economic downturn affected your senior family member's retirement, estate or long-term care issues? Would you be prepared to take over?

If the answer is no, you're not alone. According to 2013 research (<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2013/07/18/as-population-ages-more-americans-becoming-caregivers/>) from the

Pew Research Center, four in 10 U.S. adults are caring for a loved one with significant health issues.

Don't wait for a crisis to initiate this conversation. Starting early can help you plan and even safeguard your own career and retirement planning. Here are some suggestions for starting the conversation:

Identify the missing links. Find information gaps you need to fill to help your senior relative plan for retirement. If key financial information – investment and banking accounts, legal documents or doctors' contact information – is missing, list any and all unknowns to be researched and compiled.

Schedule a family financial meeting. Schedule a specific day and time and create an agenda that meets the needs of your senior relative. It is not always necessary to involve all direct family members in a preliminary discussion, but make sure that relevant individuals are aware

of the meeting. After helping your senior relative assess his or her financial situation, make sure to identify next steps and responsibilities.

Locate important financial documents. Ask your senior relative to show you where his or her key documents and accounts are, such as retirement and pension information, checkbooks, investment statements, insurance policies and legal and estate data. Find out where incoming bills are kept in case you have to step in and help manage monthly bills.

Consider seeking financial counseling. Any number of reasons, from illness to fraud, may explain losing control of personal finances. If your relative has been working with a qualified financial or tax advisor, the family team should consider meeting with him or her if a need arises. If outside tax, financial or legal help is needed, the team and your senior relative should discuss who those professionals

should be, what their fees are and what you expect them to do.

Make and agree on a plan. After all the information gathering and discussion is complete, make a plan – in writing, if possible – to review the senior's wishes, set an action plan and assign responsibilities as necessary. As mentioned above, you should review this plan every year. And if problems emerge in any topic area from retirement to health issues, you'll find guidance throughout the Practical Money Skills for Life website. (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/personalfinance/>)

Bottom line: Asking older relatives about retirement, estate and long-term care preparations can be an uncomfortable conversation. Making a plan and initiating early conversations to involve the right people can ease the financial strain and stress on everyone involved.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Upgrades for MyHealthVet

If you use MyHealthVet, the online gateway to your health care, you'll soon see a new feature that will help you interact with your health-care team: an online pharmacy. This tracker will give you 24/7 online access to the status of your prescriptions. You'll know at a glance when your prescriptions have been sent.

The prescription tracker soon will include images of the drug that was sent, and within a year you'll be able to get email alerts to let you know when your prescription was sent out in the mail. The medication tracker feature alone might be reason enough to sign up for MyHealthVet, if you haven't already.

There are three different levels to the program. You'll start with a basic account that does not require identity authentication. You'll have limited access to features, such as the journals, your goals, insurance info, health measurements and self-reported information such as lab work and medical

events, and you can't see your personal medical information in the Department of Defense computers.

Upgrade one level to an advanced account, and you'll be able to view some information in the Department of Veterans Affairs or DoD records about yourself. When you become a VA patient, your profile is linked to those records. At this level you'll be able to use the prescription feature.

Upgrade to the premium level and you'll have the highest level of access. You'll need to undergo authentication and have all your info linked to the VA or DoD records. You'll be able to access your appointments, lab results, pathology reports and much more.

The MyHealthVet is one of the things the VA is doing right. It makes sense to participate and take advantage of the program. Go online to www.myhealth.va.gov to check it out.

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Bowlers

From Page 1

the event's first convention-center build," said Brian Lewis, USBC's managing director of tournaments. "Along with the Intercollegiate Team Championships, Queens

and other events, our previous stay in El Paso couldn't have been any smoother, and we know our return to El Paso will be another success."

To lure the men's bowling tournament to El Paso, the county will provide about \$536,000, and the city pledged up to \$1.5

million. The funds are coming from the hotel occupancy tax revenues, officials explained.

For more information about the USBC tournament, contact Matt Cannizzaro with USBC Communications at (800) 514-BOWL, ext. 8377 or via email at Matt.Cannizzaro@bowl.com.



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View from here By John Grimaldi

Obama budget is an 'unabashed political statement,' says AMAC

“So much for a bi-partisan end game for President Obama’s presidency. His proposed 2016 Federal Budget shows his determination to leave office as head of a socialist nation. It ignores the state of the economy and his part in digging the hole the country is in and dismisses the Islamic terrorist threat,” according to Dan Weber, president of the Association of Mature American Citizens.

Weber characterized the budget proposal as an “unabashed political statement” that speaks to the president’s progressive base. He said its main purpose seems to be “hooking” Americans on government handouts and getting them to abandon free-market principles that made the U.S. the world’s economic powerhouse “before he took office.”

The proposal is loaded with new entitlements and disincentives to job creation, he said.

House Budget Committee Chair Tom Price and Senate Budget Committee Chair Mike Enzi put it this way in a joint statement: “The president is advocating more spending, more taxes and more debt. As we have seen over the past several years, that approach will yield less opportunity for the middle class and a crushing burden of debt that threatens both our future prosperity and our national security.”

Researcher Matthew Sabas of the Manhattan Institute spotted several

spending cuts in the budget, including one that he described as “good news for ISIS” – a Department of Defense reduction of funding for the war against that group of determined terrorists.

“Overseas Contingency Operation funding for operations against the Islamic State is expected to be \$5.3 billion in 2016, down from \$5.6 billion requested in 2015. Rather than reducing this funding, it needs to be increased,” Sabas noted in his analysis.

Weber concluded that the budget is “another volley designed to further incite class warfare with a new call for income redistribution. Instead of creating ways for the middle class to climb the economic ladder, he offers them handouts such as free community college. Instead of making government more efficient and accountable, he seeks to increase the size and invasive role of the bureaucracy.”

The new Republican Congress has a little more than half a year in which to set things right, he said. Paul Ryan will be the point man on the budget and has signaled that he is willing to negotiate, to keep ideas that benefit the middle class and to eliminate those that restrict their potential. He said: “I want to work with this administration, and I hope that we can find common ground. But the president has to demonstrate that he’s interested in governing, not just posturing.”

View from here By Marshall Dawer M.D.

It’s not too late to start

Remember your 2015 New Year’s resolution to get healthy? Maybe it included losing 20 pounds by summer, running seven days a week or eating at least six servings of fruits and vegetables each day.

But now, with New Year’s Day behind us and another chilly day ahead, perhaps your enthusiasm has started to wane. It’s already February and you have yet to start on your 2015 resolutions.

Take heart: It’s not too late to start!

February is American Heart Month, a reminder that heart disease is the No. 1 cause of death in America, according to a report from the American Heart Association. American Heart Month is an opportunity to focus on your heart health and start your healthy turnaround. It’s also a good time to right-size your plan and stick to it. Here are five tips for your “take heart” start:

- **Know your numbers.** Getting healthy is about more than just reducing your waist size. It’s about reducing your biometric numbers – such as your cholesterol, Body Mass Index (BMI), blood pressure and blood sugar – all of which are key indicators for one’s risk of developing heart disease, diabetes and other major illnesses. Visit your doctor, get your biometric numbers and then work to improve them.

- **Moderate your meals.** We have all heard that vegetables and fruits are crucial to a healthy diet. The goal each day is to

limit your intake of foods high in sugar, fat and cholesterol, and eat 3-5 servings of vegetables and 2-4 servings of fruits, as well as 2-3 servings of lean meats and 1-2 servings of dairy products. But that doesn’t mean you have to take an all-or-nothing approach. Start by reducing your portion sizes, and think of creative ways to add vegetables and fruit to your meals. Visit <http://www.uhc.com/health-and-wellness/healthy-recipes> for some delicious recipe ideas.

- **Get active.** Did you know our state ranks near the bottom when it comes to physical activity? More than 27 percent of Texans admitted they had not exercised in over a month, according to the 2014 America’s Health Rankings® report [<http://www.americashealthrankings.org/TX>]. Help change that trend by increasing activity and exercise more. The goal is to get at least one hour of physical activity each day from aerobic activities like walking, jogging, biking or swimming. You can even increase your activity in small ways, such as taking the stairs at work, parking farther away from the store, pacing while you’re on the phone, or walking around the block after dinner. Five to 10 minutes here and there can add up and noticeably boost your activity levels.

- **Make hydration a habit.** Up to 60 percent of the adult body is water; your



— Photo courtesy of Jeffrey D. Cook Jr.

TELLING TALES – Above center is Native American Storyteller Alex Mares during a recent El Paso Museum of Archaeology event as he expounds on the cultural traditions of the prehistoric inhabitants of this region.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was American poet Ella Wheeler Wilcox who made the following sage observation: “To sin by silence when they should protest makes cowards of men.”
- During the Victorian era, a well-dressed gentleman was never outdoors without a hat, and most had different hats for different occasions. Of course, the cost of such haberdashery could mount significantly, so one enterprising British soul registered a design (which was much less expensive than registering a patent) for a “duplex hat” – an elaborate contraption that, by means of hidden springs, could convert from a top hat to a bowler hat to suit the circumstances.
- Before you ink yourself, you might want to consider this: The cost of removing an unwanted tattoo can be up to 10 times as much as it cost to get the tattoo in the first place.

• If you’re like the average American parent, your kids get \$3.40 from the tooth fairy for each tooth lost.

• You’ve doubtless heard of peak oil – that theoretical point at which the global production of oil reaches its maximum output, after which production gradually declines decline – but what about peak poultry? Those who study such things say that the world hit its peak production of chicken for human consumption in 2006.

• The first canned meat product, known as Hormel Spiced Ham, was developed in 1937. Several imitators followed, and the executives at the Hormel Company, concerned about the new competition, decided to have a competition to rename the product. The winner, Broadway actor Kenneth Daigneau (and brother to the company’s vice president), won \$100 for the winning entry: Spam.

Thought for the Day: “A good speech should be like a woman’s skirt: long enough to cover the subject and short enough to create interest.”

– Winston Churchill

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Museum features Native American storyteller, astronomer

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – The El Paso Museum of Archaeology will host a special presentation, titled *The Power of Storytelling*, beginning at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, February 21, on the museum’s fairgrounds (4301 Transmountain Road). The free event will feature two lectures and a winter storytelling campsite session.

Locally known Alex Mares, a

trained Native American storyteller and interpreter, will facilitate the lecture on the tradition of Native American storytelling, and Astronomer Francisco Parra will conduct the lecture on the astronomical occurrences that are present in the night sky.

Mares said that the lectures are designed to help explain the impact that these ancient stories have on the human psyche and emotional landscape. After both lectures, participants will join the presenters for an outdoor

storytelling and stargazing activity as they gather around an open camp fire.

Mares stated that his presentation will discuss the significance of how storytelling creates unique moments where both the interpreter and the audience share the same emotions. “This phenomenon gives storytelling a level of universality through the ability to engage listeners,” he stated.

Parra’s presentation will delve into the notable placements of

the planets in the night sky and their significance.

The event will begin with Mares’s lecture from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m., followed by Parra’s lecture from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. The outdoor storytelling and stargazing session is scheduled to start at 6 p.m.

For more information, contact Brittany Hutchinson, community engagement coordinator for the Museum of Archaeology, at (915) 755-4332 or send email to Hutchinsonbm@elpasotexas.gov.

Diversity Internships available from the Texas Historical Commission

By Chris Florance
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – Applications are now open through March 20 for the Texas Historical Commission’s (THC) Diversity Internship Program.

The Diversity Internship Program builds interest and awareness in historic preservation, specifically among students from

underrepresented cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. THC Diversity Interns will work with THC staff and programs, gaining valuable professional experience related to historic preservation, historic sites, community development programs, heritage tourism, and communications. Diversity Interns will complete a rotation among all divisions headquartered in Austin and then complete a special project

in a division of their choice. Diversity Interns will receive a \$5,000 stipend provided by the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, for a full-time eight-week internship.

Undergraduate students interested in history, preservation, architecture, landscape architecture, archeology, downtown revitalization, and heritage tourism can apply. The only requirements are U.S.

citizenship, current enrollment in junior year or higher (in a Texas college or university or a Texas resident attending an out-of-state school), and 3.0 or higher grade point average. Preference may be given to a candidate from a disadvantaged socioeconomic background. Prior recipients are ineligible.

For more information or to apply for an internship, visit www.thcfriends.org.

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CryptoQuip Answer

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San Elizario HS graduate gives back as educator, administrator

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Leading an elementary campus and keeping discipline for hundreds of energetic boys and girls is no easy task to accomplish but for new administrator Monica Silva, it helps to be able to harness her experiences as a former San Elizario student to understand and empathize with the children who attend her school. Silva was recently appointed Assistant Principal of Sambrano Elementary School in the San Elizario Independent School District and officially began her duties on January 20.

Silva does not have to put

herself in her students' shoes since she has lived through some of the same emotions and situations that her students today now face having graduated from San Elizario High School in 1994. She now hopes to bring her own personal insight to encourage students to graduate and succeed.

"I want our kids to know that I graduated from San Elizario and they can also and go on to a very successful life," Silva said.

Silva remembers as a young girl being from San Elizario



Monica Silva

record numbers.

"I want our students to feel motivated to continue meeting their goals and I am always encouraging them," Silva added.

She makes it a point to visit

and having very limited resources in comparison to students from other school districts. Now, however, she sees that all the schools are fully equipped, students are proud to represent San Elizario in competitions outside of the school district, and graduate in

classrooms and try to inspire students, a tactic she believes eliminates some discipline issues. Another goal she has set for herself as a new administrator is to make sure teachers know that she supports them and is readily available as a resource. Along with the guidance of Sambrano principal Teresa Wilks, Silva is hopeful that the positive environment on campus will lead to great outcomes for both students and staff.

"We have great plans for this school year and we will be very successful," Silva affirmed.

Silva has 12 years experience in education having served as a bilingual teacher, Title I reading teacher, and instructional specialist. She

worked at Alarcon and Borrego Elementary Schools prior to joining the faculty at Sambrano this school year. Silva earned her bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies and bilingual education as well as her master's as an instructional specialist in bilingual education from the University of Texas at El Paso. In 2014 she completed her principal certification through the Principal Alternative Certification Academy at the Education Service Center-Region 19. She is married to Manuel Silva and has a 9-year old son named Jonah and a 12-year old daughter named Mily.

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ANTHONY ISD

REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS FOR ERATE DISTRICT WIDE INTERNAL CONNECTIONS AND BASIC MAINTENANCE RFP NUMBER: 2015-01

Competitive Sealed Proposals not received timely will not be considered. Anthony ISD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WTCC: 02-19-15
02-26-26

TOWN OF ANTHONY, TX

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION AVAILABILITY

TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, 2015-2016

The Board of Trustees of the Anthony ISD is requesting Competitive Sealed Proposals for Erate Category 2 District Wide Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance. The work sought includes installing a new wireless network and providing hardware support, the scope of work is more fully described in the RFP.

The Town of Anthony hereby gives notice of its intent to submit an application for a Fiscal Year 2015-2016 grant in the amount of \$168,638.00 from the Community Development Fund of the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. The grant requested will be used to finance a street improvements project. The application will be available for public examination at the Town Hall, at 401 Wildcat Drive in Anthony, Texas, during regular business hours after February 20, 2015.

Interested firms may obtain a copy of the full Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal by contacting Ms. Emily Levario at the phone number or email address listed below or online at:

<http://www.anthonyisd.net/departments/purchasing/bids.html>

Competitive Sealed Proposals will be received by the School District until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2015. All Competitive Sealed Proposals must be delivered by hand or mail to the School District at the following address:

Luis Vela, Mayor

WTCC: 09-25-14

HELP WANTED

Anthony Independent School District
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RFP # 2015-01
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The standards for players should be the same

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

A lot of the talk around town has to do with the El Paso Chihuahuas and the rush to obtain tickets for the upcoming season.

It may be hard to believe but the start of the season is less than two months away.

And with that come the beginning of warmer weather and the thoughts of summer vacation plans.

Another thing the beginning of minor league baseball brings with it is the beginning of major league baseball.

And a lot of talk surrounding the big leagues lately has been about two superstar players.

Well, one has long since retired and the other could retire after this season.

And though you'd love for your little boy or girl to play like them, the emulation may end there.

The two guys in the news lately are Pete Rose and Alex Rodriguez.

We all know that Pete Rose has been banned from baseball for 25 years after it was proven that he bet on baseball

games.

A-Rod has been associated with so many scandals over the years that he's seen more on TMZ lately than ESPN.

Of course the biggest baseball-related scandal concerning Rodriguez his been his steroid use and attempted cover up.

These two guys have a lot in common.

They say the hardest thing to do in professional sports is to hit a 95 mph moving baseball with a rounded stick; and nobody had more hits in the history of the game than Pete Rose.

They say the best baseball players in history could do five things extraordinarily well, hit, hit with power, run, throw and catch; and Alex Rodriguez could do all of those things and make it look easy.

Both are arguably among the best 10 baseball players in the history of the sport.

But there's something wrong here – something that makes them very different – something that distinguishes one from the other.

While Rose is still banned from the game, Rodriguez is still allowed to play, why?

They both broke the rules of the game; they both lied about breaking the rules of the game, and when they both found they had no other options, they both solemnly apologized for breaking the rules of the game.

But again, one is not allowed in the club and the other is.

As a manager of the Cincinnati Reds, Pete Rose had a gambling problem and bet on baseball games, even his own team. He always bet on them to win, but he still bet on baseball games, which is a no-no.

Alex Rodriguez has been caught using human growth hormones of one kind or another for years and has been involved in scandals related to his driving, the women he dated, his sportsmanship on the field and his knack for hiring lawyers.

Both of these guys, though they were outstanding athletes, rank very low on the personal conduct meter.

But the critics always spout those five little words, "the integrity of the game."

What is worse, betting on baseball or cheating by breaking the rules, several times, to get an unfair advantage over your opponents?

Obviously, they're both bad. And obviously there is no room for either in any sport.

So something should be done. Either you kick Rodriguez out of the game for life, or you let Rose back in after serving his 25-year term.

Really, there are murderers walking the streets right now that served less time than that.

I think it's about time that Pete Rose was let back into the game he loves. Nobody played the game any harder or with more passion. I mean, his nickname was "Charlie Hustle".

On the other side of the baseball spectrum, I think I stand with many by saying that I wish A-Rod would just walk away from the game.

Nobody on his team wants him back; no other players are thrilled to have him back; nobody in the administration wants him back; even the Yankee fans could do without him.

But A-Rod is like that annoying guy at the office who has no clue that his vulgar words and body odor offend anyone.

Baseball has got to get this right. If A-Rod can stay, then Pete should stay.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

The Dean's list

For the first month or so, times were fun – even a bit giddy – in Cole Field House at College Park, Maryland. Led by head coach Gary Williams, the early '90s edition of the Maryland Terrapins were off to a hot start, and their newest recruits, like Joe Smith and Exree Hipp, were electrifying to behold. Smith played center with a calmness and physical grace that made watching him a pleasure. Hipp, who would later go on to play for the Harlem Globetrotters, spent most of his time above the rim, or trying to get there. The Terps were on a roll, and the fans were living it up.

And then, one day, something called the "ACC schedule"

dropped. Suddenly the other team didn't look like it was wearing hand-me-downs from an intramural volleyball team. The other squad wasn't an undersized troop led by a manic point guard taking 75 shots per game, and the other coach wasn't some wet-behind-the-ears kid barely out of college himself, clutching a clipboard with a death grip while tugging at his ill-fitting dress shirt.

On this one particular day, the team that came out of the locker room was wearing powder blue, and the head coach was a guy who carried so much gravitas that the entire student section just stopped and stared. To paraphrase one of the freshmen

seated close behind the bench upon seeing Dean Smith in person for the first time: "[Things] just got real."

He didn't look like an innovator, and he didn't look very friendly, either. Always in a suit, always with a certain look of intensity, a gaze that seemed to burn right through you. He was a very religious man off the court, and on the court, despite that gaze, he was never "blue" – didn't curse or throw chairs onto the court. But as soon as you heard the whistle, he unleashed all the furies of basketball hell he could devise.

Two-three zones and four corners offensive schemes; shooting nothing but threes or driving for layups... no dinky jump shots; substituting five players at one time; starting six seniors and taking the technical to begin a final home game. He slowed the game down just so he

could speed it up to otherworldly levels. He was amazing. Brilliant.

Gary Williams, who suffered at the hands of Smith's teams for the early part of his tenure at Maryland, recalled how he developed a rivalry with Smith over the course of the '90s.

"We had a lot of great games," Williams told listeners of "The Norris & Davis Show" in Baltimore upon learning of Smith's death. "He really went after it. He was a tough guy in terms of competition... if you weren't prepared you were going to lose, because he was going to be prepared."

Smith, who passed Feb. 8 at age 83, was prepared to go. A victim of "the long goodbye" that robbed him of some of his greatest memories in old age, he could always be content in knowing that the list of his accomplishments both on and off the court will continue to resound and rebound and aggressively inbound and come right back down the court inside the minds of those who witnessed his life and the lives he touched.

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



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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.

	x		-		26
+		x		x	
	x		+		26
x		÷		+	
	x		+		14
33		14		26	

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: What can I do at www.socialsecurity.gov?

A: There is a myriad of things you can do at Social Security's website. You can conduct most of your Social Security business with our suite of online services at www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices. There, you can get an estimate of future benefits, find out if you qualify for benefits now, and even apply for benefits. You can complete a number of other tasks online, too. You can estimate your retirement benefit using our Retirement Estimator. It allows you to get an instant, personalized estimate of your future benefit based on different retirement ages and scenarios. You can even open your own my Social Security account to plan for and manage your benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. Just looking for some information about Social Security? Read, print, or listen to one of our many publications. Many of them are in Spanish, and some are in 16 other languages as well. Topics include Social Security cards, the Medicare prescription drug program, and retirement planning. There are so

many things you can do at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: I understand you must have limited resources to be eligible for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug costs. What does this mean?

A: To qualify for Extra Help in 2014, your resources must be limited to \$13,440 for an individual or \$26,860 for a married couple living together. Resources include the value of the things you own. Some examples are real estate (other than your primary residence); bank accounts, including checking, savings, and certificates of deposit; stocks; bonds, including United States Savings Bonds; mutual funds; Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA); and cash you have at home or anywhere else. To learn more about Extra Help, and to apply online, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

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.

Start

From Page 3

body needs water not only to survive, but to thrive. Make hydration a habit by keeping a tall glass or reusable bottle filled with cool water at your desk or in your car. And start each meal with a full glass of water. Water can make you feel full and help you eat less. The Institute of Medicine recommends that women drink at least 91 ounces and men drink 125 ounces of water each day, including water that comes through food and other beverages.

• **Record your results.** Write down realistic, measurable goals for diet, exercise and weight loss and record your results. Writing it all down will help you track your progress and help you stay focused. It also demonstrates how making small changes every day can add up to real results over time. Be patient, stay committed and watch as you fulfill your 2015 New Year's resolution.

Marshall Dawer M.D. is the Medical Director for UnitedHealthcare of North Texas.

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: D equals E

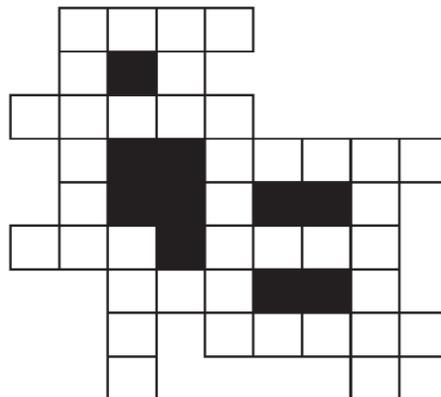
RO P OVWDRSGDW BVXDK
RGCV P BRCT PGM RK PYY QT
URXKDYO, XRSUC UD QD BPHYDM
CUD YVGD KCWPGSDW?

Answer Page 4

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- HRO
- RUDWAP
- URRNE
- AGRD
- ETHIAL
- ♥ ERP
- ♥ WLSO
- ♥ RONGE
- ♥ DWE
- ROSNIP
- ♥ RUSPL
- ♥ SOPH



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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Briefs

From Page 1

was walked into the garden section of the Wal-Mart Store located at 1850 N. Zaragoza. The man picked up two gardening trimmers and then a bicycle and exited the store with the items. Witnesses reported seeing the man attempting to place the items in a white car, but was unsuccessful. The man was then seen riding off on the stolen bicycle and carrying both trimmers. The suspect is described as, Hispanic male, in his mid to late 30s, and appears to have a mustache. The suspect was wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt, blue jeans and white tennis shoes. Anyone with any information on this case 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).

- Javier Sambrano