



NEWSBRIEFS

Insurance coverage

Since Open Enrollment began on November 1, about 8.8 million consumers signed-up for health coverage through the HealthCare.gov platform or had their coverage automatically renewed, including 1,152,013 Texas. Today's enrollment snapshot includes the number of people who selected a plan or were automatically reenrolled within local media markets. This localized data provides another level of detail to better understand total plan selections within local communities. 59,098 consumers in the El Paso and Las Cruces local media market area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan as of January 16. "As expected, consumer interest is beginning to increase again as we near the deadline for 2016 coverage," HHS Secretary Sylvia Burwell said. "We know we have more work to do and as we count down to the January 31 final deadline, we're focused on making sure consumers understand that they must act soon to find affordable health coverage and avoid the fee for choosing to not have health insurance in 2016. Consumers should know that we're here to help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week."

— U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Found money

There is no such thing as "found money" as far as the IRS is concerned, says the Association of Mature American Citizens. There are several cases on the books that prove the notion and Forbes magazine reported on two of them recently. In one instance, a man found \$5,000 inside of a used piano he'd bought for \$15. In another, a couple discovered gold coins worth \$10 million buried on property they owned. On both occasions, Uncle Sam sent the tax man to claim his cut.

— John Grimaldi

Keeping up with granny

Agnes Zhelesnik has no plans to retire from her job as Home Economics teacher at the private Sundance School in North Plainfield, NJ even though at 102 years of age she is thought to be the nation's oldest practicing teacher, reports the Association of Mature

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A man cannot touch his neighbor's heart with anything less than his own heart.

— Quips & Quotes

EPCU receives design funding for Montana Vista sewer system

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – State officials have awarded a \$2.8 million grant to design a sewer system for about 2,400 households in the Montana Vista area in far east El Paso County.

The Texas Water Development Board voted recently to dedicate planning funds from the board's Economically Distressed Areas Program account to El Paso Water Utilities. The infrastructure's design is expected to be completed by January 2017, according to El Paso's state senator José Rodríguez.

However, the \$30 million needed to

See FUNDING, Page 8

State Senator José Rodríguez represents Texas Senate District 29, which includes the counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis, and Presidio.



County opens satellite booking office as part of pretrial services department

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso County residents with outstanding warrants will soon be able to take care of the issue at a new booking office in the lower level of the county courthouse instead of going to the county jail facility. The new satellite



County Commissioner Vince Perez said that the creation of the pretrial services department is intended to enhance public safety and to improve efficiencies in the jail.

office is part of the pretrial services department that was initiated by county commissioners court in October.

County Commissioner Vince Perez – who spearheaded efforts for implementing the new pretrial services department – said that the creation of the pretrial department is intended to enhance public safety and to improve efficiencies in the jailing process.

Before the pretrial services department was established, there were often times when people would bond out of jail before there was a background check done on their criminal history, Perez claimed. "The point of the department is to better screen individuals when they come into the jail... to do a more thorough assessment of their criminal background, to do a mental health assessment, and to also screen for indigence to see if they qualify for an appointed attorney," he stated.

The satellite office is just another feature of the new pretrial services department. It is expected to be operational in February. According to the commissioner, many individuals who have outstanding warrants hesitate to turn themselves in at the current main booking office because it is located in the county's downtown jail house and they are concerned about being arrested.

"What the satellite booking office is intended to do is to create a space in the county courthouse, so if an individual who has an outstanding warrant and he or she wants to take care of the warrant and wants to come in on his or her own,

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Report cards for Socorro ISD campuses are online

By Christina Flores-Jones
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – In order for parents and stakeholders to learn about the progress and success at Socorro Independent School District (SISD) campuses, the State of Texas 2014-15 School Report Cards are now available on the SISD website and on the Texas Education Agency website. A print version also is available upon request at district schools or the District Service Center.

This is a report required by the Texas Legislature and prepared by the Texas Education Agency. It is to be shared with the parent or guardian of every child enrolled in a Texas public school. The report provides information concerning student performance on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR), as well as information on student enrollment, class size averages, and financial expenditures.

The information contained in the School Report Cards is required by state law and is briefly described in the "2014-15 School Report Card Definitions." The report for each school may or may not have all the information described, because the information presented depends on whether the school is an elementary, middle, or high school.

State law requires that the school report card display information about the state, the district, and the school. Where possible, the information must be reported by race/ethnicity and socio-economic status of the students and must include at least two years of results.

The School Report Cards can be found at <http://tea.texas.gov/perfreport/src/index.html>.

A more complete report about each school, the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), is available by contacting each school's front office or can be accessed online at <https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/perfreport/tapr/index.html>.

Parents and/or guardians may contact their child's school if they have any questions concerning the campus report card. Working together, Team SISD is committed to ensure all students are Tomorrow's Leaders Learning Today.

SISD is committed to providing a complete education for all students so that they are prepared for college, careers and life. SISD is also dedicated to ensuring transparency and accountability to its stakeholders informed of policies, procedures and assessments in our schools.

Finances By Nathaniel Sillin

Making phased retirement work for you

Phased retirement – a catchall term that describes a variety of part-time and reduced-hour work arrangements before leaving an employer for good – is gaining steam. But before you sign on, it's important to understand how "phasing out" may affect your long-term finances.

Washington is leading the way. The federal government authorized the move for its own employees several years ago and began accepting applications in late 2014 from workers aged 55 and up with a desire to switch to half-time employment in exchange for receiving half their

salary and annuity.

For employees with a long-term view, phased retirement can offer significant benefits, but it requires due diligence and planning. Among the advantages, phased retirement means that there doesn't need to be a hard stop on a successful career. In fact, a 2014 study (<http://newsroom.bankofamerica.com/press-releases/global-wealth-and-investment-management/merrill-lynch-study-finds-72-percent-people-o>) by Merrill Lynch in partnership with Age Wave said that 72 percent of pre-retirees over the age of 50 report that their ideal retirement will include working "often in new, more flexible and fulfilling ways." The study also noted that 47 percent of current retirees were already working or planning to work during their retirement years.

If your company is talking about phased retirement or may do so in the future, here are some key questions to consider:

What exactly do you want to phase into? For some workers, retirement really will mean a classic vision of travel and leisure leading into old age. But for others, the picture may be different. Some retirees will want to work and some retirees will have to work. Such decisions will summon a host of personal finance and tax issues based on your personal situation – read heavily and consult qualified

experts before you make a decision.

What options will my employer offer over time? While the federal government is in the lead with phased retirement, most private employers are moving at a slower pace. This gives you time to plan. For example, in a 2013 benefits study, the Society for Human Resource Management noted that only 6 percent of employers had a formal phased retirement program that provided a reduced schedule and/or responsibilities prior to full retirement. Watch how your employer's plan evolves and ask questions.

Phased or not, do you have a retirement plan in place? The decision to make a full or transitional exit from one's employer should come after years of saving and investing both at home and at work. Years before deciding how you want to leave your career, talk to qualified retirement experts about your personal financial circumstances and what you want to do in the next phase of your life. If it's a new career, volunteer work or full retirement, develop a plan first.

Have you talked to your senior colleagues? There's nothing like direct advice from individuals closer to retirement to help you with your own set of pros and cons. Even if there's no phased retirement program at your organization right now,

it's still worth talking about retirement preparation with senior colleagues willing to share what they're doing. Also, start your own retirement planning in earnest with qualified retirement and tax experts.

How will phased retirement affect your overall benefits? If you're working at a lower salary level at the end of your career, ask how that might affect your future retirement benefits. Make a list of all the benefits and perks you now receive as a current full-time employee and investigate how every single one could be affected by phased retirement. And if you leave the company permanently before qualifying for Medicare, know how you'll pay for health insurance. This is a particularly important issue to discuss with a qualified financial or tax advisor.

Bottomline: Phased retirement can offer the opportunity to adjust to full-time retirement or set up a new career once you finally leave your current employer. However, before you leap, fully investigate how such a transition will affect your overall finances and future retirement benefits.

This article is intended to provide general information and should not be considered legal, tax or financial advice. It's always a good idea to consult a tax or financial advisor for specific information on how certain laws apply to your situation and about your individual financial situation.

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Slap in the face

For those who came by their service medals honestly, a recent federal appeals court ruling was a slap in the face. The court said you can wear medals you didn't earn. It's protected speech under the First Amendment.

To keep from giving him even more press, I'll call the central figure in the case ES, a three-year veteran who enlisted after the Korean War.

Forty years later he filed for PTSD benefits, saying he suffered because of the secret Korean combat missions he went on. He claimed he had been injured and when visited in the hospital by a captain, had been given a pile of medals, among them a Purple Heart, Silver Star and Navy Commendation with V. The Department of Veterans Affairs denied the claim (a written narrative).

ES then resubmitted and used a copy of a DD-214 that showed he had earned a bunch

of medals and had been shot. Based on that, the VA gave him \$2,366 in monthly benefits. In 2006, it was discovered that the copied DD-214 was a fake.

ES is all over the court system. A review of documents has him testifying at the trial of a man who offered him \$10,000 to kill a judge. After all, ES was a trained killer, given all his medals. ES was investigated for wearing a Purple Heart at the trial and was convicted of violating the Stolen Valor Act (in force at the time), faking his injuries to get benefits, forging his DD-214 and more. He got 12 months.

He later appealed, bringing us to today, where it's OK to wear medals you didn't earn because it's protected speech.

A fast Wiki-type search reveals that only one of the 11 judges in the appeals court ever served in the military.

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Take the First Step to a Heart-Healthy Life.

Start! Walking. Start! Something.

Heart disease is the number one killer of men and women in America. But did you know that just 30 minutes a day of physical activity can improve your health and decrease your risk of heart disease? An easy way to work physical activity into your regular routine is to start walking. For every single hour of regular, vigorous exercise, you can add two hours to your life expectancy.

It's easy to Start! whether you're by yourself or with friends, family and co-workers. You'll all feel a difference and live longer, heart-healthier lives.

Join the movement.

heart.org/start



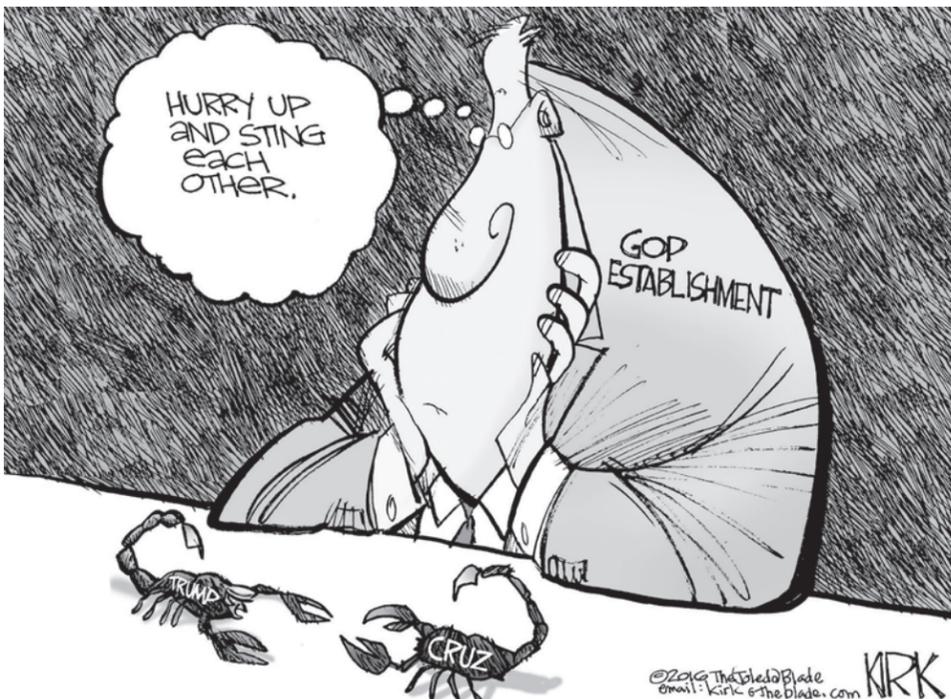
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Learn and Live



OBAMA'S DIVISION OF POWER



"WHICH HILLARY ARE YOU VOTING FOR? THE ONE WHO ISN'T RUNNING FOR OBAMA'S 'THIRD TERM' OR THE ONE WHO EMBRACES HIS LEGACY?"



— Photo courtesy El Paso Community College

CREATIVE JUICES – Monica Tarin, left, and Luis Flores were rewarded for their design work with first place awards from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations.

Tarin, Flores earn graphics awards

By Jim Heiney
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Monica Tarin and Luis Flores won two First Place Gold Awards at the 2015 National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) Region 4 Medallion Awards. They are members of the El Paso Community College (EPCC) Marketing Graphics team.

Tarin and Luis won in the categories of Outdoor Media and Novelty Advertising. In Outdoor Media, the winning entry was a billboard that was part of EPCC Marketing's "Selfie" campaign. In

Novelty Advertising, the winning entry was the wrap design for specialty EPCC water bottles.

This is the second year in a row EPCC Marketing's Graphics team has won a Gold Medallion Award. In 2014, Tarin and Flores won in the category of Logo Design for the EPCC Culinary Arts program.

The NCMPR District 4 Medallion Awards recognizes outstanding achievement in communications at community and technical colleges in District 4. It's the only regional competition of its kind that honors excellence exclusively among marketing and PR professionals at two-year colleges.

Briefs

From Page 1

American Citizens. Mrs. Zhelesnik has been on the job for some 21 years. Her daughter, herself 72 years of age, also teaches at Sundance and she got

her the job because she felt her mom needed something to do. And, she has been doing it ever since. Granny, as they call her at school, has no trouble keeping up with her students. "This is happiness for me and I don't get tired when I'm happy," she told reporters.

— John Grimaldi

Maybe It Wasn't That Heavy Shopping Bag.

Weakness On One Side May Mean A Stroke.

Recognizing the signs of stroke and acting fast may make a difference between life and death. Call 9-1-1 immediately if you experience one or more of these signs: sudden weakness especially on one side of the body; trouble speaking or understanding; dizziness, loss of balance; trouble seeing in one or both eyes; and severe headache with no known cause. New treatments can help reduce damage to the brain

but only in the first few hours after symptoms begin. Every minute counts.

To learn more about stroke, call the American Heart Association at 1-800-AHA-USA1 or visit us online at www.americanheart.org/tx

American Heart Association

Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

9-1-1

HEART ATTACK & STROKE
Read the signs. / Raise a flag.



Click It or Ticket.

Even in the back seat.

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



STRANGE BUT TRUE
By Samantha Weaver

- It was Polish-born American rabbi and philosopher Abraham Joshua Heschel who made the following sage observation: "When I was young, I admired clever people. Now that I am old, I admire kind people."

- In medieval France, if a married woman kissed or allowed herself to be kissed by a man other than her husband, she could be found guilty of adultery.

- In the summer of 1100, King William II of England went for a hunt in the New Forest, bringing along, of course, an entourage of nobles. One of his attendants, Walter Tirel, had a good opportunity to target their quarry, and the king urged, "Shoot! Walter, in heaven's name!" Tirel did, indeed, shoot, but the arrow evidently ricocheted off a tree and hit the king, killing him.

- Early cars in the United States didn't have steering wheels; they were maneuvered by using a control similar to a joystick.

- Those who study such things say the sport of boxing originated with the ancient Greeks and dates back to at least 688 B.C. It looked somewhat different then, though; at that time there were no gloves and no boxing ring. In fact, the fighters weren't even standing; they battled it out while sitting down facing each other. The fight continued until one participant was battered into unconsciousness.

- All of today's housecats are descended from one particular kind of Middle Eastern wildcat.

- In what is now Minnesota, early European settlers came across a lake Native Americans had named "Chargoggogomanchaug-agochaubunagungamaug." This daunting appellation is said to translate roughly as "You fish on that side, we'll fish on this side, and nobody will fish in the middle."

Thought for the Day: "If what you are telling is true, you don't have to choose your words so carefully."
- Frank A. Clark

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**Clint Independent School District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended August 31, 2015**

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	60 Capital Projects	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:					
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 12,264,369	\$ 3,212,213	\$ 4,734	\$ 149,762	\$ 15,631,078
5800 State Program Revenues	78,872,347	8,708,963		1,439,829	89,021,139
5900 Federal Program Revenues	10,189,593	-	-	6,993,393	17,182,986
5020 Total Revenues	101,326,309	11,921,176	4,734	8,582,984	121,835,203
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	49,203,226	-	4,689	5,913,299	55,121,214
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	1,163,370	-	-	-	1,163,370
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	1,029,606	-	-	199,864	1,229,470
0021 Instructional Leadership	2,628,273	-	-	1,325,911	3,954,184
0023 School Leadership	6,369,354	-	-	21,842	6,391,196
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	2,205,558	-	-	929,004	3,134,562
0032 Social Work Services	212,349	-	-	-	212,349
0033 Health Services	1,012,940	-	82	-	1,013,022
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	3,317,881	-	-	24,152	3,342,033
0035 Food Services	8,822,141	-	-	99,525	8,921,666
0036 Extracurricular Activities	2,608,156	-	-	-	2,608,156
0041 General Administration	2,857,562	-	-	4,854	2,862,416
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	10,523,422	-	1,375,091	-	11,898,513
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	2,269,789	-	-	3,031	2,272,820
0053 Data Processing Services	1,470,730	-	-	-	1,470,730
0061 Community Services	126,078	-	-	44,009	170,087
Debt Service:					
0071 Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	98,979	5,099,554	-	-	5,198,533
0072 Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	-	5,890,594	-	-	5,890,594
0073 Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	1,205,936	-	-	1,205,936
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	-	-	1,344,947	-	1,344,947
Intergovernmental					
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	260,482	-	-	-	260,482
6030 Total Expenditures	96,179,896	12,196,084	2,724,809	8,565,491	119,666,280
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	5,146,413	(274,908)	(2,720,075)	17,493	2,168,923
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):					
7901 Refunding Bonds Issued	-	23,315,000	-	-	23,315,000
7911 Capital Related Debt Issued (Regular Bonds)	-	-	78,360,000	-	78,360,000
7913 Capital Leases	290,311	-	-	-	290,311
7916 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	-	10,277,058	1,640,000	-	11,917,058
8940 Payment to Bond Refunding Escrow Agent (Use)	-	(25,889,475)	-	-	(25,889,475)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	290,311	7,702,583	80,000,000	-	87,992,894
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	5,436,724	7,427,675	77,279,925	17,493	90,161,817
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	30,135,006	2,026,068	1,022,807	82,793	33,266,674
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 35,571,730	\$ 9,453,743	\$ 78,302,732	\$ 100,286	\$ 123,428,491

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CryptoQuip Answer

When somebody says "This pencil point is much too sharp," would that be a pointed criticism?

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MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

• On Feb. 14, 1867, Sakichi Toyoda, whose textile machinery company spawned the Toyota Motor Corp., is born. In 1937, Toyota was formed as a spinoff of his Toyoda Loom Works. "Toyota" reportedly was considered a luckier name than "Toyoda" and is easier to write in Japanese characters.

• On Feb. 11, 1937, after a six-week strike by General Motors autoworkers in Michigan, GM president Alfred P. Sloan signs the first union contract in the American auto industry. Among other things, GM agreed to give workers a 5 percent raise and permission to speak in the lunchroom.

• On Feb. 8, 1943, Japanese troops evacuate Guadalcanal, leaving the island in Allied possession after a prolonged campaign in which an estimated 1,600 American troops were killed.

• On Feb. 10, 1962, Francis Gary Powers, an American who was shot down over the Soviet Union while flying a CIA spy plane in 1960, is released by the Soviets in exchange for the U.S. release of a Russian spy. The event was chronicled in the 2015 film "Bridge of Spies" starring Tom Hanks.

• On Feb. 9, 1971, pitcher Leroy "Satchel" Paige becomes the first Negro League veteran to be nominated for the Baseball Hall of Fame. In August of that year, Paige was inducted. Joe DiMaggio once called Paige "the best and fastest pitcher I've ever faced."

• On Feb. 12, 1988, in the waning days of the Cold War, two Soviet warships bump two U.S. Navy vessels in waters claimed by the Soviet Union off the Crimean peninsula. A confrontation was defused when the U.S. ships departed.

• On Feb. 13, 1991, Sotheby's announces the discovery of a manuscript of "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain. The manuscript, missing for more than a century, was found in a trunk with some old papers.

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Pebble Hills High School receives NATA Safe Sports School award

Program recognizes high schools that help to keep young athletes safe

By Christina Flores-Jones
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Pebble Hills High School has earned the Safe Sports School award from the National Athletic Trainers' Association for its comprehensive athletic injury health care and career-oriented education program. The school is the first in El Paso to receive the award.

The Safe Sports School Award champions safety and recognizes secondary schools that provide safe environments for student athletes. It reinforces the importance of providing the best level of care, injury prevention and treatment.

"Our efficacious and passionate athletic trainers have propelled Pebble Hills High School to achieve Safe Sports School status," said Marivel Macias, Sisd Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services. "They have worked 24/7/365 to promote, plan, develop, and provide a collaborative vision and system within our Pebble Hills community that ensures the needs of our student athletes are

a priority for all stakeholders. In their hearts, our students' health and safety comes first!"

In order to achieve Safe Sport School status, the Pebble Hills High School athletic program has:

- Created a positive athletic health care administrative system;
- Provided or coordinated pre-participation physical examinations;
- Promoted safe and appropriate practice and competition facilities;
- Planned for selection, fit function and proper maintenance of athletic equipment;
- Provided a permanent, appropriately equipped area to evaluate and treat injured athletes;
- Developed injury and illness prevention strategies, including protocols for environmental conditions;
- Provided or facilitated injury intervention;
- Created and rehearsed a venue-specific Emergency Action Plan;
- Provided or facilitated psychosocial consultation and nutritional counseling/education; and
- Ensured athletes and parents are educated of the potential benefits and risks in sports as well as their responsibilities.

Office

From Page 1

that person can come to the courthouse as opposed to the jail," Perez explained during a recent commissioners' meeting.

Construction of the revamped satellite office is expected to cost about \$35,000. The project will transform about 500 square feet of available space into the new booking office, according to the county's public works director. The funds being used for the

job are part of the \$1.83 million allocated in the 2016 fiscal year budget for the pretrial services department, officially known as the Criminal Justice Coordination Department (CJCD).

Perez noted that the county's pretrial services department is not a new concept. He said that these types of services have been available in the U.S. since the 1960s with the Manhattan Bail Project in New York and that other large counties in Texas have been using pretrial departments for years.

San Elizario Independent School District Public Notice of Meeting

San Elizario Independent School District will hold a public hearing to discuss the District's 2014-2015 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR). The meeting will be held at 4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 in the San Elizario ISD Central Office Board Room, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas, 79849.

The public is invited to attend. For more information, call (915) 872-3939, x3568.

Junta Pública

Distrito escolar independiente de San Elizario celebrará una audiencia pública para discutir el informe de rendimiento académico 2014-2015 Texas del distrito (TAPR). La reunión se celebrará a las 4:00 p.m. el miércoles, 10 de febrero de 2016 en la sala de juntas de San Elizario ISD, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas, 79849.

El público está invitado a asistir. Para obtener más información, llame al (915) 872-3939, x3568.

WTCC: 01/28/16

Send your story or newsbrief to wtxcc@wtxcc.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE

El Paso County Emergency Services District #2

Notice of Location

The El Paso County Emergency Services District #2 is located at 100 N. San Elizario Rd., Ste. N (mail: PO Box 683), Clint, TX 79836. Phone (non-emergency): (915) 851-0304; EMERGENCY: 911; Fax: (915) 851-9000; Ambulance (county): (915) 779-2111.

Annette Gonzalez
District Administrator

WTCC: 01-28-16

PUBLIC NOTICE

El Paso County Emergency Services District #1

Notice of Location

The El Paso County Emergency Services District #1 (Horizon Fire Department) is located at 14151 Nunda Ave., Horizon City, TX 79928. Phone (non-emergency): (915) 852-3204; EMERGENCY: 911; Fax: (915) 852-4236; Ambulance (county): (915) 779-2111.

Ron Larson
District Administrator

WTCC: 01-28-16

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Lady Miners, Adams, are forces to be reckoned with

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Back in the 1960s, Texas Western College made one of the smartest decisions in the history of the school.

The school took a chance on a girl's high school basketball coach and hired him as the men's college basketball coach.

At the time, the program was so bad that it really didn't matter who they hired. But they gave this guy from Oklahoma the chance to try and do something positive with the program.

Of course, we're talking about the legendary Don Haskins and his humble beginnings as the coach of the, now UTEP Miners.

Everyone knows how he took a failing program and led it all the way to an NCAA championship in 1966.

Now I'm not saying the same thing is going to happen with the women's basketball program, but the school did take a chance on an assistant, and then head coach, at Independence Community College in Kansas.

And though it might not get the kind of fanfare the men's program gets, what Keitha Adams has done with the UTEP women's program will eventually become legendary.

Adams has the Miners at 16-1 so far this season, tied atop the C-USA standings at 7-0 with Western Kentucky.

This is the best start in the program's history and it's beginning to resemble the season that had the city jumping in 2014. That's the year Adams and her team finished 29-8 and advanced all the way to the Women's NIT championship game, losing to Rutgers 56-54.

But fans around the city are beginning to take notice of what the team is doing. And with the team sure to crack the top 25 in the very near future, the rest of the country is starting to take this program seriously again.

Just like UTEP was extremely lucky to keep Haskins in El Paso all those years, the school has been fortunate to keep Adams in orange and blue.

Adams came to UTEP in 2001 and has slowly turned the program from a perennial loser to one of the consistent

powerhouses of the league.

Only the seventh head coach in the school's history, Adams has already garnered three C-USA titles and has earned two C-USA Coach of the Year awards.

To say she is the most successful women's coach in the school's history is a foregone conclusion. Her 251 wins more than doubles her nearest competitor, Sandra Rushing, at 123.

As far as this year's team, it all starts with the defense. The Miners are holding their opponents to just 35 percent shooting and they chase the ball all over court, forcing nearly 22 turnovers a game.

They force their opponents to rush things on offense because of the pressure they put on. And of course once they force a turnover, they're off to the races toward the other end of the court.

The Miners have four players averaging double figures in scoring led by Janel Nash and her 14 points game. Not bad for a player who missed all of last season to become a mom.

Three other players, Cameasha Turner, Sparkle Taylor and Starr Breedlove are all averaging 11 points a game.

This season the Miners are a veteran bunch, able to count on many different players to come in and contribute when needed.

And for many El Pasoans who haven't yet seen this team, the school is doing something very smart. This Thursday at 7 p.m., the team will be hosting "Pack the House" night as the Miners take on Southern Miss.

The admission to this game is free for everyone. And everyone can afford that.

It's a chance to let fans into the Don Haskins Center, who may not have otherwise, and get a chance to watch this team.

The school remembers how fans packed "The Don" a couple years ago on their WNIT run.

With the men struggling at 3-4 in the league, fans are starting to swing their attention toward the women's team and their success.

The school was very smart to sign Adams to a six-year contract after the 2014 season. Because, the way things are going, in 20 years they'll have to rename it the Haskins-Adams Center.

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

It's OK to win

How many of you parents work hard all week only to watch your kid get yelled at by some borderline psychopath coach on the weekends? Why do we all stand there on one side of the field – that we all pay to seed and mow, by the way – watching somebody on the other side yell out their life's frustrations?

One day, I was watching a coach melt down, and I surveyed the parents on the sideline. There were lots of quality

individuals watching the game in my estimate. Many of them drove Bavarian-styled cars, and you could tell they followed the maintenance guidelines. We easily outnumbered the maniacal person yelling at our kids by a factor of hundreds, but we did nothing.

"Are you seeing this?" I remember asking one parent. He had a cowboy hat on. Seemed like a stand-up guy. Without even looking at me, he nodded.

"Yup."

"I don't understand this. When do we foment an uprising? We have nice rims on our cars... we don't need to take this."

"We also don't have to coach," he replied.

Good point. We decide it's a teaching moment for the kids: Don't be that guy.

The other day I was watching my nephew play flag football. It's a tie score and there are parents telling their kids to "ease up on the throttle." They drive Porsches and Audis that go zero to 60 mph in 5 seconds flat that they got by being ruthless adversaries in the business world all week, but now we have to stand around and root for a tie on a freezing weekend

morning in January?

I look at my sister as the "teaching moment" starts getting bandied about by the coach. He's a nice guy.

"You know what they say about ties?" I ask her.

"No. What?"

"It's like kissing your sister."

She springs into action, cuts out the middleman and motions for her quarterback son to come over.

"He's been open all game on the right. They can't defend him. End this."

Two seconds later he throws a strike, does a little dance, the game concludes and we apologize to the coach.

"We have seat warmers," we explain.

We think it over and backtrack a bit on the drive home. We clarify to her son that winning at all costs isn't the way to go... that you don't want to show up your opponents, be a good sport. And we explain that sports don't have to be a chore.

But it is OK to win. It's more fun, and you don't have to apologize for it if you do it the right way.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in New Jersey. (c) 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.



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MOORE TEXAS

by Roger Todd Moore

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

	+		×		21
×		×		+	
	-		×		25
+		-		×	
	×		÷		21
16		18		16	

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 5 6 6 7 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: Next month I'll turn 65 and, because of my financial situation, I thought I'd be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). But my neighbor told me I'd probably be turned down because I have a friend who said he might help support me. Is this true?

A: If your friend helps support you, it could have an effect on whether you get SSI and on the amount you receive. Whether you can get SSI depends on your income and resources (the things you own). If you have low income and few resources, you may be able to get SSI. However, if you are receiving support from your friend or from anyone else, that income will be considered when making a decision on your SSI eligibility and amount. Support includes any food or shelter given to you or received by you because someone else pays for it. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: What can I do if my Medicare prescription drug plan says it won't pay for a drug that my doctor prescribed for me?

A: If your Medicare prescription drug plan decides that it won't pay for a prescription drug, it must tell you in writing why the drug isn't covered in a letter called a "Notice of Denial of Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage." Read the notice carefully because it will explain how to ask for an appeal. Your prescribing doctor can ask your Medicare drug plan for an expedited redetermination (first level appeal) for you, if the doctor tells the plan that waiting for a standard appeal decision may seriously harm your health. For more information, visit www.medicare.gov.

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: O equals P

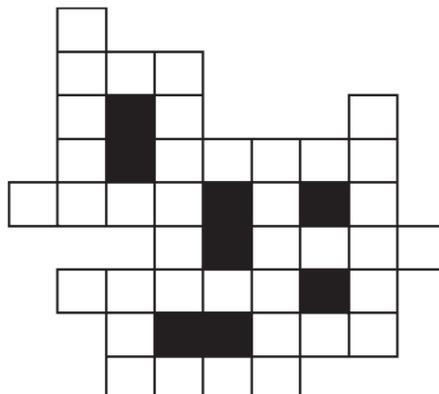
MNJW CDGJPDYA CFAC "VNEC
IJWOU IDEWV EC GTON VDD
CNFKI," MDTUY VNFV PJ F
DEWVJY OKEVEOECG?

Answer Page 4

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- ♥ IDM
- RUTMIA
- ROEST
- RIPA
- EPIDEM
- BPU
- ♥ EPDE
- ♥ SIMTO
- ♥ IPT
- MUPERP
- ♥ ESPER
- ♥ ERBA



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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Funding

From Page 1

actually build the sewers has not been secured, Rodriguez acknowledged. "It is important to provide Montana Vista with sewers so it can shake its status as a colonia," Rodríguez stated. (A colonia is characterized as a neighborhood lacking infrastructure such as municipal water, sewers, drainage and paved roads.)

Before any work can be started, construction funding must be found, the state senator conceded. If that doesn't happen before the 2017 legislative session, Rodriguez stated that he would seek to include it in the state's next biennial budget.

Rodríguez, elected in 2010, noted that he has been working to bring utilities to Montana Vista since he was county attorney. Prior to his election, Rodriguez was county attorney for 17 years.

In October, Rodríguez took Chris Traylor, executive commissioner of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, and other officials on a tour of Montana Vista to help show the need for the recently awarded design funds and eventual sewer system installation.

Health

From Page 7

do make bleeding more likely, but I still think you should get it looked at.

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 Good Health, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2016 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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