



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Tardeada

The Fabens Alumni Association will host a Tardeada / Membership Drive on Saturday, May 14, 2016 from 4-8 p.m. at the Fabens Lions Club Little League Field (16151 North Loop). The admission is free with a complementary hotdog for everyone attending. Guests can also purchase an additional hotdog or hamburgers, sodas, and chips. All proceeds go to support the event and money raised funds scholarships for Fabens ISD students. Music will be provided by Sonido – DJ Robert Sepulveda. Come on out and bring a friend.

– Sally Ponzio

### SISD students shine

The Socorro Independent School District's preliminary STAAR results released by the Texas Education Agency on April 29 show fifth and eighth graders continue to outperform the state in reading and math. The results are from assessments administered to students in March 2016. While the state has elevated passing standards to Phase 2 in this year's STAAR assessments, Team SISD students are showing continued growth and progress in academic excellence. Seventy-nine percent of fifth graders and 87 percent of eighth graders in SISD passed the STAAR reading test, surpassing the state by 4 and 5 percentage points, respectively. Eighty-five percent of fifth graders and 86 percent of eighth graders in SISD passed the STAAR math test, surpassing the state by 6 and 13 percentage points, respectively. "We are proud of our students' achievements in the latest STAAR assessments. Their success is a direct result of the high quality instruction and continuous hard work of our teachers as well as the unwavering support of our administrators, staff, parents, board members, and community as a whole," said SISD Superintendent José Espinoza. "The preliminary results are encouraging, and Team SISD will continue to work hard and move forward toward 100 percent student success."

– Christy Flores-Jones

### Briefs submissions

To have your event or quick news item posted in the Newsbriefs send the information to [wtxcc@wtxcc.com](mailto:wtxcc@wtxcc.com).

– Rick Shrum

*Don't call it education unless it has taught you life's true values.*

– Quips & Quotes



– Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**BIG PUBLIC PLAYGROUND** – Ascarate Park is home to a 48-acre surface lake, above, and is adjacent to the Ascarate Golf Course, which sits on 280 acres. The park is open from 6 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and is located at 6900 Delta Dr., in Central El Paso. Park entrance is free Monday through Thursday; weekend park entrance is \$2 per vehicle but \$5 for special events. No alcohol is allowed in the park.

## County proposes plan for Ascarate Park

By **Alfredo Vasquez**  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – New soccer fields, an aquatic center, a skate park, a garden for walks, a dog park, a RV camp site, along with a general park cleanup and drainage improvements, are among the enhancements proposed for the rehabilitation of Ascarate Park.

The preliminary proposal was presented recently to El Paso County Commissioners Court, as per their request, by the County Public Works Department. The renovation projects would total about \$47 million, according to Pat Adatao, director of the

county's public works department.

But, before any work is initiated, commissioners want county staff to seek community input on the proposed projects. Commissioner David Stout, who represents the Ascarate Park area, said it is worth reaching out to the community and to listen to what they have to say.

Ascarate Park, which is the largest public-use recreational park in the county, is dedicated to sports, picnicking, fishing, and other recreational activities. The park spans over 400 acres. It currently features an 18-hole, 72-par golf course (and a 9 hole executive course called the Delta 9), a 48-acre surface lake, lakeside boardwalk, fully-equipped swimming

pool, playgrounds, and picnic facilities.

The proposed improvements would be done in phases, public works department officials reported. Phase one, which deals with the maintenance aspect of the plan, is designed to be implemented over a one year period at a preliminary cost of about \$2.5 million.

The initial projects would include renovating the park's entrance, removing the chain-link fence that surrounds the park and replacing it with decorative rock fencing, also installing lights and upgrading the electrical infrastructure throughout the park, as well as improving

See ASCARATE, Page 8

## Garcia-Enriquez Middle School students write their way to victory

By **Hector Gonzalez**  
*Special to the Courier*

SAN ELIZARIO – Across the United States, students are contributing to the challenge of ending youth violence. The "Do The Write Thing Challenge" (DTWT) gives middle school students an opportunity to really look at the impact of youth violence and how it has played a role in their lives. Through classroom discussions and writings, students communicate what they think should be done to reduce youth violence.

They are asked to make a commitment not to be involved in violence by their teachers and provide written answers to three questions in the form of an essay. Once the students write their essays, teachers select five of the best. Then the school chooses 10 essays from the entire campus to be submitted to the



– Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**THEY WERE RIGHT** – From left, Belen G. Chavez, Jose A. Garcia and Danka G. Zapata all excelled in the 2016 "Do The Write Thing Challenge" – a national essay contest concentrating on youth violence.

See WRITE, Page 5

## Finances By Nathaniel Sillin

# Should you join the gig economy?

Today, our standard workday isn't so standard anymore and we're talking more about "gigs" – alternative work arrangements that often depend on the latest technology and a desire to set one's own schedule and pay. However, the question is whether everyone plans for the reality of the work or the impact self-employment in any form can have on his or her long-term finances.

Gig workers – a broad spectrum that includes temporary help agency workers, on-call

employees, contract company workers, independent contractors and freelancers – were measured as a startling and growing economic force in a March study by Harvard and Princeton researchers ([https://krueger.princeton.edu/sites/default/files/akrueger/files/katz\\_krueger\\_cws\\_-\\_march\\_29\\_20165.pdf](https://krueger.princeton.edu/sites/default/files/akrueger/files/katz_krueger_cws_-_march_29_20165.pdf)). According to their measurements, this diverse group of earners that made up 10.1 percent of the workforce in February 2005 has grown to nearly 16 percent as of late 2015.

Anyone thinking about going into business in place of or in addition to their day job should consider a planning period with the help of a qualified financial

or tax expert. Major issues to cover include:

**Consider qualified tax and financial advice.** Switching to gig work – even if you find

lucrative contract work in your field – can be an enormous shock to your finances. Cash flow can be irregular, disrupting budgets and long-term savings. It's a good idea to get some qualified financial and tax advice so you understand the changes you might face and to keep major financial goals like retirement and college savings on track.

**Setting up a business structure.** While most gig economy participants settle on a sole proprietorship or some form of limited liability company (LLC) business structure, (<https://www.sba.gov/starting-business/choose-your-business-structure>) the choice needs to be carefully considered based on your particular business activity, overall tax situation and other financial factors unique to you. This is probably one of the most important reasons to seek out qualified tax, legal or financial expertise – the level of personal or property risk inherent in your choice might call for a structure that offers additional protection against lawsuits or insurance claims.

**Think carefully about your benefits.** Unless you fit a particular group exempt (<https://www.healthcare.gov/health-coverage-exemptions/exemptions-from-the-fee/>) from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or are insured by a spouse or partner, you'll have to invest in healthcare insurance for yourself or consider the cost of being uninsured. This is a particularly important expense to plan in advance based on your health needs and the type of affordable coverage that's available. Get referrals on qualified health insurance agents to get a full range of choices. And most of all, make a plan to keep saving and investing your money for long-term goals. Walking away from a weekly check can make that process tougher – talk about it and plan for it.

**Track your spending and planning carefully.** If you don't budget or track your expenses now, it's time to start. Being in business entitles you to certain deductions for home office expenses, equipment and other costs related to your work. So whether you use a specific software program or a computer spreadsheet or paper and pen to track your expenses, do so regularly to avoid missing items that could eventually save you money. If you're working with a tax professional or financial planner, coordinate this recordkeeping with the work they're doing for you. Also keep a constant discussion going about saving for the future, including retirement.

**Make sure you're really right for this.** With proper planning, the gig economy can be both enjoyable

See FINANCES, Page 8

## Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

# PTSD documentary is not to be missed

Post-traumatic stress disorder can be a mystery to those who try to help and a nightmare for veterans who have it. Sometimes it takes a film to show the reality so both sides can understand.

“Soledad O'Brien Presents: The War Comes Home – The New Battlefield” is a film that follows two veterans on the edge of suicide as they attend a life-changing boot camp. Healing, meditation and team-building exercises are part of the treatment over the course of five days, with cameras recording their recovery.

The film will be shown on one night only, Tuesday, May 24, at theaters across the country. Afterward, a follow-up film will feature a panel of experts, celebrities and community leaders who will talk about the challenges veterans with PTSD face, as well as how we're helping – and not helping.

Who should see this film? Everyone, including health-care professionals who work

with veterans with PTSD, veterans who have PTSD and need a way to explain it to friends and family, those friends and family who want to help but don't know how, any veterans who might have buddies who are suicidal, law enforcement, policymakers, those who work with the homeless, civilians who want to understand it... everyone.

All showings will be at 7 p.m. local time.

For more information and to order tickets, go online to [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com). If you don't see a local theater on the list, give them a call or keep checking back as new locations are added. In looking through the different theaters showing the film, it appears that the price per ticket can range from \$15 to \$18, with AARP members getting in for \$12.50 at some locations. If you order online, there is a \$1.35 surcharge.

(c)2016 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Socorro Independent School District PUBLIC NOTICE Public Meeting to Review Federally Funded Programs

The Socorro Independent School District will conduct a public information meeting to review the following ESSA (formerly NCLB) Federal Grants:

- Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs
- Title I, Part C - Migrant Education
- Title I, Part D SP 2 – Delinquent Youth
- Title II, Part A – Improving Teacher and Principal Quality
- Title III, Part A – Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- IDEA-Part B, IDEA Pre-School

The meeting will be held:

Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the District Service Center, 12440 Rojas Drive.

*S.I.S.D does not discriminate against any individual with regard to race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, marital or veteran status, the presence of a medical condition, disability, or any other legally protected status. 42 U.S.C 2000e-2(a); 20 U.S.C. 1681: Labor Code 21-051.*

## AVISO PUBLICO

### La junta Pública para Revisar los Programas de Fondos Federales

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Socorro llevará a cabo una junta pública para revisar los siguientes programas federales:

- Título I, Parte A – Mejorando Programas Básicos
- Título I, Parte C - Programa Educativo Migrante
- Título I, Parte D – Jóvenes Delincuentes
- Título II, Parte A – Mejorando la Calidad de Maestros y Directores
- Título III, Parte A – Servicios de educación para estudiantes de segundo idioma
- IDEA-Parte B, IDEA Pre-Escolar

La junta se llevará a cabo:

martes, 17 de mayo del 2016, 6:00 p.m. en la Sala de la Junta del Distrito del Centro de Servicio, 12440 Rojas Drive.

*S.I.S.D no discrimina a ningún individuo a causa de su raza, de su color, de su nacionalidad, de sus creencias religiosas, de su género, de su estado legal, o de veterano, ninguna condición médica o incapacidad, o ningún otro estado legal. 42 U.S.C 2000e-2(a); 20 U.S.C. 1681: Labor Code 21-051.*

WTCC: 05-12-16



**PUBLISHED:**  
Published each Thursday (minimum 50 issues) by Homesteader News, Inc. Office open Monday through Thursday.

**COPYRIGHT:**  
Entire contents © 2016 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the West Texas County Courier may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:**  
Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right to edit or reject letters to the editor or other submitted material it considers inappropriate.

**AD DEADLINE:**  
Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

**CLASSIFIED RATES**  
\$10 for 25 words, \$15 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right not to advertising it considers inappropriate.

**DISPLAY RATES:**  
Open rate – \$25 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The West Texas County Courier reserves the right not to advertising it considers inappropriate.

**MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**  
Minimum 50 issues for \$45. Delivery via 1st class mail.

**MAIL:**  
15344 Werling Ct.  
Horizon City, TX 79928



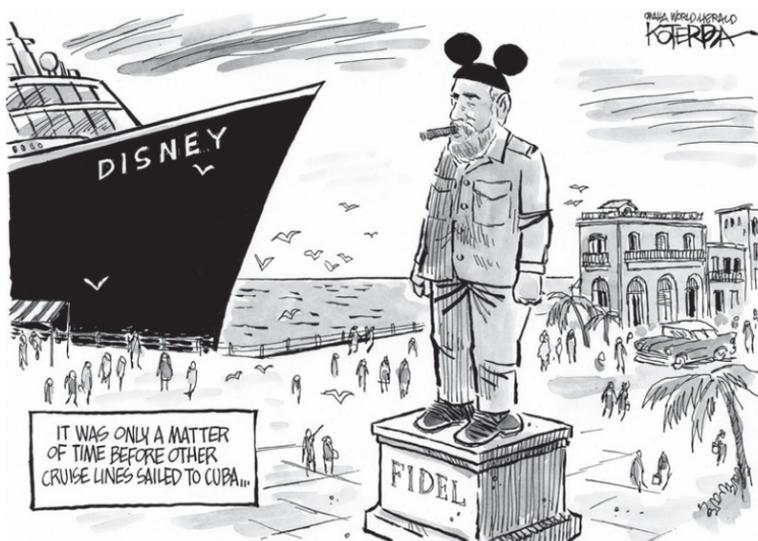
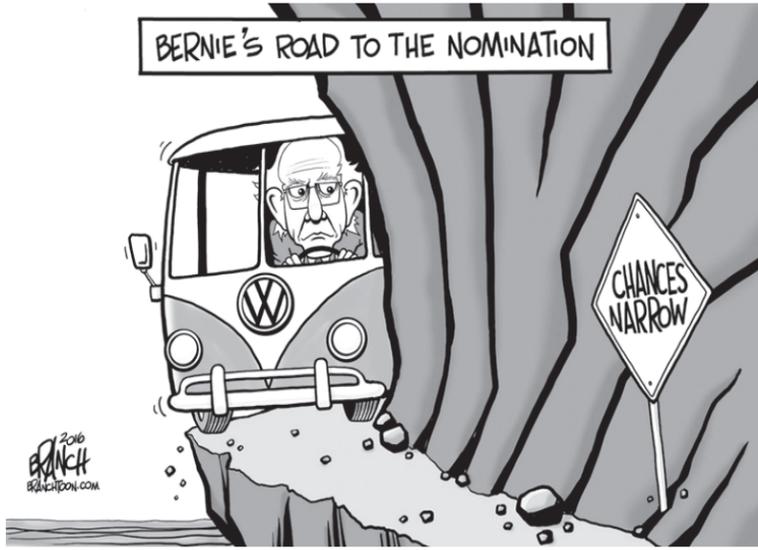
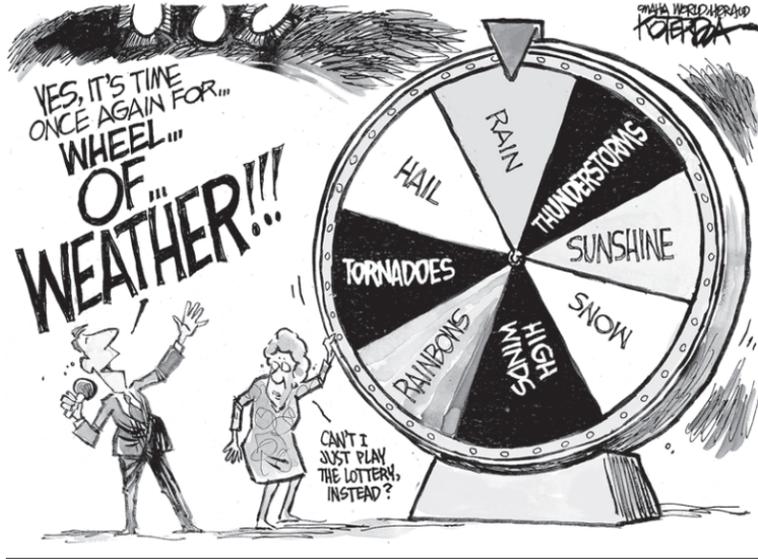
Member Texas Community  
Newspaper Association

Phone: 852-3235  
Fax: 852-0123  
E-mail: [wtxcc@wtxcc.com](mailto:wtxcc@wtxcc.com)  
Website: [wtxcc.com](http://wtxcc.com)

**Publisher**  
Rick Shrum  
**Contributors**  
Alfredo Vasquez  
Steve Escajeda



Homesteader  
Est. 1973  
News, Inc.



## VILLAGE OF VINTON, TX PUBLIC NOTICE

### Notice of the Availability of an Environmental Assessment

The USDA, Rural Utilities Service has received an application for financial assistance from the Village of Vinton. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act and agency regulations, the Rural Utilities Service has prepared an Environmental Assessment that evaluated the potential environmental effects and consequences of the proposal. This notice announces the availability of the Environmental Assessment for public review and comment.

The proposal consists of installation of a looped water system with wholesale supply of treated potable water provided through a purchase agreement with the El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU). The total project will be broken down into three phases. Phase I will serve customers south of Vinton Road and subsequent phases will serve the remainder of the village.

If cultural materials or human remains are encountered during construction, work must cease in the immediate area; work can continue in the project area where no cultural materials are present. In the discovery area, work must cease, and the contractor must notify the consultant engineer, the Village of Vinton and both the State Historic Preservation Officer at (512) 463-6100 and the USDA Rural Development State Environmental Coordinator at (254) 742-9789. The alternatives considered to the proposal include using wells within the Village of Vinton.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment are available for review at Rural Development, 2306 W. Dickinson Blvd., Fort Stockton, Texas. For further information contact USDA Rural Development at 432-336-5206 ext. 118. Any person interested in commenting on this proposal should submit comments to the address above by Monday, June 13, 2016.

A location map of the complete proposal is shown below.



**View from here** By John Grimaldi

# As Obamacare drama plays out, ACA insurers will seek payback

Proponents of Obamacare are downplaying the announcement that United Healthcare, the largest insurance provider in the country, that it will significantly reduce its participation in Obamacare exchanges. But it means individuals seeking coverage at the Affordable Care Act (ACA) exchanges will have fewer, more expensive choices. United Healthcare's CEO, Stephen J. Hemsley, told investors in a conference call that "we will be down to a handful of

states that we will be actively participating in the exchanges." The company has repeatedly acknowledged that its losses as an ACA provider were just too great a financial burden. Dan Weber, president of the Association of Mature American Citizens, said United's decision is no surprise. He cited expert observers who suggest that the

company does not have "as much skin in the game" as do smaller insurers, but that its decision can have larger consequences. Other providers might reduce their participation. According to Edmund F. Haislmaier, Senior Research Fellow, Health Policy Studies at the Center

for Health Policy Studies, says that insurer participation in Obamacare is already in decline. "In 2016, there are 287 exchange-participating insurers, as compared to 307 in 2015. While the participation level in 2016 is greater than the 253 insurers that offered exchange coverage in 2014, the figures for all three years are still well below the 395 insurers that offered individual-market coverage in the 50 states and the District of Columbia in 2013."

Haislmaier says he expects more insurers will exit Obamacare next year as their loss exposure continues to grow.

"As Obamacare expert Larry Levitt at the Kaiser Family Foundation said: 'something has to give.' So, we can expect a new round of Obamacare premium increases to be announced by ACA carriers in the fall—just in time for the final days of the presidential election campaign. That's bound to case a bright light on ACA doings at a politically precarious time," noted Weber.

The AMAC chief said the next round of premium hikes may significantly outpace past increases.

"This time around the insurers are hurting and will need to make up for losses with larger boosts in premiums. In fact, proliferating insurer losses almost guarantee bigger spikes. For example, Politico reported earlier this week that two big players in the state ACA exchanges, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, saw profits dwindle by 75% between 2013 and 2015. The publication quoted the ratings agency, A.M. Best Co., as putting the chief reason for their losses on the "intensity of losses" as a result of their participation in the Obamacare exchanges. You can bet that they will seek payback."

*The Association of Mature American Citizens (http://www.amac.us) is a senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. We act and speak on their behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today.*

*"This time around the insurers are hurting and will need to make up for losses with larger boosts in premiums. In fact, proliferating insurer losses almost guarantee bigger spikes. ..."*

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was 20th-century television, film and culture critic John Leonard who made the following sage observation: "In the cellars of the night, when the mind starts moving around old trunks of bad times, the pain of this and the shame of that, the memory of a small boldness is a hand to hold."

- You probably won't be surprised to learn that a group of hedgehogs is known as a prickle.

- In almost every state, there is a statute on the books making it illegal to jump off the top of an office building. Unsurprisingly, there's not much call to prosecute those who violate the law; district attorneys aren't in the habit of filing charges against corpses. However, in a few states, if you survive jumping off a building and are tried and convicted of violating that law, you could be sentenced to death.

- Those who study such things say that among social media users, those who use Twitter are less likely to smoke than users of other platforms.

- Just as humans have distinctive fingerprints, dogs have nose prints – no two are the same.

- You doubtless know of Theodore Geisel – better known as Dr. Seuss, the beloved author of such children's classics as "The Cat in the Hat," "Horton Hears a Who" and "Green Eggs and Ham," among many others. You might not realize, though, that his first book, "And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street," was rejected by more than two dozen publishers before it finally made it into print.

- Did you know that dogs appear in the Bible? Yep – 41 times. No mention of cats, though.

Thought for the Day: "What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to a human soul."

– Joseph Addison

(c) 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.

### Canutillo Independent School District Public Notice

#### Public Meeting to Review Federally Funded Programs

The Canutillo Independent School District will conduct a public information meeting to review the following CISD Programs funded with Federal funds:

- Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs
- Title I, Part C – Education of Migratory Children
- Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training & Recruiting
- Title III, Part A – Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- IDEA Part B – Formula
- IDEA Part B – Preschool
- Career & Technical Education – Basic Grant

The meeting will be held:

Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., Student Support Services, 7000 5th Street, Lone Star Building A, Canutillo, Texas.

Individuals with disabilities or that require auxiliary aids and wish to attend this meeting should contact the Canutillo ISD Public Information Office at least 2 days before the meeting at (915) 877-7482 to arrange for assistance.

### Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo Aviso al Público

#### Junta Pública para Informar sobre los Programas proveídos con Fondos Federales

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo llevará a cabo una junta pública para explicar los siguientes programas, fondos federales:

- Título I, Parte A – Mejora de Programas Básicos
- Título I, Parte C – Programa de Migrante
- Título II, Parte A – Entrenamiento y Reclutamiento de Maestros y Directores
- Título III, Parte A – Adquisición del Idioma Ingles
- IDEA Parte B – Formula
- IDEA Parte B – Pre-Escolar
- Educación de Carreras en Tecnología – Apoyo Financiero Básico

La junta se llevará a cabo:

El Miercoles, 25 de Mayo 2015 a las 5:30 p.m. en la sala de juntas del edificio de Servicios al Estudiantes de Canutillo localizado en 7000 5th Street, Lonestar edificio A, Canutillo, Texas.

Individuos con discapacidades o que requieren de ayuda auxiliará y desean asistir a esta reunión deben contactar a la Oficina Publica de Información de CISD al (915)877-7482 para realizar arreglos por los menos 2 días antes de la reunión.

WTCC: 05-012-16

## To Advertise Call 852-3235 • Archives: www.wtxcc.com

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

E  
 A L T O C R  
 L H O R U  
 P I N T O O R B  
 I B E L I E  
 C A T P  
 A E  
 T I D A L  
 N Y

REFILM DULLEA SALAMIS  
 IRONER EGOIST OLDSALT  
 PRECIPITATION TOOTSIE  
 IGOR OUTSPOKEN  
 CLOSEMOUTHED NOTAN  
 HIVES REALISE IMUP  
 IDEATE SINO ERASERS  
 CONTAMINATE UNSIGHTLY  
 OVINE BROACH  
 EMAIL ELK FABRICATIION  
 SENSEI LEADA ISOLDE  
 PREMATURELY LGATWEET  
 PARODY VLOGS  
 MASCULINE DESTRUCTION  
 APROPOS EBAN MORNAY  
 PRIM SPUNOUT SOTHE  
 MADAT RAMBUNCTIOUS  
 HONORABLE OREL  
 AMENITY KANGAROOWORDS  
 NEMESSES ECARTE CORONA  
 SNORERS DETEST KOREAN

### CryptoQuip Answer

After taking some pictures of the county lawman, do you think we should sing "I Shot the Sheriff"?

4	÷	1	+	7	11
+		×		÷	
8	+	6	÷	7	2
÷		-		+	
3	-	2	×	9	9
4		4		10	

# Socorro ISD names top teachers at annual gala

By Christy Flores-Jones  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – The Socorro Independent School District celebrated its 46

Campus Teachers of the Year at the district’s 2016 Teacher of the Year Gala on May 7 at the Judson F. Williams Hall in the El Paso Convention Center.

The top two Teachers of the

Year were named at the annual event. Erica Loya, from Dr. Sue Shook Elementary School, was named the 2016 SISD Elementary Teacher of the Year. Dianna Rios, from Montwood High School, was named the 2016 SISD Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Loya is a fourth-grade teacher and has been an educator for 13 years. Rios is a ninth- and tenth-grade AVID teacher and has been teaching for 16 years. The district elementary and secondary winners will go on to represent SISD in the Region 19 Teacher of Year competition in August.

More than 1,000 people attended the event, including teachers, principals, family members and other SISD staff. Each school’s Campus Teacher of the Year was recognized at the gala, including those who were selected as Elite 8 finalists.



Erica Loya



Dianna Rios

## Write

From Page 1

University of Texas at El Paso.

This year, over 4,100 essays were submitted for the 2016 DTWT. There were three students from Garcia-Enriquez Middle School that were the top winners of this year’s challenge – Danka Gabriela Zapata, Jose Angel Garcia, and Belen Gabriela Chavez. They have gained a passion for writing and want everyone to know that it is a good way to get to know yourself.

Danka Gabriela Zapata got the ultimate prize; she was named Ambassador of El Paso for the Anti-Violence Campaign. She is one of the National finalists who will be traveling to Washington, D.C. this summer to represent El Paso in leadership activities with students from all over the country. She is very excited about her win and about being named Ambassador, but she said that one of her biggest challenges was herself. “I am a super, super shy person but for this competition I knew that I couldn’t be,” said Danka. “I told myself that I had to be confident and brave if I wanted to win this competition and also be able to write from the heart.”

Jose Angel Garcia got first place runner-up in the DTWT Challenge. He has been through some rough phases in his life but has been able to overcome his troubles through the art of writing. “I remember in 7th grade I was depressed because I felt that I was alone in this world with no one to talk to about my problems,” he said. “Ever since I got the chance to be open and

express my emotions through writing, I have been at peace with myself and have learned that I must continue with my life and not give up easily,” he added. Jose said that he does not have many friends but the few that he has, he is grateful for. “I don’t feel as lonely anymore because I can now count on people whom I can talk to and are supportive when I have a problem; people that can relate to me and understand me.”

The second runner-up was Belen Gabriela Chavez. Life has not been easy for her either, but she discovered that when she writes, she feels free and at ease. She does not like to open up to people easily or talk about her issues with others. “I rather grab a piece of paper and a pen and just write, write, write,” she said. “With me placing high in this competition, that tells me that I am a good writer and can make a difference in other people’s lives through my writing.” Her parents are happy about her win and told her to keep on writing because she is one heck of a writer. She plans on following their advice and continue writing because she wants to inspire others to also write, especially when they have no one to turn to. Her goal is to one day become an author or a journalist.

Garcia-Enriquez Middle School teachers Brenda Jara, Susana Hernandez, and Erika Morales mentored this year’s group of middle school students through the writing process. They are not surprised of the students’ victory because they have incredible critical thinking abilities and are remarkably creative. “I really enjoy participating in the DTWT Challenge because it allows students to understand that

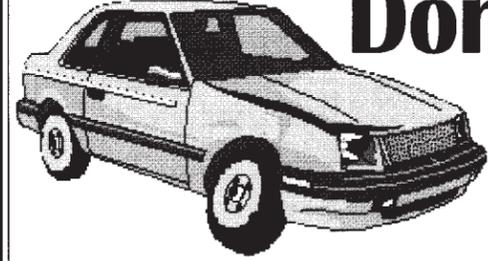
everyone goes through problems in life,” said 8th Grade ELAR Teacher, Erika Morales. “The

activities I have my students do in class not only promotes team building, but also makes the

class come together as a family, which lets them know that they are not alone.

**AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®**  
of Texas

**Don't Trade It,  
Donate It**



Receive **FREE** towing  
Receive a tax deduction  
Avoid the hassles of selling

[www.texaslung.org](http://www.texaslung.org)

22101-2

**1-800-ALA-LUNG**

## Canutillo Independent School District Public Notice

Any interested representative of a non-profit private school or non-profit home school

- operating within the boundaries of the Canutillo Independent School District, or
- operating outside of the boundaries of the District, but serving students who live within the boundaries

is encouraged to call for an appointment to receive information regarding the Consolidated Application for Federal Funding for 2016-2017. The application provides the following programs through the “Every Student Succeeds Act”.

- Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs
- Title I, Part C – Education of Migratory Children
- Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting
- Title III, Part A – Limited English Proficient (LEP)

Interested persons should call the office of the External Funding Coordinator at (915) 877-7497 to schedule an appointment. Representatives will need to provide their school’s tax exempt identification number to the District to confirm eligibility. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be made available upon request.

## Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo Aviso al Público

Cualquier representante de un colegio privado no lucrativo o que ofrezca educación en casa, que esté interesado, y que

- opere dentro de los límites del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo, o
- opera fuera de los límites del Distrito, pero que sirva a estudiantes que viven dentro el Distrito

Se le invita a hacer una cita para recibir información sobre la Solicitud Consolidada para el Financiamiento Federal 2016-2017. Esta solicitud provee a los siguientes programas a través de la ley “Every Student Succeeds Act”.

- Título I, Parte A – Mejora de Programas Básicos
- Título I, Parte C – Programa de Migrante
- Título II, Parte A – Entrenamiento y Reclutamiento de Maestros y Directores
- Título III, Parte A – Servicios de educación para estudiantes de segundo idioma

Las personas interesadas deben llamar a la oficina del Coordinador de Fondos Externos al (915)877-7497 para hacer su cita. Cada representante deberá proporcionar el número de identificación de exención de impuestos de la escuela para confirmar su elegibilidad. Habrá adaptaciones adecuadas disponibles para discapacitados, si lo solicita con anticipación.

WTCC: 05/012/16

# NBA says refs made five bad calls in just 13 seconds

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

The NBA playoffs are well into the second round and fans can expect to see the same things at every game; high flying dunks, long range 3-pointers, nail-biting finishes and some of the worst officiating in professional sports.

Even without the occasional rogue ref who takes money from gamblers to make bad calls, the officiating at NBA games is horrific.

It's so bad that everybody is acknowledging it – even their own league.

During the last 13 seconds of Oklahoma City's game 2 win over San Antonio, the NBA announced that the game's referees made five bad calls.

I can't think of anything I can do five times in 13 seconds.

How is it humanly possible to get five calls blatantly wrong in just 13 seconds?

If you do the math, that's a bad call every 2.6 seconds.

Wow, if I had that kind of production at

my job, I'd be looking for another job.

Anyway, there's no doubt that the officiating was awful in that game. But I contend that the officiating is awful during every NBA game.

That may not be, however, entirely the fault of the officiating crews.

You have to admit that though the NBA is chock full of the greatest basketball players in the world, the league does all it can to make things easier for them.

Especially when you compare the game to the college ranks.

I got a laugh during one of the televised games last week when one of the announcers commented on the anger of the crowd and actually said, "the fans wanted a traveling call on that one."

That comment begs the question, when was the last time you saw a traveling call during any NBA game?

On many occasions I've seen slow motion replays of guys driving to the basket and taking literally five steps and not a whistle to be heard.

It's actually comical. It's an SNL sketch.

It's like the act of shooting. In college, if a player is in the act of shooting and is fouled, he is awarded a free throw. In the NBA, a player can be fouled, then take another four steps and then decide to throw the ball toward the vicinity of the basket and he receives a "continuation" call and some free throws.

Everybody in the building knows what they just saw, but they just go along with it because that's the rule.

How about the 3-point foul? How many times does a player have to heave it from the arc and kick out his legs toward the defender, make contact, and then fall down, before the referee figures this out?

The 3-point shooter falls to the ground – like he just attended a soccer camp – and the referee falls for it.

These phantom fouls are especially given to star players, who always get the benefit of the doubt.

Another very strange rule takes place at the end of games.

In college, when a team hits a bucket to tie the game with just four seconds left, the opposing team hurries to put the ball into play and rush down the court for an

exciting last-second shot.

In the NBA, the team that just hit a basket to tie the game with four seconds left is penalized by allowing the opposing team to put the ball into play in the offensive side of the court – giving them a much easier chance to win the game with a good shot.

What? Do we really have to make the game that much easier for the best players on the planet?

Who came up with that rule? Probably the same guys who simplified our presidential delegate nomination process.

C'mon NBA, nobody wants to see professional golfers play on easy courses. The better the athletes, the tougher the circumstances should be.

A part of me does feel a little sorry for the people wearing the stripes because, along with the verbal abuse they have to endure every night, they have their misgivings announced to the world.

How would we like it if our mistakes at work were made public all the time?

I guess the only way to avoid the embarrassment would be to do a better job of officiating.

## A sporting view By Mark Vasto

### The jinx is up

There are just some teams everybody pulls for, whether or not they are rivals or from different towns, and at the top of that list lies one team: The Chicago Cubs.

Yankee fans would not have minded one bit if the Red Sox lost forever. There were maybe

some mixed feelings in 1986 when the Mets took on the Sox in the World Series, but nothing really too serious. Yankee fans looked with lust upon the Mets during that season. Just the idea of having a catcher like Gary Carter during the post-Munson, Cerone-Wynegar-Skinner era

seemed otherworldly to fans of the Bombers (not to mention the sanity at the managerial spot). And while there was a begrudging tip of the hat over the years to Big Papi and Curt Shilling's sock, whenever guys like Wade Boggs or Johnny Damon joined the team and chipped in during winning years, most Yankee fans merely thought it was cool that a few Red Sox players helped the Bombers out in between bouts

of pining for Don Mattingly.

Maybe in St. Louis there are dug-in pockets of resistance against the Cubs' allure. That's understandable, but they should know that the St. Louis Blues are second on the list of teams many non-locals wouldn't mind seeing win Lord Stanley's Cup someday, if only to keep things interesting. And that's being generous, since Cardinal fans can get kinda smug and ruin those sentiments in the time it takes to put down one toasted ravioli on The Hill.

Still, in order for a team to be a rival, the other team must win once in awhile. Otherwise, what do you have? Harlem Globetrotters versus Washington

Generals or Duke versus Maryland (Best taunt ever? The Dookies chanting "not our rival!" as the Terps ran up and down the court with them.)

Now is the time for the Chicago Cubs. In baseball, no matter what they say about pitching, the manager's spot is the most important. There are no coincidences that guys like LaRussa, Torre, Herzog, Piniella, Yost, Billy Martin (between bar fights), Showalter and Joe Maddon win everywhere they go. Wherever they go they bring their ideas with them, and, with all due respect to Casey Stengel... they usually go right

See SPORTS, Page 8

#MINERSTRONG

utepathletics.com

1973  
43  
1973  
2016

WEST TEXAS COUNTY  
COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY VINTON, CASUTILLA, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZABO AND TORNEILLO

**CLASSIFIED AD FORM**  
25 words - \$10 per week; 40 words - \$15 per week

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

Deadline: Monday, 4 p.m.  
Please print. Send form and payment (no cash) to:  
**West Texas County Courier**  
15344 Werling Ct.  
Horizon City, TX 79928

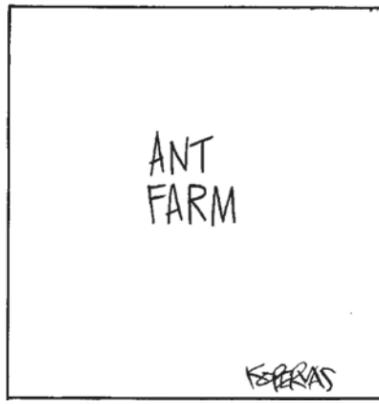
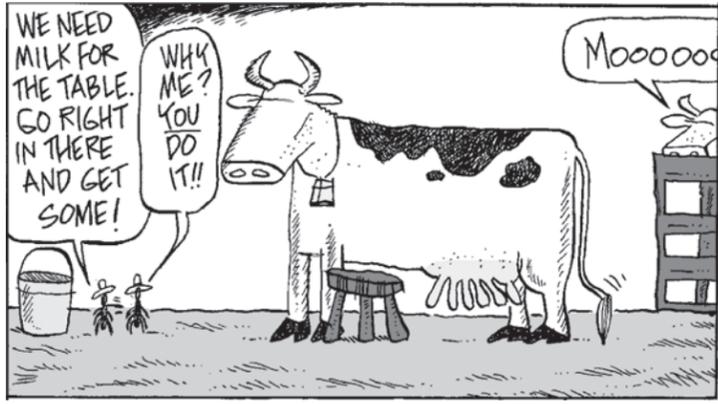
Contact Information:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Comix

# Your good health

By Keith Roach, M.D.

## OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas

## AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps

## THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering

## R.F.D.

By Mike Marland

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am so tired of gastric juices coming up and spraying my mouth. I am currently on a "last resort" medicine. My doctor wants to try it for three weeks. If it doesn't work, he's going to perform a Nissen fundoplication. From what I've read, there would be nothing more coming up. Could you explain this procedure? What will happen with swallowed air, and what will happen if I get sick to my stomach and (shudder) need to vomit? – S.S.

effective at reducing symptoms in 85 percent to 90 percent of patients.

Most people are unable to vomit and have less or no ability to belch, leading to bloating, increased intestinal gas and flatulence. Discomfort during eating is common. There are modifications of the surgical procedure designed to reduce side effects and complications while maintaining effectiveness, but a description of what these all are technically is in your surgeon's domain.

Large volumes of stomach acid coming into the mouth is an accepted indication for surgical treatment of reflux disease. Sometimes, the acid is associated with excess saliva and is called "water brash."

Prior to considering surgery, it is worthwhile to make sure the medication treatment is as good as it can be. Proton pump inhibitors such as omeprazole should be taken 30 minutes before eating. Weight loss is helpful if overweight. Raising the head of the bed 6 to 8 inches (by inserting blocks under the legs of the head of the bed or using a plastic wedge under the mattress) and avoiding dietary triggers (coffee, chocolate, carbonated drinks, high-fat foods) should be tried. Baclofen, a powerful muscle relaxant with many possible side effects, may be the "last resort" medicine you are taking.

Readers: The booklet on Acid Reflux, Heartburn and Hiatal Hernia explains these common gastrointestinal disorders in greater detail. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Roach – No. 501W, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. 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: I have been riding my bike outdoors, same saddle, 130 miles a month for over three years. Out of the blue my left sit bone, or the tissue around it, is so sore. I can't quit riding – HELP! – A.D.C.

A good rule of thumb for an athletic injury or sudden soreness is that resting it for a period of time usually is a good idea. Get off the bike for a while and try some different types of exercising: walk, run, swim or lift weights, but give your soft tissues a chance to recover. You may simply have overdone it. If things don't get better, go ahead

See HEALTH, Page 8

# Super Crossword

- SELF-CONTAINED SYNONYMS ACROSS**
- 1 Do another shoot
  - 7 "2001" co-star
  - 13 Deli hangers
  - 20 Person de-wrinkling
  - 21 Narcissist
  - 22 Sea dog
  - 23 It aptly contains the letters R-A-I-N...
  - 25 Dustin Hoffman film
  - 26 Lab aide with a hump
  - 27 ... O-P-E-N
  - 29 ... M-U-T-E
  - 37 "Failure is \_ option"
  - 38 Apiary units
  - 39 Understand, in London
  - 41 "No need to wake me!"
  - 45 Think up
  - 47 \_Soviet relations
  - 48 Slate wipers
  - 51 ... T-A-I-N-T
  - 55 ... U-G-L-Y
  - 57 Like a sheep
  - 58 Bring up, as a subject
  - 59 AOL delivery
  - 64 Deer cousin
  - 65 ... F-I-C-T-I-O-N
  - 70 Martial arts teacher
- DOWN**
- 1 Tear
  - 2 Slip or trip
  - 3 Hostile force
  - 4 Magazine for an exec
  - 5 Necklace of flowers
  - 6 "... Passes By" (A.A. Milne play)
  - 7 Alternate route
  - 8 Lorre's role in "Casablanca"
  - 9 Auction set
  - 10 Cicero's card count?
  - 11 "\_ Beso (That Kiss!)"
  - 12 With 90-Down, free
  - 13 \_ voce (under one's breath)
  - 14 "It's \_ cause"
  - 15 Drug used to treat Parkinson's
  - 16 Flabbergast
  - 17 Face hider
  - 18 "Why would \_?"
  - 19 Bygone British gun
  - 24 "Can \_ now?"
  - 28 French "a"
  - 29 In vogue
  - 30 Resort island near Venice
  - 31 Cake baker
  - 32 Sofa or pew
  - 33 This, to Juan
  - 34 Swiftess
  - 35 Wiesel who wrote "Night"
  - 36 Clangor
  - 40 Lip-puckering jawbreakers
  - 42 Fulfilled
  - 43 Hi-tech bookmark
  - 44 -Ops
  - 46 Post-punk genre
  - 48 Morales of the screen
  - 49 "Pan Am" star Christina
  - 50 Terrified
  - 52 "... seen worse"
  - 53 None at all
  - 54 Like kiddie-pool water, often
  - 56 Partner of neither
  - 58 Misbehaving
  - 59 Seer's power
  - 60 Body of eau
  - 61 Meth- ending
  - 62 Method ending
  - 63 Arise quickly
  - 65 Wray of film
  - 66 AAA service
  - 67 Land in l'Atlantique
  - 68 Bardic work
  - 69 After-tax
  - 71 Novelist Calvino
  - 73 See 77-Down
  - 76 Writer Leon
  - 77 With 73-Down, early portrayer of Tarzan
  - 79 Procured
  - 80 Farming-related: Abbr.
  - 83 Poison from a snake
  - 84 Addition total
  - 85 Plan (out)
  - 86 Tax Day mo.
  - 87 \_ Lanka
  - 88 Plebeian
  - 89 Actress Delany
  - 90 See 12-Down
  - 91 Sci-fi empath Deanna
  - 92 Engrossed by
  - 93 Home to Honolulu
  - 94 Science guy Bill's family
  - 97 Prickly husk
  - 100 Cardinal's cap abbr.
  - 101 WWII ship sinkers
  - 102 Revolving gun holder
  - 105 Emerge
  - 106 Library gizmo
  - 107 Huge gulf
  - 109 Modern: Prefix
  - 110 Ticking thing
  - 111 Brinker of kid-lit
  - 112 Harbinger
  - 113 Pixar title fish
  - 114 Barely made, with "out"
  - 118 Flying expert
  - 119 Rebel Turner
  - 120 College sr.'s test
  - 121 Try to win
  - 122 NHL great Bobby
  - 123 Sushi eggs
  - 124 Genetic stuff
  - 125 \_ Antonio

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20							21					22							
23						24						25							
					26					27	28								
29	30	31	32	33				34	35	36		37							
38							39				40				41	42	43	44	
45					46			47				48	49	50					
51						52	53	54			55	56							
					57					58									
59	60	61	62	63		64			65						66	67	68	69	
70					71			72	73				74						
75					76	77				78	79	80		81					
													82						
85	86	87	88							89					90	91	92	93	94
95								96	97					98					
99								100				101	102				103		
				104	105	106	107		108				109	110					
111	112	113						114				115							
116								117	118	119	120				121	122	123	124	125
126								127						128					
129								130						131					

# MOORE TEXAS

by Roger Todd Moore

May 7, 1955: Texas' 2 millionth phone is installed at the Governor's mansion.



## 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.

	÷		+		11
+		×		÷	
	+		÷		2
÷		-		+	
	-		×		9
4		4			10

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 6 7 7 8 9

Answer Page 4

© 2016 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

© 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Ascarate

From Page 1

the drainage system.

The projects for phases two and three would encompass more ambitious projects such as softball fields with lights and concession areas, revamping the area where Western Playland used to be, constructing nine synthetic soccer fields with lights, an aquatics center splash park, a plaza-style skate park, a scenic event space, a soccer complex, and accommodating a RV campsite. These projects, however, would cost more than \$44.5 million, county officials estimated.

The park exists today because of the cooperative efforts between the county and federal government. In 1937, more than two-thirds of El Paso County voters approved levying a tax to help develop the park along the Rio Grande on land deeded to the county by the Department of the Interior, according to researcher Michael Lewis, a member of the El Paso County Historical Commission.

Lewis related that a CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) company of more than 200

individuals helped develop the park and its lake. "They excavated more than 1 million cubic yards of sand and laid a six-inch layer of clay to line the lake's bottom," he stated.

CCC workers also landscaped the grounds with more than 17,000 cottonwood trees, 40,000 Chinese elms and 4,000 pecans. They even half-finished a golf course by the time work was halted in 1942, when attention turned to World War II, Lewis related.

"As the division of the project funds between the county and the National Park Service indicates, El Paso County could not have constructed the lake on its own," Lewis stated. "So without the CCC's help, El Paso County would be without its largest body of water, which continues to be dedicated to recreational use some 79 years later."

For now, Adauto pointed out that the proposed projects are ideas and that the department will seek community input. She indicated that a more concrete plan would be presented to commissioners court this summer. She also stated that a plan for the county's outlying rural parks would be presented to commissioners court in the near future.

## Finances

From Page 2

and challenging. You'll not only learn whether you can support yourself, but also whether you'll enjoy doing it long-term. Many of us dream of being our own boss, but reality can be very different, particularly when managing uneven earnings and cash flow common to many new companies. It's not just about business; it's about whether your lifestyle and personality traits (<https://hbr.org/2010/02/should-you-be-an-entrepreneur>) make you right for operating a business in this economy – or any economy.

**Bottom line:** Plenty of people find themselves dealing either by choice or necessity with the brave new world of "gig" work. It's important to approach it as a financial and lifestyle decision on par with starting a business.

*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.*

## Sports

From Page 6

back to winning soon enough. Water finds its level.

There is no such thing as a curse or a jinx, but there is such a thing as the right place and time. Guys like David Ross, Anthony Rizzo, Justin Grimm, Kris Bryant and the rest of the deceptively hot-hitting Cubs in their "whatever you think is hot" suits, they're feeling it. So brace yourself, Wrigley Field... the jinx is up.

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

## Health

From Page 7

and make an appointment to get checked out.

*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](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu). To view and order health pamphlets, visit [www.rbmamall.com](http://www.rbmamall.com), or write to Good Health, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2016 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.*

## 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: C equals W

KDGF M GKWXSH IALF TXPGEMFI

AD GVF PAESGQ BKCLKS, UA

QAE GVXSW CF IVAEBU IXSH

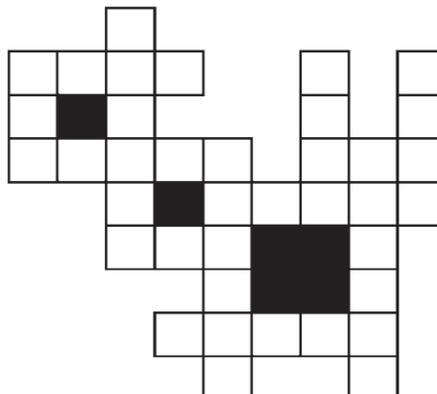
"X IVAG GVF IVFMXDD"?

Answer Page 4

© 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.



- ♥ BRO
- TIENCH
- LEEBI
- ♥ OLCO
- LIPRYE
- ♥ APL
- ERBU
- LATDI
- ♥ TCA
- ANOBIT
- ♥ TOPNI
- OLAT



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.

NEW! 30 Fear Knot puzzles \$3.50 • Six Volumes • Order at [rbmamall.com](http://rbmamall.com)

© 2016 King Features Syndicate. All rights reserved.