

## NEWSBRIEFS

### USDA money

Rural Development grants and a loan are being awarded to three west Texas entities this week. The Village of Vinton is receiving a \$50,000 Housing Preservation Grant. The funds will be used to promote housing preservation through smaller grants for very-low income homeowners for property rehabilitation. Tierra del Sol Housing Corporation is also receiving a \$50,000 Housing Preservation Grant. The funds will be used to provide housing rehabilitation and/or repair services to owner-occupied housing units in rural areas within El Paso County. The Fort Hancock Water Control and Improvement District is receiving a \$2.1 million loan for water and wastewater improvements. The project will consist of a Reverse Osmosis (RO) building expansion and pre-filtration as well as wastewater line extensions.

— John Perkins

### Long, hot summers

It has been a long, hot summer so far this year and it isn't over yet in many parts of the country. Some like it hot, but many older Americans can't take the heat and need to take precautions, says the Association of Mature American Citizens. As you grow older, your body does not retain as much water as it once did and so dehydration is a major concern, especially for those who take diuretics. If you are getting on in years, drink plenty of fluids in hot weather and have access to air conditioning and or shady spots to relax out of doors, bearing in mind that older folks don't sweat as much as they should. Excessive heat can make you lightheaded and dizzy and risk a fall. It can even lead to a stroke.

— John Grimaldi

### Wanted

A man Robs an east El Paso Home Improvement store at gunpoint. Investigators from the El Paso Police Department are asking for the public's help in identifying him through the Crime Stoppers. On Sunday, Sept. 4, 2016, a man walked in to the Home Depot store located at 12221 Montwood. Once inside the man took a cordless oscillating multi-tool valued at \$129.00 dollars and

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*When you have to swallow your own medicine, the spoon seems very large.*

— Quips & Quotes

## Santamaria completes Eagle project

By Don Woodyard  
Special to the Courier

FABENS—The living honor the dead. Abraham Santamaria, 18, is the second member of Troop 513 to select a cemetery as the focal point of his Eagle Scout project, the final requirement to earn his Eagle in recent months. He is the fourth Boy Scout in the troop to achieve the highest honor in Boy Scouts in recent months. (The first troop member to clean up a cemetery was Jorge Gutierrez, Jr. whose project was described in a previous story.) A senior at Cotton Valley Early College High School in Fabens, Santamaria's project was erecting 220 feet of chain-link fence along the perimeter of what Gayle Bidwell calls "Fabens forgotten cemetery." It also involved digging holes by hand and implanting 23 metal posts to support the fencing. He said it took eight

boys three days to complete. The Scout coordinated his efforts through Bidwell, treasurer of a small group of Fabens' citizens dedicated to fixing up and cleaning up what Bidwell describes as an "historic" cemetery near the airport. Bidwell was high in his praise of the efforts of Santamaria's and his fellow Boy Scouts. "They did an excellent job," he said. "It went really well, and it looks really nice." Bidwell emphasizes Santamaria's Eagle project is only the "first leg" of a long-term goal of the Fabens Forgotten Cemetery Assn. to put new fencing around the entire six-acre cemetery. He says the acreage has been vandalized repeatedly and has never really taken of in recent years. Santamaria says he joined the Troop 513 at the suggestion of a friend. He had



Abraham Santamaria

See SCOUT, Page 8



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**WHO ARE YOU – Texas Attorney General's office revised its stance on its controversial voter ID law for the November general election. Proponents of the lawsuit effort against Texas said that the change will make it easier for more citizens to cast their ballots when they go to their polling stations, like the one above, during the upcoming election.**

## Revised ID law opens polling places to more voters

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Early voting polling places will open in about a month, and Texas election officials gear up for the anticipated large turnout by training thousands of poll workers and by educating the public about court-ordered changes to the state's previous voter identification (ID) law. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in August that the state's 2011 photo

ID law discriminated against minorities, and it ordered the law to be weakened for November's election. In response, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton agreed to a settlement that keeps its voter ID law in place but allows for those lacking one of seven forms of required identification to cast a regular ballot by presenting an alternate ID and signing an affidavit. The additional option is estimated to effect about 600,000 Texans who are eligible to vote but lack an

See LAW, Page 5

### November Election Schedule

- **Tuesday, October 11**  
Last day to register to vote.
- **Monday, October 24**  
First day of Early Voting.
- **Friday, October 28**  
Last day to apply for a Ballot by Mail. (Received, not postmarked.)
- **Friday, November 4**  
Last day of Early Voting.
- **Election Day, Tuesday, November 8**  
Last day to receive a Ballot by Mail, unless overseas deadline applies.



Finances

By Nathaniel Sillin

# Fintech is changing money management for the better

Are you stressed about managing your money? Most of us are at one time or another. Whether you're trying to track your spending or invest spare change, fintech (financial technology) is here to ease your money worries. That's the promise of the entrepreneurs and engineers working in one of Silicon Valley's fastest growing industries.

### Five ways Fintech can help

- **Investing with minimal effort.** Technology has made investing straightforward and inexpensive. Robo advisors are computerized investment management services that offer low fees, a simple setup and customized investment strategies. Using a robo advisor, you can let a computer create and manage your investment portfolio with just a few clicks.
- **Getting paid back quickly.** Say goodbye to post-meal negotiation as you and your friends try to split the check. Mobile apps linked to checking accounts let you send and receive money instantaneously.
- **Comparing loan offers.** There are online services that allow you to enter your information once and receive loan offers from competing lenders. The shopping tools let you compare interest rates and terms, which could save you money over the lifetime of the loan.
- **Budgeting easily and efficiently.** There are budgeting apps that sync with your financial accounts to let you track your spending and savings in real time. You can even track spending in different categories, receive notifications when you exceed your budget and analyze the data to see where you spend most of your paycheck.
- **Saving money automatically.** Apps can make it easy to grow your savings. Some services use algorithms to calculate how much you can afford to save, and then automatically transfer the money to your savings account.

• **Investing with minimal effort.** Technology has made investing straightforward and inexpensive. Robo advisors are computerized investment management services that offer low fees, a simple setup and customized investment strategies. Using a robo advisor, you can let a computer create and manage your investment portfolio with just a few clicks.

• **Getting paid back quickly.** Say goodbye to post-meal negotiation as you and your friends try to split the check. Mobile apps linked to checking accounts let you send and receive money instantaneously.

• **Comparing loan offers.** There are online services that allow you to enter your information once and receive loan offers from competing lenders. The shopping tools let you compare interest rates and terms, which could save you money over the lifetime of the loan.

You might also be benefiting from fintech developments without realizing it. For example, new technology could be powering your bank's online chat service or suspicious activity

alerts. **Keeping your finances and information secure** Even if a new app or service seems reputable, it's important to take steps to safeguard your finances and personal information.

• **Always research an app or service.** Search the name of the app or company and look for reviews. Positive reviews by major media outlets are usually

a good sign that the service is considered reliable.

• **Improve your password security.** Password protection is an important aspect of online security. Don't use the same password for two accounts, financial or other, and try to use two-factor authentication, meaning someone can't log in with your password alone.

• **Use biometric authentication.** Some banks

offer biometric authentication that you can use to access your account from your phone. Rather than type in a password, the phone's camera or microphone can verify your identity with your fingerprint, eye, face or voice.

• **Enable location-based alerts.** Geolocation tracking can add an extra layer of security to your account. With your permission, banks can use GPS data from your smartphone to help verify that you're with your card when it's used for a purchase.

• **Use several accounts.** Keeping your assets in several accounts can help limit your risk. Even if one account is attacked, you'll have access to your other money while the financial institution looks into the matter and makes you whole.

**Bottom Line:** Fintech is changing the way people save, spend, borrow and manage their money. Though there are important security risks to consider, these new innovative and intuitive services offer something for everyone.

*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

## List of Camp Lejeune illnesses may expand

The Department of Veterans Affairs is considering adding eight new presumptives to the Camp Lejeune toxic chemical-exposure list, and invites your input.

This proposed rule would add eight service-related illnesses for those active duty, reserve and National Guard members who served at Camp Lejeune for a minimum of 30 days between Aug. 1, 1953 and Dec. 31, 1987. Those illnesses are: adult leukemia, aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes, bladder cancer, kidney cancer, liver cancer, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Parkinson's disease.

Camp Lejeune was found in the 1980s to have toxic chemicals – such as dry cleaning fluid, benzene and vinyl chloride – in the water supply. The Hadnot Point and Tarawa Terrace wells had been used since the 1950s, and affected tens of thousands of service personnel and their families. Veterans have suffered with Parkinson's, multiple cancers (including kidney, breast, prostate), scleroderma, arthritis, respiratory illnesses,

lymphoma, multiple myeloma and much more. The damage hasn't been limited to those who lived at the base: Children born later have had multiple health problems, as well as serious birth defects.

The VA wants to think about the additional presumptives and is setting up a 30-day comment period that will end on Oct. 10, 2016. To add your comment, go here: [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and put Camp Lejeune in the search box. Look for ID: VA-2016-VBA-0021-0001. To learn more about the Camp Lejeune water history, go here: [www.tftptf.com](http://www.tftptf.com).

On another note, if you need a routine hearing or vision appointment, by the end of the year you'll no longer need to be referred by a primary-care provider. The Audiology and Optometry departments will make your appointment directly. This program started as a pilot last year and was apparently successful enough that they're bringing it to all VA medical centers by the end of 2016.

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The *West Texas County Courier* will publish two editions early. The October 20 and October 27, 2016 issues will go to press on Monday, October 10, 2016.

All material for these publications must be submitted to the *West Texas County Courier* no later than Thursday, October 6, 2016.

The *West Texas County Courier* office will close beginning Thursday, October 13, 2016. The office will open again on Monday, October 31, 2016.

NEW HOUSES

Self-Help Built Starting At:

\$69,000

590-4511

Lower Valley Housing Corporation



EQUAL HOUSING  
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1973  
43  
Years  
2016

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

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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.


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View from here

By John Grimaldi

# More seniors are homeless in America than ever before

The homeless are the invisible denizens of America’s cities, says Dan Weber, president of the Association of Mature American Citizens. “But, the dirty little secret that has only come to light recently is the fact that the elderly are among the fastest growing populations living on the streets,” he reports.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development told Congress last year that there were more than 300,000 homeless Americans 50 years of age or more, 20% more than there were in 2007.

A recognized expert on the issue of the growing number of older individuals who are on the streets is University of Pennsylvania Professor Dennis P. Culhane. He says that in 1990 “the peak age of adults who were homeless was 30” and that today the peak age is 55.

Weber is calling on all candidates for election and re-election in November and those in the private sector to recognize the fact that more seniors are homeless than ever before and to take to heart the needs of “these hapless lost souls. Focus on their plight and let the truth be told, loud and clear. Everyone needs to pitch in if we are to solve this problem, which only grows bigger with each passing day.”

Some would blame the spike in homelessness among older Americans on the swiftly aging population. But, Weber says, it has more to do with the rising cost of health care and health insurance, the lagging economy, the impact of such diseases of old age as cancer and Alzheimer’s and, perhaps the most damaging cause of all, the lack of affordable housing.

“In fact, talk to any health provider who deals with the homeless and they will tell you that there has been a dramatic shift in recent years in the illnesses from which they suffer. It used to be that the homeless suffered mainly from drug abuse and mental illness. Nowadays they are more likely to have the chronic diseases of old age,” Weber notes.

Mel Martinez and Allyson Y. Schwartz are the co-chairs of the Bipartisan Policy Center Senior Health and Housing Task Force. Martinez is a former U.S. Senator from Florida and Schwartz is a former Congresswoman from Pennsylvania. They published an Opinion Article in U.S. News and World Report last month in which they concluded “preventing and ending homelessness among older adults should become a major national priority in the United States. By setting goals to end homelessness; increasing available low-income senior housing; and by understanding that the challenge requires participation from public and private partners at all levels, we can and will find ways to ensure that all U.S. seniors have the shelter and security that they deserve.”

Meanwhile, Margot Kushel, professor of medicine at University of California, San Francisco, is an expert on the elderly who become homeless. She says that providing them with housing is the key to fixing the problem. “A lot of these people have been healthy their whole lives. But it doesn’t take long for their health to plummet once they’re homeless. Once someone is housed, depression often lifts, stress fades away, infections heal. It’s instant.”

Says Weber, “everyone has his own set of priorities, but one thing we all have in common is that we are all growing older. It’s one of the hardest things we will all do in this life and so we should have compassion for those who need our help.”

*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.*

## Buddy Walk for scholarships

By Jim Heiney  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY – The Down Syndrome Coalition for El Paso (DSCEP), in partnership with El Paso Community College (EPCC), will hold the seventh annual Buddy Walk at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, October 1st at the EPCC Valle Verde Campus Americana Language Village, 919 Hunter. The walk raises funds for the DSCEP, EPCC scholarships for students with disabilities and the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS).

The three-quarter of a mile walk circles the beautiful Valle Verde campus. After the walk there will be refreshments for sale, prizes and entertainment, including local jazz greats, Billy Townes and Ruben Gutierrez. There will also be a visit by Chico, mascot for the El Paso Chihuahuas. Local businesses and non-profit organizations will offer information to attendees.

Preregistration is available online at [www.epbuddywalk.org](http://www.epbuddywalk.org). The price for the walk is \$10 in advance and \$15 the day of the walk. All paid participants receive a Buddy Walk t-shirt. Registration the day of the event begins at 9:00 a.m.

The DSCEP Buddy Walk is one of 275 walks nationally. October is National Down Syndrome Awareness Month. Down syndrome is a rare genetic disorder that occurs once in every 691 births in the United States. NDSS is the national advocate for the acceptance and the inclusion of people with Down syndrome as valued members of the community.





## 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 20th-century Florida politician Claude Pepper, member of the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, who made the following sage observation: “If more politicians in this country were thinking about the next generation instead of the next election, it might be better for the United States and the world.”

- Those who study such things say that the letter “s” begins more words in the English language than any other letter. The letter “c” takes second place, followed by “p” in third.

- In 1958, a woman named Ella Petry, then residing in St. Leonardson-by-the-Sea, England, spent 21 days carrying an egg around in the bosom of her dress, successfully hatching a chick at the end of the three-week period.

- It's been claimed that English is the only language that capitalizes the pronoun "I."

- It may be difficult to picture a pope in anything other than the robes of office, but they certainly lead normal lives when they're young. Pope John Paul II reputedly was an excellent soccer goalkeeper, and he worked as a playwright – and even performed as an actor in some productions.

- When black sheep get old, their wool turns gray.

Thought for the Day: “Moral certainty is always a sign of cultural inferiority. The more uncivilized the man, the surer he is that he knows precisely what is right and what is wrong. All human progress, even in morals, has been the work of men who have doubted the current moral values, not of men who have whooped them up and tried to enforce them. The truly civilized man is always skeptical and tolerant, in this field as in all others. His culture is based on ‘I am not too sure.’”

– H.L. Mencken

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# IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PREVENT DIABETES

## Take your first step today

**If you have a family history of type 2 diabetes, you are at risk of the disease.**

**It's about small steps:** Lose a small amount of weight by walking or biking for 30 minutes 5 days a week, and by making healthy food choices, to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. In fact, these small steps work even better for people over 60 than for any other age group.

**For free information about preventing type 2 diabetes, visit [www.YourDiabetesInfo.org](http://www.YourDiabetesInfo.org) or call 1-888-693-NDEP (6337); TTY: 1-866-569-1162.**

**[www.YourDiabetesInfo.org](http://www.YourDiabetesInfo.org)**

A message from the National Diabetes Education Program, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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## CryptoQuip Answer

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# Miranda named 2016 San Elizario HS ‘Honored-Ex’

By Hector Gonzalez  
*Special to the Courier*

SAN ELIZARIO – National Honor Society member, manager of the Girls’ Volleyball and Basketball teams, and senior Homecoming Duchess



Leticia “Letty” Miranda

are a few accolades of the San Elizario High School 2016 Honored-Ex, Ms. Leticia “Letty” Miranda.

“I am humbled to be this year’s Honored-Ex,” said Miranda. “I had the best education as a San Eli student and was provided an excellent foundation to succeed in college and in my career. I want to share this honor with my family and my Class of 1986! My high school years were the best years of my life!”

Miranda graduated from San Elizario High School in 1986 and then graduated from the University of Phoenix with a Bachelor’s in Human Services; moreover in 2012, she attained her Master of Science in the Administration of Justice and Security from the University of Phoenix.

“Leticia’s family, personal struggles, and strong positive character has molded her into the woman she is today,” said

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## Law

From Page 1

approved ID under the previous measure.

According to the state attorney general’s office, voters without a photo ID now can sign an affidavit that certifies that they are a U.S. citizen and present proof of residence, such as a utility bill, bank statement, or paycheck. Also, the state must provide such affidavits in English, Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese. Additionally, the court stipulated that election officials cannot question Texans lacking identification.

Texas Secretary of State’s office recently circulated final instructions to all county election offices – all 254 of them – about the revised identification requirements for the November 8 election . The instructional materials about the changes will serve as guidance for local election administrators, state officials explained.

Subsequently, the Secretary of State Carlos Cascos has been touring state-wide, and his office is spending millions of dollars in television and radio advertisements including digital, print, and social media, as part of their efforts to satisfy the federal appeals court latest directive mandating that a concerted campaign be implemented by the state to inform all prospective voters of the adjustment to the voter ID law.

The 2011 law had a strict list

of acceptable photo IDs. Voters without a photo ID could cast provisional ballots that would only be counted if the voter presented a valid ID within six days. Opponents of the law argued that it disenfranchised poor and minority voters. Proponents said that it was needed to bolster security at the ballot box by preventing voter fraud, even though in-person voter fraud is rare. There has only been two convictions for fraud out of 20 million votes cast in the decades before state lawmakers crafted the law, according to official reports.

With the appeals court recent ruling, however, the burden has now shifted to the state, said one legal expert. Election officials can only challenge a vote if they have conclusive evidence that the persons are not who they say they are, he explained.

Though the deal should answer questions over how Texas will administer its next elections, it will not end legal wrangling over the 2011 rules, known as the nation’s strictest and which has cost state taxpayers more than \$3.5 million in preserve the original law, according to recent reports.

The new agreement is only a temporary remedy, the Texas attorney general’s office pointed out in a public statement that was released shortly after the appeals court ruling . AG officials expressed that their plans are to continue to fight to uphold the 2011 law, possibly by appealing the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.

# Foundation giving 10 trees for membership

By Danny Cohn  
*Special to the Courier*

Everyone who joins the Arbor Day Foundation in September will receive 10 free trees as part of the Foundation’s Trees for America program.

Through Trees for America, everyone is encouraged to plant trees, which benefit the environment and improves quality of life. With nearly 1 million members and supporters, the Arbor Day Foundation is the nation’s largest nonprofit organization dedicated to planting trees.

Everyone joining this month will receive one of the following tree packages based on their location: 10 Arizona Cypress, 10 Live Oak or 10 Mix trees including eastern redbud, white pine, sugar maple, white flowering dogwood, pin oak, red maple, river birch, silver maple, northern red oak, and Colorado blue spruce.

“These trees are carefully selected to yield year-round benefits, including beautiful spring flowers, cool summer shade, spectacular autumn colors,

winter berries, and nesting sites for songbirds,” said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation.

“These trees will also add to the proud heritage of your state’s Tree City USA communities.” Harris continued. “For the past 40 years, Tree City USA has supported effective urban forestry management across the country, and planting these trees will enhance this tree-planting tradition.”

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between October 15 and December 10. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. Easy-to-follow planting instructions are enclosed with each shipment of trees.

New members of the Arbor Day Foundation will also receive The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care.

To receive the 10 free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Ten Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by September 30, 2016, or join online at [arborday.org/september](http://arborday.org/september).



The American Lung Association is fighting for a day when we can all breathe easier. That’s why we support cleaner cars and trucks that make the air in our communities safer. We’re fighting for air in more ways than ever before. Join the fight at [FightingForAir.org](http://FightingForAir.org).





# The Windy City might have a new team of heros

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

It might be sacrilegious in America to mention any other sports once football season begins, but whether you remember or not, the Major League Baseball season is coming to a close.

Now before you nod off in utter boredom, let me remind you that there are some rather compelling stories going on in America’s former pastime.

For instance, did you realize that the Texas Rangers and the Cleveland Indians have the best records in the American League?

The Seattle Mariners are actually still in the playoff chase.

In the National League, the Washington Nationals and L.A. Dodgers are two of the best three teams and could easily advance to the World Series on the back of their pitching.

But by far, the most interesting and potentially historic story is about that other team in the National League and probably the best team in baseball.

The Chicago Cubs cliched their division

with over two weeks to go in the season last week and are the odds-on favorite to win it all.

Of course, what makes the Cubbies’ season so special is that these are the lovable losers of sports fans everywhere.

For those of you who aren’t aware of it, the Cubs have not won a championship in 110 years. That’s even longer than either Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton have been alive.

And it’s not like they’ve always close and just can’t get over the hump; the Cubs are usually out of the race by the middle of summer.

Oh, there have been a couple of occasions when they were close over the last 50 years but that dreaded “Curse of the Billygoat” reared its ugly head... and horns.

Don’t ask me to explain it, I don’t believe in curses.

But I do believe in bad luck. And the Cubs have had their share of it for over a century.

However, in 2016, all the luck seems to be going their way. The Cubs have the best record in baseball, the most talent in baseball and one of the youngest teams in

baseball.

We already knew they had the best fans in baseball.

And why not? They get to go to one of the best ballparks in the country – Wrigley Field – everyday and watch their lovable losers... I mean winners.

With all the talent the Cubs put out on the field everyday, the two most important acquisitions they’ve made in recent years haven’t thrown a single pitch or picked up a single hit.

Five years ago the Cubs hired Theo Epstein as their general manager and two years ago, Epstein hired manager Joe Maddon.

Together, they have quickly transformed the Cubs from an afterthought to the most talked about team in the majors.

We all saw what Maddon did with the Tampa Bay Rays. He took a miserable franchise and made them yearly playoff contenders and even led them to the World Series in 2008.

Epstein may eventually prove to be the best MLB general manager of all time.

It was Epstein who built the Boston Red Sox team that won the World Series in 2004, giving them their first championship

in 86 years.

How many general managers can say that they’ve ended two historic losing streaks?

With the likes of Washington and Los Angeles, along with the San Francisco Giants and New York Mets, it won’t be an easy road to the title, but just the idea that this Cubs team has the best chance it’s ever had to break the streak is exciting.

And that’s why avid football fans will keep one eye focused on the otherwise insignificant baseball playoffs. Sports fans everywhere will be rooting for the Cubs to spray champagne all over each other.

What’s not to like about this team? They are young and enthusiastic, they have a coach who is as unconventional as they come, and they have fans – despite the years of losing – that have never left their team’s side.

If the Cubs come through it will easily be the sports story of the year.

The Bears and the Bulls have their iconic teams and players, but this year’s Chicago Cubs – if they can win it all – will join those Windy City franchises seen as... immortal.

## A sporting view By Mark Vasto

### Trampled Underwood

I once knew a kid whose favorite part of watching a video – any video – was the FBI warning screen. It was so weird an affliction that if he was out of the room making, say, microwave popcorn, he would beg us to rewind back to the screen upon his return. Apparently his dad or uncle was in the FBI or something. I was reminded of this as I watched Carrie Underwood sing the opening theme song for the Sunday Night Football game.

I know this puts me in a tough spot, so before any of you Carrie Underwood fans get upset, I am not making fun of her... just the spot she is in. To set the scene, my brother-in-law and I are sitting down, ready to watch the

Cardinals lose to the Patriots. There is a brief introduction from Al Michaels, and then all of sudden, you’ve got Carrie Underwood in a sparkly cocktail dress shimmying through locker rooms, singing some peppy song, telling us there’s a game and the Cardinals and Patriots will be the participants.

We didn’t even have a bet on the game (though I was insistent that New England would win), but we did have an argument about Carrie Underwood that escalated into a wager. For one thing, we didn’t know it was Carrie Underwood. I’m a country-music fan, but I’m into Loretta Lynn and Johnny Cash, so every new female country singer is Miranda Lambert as

far I know. My brother-in-law disagreed. “It’s Shania Twain,” he insisted. We came to a loose agreement that it could be Taylor Swift.

The words to the song start as follows:

“America’s game, been waiting all day / the best of the best have come to play / the gang’s all here, let’s turn it up / it’s the NFL, can’t get enough!”

I have a few issues with this seemingly innocuous beginning of what is simply supposed to be a warm welcome. For one thing, unless you are a fan of the Patriots and Cardinals or had to spend your entire day working, chances are you haven’t been waiting all day for the game. (Yes, we know you fantasy footballers have a stake in the game, too... we know this because you won’t ever SHUT UP about your starters.)

Then there’s the part about the “gang.” I don’t know if my




brother-in-law and I can really constitute a “gang.” We were in fraternities in college, and I’m a member of the Optimist Club, but I can’t say I’ve ever been in a gang. Also, I can’t ever recall ever using the term to describe me and a bunch of friends. Like, when the wife calls and asks where I am, never once did I say I was with “the gang.”

Anyway, Underwood is acting sassy all over the place... in front of team buses, through men’s locker rooms, in the tunnel, on the field. She brushes past Eli Manning, who looks confused as always... she tosses a helmet at Clay

Matthews, points at a sponsor’s sign and shows us her legs before launching fireworks. I’m thinking to myself, I’d just rather be listening some more to Al Michaels or watch the cheerleaders. Who really needs this opening segment? Then my sister came in the room. “Oh, did I miss the Carrie Underwood part? Can you rewind it?”

Well, I guess it beats an FBI warning.

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





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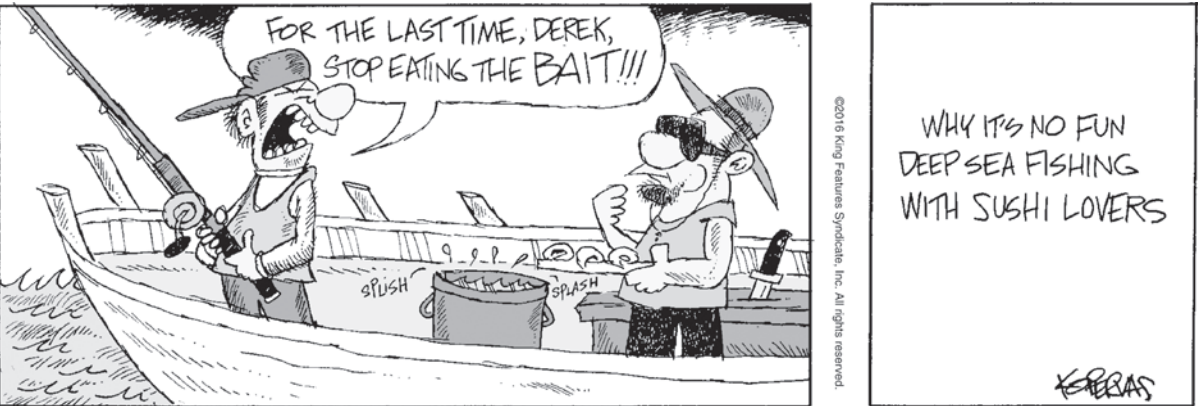
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMBBy Gary Kopervas



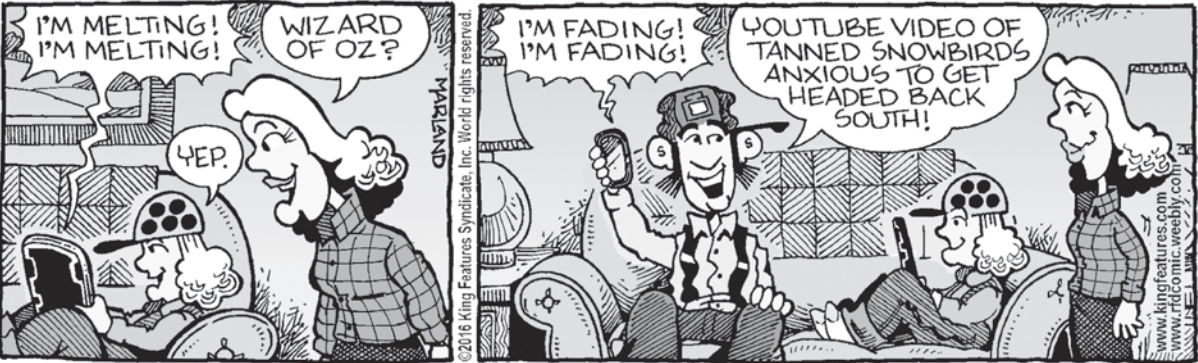
AMBER WAVESBy Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATSBy Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Your good healthBy Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I recently went to my family doctor, complaining of left-arm pain and heartburn-like pain in my throat area. He said that he could admit me to the hospital for two days of testing or that it could be a pinched nerve in my neck. It was my choice not to go to the hospital, so he recommended meloxicam for a possible pinched nerve. As it turns out, my symptoms later became so uncomfortable that I decided to go to the ER three days after seeing my doctor. It was a serious blockage of a main artery to my heart, and emergency surgery was performed to put a stent in. I am lucky to have made it in time. I realize that it was my decision to not be admitted – I guess I was in denial. I never thought to ask him if he could have given me an electrocardiogram there in his office, and some people, including my intensive-care nurse, asked why he didn't. Because he didn't offer to test me in his office, I am considering changing doctors. I like him and he has always given me good care in the past, so I'm not sure what to do. I feel that had he done the ECG that day, my problem could have been diagnosed much sooner and possibly prevented my heart attack. Why wouldn't he have checked my heart function right there with the electrocardiogram? He did check my blood pressure and listen to my heart, but those seemed to be normal. Can you give me your opinion on this? I am a 64-year-old male. – F.M.

no symptoms. It sounds like your doctor did suspect heart disease, and I bet he now regrets not insisting that you be admitted. It's a judgment call, and you have to consider not only the symptoms, but also the risk factors. Just being a 64-year-old man is a risk factor; if you had other risks, such as elevated blood pressure, cholesterol, a history of smoking or a family history of heart disease, that would make heart disease more likely. The electrocardiogram is not a perfect test, and although it might have been abnormal at the time, it also is possible that it could have been perfectly normal. In hindsight, I wonder if your knowing your EKG was normal would have kept you from going to the emergency room when you did. To me, this isn't so egregious that I would suggest you find a different doctor, but only you can decide whether you still have confidence in him.

READERS: Heart disease remains the No. 1 killer. The booklet on clogged heart arteries explains why they happen and what can be done to prevent clogging. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Roach – No. 101W, 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.

Without being there, I can't give an opinion on whether your doctor should have insisted on your being admitted to the hospital, but I am printing your letter to once again emphasize that heart disease, even serious blockages, can have minimal or

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). (c) 2016 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

CROSS-MULTIPLICATION ACROSS

1 Sum total

7 Extra-large

12 Texter's "No way!"

15 Biathlon pair

19 Flung

20 Negative particle

21 Large town with a harbor

23 "Absolutely out of the question!"

25 Says again and again

26 Lose all power

27 Sandra of "Gidget"

28 "For shame!"

29 1982 coming-of-age comedy

39 Nuptial beginning

40 Almost here

41 Parade site

42 Manhattan's 229 West 43rd Street, familiarly

50 Up to, shortly

51 Calendar unit

52 See 117-Down

53 Debtor's slip

55 Shop with cold cuts

56 Ding-a-\_ (dopes)

58 Prefix with cycle

59 Suffered misfortune

63 Try hard

65 Ruin the secret

66 Bean holder

67 "Give \_ buzz"

68 Almost always

72 Exploring aid

75 "Who am \_ judge?"

76 Ballpoint fills

77 "Judging Amy" co-star

79 1978 #1 hit sung by Lionel Richie

84 Mont Blanc, for one

85 Interior look

86 Actresses Charlotte and Cassidy

87 L minus IX

88 Pricey

90 Slipper, say

91 TV plugs

92 Dickens novel opener

97 Makes irate

101 Salt's call

102 Inspired stuff

103 Start of a parent's rebuke to an insistent kid

111 Villains' looks

112 Hall & Oates, e.g.

113 \_ray

115 Unit of naval vessels

118 "Out with the old, in with the new"

124 With direct ancestry

125 Information stand, often

126 Nullify

127 Gem mined in Australia

128 "Rescue us!"

129 Trims, as text

130 Gorilla studier Dian

DOWN

1 Just barely

2 Design theme

3 Actor Milo

4 Mil. morale booster

5 Not old, in Germany

6 Gridiron stat

7 Leigh of "Psycho"

8 Lesser than

9 Jumble

10 \_ mot

11 "Dear Yoko" dedicatee

12 Poppy drug

13 Watchword

14 \_ Green (old eloping site)

15 Excoriate

16 Sewing \_

17 Suffix with Balkan

18 Part of CBS: Abbr.

22 "Hardcore Pawn" network

24 Idaho county

28 Garr of films

30 Shrub with milky latex

31 \_la

32 Many Nam vets' kids

33 Participating

34 Playa \_ Rey

35 Rove (about)

36 Lay to rest

37 Part of SAG

38 DNA shape

42 Plant tissue

43 Paris' river

44 Post-lecture session, for short

45 John of song

46 Wilkes-\_, Pennsylvania

47 Prefix with cycle

48 Zippo

49 Liquidy gunk

54 Let out of a cage

55 Pop

57 "A votre \_!"

59 Happening by chance

60 Grub

61 Wall St. takeover

62 Perfected

64 Withdrawn

69 First dynasty of China

70 N.J. borough

71 Laid-back sort

72 Like a stud

73 Not friendly

74 Ovenware glass

75 Pluralized -y, often

78 "\_ Rides Again" (old western film)

79 Junked stuff

80 Didn't get a choice

81 Stitch again

82 Prince in "Aladdin"

83 Soused

84 Part of NCAA: Abbr.

88 Eye irritation

89 Ring out

93 Infant cries

94 Sleuth's cry

95 Like pre-1991 Russ.

96 Caesar of TV

98 Dutch beer

99 Major fad

100 Fishing lines

104 Mello \_ (soft drink)

105 Inside looks?

106 That is, in Latin

107 Pulls up into a fold

108 "Wow!"

109 Tonys' kin

110 Forearm bones

114 Grotesque

115 Rapper \_ Rida

116 Cup edge

117 With 52-Across, tilted

118 Classic Jaguar

119 Give a hand

120 King, in Toulouse

121 Pound sound

122 Recent prefix?

123 Auto rental add-on

Answer Page 4

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14		15	16	17	18
19							20						21			22				
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	29			30	31	32			33	34	35						36	37	38	
				39					40					41						
42	43	44				45	46	47					48	49				50		
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115	116	117								118	119	120				121	122	123		
124										125						126				
127						128				129						130				



# Moore Texas

by Roger Moore

August 21 , 1906 :Ranger Capt.Bill McDonald is sent to Brownsville to quell a “race riot” .



## GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate   ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		7
+		÷		+	
	÷		-		2
÷		-		-	
	+		÷		6
4		1		9	

1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9 9

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Answer Page 4

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

# Social Security is here to stay

It’s healthy to be skeptical in a world of uncertainties. Major news networks sometimes broadcast conflicting facts that require a bit of research to verify. There is even a day in October dedicated to skeptics. Therefore, this is the perfect time to tell all the skeptics that there’s no reason to think Social Security won’t be here for you well into the future.

Recently, the Social Security Board of Trustees released its 76th annual report to Congress presenting the financial status of the Social Security trust funds for the short term and over the next 75 years. We are pleased that legislation signed into law by President Obama last November averted a near-term shortfall in the Disability Insurance (DI) trust fund that was detailed in a previous report.

With that small, temporary reallocation of the Social Security contribution rate, the DI fund will now be able to pay full benefits until 2023, and the retirement fund will be adequate into 2035. It is important that members of Congress act well before 2023 in order to strengthen the finances of the program. As a whole, Social Security is fully funded until 2034, and after that, it is about three-quarters financed.

Many people wonder if Social Security will be there for them. Here is a fact that will relieve any skepticism you might have: the increased cost of providing Social Security benefits for Baby Boomers is less than the nation’s increase in spending was for public education when the baby boomers were children.

You can put your skepticism aside and rest assured that Social Security is with you today and will be with you tomorrow. You can read the entire report at [www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/TR/2016](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/TR/2016).

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://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: M equals O

LJSEA J EBDXVN LMTA XBTA DLJSX  
MSWF MSA PMX’L VAWR, J LDRRMLA  
J VDSNAP LJSXWA-VMDSPAPWF.

Answer Page 4

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## FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

PCA  
♥ LERMOS  
RUENT  
HECT  
♥ MICEAN  
UNN  
♥ ERPI  
PIMOU  
ILP  
♥ TEPNIC  
♥ PECER  
TUEC


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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## Miranda

From Page 5

Yvonne Tarango, a 1986 SEHS graduate.

Miranda worked at Garcia Enriquez Middle School as an office clerk in 2000. From 2007 to 2012 she attained a job with “Mother’s Against Drunk Driving.”

San Elizario High School will honor Miranda during homecoming week, September 19-23, 2016; she will participate in the parade, the pep rally, and the homecoming game.

## Scout

From Page 1

no doubts at all about joining, he recalls, “none at all.” To him it all sounded “very interesting.”

He felt it was his goal as a Boy Scout to be an Eagle Scout. “You learn a lot of different things—the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. You follow them; they are there for a reason.”

He looks ahead and sees a positive carry over into adult life and a job where, with the skills and principles you’ve acquired in Scouting, “you take the initiative and go above and beyond.”

He even has plans for the future and for that job.

The first step is graduating from high school and having an associate of arts degree from El Paso Community College. From there, he looks to a four-year university with the goal of becoming a mechanical engineer.

He would like to work for Lockheed Martin. “They do really cool stuff.”

Looking even further into the future, Santamaria thinks of getting married. He already has plans for his male children.

“They will enter the Boy Scouts of America and always take pride in what they do.”

Publisher’s Note: This is the sixth in a series of stories about Boy Scout Troop 513 in Fabens. The series focuses on the accomplishments of four of its young men, detailing their successful quests for the coveted rank of Eagle, the highest rank a youth member can attain. This is the story of the fourth Boy Scout and his journey. Next: The Eagle Court of Honor for these four young men who have successfully traveled the Scouting trail to the top.

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