



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Mulch warning

If wood mulch from hurricane-ravaged areas of Louisiana is being shipped into or sold in Texas, it is being done so illegally according to the Texas Cooperative Extension and the Louisiana Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry. No wood debris has been approved to move outside the quarantined parishes of Louisiana — it is being disposed of in landfills. The concern involves the spread of Formosan termites, which are similar to other termites except in the size of their voracious appetites and the wider range of preferred feeding material which includes 47 types of live plants. The size of their colonies are also much larger. Texas has quarantined the shipment of used railroad crossties or other products from any state that could provide conveyance for the termites. Numerous parishes in the hurricane ravaged areas of Louisiana are known to be infested. Illegal transport of wood products out of Louisiana should be reported at (225) 925-3763. More information on the Formosan termite is available at <http://termite.tamu.edu>.

### Diabetes auction

The Border Art Auction 2006 to benefit the El Paso Diabetes Association will be held April 1-2, featuring 112 works of art by 47 of the top artists in the border community. Hosted by the Hal Marcus Gallery, 800 N. Mesa at Yandell in the heart of downtown El Paso, the event promises to be a fun, entertaining and educational event. The public is invited and admission is \$5, to include catalog. Reservations are recommended. Hors d'oeuvres and music will begin one hour before the event. Auctioneer Hal Marcus will open the bidding at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 1 and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 2. Previews of the art can be seen at [www.halmarcus.com](http://www.halmarcus.com), or at the Gallery March 29-April 1. Information and reservations: 533-9090.

### In other news

■ Marc Klass, founder of the KlassKids Foundation, will be in El Paso on Saturday, March 25 to host a free Child Safety Day Print-A-Thon event, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the HSBC Credit Center, 500 N. Zaragoza. Free fingerprinting and photography of children will be offered, and families will be given a packet with child safety tools including a DNA collection kit. KlassKids Foundation was created after the 1993 kidnap and murder of 12-year-old Polly Klass. Since that time, more than 1,000,000 children have been fingerprinted and photographed free of charge and without data-basing any personal or private information. Information: 858-5634.

■ If you employ a non-resident alien worker, you are responsible to collect and

See BRIEFS, Page 4

*If you don't enjoy what you have, how could you be happier with more?*

— Quips & Quotes

## Socorro ISD teacher is Red Cross Volunteer of the Year



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

**SOMEBODY'S HERO** — Mark Matthys, Executive Director of the American Red Cross of El Paso, presented Socorro ISD Homebound Compensatory teacher Candy Anson the Health and Safety Services Volunteer of the Year award on Feb. 21.

By Carlos A. Briano  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Socorro ISD Homebound Compensatory teacher Candy Anson has been named Health and Safety Services Volunteer of the Year by the American Red Cross of El Paso. She has volunteered with the organization since 1996.

"Candy has been a tireless champion of the importance of learning CPR and First Aid within her school district," says Mark Matthys, Executive Director of the American Red Cross of El Paso. "She is committed to the American Red Cross mission of helping people be better prepared and better able to respond when emergencies happen."

Susan Kelch, SISD director for Special Ed, adds that Anson is an outstanding employee who works very hard for the sake of students.

"The thing that's most remarkable about Candy is that she's a real visionary," she says. "She's been integral in growing other initiatives within our department. She's well

See ANSON, Page 6

## Canutillo High HOSA advance to state

By Kim Guzman  
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Canutillo High School Health Occupations students advance to state competition after placing among the top three finishers in area contests during the annual Area IV HOSA (Health Occupations Students of

America) leadership conference held in Abilene recently.

CHS's first place finishers were Alfonso Frias, sophomore; Michael Arroyo, senior; Richard Martinez, senior; and Miriam Garcia, sophomore. Second place qualifier was Meili Robles, senior; and third place finisher was

See HOSA, Page 6



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

**STATE BOUND** — Canutillo HS Health Occupations state qualifiers, shown from left, are Miriam Garcia, Alfonso Frias, Richard Martinez, Julie Vinikoff and Julie Padilla, HOSA advisors; Meili Robles, Michael Arroyo, and Alex Tidwell.

## East Montana Middle Selected for Governor's Award

By Laura Cade  
Special to the Courier

EAST MONTANA — East Montana Middle School in the Clint Independent School District is among 100 schools in the state that were selected to receive the Governor's Educator Excellence Award. The award is part of a \$10 million grant program initiated by Gov. Rick Perry in an executive order in November call-

ing on the Texas Education Agency to design an incentive pay plan recommending salary bonuses starting at \$3000 per individual.

TEA identified schools that have a high percentage of economically disadvantaged students and have demonstrated high levels of student achievement or marked student improvement. East Montana Middle School and other schools selected have shown strong performance

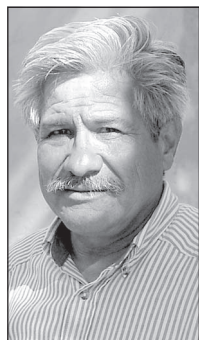
See EMMS, Page 6

## Socorro focuses on improving existing parks and annexation

Courier Staff Reports

SOCORRO — A piece of property for sale in Socorro for tax liens sparked fireworks in the Socorro City Council meeting in February and was again addressed by council at the March 2 meeting.

Councilman Trini Lopez sponsored a second request that council approve submitting a bid of \$5,000 to the City of El Paso Tax Office for a parcel of land at the corner of Alameda and Vara on which more than \$69,000 in taxes are owed.



Trini Lopez

For the second time, a majority declined to offer the bid — on a tie vote broken by Mayor Willie Gandara. Council instead opted to approve spending some \$111,745 to purchase and install playground equipment on parkland the city already owns, at Rio Vista, Cougar, Valle and Amistad.

Proposed purchase of the property sparked controversy at the Feb. 16 council meeting when Lopez said that an agreement with the tax office to purchase the property for \$2,000 had been foiled by an offer from City Councilman Jessie Gandara Jr.'s father, Jessie Gandara Sr., for \$69,000. Lopez estimated the property was four-plus acres. He said to be successful bidder, Socorro must offer at least \$70,000. However, the council majority declined to make the offer, stating that they would rather spend money on improving existing parks.

In a telephone interview with the Courier following the Feb. 16 meeting, Jessie Gandara Sr. confirmed that he had placed a bid on the property for the full amount of taxes owed — about \$69,000. However, he said his was one of three bids made to the tax office and that any agreements with the City of Socorro could not have been conclusive at that time or the tax office would have declined other offers. He noted that the parcel he bid on was actually just over two acres in size and is in serious need of clean up. Looking at an estimated cost of \$60,000-plus to clear the property he had withdrawn his bid. He said he does not intend to re-bid the property.

The Socorro council's attention was also claimed by a proposed expansion of the city limits. A resolution was approved directing the city manager and staff to begin the process of annexing 319.775 acres, a strip that runs between the existing Socorro city limits and Interstate 10, parallel along I-10 from the Eastlake interchange to the Horizon Blvd. interchange.

In other business, the employment of Samuel Leony was approved, to function at Interim Director of the Socorro Planning and Zoning Commission, Health Department and Public Works.





# One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# My, my

“my” these days?

My Space. My Music. My Education. It’s a corporate stamp of approval to be two years old the rest of your life.

With the advent of the internet, apparently everything has become so communal that we feel the need to specify what is ours now by using this moniker on the front of everything. Or not. Maybe it’s just that the Me-Generation has attained enough years to be referred to as so-called grownups and we’ve been so accustomed to using the word “mine” we don’t know what else to call it.

I sort of chuckled the first time I saw that t-shirt that proclaims “It’s all about me.”

I don’t laugh anymore. *Everything* is my-this and my-that.

On vacation a few years ago we bought a t-shirt for my two-year-old grandson that listed toddler rules of ownership. They went something like: “It’s mine if I see it. It’s mine if you leave it at my house. It’s mine if I like it. It’s mine if I touch it...” And so on.

It was supposed to be funny, a commentary on the natural self-centeredness of children before they mature. The question is, why haven’t we matured?

I’ve got so much stuff I’ve never even seen — don’t even know about, even — that I may need an electronic garage sale just to clear the air. We signed up for internet service which comes with this nice home page. The first time I opened it up, I realized each category was preceded with the word “my.” There was My Page, My News, My Stocks, My Bookmarks, My Weather, My Links, My Photos,

My Horoscope. The whole page was full of stuff that obviously belonged to somebody and I was afraid to use most of it until I realized they were talking about me.

I had a whole world of information marked as “mine,” except I wasn’t the one who laid claim to it. Somebody else had designated it as mine. I sort of resent that, like the junk mail that arrives in my box saying “Here is the information you requested” when I hadn’t requested it at all.

How about if I don’t want it?

I started utilizing the internet in sort of a back-handed fashion. I didn’t go out and buy my own personal computer, set up my own e-mail, find myself a server and start surfing the glorious waves of electronic wonder. No, I have become exposed to this world of mumbo-jumbo via my employment. In truth, without it, my job would be multiple times more complicated, labor-intensive and time-consuming.

In that way, it’s a good thing.

I was given a computer, told how to use it, and, like a bull in a china shop, I started crashing through this program and that. The first lesson I learned, however, was that as soon as you think you’ve mastered something, it changes, so we are forced to do what our youth does — wake up in a new world every morning.

America seems hell-bent on bringing everything down to a minuscule size — except our waist lines — so that we can call it “mine.” We don’t want to function as individuals in the wide, wonderful world around us — no, we want the world miniaturized so that we can carry a communication device, camera, video player, games, music and more in a single little piece of plastic that we claim, of course, as mine. And if we don’t

have it loaded into our little plastic box, all we have to do is hit a few numbers on the keypad and access it right out of the air — our cells phones now play movies, sports, and music videos besides dish up a 3D video game.

“My” dictates, of course, that everybody has one of their own so they don’t have to learn to share.

We don’t go to see movies, let alone live performances, in the way we used to, experiencing the huge and picturesque ambiance of theater. We don’t travel the way we used to, looking out the window as we drive through miles of scenery, exercising our imagination about the people who, long ago, built the falling-down farm house out there in an isolated landscape, or marveling at the rock formations where the mountain has been cut apart to build a roadway.

We don’t get dirty, hungry or enjoy work.

No, we now hold the world in the palm of our hands. Everything is mine. We watch movies to fill the “boring” time we spend on the road and we each listen to our own music rather than to each other. Because we can always talk to someone we want to rather than who we are with, we seldom get to know people who might look boring on the outside — like Mom or Dad — but who might be pretty interesting if given a chance.

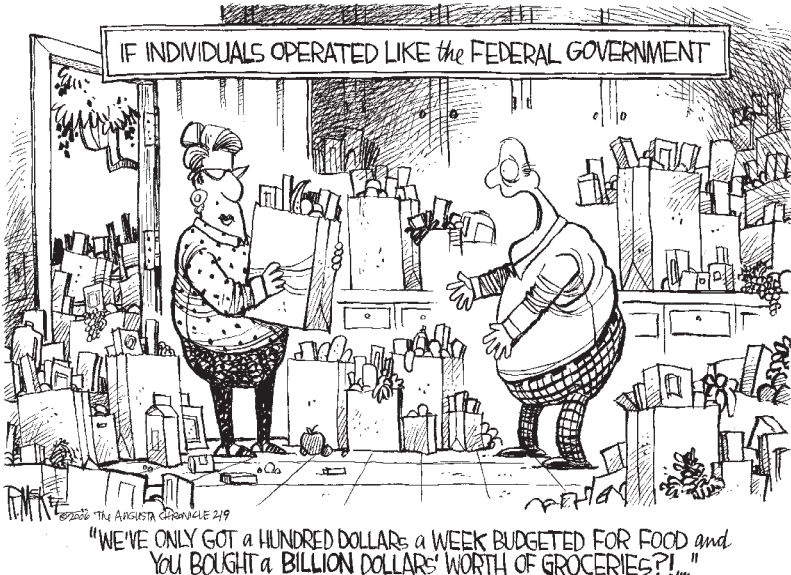
Worst part is, Mom and Dad aren’t all that interested in the kids either. Give ‘em their plastic box, plug in the headphones, and like magic we have invisible, non-troublesome children.


The only problem is, of course, that what we perceive as being the “world” we hold in our hands isn’t really the world at all. It’s a tiny, artificial and cheap imitation of the real thing.

It makes us believe, for a time, that we, personally, are the reality and are in control — that we are larger than the real life that must inevitably intrude in our dream world simply by virtue of our being human.

We need a new game.

Let’s call it “My *Real* Life.”





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**PUBLISHED:**  
Published each Thursday by Homesteader News, Inc. Appreciation to our many contributors. Office open Monday through Thursday.

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## Reyes Reports

By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

# Plaza to be a jewel for El Paso

Like many across our community, one of the highlights of my childhood was the opportunity to travel to downtown El Paso to see a show at the renowned Plaza Theatre. Children and adults alike were amazed by the Plaza experience — the elaborate productions, the beauty, the size, the elegance — it’s no wonder the Plaza earned a coveted designation on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987. The Plaza defined downtown and contributed in large part to the vibrancy and success of the area.

Now, some 30 years after the Plaza Theatre closed and was almost demolished to make way for a parking lot, it will re-open its doors on Friday, March 17. Thanks to the hard work of the City of El Paso, the El Paso Community Foundation, the community as a whole, and federal funding Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison and I were proud to secure for the project, future generations of El Pasoans will now have the opportunity to create similar memories at this national treasure. Downtown businesses will benefit from increased foot traffic and patronage.

By working with key leaders in Congress, I helped secure about \$1.4 million in federal funds for the restoration of the theater. In part because the Plaza is an official project of Save America’s Treasures, a program that works to preserve America’s historic and cultural legacy, I utilized a special account through the Interior Department for funding. The Department of Housing and Urban Development also contributed.

The City and the El Paso Community Foundation have done an exemplary job leading this effort. In fact, Partners for Livable Communities, a national non-profit that helps renew communities, will honor the City at an event in Washington, D.C. for their role in the restoration of the Plaza Theatre. Their “Celebration of Vision and Community Spirit” award will be accepted by Deputy City Manager Patricia D. Adaauto and Phyllis Rawley, the Executive Director of the El Paso Empowerment Zone.

Known as the “Showplace of the Southwest,” the Plaza Theatre hosted noted artists such as Rita Moreno, Mae West, the Marx Brothers, John Wayne, Jimmy Stewart, and Clark Gable. The magician Blackstone would use the trap door system to make a horse disappear, and the impressive \$60,000 Mighty Wurlitzer Organ would rise from the orchestra pit to accompany shows.

After its renovation, the 2,200-seat Plaza Theatre will house contemporary lighting and sound systems, a ten-story stage house, a 200-seat children’s theater, and a restaurant and terrace on the roof. The Mighty Wurlitzer Organ, which is currently located at the Sunland Park Mall, will finally return to its original home.

The re-opening of the Plaza Theatre has been a community-wide effort, and we should all be proud of this incredible accomplishment. Beyond the obvious benefit of now being able to visit this award-winning theater, we are rejuvenating downtown El Paso and improving our overall quality of life, especially for our children.



## Write stuff

Dear Editor:

I worked as a sheet metal mechanic in 1970-72 before being drafted with most of my work done in Horizon City. There weren't a lot of homes then, but some real nice ones arranged around the Country Club where I helped install the first refrigeration unit.

I decided then as a wise 18-year-old that I would someday retire here. I visited here off and on for the next 20 years until I was married and announced "our" plan for retired bliss.

My wife, a New Mexico woman, saw a way to get as close to home as possible. We made the move in 1999, and never thought about moving until someone put up a traffic light at Horizon and Darrington. But my wife wanted to hang around to see what this place was growing into.

Horizon has changed from knowing that a four-digit phone number is all you need to remember, and knowing most of the numbers without looking, to knowing only one person out of 20. It's changed to where you give a stranger a nod and he or she is looking at the ground instead of putting their hand out for a shake.

The police don't know you or don't trust you or both.

When my wife passed away on Christmas morning of 2004 — the Big C — one of the last things she said was "Don't forget to lock the door when we go to your mother's today." I'm glad she's not here to hear and see what is happening with Emerald Springs. She would probably wonder why the city isn't using the "imminent domain" to solve the problem.

Oh well, she's gone and I'm alone and I'll probably move further away where people respect the important things of life, love, honesty, charity, beauty and truth.

Jim Bailey  
Horizon

Dear Editor:

A headline from the Los Angeles Times reads: 2005's trade gap tops \$725 billion.

This is a \$725 billion *lie*. There is no trade *gap*.

We traded 725 billion dollars worth of our productive wealth to other countries to balance the account. I assure you we did not get the products from the rest of the world for free. We traded our factories, our farms, our businesses and our skills for products made in other countries.

We traded the cotton farm instead of the cotton. The garment factory instead of the garments. The cow instead of the milk and cheese. In other words we trade all of the things that produce products instead of the products.

We are also trading millions of jobs instead of the products made by our own workers. This is economic suicide! Africa practiced this same idiotic insanity in the 17th and 18th centuries and look at the plight of Africa today. Congress should immediately stop this lie that there is a trade gap with an export tax of at least 99 percent imposed on our factories, farms, and forests, that are being traded for cheap oil and cheap plastic junk.

We need free trade for the products that America can produce with American labor. We should not be trading the basic wealth of America to China and other nations, especially for items that we can produce at home.

Suicide is supposed to be against the law and Congress is turning a blind eye to this self inflicted murder of the United States.

Kenneth L. Russell  
Huntsville, TX

## Eye on D.C. By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

### Smuggling addiction and death

"Just say no." The message from former First Lady Nancy Reagan was clear but we continue to face an uphill climb in the war on drugs. The impact of drug abuse on our U.S. communities has been devastating. Aside from the high cost in emotional devastation, the cost of prevention programs and healthcare of those who choose to use have burdened our national economy to the tune of \$180.9 billion, according to the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). This issue is especially important to me because of the correlation it shares with two of the issues most important to my constituents: border security and healthcare.

The National Drug Threat Assessment, released last week, highlights key drug trafficking and abuse issues. This report is significant for our district because it spans more than 700 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border from just outside El Paso to Laredo. Significant revelations are that almost 97 percent of the illegally imported marijuana seizures are at ports of entry along our border with Mexico. The *Miami Herald* reports that 90 percent of Colombian cocaine is smuggled

across the border from Mexico into Texas, California, and Arizona.

Following the years of drought from 2000-2002 in Mexico, there has been a significant spike in the production of marijuana. This is particularly alarming because of shifting trends in the drug's potency. A study conducted by the University of Mississippi indicates that the potency of marijuana has nearly tripled in the last 20 years. With usage rates for adolescents remaining relatively stable — 33.6 percent of high school seniors have used marijuana in the last year — this increase in the drugs damaging effects could dramatically impact our youth. Those who are either inexperienced or casual users are encountering a much more powerful intoxication than ever before.

The drastic increase in the availability and use of methamphetamines nationally has become a menacing threat. We can take comfort in the recent indications that greater public awareness and stepped up efforts by law enforcement agencies have resulted in a decrease of methamphetamine production. But the decline in domestic production has coincided with compa-

rable production increases across our border in Mexico where regulations are more lax if existent. The local dealer cooking small batches in the kitchen of his rural home has now been replaced by "super labs" across the border. This is evidenced by a recent report from the National Drug Intelligence Center that cites a 75 percent increase in methamphetamine seizures at U.S.-Mexico border ports of entry from 2002 to 2004.

Drug smuggling will be an ongoing issue in America as long as there is a demand for this deadly product. Awareness alone is not enough. We must take a proactive role to secure our borders, provide the resources necessary, and educate our young people about the harmful/deadly results of using illegal narcotics. I will continue to work with my colleagues in Congress to secure the funding and introduce legislation to capture and punish those individuals who choose to bring drugs across our border.



## What's up, doc? By Albert M. Balesh, M.D.

### Vital mends with vitamins

Like children in a candy store, 50- and 60-something-year-olds will spare no expense to find and ingest a plethora of "ovoids" in their quest to find the shortest route to the fountain of youth. There are no guarantees here, however, and many times so-called revolutionary breakthroughs have found themselves on the chopping block, after brief, unsubstantiated claims to fame and precipitous descent on the slippery slope through our gastrointestinal tracts to their final resting places in a septic tank. Little salutary effect did they procure for their intended beneficiaries, unless, of course, a hole in the wallet can be considered such.

Then we come to the vitamins and minerals, a multicolored potpourri of "steady, old friends" who have been around forever and promise nothing new, miraculous, or technological. They are simply there when we need them, and we often take them for granted. Can we make amends with those pesky vitamins? More importantly, can we learn to live with them and their close relatives, the amino acids, fatty acids, plant chemicals, and probiotics?

Vitamins are a particular breed of beings. Not unlike humans, some of them are light-sensitive, others are environment-sensitive, and still others are "choosy" as to whether they vacation in oily or clear waters. The fat-soluble vitamins, A, D, E, and K, are stored in body fat, and they can build up to toxic levels when taken in excess. Water-soluble vitamins, like the B vitamins, C, and folic acid, must be taken on a regular basis to ensure their longevity and our peace of mind.

Vitamin A is the leader of the pack. It protects our vision and reduces the risk of cataracts when taken in daily doses of 3,000 IU. Carrots, sweet potatoes, and mangoes are its natural turf, but care must be taken to not

exceed the daily requirement of vitamin A. Otherwise, it will not only give us a "black eye," but break our bones as well.

Vitamin D is a good friend. In fact, it may be our best friend. It protects against colon and other forms of cancer, strengthens our bones and immune systems, and even lends a helpful hand to those with type 1 diabetes and multiple sclerosis, while encouraging better heart and lung function. Either 1,200 units a day, via supplements or fatty fish and fortified milk and orange juice, or five to 10 minutes in the summer sun does the trick. Do not tell your dermatologist, however, that sunblock is counterproductive in this case.

Vegetable oils are our allies, as they contain a domesticated Trojan Horse known as vitamin E, which protects against prostate cancer and helps in the fight against Alzheimer's disease. From 22-33 IU daily should keep neurons firing and memories toned. If oils are not your cup of tea, leafy greens, nuts, and grains can put a lid on the prostate kettle.

When besieged by bullies, there is no better friend than vitamin K. Long known for its indispensable role in the blood clotting mechanism, it also protects against bone degradation and hip fracture. In doses of 90-120 mcg/day, this loyal companion is more faithful than a St. Bernard, and also easier to find. Spinach, broccoli, kale, milk, eggs, cereal, sprouts, and liver are its stomping grounds.

Vitamin B12 has been known to get on people's nerves. It protects neurons and improves memory when taken in doses of 2.4 mcg/day, and it lurks in meat and dairy products, where vegans and strict vegetarians dare not tread. Needless to say, the latter require supplements.

Artery damage can be stopped in its tracks when vitamin B6 flexes its muscles. Whether this critter also reduces heart-disease risk remains to be seen. From 1.5-1.7 mg/day should do it, and a proverbial cornucopia of foods such as meat, poultry, fish, beans, tofu, soy products, bananas, and watermelons provide safe haven for a formidable adversary in the Ath-

erosclerosis Wars.

Now you do not have to be a wealthy retiree basking under a Florida palm to enjoy the protective benefits of Linus Pauling's closest chum, vitamin C. Found in oranges, grapefruits, broccoli, bell peppers, cabbage, and strawberries, this bosom buddy cuts the risk of cataracts and breast and stomach cancers when taken in daily doses of 90 mg/day.

Finally, prospective mothers wishing to hear the pitter-patter of healthy feet would be wise to take folic acid before and during pregnancy. Not only does it protect against birth defects, but it may also prevent colon cancer and Alzheimer's disease, ensuring that you're still around to help baby with homework when the time comes. A daily dosage of 600 mcg from any combination of fortified breads, pastas, breakfast cereals, beans, peas, spinach, broccoli, and orange juice is required.

But where would our vitamins be without the "baseball team" of calcium (vital for bones at 1,200 mg/day), magnesium (to lower blood pressure at 420 mg/day), potassium (reducing the risk of hypertension at 4,700 mg/day), sodium (to regulate blood pressure at 1,500 mg/day), iron (ferrying oxygen throughout the body at 8-18 mg/day), selenium (to combat prostate cancer at 55 mcg/day), zinc (delaying the progression of macular degeneration at 11 mg/day), iodine (to regulate energy use via thyroid hormone at 150 mcg/day), and fluoride (preventing tooth decay at 4 mg/day)? The answer: nowhere.

Let's not deny lycopene, fatty acids, amino acids, probiotics, and even pomegranate juice their due either. They instill the fear of God in maladies ranging from prostate cancer and heart disease to muscle degradation and infant and antibiotic-induced diarrhea.

Like an old comedian, vitamins and their gang of minerals, fatty acids, and the like get no respect. It is due to them, however, that we'll be able to laugh for a long time to come.

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# Horizon City’s Lockheed plant to manufacture CKEM missiles

HORIZON CITY — According to a release from Lockheed Martin, the company is utilizing its Horizon City facility for the production of the Compact Kinetic Energy Missile (CKEM).

Included in the process is establishment of a pilot production line at the facility. During the CKEM System Development and Demonstration (SDD) program, work in Horizon City will include engineering integration, test and limited production.

Production is forecast to begin in 2008 and involve as many as 30 to 40 jobs at the facility.

CKEM will provide current and future forces overwhelming lethality overmatch, high probability of first round kill and near fire-and-forget capability. It is a spiral development of the current Line-of-Sight Antitank (LOSAT) kinetic energy technology.

The CKEM missile is 60 inches long and weighs less than 100 pounds, has an extended range for direct fire, line-of-sight engagements, and will defeat any current or projected enemy armor or active protection system. CKEM will provide an extended range kill capability that does not exist in currently fielded ground-to-ground anti-armor weapon systems.

“Lockheed Martin chose its Horizon City facility for the production of CKEM due to its outstanding performance on the Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) program,” said Ron Abbott, vice president of Tactical Missiles for Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control. “Our

Horizon City employees have been ahead of schedule and under budget on the production of ATACMS since the inception of the program in 1990; a tremendous testament to their ability to perform for our customers.”

About \$58.5 million in defense spending for 45 ATACMS missiles, to be assembled at the Horizon City plant, was authorized in the fiscal year 2006 Defense Authorization bill, which sets policies, programs and funding levels for the nation’s military. According to Congressman Silvestre Reyes, these will replace missiles used in Iraq and are in addition to the 90 missiles funded through the 2005 Emergency Supplemental funding bill.

“We are very excited about this new opportunity for the Lockheed Martin Horizon City plant,” Reyes said. “We have been working with Lockheed Martin for several years to secure new programs for this facility. These are just the kinds of jobs that we have been aggressively seeking for our community — jobs that pay good wages and provide great benefits as well as expand opportunities for our workforce.”

His assessment and approval of the Horizon location were seconded by both Texas Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn.

“Texas is an excellent choice for CKEM production, and the work done at the Horizon City facility will make America safer. The selection of Horizon City for the facility’s location will also greatly boost the

economy in the greater El Paso area,” Cornyn said.

Lockheed Martin demonstrated its CKEM in a test at White Sands Missile Range, NM, in October 2003. The test demonstrated multiple missile component capabilities in an operational environment, and all test objectives were achieved. The company was selected to continue the CKEM ATD as prime contractor with an Option 1 award in April 2004.

CKEM will defeat enemy armored vehicles, light armored vehicles, he-

licopters, bunkers, field fortifications and crew-served weapons. The system is being designed to transition from an initial deployment on a HMMWV to Future Combat System (FCS) vehicles and beyond. Lockheed Martin has committed internal research and development dollars to evaluate other possible platforms for CKEM beyond the FCS vehicle family.

The Horizon City Operations consists of 13 buildings totaling more than 70,000 square feet on approxi-

mately 345 acres. The 30 employees at the plant perform final assembly of the ATACMS family of missiles, which are fired from Lockheed Martin’s Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) and High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS).

Headquartered in Bethesda, MD, Lockheed Martin employs about 130,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture and integration of advanced technology systems, products and services.

## Briefs

From Page 1

file withholding taxes for the IRS on any wages you pay them, effective Jan. 1, 2006, according to Jay Yates, Texas Cooperative Extension risk management economist. IRS Publication 51 details how this must be done and contains a chart to figure withholding on weekly, monthly and other pay periods ([http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p51\\_05.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p51_05.pdf)). Yates also noted that non-resident alien employees are required to file a W4 form (<http://www.irs.gov/forms/pubs/lists/0,,id=97817,00.html>). Yates said that increased emphasis on national border security may bring temporary worker programs into the limelight, adding that some sort of guest worker program is essential for many businesses in this country across all sectors, agricultural and non-agricultural. More information on risk management for farming operations is available at <http://farmassistance.tamu.edu>.

■ The Fabens Cotton Valley Lions Club will hold registration for Little League Baseball and Girls Softball every Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. until the end of March at the Fabens Swig Fields on North Loop. Ages start at five years old up to 14 years old for baseball and nine years old to 14 years old for girls softball. For more information on registration cost please call Smiley Avelar at 474-4821. Birth certificate is required.

■ Friends of the Rio Bosque Wetlands Park in the Mission Valley will meet on Thursday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m. at 411 Burges Hall, on the UTEP campus. Information: 545-5214. An introductory walking tour of the Park will be held on Saturday, March 25, beginning at 9 a.m. Meet at the bridge crossing Riverside Canal — from I-10 take the Americas Ave. to Pan America Drive, turn left and travel 1.5 miles to the bridge.

■ Victor Tantillo, a Desert View Middle School student, will be going to state competition in San Antonio in March based on his science project that explores alternative fuel sources. Victor was awarded first place in the Environmental Science Category in the Sun Country Regional Science Fair at UTEP on Feb. 25 for his project titled “The Alterna-

tive.” He was also presented special awards from the Society of Mexican-American Engineers and Scientists of El Paso and the Rotary Club of West El Paso. He is the son of Vic and Gloria Tantillo of El Paso and grandson of Aneta Stovall of Horizon City.

■ Marine Corps Pvt. Hilda L. Martinez, daughter of Martha and Jesus A. Martinez of Clint recently completed the eight-week Administrative Clerk Course at Personnel Administration School, Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools, Camp Lejeune, N.C. With her newly acquired knowledge, Martinez is ready to prepare personnel evaluations and reports, leave authorizations, military identification cards, and official orders for Marines changing duty station. Martinez is a 2004 graduate of Socorro High School and joined the Marine Corps in March 2005.


■ Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Ramon Torres, son of Rita and Ramon Torres of San Elizario along with fellow shipmates Navy Airman Eric Enriquez, son of Micaela Burciaga and Marco A. Enriquez; and Navy Seaman Vanessa B. Dehesa, daughter of Sandra and Jesus A. Dehesa, all made a five-day port visit to Brisbane, Australia while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan, homeported in San Diego. In early January, USS Ronald Reagan began its maiden western Pacific deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism and maritime security operations (MSO). The port visit was an opportunity for Sailors to participate in community service projects while also visiting tourists attractions and experiencing the Australian culture. The sailors volunteered at the local children’s and women’s hospitals, helped restore an Australian World War II frigate at the Queensland Maritime Museum and cleaned a training facility for emergency medical technicians. Torres is a 1988 graduate of San Elizario High School of San Elizario, Texas and joined the Navy in January 1989. Enriquez is a 2005 graduate of Americas High School of El Paso, Texas and joined the Navy in August 2005. Dehesa is a 2003 graduate of Americas High School of El Paso, Texas and joined the Navy in July 2003. For more information on the deployment and high resolution photographs, visit USS Ronald Reagan Web site at <http://www.navy.mil>. For more information on the deployment and high resolution photographs, visit USS

Ronald Reagan Web site at <http://www.navy.mil>.

■ Navy Seaman Martin A. Lopez, son of Maria D. and Luis Lopez departed on a schedule deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism while assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu, homeported in San Diego. Lopez and more than 6,000 of his fellow shipmates of Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 3 successfully completed a Composite Training Unit Exercise designed to test ability to operate in a complex, hostile environment with other U.S. and coalition forces during the maritime security operations (MSO) in the Persian Gulf which denies international terrorists use of the maritime environment as a venue for attack or to transport personnel, weapons or other materials. Lopez is a 2004 graduate of Americas High School. For more information on the deployment and high resolution photographs, visit USS Peleliu Web site at <http://www.navy.mil>.

■ The leading cause of death in American women isn’t breast cancer, or even car accidents — it’s heart disease. It strikes one in nine women between the ages of 45 to 65 and one in five after that. Keeping this killer at bay is easier with a free *Heart Disease* fact sheet from the FDA Office of Women’s Health. For a free copy, send name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 553N, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 553N. To order the fact sheet from the online catalog, visit the “Health” section of <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov>. You can also visit the website to read or print out this publications for free.

■ Want to keep more hard-earned money? *66 Ways to Save Money* from the Consumer Literacy Consortium shows how to pay less for groceries, home heating, phone and cell phone service, loans, and much more. There are three easy ways to order this low-cost publication. Send your name and address along with a check or money order for 50 cents to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 342N, Pueblo, CO 81009; call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 342N, with credit card handy, or order from the “Money” section of the online catalog at <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov>, where you can also read or print out this publications for free.



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— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

**CONTRIBUTION REWARDED** — Del Sol Medical Center presented the El Dorado art department with a check for their help in painting the mural at the Pediatric Unit.

# El Dorado High art students help brighten Del Sol Pediatric unit

By Carlos A. Briano  
*Special to the Courier*

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — When children step into the Pediatric Unit of Del Sol Medical Center, a purple gorilla, a blue hippo and a pink elephant will attempt to make the little patients smile. Those brightly-colored animals are part of a beautiful mural designed to make children a little more comfortable during their hospital stay. And two El Dorado art teachers and eight students helped the design come to life with their strokes

of the brush. “I have wanted to do this project for a very long time,” says Rosalia Slay, director for the Pediatric Unit for Del Sol Medical Center. “I wanted to get some color out on the walls so when the kids come out of their rooms they feel safer in their hospital. But it’s turned out to be better than what I expected. It’s wonderful for the children.” The students and the teachers volunteered a week of their winter intersession to draw and paint the colorful display. And according to Slay, that makes the mural even more special.

“We used students instead of professional artists because it gave the project a more personal touch,” she says. “They came in during their Christmas holiday, they didn’t have any time off and they spent all their time here. They did it all from the heart.” El Dorado art teachers Macka Jones and Candie Printz say the students worked about a week from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. everyday. “They volunteered their own time,” Printz says. “And that’s why they are so special, because they gave of themselves.” “They said they would stay as long as it took to get it done,” Jones adds. “Plus they got real world experience. They actually saw they can use things they learn in class and use it out in the real world. We really wanted them to understand that it’s for kids. It’s giving back to the community. That’s what kept them going.” Although junior Jesus Acosta is new to the art world, he agreed to participate for that very reason. “I thought this project was something good I could do for the community,” he says. “It’s helping children that are sick. I think this new design is going to make them smile. I’m glad I got involved.” For sophomore Dominique Perez the mural was a labor of love. “I’ve been in art all my life so it wasn’t hard to come every day,” she says. “I looked forward to it. It came out better than I thought it would. It looks really good now.” Del Sol Medical Center officially unveiled the mural at an open house on Thursday, Feb. 16. The students and teachers were presented with a check for \$1,500 for use in the El Dorado art department as a token of appreciation. But the real thanks will come from the smiles of the children, by way of a purple gorilla.



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**HOLD THAT POSE** — Special Olympian Fernie Almanzar flexes for his fans after winning gold in the San Elizario Special Olympics Games, Saturday, March 4, 2006.

## Special Olympics athletes shine at ground-breaking local event

By Phillip Cortez  
*Special to the Courier*

SAN ELIZARIO — We see it every spring in the smiles, the excitement, and the pride displayed by Special Olympics athletes as they march in an opening ceremony parade met by throngs of cheering supporters. Friends, family, and flashbulbs are in abundance; it’s two days out of the 365 when the all attention belongs to the athletes. And while many athletes stand on a podium, arms raised in victory with a shiny medal reflecting in the sun, some kids do not get to compete. They are either too young or it’s difficult for their many family members to caravan from San Elizario to a site in far Northeast El Paso. This is why San Elizario ISD, with the help of the Area 19 Special Olympics chapter, held the First Annual San Elizario Local Special Olympics on Saturday, March 4. In what is to be considered a test run that would allow other school districts to hold their own local games before competing in the spring games, the local version was successful in large part to the awesome core of volunteers that stemmed from various San Elizario organizations and clubs.

“I think it went great, considering it was our first time walking through the process,” said Ralph Rodriguez, Program Director for the Special Olympics Area 19 chapter in El Paso. “Now we ask ‘how can we improve it?’” Rodriguez would like to use San Elizario as a model for other districts in developing their own local games so that athletes can have more opportunities to compete and display their skills in readying for the spring games, which take place April 28-29, 2006. “Some kids we know can’t show up to the spring games for various reasons,” he added. The turnout in San Elizario, however, was terrific, as more than 20 athletes competed in events such as long jump, shot put, softball throw, 50, 100, and the 200 meter run, as well as the tricycle event. The games included an opening ceremonies parade along the San Elizario High School track. Emi Gonzalez, Director of Special Education in San Elizario, was happy to see the numbers of parents that were able to see their children compete because of the proximity to their homes. “Some kids were telling me that their families held parties for them,” Gonzalez said. “That’s what it’s all about.”

## Advisory Council recommends changes to criminal justice system

By Kathy Walt  
*Special to the Courier*

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry’s Criminal Justice Advisory Council has recommended several changes to improve fairness and public confidence in the criminal justice system. “My purpose in creating the council was to examine how Texas can improve its criminal justice system, so that we might better protect the rights of both victims and the accused,” Perry said. “These recommendations provide a framework that will give Texans greater confidence in a justice system designed to protect all.” The council’s recommendations are focused in four general areas: forensics, innocence projects, sex offender policies and technology assistance. Included in its recommendations are proposals to:

- Secure additional funding for DPS to hire more forensic scientists, expand laboratories and purchase additional equipment.
  - Seek grant funding from the Governor’s Criminal Justice Division to assist innocence projects at the state’s four public law schools.
  - Approve and fund global positioning satellite surveillance of registered sex offenders for at least three years, and for life in some cases. The estimated cost is \$756,000 for the first year.
  - Expand funding for the Office of the Attorney General’s sex offender enforcement unit, at a cost of about \$5 million for the first year and \$4.5 million for the second year.
  - Encourage local law enforcement agencies to use in-car audio-video record of all law enforcement contact with citizens at traffic stops and, if possible, fund local jurisdictions which may have insufficient resources for audio-video equipment.
  - Direct the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education to regularly review and address search and seizure laws, and to provide continuing education on search and seizure laws.
- In addition, the Council recommended further study in four areas:
1. Providing state funding for a public defenders office to ensure high quality representation of those charged with capital murder, especially in rural areas with limited availability of criminal defense law-

- yers experienced in capital murder cases.
2. Increasing the compensation of individuals who are wrongfully convicted. Current law limits the compensation to \$25,000 and is capped at \$500,000.
  3. Creating a pilot project to examine problems in eyewitness identification.
  4. Surveying current procedures in getting confessions. Videotaping the interrogation and confession of suspects in major crimes can eliminate irregularities in procedures.

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## Town of Horizon City Public Notice

The Town of Horizon City will conduct an election on Saturday, May 13, 2006 for the purpose of filling positions for council members whose two (2) year terms are expiring. The following places are up for election:

Alderman Place 1, Alderman Place 2, Alderman Place 4, and Alderman Place 6.

Qualified persons interested may apply for a place on the Town of Horizon City’s General Election ballot beginning February 13, 2006 through March 13, 2006 at 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas, Monday — Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WTCC: 03-09-06



# Autistic basketball player hits 7 of 9 for 20 points in four minutes

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

They usually wait until the very end of December to pick out the sports story of the year. Media outlets go through tons of possible candidates for that one story that piqued our interest like no other.

And the candidates usually come from the higher profile sports like pro football, baseball and basketball, or one of the major college sports. It could also be an international story like something from the Winter Olympics.

But the guys who sit in smoke-filled rooms going through the year’s best stories will have it easy in 2006. In fact, as far as I’m concerned, they can take the rest of the year off.

Because the sports story of the year just occurred in February and I seriously doubt anything can even come close to topping it.

This is a *Hoosiers* meets *Rudy* meets *Rain Man* kind of story.

On Feb. 24, Greece-Athena High School, out

of Rochester, N.Y., was playing its last regular-season game of the year. But this game was different — the team had an extra player sitting on the bench.

There on the end of the bench was the team’s student manager.

You know the student manager, he’s the guy who has to hand out the towels, dish out the water and pick up the warm-ups when a player tosses them on the floor as he enters the game.

This student manager was different from most, in a couple ways. He is the team’s most vocal cheerleader, and he is autistic.

Jason McElwain is the 17-year-old senior, who after spending the entire year looking after the team’s managerial needs, got a chance to sit on the bench during an actual game.

McElwain, who didn’t even begin speaking until the age of five, was supposed to sit on the bench, not get too loud, and politely shake the opponent’s hands after the game was over.

But his coach did something he never thought he’d do. With the game out of hand and only four minutes to go, he signaled

McElwain into the game.

I mean, what damage could he do?

After missing his first two shots, McElwain, amazingly, hit six 3-pointers, including a 30-foot bomb at the buzzer to finish with 20 points. Naturally, everybody in the gym went crazy and stormed the floor when the game was over.

I must admit to you when I first saw the video I had tears in my eyes. Tears of joy, tears of hope, and tears that reflected my renewed belief in miracles and the human spirit.

Could Hollywood have dreamed up a scenario like this? Nah, nobody would have believed it. But there it was. And if there were no video of the game, I’m sure many would not have believed it actually occurred.

And in case you’re wondering, yes, his parents have already been approached by a gaggle of Hollywood producers about making a movie about their son’s life.

What an inspiration.

Smack dab in the middle of the me-first Olympics, an NFL labor fiasco, a gonna-play-

not-gonna-play World Baseball Classic, and countless sports-related arrests, disputes and embarrassments, it took a 5-foot-6-inch mentally-challenged 17-year-old to remind us all what sports — and life — is all about.

Everyone needs a chance to touch the sky — or at least to be carried off the court like McElwain was.

His mother had a great quote after the game. She said that her son’s affliction, autism, was like the Berlin Wall and her son put a crack in it on this magical night.

Greece-Athena High School still has some games to play in the playoffs and McElwain is expected to go back to his managerial duties. Who knows if he’ll get another chance to play.

But if he doesn’t, he’s already had a thrill that few of us will ever experience in a lifetime.

And with him still at the beginning of his lifetime, chances are he’ll succeed in a big way a few more times in the future.

And why doubt him? He’s already had the power to uplift an entire nation.

## EMMS

From Page 1

gains in the areas of math and reading.

East Montana Middle is eligible to receive \$135,000 a year for three years as long as the school maintains an academically acceptable or better rating from TEA.

According to the plan, 75 percent of the funds must be used to award incentive pay to classroom teachers from the 2004-2005 school year and who continue to teach at the school. The teachers who receive the award must demonstrate measured success in improving student performance and show collaboration with faculty and staff. The remaining 25 percent of the funds may be used for bonuses to additional staff, to provide teacher training, or to support teacher programs. A committee from EMMS will decide how the funds are distributed.

## HOSA

From Page 1

Alex Tidwell, freshman.

The Area IV HOSA conference included students from high schools and health occupations magnet schools throughout West Texas including El Paso, Amarillo, Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, Abilene and San Angelo. More than 400 students competed in the local area contest to qualify for state competition.

The April 5-8 state level competition will be held in San Antonio, from which qualifiers will go on to nationals in Anaheim, California in June. Participants include students and instructors from seven different areas throughout the state of Texas.

“This year Miriam Garcia will also be running for a state officer position during the state conference,” said Julie Vinikoff, CHS health science teacher and HOSA advisor. “We want to congratulate our students on their accomplishments and hard work,” she added.

## Anson

From Page 1

regarded and quite a leader in our District.”

In her service to Red Cross, Anson has trained District coaches and other staff in CPR and First Aid, has trained over 100 Special Ed teachers and staff in Adult and Child CPR, has trained 200 school bus drivers and monitors in CPR and First Aid, has taught Lifeguard training to swim coaches, has trained health students in CPR and First Aid and sports coaches in Sports Safety training.

“I was surprised, honored and humbled by the award,” Anson says. “There are so many people that volunteer and teach Health and Safety courses with the Red Cross, I was surprised that I stood out.”

Anson believes that by teaching these types of courses on school campuses, more people are learning the necessary skills to help others in an emergency situation.

“I firmly believe in the benefits of all people learning CPR and First Aid,” she says. “After all, it’s better to have the knowledge and ability to help someone in need and never have to use it, than to regret not knowing how to help when the need arises.”

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Invitation to Bid/Proposal:

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Proposals will be received at TORNILLO ISD ADMINISTRATION OF-

FICE, 19200 Cobb Ave., or mailed to attention Armando Gonzalez, at P.O. Box 170, Tornillo, Texas 79853 until the specified time. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., (915) 764-2366, ext. 599.. WTCC-03/09/06

#### SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2006

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Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and on the Socorro ISD website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-03/09/06

#### SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services will be accepted at the following times:

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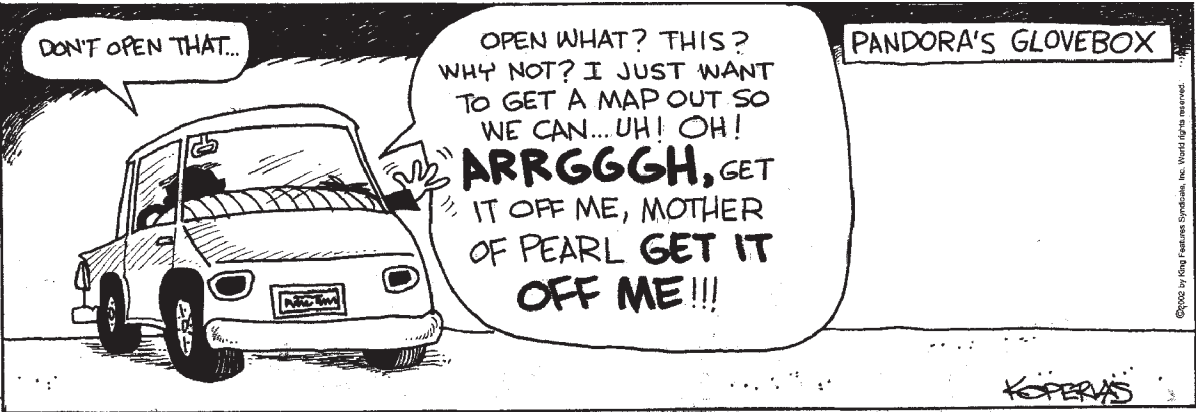
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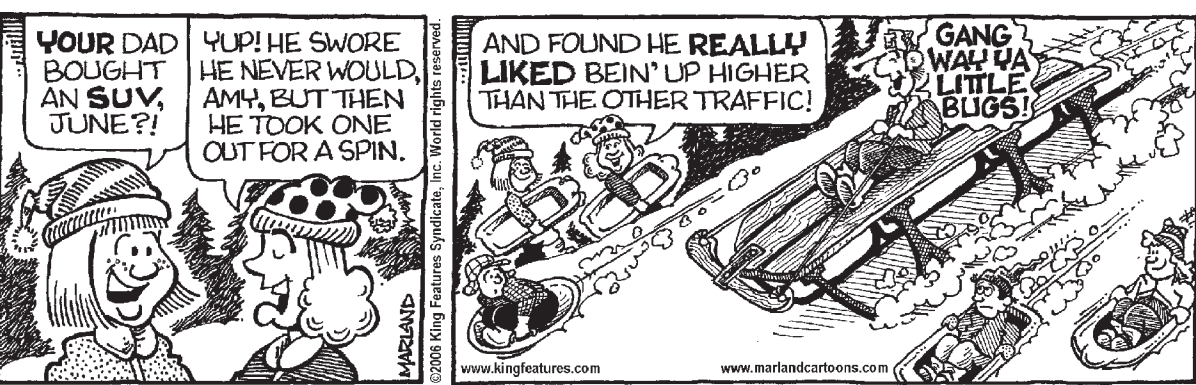
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



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Be prepared for chicken emergency

By Don Flood

Money, according to a recent study in Australia, does not buy happiness.

But, really, are you going to believe some bogus Aussie study?

Wouldn't you rather have definite proof, the kind that can only come from someone you trust completely?

That's why I'm volunteering to settle this question once and for all. Readers need to send me whatever they can spare, though I would be willing to accept donations of less than \$500.

But until I have gathered enough to begin my study, I will continue bringing important news updates and avoid taking cheap potshots at our vice president, who, at last report, had not shot anybody today.

First, are you prepared for a chicken emergency?

Marian Morris was, but her story highlights a critical weakness in our health care system — the near total lack of emergency chicken health care in this country.

Morris, a retired nurse, was recently startled to find Boo Boo, her brother's chicken, floating in the family pond.

Now many people would have just figured that maybe it was time for Boo Boo to go on to the big chicken coop in the sky.

Not Morris. Though she hadn't practiced CPR in years, she wanted to see if she "still had it."

As most health care professionals recognize, the question of mouth-to-beak resuscitation is especially problematic because, as science has proven again and again, a chicken has no lips.

(Just to make sure, however, some Australian scientists are conducting a study that will also serve as the basis for a National Geo-

graphic special entitled, "Avian Quest: The Search for Chicken Lips.")

But Morris, in an absolutely true quote, said, "I breathed into its beak, and its dadgum eyes popped open."

I don't like to consider myself a coward, but I'm willing to admit that seeing those chicken eyeballs pop open would have scared the daylights out of me, assuming, of course, I had mustered enough courage to attempt CPR on a chicken in the first place.

But in honor of Morris' courage, I would like to nominate her — and Boo Boo — to the Human/Chicken Resuscitation Hall of Fame, though oddly enough a Google search indicates so such institution exists.

Elsewhere in the news, rapper Kanye West has revealed another shocking deficiency.

West, something of a biblical scholar, has discovered a major flaw in the book that serves as the foundation of the Judaic-Christian religions: He's not in it.

His statement, astonishingly enough, appears to be true. The problem seems to be that the Bible was written a long time ago, well before the advent of rap and hip-hop, and so many deserving people, such as Kanye West, were left out.

A careful search also turned up no mentions of luminaries such as Tom Cruise and Ashlee Simpson.

Not surprisingly, West is calling for a revised edition.

"I changed the sound of music more than one time. ... For all those reasons, I'd be a part of the Bible. I'm definitely in the history books already."

As well he should be.

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King Super Crossword

SNAP SHOT  
ACROSS

1 Unoriginal thinker?

6 Shimon of Israel

11 Sack

14 Actress Tilly

17 Fit to feast on

19 Barber of Seville

20 \_ Baba

21 Conduit fitting

22 Speaker of remark at 44 Across

25 Golfer's gadget

26 Inventor Whitney

27 Playing card

28 Caustic

29 Actress Alicia

30 Spool

31 Karloff's colleague

35 Riyadh's religion

37 Deal with a dragon

40 Iraqi city

41 "Forget it!"

44 Start of remark

51 Bustle

52 Home on high

53 Russian ruler

54 Caviar

55 \_ Branco, Brazil

56 Musical chord

57 Brandy bottle

59 Adds lace

61 London gallery

63 Always, poetically

64 Bucket

65 Monks' milieus

67 Glowing

69 Sharpshooter

72 Justice Fortas

73 Writer Hilaire

76 Like fine wine

77 Standard

79 Interstate exit

83 Trite

84 Coaxed

86 Laramie and Sumter

88 By means of

89 Inc., in England

90 South African plant

91 Thespian

92 Word form for "bone"

93 Part 2 of remark

100 Most competent

101 Produces prunes

102 Jacob's brother

103 Competitor

105 Truly

107 Neatnik's nemesis

110 Important numero

111 Absurd

114 Cry of contempt

115 Summer quencher

118 Capek play

119 End of remark

125 Exist

126 TV's "\_ Got a Secret"

127 "Dancing at Lughnasa" star

128 Beethoven symphony

129 Spearheaded

130 Dress size

131 Long for

132 Panegyrize

DOWN

1 Marseilles mother

2 Adored one

3 Conservative skirt

4 \_ Saud

5 Baseball's Boyer

6 Brooch

7 "The \_ and I" ('47 film)

8 Actress Cassidy

9 Miscalculate

10 Couches

11 Boxer Max

12 "\_ Really Want to Do" ('65 hit)

13 More lightheaded

14 Ancient science

15 Actress Verdugo

16 Shimmer

18 Bronte heroine

19 Weldon or Wray

23 Mario \_ Monaco

24 Reserve

30 Rug type

31 Spiked the punch

32 Dos Passos trilogy

33 Kennel threat

34 Paddle

36 \_ Tome

37 Hurt

38 Actress Cornell

39 In progress

40 Herding dog

42 1970 World's Fair site

43 Historic org.

45 Make a doily

46 "From \_ Eternity" ('53 film)

47 Buffalo waterfront

48 Pasta peninsula

49 Refusals

50 \_ Moines, IA

57 Lost luster

58 Schubert song

59 Recede

60 Mailer's "The \_ Park"

62 First name in scat

64 Kid at court

66 Hungarian composer

68 Unwell

70 Raring to go

71 Distinctive eras

73 British spa

74 Strove

75 Religious sects

78 Comic Johnson

80 Maintains

81 Baryshnikov, familiarly

82 Couturier Jean

83 Diner order

85 Typical

86 Destined

87 \_ Lanka

90 "Stroker \_" ('83 film)

94 Cops' org.

95 Prohibited

96 "Kookie" Byrnes

97 Mispickel or galena

98 "Bah!"

99 Society miss

103 Bucolic

104 Harden

106 Full of gossip

107 Sea plea

108 Rob of "The West Wing"

109 Midwestern airport

112 Church area

113 Prayer finale

114 Seed

115 Dismounted

116 Art \_

117 And more of the same

120 Ideologue's suffix

121 Singing syllable

122 "Tell \_ No" ('65 hit)

123 Female turkey

124 Bagel partner

Answer Page 6

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				
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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

*Q: Since I can borrow against the money that I have contributed to my 401(k) retirement plan, am I able to borrow against the money that I have contributed to Social Security, just as I am allowed to borrow against money I have contributed to my 401(k) retirement plan?*

A: No. Social Security is a social insurance system designed to protect workers and their families against the loss of earnings due to retirement, disability, or death. The Social Security taxes that employees and employers pay on workers' earnings are not placed in an individual worker's account, but deposited into the Social Security Trust Funds from which benefits are paid to eligible workers and their families.

*Q: I am 50 years old and somehow or other — perhaps in changing wallets — I have lost my Social Security card. Since I know my number by heart, do I have to replace my Social Security card?*

A: If you know your Social Security number, generally, you do not need to request a replacement card. But if you anticipate starting new employment, you may need to show your Social Security card to your employer when you start the job. In that instance, you may want to request a replacement card in advance.

*Q: I will be eligible for full retirement next year, but will probably hold off retiring for at least another year or two. Will my benefits increase if I wait and apply for retirement benefits later on?*

A: Yes. If you continue to work, each additional year you work adds another year of earnings to your Social Security record. And if you earn more now than you did in the past, that could increase the amount of your monthly Social Security payments. Also, from the time you reach your full retirement age to age 70 you will earn delayed retirement credits. These credits can increase your benefit by a certain percentage (depending on date of birth) if you delay your retirement beyond full retirement age. For example, if you were born in 1943 or later, we will add 8 percent per year to your benefit for each year that you delay signing up for Social Security beyond your full retirement age.

*Q: I have decided that later this spring, I will file for Social Security retirement benefits. I can save myself a trip to the Social Security office by applying online, right?*

A: Yes. Simply go to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) and look for the link "Apply for Retirement Benefits" in the center of the page.

For more information visit your local Security office, see [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.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.

7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
66°	46°	70° 47°	66° 42°	70° 42°	65° 36°	62° 34°	59° 32°
RealFeel 62°	RealFeel 39°	RealFeel 66° 39°	RealFeel 63° 34°	RealFeel 66° 35°	RealFeel 62° 33°	RealFeel 60° 28°	RealFeel 55° 32°

The patented RealFeel Temperature® is AccuWeather's exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK

IN THE SKY

**Temperatures**

**Precipitation**

Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	Full	Last
Thu.	6:24 a.m.	6:09 p.m.	Thu.	1:30 p.m.	3:35 a.m.		
Fri.	6:22 a.m.	6:10 p.m.	Fri.	2:29 p.m.	4:16 a.m.	3/14	3/22
Sat.	6:21 a.m.	6:11 p.m.	Sat.	3:27 p.m.	4:51 a.m.	New	First
Sun.	6:20 a.m.	6:11 p.m.	Sun.	4:23 p.m.	5:21 a.m.		
Mon.	6:19 a.m.	6:12 p.m.	Mon.	5:18 p.m.	5:48 a.m.	3/29	4/5
Tues.	6:17 a.m.	6:13 p.m.	Tues.	6:13 p.m.	6:14 a.m.		
Wed.	6:16 a.m.	6:13 p.m.	Wed.	7:07 p.m.	6:38 a.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006

REGIONAL CITIES

U.S. CITIES

City	HI	LO	W	City	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	73	49	s	Atlanta	72	53	pc
Albuquerque, NM	58	34	pc	Boston	44	38	pc
Amarillo, TX	59	34	s	Chicago	56	36	r
Austin, TX	81	48	t	Denver	44	24	pc
Brownsville, TX	86	62	pc	Detroit	54	40	r
Dodge City, KS	53	34	pc	Houston	81	55	t
Jackson, MS	72	56	t	Indianapolis	63	44	t
Laredo, TX	89	63	pc	Kansas City	53	39	c
Little Rock, AR	69	47	t	Los Angeles	68	52	pc
Lubbock, TX	71	38	s	Miami	79	69	s
Memphis, TN	68	53	t	Minneapolis	43	24	c
Midland, TX	72	47	s	New Orleans	80	65	t
Pueblo, CO	55	28	pc	New York City	48	43	pc
Roswell, NM	70	38	s	Omaha	52	32	c
St. Louis, MO	64	43	t	Phoenix	72	52	s
San Antonio, TX	80	49	t	San Francisco	59	45	pc
Texarkana, AR	70	50	t	Seattle	44	36	sh
Waco, TX	75	52	t	Washington	60	48	pc
Wichita, KS	57	37	c				

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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Wheel Kit offer available through June 18.

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