



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Early daylight savings

Starting this year, Daylight Saving Time has been changed from its traditional calendar dates to a start three weeks earlier — Sunday, March 11 — and a finish one week later — Sunday, Nov. 4. Daylight Saving Time is practiced in order to gain an extra hour of daylight during the early evening, resulting in the conservation of energy by substituting natural sunlight for electrical lighting. According to *The Old Farmer's Almanac* (Almanac.com), Daylight Saving Time first began in 1918 during World War I to allow for more evening light and save fuel for the war effort. Since then, Daylight Saving Time has been used on and off, with different start and end dates. Benjamin Franklin first suggested the idea in 1784. It was later revived in 1907, when William Willett proposed a similar system in the pamphlet *The Waste of Daylight*. The Germans were the first to officially adopt the light-extending system in 1915, followed by the British, and in 1918 the United States, when Congress passed the Standard Time Act, establishing our time zones.

### Guard meets

The civilian volunteers that augment the United States Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Reserve in El Paso meet the second Wednesday of each month at Ranchers Grill, 7597 N. Meas St. at 6:00 PM. Their mission includes: public education and training in safe boating, surface and air operations, communications, vessel safety checks, public relations and other specialty courses. Applicants must be U.S. citizens and at least 17 years old. Active or retired military are welcome. You are invited to join us during our meeting or to contact one of following members: Don Rix, 915-637-2069; Frank Cornwell, 915-740-7953; or Bill Lockhart, 915-479-8303.

### Tax relief

Gov. Rick Perry has signed Senate Concurrent Resolution 20, a measure that allows the state to deliver on the historic school property tax cut passed in 2006. "This measure will allow the state to keep an important promise we made last year to lower Texans' school property tax rates by one-third," Perry said. "I applaud lawmakers for sending me this resolution because it means homeowners and employers will see billions of dollars in tax relief, and more Texans will be able to achieve their dream of owning their own home."

### In other news

■ The El Paso Police Department is participating in a statewide warrant roundup beginning tomorrow, March 3, 2007 and ending Saturday, March 10, 2007. The roundup will focus on Class C warrants, such as unpaid traffic warrants; however, other wanted persons are also on the

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*Science is only a tool. The harm or good it does depends on how men use it.*

— Quips & Quotes

## Bill Childress Elementary School celebrates Dr. Seuss Reading Day

By Kim Guzman  
*Special to the Courier*

CANUTILLO — Students, teachers and staff at Bill Childress Elementary School, in the Canutillo Independent School District recently celebrated Dr. Seuss Reading Day during the National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America Celebration. The campus scheduled several activities throughout the week commemorating Dr. Seuss Books.

Students dressed up as different characters from Dr. Seuss's books each day such as wearing crazy socks to celebrate the book "Fox In Socks",

dressing in yellow attire to celebrate "The Sneetches", and wearing blue and red and making their hair like "Thing I & II".

"Green Eggs and Ham" were served in the

See READING, Page 6



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

**ONE FISH, TWO FISH... — The Cat In The Hat, Jerrie Wilson, Bill Childress Elementary School librarian, and Lupe Tejada, BCE third grade student, celebrate Dr. Seuss Reading Day.**

## Tornillo Intermediate celebrates Read Across America

By Rudy Barreda  
*Special to the Courier*

TORNILLO — Students at Tornillo Intermediate School were treated to a day full of literary enjoyment as part of the National Education Association's 10th Annual Read Across



— Photo courtesy Tornillo ISD

**ONCE UPON A TIME — State Rep. Chente Quantanilla reads to a 6th grade class as part of Tornillo Intermediate's Read Across America Celebration.**

American event. Over 20 business and community people volunteered to read aloud to all 4th, 5th and 6th grade classes.

The event took place on March 2, the birthday of Theodor Geisel, otherwise known as Dr. Seuss. For this reason, all the volunteers read Dr. Seuss books. "I haven't read Dr. Seuss in awhile", joked TISD Board member Rachel Avila, as she selected a couple of his books to read to two 4th grade classes. Other volunteer readers included TISD Board Secretary Ofelia Bosquez and state Rep. Chente Quintanilla.

Event organizer Adriana Cantu, TISD campus support director, was pleased with the event. Teachers, students and staff decorated the campus with illustrations from Dr. Seuss books. Most impressive was the fact that every volunteer kept their commitment to read aloud to at least two classes. "Every person we contacted showed up," stated Cantu. "Our volunteers' commitment to the students of Tornillo Intermediate is extremely impressive."

Not only did the students enjoy the day, but the adult volunteer readers also seemed to enjoy spending the day with Dr. Seuss. "Don't forget to call me next year!" said Alfredo Meneses, a sales rep for SRA/McGraw Hill.

## Anthony Middle School awarded teacher incentive grant

By John R. Carrillo  
*Special to the Courier*

UPPER VALLEY — Anthony Middle School in the Anthony Independent School District has received notification this week of a Texas Educator Excellence Award grant award, providing \$40,000 to use as incentives for improved student performance.

An on-going challenge for school districts is improving and maintaining academic achievement. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is providing schools with an incentive to do so through the Texas Educator Excellence Award. The AMS amount was based on the number of students enrolled at the school.

Based on the degree of improvement on the 2005 TAKS scores, Anthony Middle School

became eligible to be a recipient of the award. After notification of eligibility, the faculty created a plan for continued academic success which was submitted to TEA for formal approval. The faculty was also responsible for determining the distribution of the award predicated on measurable criteria.

The overall goal of the award is the on-going improvement of TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) test scores. Teachers are also being rewarded for improvement of student scores compared with last year's TAKS results. One of the components of this award is for teachers to support each other through cross-content teaching.

"This is an opportunity for teachers and support staff to work collaboratively for the academic success of all of our students," said Dr. Terry-Ann Rodriguez, AMS Principal.



— Photos courtesy San Elizario ISD

**ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES — Itzae Facio and Rosita Parada, both 10 years old, operate the production equipment at WRAM-TV.**

## Borrego's WRAM-TV showcased at Austin Convention Center

By Cynthia P. Marentes  
*Special to the Courier*

SAN ELIZARIO — Maria Rosita Parada and Itzae Facio are two students from San Elizario ISD's Borrego Elementary School who are not camera shy. Recently, the two girls traveled to Austin along with their moms, Josie Trejo and Maribel Parada and teachers Adriana Castruita and Eduardo Sierra to present at the Texas Computer Education Association's 27th Annual Convention and Exposition on Feb. 7 and 8.

Their exhibit was titled *The Magic of Television at Your Campus* which highlighted their work with WRAM-TV, Borrego's own television station. This is the second year that Sierra has traveled with students to the conference to present an exhibit about the tiny but fully-functional TV studio located on the Borrego Elementary campus. The girls were on hand to speak with convention attendees at two separate sessions sharing tips about what they can do to start a television studio and providing their own insight and lessons learned from operating television production equipment for the first time.

Rosita and Itzae, both 5th graders at Borrego Elementary School, had a number of good reasons to feel a little intimidated. They were both overwhelmed by the size of the Austin Convention Center, the crowd attending the conference, not to mention the fact that they were probably the only elementary school students presenting at the exhibit hall. "I felt kind of nervous and shy when I started talking to people," Itzae said. Rosita was also nervous at first but later realized what she had accomplished by just being at the conference. "I felt really proud of myself and all my work. I told people that I really liked what I do here," Rosita said.

Itzae and Rosita showed convention attendees pictures of their studio, talked about the equipment they learned to use such as video, audio, cameras, microphones, and played some of their WRAM-TV broadcasts. During the two to three hours that the girls were presenting in the exhibit hall they were approached by teachers, student teachers, high school and college students who were curious about their exhibit. Soon after warming up, the girls grew a bit more confident in the delivery of their presentation. "I had a positive attitude that I could explain things and what I do in the studio," Itzae added.

Sierra is the Computer Lab Teacher at

See WRAM-TV, Page 4



# One perspective

By Francis Shrum

## Wink, wink

My mother has been reading my mind for years. All she has to do is take one look at me and she knows pretty much what I've been up to.

So why all the hoopla about recent technological developments in the mind-reading field that are taking place in Germany?

Well, the future is now and it isn't pretty. It's bad enough that my mother can already detect a guilty conscience. I sure don't want anybody else reading my mind because there is little chance they are going to like what they see.

One of the greatest gifts our Creator gave us, I believe, was the in-

ability to know what someone else is thinking. Now we want to go and spoil it.

At the Max Plack Institute in Germany — a place that seems to surface in the news regularly — scientists led by a fellow named Dr. John-Dylan Haynes have developed the ability to scan the brain waves of volunteers to actually determine what these people are going to do *before* they do it. And they are right at least 71 percent of the time.

Not even my mother is that good. She usually had to wait until *after* I'd done whatever it was I shouldn't have.

There are people in various segments of society who are overjoyed about this. They can't wait to have a little hand-held device so they can

scan people's minds like a they do your grocery cart at Sam's. These folks include security and law enforcement, governmental authorities, marketers, employers, insurance companies, and politicians.

The potential for the exploitation of such technology is what has ethnicists losing sleep at night.

Even though the technology is infantile, this research project has made some really astonishing discoveries in less than two years. For instance, based on the activity of brain waves during moments when subjects were given choices and asked to make a decision, they have concluded that a person's intentions are stored in the prefrontal cortex region, and they can decipher with uncanny accuracy what those intentions actually *are* before the person acts.

In an Associated Press story posted March 5 by Maria Cheng, one psychology professor mused: "The barriers that we assumed existed in reading our minds keep getting breached."

That is an understatement if I ever heard one.

Just like the Biblical story of the Tower of Babel, there is nothing left in this world that is beyond the ability of human beings to poke around in, mess with and eventually exploit. With history as my witness, I'd say mostly to no good. I wish we would pay this much attention to finding solutions to some issues that really *need* solving like cancer and air pollution and peace on earth instead of snooping around in the intention section of our neighbor's brain.

I'd say that ethnicists have more than a little reason to be concerned. For the first time, the door has swung wide for those who possess such technology to peer into the thoughts of an individual without the individual being able to stop them.

In our increasingly scary world in which the boogie man hides behind every face on the street, pre-emptive security measures are becoming more and more acceptable, such as the DNA database being created in Britain which will allow authorities to track people with genetic predisposition to violent behavior — whether they've ever done a single violent thing or not.

Another understatement by an ob-

serving scientist in Cheng's AP story was: "We need to start thinking about how far we are going to allow these technologies to be used."

I can answer that for him and I'm don't even have brain waves in the same league with his. Remember Pandora's Box?

Of course, the fellow conducting the research is full of assurances as they always are. He says his research has "more benign practical application" such as improving technology that allows paralyzed people to operate electronic robotic devices and computer communication equipment.

Besides, he says, practical application is "years if not decades away."

"We are making the first steps in reading out what the specific contents of people's thoughts are by trying to understand the language of the brain," Dr. Haynes said. "But it's not like we are going to have a machine tomorrow."

Right. Just like we were never going to drop an atomic bomb and those pesky little cameras on traffic lights were never going to be used for the purposes of issuing traffic tickets.

Wink, wink.



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# Border towns cooperate to fight air pollution

By Linda Moon  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO — National borders are transparent to illusive global enemies such as air pollution, but Texas Forest Service and Mother Nature are combating the problem in a way that also transcends the border between the United States and Mexico: trees.

In an air quality mitigation effort, Texas Forest Service (TFS), Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Los Tree Amigos, a regional tree program support council, worked with Las Hormigas de rancho Anapra, a volunteer group in Mexico, to plant 1000 seedlings in a small colonia near Juárez, Mexico.

The seedlings, grown in TFS's West Texas Nursery and purchased by Los Tree Amigos, were distributed among the residents of Anapra, Mexico and strategically planted to serve as filters in the common airshed of Juárez, El Paso, and Sunland Park, N.M.

According to Texas Environmental Profiles, a joint project of the Texas Center for Policy Studies and Environmental Defense, air pollution originating in Juárez contributes as much or more to air pollution in El Paso than pollution originating on the U.S. side of the border.

Two air quality monitoring stations in Sunland Park, just across the chain-link international boundary from Anapra, consistently record air pollution levels that exceed national standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The stations measure the amount of particulate matter in the air. Particulate matter (PM), are very small particles made up of mostly dust, smoke, ash and pollen. PM10 is matter that is 10 micrometers or less in diameter.

In order to reduce PM10 levels in the Rio Grande airshed, Victor Valenzuela of TCEQ initiated a binational tree planting: Arbolitos por adopción (Little trees for adoption).

The Texas agencies worked with the Mexican volunteer group, Las Hormigas de Rancho Anapra, to distribute seedlings to the Juárez colonia residents of Anapra. Each family registered their seedlings and carried them home to be planted. The new seedling owners received planting and care instructions in Spanish and a contract of adoption of their new baby pines. Valenzuela documented each planting and will track the tree growth success for years to come.

Trees directly reduce pollutants in the air, absorb and store carbon, reduce air temperatures, and reduce the amount of energy needed by buildings for heat.

Texas Forest Service Urban Forester Oscar Mestas chose to plant Afghan pine and Italian stone pine for this project.

"Pines are typical in air quality control research," said Pete Smith, co-author of Houston's Regional Forest: Structure, Functions, Values. "Pine trees don't lose their leaves annually, so they work as a natural filter against dust and other particles year-round."

According to the study "Desert Southwest Community Tree Guide: Benefits, Costs, and Strategic Planting," a 20-year-old Aleppo pine, 33 feet tall with a 27-foot crown spread will remove .16 pounds of PM10 annually. That number, multiplied by the 1000 Anapra seedlings, means that approximately 160 pounds of unwanted particles will be removed from the air each year when the trees reach maturity.

Although 20 years may seem like a delayed solution, Smith suggests that big problems need to be thought of over bigger periods of time. "The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago," he said.

What Mestas has done is place these trees in the most effective possible place to impact the future of the community," said Smith.

Mestas plans to participate in the tree planting project again next year.

"Crossing borders and agendas, this was a successful project for two state agencies and two non-profit organizations in two countries working together for the benefit of the whole community," he said.

# Silva begins term as local PR chapter president

By Pat Castillo-Garrett  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO — Pifas Silva never gave a second thought to pursuing a career in public relations. Instead, he thought he'd spend his whole life reporting on the daily lives of others.

"I always thought journalism would be my lifetime career," said the 36-year-old East El Paso resident. "I actually used to make fun of PR (public relations) majors at UTEP."

But after a year and a half of working as a news assistant for the *El Paso Times* and three years as the Assignment Editor for ABC 7 KVIA-TV, Silva has finally found his true calling, working as a public relations official. He even serves as president of the local professional public relations group, the Public Relations Society of America - Rio Grande Chapter.

Silva began his presidency last month and will lead the local chapter until his term expires in January 2008. The PRSA is a local group of public relations officials whose vision is to unify, strengthen and advance the profession of public relations. Silva became involved in the association during the six years that he was the Communications Officer for the San Elizario ISD. But it wasn't until he became the Communications Manager for the El Paso Convention and Visitors Bureau in 2004 that he began to serve



**Pifas Silva**

**See SILVA, Page 6**

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

## Four minutes could add 40 years to life

In thirty-two columns for the *West Texas County Courier* Newspaper, I have discussed issues of vital medical importance to the general public. I have taken none of those journalistic pieces as seriously, however, as what I am about to tell you. Four minutes of your time here may add 40 years to your life, as we slam the screen door on cancer and infectious disease, allowing only what is good and pure and healthy to bridge the mesh.

Let's let the sunshine in on screening procedures for some common cancers. Foremost among them, we turn our attention to breast cancer. On Oct. 2, 2003, I discussed this uninvited guest in some detail. Years pass, words are wasted, and we are left with an ill-timed knock at the door. Monthly self-examination and an annual breast exam by a physician might have canceled delivery. Mammography conducted every year after age 40-50 would certainly be more efficacious than do-not-call lists.

When cervical cancer comes a calling, we have only ourselves to blame. A failure to seek an annual Pap smear starting at age 18 or at the onset of sexual activity ups the ante in a game of Russian roulette. It becomes useless here to rant and proselytize on the subject, as I did in my piece on Feb. 9, 2006. A door blown open requires much more than simple hinges. If we had only taken the time to heed our health care providers, those three consecutive, normal, annual Pap smears would have not only increased the screening interval to every three years, but would have provided more security and peace of mind than double locks.

Colons and prostates are our friends, that is, when we cater to their needs. When the pizza boy comes a knocking, we leave him a tip. Such attention to detail in an encounter with a complete stranger makes little sense, when, on the contrary, we abuse and neglect those old chums who have kept us going for a half century. After

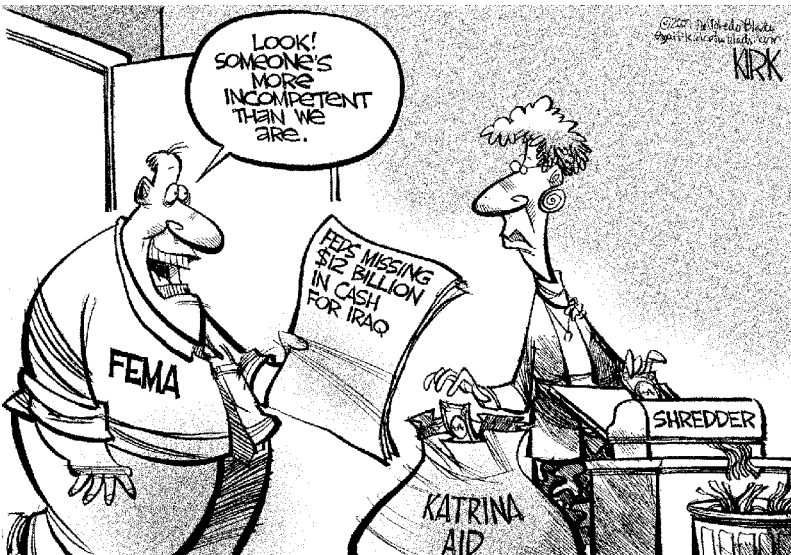
age 50, annual examination of the stool for blood and sigmoidoscopy every 3-5 years or colonoscopy every 10 years can provide a pat on the tummy more potent than surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation. The welcome mat to prostate cancer prevention is a little more controversial. While some physicians recommend no screening, others slide back the latch and peep favorably through the crack at yearly rectal examination and prostate-specific antigen (PSA) testing at age 45 for African-Americans and those with a strong family history and at age 50 for all others.

On Dec. 2, 2004 and on Dec. 29, 2005, I discussed adult vaccines and immunizations, respectively. In the meantime, a revolving door policy in the medical community has fed doubts as to our coming or going. Some simple instructions will now go far to extending our warranties. While influenza and pneumococcal immunizations are messengers of hope for the 50-65- and beyond age groups and those with HIV, splenectomy, organ transplant, or on chemotherapy, other vaccines target a restrictive customer calling list. Hepatitis A (for travelers to endemic areas), meningococcal (for use in outbreaks), and smallpox (for laboratory workers directly exposed) immunizations fall into the latter category.

Finally, accidents will happen, and, rather than trust a friendly voice behind a closed portal, we must proactively assume a defensive stance. Such is the case with tetanus and hepatitis B prevention. The former vaccine mandates initiation in childhood with boosters every 10 years. Hepatitis B immunization, on the other hand, is reserved for all young adults and for IV drug users, health care providers, and those with chronic liver disease.

Some simple guidelines will ensure unbruised derrieres, as the screen door swings back on our golden years.

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## Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

## Government should keep up educational funding

March marks the National Education Association's (NEA) 10th Annual "Read Across America" Day, which celebrates Dr. Seuss's birthday and is the nation's largest reading motivation and awareness program. This important education program augments other literacy programs already in El Paso, such as the "Read El Paso Read" reading initiative, which I coordinated with the El Paso Empowerment Zone, and "The Big Read," a National Endowment for the Arts program at the El Paso Public Library.

"Read El Paso Read" distributes tens of thousands of books to El Paso students, and "The Big Read" at the El Paso Public Library coordinated a community-wide campaign to read Harper Lee's classic *To Kill a Mockingbird*. I applaud the El Paso Public Library for seeking this federal funding and educating El Pasoans about classic literature and this particular book's message of racial harmony and tolerance.

Unfortunately, while these important reading initiatives help promote education and learning, the Bush Administration's fiscal 2007 budget request undermines these efforts and several other federal programs that help provide all students with basic access to a quality education. The Bush Administration proposed cutting funding for students at nearly every stage of learning:

- A \$100 million cut for Head Start, which could result in 13,500 children not being able to participate in this critically important program.
- A \$1.5 billion reduction in discretionary education funding, despite increased school enrollments and demand placed on educators by No Child Left Behind requirements.
- \$1.5 billion less funding than in fiscal 2007 for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program than was promised in No Child Left Behind. This program provides funding to low-income schools for innovative and effective before- and after-school initiatives.
- An increase in the maximum Pell Grant to \$4,600 per student, but failing to provide funding for the increase.
- A reduction in the availability of low-interest loans for needy students. The Bush Administration proposed to slash \$419 million from Perkins Loan revolving funds this year, and \$3.2 billion over the next five years, which would affect the ability of low-income students to afford college.
- An elimination of the \$771 million Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program, and the \$65 million Leveraging Educational Assistance Program, both of which are designed to assist needy students afford higher education.
- A reduction in support for special education. For the fourth year in a row, the Bush Administration is cutting funding for students with dis-

abilities, this year by at least \$291 million.

- A cut in funding for vocational education by almost half, or by \$582 million; reducing funding for Safe and Drug-Free schools by 71 percent, or by \$247 million; and eliminating funding for the Educational Technology State Grant Program.

The Read Across America literacy initiative taking place this month, as well as Read El Paso Read and The Big Read make important strides towards exposing children to the joy of reading and promoting education in general. However, the education budget proposed by the Bush Administration has the potential to impede any progress they might make. Access to quality education is a top priority for the new Congress, and my colleagues and I will work to keep our promise to our nation's students to provide them a quality education and ensure that no child will be left behind.







WRAM-TV

From Page 1

Borrego Elementary who sponsors WRAM-TV providing guidance and technical assistance to the students.

**NEVER TOO YOUNG TO PRESENT**  
— Rosita Parada and Itzae Facio present to two student teachers in Austin.

“It (the trip) was a great experience. I’m very proud and I wish I could have taken other students. They were shy at the beginning but after two or three presentations, they took over and handled the exhibit on their own.”

Itzae and Rosita were selected from about eight other students to go on the trip to Austin. All the students that form part of WRAM-TV were asked to write an essay describing the reasons why they thought they should

be chosen to present at the convention. According to Sierra, Itzae and Rosita were not only chosen because they wrote the best essays but also because they show initiative and are very charismatic.

Students that work at WRAM-TV usually arrive to school early before the start of classes to begin working on the five to seven minute newscast that airs every morning at 7:50 a.m. throughout the Borrego campus and lasts anywhere between 5 to 7 minutes. Each morning students prepare scripts, operate video and sound equipment, and deliver the day’s announcements on camera. In order to be part of the WRAM-TV crew, students have to be recommended by teachers when they are in the 4th grade and if selected, they begin training under the tutelage of the experienced 5th graders who are already part of the WRAM-TV crew.

“We are looking for students who possess a combination of social skills and good academics,” said Mr. Sierra. Starting next year, students will have to complete an application if they are interested in being part of WRAM-TV. WRAM-TV is very much like a student club with two groups of students taking turns producing the daily newscast. “It’s nice to do it, everyday you keep learning. I’ve always liked computers and I saw the shows and thought it was nice,” Itzae said about joining WRAM-TV. Itzae was persuaded to join WRAM-TV after hearing about it from her friend Rosita. “It was nice, I told Mickey (Itzae). I told her that it was easy to learn and she liked it,” Rosita said.

The Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA) Convention is primarily aimed at technology instructors and educators looking for ideas or best practices related to the integration of technology in the classroom. Usually Sierra and other instructors from San Elizario ISD attend the convention for professional development purposes but in order to present, schools have to submit a proposal to be accepted. Sierra took over WRAM-TV in October 2006 from Joe Zavala, now Assistant Principal at Sambrano Elementary. It was under Zavala’s leadership that WRAM-TV was created and it was his initiative to submit the first exhibit proposal last year.

“Getting the students to exhibit on their own and showcasing what San Elizario can accomplish in a small school district really shows that anything is possible. I have to give Mr. Zavala credit for realizing this dream,” Sierra said.

While both girls stated that attending the convention itself was an amazing experience, they also said they would never forget visiting historic landmarks such as the State Capitol. The trip was especially memorable for Rosita because it was the first time she traveled on an airplane.

“Taking students to the conference exposes them to what is out there. Although it’s stressful, just taking them out of San Elizario is great. Imagine visiting the Capitol and presenting in front of all those people,” Sierra said.

Rosita and Itzae are now looking forward to training the 4th graders who will soon join the ranks of WRAM-TV. In the future, both girls would like to continue working with technology in some way while Rosita is already contemplating a career at News Channel 9.

COMBINED NOTICE FROM THE TOWN OF ANTHONY, TEXAS  
NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF THE FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
ON THE ENVIRONMENT and NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE  
OF FUNDS in connection with the HOME Investment Partnerships Program

TOWN OF ANTHONY  
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TO: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

On or about sixteen (16) days after this publication, the Town of Anthony intends to request that Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) release federal funds under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, for the following project:

HOME Program Contract Number 1000298  
Program/Project Description:

Owner-Occupied Housing Assistance Project consisting of rehabilitation and reconstruction of housing the following locations in the Town of Anthony, Texas: (1) 501 Jamie; (2) 912 Poplar; (3) 904 Elm; (4) 808 Tamarisk; (5) 402 Franklin.

Total HOME Contract Award: \$187,546.00

Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined that such a request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the Town of Anthony has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190). The reason for the decision not to prepare such a statement is based upon the fact that all environmental concerns could either be minimized or mitigated.

The Town of Anthony has made an Environmental Review Record addressing the project referenced above and documenting the environmental review status of the project.

That Environmental Review Record is on file in the Town of Anthony City Hall, and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups, and individuals disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the town at the address set forth above.

Such written comments must be received at the address specified within fifteen (15) days after this publication.

All such comments so received will be considered by the Town of Anthony. The town will not submit the Request for Release of Funds or take further administrative action on the project prior to the end of the comment period specified. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

Release of Funds

The Town of Anthony will undertake the project referenced above with funds from the HOME Investment Partnerships Program of the Texas Department of Housing and Com-

munity Affairs under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990.

The town is certifying to Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs that the Town of Anthony and the Honorable Art Franco, in his official capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental review, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied for this project.

The legal effect of the certification is that, upon its approval, the town will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and 24 CFR Part 58, and may use HOME Program funds.

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if the objection is based on one of the following reasons: (a) That the certification was not, in fact, executed by the chief executive officer or other certifying officer of the Contract Administrator approved by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs; or (b) That the responsible entity,s Environmental Review Record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the required environmental review procedures (24 CFR Part 58); or (c) That the program grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs; or (d) That another federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Potential objectors should contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs will not consider objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above. Objections will be received for a period of fifteen (15) days following the anticipated submission date or the actual receipt of the request, whichever is later.

Any objection must be made in writing to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, P. O. Box 13941, Capitol Station, Austin, Tx 78711-3941. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. No objections received later than thirty-three (33) days after this publication will be considered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

Art Franco  
Mayor

Date Published:  
March 8, 2007

Briefs

From Page 1

list. This will be the first of several warrant roundups planned for 2007. Future roundup operations will include publishing the names of wanted persons in a local newspaper. Officers are advising anybody with an unpaid traffic warrant is encouraged to take care of his or her responsibility now to avoid the embarrassment of officers going to your home or work, or having your name published in a newspaper.

■ Brody Moore, a 5th grader at Horizon Heights Elementary, will compete in the El Paso Times Spelling Bee on March 9. He has been the school spelling champion for two years and will compete in the city competition for the second



Brody Moore

time. He is the son of Barbara Warwick and Dr. Ronnie Brooker and Lauretta and Dean Moore. He is a member of the G/T Program, the UIL Number Sense Team, plays the bass clarinet for the Ensor Middle Beginning Band where he is currently first chair. He is also active in baseball, basketball and numerous other outdoor activities.

■ The Socorro Independent School District joins school districts across Texas in celebrating Texas Public Schools Week, March 5-9, with the theme: One Vision, All Children. SISD Superintendent, Dr. Sylvia P. Atkinson, said that “teaching is more than a job, it’s a calling. We have an opportunity to change the world every day, one child at a time.” Texas Public Schools Week was established in 1950 by the Masonic Lodge of Texas to recognize the contributions made by the state’s free system of education.

■ The first student to sign a letter of intent to play collegiate soccer during Eldorado High School’s four-year history did so on Tuesday, March 6. Senior Sasha Ortiz will play soccer for Texas A&M International University after being selected MVP of district 2-4A. She played forward, midfield and sweeper for two years at El Dorado and is a member of the first graduating senior class at her school.

■ The Casa Magoffin Compañeros have launched the new Magoffin Home website at [www.magoffinhome.org](http://www.magoffinhome.org). Commissioned and built with the cooperation of the Magoffin Home State Historical Site, the new site includes a general history of the home and of the Magoffin family, an interactive virtual tour of the home, and information on the Casa Magoffin Compañeros, as well as features for students

and children. The home underwent extensive restoration over the past two years and now is not only a historical point of interest, but a genuine “thing of beauty.” Five rooms were restored to circa 1898, the year when El Paso made a sudden growth spurt, economically and socially, and it is easy to imagine living in that era. Wallpaper fragments found under the woodwork were replicated, custom ordered, and hand printed. The copies of the Brussels carpets that are on the floors are also faithful to the original. The canvas ceilings are reproductions of the 1898 ceilings. A family history gives a brief glimpse of the main characters who occupied the home, while the virtual tour is the most innovative part of the site. One enters the Great Hall and sees the entire room. From there one enters the formal parlor, the family parlor, and three bedrooms. All contain furnishings of the period which are original to the home and which are clearly and easily seen.

■ Ten free white flowering dogwood

trees will be given to each new person who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during March as part of the Trees for America campaign. The six to 12-inch trees are shipped postpaid, with instructions at the right time of the year for planting, between March 1 and May 31 and, if they fail to grow, will be replaced free. Members also receive a subscription to the monthly *Arbor Day*, and *The Tree Book*. To become a member, send a \$10 contribution with your name and address to Ten Free Dogwood Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410 by March 31 or join online at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

■ An estimated 4 million Americans are living with Alzheimer’s disease — a progressive brain disorder that causes gradual memory loss, a decline in thinking abilities, and changes in personality and behavior. As the baby boomer population ages, this number is expected to quadruple, along with the associated health care costs. Although there’s currently no cure for

this disease, scientists are working hard to find one. Learn more about their research with *Alzheimer’s: Searching for a Cure* from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. For a free copy, send your name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 551P, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256 and ask for Item 551P. And visit [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov) to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

■ The Internal Revenue Service is urging taxpayers to check to see if they qualify for the telephone excise tax refund after more than 10 million early filers did not request the one-time refund. In the first release of this year’s weekly filing season statistics, about 30 percent of all taxpayers did not request the telephone tax refund. “Many taxpayers are overlooking this special refund and the chance to get a bigger refund,” said IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson. The government stopped collecting the long-distance excise tax last Au-

gust after several federal court decisions held that the tax does not apply to long-distance service as it is billed today. Federal officials also authorized a one-time refund of the federal excise tax collected on service billed during the previous 41 months, stretching from the beginning of March 2003 to the end of July 2006. The tax continues to apply to local-only phone service. The IRS established a standard refund amount, based on personal exemptions, ranging from \$30 to \$60. If taxpayers have phone bills and other records, they can request the actual amount of excise tax paid. Though using the standard amount is optional, it is easy to figure and approximates the eligible amount for most individual taxpayers. Taxpayers only have to fill out one line on their return, and they don’t need to present proof to the IRS. Out of the tax returns filed through Feb. 16, more than 10 million taxpayers did not request the telephone tax refund. And nearly half of those returns — over 4.8 million — were completed by a tax preparer.

Town of Horizon City  
PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2007** during the **Regular Council Meeting** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed ordinances:

- 1) Amendment 014 to Ordinance 0102 to add Section 812 — “Yards” to address yard regulations of buildings permitted within required setbacks.
- Amendment 015 to Ordinance 0102 to amend Section 502 “A-1” — Chapter 5 (Apartment District) to increase allowable residential density and to institute a site plan review process for apartment developments.
- 2) Amendment 016 to Ordinance 0102 to amend Chapter 1 “Administration”, Section 101.6 “Rezoning”, Subsection C “Public Hearings; Notice” to reduce the number of signs required for rezoning when such rezoning is initiated by the City.
- 3) Amendment 017 to Ordinance 0102 to amend Chapter 6 “General Commercial Districts”, Section 603 “C-1” to allow the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption within restaurants by specific use permits.
- 4) Ordinance 0158 — An ordinance establishing a curfew from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. of the following day for minor children under the age of 17 years.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk of Horizon City. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available and individuals in need of special assistance for attending the hearing are encouraged to contact the City Clerk at 915-852-1046, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Ordinances are available for viewing or copying upon request from the City Clerk at the above address or call 915-852-1046, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fidel Morales  
Interim City Clerk

WTCC: 03-08-07

PUBLIC NOTICE  
TOWN OF ANTHONY, TEXAS  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION AVAILABILITY  
TEXAS CAPITAL FUND PROJECT

The Town of Anthony is giving notice of intent to submit an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for grant assistance in the amount of \$1,000,000 from the Infrastructure Fund and the Real Estate Fund of the Texas Capital Fund Program. The grant requested will finance an infrastructure and real estate project in support of the Foxworth-Galbraith Lumber Company. The grant application will be available for review at the Anthony Town Hall during regular business hours after March 8, 2007.

Art Franco  
Mayor

Date published:  
March 8, 2007

El Paso County Emergency  
Services District #2  
Notice of Public Hearing

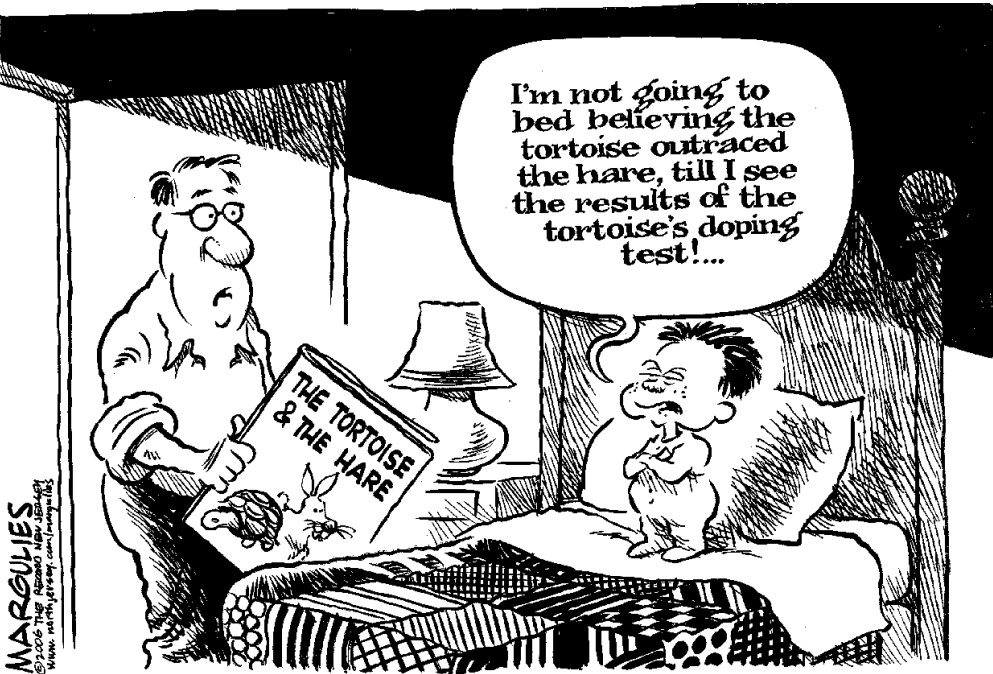
The Board of Commissioners for the El Paso County Emergency Services District #2 will conduct a public hearing during its next regular meeting on the 13th day of March, 2007, at 7 p.m., at the Socorro Fire Department, 11440 North Loop Rd. for the purpose of:

- 1) Discussing and voting on making mutually agreeable changes in its boundaries with the El Paso County Emergency Services District #1 pursuant to §775.056, Texas Health and Safety Code. The Board of Commissioners will also set a mutually agreeably effective date for the changes in the boundaries.

Maps which detail the proposed changes may be viewed at the office of the El Paso County Emergency Services District #2 at 13976 Montana Ave., El Paso, TX 79938, each day, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodation for interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the District’s offices at (915) 857-0999 for further information.

WTCC: 03/08/07



## Reading

From Page 1

cafeteria for breakfast, and cupcakes were delivered to classrooms to celebrate the “Cat In The Hat” on his 50th birthday. Posters of Dr. Seuss characters created by students in the Mother/Daughter and Father/Son program were hung throughout the campus. Students were also encouraged to enter the Dr. Seuss greeting card drawing contest.

The Cat In The Hat was on hand all day, as guest readers came to the library throughout

the day to read to students. Readers were community members, parents, teachers and administrators including J.R. Grijalva, El Paso Community College Chief of Police and Dr. Pam Padilla, CISD Superintendent.

All students from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade were taken to the library to meet the Cat In The Hat and have a guest reader read to them. Childress ES librarian Jerrie Wilson coordinated the event as a way to impress upon students the importance of reading.

“Having individuals from different walks of life read to the students and participate in this event helps stress the importance of literacy in our schools as well as our community,” said Wilson.

## Silva

From Page 2

on the board.

Silva is quick to credit the longest-serving superintendent in the county, Mike Quatrini and the 3,800-student San Elizario ISD as the reasons for his success. “I often joke with people, but truly mean it, when I

say that Mike (Quatrini) and San Eli made me who I am today.”

And it’s that mentoring aspect which Silva would like to give back in return. Silva said anyone wishing to join the group could contact the local chapter via e-mail (prsariogrande@yahoo.com) or by calling him at the El Paso Convention Center at 534-0638. The group meets the third Wednesday of every month and has two membership categories: student or professional.

# Athletes contending for ‘Most Likely to Do Time’ award

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

The college football season ended a month ago when the Florida Gators shocked the Ohio State Buckeyes in the national title game. And as far as I know there are no more of those college all-star games left on the schedule.

So now that the season is over some college football players are going through spring practice sessions at their respective schools — and some are busy hitting the books to make sure they keep their grades up and keep their eligibility status in tact.

And still others are engaging in what is quickly becoming the most popular endeavor of the modern college athlete — breaking the law.

Here are just a few examples.

- A couple of former Montana State University athletes, a football and a basketball player, aren’t thinking too much about their sport right now, they’re thinking more about trying to avoid the death penalty.

Seems they had a misunderstanding with a suspected cocaine dealer and allegedly shot him to death. Now prosecutors say they may seek the death penalty for John Lebrum and Branden Miller.

The two are also charged with aggravated kidnapping and tampering with evidence.

- How about the actions of Washington University running back Michael Houston. Here’s a class individual if you ever saw one.

All I can say about this guy is that he is resourceful. Turns out he didn’t have his own ride one night so he did the next best thing. He stole a cab.

Houston, two other guys and a woman hailed a cab in the early morning hours after exiting — where else? — a strip club. They soon had the driver stop at a fast food joint.

In a calculated move, the woman spat on the cab window and when the frustrated cabbie got out to call 911, Houston jumped into the cab and drove away.

I don’t know who disgusts me more — Houston or his expectorating female friend.

- Then there are the recruiting practices of the University of Cincinnati.

I guess when you are recruiting from the gutter, you’ve got to take your program to the gutter.

Seems recruiters are enticing perspective

football players with sex and booze. Only problem is the acts were supposedly videotaped and are currently circulating around the campus.

Ouch! Talk about being caught with your pants down.

Of course, university officials are in denial and calling the allegations anonymous, and thus highly questionable.

Ah, the great enablers.

- How about the driving habits of some University of Illinois basketball players? Rich McBride recently pleaded guilty to driving under the influence, which is a fancy way of saying he was drunk and driving a car.

This comes on the heels of an incident involving another Illinois player, Jamar Smith, who was driving a car with his teammate Brian Carlwell.

Smith made the mistake of getting drunk before getting behind the wheel. He lost control of the vehicle and crashed it into a tree causing his buddy Carlwell to be hospitalized for four days with a severe concussion. But Smith didn’t know how badly his buddy was hurt because he didn’t stick around long enough — he left the scene of the accident.

Why didn’t he stick around? Well, Smith told authorities he thought Carlwell had died in the accident. It’s good to know you’ve got a teammate that will split in your greatest hour of need.

- The University of Miami suspended its second basketball player in a month for violating team rules. Denis Clemente and Raymond Hicks have been suspended for the rest of the season for behaving badly.

At least Miami went against its norm and got tough with its difficult players. It would be nice for the football team to take that same approach.

- Then there’s more from that thug sport of lacrosse.

The University of Syracuse has suspended sophomore Sean McGonigle for punching a fellow student several times after a party.

After treating the student’s face like a maraca, McGonigle has not been allowed to play with the team, but he can practice and he can sit on the bench during games.

Wow, way to be tough Syracuse! Maybe you can go a step further in your punishment and force this creep to eat all his broccoli.

How long will it take for “most arrests” to be an official stat in college athletics?

## Classified Ads

### LEGAL

**El Paso Collaborative for Community & Economic Development**

**Invitation for Bids**

The El Paso Collaborative for Community & Economic Development is a recipient of a TDHCA Contract for Deed Conversion with Rehab grant contract number 1000530. The El Paso Collaborative will receive sealed bids for residential rehabilitation for ten (10) residences until 4:00 p.m. (local time) on the March 26, 2007 at the One Stop Business Resource Business Center, 1359 Lomaland Suite #538, El Paso, Texas 79935. Bid packets are available at the One Stop Business Resources Center starting March 9,

2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Bidders will be required to leave a \$25.00 refundable deposit. All submittals must be sealed and received by 4:00 p.m. March 26, 2007. Submitted envelopes must be marked “CONTRACT FOR DEED/ REHAB Bid” on the lower left hand side of the envelope.

A pre-bid conference is scheduled on March 12, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. at 1359 Lomaland Suite 538 El Paso, Texas. Bids will be opened on March 26, 2005 at 4:30 p.m. at 1359 Lomaland in the Paloma Room, El Paso, Texas 79935.

The Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employ are not discriminated against because of their race,

color, religion, sex, or national origin. The El Paso Collaborative reserves the right to reject any or all Bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. El Paso Collaborative is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.



Delia Chavez  
Executive Director  
WTCC: 03-08-07

### COUNSELING SERVICES

D A M I A N MAUREIRA, LCSW - Professional Counseling/ Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family. Health insurance and fee scale accepted. 657 Winn Rd. in Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment. 3/08

### HELP WANTED

Part-time bartender needed at the Horizon City American Legion. Call 852-4823 after 3 p.m. 3/29

### STORAGE

20X45' SPACE FOR LEASE  
HORIZON SELF STORAGE  
418 S. Kenazo  
852-9371  
3/29

### SELF-HELP

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Información: 838-6264.

### SERVICES

**“Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring” JIFFY GLASS REPAIR**  
Windshield Repair Specialists  
By appt. at your home or office:  
R.V. Dick  
Harshberger  
**915-852-9082**

**BERT’S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR**  
Domestic and

Foreign  
**852-3523**  
1558 Oxbow,  
Horizon City

**HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079**  
•Electric roofer service for sewers and drains  
•Appliance installation  
•Many other plumbing services  
Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.



**Indian Cliffs Ranch, Inc.**

### SECURITY GUARD

Steady job for mature, older person. From 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. with overtime. Very good pay and very good working conditions. Must live in lower valley or Horizon. Ideal candidate will be bilingual and will be able to ride a horse. Our last security guard was with us for over 12 years, when he retired. Must pass thorough background check. We can furnish a trailer home for right person. Fax resume to 764-4168 or call Jose Vega at Indian Cliffs Ranch, 544-3200.



## CLASSIFIED AD FORM

15 words - \$5 per week; 35 words - \$10 per week

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Please print.Send form and payment (no cash) to:

West Texas County Courier  
15344 Werling Ct.  
Horizon City, TX 79928

Deadline: Mondays

Contact Information:

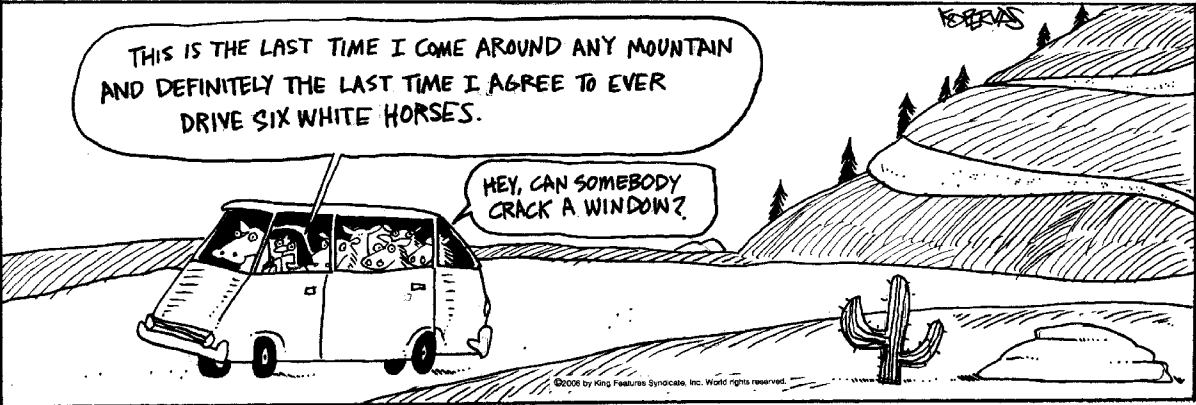
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



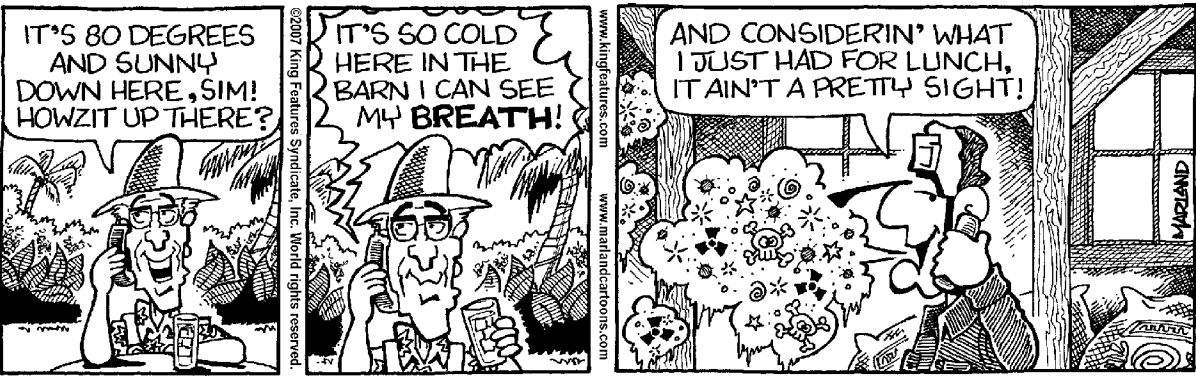
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



The medium is the message

By Don Flood

Here’s a subject I never thought would come up in my column: talking urinal cakes.

In fact, I have never, as I sometimes do when a potential topic springs to mind, made a note to myself saying something like: “Urinal cakes — what if they could talk?”

But now the topic presents itself because the New Mexico Transportation Department recently began distributing talking urinal cakes to bars that say: “You drink, you drive, you lose.”

Note to readers of the female persuasion: Urinal cakes are placed in urinals, allegedly to improve the smell of men’s public bathrooms. There is no known recorded instance of this actually having worked.

Some establishments, sadly, seem to think the urinal cake company slogan is: You’ll never have to clean the bathroom again!

You have to admit, this is a pretty good marriage of message and medium: a captive audience that might well benefit from hearing the state anti-DWI motto.

But there is also the depressing thought that talking urinal cakes will soon be used for regular advertising. Some drug companies, for example, might see them as a perfect vehicle for those men’s “performance” products that make up, along with beer, 185 percent of the advertising during football games.

The next step, of course, is to make urinal cakes “interactive.” It’s all well and good to have the technology to make them talk, but if you can’t talk back to them, if you can’t use them to connect to the Internet, download music, take pictures, instant message, etc., then you have consigned talking urinal cakes to the level of novelty and not made full use of their potential to change and enrich our lives.

(Follow-up note to readers of the

female persuasion: Sorry, you’re out of luck on this one. This is a men’s product, though I’m sure some portable female version, in various colors and designs and shapes, will be developed.)

And interactive urinal cakes could serve uses other than the purely commercial.

Men, for example, are notoriously reluctant, out of embarrassment, to seek help from a counselor or therapist.

Imagine the relief of being able to confide directly to your own personal urinal cake. No more embarrassment!

Elsewhere in the news about talking inanimate objects, there’s the item about the woman who used part of her embezzled \$6.9 million to purchase six talking trees based on characters from the “Wizard of Oz.”

This Massachusetts bookkeeper also bought, and none of these is made up:

- A life-sized statue of Al Capone.
- A 20-foot smoke-breathing dragon.
- 35 vehicles of various kinds, including a Model T Ford customized to look like a green goblin.

That’s what makes this case so sad. Here, obviously, was a woman of great vision and talent. A woman who, in another time, another place, could have been in charge of all purchasing for the federal government.

Now, though, she’s going to jail and being forced to pay back all \$6.9 million.

My guess, though, is that not all the funds — in other words about \$6.8 million — will be immediately available, but who knows? Maybe talking “Oz” tree characters have been appreciating in value — more than talking urinal cakes, anyway.

(c) 2007 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Super Crossword

DISCOUNTING DAD  
ACROSS

- 1 Bargain  
5 Sagan or Sandburg  
9 Actress Arlene  
13 Trite  
18 \_ podrida  
19 Spread in a tub  
20 Jai \_  
21 Brimmed hat  
22 Move like a hummingbird  
23 Runner Zatopek  
24 “The \_ Is High” (’80 hit)  
25 Cashew kin  
26 Start of a remark by Bob Phillips  
30 Catchall abbr.  
31 Echidna’s tidbit  
32 Sharpen  
33 Prune  
36 School subject  
40 “Beat it!”  
42 Dandy  
45 Simpson of fashion  
47 Sausage segment  
48 TV’s “\_ & Greg”  
50 Tax shelter  
51 Wolsey’s successor  
52 Green house?  
53 Pianist Glenn  
54 Light beer  
56 Monstrous  
58 Worries

- 59 PR concern  
60 Shuffleboard stick  
62 Bovine bellow  
63 Swarm (with)  
66 Word with man or maiden  
67 Middle of remark  
74 New York county  
75 Borscht ingredient  
76 A Stooze  
77 Slip up  
78 Michael of “Dynasty”  
80 Dietary need  
82 Harvest tool  
87 Sans emotion  
88 Heaped  
89 Entice  
92 \_ price  
93 Flagon filler  
94 Actress Plummer  
96 Wet blanket  
97 Highlight hair  
98 Rock’s \_ Zeppelin  
99 Bailiwick  
100 Make a mistake  
102 Ewe said it!  
103 Summer top  
105 Actress Leoni  
106 It may be split  
108 End of remark  
118 Golden girl  
119 Bustle  
120 Glum drop?  
121 Taj town  
122 Shrink back  
123 Mighty mite  
124 Concerned with

- 125 Indigent  
126 Put on a pedestal  
127 Skirt shaper  
128 Playwright  
O’Casey  
129 Humorist  
Bombeck
- DOWN
- 1 Take off a toque  
2 Fitzgerald or Grasso  
3 Landed  
4 Woodworking tool  
5 Force  
6 Charity  
7 Actor Wallace  
8 Entertainer Falana  
9 Archaeological activity  
10 “He’s making \_ ...”  
11 Muslim pilgrimage  
12 Place  
13 “Ma \_ Amie” (’70 tune)  
14 Fess up  
15 Cranny’s companion  
16 “Rule Britannia” composer  
17 Youngster  
21 Comprehend  
27 Raison d’\_  
28 Pull sharply  
29 Damocles’ dangler  
33 Writer Charles  
34 Bouquet  
35 Neighbor of

- Bolivia  
37 Pie \_ mode  
38 Uproar  
39 Calligraphy supply  
40 Move to and fro  
41 WWII admiral  
42 Barber of Seville  
43 Beaver State  
44 Rear  
46 Permit  
48 Female goat  
49 Campbell of UB40  
52 Caption  
53 Cared for a Clydesdale  
55 In the thick of  
57 Expert  
58 Eddie of vaudeville  
61 Nationality suffix  
62 “Waltzing \_ ” (1903 song)  
64 Pupil’s place  
65 Dotty inventor?  
67 Servile  
68 Prophet  
69 Neatened (up)  
70 Sock part  
71 Characterize  
72 Negative correlative  
73 Psychic Geller  
79 Rug type  
81 Arthur of “Maude”  
83 Mongrel  
84 Handle  
85 Kudrow of “Friends”

- 86 James or Jones  
88 Cozy coat  
89 “Hulk” Ferrigno  
90 Decorative vase  
91 Chianti color  
95 Comic Howie  
96 Dull  
97 Set loose  
100 Suit  
101 Screenwriter Nora  
103 High-toned guy?  
104 Actress MacDowell  
105 Henry VIII’s house  
107 Dumbstruck  
108 “Citizen Kane” prop  
109 Somewhat, to Solti  
110 For men only  
111 Lorre role  
112 Patriot James  
113 Hawaii’s state bird  
114 “Cheerio!”  
115 Perpetual lab assistant  
116 Starting at  
117 Binchy’s “\_ Road”  
118 It may be strapless

Answer Page 3

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|     |    |     | 30  |     |     |    |    |     | 31  |     |    |    |     | 32  |     |     |    |     |     |     |     |
| 33  | 34 | 35  |     | 36  |     | 37 | 38 | 39  |     |     | 40 | 41 |     |     |     |     |    | 42  | 43  | 44  |     |
| 45  |    |     | 46  |     |     | 47 |    |     |     | 48  |    |    |     |     | 49  |     |    | 50  |     |     |     |
| 51  |    |     |     |     | 52  |    |    |     |     | 53  |    |    |     |     | 54  | 55  |    |     |     |     |     |
| 56  |    |     |     |     | 57  |    |    |     |     | 58  |    |    |     |     |     | 59  |    |     |     |     |     |
|     |    |     |     | 60  |     | 61 |    | 62  |     |     |    | 63 |     | 64  | 65  |     | 66 |     |     |     |     |
| 67  | 68 | 69  | 70  |     |     |    | 71 |     |     |     | 72 |    |     |     |     | 73  |    |     |     |     |     |
| 74  |    |     |     |     | 75  |    |    |     |     | 76  |    |    |     | 77  |     |     |    |     |     |     |     |
| 78  |    |     |     |     | 79  |    |    | 80  |     | 81  |    |    |     |     | 82  |     | 83 | 84  | 85  | 86  |     |
| 87  |    |     |     |     |     | 88 |    |     |     |     |    | 89 | 90  | 91  |     |     | 92 |     |     |     |     |
| 93  |    |     |     |     | 94  | 95 |    |     |     |     | 96 |    |     |     |     | 97  |    |     |     |     |     |
| 98  |    |     |     |     | 99  |    |    |     |     | 100 |    |    |     |     |     | 101 |    |     | 102 |     |     |
|     |    |     |     | 103 | 104 |    |    |     |     | 105 |    |    |     |     |     | 106 |    | 107 |     |     |     |
|     |    | 108 | 109 |     |     |    |    | 110 | 111 |     |    |    | 112 | 113 | 114 |     |    |     | 115 | 116 | 117 |
| 118 |    |     |     |     |     |    |    | 119 |     |     |    |    | 120 |     |     |     |    | 121 |     |     |     |
| 122 |    |     |     |     |     |    |    | 123 |     |     |    |    | 124 |     |     |     |    | 125 |     |     |     |
| 126 |    |     |     |     |     |    |    | 127 |     |     |    |    | 128 |     |     |     |    | 129 |     |     |     |

# Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

**Q:** When will I receive my annual Social Security Benefit Statement for the 2006 tax year?

**A:** You should have received your Social Security Benefit Statement (form SSA-1099) already. All SSA-1099 forms for tax year 2006 were mailed by January 31, 2007. If you did not receive yours, you may request a replacement. You can do that online by visiting our website — [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) — and clicking on the link to the “What you can do Online” section, and request a new SSA-1099. You may also request a replacement SSA-1099 by calling us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

**Q:** I retired early and my only income has been withdrawals from my Individual Retirement Account (IRA). I plan to apply for Social Security this year. Will my IRA income reduce my Social Security benefits?

**A:** No. In calculating your retirement benefits, we count only the wages you earn from a job or your net profit if you’re self-employed. Non-work income such as pensions, annuities, investment income, interest and capital gains are not counted and will not affect your Social Security benefits.

**Q:** I’ve worked for more than 10 years now and each year I earned the maximum number of credits: four. Does this mean I’ll get the maximum benefit when I retire?

**A:** No, not necessarily. The 40 credits are the minimum number you need to qualify for a retirement benefit. The amount of the benefit, however, is not based on those credits; it is based on your lifetime of earnings. We determine your average earnings over your working years, in most cases the 35 years you earned the most, and use a formula to determine your benefit amount.

**Q:** My husband recently had his leg amputated as a result of his diabetes. He applied for disability benefits based on his diabetes a few years ago and was denied because he could still work. Now that his condition has worsened, can he get disability benefits?

**A:** He should certainly apply for Social Security disability benefits if his condition prevents him from working. We will need to make a new disability determination. Your husband is eligible for disability benefits if he has a severe medical condition that is expected to prevent him from working for at least 12 months, or to end in death.

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.

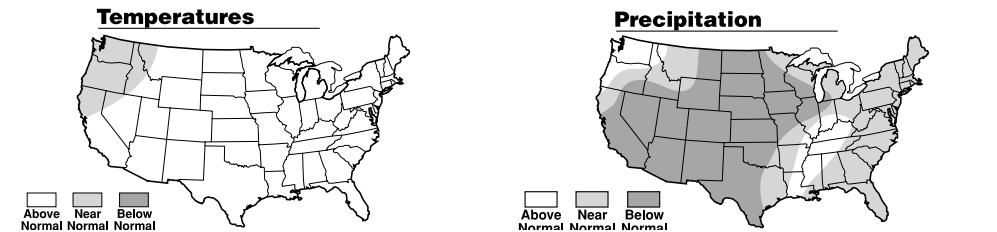
7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

AccuWeather.com®

| Thursday     | Thu. night   | Friday           | Saturday         | Sunday           | Monday           | Tuesday          | Wednesday        |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|              |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| 78°          | 48°          | 79° 48°          | 76° 46°          | 76° 46°          | 77° 49°          | 75° 54°          | 82° 53°          |
| RealFeel 77° | RealFeel 46° | RealFeel 81° 44° | RealFeel 77° 44° | RealFeel 77° 40° | RealFeel 77° 42° | RealFeel 81° 58° | RealFeel 87° 57° |

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

| Sun   | Rise      | Set       | Moon  | Rise       | Set        | Last  | New  |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-------|------------|------------|-------|------|
| Thu.  | 6:25 a.m. | 6:08 p.m. | Thu.  | 10:41 p.m. | 8:33 a.m.  |       |      |
| Fri.  | 6:24 a.m. | 6:09 p.m. | Fri.  | 11:40 p.m. | 9:05 a.m.  | 3/11  | 3/18 |
| Sat.  | 6:23 a.m. | 6:10 p.m. | Sat.  | none       | 9:43 a.m.  | First | Full |
| Sun.  | 7:21 a.m. | 7:10 p.m. | Sun.  | 1:40 a.m.  | 11:28 a.m. |       |      |
| Mon.  | 7:20 a.m. | 7:11 p.m. | Mon.  | 2:38 a.m.  | 12:21 p.m. | 3/25  | 4/2  |
| Tues. | 7:19 a.m. | 7:12 p.m. | Tues. | 3:33 a.m.  | 1:21 p.m.  |       |      |
| Wed.  | 7:18 a.m. | 7:13 p.m. | Wed.  | 4:23 a.m.  | 2:28 p.m.  |       |      |

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## REGIONAL CITIES

|                 | Thursday |    |    | Friday |    |    | Saturday |    |    | Sunday |    |    |
|-----------------|----------|----|----|--------|----|----|----------|----|----|--------|----|----|
| City            | HI       | LO | W  | HI     | LO | W  | HI       | LO | W  | HI     | LO | W  |
| Abilene, TX     | 73       | 55 | pc | 74     | 48 | s  | 71       | 51 | pc | 68     | 45 | s  |
| Albuquerque, NM | 66       | 40 | pc | 67     | 41 | s  | 68       | 41 | s  | 68     | 43 | s  |
| Amarillo, TX    | 69       | 40 | pc | 68     | 38 | pc | 64       | 37 | pc | 68     | 39 | s  |
| Austin, TX      | 75       | 51 | pc | 73     | 56 | pc | 76       | 54 | pc | 70     | 50 | pc |
| Brownsville, TX | 79       | 64 | pc | 80     | 64 | pc | 82       | 67 | pc | 82     | 65 | pc |
| Dodge City, KS  | 64       | 39 | pc | 65     | 35 | pc | 59       | 34 | c  | 69     | 37 | s  |
| Jackson, MS     | 71       | 42 | pc | 72     | 48 | pc | 70       | 48 | c  | 67     | 46 | c  |
| Laredo, TX      | 78       | 61 | pc | 78     | 64 | pc | 83       | 65 | pc | 83     | 65 | pc |
| Little Rock, AR | 64       | 44 | pc | 67     | 49 | pc | 65       | 45 | c  | 63     | 44 | pc |
| Lubbock, TX     | 73       | 46 | pc | 76     | 44 | s  | 68       | 42 | pc | 69     | 41 | s  |
| Memphis, TN     | 62       | 45 | pc | 67     | 49 | pc | 65       | 48 | c  | 63     | 47 | r  |
| Midland, TX     | 75       | 48 | pc | 76     | 46 | s  | 77       | 46 | pc | 70     | 46 | s  |
| Pueblo, CO      | 66       | 30 | pc | 64     | 30 | pc | 64       | 30 | pc | 67     | 32 | pc |
| Roswell, NM     | 75       | 43 | pc | 77     | 42 | s  | 75       | 41 | pc | 71     | 42 | s  |
| St. Louis, MO   | 53       | 38 | pc | 55     | 43 | r  | 56       | 40 | c  | 60     | 42 | pc |
| San Antonio, TX | 74       | 54 | pc | 74     | 58 | pc | 77       | 60 | pc | 74     | 54 | pc |
| Texarkana, AR   | 69       | 50 | pc | 68     | 52 | pc | 69       | 49 | c  | 67     | 47 | pc |
| Waco, TX        | 74       | 52 | pc | 73     | 56 | pc | 74       | 52 | c  | 69     | 47 | pc |
| Wichita, KS     | 64       | 45 | pc | 64     | 41 | pc | 64       | 38 | c  | 64     | 40 | s  |

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

## U.S. CITIES

|               | Thursday |    |    | Friday |    |    | Saturday |    |    | Sunday |    |    |
|---------------|----------|----|----|--------|----|----|----------|----|----|--------|----|----|
| City          | HI       | LO | W  | HI     | LO | W  | HI       | LO | W  | HI     | LO | W  |
| Atlanta       | 67       | 45 | pc | 60     | 44 | pc | 60       | 46 | c  | 64     | 46 | c  |
| Boston        | 24       | 9  | s  | 29     | 22 | pc | 45       | 38 | pc | 49     | 36 | r  |
| Chicago       | 38       | 24 | pc | 45     | 31 | r  | 48       | 31 | pc | 48     | 32 | pc |
| Denver        | 62       | 32 | pc | 58     | 30 | pc | 57       | 34 | pc | 62     | 36 | pc |
| Detroit       | 30       | 18 | s  | 37     | 31 | c  | 48       | 31 | r  | 48     | 30 | pc |
| Houston       | 75       | 54 | pc | 75     | 59 | pc | 74       | 56 | c  | 72     | 54 | pc |
| Indianapolis  | 46       | 29 | s  | 51     | 39 | c  | 52       | 37 | c  | 55     | 36 | c  |
| Kansas City   | 56       | 37 | pc | 56     | 35 | r  | 58       | 35 | c  | 59     | 36 | s  |
| Los Angeles   | 70       | 52 | pc | 74     | 55 | s  | 77       | 57 | s  | 78     | 59 | s  |
| Miami         | 78       | 66 | pc | 80     | 66 | pc | 81       | 67 | pc | 83     | 68 | pc |
| Minneapolis   | 32       | 22 | sn | 37     | 23 | r  | 40       | 26 | pc | 42     | 26 | c  |
| New Orleans   | 72       | 52 | s  | 72     | 55 | pc | 73       | 57 | c  | 70     | 52 | c  |
| New York City | 28       | 17 | s  | 32     | 29 | s  | 46       | 38 | pc | 48     | 36 | r  |
| Omaha         | 46       | 31 | pc | 48     | 29 | r  | 54       | 35 | pc | 59     | 34 | pc |
| Phoenix       | 83       | 57 | s  | 83     | 56 | s  | 87       | 59 | s  | 90     | 61 | s  |
| San Francisco | 61       | 46 | pc | 62     | 49 | pc | 65       | 52 | pc | 68     | 52 | s  |
| Seattle       | 48       | 43 | r  | 52     | 43 | r  | 54       | 44 | r  | 54     | 45 | r  |
| Washington    | 38       | 22 | s  | 43     | 30 | s  | 53       | 40 | r  | 55     | 42 | r  |

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