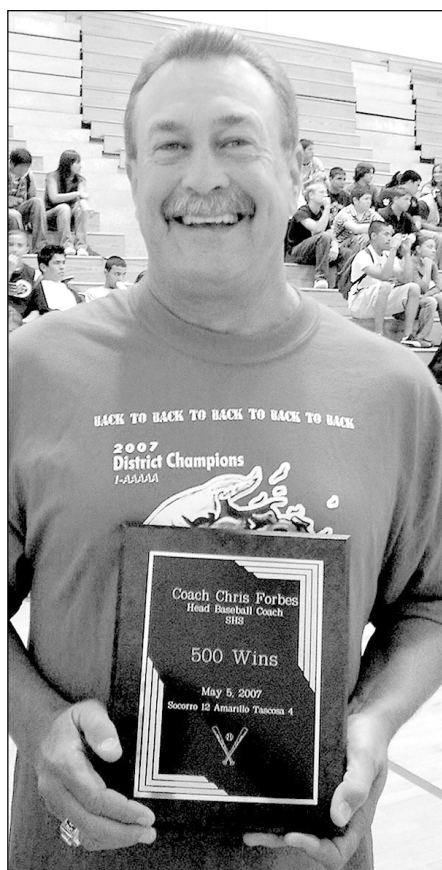




NEWSBRIEFS



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

Coach Chris Forbes

500 wins

Socorro High School held a special pep rally to cheer on the school's baseball team which heads into the Area Playoffs and celebrate Coach Chris Forbes 500th win. The rally at The Pit on the Socorro campus was held on May 9 at 8 a.m. Athletic Coordinator and Football Coach for Socorro High School Michael Ferrell introduced the team and Coach Forbes and presented him with a plaque noting his 500th win. Coach Forbes won his 500th game during the Class 5A B-District Playoff series against Amarillo-Tascosa. Team players presented Coach Forbes with a signed baseball from the game. The Socorro Baseball team will head to Midland on Thursday to play in the area finals against Fort Worth Paschal on Friday and Saturday. The team is ranked 10th in the state by Texas Baseball Coaches Association.

— Contributed by Irma Flores

Anthony TOY awards

The Anthony Independent School District (AISD) has named their Teachers of the Year for the 2006-2007 school year. Honored by their peers for their exemplary work are Linda Holguin of Anthony Elementary School as Elementary Teacher of the Year and Miguel Porras, Anthony High School, as Secondary Teacher of the Year. These two teachers will represent the district in competition with instructors from the entire Region 19 area. They will be honored at a formal dinner in August. Reyna Salcedo was named campus Teacher of the Year at Anthony Middle School. These teachers have been selected for displaying excellence in classroom

See BRIEFS, Page 5

In America we'll try anything once — except criminals.

— Quips & Quotes

Clint ISD honors top teachers for 2007

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — Clint Independent School District Teacher of the Year and District Rookie Teacher of the Year were announced at a banquet held May 1, 2007 at Sunland Park Race-track and Casino.



Dawn Norris

For the fourth year in a row, a C.T. Welch Intermediate teacher was named District Elementary Teacher of the Year. Dawn Norris, 4th grade teacher, was awarded the honor for 2007. "I attribute my success to the wonderful people I am surrounded by on a daily basis. The teachers in my pod are so full of knowledge and rich experiences in education and have helped me to have an impact on the lives of my students," said Norris.

The District Secondary Teacher of the Year honor was awarded to Raul Salas, a Math teacher at East Montana Middle School. "I would like to thank my family, the teachers and coaches at East Montana Middle and Mountain View High School, the administrators, but mostly, I would like to thank our students and let them know that they are our most precious blessing and our best hope for a brighter future," he said.

Both Norris and Salas were presented with a plaque and a check for \$2500 during the banquet co-sponsored by Sam's Club and David's Apparel and David's Pennants, Banners and Graphic Signs. Norris and Salas will represent Clint ISD in the Regional Teacher of the Year competi-



Raul Salas



— Photos courtesy Clint ISD

CLINT DISTRICT ROOKIE TEACHER OF THE YEAR — Martha Candelaria.

tion this summer.

Martha Candelaria, a first year science teacher at Horizon Middle School, was named the District Rookie Teacher of the Year. "It is my pleasure work with such a capable colleague who inspires and motivates students and teachers alike. I am confident that before long she will be in the forefront of the teaching profession," says Ana Garcia, Horizon Middle School Instructional Facilitator. Candelaria is currently working on a certification as a Master Science Teacher. She received a trophy and a check for \$500 during the banquet.

All Clint ISD Campus Teachers of the Year were recognized during the banquet ceremonies. James Pendell, Board President, and Ricardo Estrada, Superintendent, presented each with plaque and a check for \$1000.

Home burglars arrested at construction site in Horizon

HORIZON CITY — Horizon City Police Department officers apprehended three men about 6 a.m. on Saturday, May 12 in the act of loading materials into an unauthorized vehicle at the site of a home under construction in the 400 block of Ghost Flower in Horizon City.

HCPD Officers Jose Castorena and Jose Mitre arrived on the scene after the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Dispatch received a call from a concerned citizen that suspicious activity was occurring at that location.

The officers said that the three men were in the process of loading new windows into a large, blue/green Ford pickup truck from a home under construction in Horizon City.

Two of the men were immediately taken into custody, but the third ran from the officers. After a brief search of the area, the third suspect was found hiding on the second story of another home under construction.

Arrested and charged with burglary of a building, a state jail felony, were:

- Mejia Ivan Castaneda, 29 years old, from

the 700 block of Agua Tibia, in El Paso County.

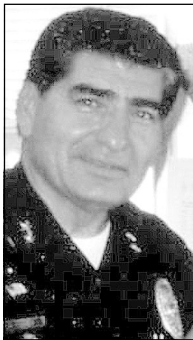
- Enrique Vera, 29 years old, from the 700 block of Agua Lluvia, in El Paso County.

- Luis Candela, 26 years old, from the 100 block of Santa Paula, in Socorro. Candela was also charged with evading arrest.

All three suspects were booked into the El Paso County Jail. HCPD detectives are following up on other related cases in the Horizon City area which may be related to this incident.

"As we said during our interview last week with Channel 7, we are stepping up our patrol activity and we are aggressively pursuing prosecution for thefts or burglaries of houses under construction in the

Horizon City area," said HCPD Chief Antonio Aguilar. "We continue to strongly encourage our citizens of the community to report any suspicious activity immediately. Sometimes it pays off, such as in this case. Report any suspicious activity to 546-2280. If it's an emergency or you suspect a crime in progress, call 911 immediately."



Tony Aguilar

Socorro ISD names Teachers of the Year

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — From an elementary science lab to a high school psychology class, the Socorro Independent School District Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year show that dedication and commitment in the classroom pays off. Jessica Macias from Escontrias Elementary and Marianne Marks from Socorro High School will represent Socorro as the 2007 District Teachers of the Year.



Jessica Macias



Marianne Marks

"These two are great examples of the many outstanding teachers we have here in Socorro," said Dr. Sylvia P. Atkinson. "The Teacher of the Year Banquet is their night to shine and we want them to enjoy it. However, we have about 2,500 teachers and they all deserve our praise and admiration for what they do for the children of Socorro."

At a banquet at the Centennial NCO Club on May 4, more than 800 teachers, principals and other administrators joined the Superintendent and Board Trustees to honor the District's 36 Teachers of the Year.

"It's important to take time to thank our teachers," said SISD Board President Craig Patton. "They work very hard in the classroom day in and day out. While an event like this happens once a year, we all should remember to thank our teachers every day."

SISD's Elementary Teacher of the Year is Jessica Macias, a science teacher at Escontrias Elementary School. She is in her fourth year of teaching at the Lower Valley elementary which is named for a member of her family. The Escontrias family donated the land on which the school sits. Macias also attended the school as a child. Macias graduated from UTEP in May 2003 then went through UTEP's Alternative Certification program. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in Education as an Instructional Specialist in Early Childhood Education.

"I was surprised, and it's been overwhelming," says Macias. "I am high up in the clouds and my family is extremely happy."

SISD's Secondary Teacher of the Year is Marianne Marks. Marks has been a teacher for 24 years, eight years with Socorro ISD. She teaches Introductory Psychology, Forensic Psychology, and AP Psychology at Socorro High School. Marks graduated from UTEP with a Bachelor's degree in Science in Secondary Education. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Psychology.

"I have felt very honored since the beginning of this process," says Marks. "But now that I have received this honor, it's a bit

See SISD, Page 5



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

The cowboy and the egret

Our planet is populated with strange and wonderful creatures. Take the egret, for example.

I was visiting relatives in the desert east of El Paso recently when I noticed something white flashing in a huge elm tree. At first I thought maybe it was a plastic shopping bag caught in the limbs, but a short time later a flock of beautiful, white egrets took wing and flew over the house. They were clearly in migratory flight and after circling the open area near the house a few times, they lined out and disappeared into the bright morning sky.

For a desert dweller, the sights and sounds of unusual birds are both a wonder and a pleasure. Creating a patch of green in the inhospitable landscape where migratory birds can rest and feed provides an opportunity to view some extraordinary winged creatures as they pass through.

Nature, however, is much more lovable as a wandering visitor.

There a country song about a high-class city girl who really wants a cow-

boy to bring home with her without realizing that the realities of co-existing with an elusive wild thing are not as romantic as she might have thought. The chorus goes something like this:

“What you going to do with a cowboy when he don’t saddle up and ride away?”

The sight of a snowy white wetlands bird in the desert is a really cool thing. Egrets on every corner, in the streets, and roosting in the trees can be as annoying as, well, as a cowboy asleep on a white couch with his muddy boots on the rug and his holey socks smelling up the living room.

Just ask the folks in Hutchinson, Kansas.

Egrets tend to like marshlands, ponds and mud flats. During the winter they like California, South America, even Arizona if they find a wet spot. They breed from Oregon and California east along coastal areas all the way to New England, but occasionally they will find an inland location that particularly suits their fancy. Apparently, Hutch is one of

those, a community of about 41,000 people nestled in America’s agricultural heartland.

I’ve been to Hutchinson a few times and I love the place, but I wasn’t there in the springtime when the egrets are busy multiplying. I understand the odor, noise and nuisance these lovely birds create is pretty awesome.

According to the Associated Press, Police Chief Dick Heitschmidt and Lt. Troy Hoover have been on “egret patrol,” which involves various and creative methods of discouraging thousands of egrets from roosting permanently in the city. These include tying shiny ribbons in the trees, posting artificial replicas of egret enemies where the birds are trying to roost and even firing flares in an effort to scare them away.

Now, these well-meaning law officers are not allowed to engage in practices that would effectively solve the problem. The egrets are protected by federal law, therefore, willful destruction of one of them could get you in big trouble. So, they get along as best they can.

Human nature can be, all on its own, an unpredictable force of nature, too. It’s been my observation that those who are the most annoyed with a pest are the ones who will work the hardest to maintain and preserve it.

Like a city girl who will bring another beer to the hapless cowboy on her couch while hoping against hope he will get up and leave, the city of Hutchinson engages in rescue efforts if the egrets get themselves into trouble.

Last summer, during a heat wave, the thirsty young egrets were getting in the streets in their search for water, and were being run over. So the city put up fences along the highways to protect the baby egrets from wandering into traffic. Community residents put out children’s wading pools full of water to alleviate their distress.

Maybe the folks in Hutchinson and the city girl with the cowboy problem could take a page from the playbook of someone in Chubbuck, Idaho. City officials said a family in the area had been allowing their dog to roam free, even though it is against the law and livestock owners can legally shoot dogs that harass their animals.

Someone, however, took the creative route. They spray painted a message on the side of the big, white dog. It said: “Go home.”



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

May highlights critical health care challenges

The U.S. is faced with significant health care challenges, and two important issues, mental illness and nursing home care, are highlighted during the month of May. The recent tragedy at Virginia Tech emphasized the power of mental illness and its ability to destroy lives and futures. The expense of quality nursing home care, which is already an emotional topic, challenges many of our elderly nursing home residents, as well as those who seek quality care for aging parents and loved ones.

Mental Health Month

Illnesses like panic attacks, eating disorders, depression and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder are real and need our thoughtful and concerted attention. We’ve especially seen this tragic problem in our veterans. Especially as servicemembers are returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with life-altering injuries, those who struggle with mental illness must have access to care. I serve as a co-sponsor of the Veterans Mental Health Care bill, which requires the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to increase their mental health service capacity by allowing them to

contract out to community mental health centers.

I also co-sponsor the Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act of 2007, which helps ensure that those who employ their mental healthcare coverage are not required to pay unfair medical costs and are able to access the same quality care available to members of Congress.

National Nursing Home Week

National Nursing Home Week, which highlights the need for quality care for the elderly and disabled, and the need for additional care providers in nursing homes, takes place this week. This year’s theme, “Treasure Our Elders,” honors the residents and all their contributions to our lives. This is an issue of growing importance in our nation, and an extremely emotional one for the individuals and families who have made or are making the transition to institutional care.

In Congress, it also reaffirms the importance of Medicare and Medicaid, critical health insurance programs for our elderly and low-income citizens. This year, the Bush

Administration released a budget proposal that would reduce Medicare funding by \$66 billion over five years, in part by cutting Medicare payments to doctors by about eight percent, and to reduce Medicaid funding by about \$7 billion.

I strongly disagree with these proposals, and as my colleagues and I in the new Democratic Congress shape the budget for the year, I will advocate for increased funding for these necessary programs. Earlier this year, my colleagues and I also passed H.R. 4, the Medicare Prescription Drug Negotiation Act of 2007, which would help beneficiaries in El Paso and across the country pay the lowest price possible for their prescription drugs.

Throughout the month of May and throughout the year, I applaud the many health care professionals who work hard providing for patients in their hour of need, and I pray for the health and quality of life of those who are undergoing treatment or change in their lives. The federal government has an important responsibility to direct funding and shape policies that will help both our caretakers and patients, and throughout the year, I will continue my work in the U.S. Congress on their behalf.

Rep. Chente Quintanilla completes legislative agenda

By Robert Grijalva
Special to the Courier

AUSTIN — State Rep. Chente Quintanilla announced the completion of his legislative agenda for the 80th Legislative Session. In the span of 10 days, seven of Quintanilla’s bills passed, which contributed to education, better local government and flood control measures.

“At the beginning of the session, I submitted 14 bills to be considered this session. I passed eight of bills and attached one bill as an amendment to another member’s bill,” Quintanilla said. “Three of the other bills were pulled back at my request. Two of my bills were left pending in committee due to strong lobby opposition.”

The following is a list of the bills that Quintanilla passed in the period from May 02 until May 11:

- May 2, HB 616 - Reimbursing teachers who buy student school supplies out of their personal funds, through the sale of specialty license plates.
- May 2, HB 1861/SB 688 - Facilitating the effort by the Public Service Board to improve stormwater controls.
- May 8, HB 3208/SB959 - Facilitating the process for disabled veterans to obtain license plates with the handicap symbol.
- May 9, HB 614 - Requiring a uniform yellow light interval at all intersections with red light cameras.
- May 11, HB 615 - Requiring a report by the county with the amount of money collected by and the disbursement of the optional \$10 fee for automobile license registrations.
- May 11, HB 2739 - Providing more education money by allowing lottery sales at bars and restaurant bars.
- May 11, HB 2740 - Allowing

county government to operate more efficiently by expanding the time frame for budget considerations.

In addition to passing these bills, Rep. Quintanilla signed onto other bills by Reps Pickett, Haggerty, Chavez; sponsored bills by Sen. Shapleigh; and asked Sen. Uresti to sponsor the house bills in the Senate.

“It was my intention to show the people of El Paso that the El Paso delegation can work together and help each other on legislative matters. I am always proud to work with every one of the elected officials representing El Paso in the Texas Legislature,” Quintanilla said. “I also appreciate the guidance and input provided to me by the Dean, Rep. Paul Moreno.”

Anyone one needing additional information on the bills, the content or intent of the bills, may contact our Capitol office at 512-463-0613.

Public Notice Town of Horizon City

There will be a Swearing-In-Ceremony for the newly elected Council Members on Tuesday, May 22, 2007 during the Regular Council meeting. The ceremony will take place at Town Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. Citizens are invited to meet and welcome our new and current council members. Refreshments will be served. Come and join us!

Fidel Morales
Interim City Clerk



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

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Est. 1973

San Elizario ISD volunteers and business partners honored with a ‘sweet serenade’

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — The San Elizario Independent School District honored the contributions of its parent volunteers and business partners at the 2007 Partners in Education (PIE) and Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) Recognition Luncheon held on May 11.

Collectively, volunteers with San Elizario ISD devoted an excess of 20,400 hours of their time in various capacities at different campuses in the district. Volunteers attending the luncheon contributed over 300 hours each. Juana Saenz, a parent volunteer at Loya Primary, was selected as the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for amassing the most volunteer hours, a total of 1,154.

Business partners attending the event included the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, Kinko’s, College Tech-Prep, and the West Texas County Courier. San Elizario ISD relies on the commitment of over 24 PIEs to various endeavors in the district. These business partners serve as student activity judges, presenters and guest speakers, as well as morale support and district boosters.

Superintendent Dr. Michael Quatrini, Board Vice President



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TOGETHER — The luncheon held in recognition of parent volunteers and partners in education for San Elizario IS was on the theme of “A Sweet Serenade.” Shown from left are Ramon Holguin, Board Vice President; parent Volunteer of the Year Juana Saenz; Dr. Mike Quatrini, San Elizario Superintendent; and Sylvia Hopp, Assistant Superintendent.

Ramon Holguin, and Ernesto Rodriguez, Director of Research and Development presented each of the volunteers certificates of appreciation and gift bags. Participation plaques were awarded to the business partners for their contributions during the 2006-2007 school year.

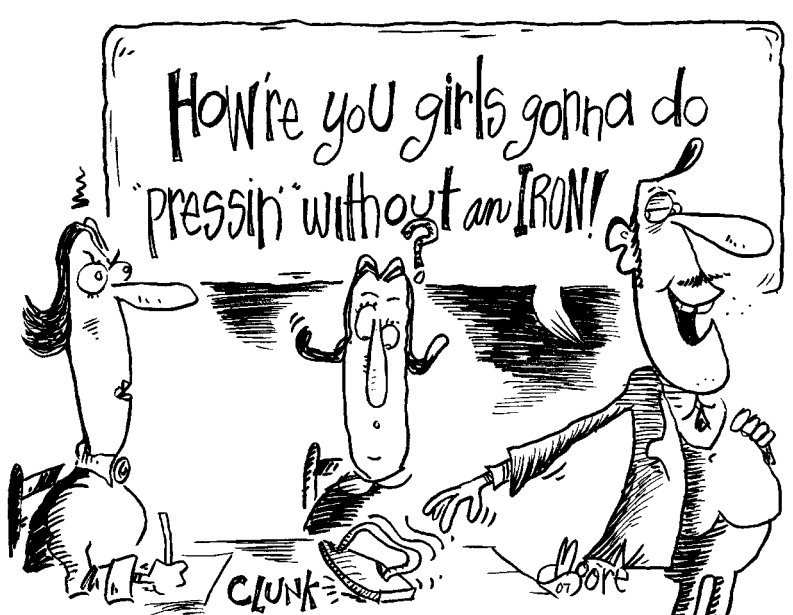
All luncheon attendees were treated to a delicious lunch catered by the San Elizario ISD Nutrition

Services Department and were entertained by the Awiratzi Ballet Folklorico and San Elizario High School Senior Keila Acosta.

The theme of the luncheon was “A Sweet Serenade” chosen to honor and serenade the district’s parent volunteers and business partners for their generosity, efforts, time, and passion for serving the students of San Elizario ISD.



“ALPO and OLD LACE”



Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore May 10, 1893: The Texas Women's Press Association is formed.

View from here By Brooke Dollens Terry

Alternative certification reform can ease teacher shortage in math and science

According to the Texas Education Code, the mission of public education in Texas is to “ensure that all Texas children have access to a quality education.” The code also states a goal of public education is for students to demonstrate exemplary performance in the understanding of mathematics and science.

How is it possible for a child to receive a quality education and demonstrate exemplary performance if many students are taught by teachers outside of their field of study and expertise?

The Texas Education Agency reports that more than 25 percent of teachers in Texas public schools between 2001 and 2004 taught classes outside of their field of study. Texas also faces a teacher shortage in math and science fields.

In a perfect world, a child’s education would be the primary concern and finding qualified teachers would be of utmost importance. Unfortunately, this is not the case. For individuals looking to make a career change to teaching, the lengthy and costly alternative certification process can be a roadblock to getting into the classroom. Alternative certification requirements for those with a college degree include a year of training on how to be a teacher, several thousand dollars in fees, and passing a state certification test.

A quick search on the Internet for alternative certification options re-

vealed the high cost of the programs in Texas. For example, Texas Teachers, a private company offering alternative certification, and iteachtexas, an online distance learning alternative certification program, cost about \$4,000 each.

The current alternative certification process does not allow easy access to the classroom for “outsiders” to the education field, and favors teachers with little experience outside the classroom over experts in their field. Many professionals would love to teach in the classroom, part-or full-time, but are hindered by the many roadblocks and cost of teacher certification.

If changing careers to teaching is not very easy for individuals with college degrees and significant work experience in their field, how do we expect to fill our classrooms with qualified teachers? And how do we expect our students to “demonstrate exemplary performance” in math and science?

Of course, the powerful teacher unions do not support reforming alternative certification. Regardless of their reasons, ultimately, what does Texas care more about: Protecting teachers or educating children?

Texas could cut the bureaucratic red-tape by granting professionals, with college or advanced degrees and years of work experience in their fields, the ability to teach in the classroom by filling out an application, attending an intensive six-week

course, passing a short test, and interviewing with a principal. The intensive class could include teaching fundamentals on interacting with special needs students, information on pertinent state and federal laws, ideas on handling discipline problems, and student teaching opportunities.

According to the National Science Foundation, half of the current degreed engineering and science workforce are over the age of 40. And with the impending retirement of millions of baby boomers, a large amount of knowledge and talent will disappear from our nation’s labor market. Many retirees may be looking for a way to give back to the community with their time and knowledge. A flexible part-time teaching arrangement may be the perfect fit. And Texas has almost 180,000 military retirees who may be looking for a second career.

Private sector experts are too often kept out of the classroom because of antiquated state certification requirements. If our primary concern really is our children, the Texas Legislature will act this session to start removing those barriers.

Brooke Dollens Terry is an education policy analyst at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a non-profit, free-market research institute based in Austin. She can be contacted at bterry@texaspolicy.com.

Report finds summer learning lag hurts kid’s chances at academic success

EL PASO COUNTY — A recent study by Johns Hopkins University sociologists found that lower income students are affected disproportionately by what some experts call Summer Learning Lag — the time during summer vacation when many kids don’t have academic instruction. The study concluded that higher in-

come kids are more likely to have access to books, magazines and other resources in the home and are more likely to have their parents read to them during the summer. The cumulative affect of this learning gap results in higher long term academic success for children who come from higher income families. The study

goes on to infer that quality summer learning programs should be instituted to give lower income children a more level playing field.

One of the ways parents in El Paso can fight Summer Learning Lag is by enrolling their children in The El Paso Public Library’s Summer Reading Club (SRC). SRC helps kids exercise their brain muscle by encouraging them to read eight books or eight hours depending on their reading level. In addition to reading, kids

get an opportunity to learn about a wide range of interesting and informative topics such as El Paso history, law enforcement, fire prevention and water safety. The kids also get to take part in many fun family programs such as karaoke, storytelling and virtual reality demonstrations.

It is easy join SRC. Simply visit any Public Library facility beginning on Saturday, June 2 and fill out a registration form. The program is open to children just completing the eighth

grade and younger. At the end of Summer Reading Club, each child who meets or exceeds their reading goals receives a certificate of completion. Some branches offer other reading incentives such as prizes, goodie bags and toys for those completing the program.

For more information on Summer Reading Club call (915) 543-5470 or visit the Kids Zone at www.elpasolibrary.org.

— Contributed by Jack Galindo



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Cities in El Paso County receive increase in tax revenues

By Allen Spelce
Special to the Courier

AUSTIN — Texas Comptroller Susan Combs recently announced that the state collected \$1.7 billion in sales tax revenue in April, up 10.3 percent compared to April 2006. As a result, municipalities in El Paso County received payments on funding that comprises a major source of income in their budgetary process.

“Sales tax revenue continues to show steady growth,” Combs said. “This is true at both the state and local levels, and it indicates that our Texas economy is in good health.”

Combs said local governments will receive \$542.5 million in May sales

tax allocations, up 8.1 percent compared to May 2006. So far this calendar year, sales tax allocations to cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts are up 6.8 percent compared to a year ago.

El Paso leads the county in May net payments, having received \$6,151,308. Socorro is second, with \$73,500, followed by Horizon City with \$50,557; Anthony, \$40,063; Vinton, \$17,197; and Clint \$5,380. The chart below breaks down state statistics for these towns.

May sales tax allocations totalling \$372.6 million were sent to Texas cities, up 8.2 percent compared to May 2006. Calendar year-to-date, city sales tax allocations are up 7.4 percent compared to the same period

last year. Texas counties received sales tax payments of \$32.1 million, up 10.9 percent compared to one year ago. Calendar year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 8.9 percent higher than last year.

In addition, \$16.3 million went to 116 special purpose taxing districts throughout the state, up 12.4 percent compared to last May. Ten local transit systems received \$121.4 million in sales tax allocations, up 6.4 percent compared to a year ago.

May’s sales tax allocations to local governments represent March sales that were reported to the Comptroller in April by monthly tax filers and January, February and March sales reported to the Comptroller in April by quarterly tax filers.

City	May Sale's Net Payment	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change To Date	2007 Payments To Date	2006 Payments	This Period % Change
Anthony	40,063.10	34,241.18	17.00%	167,475.85	153,745.55	8.93%
Clint	5,380.16	5,220.32	3.06%	22,824.95	21,097.28	8.18%
Horizon City	50,557.20	30,829.99	63.98%	172,316.24	140,778.59	22.40%
Socorro	73,500.54	57,879.96	26.98%	306,334.96	259,337.72	18.12%
Vinton	17,197.03	15,411.00	11.58%	110,493.71	108,301.43	2.02%
El Paso	6,151,308.08	5,502,078.48	11.79%	27,864,630.49	25,720,810.34	8.33%

Source: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/cities.html>



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2007 Home Schedule

9-1	University of New Mexico
9-22	Texas Southern
10-6	Tulsa
10-13	East Carolina
10-27	Houston
11-17	Southern Miss.

For more information please call 747-6150.

Town of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a **Special Planning and Zoning Meeting on Monday, June 4, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.** at Horizon City Town Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas 79928. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding proposed re-plat of the following property:

- 1) Approximately 4.2984 acres describe as a portion of Lot 19, Block 9, Horizon Manor Unit #3, El Paso County, Texas.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Town Clerk of Horizon City at the address listed above or by calling 915-852-1046, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fidel Morales
Interim Town Clerk

WTCC: 05/17/07

PUBLIC NOTICE Town of Anthony, Texas

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Loan Grant Application

Town of Anthony will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at Anthony Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas to receive input from the citizens on a proposed submission of an application to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development.

Town of Anthony is anticipating submission of an application for \$5,199,246.00 for Water and Wastewater Improvements for the town of Anthony.

The citizens are urged to attend and state their consents or objections at this meeting. A project summary will be outlined at this time.

Citizens unable to attend may submit their views and proposals to Anthony Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact Geri de la Torre at (915) 886-3944 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids should contact the District Office at least 2 days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Art Franco
Mayor

Date Published
May 17, 2007

Briefs

From Page 1

education and inspiring their students, according to spokesman John Carrillo.

In other news

■ On May 19, Armed Forces Day, the El Paso Zoo is honoring the men and women who serve our country with half price admission all day for *all* zoo visitors. Armed Forces Day Zoo admission will be: \$2.50 for ages 13-61; \$2 for Veterans, Active Military with ID and visitors ages 61 years and over; and \$1.50 for ages 3-12. Ages two and under receive admission at no cost. On Saturday and Sunday, the El Paso Zoo is open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 4001 E. Paisano. Website: www.elpasozoo.org.

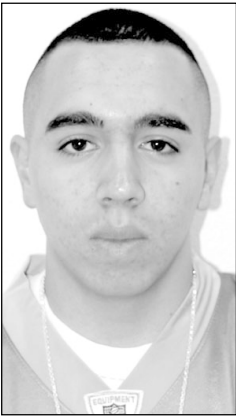
■ A spokesman from the El Paso County Health District says you don't have to wait for the vector control to solve problems you may have with standing water breeding mosquitoes. A simple, non-toxic mix of three tablespoons of dish soap and one cup of cooking oil can be poured into standing water, or mixed with water for spraying the surface of larger ponds. The mix makes treated water an inhospitable environment for mosquito hatching.

■ The Arbor Day Foundation is offering the best in tree-care advice via its free pruning guide, "How to Prune Young Shade Trees." From pruning in the early years of a tree's life, to learning how to strengthen trees by removing branches, this illustrated, easy-to-follow guide offers timely and practical tips. The best ways to make a pruning cut, how to prune for form and how to maintain a tree's health by removing trouble spots are also covered. For a free copy, send name and address to How to Prune, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, or go online at www.arborday.org.

■ Robert Rojas students received special visitors when seven members of the UTEP Football team stopped by to congratulate the students on their TAKS test and get them moving for the school's annual Wellness Day. The school annually hosts its Mission Wellness during the last week in April, and this year the health-driven week fell after TAKS testing. To motivate and encourage the 3rd-5th graders, Yolanda Nieto invited the Miner team to talk with the children. With help from her daughter, seven players including quarterback contenders Lorne Sam and Kyle Wright and Jeremy Jones, Jake Sears, Jeff Moturi and Colby Meek stayed for a two-hour visit. "The students were ecstatic," says Nieto, a first grade teacher at Rojas. "The Miners were great sports as they spoke about the importance of education, played a game against teachers, played against some students, threw the football at the hoop, signed autographs, and did an interview with our SWAT team. It was awesome."

Canutillo HS senior competes in UIL State Meet

CANUTILLO — Richard Sapien, Sapien said. "With a little more student participation and time, the journalism department has the potential to be one of the best in the city. I'm proud to have represented my school in Austin." CHS Journalism teacher for the past seven years is Richard Tate. Sapien has also competed in state events this year in the Business Professionals of America program for XHTML application and knowledge, and web site design. department grow and improve," — *Contributed by Alfredo Vasquez*



Richard Sapien

SISD

From Page 1

overwhelming when I realize the number of secondary campuses times the number of teachers on each campus. I am very proud to represent our district, this profession, and Socorro High School. Saturday morning I was back at school at 7:30 a.m. to administer the SAT test, so I'm back to business, but I must admit with a lighter step!"

Both teachers will represent Socorro ISD in the Region 19 Teacher of the Year competition. In the last five years, SISD has had two teachers represent Region 19 at the state Teacher of the Year competition.

PUBLIC NOTICE
El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4

United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development Loan Grant Application

El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4 will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 5, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at the EPCWCID #4 District Office Board Room, 117 E. Main Street, Fabens, Texas to received input from the citizens on a proposed submission of an application to U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4 is anticipating submission of an application for \$4,615,422 for a wastewater treatment plant.

Citizens are urged to attend and state their consents or objections at this meeting. A project summary will be outlined at this time.

Citizens unable to attend may submit their views and proposals to the El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4, P.O. Box 3880, Fabens, Texas 79838-3880. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact Geri de la Torre at (915) 764-2212 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids should contact the District Office at least 2 days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

WTCC: 05/17/07; 05/24/07

PUBLIC NOTICE
El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4

United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development Loan Grant Application

Public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, May 29, 2007 has been canceled and rescheduled as follows:

El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4 will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 5, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at the EPCWCID #4 District Office Board Room, 117 E. Main Street, Fabens, Texas to received input from the citizens on a proposed submission of an application to U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4 is anticipating submission of an application for \$414,334 for water projects.

Citizens are urged to attend and state their consents or objections at this meeting. A project summary will be outlined at this time.

Citizens unable to attend may submit their views and proposals to the El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4, P.O. Box 3880, Fabens, Texas 79838-3880. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact Geri de la Torre at (915) 764-2212 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids should contact the District Office at least 2 days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

WTCC: 05/17/07; 05/24/07

Election results from town, school elections in Upper Valley and east El Paso County

EL PASO COUNTY — The school districts of Socorro and Anthony and the incorporated municipalities of Vinton in the Upper Valley and Horizon City and Clint in the East County held elections on Saturday, May 12. The Town of Anthony and the San Elizario School District did not hold elections because all positions were unopposed. The school districts of Canutillo, Clint, Fabens, and Tornillo have moved their elections to November. Results of the May 12 balloting are as follows:

POLITICAL OFFICE
NAME VOTES PERCENT

SOCORRO ISD - DISTRICT 2
KAREN P. BLAINE (incumbent) 585 64.07%
RAFAEL HERNANDO III 328 35.93%

SOCORRO ISD - DISTRICT 4
WILLIE GANDARA (incumbent) 362 51.42%
PAUL GUERRA 342 48.58%

ANTHONY ISD TRUSTEES, TWO AT LARGE PLACES
CHRISSY SINGH (incumbent) 44 23.16%
SONNY JACQUEZ 56 29.47%
SUSIE SINGH (incumbent) 37 19.47%
JAVIER MORALES 53 27.89%

VILLAGE OF VINTON, ALDERPERSON PLACE 3
CARLA P. GARCIA (incumbent) 130 58.56%
RACHEL QUINTANA 92 41.44%

VILLAGE OF VINTON, ALDERPERSON PLACE 4
JUVENCIA RIOS-ONTIVEROS 137 59.31%
JOSE ALARCON (incumbent) 94 40.69%

VILLAGE OF VINTON, ALDERPERSON PLACE 5
VICTOR A. CARREJO 134 59.56%
DOLORES DIAZ (incumbent) 91 40.44%

MAYOR, TOWN OF HORIZON CITY
WALTER MILLER 341 53.20%
RAYMOND MORALES (incumbent) 300 46.80%

TOWN OF HORIZON CITY, ALDERMAN PLACE 2
DON SMASAL (unopposed) 428 100.00%

TOWN OF HORIZON CITY, ALDERMAN PLACE 3
JACKIE RUTLEDGE 291 47.09%
LUIS NAJERA (incumbent) 327 52.91%

TOWN OF HORIZON CITY, ALDERMAN PLACE 4
RENEE SHUFELDT (unopposed) 426 100.00%

TOWN OF HORIZON CITY, ALDERMAN PLACE 5
JAY BLOBNER (incumbent) 253 40.74%
CHARLIE ORTEGA 368 59.26%

TOWN OF HORIZON CITY, ALDERMAN PLACE 7 (vacant)
JAMES E EVANS 295 48.20%
BILL ARMAS 317 51.80%

TOWN OF CLINT, ALDERMAN, THREE AT LARGE PLACES
STEVEN T. CHEATUM SR 29 12.13%
JESUS OROPEZA (incumbent) 69 28.87%
RICARDO SEPULVEDA (incumbent) 62 25.94%
LINDA CANDELARIA (incumbent) 79 33.05%

Brash or stupid, these three athletes all need a reality check

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Professional golf is one of the more sophisticated sports in existence. It is a gentleman’s game (kind of like chess with grass stains) chock full of decorum, respect and fair play. The players are expected to conduct themselves as if they were playing in front of the Queen of England herself. If you like the world of trash talking, switch over to a basketball or football game, or any boxing match. Golf is not a sport where you’d witness one player calling out another. Or at least it used to be that way. South African golfer Rory Sabbatini spent parts of last week doing the unspeakable — he was calling out Tiger Woods. After Tiger’s opening round 75 at the Players Tournament, the tiny Sabbatini was bold enough to say that Woods was more beatable than ever. This, of course, came a week after he and Woods were paired together in the final round of the Wachovia Tournament. Sabbatini went into the final day with a one-stroke lead. Tiger

beat him by five strokes and won his ninth tournament in his last 12 tries. Unscathed, Sabbatini said he wanted Tiger paired with him in the final round of every tournament. Oh, little man, be careful what you ask. This is certainly a confident little dude. By saying that, he’s assuming that he is good enough to be at the top of the leaderboard every week. He’s also assuming that he is already better than the Mickelson’s, Garcia’s and Singh’s of the world. What makes Sabbatini’s comments even more ridiculous is the fact that these tough words come from a man who, since 2001, has won three tournaments and missed 61 cuts. Amazingly, he’s making these comments about a man who has won 57 tournaments in just 11 years, including 12 majors. That’s like Pee Wee Herman challenging Mike Tyson to an ear-eating contest, or Rosie O’Donnell challenging — well — anybody to a battle of wits. After Tiger shot that miserable opening-round 75, Sabbatini was quoted as saying, “I want him (Woods) to pick it up and we’ll be up there late on Sunday.”

I’m not sure if Sabbatini is really brash or really stupid. Anyway, I learned long ago that words are cheap and have little meaning unless backed up by some action. Sabbatini, do yourself a favor, let your golf clubs do the talking, because your brain appears to have landed in a sand trap. Oh, and by the way, a day after making his idiotic comments, Sabbatini went out and shot a 79 to put himself out of contention.

Athletes behavin’ badly

This week we take a look at two football players that just can’t seem to figure it out. These two players are about as talented as anyone in the league, yet their brains keep getting in the way. Of course I’m talking about Michael Vick and Ricky Williams. One can’t keep dogs out of his yard while the other can’t keep marijuana out of his system. And for this behavior, NFL commish Roger Goodell is licking his chops. The story is that some dog fights were being held on some property that Michael Vick owned. Naturally, Vick claimed that

he’d never set foot on the property and had no idea his wacky relatives were engaging in such endeavors. Not so fast, Michael! It appears that his tongue is not quite as fast as his feet. Turns out that the Atlanta Falcons quarterback may not have been as forthcoming as claimed. Workers at a store near Vick’s property said Vick comes by often and buys lots of stuff for dogs including syringes. On his property police found wounded dogs, some of them missing limbs, and tons of items consistent with the dog-fighting world. Vick continues to proclaim his innocence, but if it turns out that he was aware of the dog fighting ring, Goodell will be on him like a pit bull. Then there is the continuing saga of Ricky Williams, the Miami Dolphins running back who never met a doobie he didn’t light. Williams, who was ready to return to the NFL after his stint in Canada last season, tested positive once again for marijuana. He’ll soon be suspended — again. Boy, I don’t know who’s more stupid — Williams for being a dope head or the Dolphins for thinking he isn’t.

Americas HS Fortissimo Winter Guard wins silver medal



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

SWIRLING AND GRACEFUL — Americas High School Fortissimo Winter Guard were Silver Medalist at the Dayton, Ohio competition held in April.

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The 15-member Americas High School Fortissimo Winter Guard won a Silver Medal at the Scholastic A Competition at the 2007 Winter Guard International (WGI) World Championships, competing against 115 teams during the two-day competition held in Dayton, Ohio, April 12-13. Winter Guard International (WGI) is the nonprofit youth organization leading the winter guard and indoor percussion activities. “To be among the top 15 in the country is an honor by itself, but to be a medalist is an extremely difficult task to accomplish,” Cecil Crabtree Band/Color Guard Director at Americas High School. “We missed the gold medal by two-tenths

of a point. I wanted to personally let you know that our students represented Americas High School and the State of Texas very well at this world competition.” WGI judges described Americas’ performance as “swirling, graceful equipment work was at once compassionate and comforting, traits not normally thought of from equipment.” Members of the Americas Fortissimo Winter Guard are seniors Crystal Rodriguez, Jessica Neels, Melina Estrada; juniors Yahaira Cisneros, Pamela Mendez, Cynthia Rubio; sophomores Andrea Barraza, Vanessa Egure, Kassandra Gonzales, Ana Monsivais, Amanda Perea, Britney Guise, Brianda Prado, Ariel Hernandez; and freshman Leslie Cisneros. The winter guard is directed by Crabtree and is assisted by Arleen

Fanning, Dance Instructor, Keila Garcia, Flag Tech, Karen Garcia, Sabre Tech, and Amanda Vega, Rifle Tech. The team’s silver medal in the WGI competition is the latest addition to their awards and recognition. For the past school year, the Americas High School Fortissimo took:

- 1st place in the Imperial Division-Winter Guard International World Championships Semi-Finals;
- 1st place overall in preliminaries competition-Winter Guard International World Championships;
- 1st place at the Winter Guard International Austin Regional;
- 1st place at the Winter Guard International Southwest Power Regional; and
- National Scholastic & Scholastic A Champions at the West Texas Color Guard Association Championships.

Classified Ads

LEGAL

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007

DISTRICT FURNITURE

CSP NO. 199-0522-7092

ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

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-05/17/07

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2007

SCIENCE AND READING CURRICULUM INITIATIVE

CSP NO. 199-0523-7110

ACCEPTED UNTIL 10:00 A.M.

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-05/17/07

BARGAINS

FOR SALE: Blue Indian-style camel back love seat, very good condition. \$85. 851-1616. 5/17

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

AVON - Earn up to 50% when you sell. To buy or sell, call 764-2021 or 346-9348. 5/17

PERSONAL

Thank you, St. Jude and Sacred Heart of Jesus, for favor received. Rosy H.

RENTALS

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT for rent, \$350/month. \$100 deposit. Call 329-2501. 5/17

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Windshield Repair Specialists
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YANKEE				DODDLE		DANDY		AND
AMY				CLAW		EMT		LANZA
				THIN		DHARMA		HES
FAME				EASY		STASH		
AMAN				FORALL		SEASONS		BBS
VEX				AKITA		NERD		QUIT
OBI				NASTY		SASSY		BURKE
RAMS				PEEL		COPE		AARON
				PRINCE		OF		PLAYERS
QUEUE				DRAT		VOL		TAM
ULTRA				DRIES		PAULO		ORE
INON				FIAT		ASTIR		GIN
PIAN				LADY		SING		STHE
				SODOM		RIIS		OLLIA
MOJAVE				ORANGE		ETAT		
ARENA				ANA		CLAP		AGE
LIT				BIRD		MANO		FALCATRAZ
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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
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16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31
32	33	34	35

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Horizon City, TX 79928

Deadline: Mondays

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Phone: _____

Comix

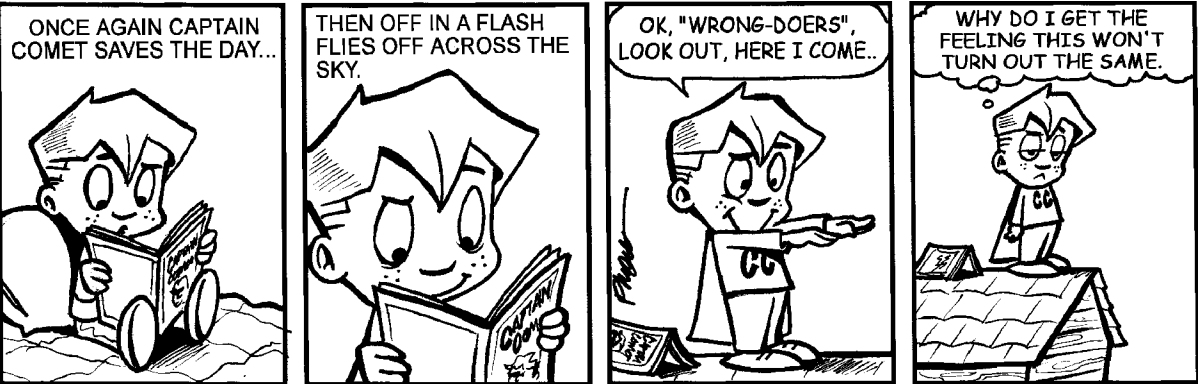
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Help your heart – take a nap

By Don Flood

Give Newton and Einstein their due: They developed theories about gravity, space, time, etc., but let's be honest, how much do their advances really affect your daily life?

Now compare those so-called Great Advances with a recent study that generated this headline: Mid-day Naps Found to Help Fend Off Heart Disease.

Doctors say napping may prevent heart disease by helping people deal with the stress of daily living but, scientifically speaking, who cares?

As any careful researcher knows, when you get the answer you want, you stop. Further research can only lead to one thing: the answer you don't want, also called the Wrong Answer.

This is undoubtedly the most important breakthrough since the announcement that red wine is good for the heart.

I realize not everyone is a health nut like me, but I plan on having a glass of wine and taking a nap every day.

(Bonus Career Advice: If plan on having a glass of wine and napping at your desk, which I recommend, you should tell your boss first that you are taking up a new health regimen that will ultimately benefit the company. You will probably get a raise.)

Another study, while important, made me feel a little uneasy.

The study, conducted by British neurophysiologist Dr. David Lewis, tested young people's reactions to two different stimuli: kissing their lover and eating chocolate.

Using monitors for the heart and electrodes attached to the scalp, researchers established that not only is chocolate more exciting than

kissing — *it's four times more exciting! For men and women both.*

(Bonus Valentine's Day advice: Guys, if you want to keep going out with the girl, don't give her a box of chocolates. She may dump you for that box of chocolates. On the other hand, you may decide to dump the girl and keep the box of chocolates for yourself.)

This is a little depressing. At weddings, celebrants may dispense with the traditional "You may now kiss the bride," and say, "You may now share a Snickers bar."

Then again, why should men and women marry at all? Think how much the divorce rate would drop if men and women — rather than exchange vows with each other — instead married giant chocolate bars.

Judging by this study, we'd all enjoy more exciting and satisfying relationships.

Women could talk to their chocolate guys and at least have some hope their partner is listening. Men could enjoy a guys' night out without worrying what their chocolate spouse thought.

Yes, even these relationships would wane as people slowly consumed their spouse but there wouldn't be messy break-ups — messy fingers, yes, especially on hot days — and finding a new significant other would as easy as a trip to the candy store.

A recent movie, "Children of Men," depicts a future world where no babies are being born. I didn't see it, but I presume the reason for the lack of births is that people lose all interest in sex and eat chocolate instead. This could spell the end of the human race.

But I can't worry about that now. It's time for my nap.

(c) 2007 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Super Crossword

- BIOPICS

ACROSS

1 Potassium, e.g.

6 _ pole

11 Scott's "The _ Quartet"

14 "Nova" network

17 Idolized

19 Fandango kin

20 Maestro de Waart

21 "Hulk" Ferrigno

22 George M. Cohan

biopic

25 Link letters?

26 Grant or Tan

27 Crow's toe

28 CPR provider

29 Tenor Mario

31 Svelte

32 TV's " _ & Greg"

37 Stardom

40 Like pie?

41 Squirrel away

43 Thomas More

biopic

49 Small shots

52 Bother

53 Japanese dog

54 Social misfit

55 Throw in the towel

56 Cio-Cio-San's

sash

57 '86 Janet Jackson

hit

58 Fresh

60 Billie of "The Wizard of Oz"

61 Merino males

63 I.M. the architect

64 Manage

65 With 49 Down, Thomas Jefferson's veep

66 Edwin Booth

biopic

72 Line

75 "Confound it!"

76 Cubic meas.

77 Mosque figure

81 Marine leader?

82 Helps with the dishes

84 Sao _ , Brazil

86 Nev. neighbor

87 Privy to

88 Decree

89 Moving

90 Cotton _

91 Bleak critique

92 Billie Holiday

biopic

97 Biblical city

98 Journalist Jacob

99 _ podrida

100 Western desert

103 Sherbet flavor

105 Coup d'_

108 Fight site

109 Actress Alicia

110 Applaud

111 Make wine divine

114 Glowing

115 Robert Stroud

biopic

122 Dram

123 Chou En-_

124 Prepared a potion

125 Aftershock

126 "Ask _ Girl" ('59 film)

127 Terminate

128 Frequently

129 Electrical inventor

DOWN

1 Author Angelou

2 Dairy-case buy

3 Oscar's cousin

4 Genesis vessel

5 Parasite

6 Overly

7 Foster's " _ Dog Tray"

8 _ Aviv

9 Palindromic

preposition

10 Transmit by bytes

11 The Mertzes'

income

12 Suffix

13 Unhappy

14 Rocker Robert

15 Movie chimp

16 Largest African nation

18 Sandwich shop

19 Cellist's need

23 Blocker or Aykroyd

24 Piles up

30 Timber tree

31 Decimal base

32 Hold up

33 Baseball's Chase

34 Dolt

35 Bread or booze

36 Jurist Learned

37 Party present

38 Lab critter

39 Adage

42 British pol

44 Mozart's "Cosi _ tutte"

45 Giraffe kin

46 Up and about

47 Tall story?

48 First name in photography

49 See 65 Across

50 South African activist

51 WWII gun

55 Resembling

58 Couches

59 Datebook abbr.

60 Candy quantity

62 Cold-shoulder

64 Transformer part

67 Actress Peggy

68 Polishes prose

69 "Stop, sailor!"

70 Time of your life

71 "Dallas" matriarch

72 Wisecrack

73 Skeleton part

74 007's school

78 Tycoon

79 Historian Durant

80 IQ crew

82 "The Aeneid" queen

83 TV's "Everybody Loves _"

84 Dated

85 Solid circle

88 Grow dull

92 Endearing

93 Nest egg

94 Diarist Anais

95 Light carriage

96 Fate

97 _ Antonio, TX

100 Mediterranean island

101 Sky stalker

102 Dock

104 Stallone role

105 Building wing

106 Diplomacy

107 In pieces

109 Saharan

110 No gentleman

111 "Babes in _" ('37 musical)

112 Sheffield slammer

113 Biblical book

116 Charleson or Carmichael

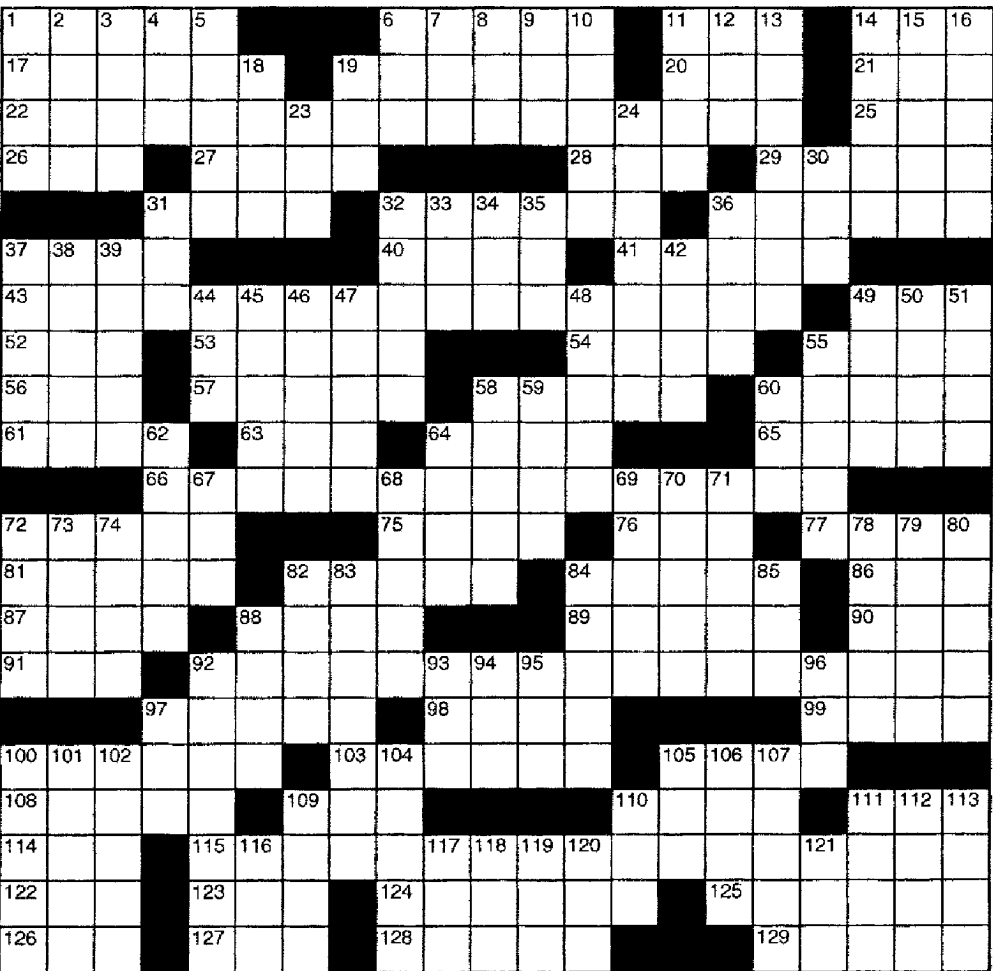
117 Rottweiler's remark

118 Take-home

119 Be in debt

120 Marsh

121 Fairway accessory
- Answer Page 6



Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

What an accountant might not tell you about Social Security

There are some important things about Social Security that an accountant might not be telling you. And it's important to know them, because it could mean the difference between a quick, easy move into retirement and a more troublesome transition.

Here are some things you may not know.

Net, not gross. For people who are self employed, we count your net in-

come, not your gross income, when figuring your credits of coverage and the amount of your future Social Security benefits. In 2007, you earn one credit for each \$1,000 of net income you earn, up to four annual credits. Net earnings for Social Security are your gross earnings from your trade or business, minus your allowable business deductions and depreciation. We also use your net income

when figuring your benefit amount so a higher net income results in a higher benefit.

Credit where credit is due. If you and your spouse own and operate a business together and expect to share in the profits and losses, you may both be entitled to receive Social Security credits, even if there is no formal partnership agreement. For each of you to receive credit for your share of the business income, you must file separate self-employment returns (Schedule SEs), even if you file a joint income tax return. If you don't file separate Schedule SEs, all the earnings from the business will be reported under only one person's Social Security number. In that case,

only one of you will receive Social Security credits and the valuable protection they provide.

Household workers are covered. If you are a household worker, your wages are covered under Social Security as long as you earn \$1,500 or more in a calendar year (including cash for transportation expenses) unless you were under age 18 during any part of the year and household work is not your main job. Household workers include babysitters, maids, cooks, laundry workers, butlers, gardeners, chauffeurs, people who do housecleaning or repair work or anyone employed in or around someone else's home.

Don't forget to report. If you pay a household worker \$1,500 or more in cash wages during 2007, you need to deduct Social Security and Medicare taxes and report the wages once a year when you file your tax return. This includes reporting any cash you pay to cover the cost of the employee's transportation, meals or housing. If you do not report the wages on time,

you may have to pay a penalty in addition to the overdue taxes.

Want to learn more? Just visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov to learn all about Social Security. For specific questions about taxes, visit the Internal Revenue Service at www.irs.gov. For specific information about self-employment and household workers go to our publications page at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs and look for the publications If You Are Self-Employed and Household Workers. You can also call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to request copies of these and other publications.

For more information on the subject listed above, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

Most accidental playground deaths occur at home from strangulation

EL PASO COUNTY — While playgrounds can be exciting places for children to play, they can also be very dangerous. Each year more than 200,000 children are treated in emergency rooms for playground injuries and approximately 10 will die.

While the injury mechanism varies, falls, in particular, account for 80 percent of playground injuries and warrant special consideration.

Nonfatal injuries from playground falls can still be very serious. A child who falls 10 feet is at risk of spinal cord injury, paralysis and even death. In addition, a child who falls about

five feet is four times as likely to be injured than a child who falls from a lower height.

One special statistic to consider involves fatal playground injuries. Most have been caused by strangulation and ironically occur in the family's yard, not on public property. The El Paso Fire Department would like to offer these playground safety tips:

- Parents and caregivers need to keep children in sight and within reach on the playground. Simply being in the same place as your child isn't necessarily safe supervision.

- Make sure playground equipment is inspected frequently and kept in good repair.
 - Remove hood and neck drawstrings from children's clothing and outerwear and do not allow kids to wear helmets, necklaces, purses or scarves on the playground.
 - Don't allow your kids to push, shove, play or crowd around playground equipment.
 - Keep toddlers under age five in a separate play area fenced off from equipment designed for bigger children.
- Contributed by
Lt. Mario E. Hernandez



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2ND ANNUAL UTEP COACHES CARAVAN SUNDAY, JUNE 3RD SANTA TERESA COUNTRY CLUB

“Tee it up with Coach Mike Price,
Tony Barbee and other UTEP coaches at
Santa Teresa C.C.”

“Every team will have the opportunity to play
with a member of the UTEP coaching staff”

“PUBLIC IS WELCOME!”

Format: 4 person scramble
\$35 per person includes lunch, golf cart and green fee
1 p.m. shotgun start
To register your team, please call, (505) 874-4708



SANTA TERESA COUNTRY CLUB

All proceeds to benefit The First Tee junior golf program

Music lovers mark your calendars

Free music series return

Music Under the Stars World Festival

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department has released its 2007 season schedule for Music Under the Stars World Festival. The free Sunday night concert series starts June 17. All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). The concerts will take place at the Chamizal National Memorial located at 800 South San Marcial Street. Please note that glass containers are not allowed at the park. The Music Under the Stars World Festival, now in its 24th season, has steadily increased attendance to over 100,000 people each year and is now one of the largest free music festivals in Texas.

Concert schedule:

June 17 Pete Escovedo and his Orchestra (OTGA - Latin Jazz)
June 24 The Big Easy (Louisiana Jazz)
July 01 NO EVENT
July 04 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular with El Paso Symphony Orchestra (Patriotic Arrangements)
July 08 . Lavay Smith & The Red Hot Skillet Lickers (OTGA - Swing)
July 15 Majestad (Tex-Mex)
July 22 The Next Chapter (OTGA - Celtic Bluegrass)
July 29 Incendio (OTGA - World Guitar Fusion)
August 05 . Soul Vendors (OTGA - Original Jamaican Reggae)
August 12 Star Mountain Dreamers (Rockabilly)
August 19 Noche Ranchera (OTGA - Mariachi)

For additional information call or visit the City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department at (915) 541-4481, www.elpasotexas.gov/mcad or call Chamizal National Memorial at (915) 532-7273.

OTGA: Out of Town Guest Artist

Alfresco! Fridays

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department has released its 2007 season schedule for Alfresco! Fridays. The free Friday night concert series starts June 15. All concerts begin at 5:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). The concerts will take place at Art's Festival Plaza, located between El Paso Museum of Art and The Plaza Theatre. No outside food or beverages will be allowed at the venue.

Concert schedule:

June 15 Guarache (Cuban Ballad)
June 22 Billy Townes & Modern Session (Modern Jazz)
July 06 Charlie Russell (Country Western)
July 13 Windy City (A Tribute to "Chicago")
July 20 Sangre Gitana (Rumba Flamenco)
July 27 Mariachi Los Toritos (Mariachi)
August 03 Radio La Chusma (Roots Rock Latin Reggae)
August 10 Elegant Gypsy (Rock 'n' Roll)
August 17 Richard & The Sierra Band (50's Rock 'n' Roll)

For additional information call or visit the City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department at (915) 541-4481, www.elpasotexas.gov/mcad or call El Paso Convention & Visitor's Bureau at (915) 536-0600.