



NEWSBRIEFS

Buckle up

Safety belts save lives — and they can also save you from getting a ticket. That's why hundreds of law enforcement departments statewide are in a massive statewide "Click it or Ticket" effort in Texas. Between May 19 and June 1, thousands of law enforcement officers across Texas will be working overtime to ticket drivers and passengers who aren't buckled up. Some facts related to the "Click it or Ticket" campaign are:

- Pickup trucks roll over twice as often as passenger cars in fatal crashes. Wearing a safety belt reduces the risk of dying in a rollover pickup truck crash by up to 80%.
- Nearly half of all front seat passengers killed in SUVs, pickups and vans in 2006 were not buckled up.
- In fatal crashes, three out of four of people ejected from the vehicle died. Safety belts are proven to prevent ejection: 99% of those buckled up stayed in the vehicle.
- Wearing a safety belt increases the odds of surviving a serious crash by 50%.
- Front seat passengers don't wear their safety belts as often as drivers.
- Fewer than eight of every ten pickup truck passengers use safety belts.
- Men use safety belts less often than women.
- Drivers and passenger are less likely to wear safety belts at night.
- Only half of children ages 5-9 ride buckled up; 65% of teens ages 15-16 buckle up. That means nearly 1.7 million children in Texas ride in vehicles without the protection of safety belts.

Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is assisting the FBI in locating an offender who repeatedly lured an underage teen to Mexico, a violation of Federal Criminal Law, making this the "Crime of the Week." On Feb. 12, FBI agents received information from the El Paso Police Department's Crimes Against Children unit that a U.S. citizen, who is a registered sex offender, had taken a 15-year-old female minor to Mexico for the purpose of engaging in sexual conduct. Parents discovered the relationship after viewing text messages on the victim's cell phone. Despite repeated attempts by the victim's parents to stop the relationship, the offender, who was now wanted on State charges, continued to lure the victim to Mexico. On Feb. 15, the victim skipped class at her high school in El Paso and was later found in Juarez and returned home. FBI agents and detectives from the Police Department's Crimes Against Children unit are seeking assistance from the public in locating 23-year-old Hector Enrique Pizana of the 1500 block of Plaza Verde or the 11400 block of Sundance in El Paso. Pizana is now known to be living in Juarez, possibly on the 4600 block of Melquiades Alaniz. If you have any information at all about the location of this suspect, please call Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may earn a cash reward up to \$1,000.

People whose main concern is their own happiness seldom find it.

— Quips & Quotes

Students tour Russian helicopter

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier



— Photos courtesy Canutillo ISD

Dario Alcocer, pre-kindergarten student at Jose Damian Elementary School, is all smiles as he takes his turn trying on the pilot's helmet during a Career Day presentation of a Russian made helicopter from Ft. Bliss.

CANUTILLO — A Russian made helicopter descended recently onto the campus of Jose Damian Elementary School (JDE), in the Canutillo School District, as one of the featured presentations for Career Day.

Helicopter Pilot Major Ron Ells, First Sergeant Russell Kirby and Department of the Army Civilian Steve Hayden, from the 3rd Battalion, 210th Aviation Regiment, flew in from

Fort Bliss and landed at the campus at the start of the school day. Presentations on being a pilot and tours of the helicopter were given to JDE students throughout the day during their physical education class.

Major Ells and his crew explained how helicopters are able to fly and demonstrated how the propellers rotate in opposite directions, which gives pilots control of the helicopter's motion and direction.

Students were given a chance to ask any questions about the helicopter or on being a pilot.



ALL ABOARD — Pre-kindergarten students in Julia Melendez class at Jose Damian Elementary School climbed into a Russian made helicopter during a Career Day presentation, to learn about being a pilot from Major Ron Ells.

Tornillo students receive Ford Scholarships

By Rudy Barreda
Special to the Courier

TORNILLO — Four students from Tornillo High School were each awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Ford Salute to Education scholarship program. The students are Zach Brooks, Kayla Elias, Emmanuel Rodriguez and Maria F. Rodriguez.

The students were presented with their scholarships last Thursday at a ceremony held at the UTEP Magoffin auditorium. The Ford Salute to Education Scholarship is awarded to high school seniors who demonstrate community service, academic achievement, leadership and strong educational and career goals.

THS student Zach Brooks was surprised to be chosen out of about 600 applicants. "It's great to be recognized along with the other scholarship winners," stated Brooks. "Too bad I didn't get the car!" he said, referring to the fact that the scholarship winners each had a chance to win a 2008 Ford Focus.

THS student Kayla Elias was also amazed

See SCHOLARSHIPS, Page 6



— Photos courtesy Tornillo ISD

SCHOOL MONEY — Tornillo HS scholarship winners, from left, are Emmanuel Rodriguez, Kayla Elias, Maria Rodriguez and Zach Brooks. Teacher Alex Macias, back, was also recognized by Ford.

Clint completes park renovation, plans June ceremony

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CLINT — You could never rightly accuse the Clint Town Council of "ducking" the issue.

In fact, little rubber ducks were once again seen atop the council member's table.

Also on the council's agenda was a hot topic.

The hot topic was one that had come before council before and remains a truly a burning issue for residents of the Lower Valley community.

These were the highlights of its May 13th council meeting.

"We are finally at the end of the road," says Sandra Reinhardt, wife of Clint Mayor Dale Reinhardt. She was referring to her pet project, Puddle Duck Park which is located on about a

third of an acre of land at the end of McKinney Street. It was once known as Hobo Park.

"Please go by," she suggested. "It's all up."

Built entirely with donated funds and donated in-kind services, the park was the brainchild of the mayor's wife about two-and-one-half years ago. It is named for Jemimah Puddle

See PARK, Page 5

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

There are many reasons I love living in Clint. I would like to share one of the greatest reasons: the wonderful citizens of our town. The Town of Clint and I have worked diligently for the past two years to develop a park for children ages two to ten and we have finally succeeded! Puddle Duck Park was made possible because of donations from many persons and companies in Clint and the surrounding area. When we finally had enough money to order the equipment, I was so disappointed because I could not find a duck for the park; we had to settle for a horse.

You cannot imagine my surprise and delight when, at the May Town Council Meeting, I was presented with a darling yellow duck for the park. I want to thank all of the persons who donated to make this duck possible; it was a dream come true for both myself and the children who will use the park. I would especially like to thank Councilwoman Evalinda Candelaria and her husband, Tony, who found the duck and worked so hard to get it. I would also like to thank Mary Franco, Annie Ortiz and Maggie Ortega who collected the pledges and money.

Please come and bring your children and grandchildren to enjoy Puddle Duck Park, you cannot miss it as it has a yellow duck in the middle of the park.

Sincerely,
Sandra M. Reinhardt
Clint, TX

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15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Phone: 852-3235
Fax: 852-0123
E-mail: wtccc@wtccourier.com
Website: wtccourier.com

Publisher


Rick Shrum

Business Manager

Francis D. Shrum

Contributors

Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda
Jan Engels



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— Photos courtesy Clint ISD

FULL RIDES — Four seniors from Horizon High School's JROTC program have been offered four-year scholarships to college. The cadets are, from left, LTC Katherine Donohoe, MAJ Erik J. Najera, CPT Manuel Hernandez and CPT William Hamlin.

Horizon JROTC seniors earn top scholarships

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

This has been a record breaking year for Horizon High JROTC seniors. Four senior cadets have received full ride scholarships to two or more universities.

Katherine Donohoe and Erik Najera have both earned scholarships to the United States Military Academy Prep School. Both Donohoe and Najera have also been awarded a four-year ROTC scholarship to New Mexico State Uni-

versity and Texas A&M. Donohoe has received an additional ROTC scholarship to the University of New Mexico.

Many Hernandez has received a scholarship to New Mexico Military Institute and a 4 year ROTC scholarship to Texas A&M. Will Hamlin has earned a four year Army and Air Force ROTC Scholarship to Texas A&M.

“Working with the senior cadets individually and making sure they had all they needed to apply has helped to the cadets earn well over 1 million in scholarships,” says Horizon High School JROTC Instructor Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Ken Osmond.

Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

El Paso benefits from bill

El Paso and the Southwest border region are poised to benefit from this year's Farm Bill. Last week, the United States Congress passed the Fiscal Year 2009 Farm Bill, a multibillion-dollar measure that provides funding for federal farm, nutrition assistance, rural development, and agricultural trade programs. Despite the bill's broad bipartisan support in both the U.S. House and Senate, the President has threatened to veto the measure.

While the bulk of the bill provides support for U.S. agriculture, the measure also deals with foreign food aid, environmental conservation, domestic food assistance, and agricultural research. This year's Farm Bill also includes language, which I authored, to establish the Southwest Border Regional Commission (SWBRC), an initiative that will coordinate local, state, and federal efforts to spur economic growth.

The SWBRC, will provide funding for projects in economically distressed counties along the U.S.-Mexico border. This initiative is modeled after the Appalachian Regional Commission, which coordinates local, regional, and federal economic development planning from southern New York to northern Mississippi. The SWBRC will function as an independent agency, and will have the exclusive authority to fund economic development projects in the Southwest border region. The Commission will be comprised of one Senate-confirmed federal representative, in addition to the governors of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

Border counties have long endured stagnant economic conditions, and the Southwest border region continues to lag behind other parts of the country. According to research compiled by the Interagency Task Force on the Economic Development of the Southwest Border, over 20 percent of border residents live below the poverty level, and unemployment rates often reach as high as five times the national unemployment rate. The national poverty rate currently stands at 13 percent, and unemployment at five percent. As one of the fastest growing regions in the United States, the federal government must invest in innovative approaches to improve conditions in Southwest border communities.

The SWBRC will coordinate economic development efforts at all levels of government. Currently, states and counties must compete against each other for a limited amount of federal funding. This approach fails to provide a unified approach to regional economic planning, as states and local governments have little incentive to cooperate with their neighbors. Such competition is unproductive and results in missed opportunities to leverage regional resources.

The Commission will fund proposals designed by local communities, and will streamline state and regional economic development efforts. This initiative will also leverage cooperative partnerships in the private sector, creating a holistic approach to regional economic planning. Projects that are consistent with both local and regional goals will be given the highest priority.

For too long, the needs of the Southwest border region have been ignored, overlooked, and underfunded. I am pleased that a sufficient number of Democrats and Republicans support the FY 2009 Farm Bill to override the President's threatened veto, bringing the Southwest Border Regional Commission one step closer to reality.



Sexual oriented businesses to be subject of hearing

By Araceli Lazcano
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — In response to County resident’s concerns about the location and operation of sexually oriented businesses within their neighborhoods, the County Commissioners agreed on Monday, May 12, to hold a public hearing to discuss the impact of those businesses in the community.

“I think it’s important before making any decision about the possible regulation of the sexually oriented businesses that we know what the residents and business owners are going through,” said County Judge Anthony Cobos.

In addition, the County Judge told the rest of the Court members that although he didn’t hear anyone protesting against these types of establishments, it became clear the residents don’t want them in residential neighborhoods.

“We need to move the establishments away from populated areas because we can not expose school age children to these types of activities,” he added.

The motion to hold a public meeting was supported by Commissioner Veronica Escobar.

Among the concerns Canutillo residents expressed to the Commissioners were: public nuisance, lewdness, prostitution, decrease in value property, and increased vandalism against properties located close to sexually oriented businesses.

“We have one of these businesses literally open in our backyards,” said Canutillo resident, Veronica Watkins.

Sheriff’s Department statistics indicates there are seven sexual oriented businesses in the Lower Valley and two more in the Upper Valley.

The public hearing date and location is yet to be announced.

Canutillo ISD receives grant for Service Learning

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

Canutillo Independent School District was notified recently that they have been awarded \$31,000 for Service Learning projects for the 2008-2009 school year, with a possibility of increased funding. Service Learning provides students the opportunity to apply what they are learning in the classroom to a real world concern that they see in their community.

CISD has been a recipient of the Texas Center for Service Learning, a K-12 School-Community Partnership Grant Program, since 2003. Service Learning runs in a three year cycle, with the current funding beginning with the 2006-07 school year and continuing through the 2008-09 school year. Funding is provided through the S.T.A.R.S. of Texas Grant, whose purpose is to create models of excellence utilizing the Service Learning framework: Student leadership, Thoughtful service, Authentic learning, Reflective practice and Strong partnerships.

“CISD schools compete for classroom mini-grants that range from \$500 to \$3,000. For mini-grants to be considered for funding, clear, authentic connections to the CISD goals and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) has to be present,” said Denise Clevenger,



Denise Clevenger

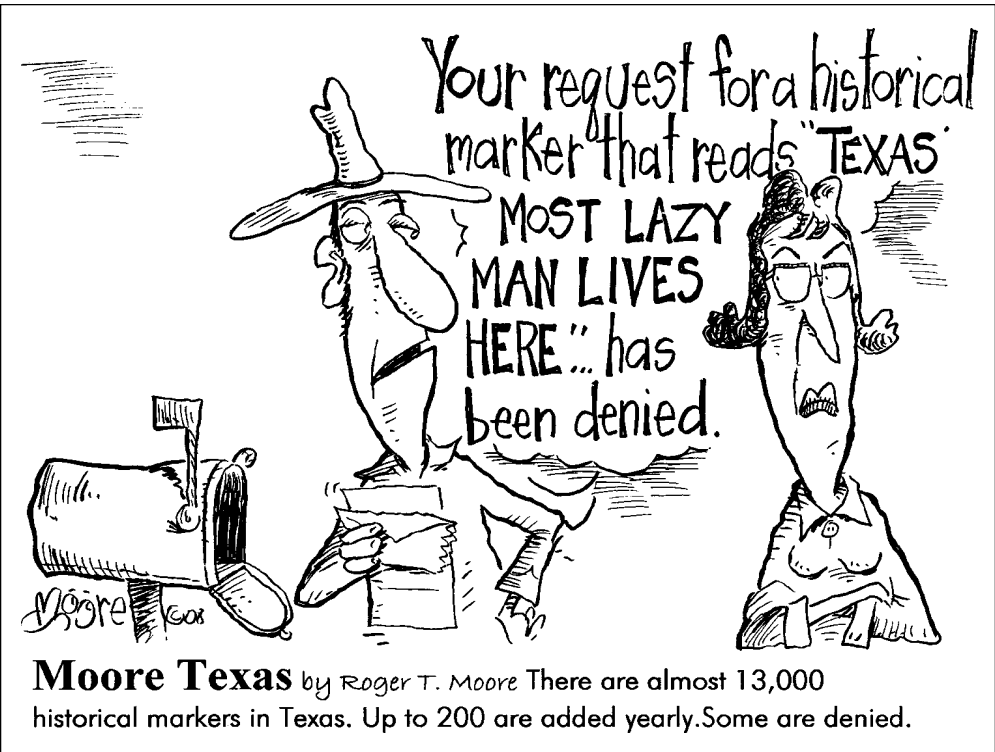
CISD Service Learning Coordinator.

CISD Service Learning Projects completed this school year include: Recycling: A Chance to Make a Difference, Rosario Olivera and Teresita Ballard, project coordinators; The Talon CMS Newspaper, Susan Plotner and Rudy Hees, project coordinators; AVID Building Bridges: Reaching Out to Those in Need Young & Old, Debbie Owens Corona, Brenda Smith, and Sarah Jaramillo, project coordinators; Alderete Alfresco, Rose Salgado, Reggie Ramos, and Carroll De La O, project coordinators; Generation Celebration Making Connections, Melanie Gallagher, project coordinator; Canutillo Kids In Space, Rachel Tellez and Fourth Grade Teachers, project coordinators; Canutillo Cares: Child Crisis Center Library, Jessica Melendez-Carrillo and Guadalupe Perez, project coordinators; and Canutillo Elementary Schoolyard Habitat, Stephanie Zelenak, project coordinator.

“Over one thousand CISD students participated in Service Learning Projects this year, and it is our goal to double that for next year. It is through the efforts of projects such as these that Canutillo Service Learning and Canutillo ISD have become a model for Service Learning in El Paso and Region 19, which was made possible by the support of our superintendent, Dr. Padilla, and School Board,” said Clevenger.

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Socorro ISD students appointed to military academies

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

Four SISD students will be heading to US Military Academies in the

fall. Socorro High School senior Naomi De La Torre and Americas High School senior Jeremy Webb were accepted into the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Co. Webb's fellow students Michael

Schmidt will attend the US Coast Guard Academy and John Colleng will head to US Military Academy at West Point. While admission to the military academies is open to all young men and women, the process is extremely competitive. Candidates must receive a nomination from a member of Congress or from the Department of the Army. They are then evaluated on their academic, physical and leadership potential.

"We strive to prepare our student for post secondary schools and to be able to accomplish being accepted into these academies says a lot about our students and our teachers," said Josie Porras, Americas counselor. "From the beginning of their high school careers, these three young men have been very involved in school and in their communities."

"I am very proud of these outstanding students who are representing their schools and the Socorro Independent School District. To be accepted to these military academies is an impressive achievement and reflects their hard work and dedication," said SISD Superintendent Dr. Sylvia P. Atkinson.

Colleng has been a member of NJROTC throughout his high school years. He was also a member of the Trailblazer football team. He is ranked 90 out of 566 which puts him



Naomi De La Torre

in the Top 15% of the senior class, and has a GPA of 93. He was accepted into West Point which was founded two centuries ago. All cadets receive a Bachelor of Science degree, which is designed specifically to meet the intellectual requirements of a commissioned officer in today's Army. The United States Military Academy is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

"The US Air Force Academy is an amazing school. I choose to the Air Force Academy because of the challenges it offers and of the opportunities available after I graduate," said Socorro senior Naomi De La Torre who plans on pursuing a career in military and furthering her education at either medical school or flight school.

De la Torre served as vice president for the National Technical Honor Society, Student Council and is a member of the Health Professions Academy. She is also representing Socorro High School in the UIL guitar competition. She is ranked 44 out of 634, placing her in the Top 10% and has a GPA of 94.75. Joining her at the Air Force Academy is Americas senior Jeremy Webb. He has been a member of NJROTC throughout his high school career and is a mem-

ber of COSMOS. He is ranked 62 out of 566, placing him in the Top 10% and has a GPA of 94.2931.

The United States Air Force Academy has state-of-the-art facilities, including laboratories, observatories and a library containing over 700,000 volumes. The Air Force Academy Mission is to educate, train and inspire men and women to become officers of character, motivated to lead the United States Air Force in service to of nation.

Schmidt is a member of the Americas orchestra and tennis team throughout high school. He is also a member of COSMOS. He is in the Top 10 of his graduating class and has a GPA of 102.25. He will be attending the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. As the smallest of the five U.S. service academies, the Coast Guard Academy offers the elite higher education, rigorous professional development, and honor and tradition of a military academy but with a more personalized approach.

"These motivated students have done so much on the local level, now they will have the opportunity to serve their country. We are proud of their accomplishment," said SISD Board President Charles E. Garcia.

The appointment process is highly competitive and requires students to meet strict academic qualifications. Students are evaluated on his or her academic and extra-curricular record, leadership skills, physical stamina and other requirements. Each year, only about 1,200 students from across the nation enter each Academy.

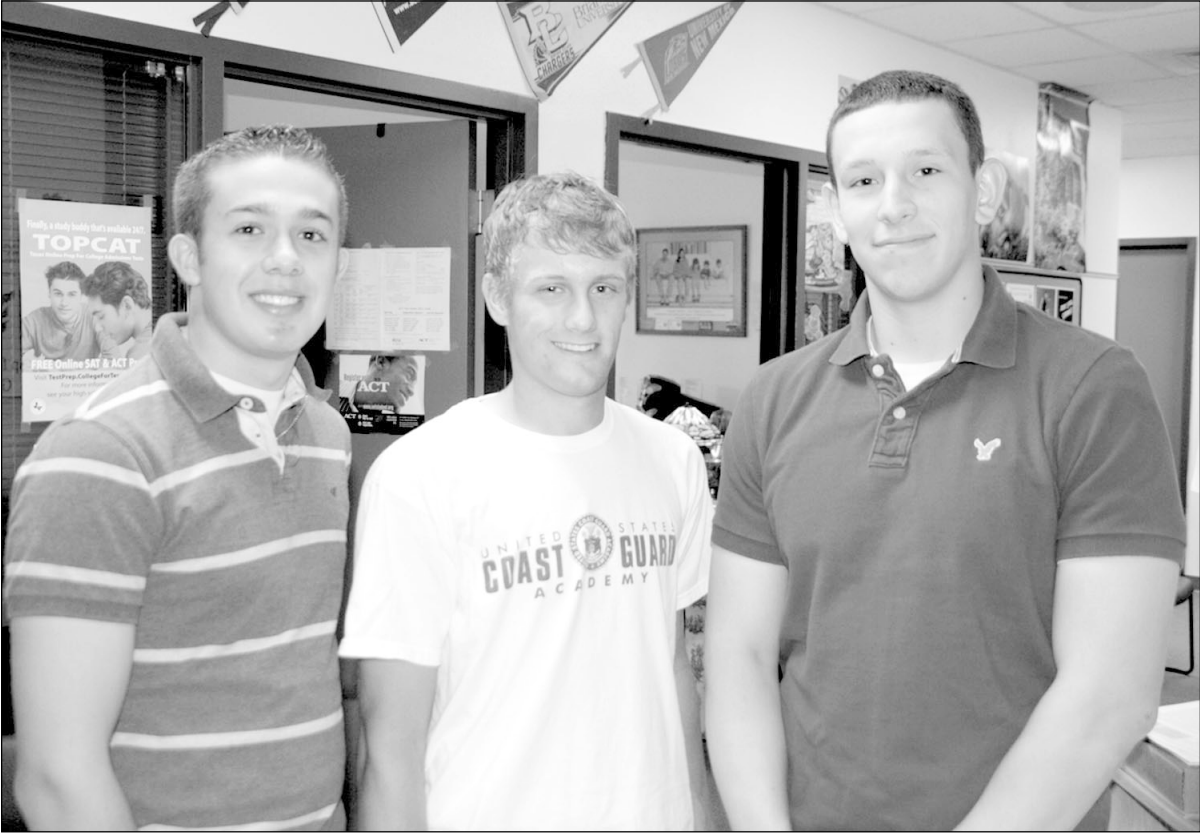
Anthony ISD Offers Summer Food Program

The Anthony Independent School District in Anthony, Texas announces the sponsorship of The Summer Food Service Program. The program is open to any child from 1 to 18 years of age. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided at the Anthony Middle School Cafeteria five days per week beginning June 9, to June 30, 2008. **In July the district will be closed on Fridays** operating four days per week Monday through Thursday July 1, to July 24, 2008. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and lunch will be served from 11:35 a.m. to 12:35 p.m. **The school will be closed from July 3-4, 2008.** People who are eligible to participate in the program must not be discriminated against. In accordance with the federal law and US Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against should write immediately to USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights Office 1400 Independence Avenue SW Washington D.C. 20250 9410, or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

El Distrito de Anthony Ofrece Comida en el Verano

El Distrito Independiente de Anthony en Anthony, Texas, anuncia que va ha ofrecer El Programa de Comida en el Verano. El Programa es para los niños de 1 a 18 años de edad. El desayuno y comida serán servidos en la Cafetería de la Escuela Secundaria del Distrito de Anthony cinco días a la semana de lunes a viernes comenzando el 9 de Junio al 30 de Junio del 2008. **En el mes de Julio el distrito va ha estar cerrado los viernes**, permaneciendo abierto de Lunes a Jueves del 1 de Julio al 24 de Julio del 2008. El desayuno se va ha servir de 7:30 a.m. a 8:30 a.m. y la comida se va ha servir de 11:35 a.m. a 12:35 p.m. **Los días 3 y 4 de Julio la escuela va a estar cerrada.** Las personas que tienen derecho a participar en el programa, no se les debe discriminar por raza, color, origen nacional, edad, sexo, incapacidad, religión ni creencia política. Cualquier persona que crea que lo han discriminado debe escribir inmediatamente al Director, USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue SW Washington D.C. 20250-6382 (TTY). USDA tiene igualdad de oportunidad de oportunidad para proveedores y empleados.

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Canutillo HS senior accepted to medical school

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

Alfonso Frias, Canutillo High School senior, has been accepted to the Early Medical School Acceptance Program with the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) at Galveston.

This is a significant step toward achieving his goal of attending medical school and becoming a physician, stated Dr. Donna Ekal, UTMB program coordinator.

Frias will begin undergraduate work this fall at the University of Texas at El Paso, where he plans



Alfonso Frias

to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry. Upon graduation from UTEP, Frias will attend UTMB at Galveston for three years.

“I have always wanted to be a doctor, and going through the health science technology program at Canutillo High School spurred my interest even more,” Frias said, “I’m hoping that by participating in this program, it will help me determine the type of doctor I want to become.”

To be accepted into the early medical school program, Frias had to demonstrate outstanding achievement in academics and undergo a personal interview with UTMB officials.

Montwood seniors to play at college level

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

Three Montwood High School seniors will be playing at the college



Amanda Bonds

level next fall. Senior soccer player Amanda Bonds signed with Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio. Jason Donaldson and Josh Flores will don the orange and blue and play for Coach Mike Price at UTEP.

“These students are some of our best examples of what a Montwood student is,” said Montwood Principal Juni Mathews. “They are hard workers, dedicated and persistent in achieving this level of success. They have done a fabulous job of representing the school.”

“Amanda, Jason and Josh along with their coaches are applauded for all their efforts. The students have worked diligently to build their skills on the playing field while keeping up with their school work,” said SISD

Superintendent Dr. Sylvia P. Atkinson.

Three signed their letters of intent on April 3 in front of family and friends. Bonds, who had been on the Rams Varsity Soccer team all four years, expects to hit the field next year.

“It’s a new team so I don’t have to worry about playing time,” said Bonds who plans on studying psychology. “The team has helped me and has motivated me to do better.”

“She is an awesome athlete. Amanda is an all around great student, academically and athletically, said Montwood Girls Varsity Coach Laura Galindo. “In whatever position I had her play, I knew she would be great.”

Joining her where football players Jason Donaldson and Jason Flores who will continue to play in front of the home crowd.

“I look forward to seeing they play for the next four years. They are outstanding players and have made big contributions to our success,” said



Jason Donaldson

Montwood Head Football Coach Chuck Veliz.

“I love the program Coach Price has and I’m glad that I have the chance to help the program,” said Flores, who was named as MVP at the Annual All Star Football Game and received All City and All District 1st team honors. Flores plans on studying nursing and hopes to go into the neo-natal health field.

Teammate Donaldson, who played for Coach Veliz for three years, is looking forward to playing at the Sun Bowl. “I’m home and my friends and family can watch me play. I’m excited to playing Division II football. I’m fast and quick but at the next level everyone is faster, quicker and better.”

“We are very proud of these student athletes who have represented not only Montwood but Socorro ISD these past four years. They are taking their talent to two very good schools and we hope to see their names in the sports highlights,” said SISD Board President Charles E. Garcia.



Josh Flores

Park

From Page 1

Duck, a beloved character of a Beatrix Potter children’s book. (Grandfather Dale once read of the adventures of Jemimah Puddle Duck to his young grandson Cash Day.)

As she has done at previous meetings, Sandra Reinhardt handed out the colorful little rubber ducks who wore “hard” hats. Celebrating its completion, she said an open house/ park will be held around the end of June.

The new park will have three swing sets (one for toddlers), monkey bars and a rocking horse mounted on a large spring. A surprise addition to the park equipment was presented to her at the Tuesday evening meeting. It was a large colorful duck mounted on a large spring for children to ride.

“Thanks to everyone,” she said gratefully.

The burning issue, which has been on the council agenda previously,

was controlling the unlawful burning within the town limits. Residents, it was pointed out, have been complaining about the smoke from illegal burning and the health hazard it poses.

In response to those concerns, Councilman Jesus Oropeza presented a proposed revision of the town ordinance regulating outdoor burning. After discussion, no action was taken on the proposed ordinance. It will be revised and presented at a later date for consideration. It was agreed, however, to drop a no-burn zone as outlined by street boundaries.

It was agreed, instead, to abide by a 100-foot rule whereby no person can burn within 100 feet of a structure. Also, burning on property is restricted solely to vegetation from that land — no trash, such as old household furniture, is allowed.

“It comes down to common sense,” the mayor said who acknowledged that unlawful burning cannot be eliminated 100 percent.

The Clint Town Hall may be getting bigger.

The first step toward a larger Town

Hall came when the council approved a request by Reinhardt for him to go ahead and have preliminary plans drawn up for an addition to the building. “We need to expand. I need an office for some privacy. Right now there is no privacy.

“I need to see what our options are — to see what we could afford.”

Reinhardt did not specify the size of the addition or the cost.

Saying that the Town Hall office staff was “inundated with work,” the mayor requested and the council approved the hiring of Susana Rodriguez on a full-time basis.

After discussion, the council approved the hiring of Grantworks Inc. to prepare an open application to Texas Community Development Block grant program. This application, if approved, would authorize the town to request a grant from the Texas Community Fund. Money would be used to provide new sewer lines service in Clint.

Speeders beware! The council also approved the purchase of four speed bumps to be installed to curb speeders within the town limits.

Tornillo bridge one step closer

By Araceli Lazcano
Special to the Courier

TORNILLO — The Tornillo/ Guadalupe International Bridge is a step closer to becoming a long waited reality after members of Commissioners Court unanimously approved funding for preparation of construction plans for the first Phase (1A.)

Monday’s decision allows the County to build maintenance roadways on both sides of the main highway and install bridges, pipes, and culverts over several irrigation channels.

After all work is completed the county can proceed with the construction of the main highway which will connect Alameda Avenue to the area where the new bridge facility will be built.

“The construction of the north and south bound access roads are expected to start next October,” said

Commissioner Miguel Teran.

In addition, County Judge Anthony Cobos, explained the construction work will be possible “without the need to shut off water off or wait for the irrigation season to end before starting construction of the main road.”

The cost of the engineering services for Phase 1A is over \$47,000 and funds were allocated through the 2001 bond.

The US Department of State gave the El Paso County the Presidential Permit to build the International Bridge yards back in March of 2005. The state of the art facility which will span 1,274 feet between the U.S. and Mexico will be located 650 yards upstream of the existing Fabens/Caseta Bridge, built in 1938 and will have only two traffic lanes.

The new bridge will serve commercial as well as passenger vehicles and pedestrians and feature all the modern security needed for safe usage.

Tornillo Independent School District Notice of 2008 Summer Food Services Program

The Tornillo Independent School District announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided free of charge to children 1 year to 18 years of age at the Tornillo ISD Elementary School Cafeteria, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, Texas. The program will begin June 10, 2008 through June 30, 2008, with breakfast being served from 7:15 A.M. to 8:15 A.M. and lunch being served from 10:45 A.M. to 12:45 P.M., Mondays through Fridays. Daily menus for the Summer Food Service Program will be available on May 24, 2008.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Aviso da Programa de Servicios para Comida en el Verano 2008 para el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tornillo

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Tornillo anuncia el patrocinio del programa de servicios para comida en el verano. Almuerzo y comida de mediodia se va servir en la cafeteria de le escolar elementario del distrito de Tornillo, 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, Texas. Es gratis para todos los niños de 1 año a 18 años de edad. El programa de servicios para comida en el verano empieza el 10 de Junio hasta el 30 de Junio, 2008, Lunes a Viernes. Almuerzo se va servir de 7:15 A.M. hasta las 8:15 A.M. y comida se va servir de las 10:45 A.M. hasta la 12:45 P.M. Los menus van estar listos el 24 de Mayo, 2008.

En acuerdo con las leyes federal y la policia de U.S. Departamento de Agricultura, esta institucion esta prohibida de discriminacion en los fundamentos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad, o desabilidad.

Para ordenar una queja de discriminacion, escriba USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 o llame (800) 795-3272 o (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA es un proveedor y empleador de oportunidad igualdad.

‘Spygate’ makes everyone involved look bad

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Well it appears that the infamous “spygate” saga is coming to an end.

Last week, the principles got together, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and New England Patriot’s cameraman Matt Walsh, to view and discuss the latest on the Bill Belichick spying scandal.

The major news everyone was waiting for was whether it was true or not that Belichick ordered his camera guys to tape a St. Louis Rams “walk through” before their Super Bowl encounter a few years ago.

Naturally, a team might gain an advantage if you videotape your opponent going over their last-minute plans for the game.

After all, the Boston Herald had run a story saying the Patriots’ had videotaped the Rams.

So after Goodell had his little visit with Walsh and the two had gone over the tapes, what was the official outcome?

As it turned out, Walsh (who never said he had) didn’t have any tape of the Rams before the Super Bowl. But what he did have was hours of tapes of Patriots’ opponents. He turned over hours of opposing coaches flashing signs

to their players.
This of course is a no-no in the National Football League.

Though Belichick and the rest of the Patriots’ feel vindicated after no Super Bowl tape was found, Senator Arlen Specter says he is still going to pursue the investigation.

I’m assuming he’s going to keep trying because it was learned that the team had been attempting to steal opponents’ signs since the 2000 season.

And it was also learned that the Patriots were attempting to steal both offensive and defensive signals by videotaping coaches giving out signs to their players.

So what kind of punishment did the Patriots and coach Belichick get for this added information — nothing!

Though it was learned that the Patriots were doing this for a longer period of time than what was originally thought, and now it included coaches from defense and offense, Goodell feels that no new evidence was uncovered.

It falls into a sort of “been there, done that” situation.

Now I’ve heard sports analysts and former football players say that no real competitive advantage is gained when a team tries to vid-eotape secret signs.

No advantage! Then why have the Patriots been doing this since 2000? Why else would they videotape the other teams’ signals for years and years unless it gave them an advantage?

I don’t care what kind of situation you’re in the middle of, a problem at work, the weather, a final exam, an argument with your girlfriend — you can respond much better when you know what’s coming.

In a certain situation, if the Patriots know what’s coming from their opponent, wouldn’t they have an advantage?

As good as Barry Bonds was, wouldn’t he be even better if he knew a fastball was coming?

I am disappointed that Belichick didn’t receive any kind of suspension. I figured he would get at least four games.

But once again Goodell, who really fumbled the ball when he thought it was a good idea to destroy the first “spygate” tapes he received, shows the world he is much tougher on players than he is on management.

I’m not surprised — just disappointed.
Oh, and as for the Boston Herald, which put out the story the Super Bowl tapes without seeing any tapes or having any real proof of any tapes — shame on you — and a simple apol-

ogy from them just doesn’t quite do it either.

Teammate from hell

More and more the college sports scene is beginning to resemble what I see on the front page of many newspapers.

Fraud, corruption, drugs, alcohol, gambling, cheating and murder have become commonplace in stories concerning college athletes.

Well, here’s one you probably haven’t heard. It appears that a University of Florida football player has been using a credit card to pay for his gas purchases for the last six months.

Not much wrong with that, until you learn where he got his credit card.

Jamar Hornsby was kicked off the team when it was learned that he was using someone else’s credit card. The credit card belongs to Ashley Slonina, a former Florida student who died in a motorcycle accident that also took the life of Hornsby’s teammate, Michael Guilford.

Hornsby must have been a speedy player because he started using the credit card the day after the woman died.

I’ve written about a lot of guys who defy logic and the rules of common decency, and this guy is about as bad as I’ve seen.

Let’s hope this public menace gets the kind of judge who loves to make an example of people.

Scholarships

From Page 1

to be chosen to receive the scholarship. “The ceremony was way better than I thought it would be. There was a lot of people, so it was actually kind of embarrassing to walk onstage, knowing that everyone would be staring at me,” said Elias.

Each of the four THS recipients is looking forward to beginning their college careers. “I plan to major in secondary education at UTEP,” stated THS scholarship recipient Emmanuel Rodriguez.

As part of the application process, students had the opportunity to nominate a teacher for the “Excellence in Education” award, which is also given by Ford. Tornillo High School English teacher Alex Macias was one of five area educators to win the award. He, too, accepted a \$1,000 check donated to Tornillo High School.

“Being nominated for this award was such a nice reminder of why I got into this profession. I was extremely honored,” said Macias. “This has been one of the most rewarding experiences I’ve had in my teaching career.” Macias was nominated by THS scholarship recipient Maria Rodriguez. “I nominated Mr. Macias because he cares about his students, and deserves to be recognized.”

The Ford Salute to Education is supported by the three El Paso Ford dealerships. Their donations are matched by the Ford Motor Company and Ford Credit.

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LEGALS

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

**WEDNESDAY
MAY 28,
2008**

**CATERING
SERVICES 2
CSP NO.
199-0528-8073
ACCEPTED
UNTIL
3:30 P.M.**

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12440 Rojas 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.

Proposals are also available at the District’s website: www.sisd.net WTCC-05/22/08

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

**MONDAY
JUNE 2,
2008**

**ANNUAL
FINANCIAL
AUDIT
CSP NO.
199-0602-8067
ACCEPTED
UNTIL
3:30 P.M.**

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12440 Rojas 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.

Proposals are also available at the District’s website: www.sisd.net WTCC-05/22/08

Town of

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Horizon City

PUBLIC NOTICE

During the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 the Town of Horizon City Council approved the following ordinance(s):

1) AAmendment No. 022 to Ordinance 0102 (Zoning) — to modify Appendix I, “Cellular Communication Towers,” and Appendix II, “Ground mounted radio or television broadcasting support structures”, to require camouflage and screening of communication towers.

2) Amendment No. 007 to Ordinance No. 00163 — Amending the Budget Ordinance to transfer \$15,450.00 from Budget Item # 400605 (Miscellaneous Revenue) to Budget Item # 508707 (Maintenance – Parks) for use in procuring, delivery and placement of compost and soil-compost mix on city parks.

Ordinances are always available for viewing or copying upon request from the City Clerk at Town Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or call 915-852-1046.

Karen Ellefson
City Clerk
WTCC: 05-22/08

Town of Horizon City

PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 27, 2008 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 ordinance(s)/ amendment(s):

1) Ordinance No. 0167 – 2nd reading – An Ordinance establishing certain Speed Limits within the Municipal limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas.

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.

Karen Ellefson
City Clerk
WTCC: 05-22-08

COUNSELING SERVICES

D A M I A N
M A U R E I R A ,

LCSW - Professional Counseling/Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family, Health insurance and FEE SCALE ACCEPTED. Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP. 657 Winn Rd. in Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment.

EDUCATION

JUMP START your child’s education. CERTIFIED TEACHERS for tutoring. Call Eddie, 526-1739, or Maribel, 525-9656.

HOUSES

Houses for sale. No down, low interst, financing available. Carlos Aguilar, Broker, Realtor. 857-3374 or 269-1251.

PERSONALS

NICOLE ARAUJO — Congratulations on your UTEP 2008 graduation. Proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad.

SELF-HELP

Persons who have a problem with alcohol

are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.

STORAGE

National Self Storage BRAND NEW UNITS

Summer Specials - Climate Control Units! 5x5 ans 5x10. Call Blanca - 852-8300.

SERVICES

“Windshield Ding —

Gimme a Ring” JIFFY GLASS REPAIR

Windshield Repair Specialists By appt. at your home or office: R.V. Dick Harshberger 915-203-7005

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- Appliance installation
- Many other plumbing services

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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

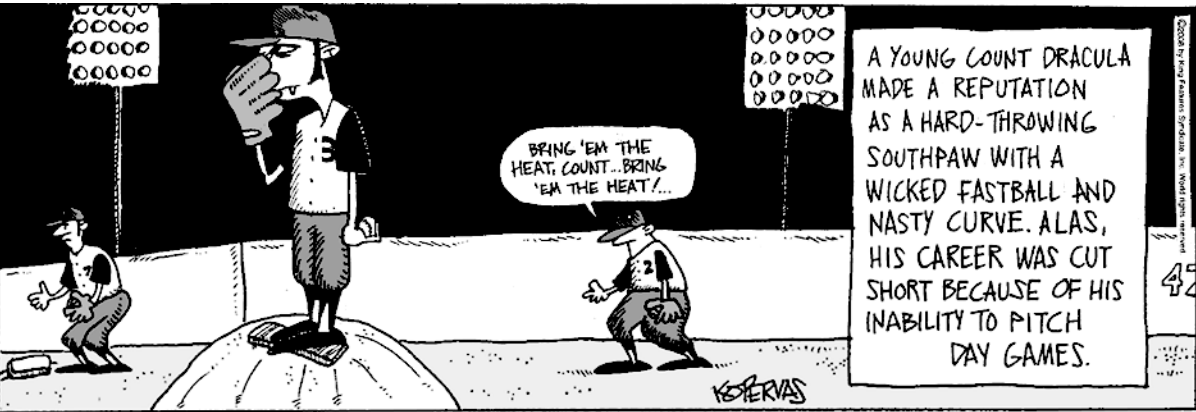
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Name: _____

Phone: _____

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OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



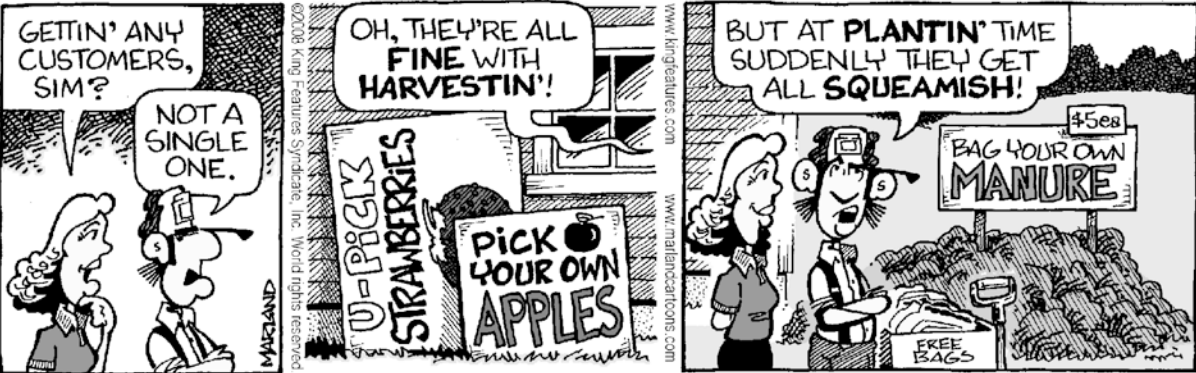
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Get on educational roller coaster

By Don Flood

There’s progress on the education front: The Washington Post reported recently that high-school students were bused to the Six Flags America theme park for something called Physics Day.

Finally, a sensible way to keep kids in school — ship them *out* of school so they won’t be bored.

The reason it was called Physics Day — and this is true — is that the kids were supposedly going to learn about physics by riding on roller coasters.

How come my teachers never thought of that?

But while this trip is a step in the right direction, it can’t make up for a shocking deficiency in our secondary-school system.

According to a new study, which is going to erupt into a political firestorm, our nation’s high schools are woefully ill-equipped when it comes to roller coasters.

In fact, the number of high schools with an adequate roller coaster that will allow our students to learn physics day in and day out — and not just on special field trips — may be as low as zero.

It’s no wonder, then, that 112 percent of American students lack the proper background in math and physics — a number that is growing higher every day.

And this isn’t the only disturbing news on the math front. Another study has suggested that math teachers scrap “real world” math problems — in other words, those problems that exist only in the world of math books.

That’s right, I’m talking about those famous train problems — you know, where one train leaves Station A at some insane hour like 6 a.m. traveling at 45 miles an hour toward Station B and a second train leaves Station B at 7:30

a.m. — still a little early for my taste — at 40 miles an hour toward Station A. At what time will passengers realize they should have taken a plane?

On the plus side, there will be fewer train accidents within our math pages. While some math-book writers carefully placed the trains on parallel tracks, others were not so careful, resulting in untold carnage on our nation’s fictional math railways.

It was because of that continuing horror that I became afraid to even open my math book, a reason, sadly, that my teachers were too insensitive to appreciate.

(I suspect, though, that the math-book writers shared secretly shared my fears. You might have noticed they never used airplanes for these problems; clearly, they were afraid of causing imaginary mid-air collisions.)

Fortunately, our country’s educators are up to the challenge of formulating new educational methods, which they change about as often as Detroit introduces new car models (and for much the same reason).

First step: Denounce current methods for producing a generation of dunces who can’t be counted on to spell their names correctly.

Second step: Introduce new teaching method.

Third step: Wait for test results that show replacement method is producing a generation of dunces who can’t be counted on to spell their names correctly.

Fourth step: Denounce current teaching methods.

This process can be repeated indefinitely — or we can get serious and start building more roller coasters.

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dflood287@comcast.net

King Super Crossword

PRESIDENTIAL PRETENDERS ACROSS

1 Herd word

4 Gator's cousin

8 Forest father

12 Chicken _ king

15 Shakespearean snake

18 Dadaism founder

19 Neighbor of Kentucky

20 Sign of sanctity

21 Postman's Creed word

22 '64 Ronny & the Daytonas hit

23 Mouth piece?

24 HARRISON

28 Beer ingredient

30 Reveal

31 Bargain

32 Former African nation

33 Apiece

35 Pancakes-to-be

39 Shade of green

40 HOOVER

44 Artist Magritte

45 Out of place

46 In addition

47 Rampur royalty

51 Tender

52 PC key

53 Tiberius' threads?

54 '60s chic

55 Symbol of industry

56 Went white

57 Time for chores?

58 Slit on a sunfish

59 "Fatha" Hines

60 Teapot part

62 Ersatz emerald

63 ADAMS

70 Cisco, to Pancho

71 Sudden attacks

72 Something to skip?

73 Campbell of "Party of Five"

74 Doll up

76 "The Jungle Book" character

78 _ Na Na

81 Justice Fortas

82 "Death in Venice" author

83 Aromatic plant

85 Court-martial candidate

86 "Cornhuskers" poet

89 Like lava

90 Stage stuff

91 Take a breather

92 JACKSON

94 Wrap

96 Singer Brook

97 Like kids at Christmas

98 Bobbin

99 Sargasso Sea swimmer

100 Humorist Ogden

103 Violin part

106 KENNEDY

112 Comic Charlotte

113 Fido's morsel

114 "Ab _" (from the start)

115 Portent

116 Half-baked?

117 Flub

118 Director Craven

119 Faux _

120 Trick stick

121 Looked at

122 _ es Salaam

DOWN

1 Palliative

2 "Turandot" tune

3 Upset entity

4 Dot follower

5 Beat

6 Seine feeder

7 Monastery garb

8 Mother or grandmother

9 Make a doily

10 Herriot title start

11 Peanut

12 Kim or Kaufman

13 _ Alamos, NM

14 "Raising _" ('87 film)

15 Certain marble

16 Unyielding

17 Study closely

25 Made a passage

26 Capek play

27 Michael of "Dynasty"

29 Stocking shade

34 Director's cry

36 Without _ (daringly)

37 Communications word form

38 _ Aviv

39 "Frederica" composer

40 Jet-setter's need

41 Shortly

42 Spanish specialty

43 Land in the sea

44 Sheldon's " _ of Angels"

47 State words?

48 Pennsylvania sect

49 Nick of "Q&A"

50 Gentleman of leisure?

52 Jeanne _

53 Strained

56 El _ TX

57 "Gigi" author

58 Stare stupidly

59 Brink

60 TV's " _ City"

61 Third degree?

62 "Oh My _" ('53 song)

63 Turner and Wood

64 Basic organism

65 David of "The Bishop's Wife"

66 Pitchfork part

67 Bring home the bacon

68 Salad staple

69 Bagel or bialy

74 Cause a chuckle

75 Move like a mouse

76 Aphid apparatus

77 Place for a patch

78 Walked like a buccaneer

79 Nest or burrow

80 Tree spray

83 Baptism site

84 Nevada city

85 Neon relative

87 Salivate

88 Hotel employee

89 "Nowhere _" ('66 hit)

90 Appreciated, in the '50s

92 Cowardly

93 City in Pakistan

94 Fern feature

95 Reggae's - and the Maytals

96 You can retire on it

98 Old tub

99 Baseballer

Slaughter

101 4,840 square yards

102 Command to Fido

104 Williams of "Pete and Gladys"

105 Gourmet Graham

107 Clark's "Mogambo" co-star

108 Thurman of "Jennifer 8"

109 He's a doll

110 Gridiron position

111 Florid

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Answer Page 6

Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: I am 27 years old and have applied to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits. I was surprised when the Social Security representative told me that my payment will be reduced because I live with my parents. Why is this?

A: SSI is a needs-based program, so any other income you receive — including non-monetary income such as help with your bills or other expenses — can affect your benefit payment. Your SSI payments may be reduced if you are receiving food, shelter or monetary assistance. We consider this to be the case if you live in someone else's household and pay less than your fair share of the household expenses. If you move, or if the situation in your parents' household changes, be sure to contact Social Security. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov or call us toll-free at

1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Q: I have limited income and think I may be eligible for the extra help with prescription drug costs. I have already signed up for a prescription drug plan and my plan is billing me for a premium. What should I do?

A: If you are a Medicare beneficiary, you are eligible for Medicare prescription drug coverage, regardless of your income, health status or current prescription expenses. Those with limited income and resources may qualify for extra help that can pay your premium. You can see if you qualify for extra help and apply at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) Visit www.Medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

for more information about the Medicare prescription drug plans.

Q: I work all day and can't call Social Security until late at night. Can I still call outside normal business hours?

A: Yes. You can use our automated services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to request services such as a replacement Medicare card or Social Security Statement, and a variety of other forms and publications. Just call us at 1-800-772-1213 to conduct business using your touchtone phone or by speech. Representatives are available to help you from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. local time. You can also visit our website to conduct much of your Social Security business online. For more information, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Q: I've reached my full retirement age, but I don't feel like retiring. If I decide to hold off for several more years, will my Social Security retirement benefit increase?

A: Yes. If you decide to delay your retirement benefits until after your full retirement age, your benefit will be increased by a certain percentage each year — up to a total of 8 percent. These increases, called delayed retirement credits, will be added in automatically from the time you reach full retirement age until the time you begin taking benefits or reach age 70, whichever comes first. To help you determine how much your benefit would increase, use our calculator at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/quickcalc/early_late.html. Or call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

For more information on any of the questions 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.

MY SOCIAL SECURITY # IS

457-55-5462

I'm Todd Davis, CEO of LifeLock, and this really is my social security number.* I'm here just to prove how safe your identity can be with LifeLock. All of us, no matter how careful, can become victims of identity theft. In fact, every three seconds another identity is stolen.

Do you ever worry about identity theft? If so, it's time you got to know LifeLock. We work to stop identity theft before it happens. We're so confident, we back our clients with a \$1 million dollar guarantee. If for any reason you fall victim to identity theft, we will spend up to \$1 million to hire the finest professionals to repair the damage and restore your good name. Period.

Security, peace of mind, protection—that's what LifeLock provides, along with the added bonus of reduced junk mail and pre-approved credit card offers. Normally it's just \$10 a month, but now you can try us free for 30 days. Protect yourself, your family and all you've worked for. Guarantee your good name today.

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- Reduced Junk Mail
- Reduced Credit Card Offers
- \$1 Million Guarantee
- Comprehensive Programs to Protect Your Employees


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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate




★★ Challenging

Answer Page 6

★★★ HOO BOY!

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