



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Clint revival

Clint First Baptist Church will host a Revival from April 13 to 17 at 200 Main St., Clint. Cowboy Band starts at 6:15 p.m. and services at 6:30 p.m. each evening. Child care will be provided. For more information go to [www.clintfirstbaptist.com](http://www.clintfirstbaptist.com) or call 851-3145.

— Erma Nelson

### Vendors wanted

Desert Hills Elementary will be holding its Spring Festival on Saturday, April 18, 2009. Vendors are wanted and there is still time to sign up for space. For more information, please call 355-5569. There will be food, music and games the day of the event.

### Sunrise service

The annual Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 12 at 7:00 am in Corcoran Park next to the Oz Glaze Senior Center in Horizon City. It is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Horizon City. For information call 588-2757.

— Pat Randleel

### Prescription coverage

If you've ever been told that a certain prescription you need isn't covered by your Medicare drug plan, you know it can be frustrating and costly to pay for it yourself. But you may not have to. With the free pamphlet, *Using Your Medicare Drug Plan: What to Do if Your Medicine Isn't Covered*, from [YourPharmacyBenefit.org](http://YourPharmacyBenefit.org) and the Federal Citizen Information Center, you'll find out how to tell if your prescriptions will be covered by your plan. And you'll learn step by step how to use the Medicare appeal process to request coverage or a reduced co-pay on the medicines you need, even if you've previously been denied coverage. For your free copy, send your name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 520T, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 520T. And visit [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov) to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

— Jessica Milcetic

### In the Navy

Navy Seaman Recruit Sean P. Reyling, son of Laura M. and Paul R. Reyling of El Paso, Texas, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, Reyling completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness. Reyling is a 2008 graduate of Americas High School.

See BRIEFS, Page 4

*Many a man has turned and left the dock just before his ship came in.*

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy Tornillo ISD

**BUILDING A PARK** — Adriana Castro's 4th grade class poses with (back row, from left) Adriana Castro, Robert Rivera, Willie Gandara, Adriana Cantu, and TISD Facilities Manager Ray Cobos. The class wants a park in Tornillo and has had success in getting their project in front of Commissioners Court. The park is now being designed and preliminary work on the park has started.

## Tornillo park in the works

By Rudy Barreda  
Special to the Courier

The students of 4th grade Tornillo Intermediate School Teacher Adriana Castro have started the process to obtain a park for the community of Tornillo.

The whole project started last year, when her students read a story about a community park, and wondered why Tornillo does not have one. As part of a social studies lesson, the students concluded they needed to write letters and create a petition for the county commissioner.

This year, students wrote letters to County

Commissioner Willie Gandara. Included with their letters was a park design developed by the students. To their surprise, Gandara responded to their letters, and arranged with TIS Principal Adriana Cantu to visit their class.

"We definitely have funds to create a park for Tornillo," stated Gandara during his visit to Castro's class. With the assistance of County Public Works Director Robert Rivera, the beginning stages of planning and building the park have begun.

Castro's students are gaining real world knowledge that few experience at such a young age. "Our job as a teacher extends beyond the classroom," stated Castro. No doubt future leaders will emerge from her 4th grade class.

## National Work Zone Awareness Week

For many motorists, the first word that comes to mind when encountering a highway construction work zone is delay. The word that should come to mind is caution.

Each April, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) joins with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), national transportation associations and numerous other state DOTs for National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) to remember victims and to raise awareness of safety precautions for workers and motorists in work zones. This year, NWZAW will be observed April 6-10, 2009 and will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the campaign.

Work zones can be hazardous for motorists as well as highway crews working to improve Texas' highways. TxDOT maintains approximately 80,000 miles of highway with more than 1,000 construction or maintenance projects underway at any given time. With so much construction, it is all too common for motorists to encounter work zones.

- Nationally, there are over 800 fatalities and 40,000 injuries in work zone-related crashes each year.

- In Texas, nearly 150 people are killed annually in highway construction and

See ZONE, Page 6

## Socorro ISD named one of America's top urban districts

*SISD is finalist for  
\$2 Million Broad Prize*

EL PASO COUNTY — Socorro Independent School District (SISD) is one of five urban school districts nationwide selected as a finalist for the 2009 Broad Prize for Urban Education, The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation announced today.

The Broad (rhymes with "road") Prize for Urban Education is an annual \$2 million award that honors the urban school districts that demonstrate the greatest overall performance and improvement in student achievement while

reducing achievement gaps among ethnic groups and between low- and non-low-income students.

This is the first year that SISD has been a finalist for the award, which was won last year by another Texas border district, the Brownsville Independent School District.

The winner of The Broad Prize, to be announced on Wednesday, Sept. 16 in Washington, D.C., will receive \$1 million in scholarships for high school seniors who will graduate in 2010. The four finalist districts will each receive \$250,000 in scholarships.

— Contributed by Irma Flores



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**PREVENTIVE MEASURES** — Sambrano Elementary Parent Volunteer Selma Carrillo displays prevention kit.

## San Elizario ISD takes proactive approach to community health

By Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Recent media coverage on reports of scabies cases affecting students in schools throughout El Paso County have increased buzz and worry over this contagious skin infection. In order to dispel myths and transform panic into action, the San Elizario Independent School District offered two informative sessions on March 31 aimed at educating parents and community members about scabies. A record total of 227 families attended either the morning or afternoon session at Borrego Elementary where they learned all about scabies including how it is spread by mites, the symptoms and treatment options.

Laura Rodriguez, who is a nurse at Alarcon Elementary delivered the PowerPoint presentations and answered questions from the audience. However, the parent information sessions emerged as a result of a collaborative effort among several district groups including administration, parent liaisons, nurses, special education department and campuses.

According to Ernesto Rodriguez, Executive Director for Research and Development, "The purpose of the information sessions was to take additional preventative measures as a district by educating our parents and community members about scabies and action they can take at home."

To further extend their knowledge about scabies and precautions families can implement immediately, the San Elizario Independent School District distributed "Prevention Kits" to each person in attendance that contained the following: bleach, detergent, laundry plastic bag, and fact sheets from the El Paso City/County Health District and school

See SAN ELI, Page 6

View from here

By Isaac McMillen

The onus of the bonus

When news of the massive bonuses paid out by AIG hit the press, members of Congress tripped over each other running to denounce the largess

to the media. But they were strangely silent when it came to the massive bonuses they are offering to their own staff members.  
An investigation by the Wall Street Journal uncovered the details of this dubious Capitol Hill practice, which should raise eyebrows among aver-

age Americans. This past year, a little over \$9 million was doled out in bonuses, some as high as \$14,000. That's a hefty sum for a governing body that just spent all of last week condemning AIG for its bonuses (while in the process of running up continuous trillion dollar overdrafts).

But even worse than the fact that the bonuses were paid is why. Every year, Congress is given millions to cover office expenses. What they do not spend gets returned. Ergo, many in Congress are doling out the excessive bonuses to avoid having to return the unspent cash.

The bonuses caused the average staffer's salary to increase by 17% in the final quarter of 2008. Ironically, that number roughly equals the median Congressional approval rating during that same period.

If AIG executives were denounced for receiving contractual bonuses after taking government funds, should not Congress be held to the same — if not a higher — standard? The situation appears even worse when considering that AIG took "only" \$173 billion in taxpayer funds, whereas Congress has appropriated trillions in bailouts and stimuli. If Congress were a corporation, they would have filed for bankruptcy decades ago. And all of their executives would have been fired.

The mere fact that the extravagant members of Congress are willing to do anything rather than return the office budget speaks volumes as to


their view of money. If they don't have it, they raise taxes. If they have it, they spend it. And if they don't need it, they find something to spend it on anyway. One must wonder — if there was no extra cash remaining in the office budget, would so many members of Congress be waxing eloquent on how their staffers deserved the bonuses? Or are they only seeking yet another excuse to justify their compulsive spending?

Sadly, staffers aren't the only ones getting congressionally-approved bonuses. Last year, the Postmaster General received \$134,000 as a performance bonus. That's despite the fact that the USPS lost \$2.8 billion that year — and is projected to lose over twice that amount this year — according to FOX News.

Congress, of course, has no one to blame but itself. They may think they are fooling the American people as they tried to do with AIG by approving bonuses — before doing an about-face and denouncing them. But, in the end, however, as more of these cases come to light, their duplicity will be uncovered.

When that happens, however, its doubtful that Congress will react with horror to its own hypocrisy and slap a 90 percent tax on its own earnings. If only. Perhaps then they would actually break the elusive 20 percent in their own approval ratings.

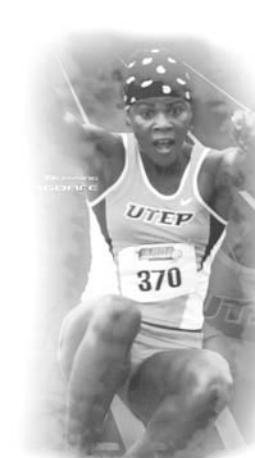
Isaac MacMillen is a Contributing Editor of ALG News Bureau.



# UTEP TRACK AND FIELD

UTEP Invitational  
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ALL DAY

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# UTEP SOFTBALL

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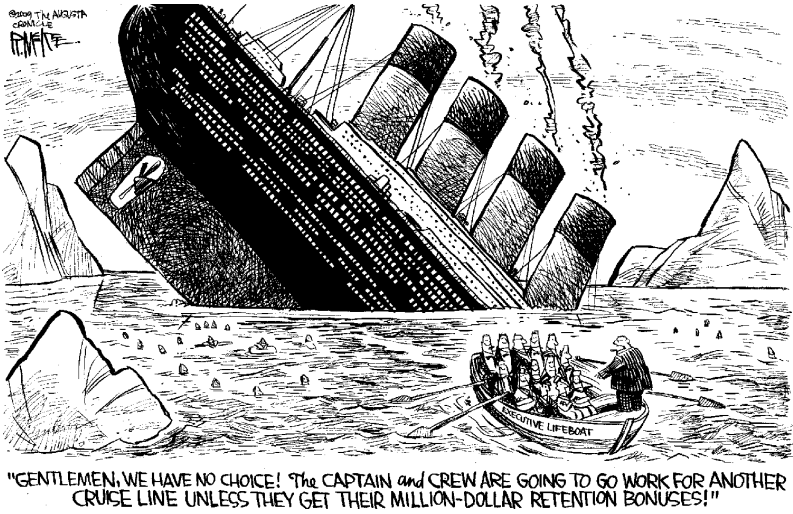
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1973  
36  
years  
2009

# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUELO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FARMER, SAN ELIZABETH AND TORNILLO

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Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The Courier reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.

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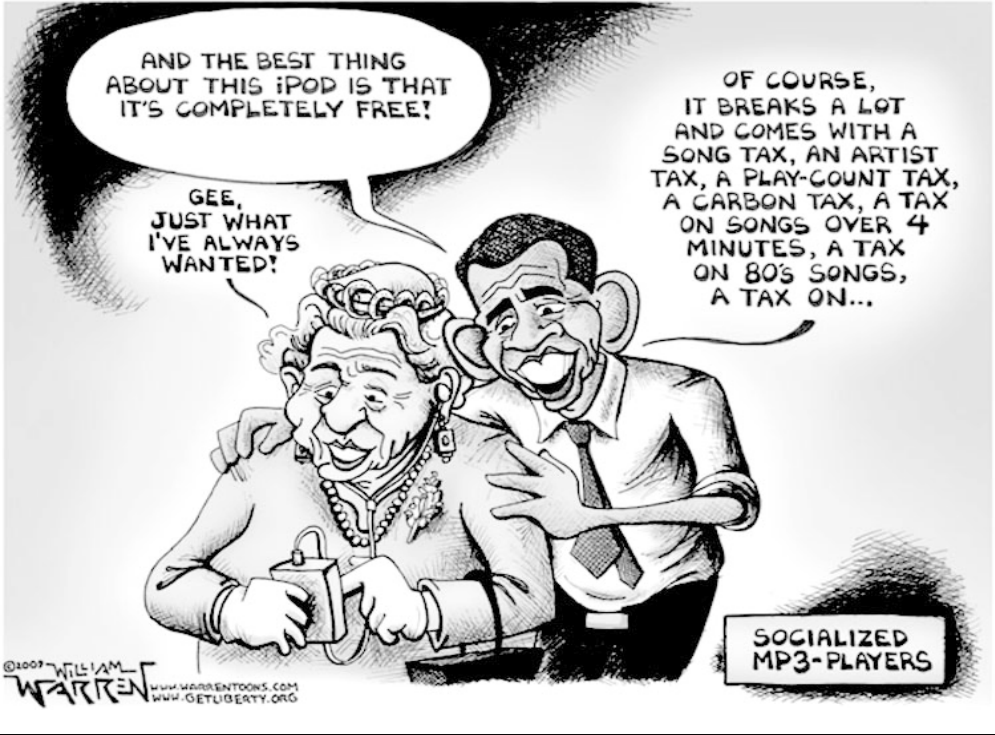
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## What's up, doc? By Albert Balesh, M.D.

### Making the grade

For those of us who are baby-boomers and old enough to remember, taking a bad report card home engendered a great deal of fear and trepidation, during what seemed an endless walk or school bus ride home. Perhaps that is the way hospital CEOs currently look at the issue of transparency and public disclosure, as they closely guard their respective institutions' financial and clinical secrets, and damn or withhold any revelation destined to transform stockholders into what amounts to angry parents.

Healthcare consumers, the U.S. federal government, and third-party payers, however, demand the highest standard of care from our nation's hospitals, as well as reliable performance measures to assure quality. Furthermore, such measures must be applicable to all hospitals, whether they reside in the high-tier or low-tier category. There is much evidence to support the contention that hospital report cards, based on objective performance measures, improve the overall healthcare of patients.

The Hospital Quality Alliance (HQA), based on provisions in the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act (MMA) of 2003 and instituted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), was, indeed, initiated precisely to that end. By collecting data on key measures of hospitals' management and quality of care (for example, the care provided, the resources consumed, the total costs of care, and the resulting outcomes), the HQA can tabulate report cards to motivate change and hopefully improve overall patient healthcare. Also, the recently proposed Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, by instituting financial incentives to entice our nation's hospitals to imake the grade, by adhering to established measures of performance, and expanding them when necessary, serves as an additional built-in safeguard to our nation's health.

High performance scores on HQA performance indicators have been associated with up to 15 percent reductions in the odds of death for common clinical conditions such as acute myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, and pneumonia. So, the initial results are in, and perhaps only a bit of tweaking and several more performance indicators are required before hospital report cards become a diffuse functioning reality.

Who would have ever thought that the long bus ride home would be good for one's health!

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## Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

### How can phonies rest in peace?

An investigation last year by the Chicago Tribune turned up a large number of people who had claimed to be medal recipients but weren't. Military records were checked, obituaries were scrutinized and information was amassed and compared. Of the more than 300 cases studied, the newspaper turned up approximately 100 each of phony claims for Silver Stars, Navy Crosses, Distinguished Service Crosses, Air Force Crosses and the big one — Medals of Honor.

Worst of all, it also discovered fake information on headstones in military cemeteries.

It boggles the mind, this last bit. When I buried my own father at Arlington National Cemetery, paperwork had to be handed over and, I assume, was looked at by the cemetery directors. For a headstone to be inscribed with a bogus valor decoration, it must mean that some fake paperwork was involved, perhaps passed along by the families who believed in the tales of exploit that must have been told all along by the veterans, along with a fistful of fake medals. That's the only explanation I can come up with.

For those of you who've claimed either verbally or in writing that you earned medals when you really didn't, send me an e-mail and tell me why you did it. I'm curious, I really am. I want to know what makes a United States military veteran lie.

Tell me, too, if you're going to get square with family and friends before you end up in a cemetery with bogus information on your headstone for all eternity.

I'll do another column later, without names, with a summary of the answers — assuming that anyone is willing to respond.

My e-mail address is below. Reply by May 15.

Write to Freddy Groves in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to [columnreply@gmail.com](mailto:columnreply@gmail.com). (c) 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.



**Moore Texas** by Roger Moore **April 10, 1722: Mission Santo de Zuniga is established near present day Victoria to serve the fierce , wild , mean , and CANNIBALISTIC Karankawa Indians.**



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## PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF HORIZON CITY, TEXAS

### FAIR HOUSING STATEMENT

The Town of Horizon City hereby declares its support of fair housing practices. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the locality to bring about, through fair, orderly, and lawful procedures, the opportunity of each person to obtain housing without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental handicap, marital status, parenthood, or age.

It is further declared that such policy is established upon the recognition of the inalienable rights of each individual to obtain housing and further, that denial of such rights is detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the locality and constitutes an unjust denial or deprivation of such inalienable rights which is within the power and the proper responsibility of government to prevent.

The locality has a Fair Housing Policy that may be examined and copied by interested groups or individuals during office hours. The month of April has been proclaimed “Fair Housing Month”; copies of the official proclamation are available at the Horizon City Town Hall between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

### POLICY STATEMENT ESTABLISHING NONDISCRIMINATION BASED ON HANDICAPPED CONDITIONS

The Town of Horizon City announces that it has adopted a policy of nondiscrimination based on handicapped conditions concerning access, participation, and benefit of programs and activities operated or conducted by the locality. This policy is in compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended in 24 CFR, Part 8, “Non-discrimination Based on Handicap in Federally-Assisted Programs and Activities of HUD,” dated June 2, 1988. Interested individuals or groups may obtain copies of this policy statement by calling the Town Clerk, who has been assigned to coordinate compliance with this policy and may be contacted at (915) 852-1046.

### POLICY STATEMENT ON PROHIBITING THE USE OF EXCESSIVE FORCE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

The Town of Horizon City announces that it has adopted a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement personnel within its jurisdiction against an individual engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations. This policy is in compliance with Section 519 of Public Law 101-44, 1990, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act. Copies of this policy statement may be obtained by calling the Town Clerk at (915) 852-1046.

### COMPLAINT AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

In order to comply with the requirements of the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) and of 10 T.A.C. Section 178.1 and Section 178.2, the locality has citizen complaint procedures intended to provide a timely written response to all complaints made against its proposed or completed TCDP efforts. Responses to complaints will be made within no more than ten (10) working days. A copy of the complaint procedures can be obtained upon request at (915) 852-1046. The established complaint procedures are an element of the local Citizen Participation Plan, and meet the requirements of USHUD Section 504 (24 CFR) concerning nondiscrimination based on handicapped conditions.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

The Town of Horizon City is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action employer.

Walter Miller  
Mayor

West Texas County Courier  
April 9, 2009

## Briefs

From Page 1

### In the Navy II

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### Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is assisting officers from the Police Department’s Central Region in identifying suspects who injured a victim in a drive-by shooting that took place in front of a downtown night club, making this the “Crime of the Week.” Early Saturday morning, March 28, about 1:00 a.m., the victim was standing outside Club 69 at 524 W. San Francisco Street in the Union Plaza district when he heard gunshots from a passing vehicle. The victim immediately attempted to shield a female standing nearby and, as a result, he suffered the loss of a kidney and a puncture wound to his liver. A recently returned Iraqi war veteran, and an innocent bystander, the victim is in serious but stable condition at a local hospital. Detectives investigating the offense have determined that the vehicle was possibly a black or dark gray newer model Cadillac CTS or Deville. One witness gave a partial out-of-state license plate of XJ-3554. The suspects are believed to be possibly three black males. The shooter was described as a light-skinned African American. After the shooting, the vehicle fled west on San Antonio and then continued heading west on Paisano. If you have any information at all about the identity and location of these subjects, or their vehicle, call Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS(8477) or submit your tip online at [www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org](http://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.

— James Klaes

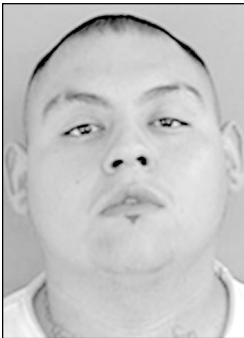
### Wanted

The hunt is on for Bernie Robert Ortiz, who sometimes uses the name Bernie Martinez. He is 21-years-old, 5’8" tall and weighs 220 pounds. His hair and eyes are brown. Ortiz has multiple tattoos:

- Right arm: Ortiz;
- Upper right arm: Veronica;

- Left arm: Good Times with faces (smile now - cry later);
- Upper left arm: Two skulls;
- Chest: Clown;
- Chin: Triangle; and
- Head: Ortiz.

Ortiz is wanted for the offense of Motion to Adjudicate Guilt on two counts of Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon. He is not eligible for bond. On May 7, 2006, Ortiz and his acquaintan-



Bernie Robert Ortiz

ces assaulted two male subjects while at Grahams Central Station night-club located at 1850 Lee Trevino. During the assault, Ortiz and company struck the victims several times with their fists and used a broken beer bottle during the commission of the assaults. The victims suffered several injuries and lacerations. Ortiz and the assailants were later arrested after being positively identified by several witnesses. In Aug. 2008 the 41st District court issued an arrest warrant for Ortiz for failing to comply with the terms of his probation. Ortiz knows he is wanted and is currently on the run eluding capture. He remains in El Paso, hiding from authorities. Anyone who knows the whereabouts or has seen Ortiz or other fugitives featured on Manhunt Monday is urged to call Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension of the individuals featured.

— Deputy Jesse Tovar

### Flood prep, safety

No one wants to think about being the victim of a flood, but having a plan in place in case one happens can prevent a lot of stress and potential financial loss after the fact. Whether you live near the water or not, being ready can keep you safe. In Flood Preparation and Safety, a free pamphlet from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Citizen Information Center, you can learn what to have ready before a flood, how to create an emergency plan and how to be safe during a flood. To learn more about how to protect your family and your belongings, order your free copy. To order, send your name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 588T, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 588T. And visit [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov) to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

— Jessica Milcetic

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# Ribbon cuttings mark project completions in Clint ISD



— Photos courtesy Clint ISD

**GRAND OPENINGS** — Horizon High School Band students are making music in their new band hall and facility. Guests were treated to performances by the band, flag team and cheerleaders during a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the new facility. Board members James Pendell and Pat Randleel (above, left) were on hand along with District officials to cut the ceremonial ribbon. Meanwhile, “Move that bus, move that bus,” was chanted by Frank Macias Elementary students (right) in Extreme Makeover style during the Inauguration Ceremony of their new gym. As the Clint ISD bus drove away, students and staff joined Frank Macias (above, center), the schools namesake, as he cut the ceremonial ribbon and led everyone into the gym for a first time look. Principal, Emi Gonzalez, students and staff then tried out the new facility with some fun class competitions. These improvements are part of Phase I projects of the 2006 Bond approved by voters.



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The Town of Clint announces that it has adopted a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement personnel within its jurisdiction against an individual engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations. This policy is in compliance with Section 519 of Public Law 101-44, 1990, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act. Copies of this policy statement may be obtained by calling the Town Secretary at (915) 851-3146.

### COMPLAINT AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES


In order to comply with the requirements of the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) and of 10 T.A.C. Section 178.1 and Section 178.2, the locality has citizen complaint procedures intended to provide a timely written response to all complaints made against its proposed or completed TCDP efforts. Responses to complaints will be made within no more than ten (10) working days. A copy of the complaint procedures can be obtained upon request at (915) 851-3146. The established complaint procedures are an element of the local Citizen Participation Plan, and meet the requirements of USHUD Section 504 (24 CFR) concerning nondiscrimination based on handicapped conditions.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

The Town of Clint is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action employer.

Dale Reinhardt  
Mayor

West Texas County Courier  
April 9, 2009

**AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION**  
of Texas

**YOUR Gift**  
**IS A WAY**  
**TO CONQUER**  
**LUNG DISEASE**

Find out how you can help ...

[www.texaslung.org](http://www.texaslung.org)

When you lose someone dear to you — or when a special person has a birthday, quits smoking, or has some other occasion to celebrate — memorial gifts or tribute gifts made for them to your local American Lung Association help prevent lung disease and improve the care of those who suffer from it.

**1-800-LUNG-USA**

## PUBLIC NOTICE Village of Vinton, Texas

**A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m.** during a Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting on **Thursday, April 16, 2009** at the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item(s):

- 1) A request for a variance of the Zoning Ordinance on Lot 4, of the Hernandez Addition, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas (also known as 7882 Kiely Road) for the purpose of constructing a multi-family dwelling.
- 2) A request for a variance of the Zoning Ordinance on Tract 7C33 and 7C2, of the Trinidad Jacquez Survey No. 158, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas (also known as 451 Chicken Farm Road) for the purpose of constructing a carport within the setback.
- 3) A request for a variance of the Mobile Home Permit Ordinance on Lot 16, Vinton Village Estates #2, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas (also known as 8001 Iron Drive) for the purpose of placing a mobile home older than ten (10) years old.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Village Clerk at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915)886-5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Jessica Garza  
Village Clerk

# Miners’ real victory is winning over the hometown fans

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

The UTEP Miners’ latest basketball season came to an end last Friday at the Don Haskins Center.

Though the loss in the championship game of the College Basketball Invitational was disappointing, there were things about it that were uplifting and inspiring for next year.

Coach Tony Barbee and his Miners were slow in capturing any real support from the city until the end of the season. But another reality is that the players and coach didn’t make much of an attempt to reach out to the public until the end of the season.

End result — hopefully both sides learned that they need each other.

It was great seeing a sellout crowd during the team’s last two home games of the season. The sound in the Don Haskins Center resembled what it was back in the 1980s when the Miners were winning all those WAC championships under the “Bear.”

I have to admit that the \$10 tickets helped quite a bit. But the price reduction allowed a

whole new section of the city to afford to attend the games. And the noise was deafening.

The only problem with season ticket holders in El Paso is that most of them are AARP members that tend to stay in their seats with their fingers to their lips shushing those around them because it’s too loud.

The average Joe’s and Joanna’s at the CBI games spent nearly the entire time on their feet, screaming at the top of their lungs.

What was especially rewarding was that on the evening tickets went on sale  til midnight, Barbee made an appearance and took the time shake hands and greet everyone in line.

Before Friday’s game UTEP star Stefon Jackson showed up to greet the thousands of people in line for the game.

That’s the kind of thing the UTEP coaches and players have to do more of.

And UTEP A.D. Bob Stull has got to find a way to get the average fan into the game. It’s the average man who is always the best fan.

As UTEP found out last week, you have to give... to get.

## Shame on Notre Dame

Notre Dame is known for having a great foot-

ball and men’s and women’s basketball program. Even their hockey team is one of the best in the country.

So the Fighting Irish are seemingly always in the college sports spotlight.

But Notre Dame’s sports teams are not what are making news this week, it’s the university’s whole thought process.

Normally, any college would be proud to have the president of the United States speak to their graduating class.

Let’s be honest, not very many institutions of higher learning will ever have the opportunity to have the nation’s leader appear at their campus. Let alone speak to the student body.

It’s a tremendous honor, especially when the president is the first African-American leader this nation has ever seen.

But although Notre Dame booked Barack Obama to speak, it is beginning to have second thoughts.

And the reason (taking a page from politics) is religion.

It’s unfortunate that this Catholic university is going against, as I understand it, everything it once stood for.

After Republican talking head Newt

Gingrich opened his rather large mouth chastising Notre Dame for having the audacity to invite Obama to speak at their graduation, school officials began to fall in line.

What’s the problem with having the president speak? The two biggest problems are his stance on abortion and embryonic stem cell research.

I find it fascinating that a religion that teaches understanding and tolerance and forgiveness refuses to practices what it preaches.

It’s especially shameful that some Notre Dame administrators, staff and students are taking such a hard stand against people that may have differing views, even if they agree on 100 other things.

That kind of thinking is dangerous and divisive. That is hardly what I think Notre Dame wants to be described as.

I thought the whole idea of attending college was to learn how to think, not be told what to think.

My message to those followers at Notre Dame, whenever you follow those who tell you what to think you might as well dump your brain in the trash because you have chosen not to use it.

And once you stop using your brain — your heart can’t be far behind.

## A sporting view By Mark Vasto

# The Brett Butler of Wiffle ball

Joe Lorton leads off... he’s a pesky hitter, and short enough where he’ll just kill you if the ball is thrown too low. He’s the type of hitter that if we were to allow base running (real Wiffle ball players don’t), you just know he’d lead the league in steals or something equally annoying.

But today, there’s a wind. He isn’t swinging; he’s letting the balls sail by and miss the strike zone... something most every Wiffle ball player in the universe cannot control him-

self to do. I mean, we’re there to hit, not improve our on-base percentage.

But Joe is the type of player who literally wants you to take the walk, to take the pitches and affect the pitcher’s pitch count, because in Wiffle ball, there is no bullpen — the bullpen is the next game’s starting pitcher. And even though it’s just Wiffle ball, as most old-timers find out, throwing a weightless piece of plastic around as hard and fast as you can for nine innings is going to cause

some ligament damage (as my chiropractor can attest).

Joe’s being a jerk, but it’s a great league. Some people play racquetball, others golf. On Sunday, in the middle of the Kansas City slums, you can find 10 to 20 30-somethings rocking the fast plastic with a few coolers of beer.

There’s this one kid, Craig Whitney, who allegedly was a standout pitcher for the University of Vermont. And he can run the ball up to the strike zone at around 70 mph — which would translate to being in the upper 90s if it was baseball. Whitney throws a no-hitter or perfect game at least once or twice a season; the rest of his games are usually shutouts.

Yeah, Whitney is a jerk, too.

Me? My game is from the Jersey Shore, further refined at College Park, Md. My debut at Rock Hill? I tossed a no-hitter. (I’ve thrown three in my six-year career at Rock Hill, and I’m the only pitcher who can stand up to Whitney — jerk that he is.) Sometimes I wear my Don Mattingly jersey, but usually I don’t. I don’t want to desecrate the No. 23 on the off chance I may have a bad day.

Luckily I, like, never have a bad day.

And it’s true. Part of Wiffle ball is the chatter, the mental aspect. You don’t talk the other guy down — that’d be rude — but you do talk yourself to ridiculous heights. And you drink cans of Pabst Blue Ribbon,

Miller High Life or on paydays, bottles of the local brew, Boulevard. (Since Budweiser went Belgian, we lost that critical sponsor... but then, who hasn’t?)

One year... one year me and Lorton, we finally got to Whitney just by calling our shots before every at-bat. Sure, we struck out about 70,000 times, but those eight or nine times we actually connected and went yard? It was enough to turn him into a 15-game winner. I mean, we really rattled him.

The jerk.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sports-writer and publisher of The Kansas City Luminary. (c) 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

## San Eli

From Page 1

nurses. Most of the items in the kit were donated by local businesses.

Additionally, the district through a small health grant will also fund laundromat services for families in need who may not have a washer and dryer available to use.

“We want to encourage our constituents to begin these additional preven-


tive measures by starting with their bedding and by showing them the small yet powerful means they have to eliminate and prevent the further spread of scabies,” Rodriguez added.

While the tally of reported scabies cases in El Paso County

schools keeps ticking upward, the San Elizario Independent School District wants to ensure that it is not just observing but doing some-


thing about it by equipping the community with the know-how and tools to prevent infection and stop re-infestation.

**People know Pueblo for its...**



**Famous Hot Salsa?**

In Pueblo, the free government information is also hot. Spice up your life by dipping into the Consumer Information Center web site, [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov). You can download all the information right away. Sorry, salsa not available through our web site or Catalog.



U.S. General Services Administration

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6	1	9	5	2	3	4	7	8

## Zone

From Page 1

maintenance zones.

- More than four out of every five work zone fatalities are motorists traveling through the work zone.
- Speeding and inattention are the most common causes of work zone crashes, and one in three work zone crashes is a rear-end collision.


“We want all individuals to take extra care when working in or traveling through work zones,” said Fred Underwood, Texas Transportation Commis-


sioner. “By creating this awareness, we are empowering people with the knowledge of how they can help protect and save lives. As a result, we hope to reduce the number of fatalities that occur in work zones.”


Underwood said everyone should take responsibility for work zone safety, from engineers and planners to drivers and pedestrians.

— *Contributed by Blanca M. Del Valle*

• Place Your Classified •

1: Fill out the form; 

 2: Write a check; then

3: Send both to us. 

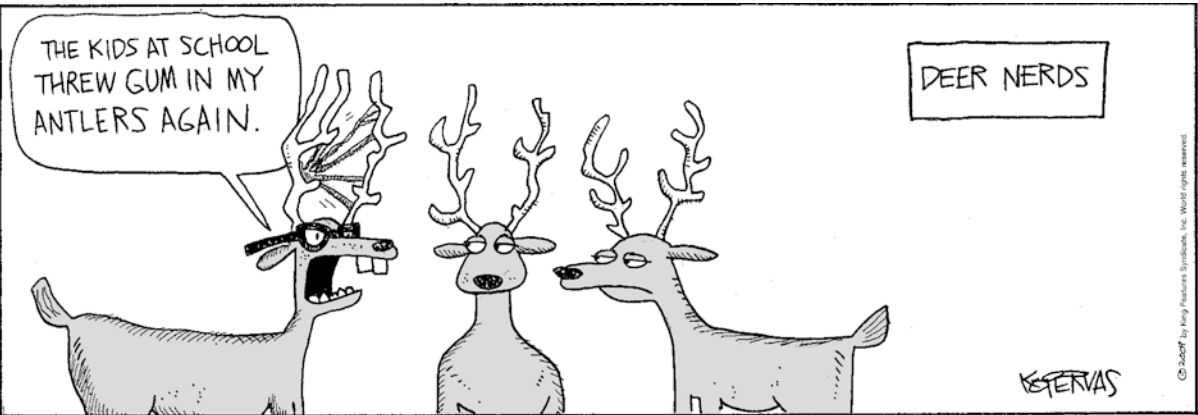
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Comix

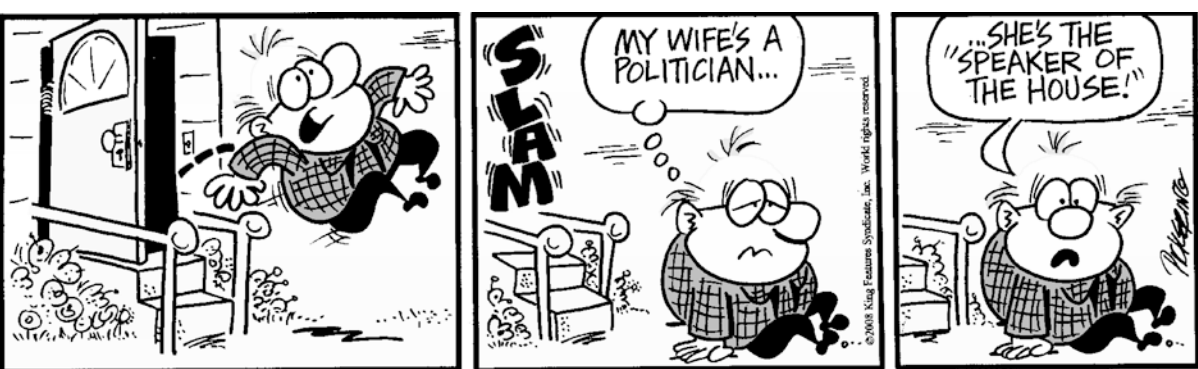
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Sewage

By Taprina Milburn

I remember listening a couple of years ago to a National Public Radio interview of a Haitian mother who explained to a reporter about the extreme unsanitary conditions she and her children were living in. Rather than having a clean yard to play in, her children had to avoid sewage around their home and neighborhood.

She said to the reporter something like, "Could you live in a place like this?"

I don't remember the whole interview; it had a lot to do with political unrest. What I remember connecting on with her was the concern for her children's future — more immediately, their physical health.

It didn't surprise me that for a couple of days after that I kept having the image in my head of wading through sewage while carrying my kids on my shoulders so they wouldn't be affected by the refuse.

But the sewage I was wading through wasn't the stuff that in our country we have the luxury of flushing, it was the crud we invite into our homes via our televisions and radios.

I'm guilty of this. Sometimes when the kids aren't around, I'm not really on guard as far as the television content is concerned. I'm a grown-up, after all, I'm not a prude, what harm can be done?

Except that one night I noticed that the characters on a couple of the sitcoms I flipped through were going through bed partners as

quickly as someone would a box of tissue. Then, not a few minutes later, a commercial aired for a genital herpes medication. Appropriate marketing, I thought.

Cleaning up the sewage starts with me — the parent.

I can be stunned by the pop-culture content, and I can gripe along with other parents about what our kids are faced with on a daily basis, but nothing gets done if I only examine the junk that's lying around. I have to start removing it from my own life.

The Haitian mother I listened to will have to move to get away from her unsanitary living conditions. Every day they have to smell it and walk around it.

We can't smell our cultural sewage, but if we open our eyes and ears we can certainly see and hear it — if we are willing to. We know this stuff isn't good for us and our families. So why do we invite it in?

I think it's because we create an appetite for it, and in doing so we become complacent (after all, it's just a show).

We have a lot of excuses for keeping our crud, don't we?

Unlike the Haitian mother, I don't have to move. They only effort I have to make is moving my fingers to change a channel or hit an "off" button.

Let's not ever get to a place in our society or our homes where we have to ask, "Could you live in a place like this?"

Write to Taprina Milburn in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2009 King Features Synd., Inc.

To Advertise  
Call 852-3235

King Super Crossword

- A PUZZLE**

**ACROSS**

1 Brimless hat

4 Entertain or Erato?

9 Trophy or city district?

14 Be an accomplice or wager?

18 Sills solo

20 Chemical element

21 Less adorned

22 O'Hara homestead

23 Minus

24 Dolt

25 Marsh bird

26 Ken of "thirtysomething"

27 Waterfalls

29 Furrow

31 Emotionally arduous

33 Spouses no more

34 \_ cotta

36 Peculiar

37 De Mille or Moorehead

39 Be in a pageant

41 George of "Just Shoot Me"

45 Thickets

46 " \_ is me!"

47 Fish for a dish

49 Shady spot

51 Goal

52 Simple shelters

54 "Got \_ You Into My
- Life" ('66 song)

56 Figure of interest?

57 Mao \_ -tung

58 Land or beacon?

60 Mead's milieu

62 Canonized Mlle.

63 Eulogy

65 At \_ for words

68 Result

70 It really smells

71 Spoil

72 Rent- \_

73 Morsel for Dumbo

76 Error

78 Obsolete title

81 Lend an \_ (listen)

82 Schipa or Bergonzi

84 Quantity or steed?

86 Cry of discovery

88 Particle

90 Automaton

92 French couturier

93 Soho snack

94 Varnish ingredient

96 Fall decoration

98 Creepy

Christopher

99 Jeweler's weight

101 Link

103 Looked like Hook?

105 Planned a burglary

106 Uh-uh

108 Yorkshire features

109 David's instrument

110 Cavorts in the pool

115 Make lace
- 116 Trees-to-be

120 Pub orders

121 Cover story?

123 Fuming

125 Authentic

126 Barrett or Jaffe

127 Romeo and Juliet

128 Neighbor of Mali

129 Actress Raines

130 Perched on or toy?

131 Make amends or pitch?

132 Collect or religious service?

133 Drink like a dachshund
- DOWN**

1 Soft mineral

2 Locality

3 TV's "Our \_ Brooks"

4 Dwells

5 Ways

6 "Topaz" author

7 \_ Canals

8 Main course

9 Like some art

10 Pale

11 Like 102 Down

12 Printer's proof

13 Expects the worst

14 Like \_ of bricks

15 Part of Indonesia

16 " \_ go brag!"

17 Sharp taste

19 Upward
- movement or aroma?

28 Fires

30 Poetic pots

32 Concept

34 Choppers

35 Opposite or hybrid?

37 Tilted or roster?

38 Private Pyle

39 Moulin \_

40 Forum fashions

42 Growl sound

43 Embarrass or big party?

44 Government game

45 Purrfect pet?

46 Singer Barry

48 Rep. rival

50 " \_ Petite" ('57 song)

53 Put one's foot down

55 Big-billed bird

58 Concerning or match?

59 Sheen

61 Separately or role?

64 Hostelry

66 \_ Cruces, NM

67 Mountain nymph

69 \_ Lanka

72 Blue hue

73 Compote component

74 Consumed

75 Stood up or flower?

76 Rock's Los \_
- 77 Approximately or boxing division?

78 Acted like a dove

79 \_ Dame

80 In front of or leader?

83 Egggy beverage

85 Jazzman Davis

87 \_ bran

89 Cowboy Tom

91 Essay's big brother

95 " \_ on the Run" ('90 film)

97 Walter - Mare

99 Composer Orff

100 Yearn or steeple part?

102 North African feature

104 Eye part

105 Piquant buds

107 Spartan serf

109 Can't stand

110 Poet Teasdale

111 Scheme

112 Carson's successor

113 PDQ, politely

114 Farm building

116 It's a long story

117 '94 Jodie Foster film

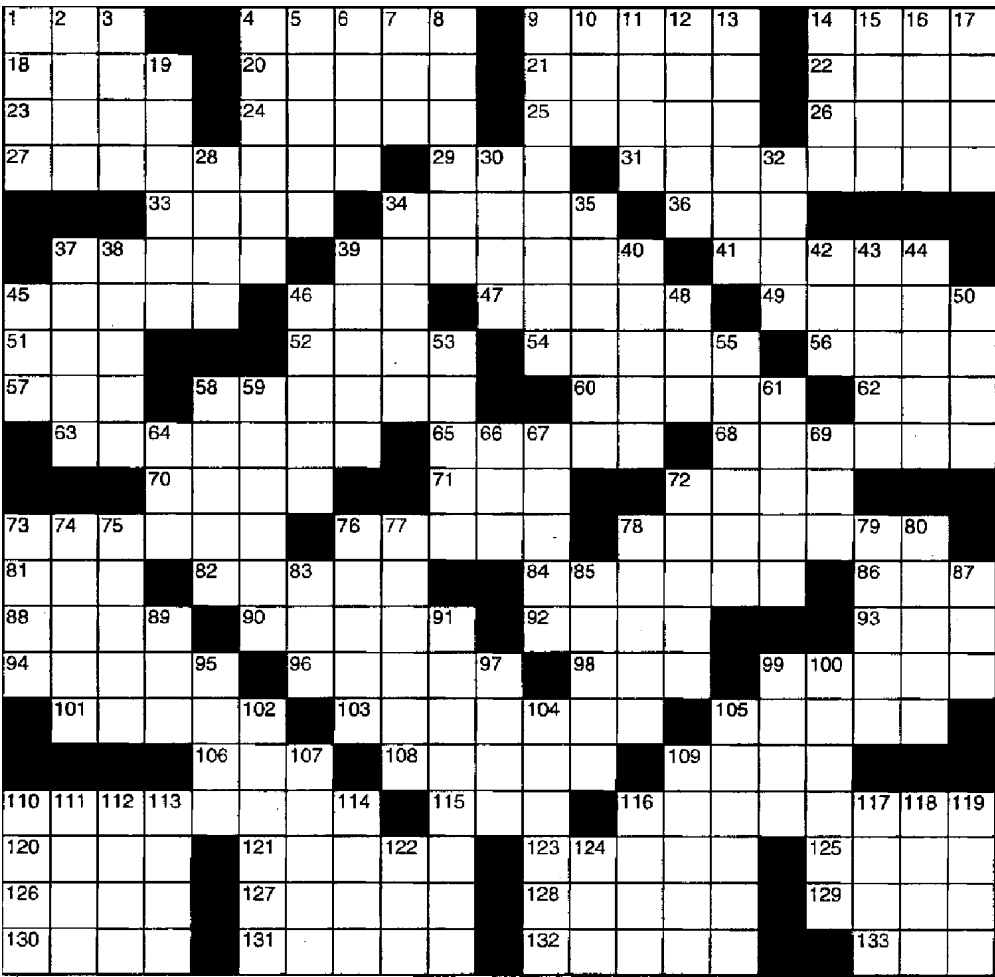
118 Extravaganza

119 Clout a cad

122 Big \_

124 Wheel part

Answer Page 6



# Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

*Q: I am a school employee who has been working for a district 36 years and I am now 64 years old. I am presently unmarried and my previous relationship ended in divorce after 10 years. Will I be able to receive social security ben-*

*efits on my divorced husband's social security record? Will I be able to claim benefits from both Social Security and Texas Teacher Retirement? I only have 4 quarters of credit on my social security record. Do I need to report to Social Secu-*

*rity when I turn 65 years of age? Which is better to get my teacher retirement or social security? Will I have to get an attorney when I get ready to retire?*

A: A person can qualify for

## Classified Ads

**LEGALS**

**SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Invitation to Bid/Respond:**

WTCC: 04-09-09

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

**FRIDAY APRIL 17, 2009**

**EMPLOYEE UNIFORMS FOR TRANSPORTATION CSP NO. 199-0417-E9056 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:80 P.M.**

Proposals will be received at the Financial 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 and detailed specifications are available and can be retrieved and submitted electronically through the district e-bid website: <https://ebid.sisd.net>

WTCC-04/09/09

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**AYUDA, Inc.**

Adults and Youth United Development Association Inc. will begin taking applications for a government-funded housing program (TDHCA) for new construction and rehabilitation for low-income households until April 30, 2009. Application forms and list of required documents will be available at 1325 Beverly Ann, San Elizario TX 79849 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Completed applications containing supportive documents requested will be processed on a first-come first served basis for more info

amendment(s):

1) 2nd reading Ordinance No. 0167 — An Ordinance replacing Ordinance No.0167 establishing certain Speed Limits within the Municipal limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas and repealing and replacing Ordinance No. 0167 dated March 24, 2009.

2) 2nd reading Ordinance No. 0172, Budget Amendment No. 004 to transfer funds from Contingency Account No. 500818, to Account Numbers 501612, 501601 and 505716.

3) 2nd reading Ordinance No. 0105 — An Ordinance regulating School Zones within the Town limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas and repealing and replacing Ordinance No. 0105, dated November 25, 2008.

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  
Town of Horizon City  
WTCC: 04-09-09

**Town of Horizon City**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

During the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 the Town Of Horizon City approved the following ordinance(s):

1) ORDINANCE NO.0167 —An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 0167, establishing certain speed limits within the municipal limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas and repealing and replacing Ordinance No. 0167, dated May 27, 2008.

2) ORDINANCE NO. 0172, Amendment No. 001 —An Amendment to transfer unencumbered funds in the amount of \$505,320., from Budget Year 2007-2008 to the Contingency Fund of Budget Year 20098-2009.

3) ORDINANCE NO. 0172, Amendm.ent No. 003 — An Amendment to transfer funds from Acct. No. 505101, Police Salary to Acct. No.

Social Security Retirement benefits if they have at least 40 quarters of credit, you claim to have only 4 quarters; therefore you are looking in the right direction. When an individual marries for 10 years and the relationship ends in divorce, they are eligible to file for benefits on their divorced spouse's record provided that both are at least 62 years of age. The working divorced spouse must have worked and paid into social security at least 10 years. You stated to have worked for a school district for 36 years; I am assuming you do not contribute into social security. There is a provision in the Social Security Act, Government Pension Offset, which states that two-thirds of the amount of your pension from Texas Retirement System will be offset against any benefits you are eligible to receive on your divorced spouse's record. There is an exception to the Government Pension Offset which states that if on the last 5 years (which must be continuous) of your career with Texas Retirement System, you work for a district that pays into both Social Security and Texas Retirement System, your social security benefits would not be subject to an offset. Learn more about Government Employees and Social Security by visiting our website <http://mwww.ba.ssa.gov/gpopep/>. Three months before your 65th birthday, you should access our automation services at 1-800-772-1213 and schedule an appointment for Medicare benefits. Even though you might be subject to Government Pension Offset, you still remain eligible for Medicare. Both Social Security and Texas Retirement System are great choices, but only you can determine which is best for you. When you get ready to file for your social security divorced spouse's benefits, you can do so electronically at our website, <http://mwww.ba.ssa.gov/online/ssa-2.html>. The decision whether or not to seek the services of a representative (attorney or other qualified person) is yours to make. All of our services are free whether you decide to visit our website, call our automation services or visit either social security office locations.

Karen Ellefson  
City Clerk

WTCC: 04-09-09

**HELP WANTED**

SALES: 90% inside sales. Much growth potential. Excellent telephone/computer skills. Organized self starter. Time mgmt. Professional Highly Motivated Results Oriented. Compensation negotiable. Benefits Avail. [benji@allaboardamerica.com](mailto:benji@allaboardamerica.com). Fax: 915-755-4210. Openings also in Midland.

**SELF-HELP**

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

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solucion. Informacion: 838-6264.

**STORAGE**

**National Self Storage BRAND NEW UNITS**

Specials - Climate Control Units: 5x5 and 5x10 just \$1 first month. Regular 5x10 and 12x30 units just \$1 first month. Call Blanca - 852-8300.

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For information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

archives: [www.wtxcc.com](http://www.wtxcc.com)

## CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: D equals L

M Z M T N N D U U S T E J T E Z  
I U Z D D B P G T D D B I Y Y L ,  
N Y T N F S S Y N U B Y F  
L T J G H N Z B G U ' N Y F H  
P Y D M .

Answer Bottom of Page

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## Across & Down

by Donna Pettman

Rearrange the letters in each group to form a word. Place the words into the diagram so that the same words read both across and down. The first word across is the same as the first word down, the second word across is the same as the second word down and so on. The letter groups are not necessarily placed next to the row of the diagram in which they go.

EEMT  
OEMT  
MTSE  
MTEI


Answer Page 6

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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## CryptoQuip

answer

Dad is sleeping in a really chilly room, so I suppose you might say he's out cold.