



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER



VOL. 37, No. 32

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO

AUGUST 12, 2010

NEWSBRIEFS

Luncheon

The Southwest Character Council August luncheon will highlight Security vs. Anxiety. Join us August 11 at Great American Land and Cattle Company at 701 S. Mesa Hills Drive. The cost is only \$10 and if you bring a friend who has never attended, that person’s lunch is free. Call our office at 779-3551 and please give us the names of those attending. Sorry — due to high fees, we can’t accept credit cards anymore.

— Kelly McCullough

Concerts

Multi-award winning Desert Reign, a Southern Gospel Band, will be at 200 FM 1110, Clint, from Aug. 29 to Sep. 3, 2010 each evening at 7 p.m. Named Country Gospel Music Association’s Band and Vocal Group of the Decade, Desert Reign delivers fantastic sound, with a powerful gospel message. Outstanding songwriting, incredible harmonies, and down right good pickin! They love to cut loose and have a little fun, bringing hope, joy, and a reminder that nothing is impossible with God. Information: 592-9081 or 851-3145.

— Erma Nelson

San Eli housing

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and State Representative Chente Quintanilla have announced that the TDHCA will provide financing to construct a high quality rental property in San Elizario offering reduced rents yet with an attractive design to blend seamlessly within the community. TDHCA will provide \$725,184 in housing tax credits to private developers constructing the 36-unit Presidio Dolores Apartments, a rental property that will feature rents affordable to tenants earning no more than 60 percent of the area median family income. For San Elizario, this equals an annual income of \$27,360 for a family of four.

— Jill McFarren

Crime Stoppers

A man with a handgun walks up to a downtown bank teller and demands money, making this the Crime Stoppers “Crime of the Week.” On Thursday, June 24, 2010, a little after 2:00 p.m., the subject entered the First Savings Bank at 909 N. Mesa armed with a black semi-automatic handgun. He approached a bank teller and, speaking in Spanish, made a demand for money. The teller turned over an undisclosed amount of money, which the subject placed into a gray plastic bag that he brought with him. The subject then ordered the teller to get on the floor, and he ran out of the

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People seldom improve when they have no model but themselves.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

IT’S GOT TO GO — Keep El Paso Beautiful Executive Director Katherine Gunter-Palafox shows some of the trash that is targeted for the Sparks Clean-Up Day scheduled for Saturday, September 18. A Clean-Up Day informational dinner will be held at 6 p.m., Wednesday, August 18, at Socorro Ramirez Community Center, 106 Peyton Rd. Sparks residents are encouraged to attend.

Keep El Paso Beautiful targets Sparks for Sept. 18 clean-up

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

SPARKS — Keep El Paso Beautiful (KEPB) Executive Director Katherine Gunter-Palafox is passionate about empowering El Paso County residents to take control of their environment. Through her latest effort, KEPB secured a grant to provide funds to help Sparks residents in East El Paso coordinate work to clean up and to prevent illegal dumping in their community.

KEPB will host a dinner at 6 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 18, at the Socorro Ramirez Community Center, 106 Peyton Road, to share community resources information and to discuss an upcoming Clean Up Sparks Day event. Guest Speakers for the dinner will be El Paso County Sheriff Richard Wiles and Commissioner Veronica Escobar. Sparks community residents are invited to attend.

The planned clean-up day event is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 18. Residents and friends, as well as county government personnel, will join efforts to rid the Sparks neighborhood and surrounding desert areas of mounds of trash, debris and tires. Volunteers will meet at 8 a.m. at the Socorro Ramirez Community Center.

This will be the third and final Sparks community clean-up effort under the provisions of a TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) grant that was awarded to the Keep El Paso Beautiful program in the spring.

“The grant provided \$73,000 for the Clean Up Sparks project from the Supplemental Environment Projects (SEP) fund, which are monies collected by TCEQ from companies that are assessed fines for non-compliance violations,” said Gunter-Palafox. “The idea is to return the accumulated funds to the counties where those fined companies are located through projects such as the one that we are conducting in the

Sparks area,” she explained.

The first two trash pick-up outings – in May and July – yielded more than 400 tons of garbage and 1,500 tires, according to Gunter-Palafox. “I was inspired by the work that everyone did in our two clean-up sweeps. We had over 100 volunteers and various government entities, public utilities, and businesses step forward to assist,” said Gunter-Palafox, who has headed El Paso’s beautification initiative since 2001.

Both Sparks clean-up outings were preceded by a community dinner for residents to meet government officials and receive information about services and regulations regarding trash collection, illegal dumping, and the clean up day events. Attending the dinners were representatives from the Lower Valley Water District (LVWD), County Attorney’s Office, Roads and Bridges Department, and Commissioner Willie Gandara.

Clean-up Day assistance has been provided by public agencies including Texas A&M Colonias Outreach program, Lower Valley Water District, El Paso Water Utilities, and El Paso Sheriff’s Office. Among the volunteers have been cadets from the Socorro High School ROTC program and educators from Horizon High School. Businesses that have contributed are El Paso Disposal, Camino Real Landfill in Sunland Park, New Mexico, Tres Pesetas Tire Recycling Center, A&E Contracting Solutions, Los Tres Gallegos Restaurant, and Ewing Irrigations.

“This clean-up project’s goal is to bring awareness and offer resources to combat illegal dumping in the Sparks community,” Gunter-Palafox said. “Every cent of this grant will be spent to clean up this area and to provide residents with information to empower them to prevent illegal dumping near their homes and surrounding desert terrain.”

Margarita Garcia, a member of the Texas A&M Colonias Outreach program, said that she has participated in the first two

Keep El Paso Beautiful, Inc.

Keep El Paso Beautiful (KEPB) is a local non-profit organization dedicated to educating the community regarding litter prevention, illegal dumping and the impact of solid waste on our community, creating awareness and building community pride. KEPB works to involve citizens, businesses, schools and local government in community clean-ups, beautification projects and recycling programs.

KEPB’s mission is to empower individuals to take greater responsibility for enhancing their community environment.

The organization was founded in 1982 as the El Paso Clean Community System. In 1987, the name was changed to Keep El Paso Beautiful, Inc. KEPB is the local affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc. and is recognized as a Keep Texas Beautiful Proud Community.

KEPB is locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally recognized for its innovative and educational programs.

For more information about Keep El Paso Beautiful, visit the website, www.kepb.org.

clean-up efforts. She said that they have made a big difference and have brought together neighbors to help each other.

“When I drive through the neighborhood now, I can see how much cleaner the yards are and how the trash has been removed from empty lots. The thing is, this project will only continue to work if Sparks residents take it upon themselves to get involved and be willing to call the sheriff’s office when they see someone dumping trash illegally, especially in the desert areas,” Garcia said.

An individual can incur a fine, ranging from

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Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Rules loosened for PTSD claims

A lot of veterans have been waiting for this: eased restrictions on filing a claim for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Until now, a veteran not only had to prove that he (or she) was in a hostile location, but had to wait until records were dug up and stories corroborated about what happened when. Too many times those records were destroyed or couldn't be found. Or a veteran's particular role didn't seem to lend itself to being in a stressful situation, although he actually was in the thick of things.

Now we see an easing of the rules that have kept far too many veterans from getting the care and benefits they deserve.

The particulars are:

- The veteran must be diagnosed with PTSD by a psychiatrist either at the Department of Veterans Affairs or connected with the VA;
- The symptoms must be related to the stress that's being claimed; and
- The stress must be consistent with where the veteran served, and when.

This means that a veteran doesn't necessarily have to have been 3 feet away from an explosion to claim PTSD. It's the fear that can come from being in a hostile area that seems (finally) to be taken into consideration here. Let's say a veteran was a cook or a nurse who was in an area where there hostile military action that could (and did) break out at any moment — that veteran's stress will be judged as valid. Fear of death is a very real stress that they're now recognizing.

Veterans can file claims for service from any war. If you haven't filed, do. If you filed and were turned down prior to July 13, 2010, file again.

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. (c) 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

Sparks

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\$500 to \$1,500, if found guilty of an illegal dumping infraction.

Perla Rodriguez, a volunteer at the Socorro Ramirez Community Center, has helped the clean-up project by manning the community center and helping prepare meals for all participants. She has lived in the Sparks community for over 15 years.

"I hope residents stay alert and report illegal dumping. The key to the success of all this work is the sheriff's department," Rodriguez stated. "When residents call to report an illegal dumping incident and the sheriff's officers don't respond, then they will not bother to report it anymore."

To report illegal dumping anywhere in El Paso County, call 546-2280.

Por la Gente

By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

School funding needs to be fair

Hola mi gente. Recently, the voters in the El Paso Independent School District voted down a property tax increase to their school finance tax. While the crux of this story is "no new taxes", something that also happened was the refusal by voters to infuse the district with almost \$100 million over five years.

Our state constitution clearly places the responsibility for supporting public schools on the state legislature. Because of this, the state should be the primary factor in funding our public school system. The constitution does not state or imply that educating our students shall be based on local property wealth.

But, that is in reality how education is funded. The Texas Supreme Court addressed this issue in the early 90s as a result of a lawsuit filed by the Edgewood Independent School District. The court agreed that funding was not adequately managed by the state and ordered major changes.

A measure used by the court was the property wealth per student. This number is determined by taking the total estimated values of commercial and personal property divided by the number of students in the district. The quotient is a clear indicator of how much revenue a district can collect for the school system.

Justice Mauzy, in his opinion, noted, "wealthiest district has over \$14,000,000 of property wealth per student, while the poorest has approximately \$20,000." What did this translate to? Schools in wealthy districts could have a full curricula like foreign language, teacher aides, counseling and drop-out prevention programs. At the time of this decision, San Elizario could not offer chemistry, physics, calculus, college preparatory or honors program. This was so because the property values in the community were very low.

While the property values for the wealthier districts were high, the property taxes were low compared to a school district like San Elizario. It took more pennies per one hundred dollars of property value in poor districts to buy the same services in wealthier districts.

After the Supreme Court decision, the legislature created "Robin Hood" funding where wealthy districts shared their property taxes. But, in the process, the state had to avoid a state property tax. However, if the constitution calls for the state to establish an efficient system, how can the state accomplish this without generating adequate statewide funding?

Ever since the decision, a process started that reduced the amount of state funding. It was built into the legislation establishing "Robin Hood." In essence, the state's portion was lowered every time a district appraised its property values higher. Eventually all the districts approached the \$1.50 tax rate which made the funding unconstitutional (statewide property taxes are prohibited).

After addressing the issue, the recently passed funding method appears to favor wealthy districts, as was the case prior to the Edgewood decision.

In the case of the El Paso Independent School District, state monies were available only after voters approved a property tax increase. The voters clearly indicated that their pocket books could not afford higher property taxes. Thus the state saved almost \$100 million over five years. At the same time, school districts with high values per student are providing their students with a better quality of education. There are no scrambles to cut programs, administrators or teachers in those districts.

The unfairness and inequality is quite obvious.

I remain your friend and public servant, Chente por la gente.



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HOME OPENER

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

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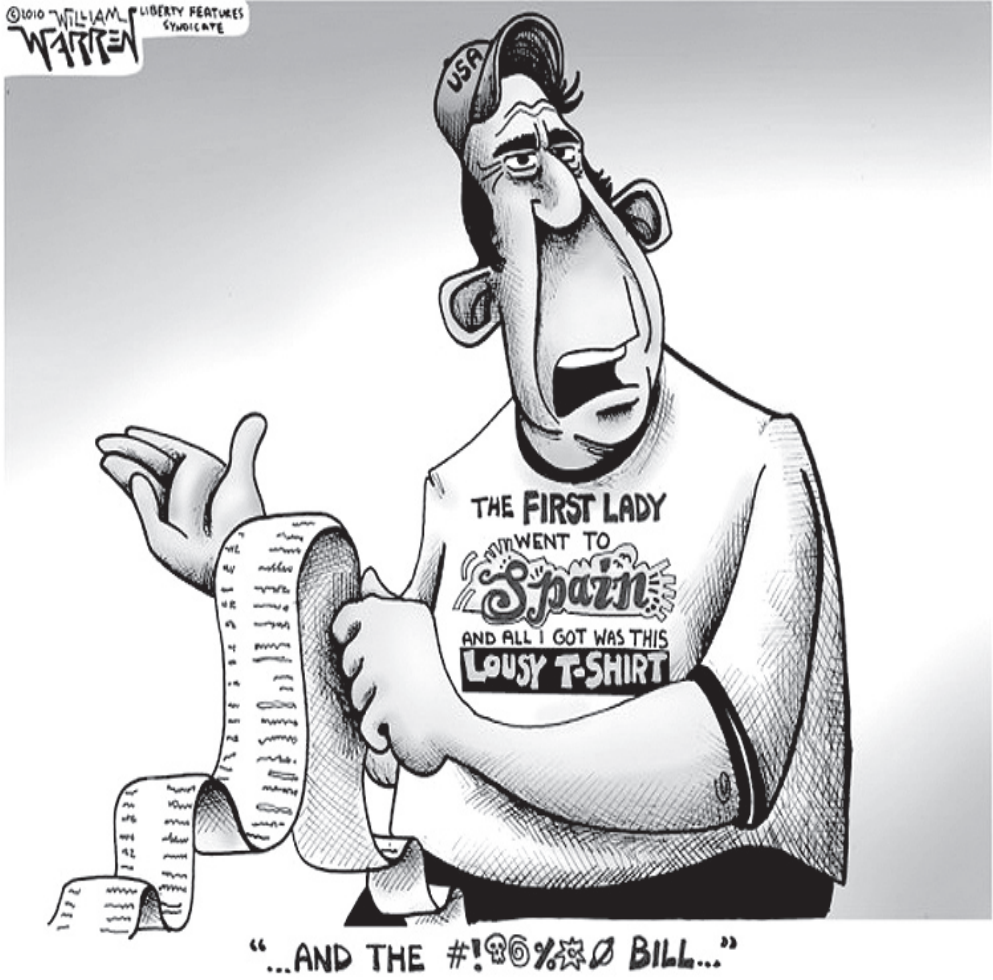
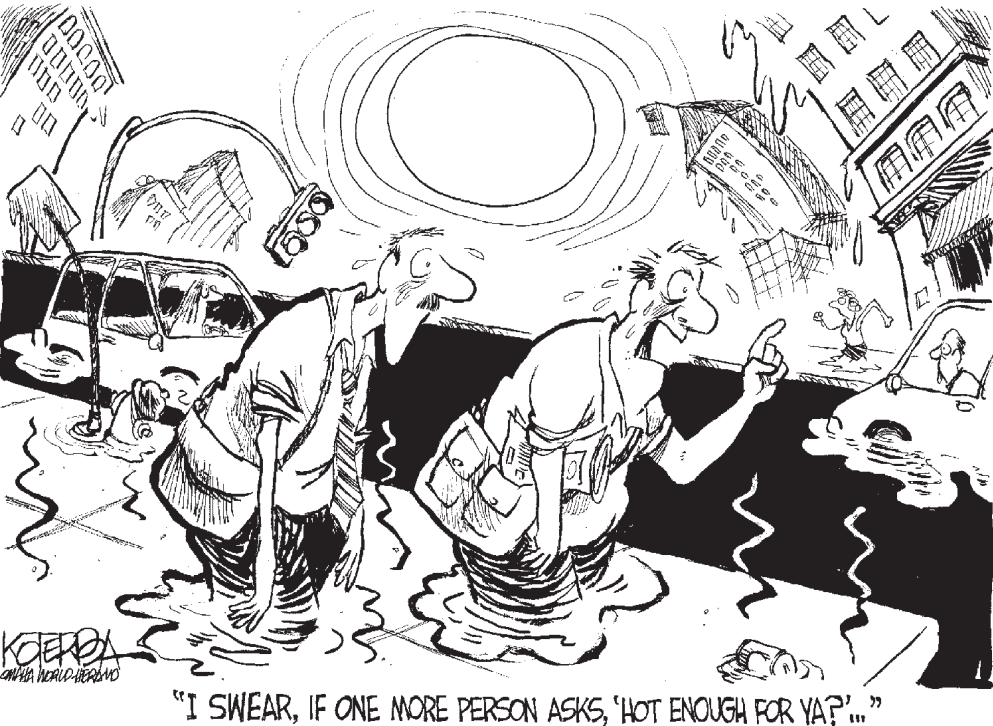
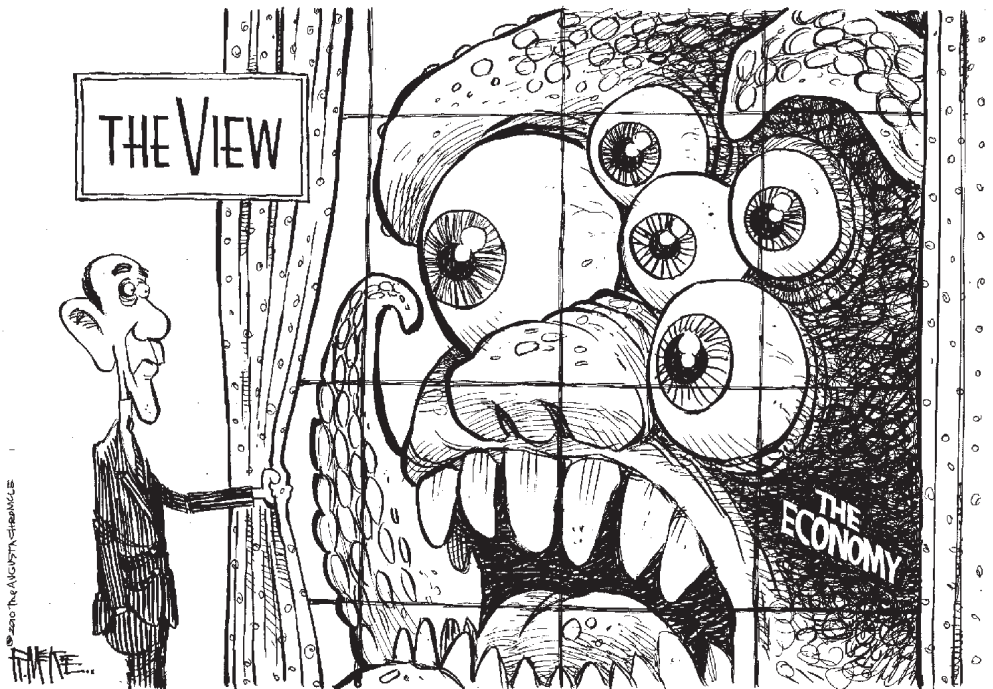
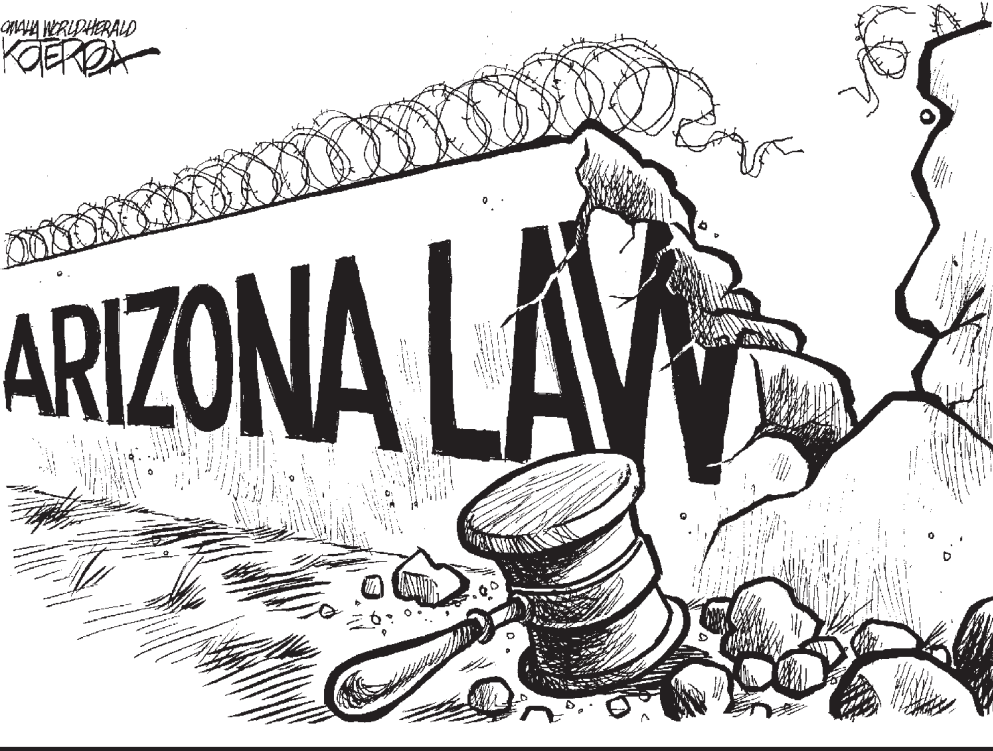
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Member Texas Community Newspaper Association

Homesteader News, Inc. Est. 1973



2010 Property Tax Rates
in City of Socorro – Corrected

This notice concerns 2010 property tax rates for the City of Socorro – CORRECTED. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating taxes	\$ 3,091,639
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 691,075
Last year's total taxes	\$ 3,782,714
Last year's tax base	\$ 761,481,771
Last year's total tax rate	0.496757 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 3,781,067
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 776,317,668
= This year's effective tax rate	0.487051 /\$100
<i>(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)</i>	

This year's rollback tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 3,090,293
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 776,317,668
= This year's effective operating rate	0.398071 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	0.429916 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	0.102171 /\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	0.532087 /\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease
If the City of Socorro – Corrected adopts a 2010 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.487051 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2009 taxes by \$60,919.

SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$ 4,613,901
Debt Service (I&S)	-0-

SCHEDULE B – 2010 Debt Service
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Cert. Oblig. - 1999	\$ 110,000	\$ 17,165	-0-	\$ 127,165
Cert. Oblig. - 2001	\$ 21,600	\$ 19,910	-0-	\$ 41,510
Cert. Oblig. - 2004	\$ 85,000	\$ 64,761	-0-	\$ 149,761
Cert. Oblig. - 2008	\$ 100,000	\$ 195,704	-0-	\$ 295,704
Cert. Oblig. - 2010	\$ 183,206	\$ 8,952	-0-	\$ 192,158
Total required for 2010 Debt Service				\$ 806,298
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				-0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				-0-
- Excess collections last year				-0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2010				\$ 806,298
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2010				-0-
= Total Debt Levy				\$ 806,298

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office located at the intersection of Durango and Franklin streets.

Name of person preparing this notice: **Juan F. Sandoval**
Title: **Tax Assessor/Collector** Date prepared: **August 9, 2010**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Tornillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 25, 2010 in the Administration Bldg., 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, Texas 79853. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.090100/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.246000/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year’s Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	0.30% Increase
Debt Service	0.20% Increase
Total Expenditures	1.20% Increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
(as calculated under Section 26.04, tax Code)

	Preceeding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 64,430,732	\$ 65,360,364
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 1,487,781	\$ 1,477,486
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 52,094,030	\$ 53,133,662
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 1,154,768	\$ 1,399,324

* “Appraised value” is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** “New property” is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** “Taxable value” is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$20,313,476

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year’s Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year’s Rate	\$ 1.090100	\$ 0.249000*	\$ 1.339100	\$ 538	\$ 9,141
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.096960	\$ 0.252960*	\$ 1.349930	\$ 547	\$ 8,546
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.090100	\$ 0.246000*	\$ 1.336100	\$ 543	\$ 9,156

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.
The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year’s Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 43,095	\$ 44,278
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 27,735	\$ 29,040
Last Year’s Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.339100	\$ 1.3361000
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 371.39	\$ 388.00
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 16.61

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.336100. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.336100.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 2,747,337
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 83,860

What’s up doc? By Albert Balesh, M.D.

For fear of porphyria

Carpathian Mountain ice chills the bones, but something far more sinister curdles the blood. It is a name that must not be spoken, even when exhumation of the “undead” reveals scalp and facial hair grown longer, fingernails fit for a wolf’s paw, and an unholy glean to the skin.

Premature burial, you say. Oh, yes, it happens. No freak accident, however, or erred pronouncement of death can exculpate the sawbones, tame peasant superstition, or ground flights of fancy.

The Count has risen, and the dawn’s solar flares are no match for another force of nature, one that bides time in the crypts of body cells while bedtime stories, ornate crucifixes, and silver bullets promulgate a myth. He walks among us, and, for those unknowing and hapless victims whose blood has been tainted by Count Porphyria, the quotidian suddenly becomes a race against the disfigurement, skin blistering, swelling, forehead hair growth, and utter havoc wrought by his growing legions.

How could this have happened? If God exists, how could He have given full sway to a creature ingeniously entombed in a permeable, protective vault? Why have Professor Van Helsing and his modern-day counterparts been powerless to halt the scourge?

Perhaps protoplasm and her offspring, ectoplasm and endoplasm, like native soil and a coffin’s nurturing bosom, shield the beast in some way. We can only surmise that the story must go something like this. Be forewarned, reader. It is not pretty!

Back in 1985, when cool wits and steady nerves did not prevail, a biochemist and fearless vampire hunter, named David Dolphin, theorized a connection between the physical appearance of patients suffering from porphyria and the traits of folkloric creatures of the night. He postulated that porphyria, a group of rare, largely hereditary blood diseases, may have afflicted the so-called vampires of yesteryear, in other words, ordinary people whose resulting facial scarring, mutilated noses and fingers, receding lips and gums, and subsequent elongated canines could be directly attributed to the malady. While holy water and a bell’s toll did little to halt the death march of these hapless hordes, an extraordinary sensitivity to sunlight became their constant adversary, forcing them underground and restricting activity to nightly jaunts.

If that were not enough, other characteristics inherent to porphyria provided further food for thought, or perhaps for fertile imaginations. For example, garlic was found to worsen the symptoms of porphyria, and, while injections of blood products treat the illness today, centuries ago its victims may have sought relief drinking blood.

A link to stress has also been expounded. We know that porphyria is inherited, but perhaps a stress of

some sort may have been required to unleash its symptomatology. Just imagine, in ages gone by, a stricken sibling or other family member biting you to quench a thirst for blood. Suddenly, that stress would jumpstart your own latent porphyria, and, lo and behold, you would grow your own set of matching fangs.

Nonsense, you say! Let’s debunk the myth and shed light on the argument, no pun intended. Porphyria comprises a series of seven disorders, only the rarest of which, called congenital erythropoietic porphyria, causes skin blistering, itching, swelling, and disfigurement. Just 200 cases have been documented, far too few to account for the widespread belief in vampires. Enter the imaginative element of human nature. Furthermore, porphyria victims do not crave blood, and even if they were to drink blood, digestion in the stomach would render it useless. And garlic, an ally in the fight against the unholy host? That has never been proven.

So, what are we left with, scientifically speaking and keeping medical jargon to a minimum? In congenital or acquired porphyria, body cells lack the basic enzymes required to process porphyrins, which are components of heme, in turn a component of blood hemoglobin. Because they are neither degraded nor biosynthetically processed, porphyrins accumulate in the body and are toxic to tissue in high concentrations. Throw alcohol, antibiotics, certain foods, sunlight, and fasting into the recipe, and you have concocted a surefire way to trigger an attack and befriend the night.

It does not end there, however. Count Porphyria’s little brother, Prince Catalepsy, may have a hand in the matter. Catalepsy affects the central nervous system of epilepsy patients, freezing muscles, slowing heart rate and respiration, and giving new meaning to the term “living dead,” for those of us who inadvertently stumble upon a cataleptic “corpse.”

We must stake a conclusion here. When the horrors of everyday living take their toll, when we seek scapegoats to cover our own evil tendencies, and when choosing between right and wrong is tempered by shades of gray and the color of money, we must find the courage of those prematurely buried. A return to consciousness, a brush of dirt from our clothes, and a return home demonstrate, to the surprise of our adversaries, that we are not down for the count. Unless, of course, long hair and fingernails, reddish mouths and teeth, receding skin, expanding and engorged abdomens, and the pungent smell of decomposition indicate broken springs in our biological time clocks. At that point we can expect a knock on the door from our parish priests or a new generation of Van Helsings.

View from here

By Ollie Besteiro

Texans must rally in defense of Social Security

Did you know that Social Security is the only source of income for almost one-third of Texans of retirement age? Or that one in eight Texas residents receives Social Security? Or that the program lifts nearly half of all retirees from poverty?

This month, as our nation celebrates the diamond anniversary of this national treasure—signed into law on August 14, 1935—it’s also time to guard against false assumptions that undermine support for the program and threaten to erode retirement security for our children and grandchildren.

For example, it’s become conventional wisdom for young people to assume that Social Security won’t be around when they need it. Many older folks also question whether Social Security will be able to pay the benefits they have earned.

These doom-and-gloom scenarios are unwarranted and reflect widespread misunderstanding. The Social Security trust fund has about \$2.5 trillion in assets, and it’s still growing. That’s enough to cover full benefits for more than 27 years.

If Congress does absolutely nothing, Social Security can pay full benefits until 2037 and 75 percent of benefits for decades after that. That’s not the crisis that alarmists predict, but it’s also something we cannot allow to happen.

Some in Washington are proposing cutting Social Security benefits to reduce the deficit. Of course, we need to get our deficit under control. But rather than raiding the retirement security of future generations, why don’t we start by getting the government to crack down on wasteful, fraudulent, and unnecessary spending, including earmarks and pork-barrel projects?

Social Security has contributed not one penny to our national deficit. The program is self-financed and cannot legally spend more than it collects through payroll taxes, the taxation of benefits, and the assets in the Trust Fund. In fact, for years, Social Security’s

surpluses have masked the true size of the deficit in the rest of the federal budget.

It pays to remember what America looked like when Social Security arrived. In the words of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, “one-third of the nation (was) ill-housed, ill-clad, (and) ill-nourished.” The nation’s elderly suffered the most. Nearly half lived in poverty. Those could not work and had no other means of support wound up in poorhouses.

By signing Social Security into law, Roosevelt established what has become the bedrock of economic security for millions of working Americans and their families. In addition to supporting those age 62 and older or disabled, Social Security benefits help all generations. Orphans of the September 11 terrorist attacks, families of soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, children who have lost a working parent, injured factory workers, widows and widowers – all count on Social Security benefits.

And, yet, as vital as these benefits are, they are modest by any standard. Social Security was never designed to be a worker’s sole source of retirement income. Today, the average workers’ benefits will replace only about \$4 out of every \$10 earned while on the job. The average retirement benefit in December 2009 was only \$1,168 per month – about \$14,000 a year. The average benefit for retired women was even less — \$983 a month — which comes to under \$12,000 a year.

With the political will, we can address Social Security’s long-term shortfall. Changes should strengthen the program for future generations. Changes must be fair, protecting the most vulnerable. Changes must be consistent with Social Security’s character as an earned benefit, providing a measure of economic security through guaranteed life-long, inflation-protected benefits to those who have paid into the system.

We need a national discussion on how to restore retirement security for all Americans. Old-fashioned as it might sound, that dialogue should be civil. It should be bipartisan. It should include strategies to promote more retirement savings in addition to Social Security, such as through incentives to save in the workplace, especially where employers do not offer 401(k) plans.

For Texans, keeping Social Security strong should be something we all can agree on. It is one insurance policy we know is fair, with benefits earned and received by all who pay in. We all have a stake in getting this right.

Ollie Besteiro is president of AARP Texas.

2010 Property Tax Rates in Town of Anthony

This notice concerns 2010 property tax rates for the Town of Anthony. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year’s tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year’s effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year’s rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year’s tax rate:	
Last year’s operating taxes _____	\$ 298,576
Last year’s debt taxes _____	\$ 263,024
Last year’s total taxes _____	\$ 561,600
Last year’s tax base _____	\$ 140,816,465
Last year’s total tax rate _____	0.398817 /\$100

This year’s effective tax rate:	
Last year’s adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property) _____	\$ 561,417
+ This year’s adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property) _____	\$ 142,278,256
= This year’s effective tax rate _____	0.394590 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

This year’s rollback tax rate:	
Last year’s adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures) _____	
÷ This year’s adjusted tax base _____	
= This year’s effective operating rate _____	
x 1.08 = this year’s maximum operating rate _____	
+ This year’s debt rate _____	
= This year’s total rollback rate _____	

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the Town of Anthony adopts a 2010 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.394590 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2009 taxes by \$12,976.

SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit’s property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O) _____	\$ 175,000
Debt Service (I&S) _____	-0-

SCHEDULE B – 2010 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
General Obligation Bonds Series 1974	\$9,000	\$1,069	\$0	\$10,069
Limited Tax Refunding Bonds - Series 2010	\$99,000	\$97,284	\$0	\$196,284
SIB	\$42,385	\$5,290	\$0	\$47,675
Total required for 2010 Debt Service _____				\$ 254,028
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A _____				-0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources _____				-0-
- Excess collections last year _____				-0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2010 _____				\$ 254,028
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2010 _____				-0-
= Total Debt Levy _____				\$ 254,028

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates’ calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office located at the intersection of Durango and Franklin streets.

Name of person preparing this notice: **Juan F. Sandoval**
Title: **Tax Assessor/Collector** Date prepared: **July 27, 2010**

2010 Property Tax Rates in Town of Horizon City

This notice concerns 2010 property tax rates for the Town of Horizon City. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year’s tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year’s effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year’s rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year’s tax rate:	
Last year’s operating taxes _____	\$ 1,727,985
Last year’s debt taxes _____	\$ 125,621
Last year’s total taxes _____	\$ 1,853,606
Last year’s tax base _____	\$ 630,437,489
Last year’s total tax rate _____	0.294019 /\$100

This year’s effective tax rate:	
Last year’s adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property) _____	\$ 1,851,692
+ This year’s adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property) _____	\$ 608,268,000
= This year’s effective tax rate _____	0.304420 /\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

This year’s rollback tax rate:	
Last year’s adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures) _____	
÷ This year’s adjusted tax base _____	
= This year’s effective operating rate _____	
x 1.08 = this year’s maximum operating rate _____	
+ This year’s debt rate _____	
= This year’s total rollback rate _____	
- Sales tax adjustment rate _____	
= Rollback tax rate _____	

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the Town of Horizon City adopts a 2010 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.304420 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2009 taxes by \$68,294.

SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit’s property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Funds	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O) _____	\$ 2,125,000
Debt Service (I&S) _____	-0-

SCHEDULE B – 2010 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Bond Service	\$20,000	\$29,032	\$0	\$49,032
SIB Loan	\$31,505	\$6,276	\$0	\$37,781
Street Project	\$76,635	\$23,365	\$0	\$100,000
Total required for 2010 Debt Service _____				\$ 186,813
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A _____				-0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources _____				-0-
- Excess collections last year _____				-0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2010 _____				\$ 186,813
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2010 _____				-0-
= Total Debt Levy _____				\$ 186,813

Schedule C - Expected Revenue from Additional Sales Tax

In calculating its effective and rollback tax rates, the unit estimated that it will receive \$599,300 in additional sales and use tax revenues.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates’ calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office located at the intersection of Durango and Franklin streets.

Name of person preparing this notice: **Juan F. Sandoval**
Title: **Tax Assessor/Collector** Date prepared: **August 3, 2010**

Briefs

From Page 1

bank. He was last seen running north on Mesa. The subject is described as a Hispanic male

in his mid-20s, approximately 6’ tall, with a medium build and light complexion. He was wearing a black and white baseball cap, brown and white long sleeve shirt, a reflective orange safety vest, black and white bandana,

blue jeans, and white gloves. If you have any information about this subject, please call Crime Stoppers immediately at 566-TIPS (566-8477) or on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

— James Klaes

Candidates

The Canutillo Independent School District will hold a Board of Trustees election Tuesday, November 2, 2010. There are currently three at large positions on the ballot. The filing process

is now open. Interested candidates can pick up an application package at Canutillo ISD’s Administrative offices located at 7965 Arcraft in the Superintendent’s Office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The last day for candidates to file an application for a place on the ballot is August 24, 2010. All applications are public record.

— Patricia Tidwell

Calendar

Your “Texas Correct “ 2011 calendar is ready for the enjoyment of Texans and the edification of yankees and

other foreigners. The one and only “Texas Calendar” is right and ready for consumer consumption. The *2011 Bona Fide Real Texas Calendar* is full of Texas historical fact, cartoons, trivia, tidbits, Texas Talk and more! It’s a virtual almanac of all that’s Texan in 12 usable, essential, and somewhat humorous pages. The calendars are available online at www.texascalendars.com or from Roger Todd Moore at PO Box 155, Merkel, Texas 79536 for only \$8.95 each. Moore’s work regularly appears in the *Courier*.

2010 PROPERTY TAX RATES
Town of Clint
Small Taxing Unit Notice

The **Town of Clint** will hold a meeting at 6:00 p.m. on, Tuesday, August 23, 2010 at the Clint Community Center, 200 N. San Elizario Rd. to consider adopting a proposed tax rate of \$0.417861 per \$100 of valuation.

The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the Town of Clint by 3.02%.

WTCC: 08/12/10

San Elizario Independent School District
Public Notice of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the San Elizario Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The San Elizario Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Title IX Coordinator: Superintendent Mike Quatrini, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900; or Section 504 Coordinator, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Special Education Office, San Elizario TX 79849, (915) 872-3960. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

Notificación Publica

Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de San Elizario prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o deshabilidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de San Elizario esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, del Acta de la Discriminación por Edad de 1975, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.

Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuniquese con la Coordinadora de Título IX: Superintendente Mike Quatrini, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900; o Coordinadora de Sección 504, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Special Education Office, San Elizario TX 79849, (915) 872-3960. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

WTCC: 08/12/10

San Elizario Independent School District
Public Notification of Nondiscrimination
in Career and Technical Programs

1) The San Elizario Independent School District offers Career and Technical programs in Consumer and Family Science, Business, Cosmetology, Health Science Technologies, CISCO Networking, Advertising and Graphic Design, Building Trades and Auto Technology. Admission to these programs is based on course pre-requisite and grade level classifications. For program information call Julian Encina at 872-3939, ext. 3844.

2) It is the policy of the San Elizario Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

3) It is the policy of the San Elizario Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its employment practices as required by title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

4) The San Elizario Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all education and vocational programs.

5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact Superintendent Mike Quatrini, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

Notificacion Publica de no Discriminar en los
Programas de Carrera y Tecnologia

1) El distrito escolar de San Elizario está ofreciendo programas de carrera y tecnología en Ciencia al Consumidor y Familia, Negocios, Cosmetología, Técnica de Salud, Red de Computación CISCO, Publicidad/Promoción y Diseños Graficos, Técnica de Carpentería, y Técnica Mecánica. Para poderse admitir en estos programas tienen que estar registrados en el distrito de San Elizario y completar los requisitos necesarios. Para más información contacto Julian Encina a 872-3939, ext. 3844

2) Es la póliza del distrito de San Elizario de no discriminar por causa de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o deshabilidad en estos programas vocacionales, servicios, o actividades requeridos por el Título IV del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, que fue enmendada, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rahabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.

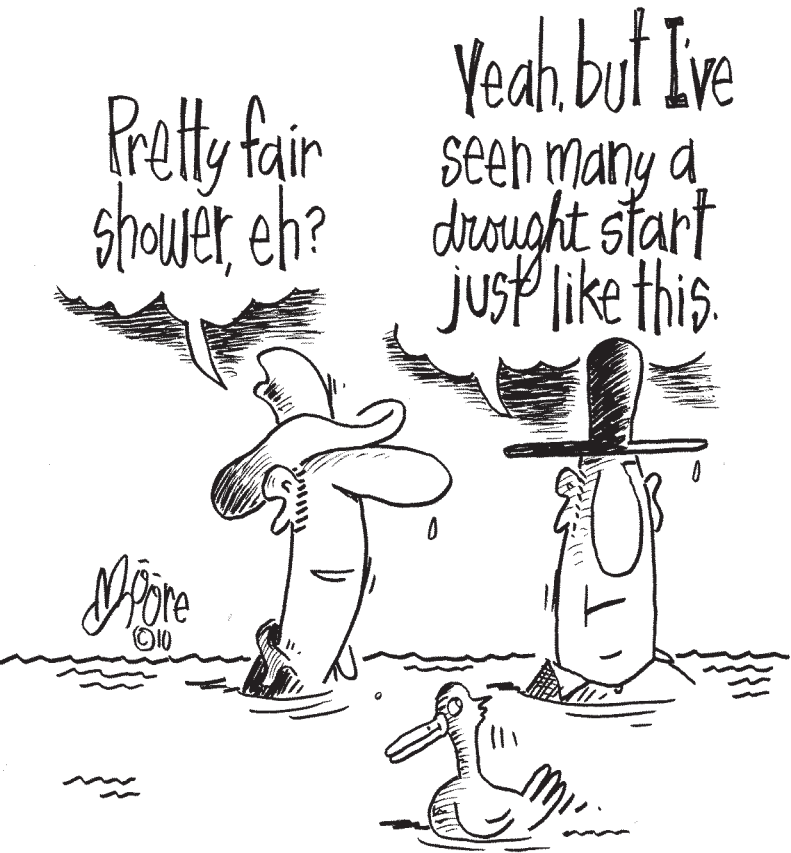
3) Es la póliza del distrito de San Elizario de no discriminar por causa de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, deshabilidad, o la edad en sus metodos de empleo exigido por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, enmendada por las Enmienda Educativas de 1972, del Acta de la Discriminación por Edad de 1975, como enmendada, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.

4) El distrito escolar de San Elizario tomará pasos para asegurar que la falta de ingles no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas vocacionales y educativos.

5) Para más información de sus derechos y procedimiento de agravios, puede ponerse en contacto con el Superintendente Mike Quatrini, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., Administration Building, San Elizario, Texas 79849, (915) 872-3900. Mail: PO Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849.

WTCC: 08/12/10

Moore Texas by Roger Moore Aug 4,1978:
Albany got a record 29.05 inches of rain in 24 hours.



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.

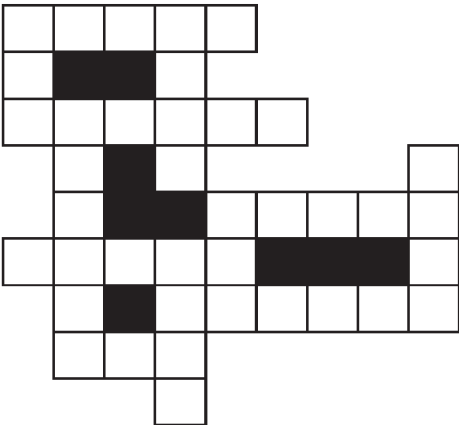
Clue: I equals W

BU IJE OUESHVUO SF
QUPFWU J PJSSAU GJVPBUG.
BHE FIV WFSBUG BJO VJWUO
BHW QGJVOFV HGFVE.

Answer Page 12
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ASE
♥TRYSOE
LAURT
HYEW
HAIDAL
♥DAS
♥RANE
WOSNH
♥YAN
♥HARDEE
AVENI
SYOR



Answer Page 12

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Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

To Advertise
Call 852-3235

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Fabens Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 25, 2010 in the Central Office Board Room, 821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, Texas 79838. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.040000/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.198100/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year’s Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	2.32%	Increase
Debt Service	1.79%	(Decrease)
Total Expenditures	0.53%	Increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
(as calculated under Section 26.04, tax Code)

	Preceeding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 199,603,818	\$ 177,430,191
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 9,816,157	\$ 2,137,552
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 138,112,446	\$ 140,027,682
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 8,995,315	\$ 2,023,871

* “Appraised value” is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** “New property” is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** “Taxable value” is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$26,400,000

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year’s Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year’s Rate	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.212900*	\$ 1.252900	\$ 691	\$ 8,135
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.024820	\$ 0.240030*	\$ 1.264850	\$ 698	\$ 8,442
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.198100*	\$ 1.238100	\$ 684	\$ 8,797

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year’s Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 53,784	\$ 53,242
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 38,784	\$ 38,242
Last Year’s Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.252900	\$ 1.238100
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 485.92	\$ 473.47
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (12.45)

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.238100. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.238100.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 4,629,963
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 102,714

Bryant needs to put his ego away and Cowboy up

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

If any of you have ever read my columns in the past you know that since I was just a little cowboy, I’ve loved the Dallas Cowboys. I stand up and cheer when they win and it takes me about three days to get over it when they lose. Now don’t get me wrong, I don’t have any Cowboys stickers on my truck or a huge blue star painted on my garage door. But they are without a doubt my favorite sports team. So naturally I’m excited about the football season, which started last weekend and will get in full swing on Saturday with a bunch of exhibition games. I especially like the way the Cowboys are set up this season and it looks like they’ve got a real chance to play in the Super Bowl at their home stadium. But I digress. I love Dallas’ personnel at almost every position, but something does give me pause. The Cowboys are loaded at receiver. Miles Austin emerged as one of the best in the league

last season. They also have Roy Williams, Patrick Crayton, Kevin Ogletree, Sam Hurd and tight ends Jason Witten and Martellus Bennett. Making the pass-catching crew even more dangerous for opposing defenses was the acquisition of rookie Dez Bryant – who could eventually be better than the whole bunch. Bryant has the speed, the concentration and the hands to be an All-Pro at the position. Unfortunately, the only thing he may lack is heart. Everyone knows that for a team to be successful, it has to be loaded with players who are willing to play a certain role. They have to step up when their number is called and they have to be totally unselfish when they hear their teammates’ number called. That’s where Dallas and Dez may be at odds some day. While a junior at Oklahoma State, Bryant apparently broke NCAA rules by meeting Deion Sanders at his home and working out with him. It’s not very clear to me why this would be a rule violation but then Bryant did something

really stupid and lied to NCAA investigators about the visit. I’ll admit I’m not the smartest guy in the world but as I see it – the only reason a person lies is because he’s trying to hide something. Bryant was suspended by the NCAA. Is Bryant selfish? Is Bryant an egomaniac? Is Bryant just dumb? I don’t know the answer to that – yet. But it didn’t strike me as very smart when he decided he wasn’t going to carry Roy Williams’ shoulder pads after his first practice with the team. You see, every NFL team (actually, every sports team in existence) initiates the new guys into the team with fun and creative pranks and deeds. It’s a rite of passage. Some guys are taped to the goal post, some guys are locked in lockers, some guys are dressed in women’s clothing and every rookie has to carry a veterans’ equipment back to the locker room after practice. It’s like showing your little brother that you’re still in charge until he accomplishes something impressive and earns your respect.

Bryant is just a rookie but showed some veteran selfishness when he refused to carry Williams’ pads. It showed signs of a “me first and the team second” attitude. The incident became even more embarrassing for Bryant when guys like Miami rookie Travis Ivey walked off his first practice wearing three sets of shoulder pads over his own set, and carrying two more sets in each hand. And how about the great Tim Tebow? He not only carried shoulder pads, his teammates gave him a Friar Tuck haircut and he wore it like a man. Why did they do it? Because it’s what rookies do and have done for decades. It’s because they love the game so much and they want to be part of a team. It’s harmless “make fun of the new guy” hazing. Of course I’m not talking about the kind of hazing where anyone has to endure any kind of harmful humiliation or physical pain. The worst that Dez Bryant would have suffered by taking part in this team ritual was maybe a third- or fourth-degree bruise to his inflamed ego.

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The City of Socorro will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 1.99 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on August 19, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at Socorro City Hall, 860 N. Rio Vista Rd., Socorro, TX 79927.

The second public hearing will be held on September 2, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at Socorro City Hall, 860 N. Rio Vista Rd., Socorro, TX 79927.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR:	Guillermo Madrid Jr., Luis Varela, Gloria M. Rodriguez, Mary B. Garcia and Jesus Gandara Jr.
AGAINST:	NONE
PRESENT and not voting:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in the CITY OF SOCORRO last year was \$77,533. Based on last year's tax rate of \$0.496757 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$385.15.

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in the CITY OF SOCORRO this year is \$78,022. If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$0.487051 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$380.01.

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$0.496757 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$387.58.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

Classified Ads

COUNSELING SERVICES D A M I A N MAUREIRA, 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.	year Medical Supplement which pays you. 2 yrs min. exp, clear MVR & background Apply today be working in 2-3 days 915-542-1495	have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.
DRIVERS Russell Transport OFFERS Plenty of miles, plenty of home time! Dedicated Routes .38 split / .19 each Vacation after 1		SELF-HELP Persons who	Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Informacion: 838-6264.

1973

37

Years

2010

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25 words - \$10 per week; 40 words - \$15 per week

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

Deadline: Mondays
Please print.Send form and
payment (no cash) to:
West Texas County Courier
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

archives:
www.wtxcc.com

San Elizario ISD is TEA Recognized

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

San Elizario — San Elizario Independent School District recently marked two major milestones based on results of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) tests officially reported by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) on July 30. For the first time in its history, San Elizario achieved a TEA rating of “recognized” as a district and also received an exemplary rating for one of its elementary schools.

Last year San Elizario ISD missed earning a district-wide recognized rating by only one percentage point in one subject area, science. In 2009-2010, however, the district’s passing rate on TAKS science improved to 89% from 74% the previous year. Other campuses in the district receiving a recognized rating for TAKS performance include Alarcon Elementary School, Garcia-Enriquez Middle School and San Elizario High School. Sambrano Elementary School received a rating of academically acceptable for 2009-2010, missing a recognized rating in the area of science.

“When one takes a look at where we were as a district with respect to accountability standards several years ago and where we are today, it is obvious that the tremendous amount of work put in by everyone involved has resulted in so many more of our students performing at a high academic level,” Adam Starke, SEISD Director of At-Risk Programs, said.

Borrego Elementary School has developed an impressive record of achievement on state accountability ratings and other academic performance measures. Scores for the 2009-2010 TAKS administration earned Borrego Elementary exemplary ratings in all subject areas tested. The campus is the first in the district to have received an exemplary rating and is also the only

SEISD campus to have received a recognized rating based on TAKS results five years in a row.

Alarcon Elementary School has been named a recognized campus for the third straight year. It achieved exemplary ratings for student performance in the subjects of reading/English Language Arts (ELA) and writing. In math and science the school earned a recognized rating.

Sambrano Elementary School was rated recognized last year but fell a few percentage points short of earning that same designation for student performance on the 2009-2010 TAKS administration. The campus missed a recognized rating by just 7 percentage points in the area of science but received exemplary ratings in all other subject areas tested.

Garcia-Enriquez Middle School missed a recognized rating last year as a result of student TAKS performance in science. However, for 2009-2010 it has been named a recognized campus after it scored an exemplary rating in social studies and recognized ratings in all other subject areas to include science.

Finally, San Elizario High School was once again designated a recognized campus for the second year in a row by earning exemplary ratings in reading/ELA, social studies and science, and a recognized rating in math. It also improved its completion rate, defined as the number of high school seniors in a given class who graduate on time or continue for a fifth year, from 90.6% to 91.2% in 2009-2010.

In Texas, a recognized rating can be attained by having 80% of all students pass all areas of the TAKS test, having an 85% completion rate for seniors, and having no more than 1.8% of 7th and 8th grade students counted as dropouts.

“We truly had a banner year, and everything is in place to continue to build on our successes and achieve even higher goals,” Starke concluded.

Public Notice Village of Vinton, Texas

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. during a Special City Council Meeting on Thursday, August 19, 2010 at City Hall, 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item(s):

- 1) The proposed budget for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2010 and ending on September 30, 2010 for the Village of Vinton, Texas. Copies of the budget are available for review at City Hall.

The Village encourages citizens to participate and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Jessica Garza, City Secretary at City Hall. 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 48 hours before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Jessica Garza
City Secretary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 24, 2010 in the Administration Building, Board Room, 7965 Artcraft, El Paso, Texas 79932. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.040000/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.252100/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year’s Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	3.15% (Decrease)
Debt Service	4.09% (Decrease)
Total Expenditures	3.36% (Decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, tax Code)

	Preceeding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 1,900,173,454	\$ 2,037,502,273
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 59,616,854	\$ 67,096,683
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 1,376,356,874	\$ 1,370,208,326
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 57,317,151	\$ 64,916,919

* “Appraised value” is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.

** “New property” is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.

*** “Taxable value” is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$72,369,991

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year’s Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year’s Rate	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.252095*	\$ 1.292025	\$ 3,175	\$ 5,388
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.047390	\$ 0.299670*	\$ 1.347060	\$ 3,110	\$ 5,196
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.252100*	\$ 1.292100	\$ 2,991	\$ 5,426

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year’s Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 138,123	\$ 137,707
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 122,203	\$ 121,782
Last Year’s Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.292095	\$ 1.292100
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,652.30	\$ 1,573.54
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (78.76)

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.292910. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.292910.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 4,240,874
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,188,914

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The San Elizario Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, August 17, 2010 in the SEISD Administrative Office, 1050 Chicken Ranch Rd., San Elizario, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.108956/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.051800/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year’s Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	0.00582% Increase
Debt Service	0.29280% (Decrease)
Total Expenditures	0.28690% (Decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, tax Code)

	Preceeding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 179,814,630	\$ 189,975,433
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 10,396,132	\$ 16,796,761
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 146,241,263	\$ 156,751,611
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 7,392,311	\$ 10,970,222

* “Appraised value” is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** “New property” is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** “Taxable value” is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$16,199,000

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year’s Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year’s Rate	\$ 1.108956	\$ 0.051800*	\$ 1.160756	\$ 366	\$ 7,601
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.193280	\$ 0.043250*	\$ 1.236530	\$ 445	\$ 7,390
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.108956	\$ 0.051800*	\$ 1.160756	\$ 462	\$ 8,003

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.
The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year’s Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 53,774	\$ 56,404
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 38,774	\$ 56,404
Last Year’s Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.160756	\$ 1.160756
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 450.07	\$ 480.60
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 30.53

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.108956. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.108956.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 217,129
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ (83,952)

A sporting view By Mark Vasto

A Sho stopper in Baltimore

Major League Baseball — that became known simply as “the Oriole Way.” perhaps more so than any other professional league in these United States — sports more than its share of beleaguered franchises.

Sure, you can point to the Detroit Lions, Los Angeles Clippers or Boston Bruins as more than worthwhile candidates for the *furchbarsten* (German for “most terrible”... thank you, Google Translate) crown, but can they really compare with what the MLB is dishing up? I mean, even the Tampa Bay Bucs have won a championship (yes, getting rid of the flaming orange mustachioed pervert mascot meant that much to the players).

But the also-rans in baseball are more glaring. The travails of the Cleveland Indians, Chicago Cubs and, until recently, the Boston Red Sox are well known. And in Kansas City, the Royal legacy Ewing Kauffman left the town has been slashed and burned beyond recognition, perhaps not surprisingly, by Walmart exec owner David Glass, who’s tried to do everything on the cheap. Yet somehow, the curious case of the Baltimore Orioles seems to be baseball’s biggest tragedy.

It wasn’t supposed to be this way. The Orioles, one of baseball’s charter franchises with a lineage reaching as far back as the 19th century, have always been one of the proudest franchises in baseball. Though they spent the first half of the 20th century toiling as the St. Louis Browns, the club’s 1954 move to Baltimore reaped near instant dividends. Rechristened the Orioles, they quickly set the foundation

that became known simply as “the Oriole Way.”

The Oriole Way was one marked by personal and professional pride personified in players like Frank Robinson, Luis Aparicio, Brooks Robinson, Jim Palmer, Boog Powell, Cal Ripken, Eddie Murray and colorful manager Earl Weaver; it’s hard to remember the teams that once graced the field at Memorial Stadium. The Orioles were a club that dominated the league for the better part of the ‘60s, ‘70s and ‘80s. Now all that remains is a memory and a few aging banners at Camden Yards.

The Orioles began the 1988 season losing 21 straight, and they never really recovered. Except for a brief awakening in the mid-’90s, the Orioles have simply lost their way. The same team that fielded a Ripken and Robinson went on to harbor Rafael Palmiero and Sydney Ponson.

Enter Buck Showalter, a manager who has known nothing more than winning. He’s the guy that laid the building blocks that eventually turned into the recent Yankee dynasty, a man who made instant winners out of the Diamondbacks and Rangers. Now, on the verge of seeing their touted rookie class spoil in the hot Maryland sun, Baltimore brass and fans are hoping that the Buck will stop their losing ways right here.

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter and publisher of The Kansas City Luminary. (c) 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

Answer Page 12

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



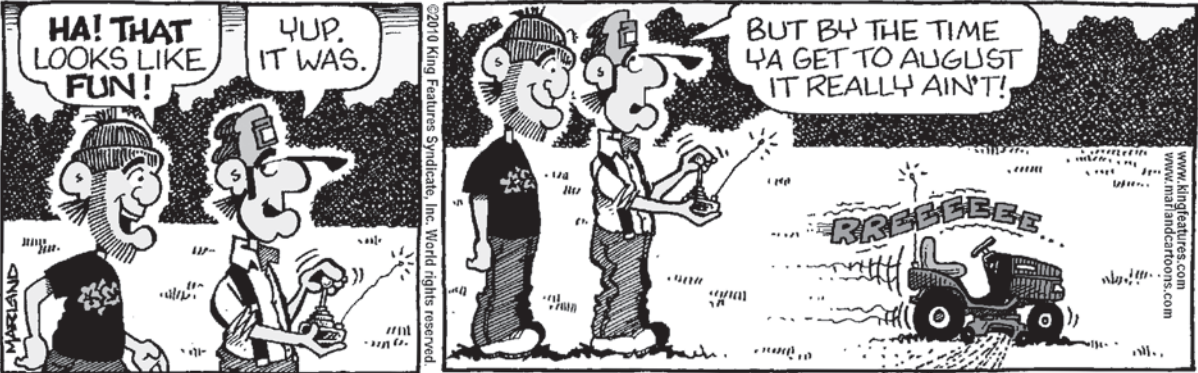
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Your good health By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: What causes sunspots? They appear even when we have not been exposed to the sun. — Anon.

The sun has nothing to do with sunspots. A fungus is their cause. The fungus depigments patches of skin so they are lighter than the surrounding skin. The sun comes into play only because it darkens the surrounding skin and the spots stand out like a sore thumb. Selenium sulfide and fungal medicines like Lotrimin, Naftin and Tinactin can usually dislodge the fungus. The depigmented skin stays light for quite some time, and people believe the medicines have not worked. In time, pigmentation returns.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I am 76. I am the fifth of eight boys. Three had the shingles. Our parents are gone. I want to get the shingles vaccine, but was told by friends that you cannot get the shot if you did not have chickenpox. I don't remember whether I had chickenpox. — P.; and DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I recovered from shingles a few years ago. After hearing many horror stories about shingles, I wonder if I should consider getting the vaccine to prevent another outbreak. — J.V.

Almost every older American has been infected with the chickenpox virus, whether or not they can remember having had the illness. That indicates that almost all older Americans still harbor the chickenpox virus in their nerve cells. In later years, the virus escapes from nerve cells and travels down the nerve to the skin, where it brings about an outbreak of shingles. Therefore, all older people qualify for the shingles vaccine, regardless of their ability to remember having had chickenpox. Authorities recommend that

those who have had a shingles outbreak get the vaccine. It is true that a shingles outbreak affords some protection against a second outbreak, but return visits from the shingles virus do occur, so, J.V., you qualify for the vaccine. Shingles is a painful experience, and the pain can last long after the rash has gone. The shingles booklet explains this common problem and how it's treated. To obtain a copy, write: Dr. Donohue — No. 1201W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I am sick and tired about all this exercise talk. What proof exists that it is such a health boon? I am not into exercise, have never been into it and probably will never be into it. Can you say with a straight face that proof really exists that exercise extends life? — R.R.

Yes, I can. And I can do so with a straight face. The studies that show exercise improves health are too numerous to cite. A recent study showed that men (although no women were included in the study, I am sure it applies equally to them) who increased the intensity and frequency of physical exercise had their mortality cut in half from a control group that did not exercise. Consistent exercise bestows the same health benefits that come from not smoking.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2010 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Super Crossword

SPAGHETTI WESTERNS ACROSS	59 Pride of lions?	115 Funnyman Philips	Purpleo Sage" star?	Hussey
1 Applies lightly	61 Be a pest	117 Hailing from Haifa	16 Vagabond	81 Hair net
5 Helicopter sound	63 Actress Helgenberger	119 Paw part	17 Ed of "Lou Grant"	85 Start to snooze
9 Swedish rockers	65 Alaric, for one	120 Once around the track	21 Tripoli native	86 Spud bud
13 "Whole _ Love" ('69 hit)	67 Easily read	121 "Peter Pan" pirate	23 Change the decor	88 Melville novel
18 Guinness or Baldwin	71 Kedrova of "Torn Curtain"	122 Pound the podium	24 Earl _ Biggers	90 Menial laborer
19 Actress Skye	73 Unwell	126 Stallone role	29 Hockey's Bobby	94 Tiberius' threads?
20 Chrysler competitor	74 Gulf ruler	130 Puts up	32 Current unit	95 A Great Lake
21 Toils	75 Part of EEC	132 "How the Ovest Was Won" star?	34 Honey bunch?	97 Sister
22 "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Ragazzo" star?	76 "The Tin Stella" star?	136 Actress Tyson	35 Wild child	99 Lad
25 O'Neill's "The _ Cometh"	79 Wrath	137 Poker stake	37 "M*A*S*H" extras	100 Bed and breakfast
26 New Hampshire city	80 Fateful 15th	138 Peter and Gordon song, e.g.	38 " _ been had!"	101 Pigskin prop
27 Postpone	82 Demolished a Danish	139 Small combo	39 Writer Rand	103 Poorly made
28 Leaf part	83 Rain hard?	140 Asian capital	40 Vinegar's partner	105 Costello or Del Rio
30 Married Mlle.	84 Incorporated, as territory	141 Tavern staples	41 Dejected	107 Use a straw
31 Tarbell or Lupino	87 Smith or Jones, e.g.	142 District	42 Detergent ingredient	110 Compass pt.
33 Theft	89 Junket	143 Prophet	44 Actress Gertz	112 Neighbor of Tenn.
36 Spring mo.	91 Petite pooch		45 Saying	113 Wfeft's opposite
37 "Duello at Diablo" star?	92 Forster's " _ With a View"	DOWN	49 Linda of "Alice"	114 Modifies
43 Punjabi princes	93 Evaluate	1 TV's " _ Shadows"	51 Join the leisure class?	115 Vote in
46 Ornamental vine	96 Level	2 Burn remedy	53 Kimono closer	116 Lanza or Lemieux
47 It may be bitter	98 Account entry	3 Neuwirth or Daniels	54 Massage	118 "King Lear" role
48 Blue hue	102 Have _ over one's head	4 Picturesque	56 Fromm or Segal	121 WWII site
50 The very bottom	104 "My Sweet " ('70 smash)	5 Humor	58 Comic Radner	123 Verdi opera
52 Tijuana title	106 Debtors' letters	6 Car part	60 Start the slaw	124 _ de force
55 "Star Wars" Skywalker	108 Indefinite pronoun	7 Memo start	62 Shimmer	125 Fencing weapon
57 Fawn's father	109 Baal and Elvis	8 Scuba site	64 Rub it in	127 Full-grown filly
	111 "Rosso River" star?	9 Insult	66 Distort	128 Soft cheese
		10 Derisive cry	67 Camera company	129 Scent
		11 "It's freezing!"	68 Writer Welty	131 Dodger Ron
		12 Confuse	69 "The Grande Country" star?	133 Shiba _ (Japanese dog)
		13 Tablecloth fabric	70 Go in	134 Giant legend
		14 UK honor	72 Blazing	135 Greek vowel
		15 "Riders of the	77 Kidney-related	
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Canutillo campuses make gains in TEA ratings

By Patricia Tidwell
Special to the Courier


CANUTILLO — Seven of nine Canutillo Independent School District campuses have achieved ratings of Recognized or Exemplary according to the 2010 Accountability Ratings from the Texas Education Agency.

“It is a proud day for the school district, and I congratulate every employee at Canutillo ISD because every person in the district shares a hand in student achievement,” said Dr. Damon Murphy, Superintendent of Schools. The Canutillo ISD remains an Academically Acceptable district with the breakdown of school accountability ratings as follows:

- Jose Damian Elementary – Exemplary;
- Northwest Early College High School – Recognized;
- Alderete Middle School – Recognized;
- Canutillo Middle School – Recognized;
- Canutillo Elementary School – Recognized;
- Bill Childress Elementary –


- Recognized;
- Deanna Davenport Elementary – Recognized;
 - Garcia Elementary School – Academically Acceptable; and
 - Canutillo High School – Academically Acceptable.
- “We are truly excited with the tremendous gains in our district, but the work doesn’t end here. We will continue the momentum of school improvement and our focus now — to achieve Recognized District Status next year,” added Dr. Murphy.

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. You can download all the information right away. Sorry, salsa not available through our web site or Catalog.



U.S. General Services Administration

Canutillo High names coaches

By Patricia Tidwell
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – Canutillo High School (CHS) has new head coaches for two of its programs. Larry Morales has been named Head Boys Basketball Coach and Andrea Beltran is now the Head Volleyball Coach for CHS. “I am very excited about the future of our CHS Volleyball and Boy’s Basketball programs under the new leadership of

coaches Andrea Beltran and Larry Morales, respectively. Both bring with them a wealth of knowledge; including playing at the collegiate level and previous experience of coaching at the high school level. Both programs are in excellent hands.” said Jim Fry, Principal for Canutillo High School. Morales formerly coached the Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Team at CHS. He has also coached at Chapin High School and Sul Ross State University. Beltran comes to Canutillo



Larry Morales

ISD from Chapin High School where she previously served as the Interim Head Volleyball Coach. She also brings coaching experience through various city leagues and camps.

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CryptoQuip Answer

He was destined to become a cattle rancher. His own mother had named him Brandon Irons.

D A B S W H I R A B B A L O T T A

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C I C E L Y A N T E D U E T T R I O

T O K Y O N U T S A R E A S E E R

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was American drama critic and author John Mason Brown who made the following sage observation: “Reasoning with a child is fine if you can reach the child’s reason without destroying your own.”
- The first Wal-Mart was located in the town of Rogers, Ark. When it opened in 1962, it had a total of 16,000 square feet of space. Today, there are Wal-Mart Supercenters all over the United States, and they measure at least 100,000 square feet and can range up to 220,000 square feet.
- The original Maytag company was known for making horse-drawn buggies rather than appliances.

- The word “pretzel” comes from the Latin word for “little reward.”

- Researchers at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Pennsylvania conducted a joint study on Americans’ weight. They concluded that if current trends continue, 86 percent of adults in this country will be obese by 2030.
- Before H. Ross Perot became a successful businessman — and had a brief, somewhat less successful career as a politician — he broke horses for a living.

- Statistics show that three out of four married women over the age of 50 are on their second marriage. In the same age range, five out of six men are in the same marital situation.

- Fireflies start to glow in order to attract a mate, and they die soon after finding one.
- Experienced boot makers reportedly can get three pairs of the footwear out of a single ostrich hide.

- When you sneeze, the air leaves your mouth at approximately 100 mph.

Thought for the Day: “Anybody who has listened to certain kinds of music, or read certain kinds of poetry, or heard certain kinds of performances on the concertina, will admit that even suicide has its brighter aspects.” — Stephen Leacock

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Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2010 on Thursday, August 26, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., at the HRMUD Office, 14100 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, Texas 79928. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal:	Benny Davis, Florence Thomas and Bonnie Moorehouse
AGAINST the proposal:	NONE
PRESENT and not voting:	NONE
ABSENT:	Gordon Jarvis and Maureen Surratt

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.468693/\$100	0.468700/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.00/\$100
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)		0.0%
Average appraised value	\$ 109,968	\$ 106,320
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen’s or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average taxable value	\$ 109,968	\$ 106,320
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 515.41	\$ 498.32
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		– \$ 17.09
and percentage of increase (+/-)		– 3.32%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.