



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Tax free

The opportunity for Texans to save money on energy efficient appliances is fast approaching. The state's annual ENERGY STAR® Sales Tax Holiday is from Saturday, May 26 through Monday, May 28, 2012. "As Texans focus on their household budgets, they can save twice on energy efficient appliances purchased during Memorial Day weekend," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said. "Shoppers do not have to pay sales tax on the appliances, and those energy efficient products will also help them save on their utility bills." The sales tax break applies to ENERGY STAR® qualified air conditioners priced at \$6,000 or less; refrigerators priced at \$2,000 or less; ceiling fans; fluorescent light bulbs; clothes washers; dishwashers; dehumidifiers; and programmable thermostats. The federal government does not apply ENERGY STAR® certification to clothes dryers. There is more information on the sales tax holiday at [www.texaspowerfulmart.org/incentives/taxfree.php](http://www.texaspowerfulmart.org/incentives/taxfree.php).

— R.J. DeSilva

### Festival spaces

Familias Triunfadoras will hold its Summer Festival July 13-15 at the San Elizario Plaza. There are vendor opportunity spaces for arts and crafts sales, retail sales and promotional displays and food sales available. All spaces are 10 square feet and cost \$500 for the three-day festival. Electricity and food vendor permit is included. Vendors must provide their own tarp, tables and chairs. For more information call 851-1141 or stop by the office at 12500 Socorro Rd.

— Frank Desales

### Crime Stoppers

A customer at a Mission Valley convenience store is viciously assaulted by three men in the parking lot, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." Just after midnight on Sunday, April 22, 2012, the victim was in the Circle K store at 700 N. Americas and North Loop to make a purchase. At the same time, two suspects were at the register buying cigarettes. As the victim approached the register, one suspect said something to him but he did not respond. The suspects left the store and got into a white SUV with two other men inside. When the victim walked out, the two suspects confronted him. Meanwhile a third suspect got out of the SUV, went behind the victim and all three brutally beat the victim, punching him repeatedly in the head and kicking his body, splattering blood on the front door of the store. One man stayed inside the SUV. Though no weapon was seen, the victim sustained a severe laceration on his face. The suspect

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Homes are now being built with known convenience except low payments.

— Quips & Quotes

## San Eli ISD partners honored at luncheon

By Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

The San Elizario Independent School District held its 2012 Partners in Education and Volunteers in Public Schools Recognition Luncheon on May 4 to honor the many contributions made to the district this school year. The event featured a Cinco de Mayo themed celebration of all the noteworthy donations of time and service made to the district. A total of 34 individual from seven different campuses were honored for providing 200 hours or more of volunteer service. Businesses and organizations that have assisted schools with initiatives such as student and staff incentives or shared their expertise were also recognized at the ceremony for their partnership with the district. Cynthia Gonzales who has volunteered at Borrego Elementary School for the past few years also received the Superintendent's Award for turning in the most volunteer hours, exactly 748.5, district-wide.

Although campuses recognized all volunteers during National Volunteer Week from April 15-21 for their assistance to schools and students, San Elizario ISD held its own ceremony bringing together some of the most dedicated of these individuals in

appreciation for their daily involvement and tireless commitment to the district. These volunteers participate in numerous activities and events throughout the school year, often these generous acts happen behind the scenes such as preparing handouts, lesson materials, assisting with lunch duty, fundraising, and decorating for special events and holidays.

San Elizario ISD board member Ramon Holguin, Superintendent Sylvia Hopp, and Assistant Superintendent Ruben Cervantes thanked all volunteers at the awards luncheon with certificates of recognition. Also, school principals each presented the volunteer of the year award for their respective campuses. The awards presentation was followed by a delicious lunch of chicken fajitas prepared by the Child Nutrition Services Department. San Elizario High School senior Rosa Reyes accompanied by her father Juan on guitar entertained the lunch guests with their rendition of traditional Mexican songs. Finally, everyone was treated to a special surprise by the Research and Development Department which collected door prizes and gift bags for the volunteers.

San Elizario ISD encourages any members of the community to become involved at any of its campuses by volunteering to give some of their time whether its one hour or 200, anyone can make a positive impact on a child's education.



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**ON DUTY – Cynthia Gonzalez received this year's Superintendent's Award. Gonzalez racked up 748.5 volunteer hours.**

## El Paso's Flags Across America hosts Memorial Day ceremony

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

El Paso Texas Flags Across America will sponsor the 2012 Northeast Memorial Day Ceremony, at 11 a.m., Monday, May 28, at the El Paso Community College Transmountain Campus's Old Glory Memorial, which is located on US 54 and Diana Drive.

To recognize the tremendous amount of work done at the memorial site this past year by the local Flags Across America volunteers, State Senator Jose Rodriguez will provide proclamations for two new monuments recently completed in support of Women Veterans and Korean War Veterans.

Senator Rodriguez will present one proclamation for the dedication of each monument, as well as a replica proclamation and a personalized letter to women veterans attending the ceremony thanking them for

their service.

Senator Rodriguez was instrumental in establishing a committee in El Paso that recognizes the contributions of women veterans and assists them with their specific issues and concerns.

El Paso Mayor John Cook, a Viet Nam veteran, will provide the ceremonial invocation, and nationally renowned singer Rebecca Lynn Smith will perform during the celebration.

Also expected to attend will be Carl Robinson, District 4 representative, and Bill Tiller, a major contributor for the Korean War Monument.

Other contributors for the construction of the new monuments include Jobe Materials, Mimbela Contractors Inc., VFW Posts 8550, G&H Granite, Tropicana Homes, VFW Post 2451, Classic Granite and Marble, and numerous individuals.

For more information contact Jimmy Melver, president of El Paso Texas Flags Across America, at 549-5031.

## Local artists turn desert weeds into unique artworks

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier



— Print courtesy Oscar Moya

Local artists Oscar Moya and Lydia Limas will present a printmaking workshop to demonstrate how desert vegetation can be used to create a piece of artwork.

The unique workshop will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 26, at the El Paso Museum of Archeology, 4301 Transmountain. The free demonstration is open to adults and children age 3 and up.

Participants will learn how to use leaves and weeds found in the surrounding desert landscape to produce a drawing or painting that is transferred onto paper with a press. The result is a unique collagraph print or monoprint which can be framed. All necessary materials will be provided for the Saturday afternoon workshop.

Moya began his Desert Weeds series in

2009 by experimenting with plants and leaves in his backyard. "I was amazed at the incredible detail and the beautiful textures," Moya said. "And, I found that children as young as three years old easily get involved in creating potentially limitless unique art through this process," he added.

Moya has participated in group exhibitions in the United States, Mexico, Canada, and in Europe. Moya's recent collaborative printmaking projects include Centenario de la Revolucion Mexicana, Arceo Press, Portafolio, 2010, and teaching Desert Weeds basic printmaking workshops in the El Paso region since 2009.

Limas is an award winning and published photographer and visual artist who has exhibited in the United States and Mexico. She and Moya are

Desert Weeds

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Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Big scammer nabbed

Two years ago, New Mexico’s attorney general slammed shut a charity that was set up to help veterans. The reason given at the time was that some of the officers in the U.S. Navy Veterans Association had fictitious addresses in the paperwork. Added to that was the fact that the charity was spending barely one-percent of the money it raised on veterans. That was the first indication that something wasn’t right, and more details quickly surfaced.

The 80-odd people who were supposedly on the board of directors couldn’t be found, and the “headquarters” was a mail drop. Only “Bobby Thompson” could be located, but wasn’t talking. With the NVA shut down and nine states and two government agencies after him, Thompson went on the run.

Thompson (aka Ronnie Brittain, which was also a false identity), alleged director of the organization, was wanted for money laundering, corruption and identity theft.

Fast-forward two years: Thompson, or whoever he really is, has been caught. In a bar. In Oregon. His pockets were stuffed with multiple false identification documents. The U.S. Marshals

have him in hand.

He’s accused of conning well-meaning folks out of \$100 million over eight years.

Let me repeat that amount: One Hundred. Million. Dollars.

Think what that money could have bought, how many veterans could have been helped had the money been used for legitimate purposes.

If there is that much money being donated to veterans causes, if there are that many people opening their wallets, that’s fantastic, but let’s get it right. Know where that money is really going, and how it’s going to be used.

If you want to donate money, check out the organization first. Use these websites to do your research:

- Charity Navigator: [www.charitynavigator.org/](http://www.charitynavigator.org/)
- Charity Watch: [www.charitywatch.org/](http://www.charitywatch.org/)
- GuideStar: [www.guidestar.org/](http://www.guidestar.org/)

*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) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.*

It’s the law

By Texas AG Greg Abbott

Scam alert: Protecting senior Texans from Advance Fee Fraud

For the 90-year-old bank customer, there were no Presidents’ Day weekend plans in sight. There was only the stark reality of his wife’s long suffering mind and his long suffering heart. Although he was all too aware that both he and his wife suffered from Alzheimer’s disease, he had no idea that they were also victims of a scam to defraud aging and unwell victims. It all started back when “good friends” called again to convince him that if he sent them another \$15,000, he would finally receive the \$2 million prize.

Fortunately, a vigilant employee at the local bank grew concerned about her elderly customer’s frequent visits to the bank and decided to contact the Texas Attorney General’s Office. By that time, she explained, the customer had already wired his “good friends” \$75,000 via Western Union so that he would be eligible to claim his \$2 million prize. The bank employee pleaded with the customer – and at one point, it appeared she had convinced him to stop sending money to the scam artists. But his “good friends” kept calling, so the elderly man returned to the bank to liquidate his CDs because he had already drained his checking and savings accounts.

The bank employee explained the scheme in detail to the Attorney General’s Office. Apparently operating under his “good friends” instructions, the elderly man would withdraw cash in \$15,000 increments. Then, he would take the money to a nearby Western Union outlet, which would take possession of the cash and wire the money per the elderly man’s instructions. Although the concerned bank employee showed the customer documents from the Office of the Attorney General’s website, warning about advance fee scams, he was undeterred. So when she contacted the Attorney General’s Office, she wanted to know what else she could do to make him stop without violating bank regulations or other laws.

The public information specialist who fielded the call at the Attorney General’s Office agreed to help and immediately contacted a colleague – Outreach coordinator John Elizarde, who also has a background in law enforcement. Before he was appointed Outreach coordinator, Elizarde was assigned to the attorney general’s law enforcement division, where he worked regularly with the Southwest Border Anti-Money Laundering Alliance. The Alliance was launched in 2010 to help Texas and other border states coordinate money laundering prevention, investigations and prosecutions. Under an agreement between all four border states and Western Union, the Alliance also established new protocols for sharing Western Union’s extensive information about wire transfers that originate in border states. Relying upon his extensive knowledge of the money services business and his contacts at Western Union, Elizarde sought to uncover the real identity of the elderly man’s “good friends.”

After speaking with the concerned bank teller, Elizarde sent an email inquiry to his contact at Western Union’s Consumer Protection Ethics and Compliance Division. When Elizarde’s phone rang thirty minutes later, his Western Union contact was on the line. The news was predictable – and not good. Western Union had quickly reviewed the wire transfers and confirmed that the 90-year-old man’s money had been sent to the Philippines and Nigeria.


Worse, because wire transfers are converted to cash or cashier’s checks when they arrive, there is simply no way to identify the perpetrators or recoup the money from foreign countries that are thousands of miles away. But, because of a vigilant

bank teller’s call to the Attorney General’s Office, she was able to prevent her elderly customer from being defrauded again.

After it was contacted by the Attorney General’s Outreach coordinator, Western Union immediately put a nationwide flag on all transactions by the local bank’s elderly customer. A systemwide alert instructed all Western Union outlets to contact the company’s corporate office before processing the bank customer’s future wire transfer requests.

As a law enforcement veteran who had studied advance payment scams, Elizarde recognized that the unscrupulous offshore criminals who posed as the elderly victim’s “good friends” would not simply stop calling. So Elizarde also contacted MoneyGram, another large money services firm with outlets across Texas, and arranged for that firm to implement similar security measures that would protect the elderly bank customer.

Although it is virtually impossible to recover the elderly couple’s money from the foreign criminals who defrauded them, this case shows how a vigilant bank teller, quick-thinking state authorities and a responsive Western Union orchestrated a coordinated effort to prevent a 90-year-old victim from losing his life’s savings to an advance fee scam. These scams – which can range from fraudulent foreign lottery winnings to a non-existent sweepstakes prize or even a made-up inheritance from a purported long-lost relative abroad – frequently target our senior citizens. Concerned family members, friends, bank officials and long-term care personnel are seniors’ first line of defense.



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Letters 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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U.S. General Services Administration

write stuff

**Editor:**  
My name is Joe Bob Martinez and I am running for the elected position of El Paso County Constable Precinct 6. I have faithfully served the citizens of El Paso County, Texas as a law enforcement professional for over sixteen years; and, now, I want to use the experience, education and leadership skills I have developed during my tenure to serve and protect the citizens of El Paso County, Precinct 6, as their next Constable.


As a commissioned Advanced Peace Officer, I am concerned about and willing to take a stand against crime. In this mission, I will not falter. It is my belief that this community and precinct need a new leader as Constable. It is my goal to establishing closer ties with the residents, community leaders and businesses. This is the fastest, most time-tested method for fostering a “community-oriented” policing relationship.

I will ensure that my Command Staff and force is properly trained to develop comprehensive strategic plans of action whereby both the Constable’s Office and the citizens within that area of concern have input and, most importantly, get results. I am committed to being a good steward of the public’s tax dollars and maximizing precious resources, while making our communities safer and improving everyone’s quality of life.

The Constable should be accessible and available to address the concerns of the citizens of Precinct 6. When elected, my door will always be open to the citizens in the community, so the citizens can share ideas and problems face to face with their Constable. As the Precinct 6 Constable, I will build upon that trust every day.

Sincerely,  
Joe Bob Martinez  
Socorro

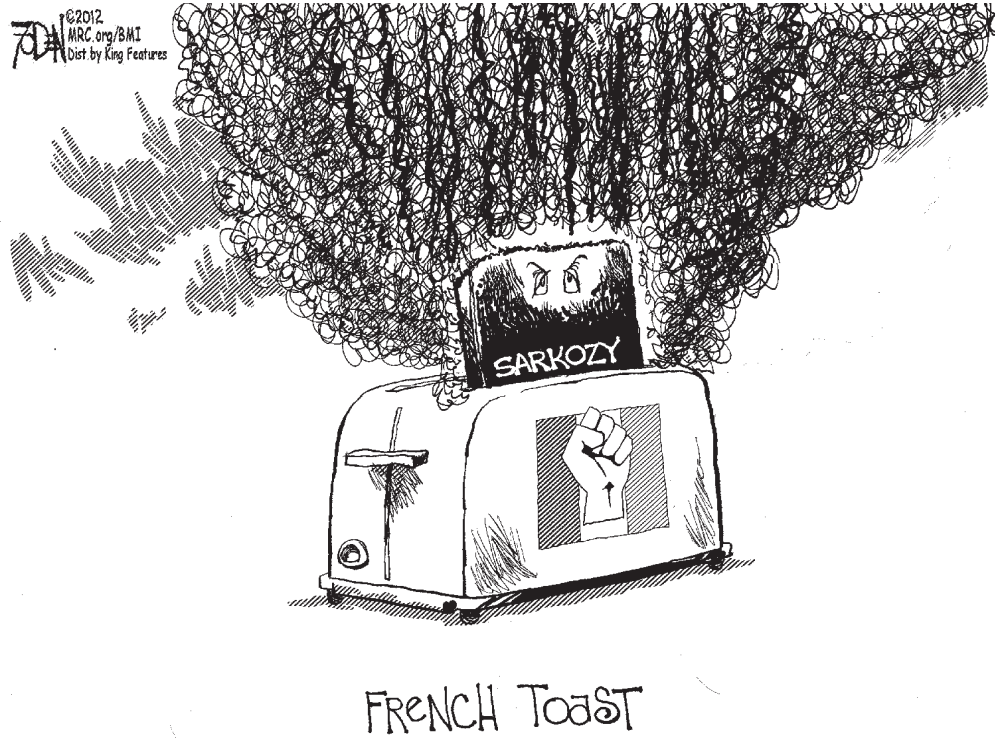
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## Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

### Your vote counts

Hola, mi gente. After so many uncertainties, the 2012 primary election has finally begun. Thanks to a flawed redistricting map pushed forward by the conservative leadership in Austin, our primary election was delayed by 60 days.

This primary is in stark contrast to the 2008 election which featured a monumental battle between then Senator Barack Obama and Senator Hillary Clinton. El Paso was really fired up for that race and it showed in a much higher turnout than previous presidential primaries.

This year, the race that created the attention was for the Republican nomination for president. Texans who would have voted in that March 9 primary were denied a powerful voice in determining how conservative or moderate their candidate should be.

In any case, there are still battles for state positions that are stirring the voters in other areas of Texas. The replacement for Senator Kay Hutchison is the most important statewide position.

There are strong indicators pointing to a very low voter turnout. Because the actual election day, May 29, is right after the Memorial Day Holiday, many are saying that this primary election day will be a record low turnout.

As if the bungling by the state legislature on redistricting wasn't bad enough, the negative tone in many races by many candidates has a bad effect on turnout. What

is there to motivate people to vote when the candidates are calling each other crooks.

Since the first election in 2002 that I ran for state representative, I never engaged in negative campaigning. I think many of you have seen the flyers where expressions on the faces are photoshopped into unflattering poses. That kind of politicking is dishonest. If a candidate stoops to that low level of campaigning, what does it say about his or her character? The best policy is always be positive about past and future issues and not discourage voters with disingenuous advertising.

Unfortunately, those who produce these types of ads are paid lots of money so they will not stop selling them. And, candidates see that the ads are effective to a certain degree because some voters are influenced by them.

When this article is available to the public, early voting will almost be half over. If you haven't voted, please get to an early voting location and exercise your right as a citizen of the United States. Our republic form of government works best when most of the citizens vote.

It is important that your household members who are registered also vote. Talk to your neighbors as well. We all have a part in making our country stronger through the ballot box.

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

### Perez signs to play Division I basketball



– Photo courtesy Clint ISD

Clint ISD senior Janelle Perez signed a letter of intent to attend Northwestern State University of Louisiana on a basketball scholarship. NSU is an NCAA Division I school where the Lady Demons compete in the Southland Conference. Perez was named as District 2-4A Female Athlete of the Year by the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame and named to Texas Girls Coaches Association (TGCA) All Star Team 4A-5A South and the All State Team 4A. Led by Perez, the Horizon High School girl's basketball team advanced further in the playoffs than any other El Paso area girl's team this year. The TGCA Basketball Poll ranked the Lady Scorpions No.7 in the state.

– Andrew Reynoso

Send your event info to  
wtxcc@wtxcc.com



View from here

By Tom Pauken

SkillsUSA one of the best kept secrets in Texas

Competition is a staple of life in school. Athletic events, UIL academic tournaments, the performing arts, debate clubs, and farm and ranch contests all give students opportunities to earn credit toward graduation and gain lifelong skills that can't always be offered within the walls of a classroom.

Yet one of the best-kept secrets in our public schools is another competitive, hands-on program that prepares over a million Texas students for high-paying careers in

specific, skilled trades.

SkillsUSA, was founded in 1966 as Vocational Industrial Clubs of America and changed its name in 1999. It sends in skilled workers from various trades to train teachers and students alike on how to perform specialized work. Its goal is to prepare students for a future in a wide variety of trade, technical and skilled service occupations.

Easily recognizable by their bright red blazers at events, the students participate in competitions

– featuring a wide variety of contests from graphic design to sheet metal assembly along with leadership conferences.

SkillsUSA includes with its masonry of career training programs ethical lessons. The students recite a creed that teaches the importance of education, fair play, the satisfaction of hard work, the American way of life, and having moral and spiritual standards.

“Forty-five years and not everyone knows about us,” said Linda Holcombe, executive director of the Texas Industrial Vocational Association (which works with SkillsUSA to train career technology teachers).

However, awareness of SkillsUSA is building in Texas. Holcombe said that one of the highlights of the year for their teachers and students occurs during the SkillsUSA-Texas Day at the state Capitol, where a mock legislative session is held.

The exposure at the Capitol is apparently paying off.

“In 2007... we aligned 19 career and tech courses to fulfill the fourth year of science and math,” Holcombe said. “We’ve also created a career technology course for a speech credit, and another for a fine-arts credit.”

The organization recently wrapped up SkillsUSA Month in March, celebrated in many public schools. Holcombe said SkillsUSA saw a 10 percent membership increase over the past year.

According to Holcombe, industry required certifications are tickets to well-paying jobs in specialized, high-tech fields.

“The certifications keep them from being ditch-diggers,” Holcombe said. “They prepare them for the world of work because they get the training industries need.”

As one example, home construction courses offered through SkillsUSA do not simply train a student how to be a carpenter. Skills learned may lead to a career in architecture and structural engineering – “not just hammering in nails,” she added.

“Career technology is not the old shop class,” she said. “If you’re in class and just making ash trays for four years, it should be shut down! Schools need to be up to date with technology and the job market.”

Safety is another aspect of career technology training that can be applied to a wide variety of jobs. OSHA certifications are available for students at the entry level, which is a prerequisite in many manufacturing environments.

If you know a junior high or high school student who is interested in 3-D animation, plumbing, advertising art, cosmetology, radio production, firefighting, aircraft repair, drafting, cabinetry, commercial baking, machinery, collision repair, nurse assisting (there are so many I’ll have to cut this list short), let them know about SkillsUSA – as well as the good-paying career opportunities that await in skilled labor fields.

More information can be found at [www.skillsusa.org](http://www.skillsusa.org).

Tom Pauken is Chairman of the Texas Workforce Commission and author of Bringing America Home.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

- It was our 16th president, Abraham Lincoln, who made the following sage observation: “No matter how much cats fight, there always seem to be plenty of kittens.”
- If you are a stay-at-home mom, you probably won’t be surprised by a recent study that found lower levels of stress in mothers who work outside the home than in those who stay with their kids all day.
- George Reeves is best known for playing the title role in the 1950s TV show “Adventures of Superman.” The role was a risky one, though – not in front of the camera, but during his numerous public appearances. It seems that fans wanted to test the strength of the Man of Steel, so they often kicked and punched him. At a 1953 appearance in Detroit, one boy pulled out his father’s loaded .45 Army Colt and aimed it at Reeves’ chest. By telling the boy that the bullets would bounce off his own chest and ricochet into the crowd, harming others, Reeves managed to get the boy to put the gun down.

- Though unenforced (and likely unenforceable), there is a law on the books in Tennessee that bars atheists, preachers and duelists from holding elected office.
- Are you lissotrichous? If you don’t have curls in your hair, you are. Of course, you may not be able to tell if you are atrichous (bald), a condition that may be caused by trichotillomania, the compulsion to pull out your own hair.
- If you’ve been married for 40 years or more, you can be pretty confident that the union will last. Only 1 in every 1,000 marriages of such duration end in divorce.

Thought for the Day: “I have only one superstition. I make sure I touch all the bases when I hit a home run.”

– Babe Ruth

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Maybe It Wasn't That Heavy Shopping Bag.

Weakness On One Side May Mean A Stroke.

Recognizing the signs of stroke and acting fast may make a difference between life and death. Call 9-1-1 immediately if you experience one or more of these signs: sudden weakness especially on one side of the body; trouble speaking or understanding; dizziness, loss of balance; trouble seeing in one or both eyes; and severe headache with no known cause. New treatments can help reduce damage to the brain

but only in the first few hours after symptoms begin. Every minute counts.

To learn more about stroke, call the American Heart Association at 1-800-AHA-USA1 or visit us online at [www.americanheart.org/tx](http://www.americanheart.org/tx)

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Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

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Read the signs. / Raise a flag.

Classified Ads

**LEGALS**

**Town of Anthony, TX**

**Request For Proposals and Qualifications**

The Town of Anthony has a 2011 Texas Community Development Block Grant award under the Community Development Fund. We are separately soliciting (A) proposals from consultants for project administration and (B) qualifications from Texas-registered engineers to provide engineering services. Submittals for these services will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on May 29, 2012 at the Town of Anthony, Attn: Town Clerk at PO Box 1269, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, TX 79821. The same firm will not be awarded contracts to provide both services. We reserve all rights under the Professional Services Procurement Act, UGMS, and 24 CFR Sec. 85. Additional submission requirements for each service are available by calling (915) 886-3944 or by emailing to [townofanthony@hotmail.com](mailto:townofanthony@hotmail.com). Affirmative Action/EOE.

Cynthia Clarke  
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF HORIZON CITY**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**A PUBLIC HEARING** will be held at **6:30 P.M. at a Special City Council Meeting on Monday, June 4, 2012**, at City Hall at 15001 Darrington Rd. (Court/Police Dept annex) in the Council chambers, Horizon City, TX. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following:

1) **Ordinance**

**No. 0194 - 2nd Reading** – An Ordinance adopting a change on zoning within the Municipal Limits of the Town of Horizon, Texas. Request to rezone a 3.659 acre parcel being generally described as tracts 1F1 and 1H, W J Rand Survey No. 325, El Paso County, Texas from A-1 Apartments to C-2, Commercial for retail use, located north and west of the intersection of Darrington Road and Horizon Boulevard. (21-002RZ)

2) **Ordinance No. 0195 – 2nd Reading** – An ordinance adopting a change on

rezoning within the Municipal Limits of the Town of Horizon City, Texas. Rezoning two (2) parcels as follows: Parcel 1, from R-2 Residential (holding zone) to C-2, Commercial containing approximately 91.5425 acres and Parcel 2, from R-2, Residential (holding zone) to R-9, Residential containing approximately 153.0066 acres being generally described as being a portion of CD Stuart Survey No. 321, Horizon City, El Paso County, Texas, located south and west of the intersection of Darrington Road and Horizon Boulevard. (12-001RZ)

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 hearing. Ordinances are available for viewing or copying upon request from the City Clerk at the above address, Monday through Friday from 8: a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**rezoning of a parcel identified as Robert E. Nix Survey 305, from Unclassified Zoning, to M-1, Light Industrial.**

**Karen Ellefson**  
City Clerk  
Town of Horizon City

WTCC: 05-17-12

**City of Socorro**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**A PUBLIC HEARING** will be held on June 5, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. during the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting at City of Socorro Chambers, 860 N. Rio Vista Rd., Socorro, Texas. Purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive public comments on the following:

**Manuel Rubio**  
City Clerk

1) **On proposed** WTCC: 05-17-12

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CryptoQuip Answer

Because I have no dread of grain-munching beetles, you might well say I fear no weevil.

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# Traditional health fair takes shape

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

A group of community organizations is planning the First Traditional Feria de Salud (Health Fair) in El Paso and is inviting organizations that promote health and well-being to join this community effort by sponsoring informational booths for workshops, screenings, demonstrations, and other health-related activities during the fair.

Healthy products or healing information vendors and exhibitors are also invited to participate.

In addition, feria organizers hope to offer an area for children's entertainment and education on different forms of exercise, nutrition, and preventative care.

The organizing committee has scheduled the community event to be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, July 20, at Bowie High School.

Plans are to follow the daytime feria activities with an open panel discussion featuring local and Mexican master healers, at 7 p.m., at the Chamizal National Memorial.

Also planned is a "Chautauqua" (a special presentation) of the famed Curandera Teresita, performed by Elena Diaz-Bjorkquist of Tucson, AZ. Teresita became well known in the El Paso-Juarez area after the

turn of the century and attracted thousands of followers. Her life's work is on currently on display at the El Paso Museum of History



The Traditional Feria de Salud is designed to bring balance into a person's life – physically, spiritually, emotionally, and mentally. Feria organizers hope to offer various traditional wellness treatments including hand on healing like massage.

through June.

"The objective of this Feria de Salud is to serve the community and introduce different modalities of traditional healing," stated Mary A. Yanez, Senior Adult Program director for EPCC and one of the Traditional Feria organizers.

Yanez stated that the event anticipates over 50 healers and health practitioners from the Southwest, Mexico, Albuquerque and the El Paso community to participate in the day-long event and provide demonstrations that incorporate various traditional and holistic health techniques to give individuals an opportunity to explore an alternative approach to medicine.

Individuals and organizations interested in participating in the Traditional Feria de Salud or in contributing monetary or in-kind donations, volunteering or performing, should contact Yanez, at 831-7803 or email her at maryy@epcc.edu.

## Anthony Indepedent School District PUBLIC NOTICE / AVISO PUBLICO

Public Meeting to Review Federally Funded Programs  
*Junta Pública para Examinar Programas de Fondos Federales*

The Anthony Independent School District will conduct a public information meeting to review the following AISD Programs funded by Federal and State compensatory funds:

*El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony llevará a cabo una junta pública para examinar los siguientes programas de AISD de fondos compensatorios estatales y federales:*

- Title I, Part A - Improving Basic Programs;  
*Título I, Parte A - Mejorando Programas Basicos;*
- Title II, Part A - Teacher / Principal Training and Recruiting;  
*Título II, Parte A - Entrenamiento y recultamiento de maestros y directores;*
- Title III, Part A - Limited English Proficiency;  
*Título III, Parte A - Servicios de educacion para estudiantes de segunda idiom;*
- IDEA, Part B - Formula & IDEA, Part B - Preschool;  
*IDEA, Part B - Formula & IDEA, Part B - Pre-Escolar;*
- Career & Technical Education - Basic Grant;  
*Educación de Carreras en Tecnologia - Apoyo Financiero Basico.*

The meeting will be held:  
*La junta se llevará a cabo:*

Tuesday, May 22, 2012  
*martes, 22 de mayo 2012*  
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Anthony ISD Board Room  
813 Sixth St., Anthony, TX

For information call:  
*Por información comuníquese con:*  
Melissa Bautista — 886-6509

WTCC: 05-17-12

## Mountain View to hold court



– Photo courtesy Clint ISD

The Mountain View tennis team is looking to lay down some aces on their brand new courts after enduring poor conditions due to harsh weathering on the old courts. Lobos coach Jesus Garcia is happy for his team. "The team is very proud of the new courts and it has lifted their morale," Garcia said. "We think we have the best courts in El Paso right now." The six new courts are protected by special screens that block most sand and debris and also feature shaded spectator seating and restroom facilities. The construction was part of the Clint ISD 2006 Phase II Bond Projects.

– Andrew Reynoso



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# Hamilton turns his life around in spectacular fashion

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

Many times in the sports world there are players who get caught up in extracurricular activity that changes their future for the worst.

Some athletes make these wrong choices because they grew up in that environment and then were chosen to play a professional sport.

Some were clean as a whistle and then got caught up in the world of having way too much money and way too much free time on their hands.

Whether its drugs or alcohol or gambling or theft, the seedier side of professional athletics is far more prevalent than anyone wants to admit.

And almost all of these athletes fall from grace, ruining their reputations and ending their careers in utter embarrassment and total humiliation.

Most of these athletes disappear from the radar and are never heard from again.

It wasn't that long ago that Josh Hamilton

was out of baseball, never to be heard from again.

The Texas Rangers outfielder, with the multitude of tattoos, has a similar but completely different story to tell.

Was Hamilton expected to be a Major League Baseball star? Yes, he was the first player picked in the 1999 draft.

He was considered a "can't miss" prospect but things started to unravel in 2001 while he was still in the minors.

He eventually turned into a guy who was clean for a couple months and then missed a week of games after showing up late to practice on a daily basis – it wasn't a mystery why.

Hamilton kept trying to make it to the big leagues but things got so bad with his drug and alcohol addiction that he didn't play a single game from 2004 to 2006.

Wow, talk about never being heard from again.

I can't imagine what goes on in a guy's head when he has that much time to think about how much he has just thrown away. For Hamilton, it was his potential, his good name and his future.

We all heard about what happened to Junior Seau last week. If you allow them the power, the demons in a person can even take over the will to live.

Fortunately for Hamilton, something inside convinced him not to succumb to the demons.

We all know that he has turned his life around except for a minor one-night relapse in February, where he had a couple drinks in a bar before calling his teammates to come down and save him from himself.

Even though Hamilton was going down a familiar path that night, he still had the control to call his friends for help. For a person with an addiction, that takes strength, courage and about a ton-and-a-half of humility.

And all that takes us to today, where Hamilton isn't just doing well in the game he loves – he's the best player in the game.

The 31-year-old Hamilton, who has also suffered a bunch of injuries in the past, is playing like a 21-year-old hitting the ball all over the place and many times right out of the place.

The baseball season is about six weeks old and Hamilton leads the major leagues in

batting average (.402), runs scored (30), home runs (18), runs batted in (41) and slugging percentage (.877).

He's also second in hits with 49 and on-base percentage (.457).

And don't forget that these numbers are not just for the American League – they are for all of baseball.

Hamilton recently became just the 16th player in history to hit four home runs in one game.

And here's another thing to contemplate. Hamilton graciously threw a baseball to a little kid in the stands last year. The kid's father reached out too far over the railing trying to catch it and fell to his death.

With all that Hamilton has to deal with on a daily basis, you think that image doesn't haunt him from time to time?

The good news is that though addiction is a daily struggle, Hamilton has turned his life around and proven the demons can at least be controlled – if not destroyed.

Maybe Josh Hamilton can be an example to others that the battle can be won, though I've heard the war can go on forever.

## A sporting view By Mark Vasto

### Top 5 sports apps for iPhone, iPad

With something like 10,000 apps out there, you can forgive us for missing one of your favorites, please. Our top five at A Sporting View headquarters:

5. Sports Illustrated

It's free to download, but they do charge you for full editions of the magazine. Still, when you're tired of reading the blogs and their repetitive, snarky, Jim Rome-wannabe styling, you'll see the difference in quality right away.

4. Madden 2012

I think it costs something like

\$49.99 to buy a copy of Madden football for your console, but I could be wrong. For one thing, nobody calls their consoles "consoles" anymore, and with inflation, I'm sure it costs more. But in iPad world, Madden costs something like \$9.99 – and yeah... people still complain. For the older, non-gamer fan, it's a nice challenge. No joystick is needed because you can just point and shoot with the iPad. Tap the screen... touchdown!

3. ESPN Scorecenter XL

It's not that it's great, but you have

to have ESPN on here somewhere, don't you? The app is free, it ties into their fantasy leagues, and it gives you the scores.

2. Watch ESPN

The name kind of says it all. Watch ESPN on your iPad. (Carrier rates may apply... better stick to the WiFi.)

1. MLB At Bat 2012

This is the best sports app in the world, and it keeps getting better. It's one of the handfuls of really incredible things Major League Baseball has offered up to fans, and with every passing year MLB seems to get it more and more. This app has been on the market since 2010, I think, but it doesn't matter because it's grown by leaps and bounds ever

since.

For 14 semoleons – about the price of one hot dog and a beer at a baseball game – you get to hear every radio broadcast of every game from both team's markets (your choice), and when there's a highlight, it's streamed to you in video. You also get a game highlight reel after every game and pretty good (not excellent, sorry) sports reporting after every game. There's even a free MLB TV game of the day.

But where the app really excels? The classic pitcher versus batter

duel. The app is so strong it can tell you how fast the pitch was when it left the pitcher's hand and how far it dipped from the mound to the plate in inches. All of the other statistical things you want or need are in the app, too. This is the gold standard. If you're a baseball lover and you don't buy this app, you're not only a fool, but you're not a baseball lover.

*Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.*

## Weeds

From Page 1

members of the Juntos Art Association of El Paso.

To register, interested individuals may contact the museum before May 26 at 915-755-4332. The workshop is sponsored by the City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

For more information contact Marilyn Guida, at 915-755-4332 or at [guidamr@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:guidamr@elpasotexas.gov).

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