



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Water workshop

On average, it rains only 48 days a year in El Paso. But did you know you can easily make those rainy days last for weeks – or even months? On Saturday, Aug. 18, at 10:30 a.m., El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU) will host a free workshop at the TechH2O Water Resources Learning Center explaining how to do just that. Texas AgriLife Master Gardener Doc Stalker will teach you how to properly harvest, store and use our region’s rare rainfall. Rainwater harvesting not only helps conserve water, it can also decrease your water bill and make your plants healthier. Join EPWU for solutions large and small that can help make any El Paso landscape a little more green. For more information, visit TechH2O.org and click on the events page or call (915) 621-2000. The TechH2O Center is adjacent to the Kay Bailey Hutchison Desalination Plant at 10751 Montana Ave. in East El Paso. El Pasoans can stay up-to-date on events at the TechH2O Center by texting “EPWater” to 22828.

– Martin Bartlett

### Canutillo ISD

Registration for new students to Canutillo High School will be held from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through Friday, August 17. Mandatory registration for all returning students will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., beginning August 20. Students will register and receive their schedule according to their last name. Students whose last name begins with:

- A through D will receive schedules on Monday, August 20;
- E through L will receive schedules on Tuesday, August 21;
- M through Q will receive schedules on Wednesday, August 22;
- R through Z may pick up their schedules on Thursday, August 23; and
- Make up day for any students who missed their scheduled day is Friday, August 24.

Canutillo Independent School District students begin classes on Monday, August 27. For more information, call 877-7882.

– Kim Guzman

### Fabens ISD

The Fabens Independent School District (ISD) Special Education Department received the highest rating possible, “Meets Requirements” under the 2012 Local Education Agency Determination Process. For the last couple of years the district has received an annual determination about the performance of the District’s Special Education Program. In the determination process various district elements are reviewed, some of which include performance on compliance issues; whether the special education data

See BRIEFS, Page 5

*If you think getting an education is expensive, try not getting one.*

– Quips & Quotes



**TRAGIC TOWN** – When Mount Vesuvius erupted cataclysmically in the summer of A.D. 79, the nearby Roman town of Pompeii was buried under several feet of ash and rock. The ruined city remained frozen in time until it was discovered by a surveying engineer in 1748.

## Professor shares findings about Pompeii

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – It took 19 hours for Pompeii to be buried under 9 feet of volcanic ash. It wasn’t until 1748, nearly 1,700 years later, that archaeologists began to slowly uncover the ancient city that was frozen in time.

About three-fifths of the city has been liberated from the solidified volcanic ash and pumice that engulfed it. But many questions remain unanswered. What was life like before the eruption? What exactly did happen that summer day in A.D. 79?

Dr. Ronald Suci, professor of history at El Paso Community College (EPCC), invites the public to join him in looking at the latest Pompeii findings to try to answer these types of questions.

Suci’s presentation will be at 2 p.m.,

Saturday, August 25, at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain. It will include an introduction and follow-up discussion in conjunction with the showing of the BBC docudrama, Pompeii the Last Day (2003). Admission is free.

According to Suci, Pompeii was covered beneath ash, pumice and other volcanic debris which demolished shops, villas, markets, thoroughfares and thousands of lives, and the preservation of the ruins provides a glimpse into the daily life of the Roman period known as Pax Romana and continues to fascinate us today.

Suci, who holds a Ph.D. in history from King’s College at the University of London, is a tenured professor at EPCC and a member of the graduate faculty of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss.

The Pompeii presentation is the first in a series of the Muller Memorial Lectures which is sponsored by EPCC and dedicated to Gene Muller, deceased professor of history at EPCC.

For more information about this event, call 755-4332, send an email to guidamr@elpasotexas.gov, or visit the archeology museum’s website at www.elpasotexas.gov/arch\_museum/.

## Flores-Salom honored by Region 19

By Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Irene Flores-Salom, a teacher in the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD), has high expectations for all students that walk into her classroom and she is dedicated to unlocking the potential within each child. Her ability to create a positive learning environment for all students is just one reason why she is quickly becoming an accomplished educator as well as the newly crowned Region 19 Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Salom received the honor on August 13 at the annual Region 19 Teacher of the Year Awards Gala held at the El Paso Convention Center. She was selected for the award from a group of 10 candidates nominated by area school districts and will represent the Region 19 service area at the Texas Teacher of the Year competition to take place this fall. Salom had previously been named the SEISD Elementary Teacher of the Year in May.

Surprisingly Salom had no intentions of pursuing a career in education and instead had hoped to join the corporate world. Even though she had loved working with Autistic children during college, she resisted being labeled a teacher. Life, however, had other plans for her as she quickly landed a job at SEISD and on her first day of leading a classroom realized that she had found her calling.

Salom credits the students that have passed through her classroom for inspiring her commitment to the teaching profession.

“What motivates me to come to work everyday is knowing that there is a classroom

See FLORES-SALOM, Page 4



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 29, 2012 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	\$0.213600/\$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	1.90% Increase
Debt Service	11.50% Decrease
Total Expenditures	0.90% Increase

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

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 68,310,617	\$ 71,415,180
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$ 876,660	\$ 1,012,084
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 55,474,065	\$ 58,372,508
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 851,070	\$ 999,580

\* "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\* \$19,338,121

\* 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	\$ 0.218700*	\$ 1.308800	\$ 568	\$ 7,884
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.110630	\$ 0.000230*	\$ 1.110860	\$ 479	\$ 8,284
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.090100	\$ 0.213600*	\$ 1.303700	\$ 565	\$ 8,189

\*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 Levv with Last Year's Levv on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 43,911	\$ 43,860
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 28,803	\$ 28,665
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.321100	\$ 1.303700
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 380.52	\$ 373.71
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (6.81)

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 1.303700. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.303700.

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)	\$ 3,225,745
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 104,665

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Rural cemeteries

Veterans in very rural areas have had little opportunity to arrange for burial in a national or state veterans cemetery. The Department of Veterans Affairs operates 131 national cemeteries, but they're in areas of high population. Current requirements say that there must be 80,000 veterans living within 75 miles for a cemetery to come under the auspices of the National Cemetery System.

Now, because of the Rural Initiative, eight areas will have local cemeteries established as National Veterans Burial Grounds. The new requirements are that there are no more than 25,000 veterans within 75 miles and that they have no reasonable access to a national or state veterans cemetery.

The eight new locations are Fargo, N.D.; Rhinelander, Wis.; Cheyenne, Wyo.; Laurel, Mont.; Idaho Falls, Idaho; Cedar City, Utah; Calais, Maine; and Elko, Nev. This opens up burial options for 136,000 veterans and their eligible dependents.

The new designations means that a portion, three to five acres, of existing local cemeteries will come under the care of the National

Cemetery System and be brought up to the national shrine standards of the larger cemeteries. Besides making it easier on families to have a local cemetery, there are additional benefits to burial in a National Cemetery, no matter its size: The headstone, marker and burial plot are free.

Eligibility requirements for burial in a National Veterans Cemetery are lengthy and complicated, but at the top of the list are: Discharge under conditions other than dishonorable, or a service member who dies while on active duty. The specifics can be found at the VA's National Cemetery site [www.cem.va.gov]. To ascertain eligibility for burial in a National Cemetery, call the scheduling office at 1-800-535-1117.

If you'd like to explore having a National Veterans Burial Ground at a cemetery in your area, start by contacting your U.S. representative and VA Secretary Eric Shinseki's office.

Write to Freddy Groves in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columngrey@gmail.com. (c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.



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www.texaslung.org

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

1-800-LUNG-USA



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

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.

AD DEADLINE:

Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

CLASSIFIED RATES

\$10 for 25 words, \$15 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

DISPLAY RATES:

Open rate — \$25 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

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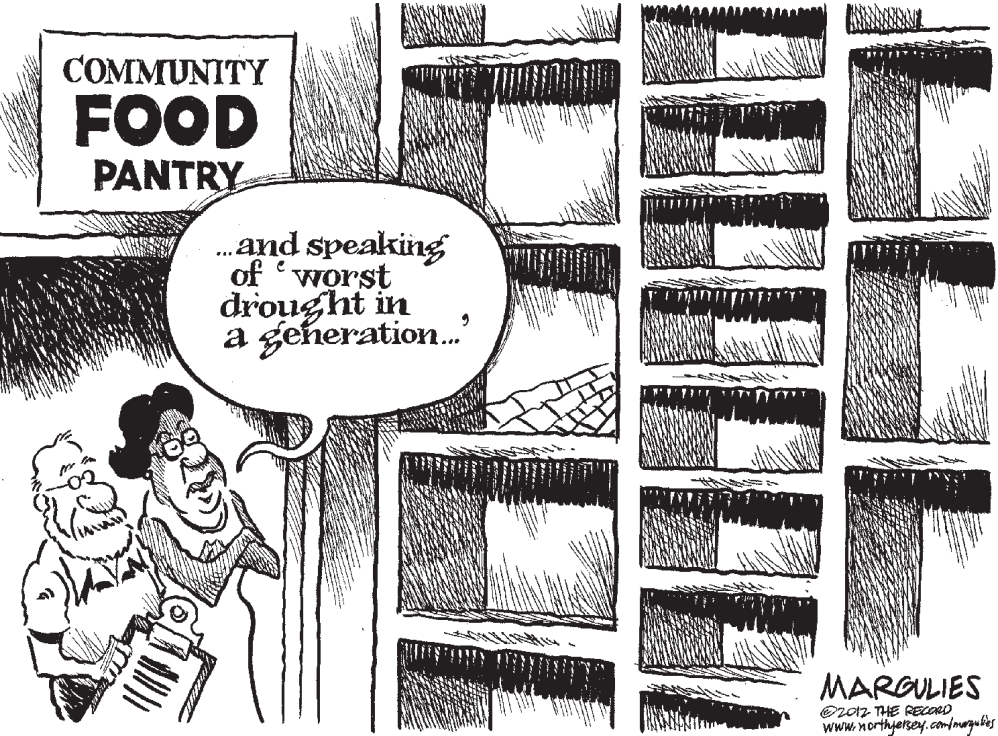
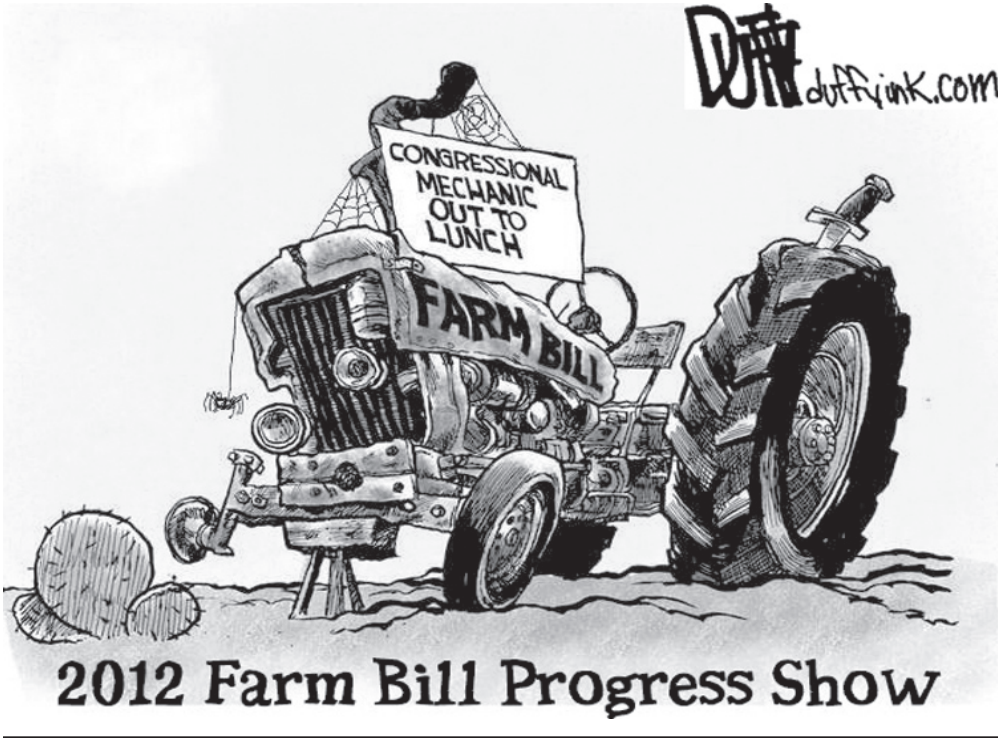


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Save on back-to-school shopping

By Jason Alderman  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — On the fun-o-meter, I'd probably rank back-to-school shopping right above getting a flu shot and preparing income taxes. Never mind the hassle of figuring out what our kids need for the coming school year and dragging them to the mall, it's just so expensive.

For example, our son insists that we replace his baseball glove and bat as he enters 7th grade. (He's right — his four-year-old mitt has seen better days.) Also, our daughter is starting soccer and needs cleats — good ones aren't cheap and footwear is one area where we refuse to scrimp.

Many years ago my wife and I learned our lesson and started setting aside money each month for the inevitable — and unexpected — expenses that crop up each fall. By trial and error — and sound advice from fellow parents — we've developed a back-to-school budgeting checklist:

First, calculate how much you can afford to spend on school-related expenses without blowing your overall budget or racking up debt. Scoring bargains won't help your bottom line if you end up paying interest on

unpaid balances.

Next, make a comprehensive list of anticipated expenses for each child and build in a cushion for unexpected costs. Try these strategies:

- Examine previous years' bills and compare notes with other, more experienced parents.
- Ask the school which supplies they expect you to buy. Pool resources with other families to take advantage of volume discounts and sales.
- Spread clothing purchases throughout the year so your kids won't outgrow everything at once; plus you can take advantage of off-season sales.
- Review school dress codes so you don't waste money on inappropriate clothing.
- Before buying new clothing or accessories, look for "gently used" items in the closets of your older kids, friends and neighbors, at garage sales, thrift and consignment stores, and sites like Craig's List.
- Find out how much extracurricular activities (athletics, music, art, etc.) cost. Account for uniforms, membership dues, private lessons, field trips, snacks, etc.
- Compare the cost, convenience and nutritional value of school lunches and snacks

See SHOPPING, Page 7

2012 Property Tax Rates in El Paso County Emergency Services District #1

This notice concerns 2012 property tax rates for the El Paso County Emergency Services District #1. 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	\$ 1,255,455
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 108,992
Last year's total taxes	\$ 1,364,447
Last year's tax base	\$ 1,364,447,000
Last year's total tax rate	\$ 0.100000 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 1,360,918
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 1,367,094,924
= This year's effective tax rate	\$ 0.099548 /\$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)	\$ 1,252,208
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 1,367,094,924
= This year's effective operating rate	\$ 0.091596 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$ 0.098923 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$ 0.032801 /\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$ 0.131724 /\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the El Paso County Emergency Services District #1 adopts a 2012 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.099548 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2011 taxes by \$49,896.

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)	\$ -0-
Debt Service (I&S)	\$ -0-

SCHEDULE B — 2012 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
Vehicles	\$ 83,950	\$ 24,558	\$ 0	\$ 108,508
Fire Station	\$ 139,000	\$ 218,525	\$ 0	\$ 357,525
Total required for 2012 Debt Service				\$ 466,033
- 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 2012				\$ 466,033
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2012				\$ -0-
= Total Debt Levy				\$ 466,033

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 500 E. Overland Ave., Suite 101, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Name of person preparing this notice: Victor A. Flores, R.T.C.  
Title: El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Date prepared: August 8, 2012  
(915) 546-2096 www.epcounty.com

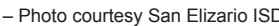


## From Page 1

Also representing SEISD at the awards gala was Bonita Whittington from San Elizario High School who competed in the secondary Teacher of the Year category.

## Famous Hot Salsa?

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



**TOP TEACHER – Irene Flores-Salom receives her Region 19 Elementary Teacher of the Year award from Claudia Green, President of the El Paso Area Teachers Federal Credit Union a sponsor of the event.**

**By Samantha Weaver**

- Don Marquis

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– Photo by Christy Flores-Jones/SISD

HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROGRAM – Socorro High School senior Victoria Navarro participated in the NASA WISH project this summer at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. The project encourages female students to pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics degrees and exposes them to the real-world applications of STEM careers in NASA.

## From Page 1

submitted by the district is valid, reliable and timely; uncorrected noncompliance issues; and the Performance Based Monitoring Program Effectiveness. Out of twelve districts in the entire Region 19 Area, Fabens ISD was one of six districts that received the "Meets Requirements" status. Districts that do not receive a "Meets Requirements" designation must seek technical assistance from regional education service center and/or other technical assistance providers; develop and/or implement continuous improvement plans through the states Special Education Monitoring System.

– Richard Ortega

At the same time, the suspect pointed a handgun at the clerk who, fearing for his life, gave the subject an undisclosed amount of money. When the subject exited the Subway, he crossed Sunland Park Drive and got into a black sedan that was waiting for him in the McDonald's parking lot. The vehicle fled east on Sunland Park and took the on-ramp to I-10 East. The suspect is described as a black or Middle Eastern man in his 20s, 5'7" tall, with a medium to dark complexion and a mustache. He spoke good English and was wearing black shorts and pants, a black baseball cap with large red letters, a dark blue hoodie with a white number 3 on the right sleeve and a red Polo emblem on the left side of the jacket.

The getaway vehicle was a dark colored, late 90s or early 2000s Buick Regal. If you have any information about the identity of the suspect in this case or his accomplice, contact Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (566-8477), on-line at [www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org](http://www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org) or you can send a text message by entering the key word CRIME1 (no space) plus your tip information, and text it to CRIMES (274637). You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

– James Klaes

Rodolfo Arce III, 39, is this week's Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. He also goes by Rodolfo Lopez and Rodolfo Morales. He is 5'9' tall and weighs 260 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. Arce III has a distinctive "Flaming Demon



to his probation officer for the past 11 months. On July 31, 2012, a warrant was issued for his apprehension. A Wanted Persons Bulletin has been distributed to area law enforcement agencies for the apprehension of Arce III. He knows he is wanted and is believed to remain in the area. He has acquaintances in the Anthony and Canutillo. Information received indicates he may be driving a white 2000 Toyota Echo. If anyone has seen or has any information on the whereabouts of Arce III they can contact Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension of Arce III.

– Deputy Jesse Tovar

**By Christy Flores-Jones**  
*Special to the Courier*

Navarro, a senior at Socorro High School, participated in the Women in STEM High School Aerospace Scholars project, or WISH, from June 24-29 at the NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. Navarro was the only participant from Texas among the 84 female students from across the nation to take part in the program.

"I was really honored to be the only person

**See NAVARRO, Page 7**

# Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 10 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2012 on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at 12:00 p.m., at the offices of Southwest Water Company, 12350 Montwood Dr., Suite 100, El Paso, TX 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:

**Luis Ortega, Greg Spence, B.D.  
Reynolds Jr., Martin N. Lettunich  
and Antonio Gallardo**

**AGAINST** the proposal:

**NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting

**NONE**

**ABSENT:**

**NONE**

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)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 209,613	\$ 200,990
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 209,613	\$ 200,990
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,572.10	\$ 1,507.43

Annual increase / decrease in taxes if  
proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)      - \$ 64.67  
and percentage of increase (+/-)      - 4.11%

## 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.

Career and Technical Education  
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## CryptoQuip Answer

Busy hub in the Big Apple  
where folks trade foot  
wear all day: New  
York Sock Exchange.

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## Guillen, Marioni named San Eli ISD principals

Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – New leadership will set the course for secondary education in the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) with the start of the 2012-2013 school year. This summer the SEISD Board of Trustees approved the appointment of new principals at San Elizario High School (SEHS) and Garcia-Enriquez Middle School.

Maribel Guillen, 35, may be one of the youngest high school principals in the region and is now also the newest SEHS Principal. She comes to SEISD after serving six years as an assistant principal at Jefferson/Silva Health Magnet. During her years at Jefferson/Silva she served as the 9th Grade Academy Assistant Principal as well as the Assistant Principal for Guidance and Instruction.

“My vision for San Elizario High School is that it become an institution of higher learning that focuses on college readiness and prepares students to enter a four-year university. I am excited to be here and feel very honored to work with the entire community of San Elizario,” Guillen said.

Guillen is a proud Riverside High School graduate who received both her bachelor’s degree in liberal arts and master’s degree in educational administration from the University of Texas at El Paso. With over 13 years of experience in the secondary



Maribel Guillen

education field she hopes to lead the SEHS Eagles into a new era. Guillen is married to her husband Saul and has two daughters Claudia and Mary.

Although she is originally from Big Lake, TX recently appointed Garcia-Enriquez Middle School (GEMS) Principal April Soliz Marioni has spent the last 10 years as an educator and administrator at neighboring Clint ISD. Marioni served as the assistant principal at Clint Junior High School for the past four years prior to accepting a position with SEISD. She also worked as a teacher and instructional facilitator at the campus for six years bringing a total of 15 years of educational experience to her new role with the district.



Soliz Marioni

Marioni’s immediate goal during her first year at GEMS is, “to build a community of learners and ensure high achievement for all students. Our staff and faculty will collaboratively strive to maximize academic success.”

Marioni earned a bachelor’s degree in Spanish and sociology as well as a master’s degree in education guidance and counseling from Angelo State University. She is the mother of Myrna Portillo and Efrain Marioni Jr. and is married to Efrain Marioni.

SEISD is abuzz with energy with the addition of Maribel Guillen and April Marioni to its ranks and is excited to welcome them as the district heads back to school on August 27.

## Perry won’t expand Medicaid

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 6.2 million Texans –or one out of four– were uninsured in 2010. With Medicaid expansion and an insurance exchange to help residents and small businesses buy health coverage, Texas could cut the uninsured rate in half.

But Texas Governor Rick Perry stated recently that Texas would not participate in expansion of the state’s Medicaid program through the Affordable Care Act, which was upheld as the law of the land by the Supreme Court in June.

The Affordable Care Act of 2010 created a new national Medicaid minimum eligibility level that covers most Americans with household income up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level. This new eligibility requirement is effective January 1, 2014.

The Supreme Court upheld the revised federal health care law, although it said the federal government could not withhold a state’s entire Medicaid allotment if it did not expand Medicaid. And, the Court added that if a state chose not to set up a health care exchange (an online service for people to comparison shop for insurance) the federal government could establish one for that state.

Medicaid, a health care program for eligible individuals and families

with low incomes and resources, is jointly funded by the states and by the federal government. It is managed by the states, but the federal health law requires states to cover certain mandatory eligibility groups including qualified parents, children, and pregnant women with low income, as well as older adults and people with disabilities with low income. States have the flexibility to cover other optional eligibility groups and set eligibility criteria within the federal standards.

Texas is considered to be a big winner with the new law, because so many additional residents will have access to health insurance. However, because Texas must significantly expand its Medicaid program, it could face a big financial strain.

Supporters of the new law assert that Texas will benefit from efforts to slow health care inflation and billions of dollars in new federal spending on subsidies for the uninsured and on an array of programs like community health centers. However, even with more federal help, the challenge for Texas will be substantial because it currently offers only limited Medicaid coverage.

In Texas, Medicaid has been restricted to low-income families with children, pregnant women, certain people with disabilities and some elderly. The income cutoffs

See MEDICAID, Page 12



– Photos by Christy Flores-Jones/SISD

TOP PERFORMERS – El Dorado sophomores Felicienne Axel, left, and Olamide Olowe, right, are among the best track and field athletes in the nation. They competed in the United States Track and Field Junior Olympics from July 23-29 in Baltimore. They are coached by Macka Jones on the summer youth track team Texas Heat and at El Dorado High School.

## Axel, Olowe compete in USTAF Junior Olympic track meet

By Christy Flores-Jones  
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO ISD – Two El Dorado High School students displayed their talent and athleticism at the United States Track and Field Junior Olympics from July 23-29 at Hughes Stadium in Baltimore. Their outstanding performances earned them high rankings among the top track and field athletes in the nation.

El Dorado sophomore Felicienne Axel earned the top spot at the competition as the United States Track and Field Junior Olympic Champion in the triple jump. She jumped 39’06”, which was her personal best by a whole foot.

“In my head I just needed to float and enjoy the jump,” said Felicienne Axel. “I just had to clear my mind. When I saw the number on the performance board I was so happy.”

Olamide Olowe finished fifth at the national meet in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.58 seconds, which earned her the status of All-American track and field athlete. Olowe said she was pleased with her performance since she had improved from the 49th spot where she finished in last year’s competition.

### Shopping

From Page 3

versus food you prepare yourself.

- Learn your school’s policy on immunizations and see what’s covered by your insurance – or which ones you can access free at health fairs or community clinics.
- Factor in public transportation, school bus or carpool expenses.
- Although shopping online can save money, time and gas, don’t forget shipping and return costs, which could undo any net savings. If your kids are old enough, put them in charge of online comparison shopping.
- Clip newspaper and online coupons. Many stores will match competitors’ prices even if their own items aren’t on sale. Plus, many consolidation websites post downloadable coupons and sale codes for

“Coach (Macka) Jones helped me drop 2 seconds from my time,” Olowe said. “My goal is to run a consistent 23 my junior year.” Macka Jones is the head track and cross country coach for El Dorado High School. He also volunteers his time as the coach of Texas Heat, the youth summer track team that Axel and Olowe competed on at the Junior Olympics meet.

“To see these girls develop and come along the way they have, shows how hard they are working,” Jones said. “It’s nice to see them represent the school, the school district and the city of El Paso.”

Axel and Olowe will compete on El Dorado High School’s varsity track team this school year.

“The way they are progressing shows they are truly elite athletes,” Jones said.

The summer league has given the athletes a chance to improve their times and distances and has shown that they can compete on a national level, he said.

“Now that I know I can jump that far I have to make my standards a lot higher,” Axel said.

Both athletes said they are eager to compete on the varsity team this year.

“We’ll lead our team to district, regional and state,” Olowe said.

online retailers.

- Mobile shopping apps let in-store smartphone and mobile browser users scan product barcodes and make on-the-spot price comparisons, read reviews, download coupons, buy products and more.
- Some parents wrestle over whether or not to take their kids on shopping trips. I think it’s worth the effort so they can hear and absorb your decision-making process and understand what’s available to spend. My kids are probably sick of hearing me say, “I’m going to buy this brand of underwear because it’s cheaper, which will give us more money to buy a better-quality jacket.”
- Bottom line: Back-to-school shopping can be tedious, but if you plan carefully, you can save time, money and aggravation.

Jason Alderman directs Visa’s financial education programs.

### Navarro

From Page 5

hearing from Walker and working with the engineers at NASA was exciting.

The WISH project students were given a fictitious budget to build several small mockups of vehicles to demonstrate a successful launch and landing of a Mars spacecraft. Navarro said they learned from NASA experts who specialize in various fields such as robotics, rovers and life support systems. They worked in collaborative teams doing hands-on activities and presenting their projects to NASA personnel and community leaders.

Navarro said NASA is an incredible place to learn and the project increased her interest in space and space exploration. She plans on looking for a career in science or math.

“If any girls are interested in applying for this, it is completely worth it. All the hard work pays off,” she said.

Navarro said before she went to Houston the program included interactive online lessons with math problems and quizzes and covered past, current and future space exploration. She was graded by certified teachers and she had to submit a final project based on a leading female STEM professional who is developing cutting-edge technology or performing new research. She was chosen to attend the summer workshop at the Space Center based on the results of her online work.

## Haciendas del Norte Water Improvement District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Haciendas Del Norte Water Improvement District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2012 on August 23, 2012 at 13931 Sagebrush Circle, El Paso, Texas 79938 at 6:30 pm. Your individual taxes may increase or 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.

FOR the proposal:	Frank Wood, Howard Funk, Robert Lucero and Daniel Diaz
AGAINST the proposal:	NONE
PRESENT and not voting:	NONE
ABSENT:	Joseph McCandless

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)	0.237505/\$100	0.231052/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	(\$ 0.006453/\$100)	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/–)	–2.717%	
Average appraised value	\$ 190,150	\$ 192,735
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen’s or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 190,150	\$ 192,735
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 451.62	\$ 445.32
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/–)	– \$ 6.30	
and percentage of increase (+/–)	– 1.39%	

### 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.



# LA Lakers position themselves for title another run

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

There’s no doubt that the old adage about the rich getting richer is pretty accurate. The biggest reason for this, I guess, is that the rest of us don’t know how the rich do it. I’m fairly sure that if the rest of us knew how they did it, we’d probably do it too. And speaking of the rich getting richer, is there no end to the number of times the Los Angeles Lakers are going to outsmart every other team in the league? The Lakers, who already obtained point guard Steve Nash this off-season, went out and got the most coveted prize of the NBA summer, center Dwight Howard. And amazingly, they got both of these guys without giving up all-star Pau Gasol. The Lakers also brought in 36-year-old Antawn Jamison and soon-to-be 31-year-old Chris Duhon. Jamison averaged 17 points a game for Cleveland last season and Duhon is a steady backup, good for 7 to 8 points a game.

The Lakers also kept Metta World (cheap shot) Peace, who is still as lethal shooting a 3-point jumper as he is with an elbow to the head. Of course the Lakers still have soon-to-be 35-year-old Kobe Bryant, who is a no-doubt first-ballot Hall of Famer. So a lot of media types are saying that the Lakers are now the best team in the NBA. And at least on paper, they do look as formidable as any other super team in the league. But let’s examine the team a little closer. Dwight Howard, possibly the league’s biggest diva, is considered the best center in the league. In the trade, the Lakers just gave up the second-best center in the league, Andrew Bynum. So how much of an upgrade is Howard really? Let’s compare the two big guys and their 2011 stats. Points, Howard 20.6, Bynum 18.7; rebounds, Howard 14.5, Bynum 11.8; blocks, Howard 2.2, Bynum 1.9; free throw shooting, Howard 49.1%, Bynum 69.2%. So as you can see, Howard holds a big edge

in name recognition and self-promotion, but an ever-so-slight edge on the basketball court. At point guard, Steve Nash is as good as anyone who as ever played the position, but at 38, his scoring has steadily declined over the last seven years and I’m not sure he can guard you or me. But there’s no doubt he can still run a team. He can certainly find the open man and get him the ball. That’s when he’s allowed to do his thing. Does anyone really believe that after 16 seasons in the league, Kobe is suddenly going to let someone else handle the ball for the majority of the offense? Kobe has already informed Howard that he will be the third scoring option on the team. The Lakers offense will be the same as it always has, only Nash will have the privilege of bringing the ball up court and hand it to Bryant. Nash, like the majority of his teammates, will never see the ball again. And with all these improvements where does that put Gasol?

He is still one of the best forwards in the league. But the constant badgering by Bryant has made him a shell of what he was, especially during the playoffs. If the Lakers are really going to challenge for an NBA title next year, Kobe Bryant is going to have to tone it down a bit, put his own personal accomplishments aside and let his teammates feel like they are part of a team. Too many times over the years his teammates just stand and watch as Kobe goes 1-on-3. He has so many weapons now. To waste them will cost them an unforgettable season. The real question is whether coach Mike Brown has the nerve to tell Kobe that things have to change, especially with the acquisition of Nash. So are the Lakers now better than the Miami Heat, the Oklahoma City Thunder, the San Antonio Spurs, the Boston Celtics, the Chicago Bulls and even the Las Angeles Clippers? The answer is easy. They should be, but there is still a lot of work to be done. And most of it must come between the ears.

## A sporting view

By Mark Vasto

### Olympics are no joke

Last week, I wrote that the Olympic Games were a joke. I retract that statement. They’re serious business in several ways. Plenty of people—agents, Olympic committees and, in some cases, even the players—make money during the games either directly (the U.S.A. basketball team), indirectly (medal-winner endorsements) or through pot brownie bake sales for the American judo team. The games also lead to various infrastructure improvements and

at the games, and I rode in on his coattails, hosting the “Surf Shack” inside the Olympic Village. Next to the Surf Shack were a laser-tag tent and the Village arcade. Every day I’d sneak out of the shack and do battle with the world’s greatest athletes inside both venues. The usual warlike that will leave a lasting impression in mind, for I was in the Centennial Olympic Park the night the park was bombed. The games for me, ironically, started with me being in the right place at the right time. I had recently moved to Atlanta and secured a job at the tech company tasked with providing the technology at the Olympics. A colleague scored a gig

My seashore smack was tolerated by, say, the Ukrainians or Moldavians, who hadn’t a clue what I was saying, but the Aussies, they spoke the language. Also, they were huge and they were there to win real Olympic gold medals. So, rather than crush me like a bug, they complained, and the Atlanta Committee of the Olympic Games decided to ban all non-athletes from the arcade. After arguing with American swimmer Jenny Thompson about Surf Shack rules (she didn’t like that we didn’t adhere to Stanford’s rules of emailers first), I took my lanyard to the Centennial Park that evening and met with an old girlfriend at the beer tent. We watched a country-

fried band playing on the main stage, but decided we didn’t want to stay for “Jack Mack and the Heart Attack.” The night lasted until the early morning in an era just on the cusp of rampant cell phone usage, so I didn’t know that the park was bombed and that we had been sitting squarely within range of the blast. Suddenly, air hockey didn’t seem so important anymore, and as the athletes and citizens at the games came together in ways hard to describe if you weren’t there, I realized the games weren’t a joke at all.

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

## 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



## Super Crossword

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Answer Page 4



## 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 29, 2012 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.

<b>Maintenance Tax</b>	\$1.040000/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
<b>School Debt Service Tax</b>	
<b>Approved by Local Voters</b>	\$0.221900/\$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:

<b>Maintenance and Operations</b>	1.25%	Increase
<b>Debt Service</b>	0.14%	Increase
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	1.39%	Increase

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

	<u>Preceding Tax Year</u>	<u>Current Tax Year</u>
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 210,210,399	\$ 218,210,639
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 8,701,790	\$ 1,167,755
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 152,883,297	\$ 161,137,900
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 4,052,219	\$ 1,095,136

\* "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\* \$25,130,000

\* Outstanding principal.

### Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	<u>Maintenance &amp; Operation</u>	<u>Interest &amp; Sinking Fund*</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local Revenue Per Student</u>	<u>State Revenue Per Student</u>
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.198100*	\$ 1.238100	\$ 794	\$ 7,418
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.076610	\$ 0.221570*	\$ 1.298170	\$ 804	\$ 7,960
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.221900*	\$ 1.261900	\$ 806	\$ 7,886

\*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 Levvy with Last Year's Levvy on Average Residence

	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 53,707	\$ 53,173
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 38,707	\$ 38,173
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.238100	\$ 1.261900
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 479.23	\$ 481.71
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 2.48

**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 1.261900. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.261900.**

### 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)	\$ 6,049,051
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ (76,564)

## Clint Independent School District SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Clint Independent School District provides the following educational program/services to identified disabled children who reside within the district beginning on the third birthday through age twenty-one.

- 1) Instructional Program: including Early Childhood (beginning on the third birthday through age five), Resource (grades K-12) and Self-Contained (grades K-12)
- 2) Diagnostic Services
- 3) Transportation Services
- 4) Speech Therapy
- 5) Counseling Services
- 6) Adaptive Equipment Services
- 7) Physical Therapy
- 8) Occupational Therapy
- 9) School Health Services
- 10) Homebound Services
- 11) Dyslexia Services

Services are provided to identified auditorial and visually impaired children who reside within the district from birth through age twenty-one and to private/home school students who qualify for special education services.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Public Law 105-17, parents and adult students have the right to inspect educational records. District policies FL and FL-P provide for record access, confidentiality, and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact the Special Education Director at 125 Brown Street, Clint, Texas 79836, or call (915) 851-8383.

## SERVICIOS DE EDUCACION ESPECIAL

*El distrito escolar de Clint provee los siguientes programas/ servicios educacionales a niños que son identificados como desabilitados que viven dentro del distrito comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta los 21 años.*

- 1) *programa de instrucción: infancia temprana (comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta la edad de cinco años), cuarto de recurso (K-12), y clases contenidas (K-12)*
- 2) *servicios diagnósticos*
- 3) *servicios de transportación*
- 4) *terapia de habla*
- 5) *servicios de consejo*
- 6) *servicios de equipaje adaptivo*
- 7) *terapia física*
- 8) *terapia ocupacional*
- 9) *servicios de salud escolar*
- 10) *servicios de clases en el hogar*
- 11) *servicios de dyslexia*

*Se provee servicios a niños identificados como desabilitados audible y visualmente que viven dentro del distrito desde nacimiento hasta la edad de 21 años y para estudiantes en clases privadas/en el hogar que califican para servicios de educación especial.*

*Conforme al Acto de Derechos y Confidencia Educacionales de Familia de 1974 y Ley Publica 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derechos de ver los archivos educativos. Polizas FL y FL-P explican los derechos, la confidencialidad, y el proceso para quejarse.*

*Si usted desea mas información o sabe de un niño/niña desabilitado que vive en el distrito escolar de Clint que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con la Directora de Educación Especial en la direccion 125 Brown Street, Clint, Texas 79836, o al teléfono (915) 851-8383.*

WTCC: 08-16-12



– Photo courtesy Clint ISD

**CONGRATULATIONS – Claudia Green, left, joins Horizon High School grad Anan Guzman with Edward Gabaldon as Guzman receives her scholarship and a commemorative plaque. Guzman was one of eleven students to receive the Superintendent's Scholarship.**

## Grads earn Clint ISD Superintendent's Scholarship

By Laura Cade  
*Special to the Courier*

Eleven Clint ISD graduates were awarded the CISD Superintendent's Scholarship for 2012. The \$1,000 scholarships were funded by the Superintendent's Scholarship Fund. Funds are raised through an employee giving campaign as well as the Annual Clint ISD Super Scholars 5K Run held in December each year. Five of the scholarships awarded were made possible in partnership with the El Paso Area Teachers Federal Credit Union (TFCU). The scholarships were presented at the District's Annual Partners in Education Luncheon in June. Claudia Green, CEO of TFCU, joined Dr. Edward L. Gabaldon, Clint ISD Superintendent, to present the scholarships to the students.

Recipients of the Clint ISD Superintendent's Scholarship for 2012 are (by school):

- Clint High School – Valerie Campos and Jamie Paneral;
- Mountain View High School – Melissa Ayala, Michelle Ramirez and Jannet Hernandez; and
- Horizon High School – Stefany Carranza, Priscilla Caballero, Francisco Lopez, Abilene Gallegos, Ana Guzman and Marilynn Nguyen.

## Clint Independent School District Public Notice

**Child Find –** All children with disabilities residing in the State, who are in need of special education and related services, including children with disabilities attending private schools, must be identified, located, and evaluated. This process, called Child Find is the responsibility of Clint Independent School District where your child's private or home school is located. For additional information, please contact the Special Education Dept. at (915) 851-8383.

## Noticia Pública

**En Busca de Niño –** Cada niño con deshabilitades que vive en el Estado, que necesita servicios de educación especial, incluso niños con deshabilitades que asisten escuelas privadas, tienen que ser identificados, establecidos y evaluados. En Busca del Niño es la responsabilidad de el distrito escolar de Clint donde la escuela particular de su niño esta ubicada. Para información adicional, favor de comunicarse con el departamento de educación especial al teléfono (915) 851-8383.

WTCC: 08/16/12

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

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Clint Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 29, 2019 in the Board Room, 14521 Horizon Blvd., El Paso, Texas 79928. **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.

<b>Maintenance Tax</b>	\$1.040050/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
<b>School Debt Service Tax</b>	
<b>Approved by Local Voters</b>	\$0.295000/\$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:

<b>Maintenance and Operations</b>	5.23%	Increase
<b>Debt Service</b>	0.26%	Increase
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	5.49%	Increase

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

	<u>Preceding Tax Year</u>	<u>Current Tax Year</u>
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 1,241,702,368	\$ 1,270,902,407
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 53,867,902	\$ 44,969,881
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 1,007,356,777	\$ 1,035,047,152
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 51,426,410	\$ 39,417,541

\* "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\* \$126,256,619.

\* Outstanding principal.

### Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	<u>Maintenance &amp; Operation</u>	<u>Interest &amp; Sinking Fund*</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local Revenue Per Student</u>	<u>State Revenue Per Student</u>
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.040100	\$ 0.295000*	\$ 1.335100	\$ 1,233	\$ 6,527
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.050850	\$ 0.301980*	\$ 1.352830	\$ 1,246	\$ 6,996
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.040100	\$ 0.295000*	\$ 1.335100	\$ 1,239	\$ 6,886

\*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 Levvy with Last Year's Levvy on Average Residence

	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 87,888	\$ 89,672
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 72,430	\$ 74,034
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.335050	\$ 1.335050
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 966.98	\$ 988.39
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 21.41

**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 1.347800. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.347800.**

### 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)	\$ 23,195,315
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,044,841



**Moore Texas** by Roger Moore Sept 15, 2000:  
Gov Bush appoints the TEXAS Quarter Dollar Design  
Advisory Committee .



**GO FIGURE!** by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bot-tom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

**DIFFICULTY: ★★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		12
+		×		÷	
	-		×		4
÷		-		+	
	×		-		6
4		1		13	

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 8 9

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**Social Security Q&A** By Ray Vigil

*Q: What are the limits on what I can own to be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)?*

A: Social Security counts real estate, bank accounts, cash, stocks, and bonds toward the limits on what you can own. You may be able to get SSI if your resources are worth no more than \$2,000. A couple may be able to get SSI if they have resources worth no more than \$3,000. If you own property you are trying to sell, you may be able to get SSI while trying to sell it. Social Security does not count everything you own in deciding whether you have too many resources to qualify for SSI. For example, we generally do not count: the home you live in and the land it is on; life insurance policies with a face value of \$1,500 or less; your car; burial plots for you and immediate family; and up to \$1,500 in burial funds for you and up to \$1,500 in burial funds for your spouse. Learn more about SSI at [www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi).

*Q: My doctor said he thinks I'm disabled. Who decides if I meet the requirements for Social Security disability benefits?*

A: We first will review your application to make sure you meet some basic requirements for Social Security disability benefits, such as whether you worked enough years to qualify. Then we will send

your application to the disability determination services office in your state, often called the “DDS” or “state agency” to determine whether you meet the legal definition of disabled. Your state agency completes the disability decision for us. Doctors and disability specialists in the state agency ask your doctors for information about your condition. They consider all the facts in your case. They use the medical evidence from your doctors and hospitals, clinics, or institutions where you have been treated and all other information. The state agency staff may need more medical information before they can decide if you are disabled. If more information is not available from your current medical sources, the state agency may ask you to go for a special examination. The preference is to ask your own doctor, but sometimes the exam may have to be done by someone else. Social Security will pay for the exam and for some of the related travel costs. Learn more about disability benefits at [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability).

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

**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: G equals L

AOJX VOA CK EVF ACM PDDGF

IVFNF UTGBJ ENPRF UTTEIFPN

PGG RPX: KFI XTNB JTLB

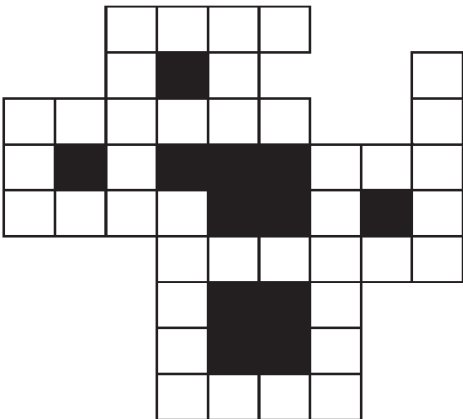
FHLVPKMF.

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GLO  
ADAPER  
DIDET  
♥SEUM  
SERIUS  
PPI  
EDPU  
ROLME  
♥DSA  
ELUGON  
♥REGPA  
LEPT



Answer Page 4

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.

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**Medicaid**

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have also been extremely low.

Nonetheless, beginning in 2014 anyone with an income of up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level (\$29,300 for a family of four) will be eligible for coverage under Medicaid. For the first three years, the federal government will pick up the entire cost of these new enrollees, but the state share then gradually increases until it reaches 10 percent in 2020.

Under the new health care legislation, states will have to raise the Medicaid rates paid to primary-care doctors to the same level the federal government sets under Medicare, the program for the elderly. For the first two years, the federal government will pay the difference. After that, it is left up to the states whether to continue paying the higher rates.

Among the arguments against the new health law are the estimated state cost of Medicaid expansion – \$15.6 billion from 2014 through 2023 – and the lack of doctors participating in the program.

Also, in a recent letter sent to U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, Perry said that Texas would not establish an online marketplace for patients to shop for insurance or expand Medicaid because

both elements “represent brazen intrusions into the sovereignty of our state”, according to news reports.

Perry’s statement noted that expanding Medicaid would add millions of people “into the already unsustainable Medicaid program, at a potential cost of billions to Texas taxpayers.” The Texas Health and Human Services Commission estimated the Medicaid expansion would cost the state \$27 billion in the first 10 years.

But advocates for expansion stated that Texas would draw down \$100.1 billion in federal funds during that same time period, a return of almost \$6.50 for every \$1 of state money. And, they propose that the state legislature address the reason few doctors take Medicaid patients by approving adequate reimbursement rates.

If the state doesn’t expand Medicaid, it passes the buck onto local governments, according to José Rodríguez, El Paso’s state senator (District 29). As an example, Rodríguez cited the need for El Paso County Commissioners to raise hospital district property taxes last year – for the first time in 22 years –largely to make up for state cuts to Medicaid.

Rodríguez stated that the state’s decision to opt out of the program expansion could cost El Paso’s University Medical Center \$40 million this year.

In a recent news article, Texas Hospital Association President and CEO Dan Stultz stated that hospitals agree with Perry that the Medicaid program is “severely flawed,” but he added that “without the Medicaid expansion, many will remain uninsured, seeking care in emergency rooms, shifting costs to the privately insured and increasing uncompensated care to health care providers.”