



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Notice of attack

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office will conduct an "Active Shooter Exercise/Attack at Socorro High School" on Thursday, May 6 beginning at 8:30 a.m., and is informing the public to avoid undue alarm over the controlled exercise. This exercise allows school officials and area public safety agencies to focus on response plans and procedures for mitigating an "active shooter" on school grounds. Residents and business owners in the area are notified that this is a controlled law enforcement exercise. During the simulated program, the sounds of shots fired, sirens from emergency crews, and loud screaming may be heard. During the exercise, students, staff, and faculty will participate in the "active shooter" scenario. The exercise will help public safety agencies and the school to practice notification procedures, implementing the school crisis plan, evacuation of students, incident command and unified command procedures, and the use of multiple SWAT teams in an emergency situation. Participants will include the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, El Paso City/County Emergency Management, El Paso Police Department, Department of Homeland Security (ICE), Socorro School District Police, Socorro City Police, Socorro High School students and staff, El Paso City/County Health and Environmental, and El Paso Psychiatric Center. The exercise should conclude by 12:30 p.m.

### Horizon clean up

Get active — get involved! That's the demand this spring to create a clean sweep of the Town of Horizon City as the Town initiates clean up activities. The local effort is part of Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup. Horizon City is seeking volunteers to help complete various projects on May 21-22. Local volunteers will be joining forces with over two million volunteers nationwide participating in approximately 30,000 activities in more than 14,000 communities between March 1 and May 31. For information on how you can help as a volunteer, contact Sandra Sierra or Karen Ellefson at Town Hall at 852-1046 or come by at 14999 Darrington Rd. "We want this to be a very successful event but we need the support of the surrounding community," said John Dixon, Horizon's Director of Public Works. "Please contact us and sign up for specific areas within our community. We will provide trash bags and will pick up from the individual locations. Thanks for caring."

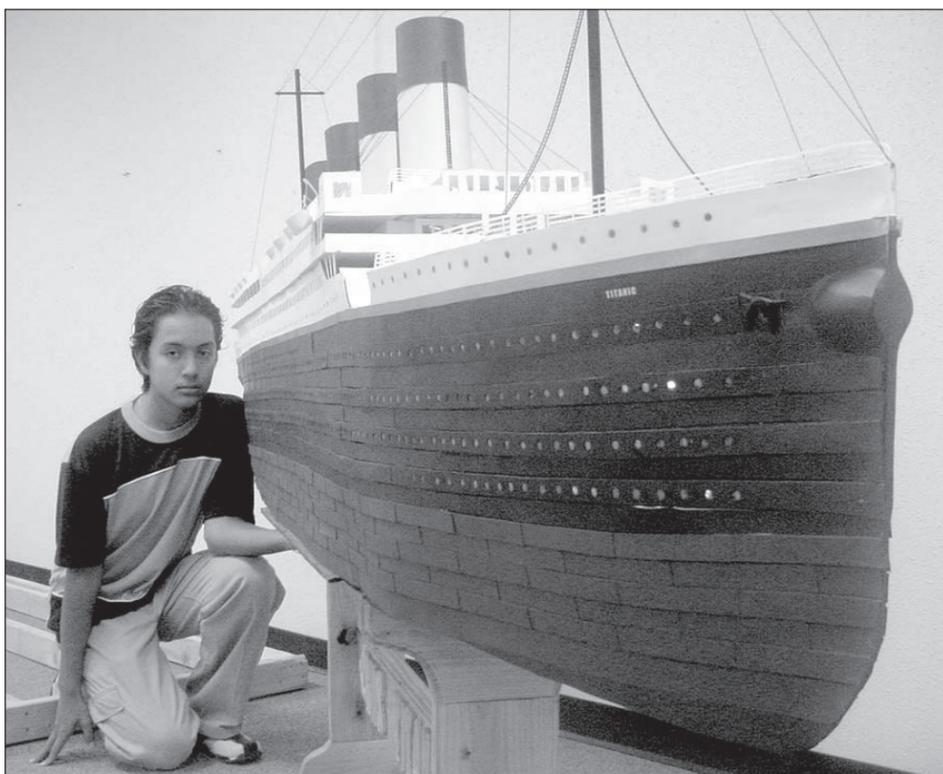
### Meanwhile...

Eastlake Drive from I-10 to Darrington Rd. got a little sprucing up on April 24, thanks to Judge Ruben Lujan of Pct. 6, who sent a crew of young people who owed fines to the court to work off their debt instead. About 250 bags of trash were

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Going to college won't guarantee you a job, but it'll give you four years to worry about getting one.

— Quips & Quotes



**ART FLOATS HIS BOAT** — Enrique Esparza built this model of the Titanic from recycled materials like fabric rolls and popsicle sticks. The nine-foot long model is on display in the San Eli High library and will be entered in a recycled art contest next year.

## Boat replicas transport San Eli student's dreams into the future

By Phillip Cortez  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Obviously it was money well spent.

San Elizario High School student Enrique Esparza, 15, described himself as hyperactive as a youngster, so his father needed to take out his wallet in order to settle him down.

"He'd draw cool cars," says the gifted and talented student. "So he told me that if I could focus and draw the car exactly like he did, I'd get paid a dollar."

Years later, Esparza is doing more than just drawing. The once hyper kid has transferred all his energies into creating replica boats and buildings. As a middle school student, Esparza created a replica of the Capitol Building for a History Day fair. His latest work of art is a replica of the Titanic, which measures in at just over nine feet in length.

"I used recycled materials for this project,

mostly materials I took from the plant where my sister works," Esparza said. "It took about seven months for me to make."

From the tiny plastic railings and old fabric rolls used for the four stacks to the hundreds of popsicle sticks Esparza used for the main deck, it clearly evident that the freshman put a lot of energy, time and patience in his project, which now sits in the San Elizario High School library.

It won't be there for long, however. Esparza is ready to submit his replica to a recycled art competition next school year. Meanwhile, Esparza has been busy building an even larger boat, this one the Queen Mary II, which will stretch out to 11 feet upon completion.

"It should be ready by the summer," Esparza said.

Although he's completing his freshman year of high school, Esparza is already considering a career as an architect. As far as future replicas, it's a good bet we can see more ships on the horizon.

"I really like pirate ships," he said.

## The HCPD appeals to pickup drivers to 'Buckle Up in Your Truck'

The Horizon City Police Department has united with traffic safety advocates across a five-state region in a concerted drive to convince pickup truck drivers and passengers in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and the Indian Nations to "Buckle Up in Your Truck."

State observation surveys show that well over a million pickup drivers and passengers in the five state region are still not buckling up, resulting in more than 1,000 pickup occupants dying in the five states every year in traffic crashes. Safety belt use in pickup trucks is five to 15 percentage points lower compared to all other passenger vehicles in the five states.

"Pickups are twice as likely to roll over as passenger cars. About one out of every four pickups in fatal crashes involves a rollover. Wearing your safety belt reduces the risk of dying in a rollover crash by 70 percent," said HCPD Chief Tony Aguilar.

"And buckling up is your only defense against being ejected from your vehicle, one of the most deadly things that can happen to you in a crash," he said. National research showed that of the partially or completely ejected occupants in the rollover crashes studied that 81 percent were not using safety belts compared to only 18 percent who were.

From May 24 to June 6, Horizon City Police officers will also be out in force, participating in the national "Click It or Ticket" enforcement mobilization.

"There are still far too many people, regardless of the vehicle they drive, in this jurisdiction who don't think they need to buckle up. We want these drivers and passengers to know that far too many of our community's caring families are risking losing a husband or wife, a father or mother, a son or daughter simply for lack of wearing a safety belt. That's why we'd rather write them a ticket than see someone injured or dead in a crash down the road," he said.

For driving tips on how to avoid rollover crashes and injuries, visit the web at <http://www.actsinc.org/rollovers.cfm>. For facts on the value of "Buckling Up in Your Truck," visit [www.BuckleUpinYourTruck.com](http://www.BuckleUpinYourTruck.com).



**PASSING COMMAND** — New Cadet Commander Jeanette Ponce receives her new rank from outgoing commander Luis Silva.

## Socorro's NJROTC garners awards, promotes Ponce

SOCORRO — April 21 marked freshman cadet William James Holley's first military awards ceremony, and he's looking forward to his military science classes as part of his high school career.

Holley was one of 177 cadets honored during Socorro High School's military science awards ceremony April 21. The school's Navy Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps battalion gathered in the Socorro Performing Arts Theatre for the event. Guests included El Paso Mayor Joe Wardy, State Rep. Inocente "Chente" Quintanilla and Socorro Superintendent Dr. Robert J. Duron.

"I plan to go into the military after I graduate, and I figure this will be a good course and discipline will be achieved from it," Holley says. "Here is where we become leaders for the future."

The ceremony featured certificates, awards

and recognition for the school's cadets and officers, and included a change-of-command ceremony. Cadet Commander Luis Silva, a senior, passed the authority to the new cadet commander and executive officer Jeanette Ponce.

Ensign Erik Marquez was selected as the unit's "Top Dawg" for this school year.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Gerry Mangrum says Marquez' story is an interesting one.

"He came to us as a freshman with all the gang decorations — and we just kept challenging and challenging him to do the right thing. He'd say something, and we'd reply, 'Ok, if you're so big, let's see what you can do.' Turns out he was the top color guard in the state and he had the top platoon. He didn't speak much English — now he speaks English. He also brought his little

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## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# Little bitty houses

I don't know what the attraction is but big people just love little bitty houses.

We'll claim to be involved in procuring, constructing, decorating and furnishing these tiny little residences for the sake of our kids.

It's not a cheap endeavor, either, and the manufacturers of doll house furnishings are onto us grownup kids and they charge accordingly for tiny little articles that we can't create ourselves, like porcelain lamps and newspapers with type the size of a flea.

I finished "the" doll house this week. Don't tell anybody, but it took me almost three years.

I had made several doll houses for my girls before, but they were constructed of cardboard boxes glued together to make rooms, carpeted with cloth scraps and mirrored with tin foil.

But not this one. This one was a real doll house, with hardwood floors, windows that slide up and down, and little doors that open and close, aided by a tiny door knob that would melt your heart.

Of course, it also came with the caveat that the whole thing had to be constructed from a gazillion tiny pieces of wood, a ton of wood glue, and a booklet of instructions that left more than a little to be desired in terms of detail.

The girls' grandfather bought this house for them one year after he heard we had started a doll house savings fund. We'd been shopping in a craft store when we came across the doll house aisle. Of course, the models were already constructed, irresistible to the hungry eyes of a girl child. The unconstructed versions were hidden neatly in big boxes that concealed the chaos within, cloaked behind a glossy depiction of the finished version on the outside — something only an adult who had been involved in similar projects before

could see right through.

The saving grace of it, of course, was that it also cost a lot of money.

Problem solved. My kids don't make a whole lot of money. So we started a fund into which we put a little money every week or so — a rate of increase that would easily see the girls into adulthood and far beyond their desire for this doll house, or at least into a safe age where they couldn't claim it was too hard to do it themselves.

Their grandfather's generosity really messed up my scheme, of course. He took them shopping during one of his visits and came home with the big box and a doubtful look on his face.

"I don't think I've done you any favors," he said apologetically.

The box of unfinished glory appealed to the perverse side of my nature. Tell me I can't do something, and it suddenly takes on a whole new set of possibilities.

The biggest problem was the amount of space I needed to "spread out" my construction project, which quickly overran the dining table and spread like an uncomfortable rash into the living area and down the hall. Therefore, I had only limited snippets of time to work on it — the rest of the time it spent neatly tucked into a storage unit, until weeks became months, which became years.

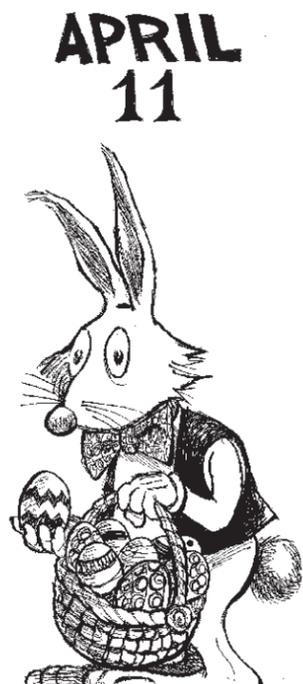
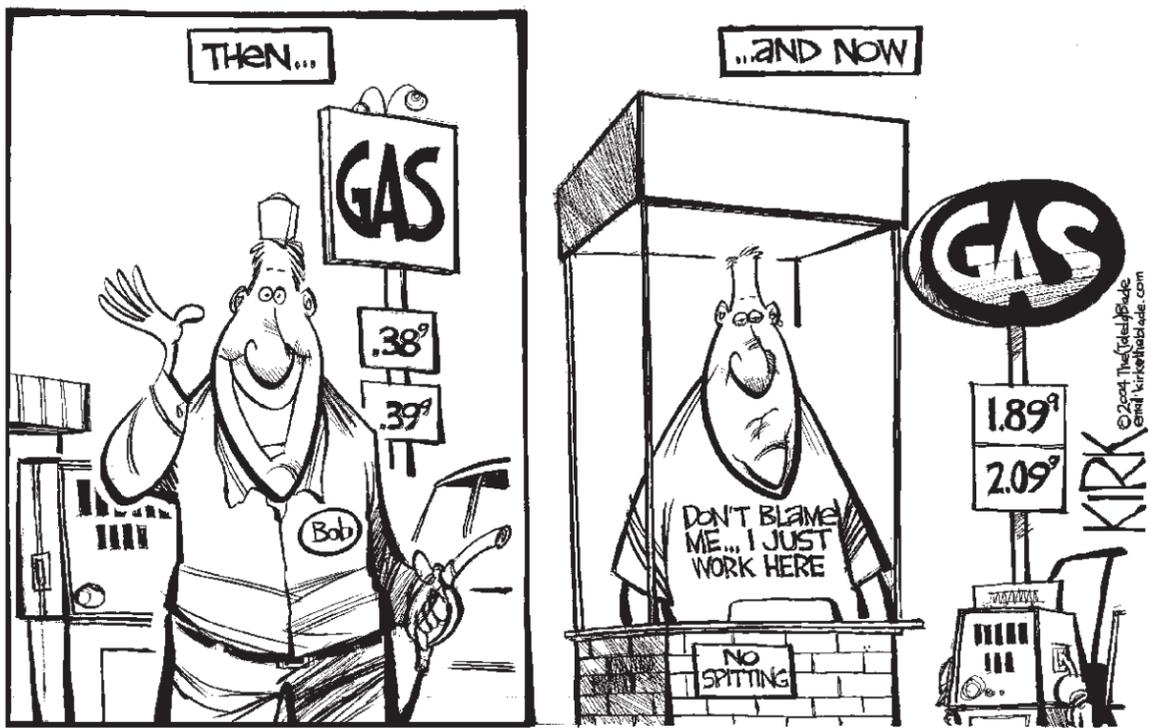
Last week I drug the whole thing out and declared do or die conditions. For long hours, through the day and into the night, I engaged in what for some people would have been a simple project. For me, it was no small endeavor.

I glued, sanded, took apart and re-constructed for days. Tiny, intricate trim waited for me to cut imperfect mitered corners before edging the windows, glass-like plastic had to be glued into window frames, and always, always, the instructions had to be decoded.

My family virtually disappeared.

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## UNIFORMS



## Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes



# Increased protection a must for soldiers overseas

News accounts and reports from soldiers in the field that our servicemen and women are fighting in Iraq without adequate life-saving body armor are extremely troubling and have been the subject of House Armed Services Committee hearings held recently in Washington, DC.

Responding to a letter my colleagues and I sent to Armed Services Committee Chairman Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-CA) regarding the need for congressional hearings to investigate these claims, the Committee heard from military officials last week regarding the military situation in Iraq and the need for improved protective gear for our soldiers, specifically body armor and vehicle armor.

Body armor consists of Kevlar vests reinforced by boron carbide ceramic plates, along with combat helmets. These vests are capable of stopping shrapnel and assault rifle bullets, which could help save lives or prevent injury. The soldiers in Iraq

right now are serving in an extremely dangerous environment and each and every soldier needs these protections. Reports that soldiers have had to purchase their own body armor are reprehensible and an embarrassment to the U.S. military.

There is also an immediate need for increased numbers of armored vehicles and add-on armor kits for vehicles already in Iraq. More than 3,000 armor kits have already been installed, mostly on Humvees, and an Army official testified before the Armed Services Committee that they will deliver a total of 6,900 armor kits this month. We also discussed Stryker vehicles as another option to provide increased protection for our soldiers.

We heard from high ranking acquisition officials in the Department of Defense, Army and Marine Corps. My colleagues and I have long been concerned about body armor and vehicle armor for our troops. These hearings highlighted the Army's slow response to providing these protections and re-emphasized that our

young men and women need them now. While the military is working towards a solution to these problems, they acknowledge that they have provided insufficient armor and that it is of the utmost importance to deliver this equipment now.

This postwar occupation is costing us our nation's best and brightest. We need to do everything we can to save our soldiers' lives. Loss of life or injury due to insufficient equipment will not be tolerated. I have long pledged to support our troops and give them the resources to do their jobs and stay safe. We need to get this equipment to our soldiers immediately.

With about 19,000 troops having deployed through Fort Bliss for Operation Iraqi Freedom, El Paso is well aware of the sacrifices our servicemen and women and their families are making to fight for democracy overseas. Given these sacrifices and their dedication, it is devastating to think that our soldiers might be fighting overseas without the necessary equipment and protection.

# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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## View from here By Gov. Rick Perry

On April 20, legislators returned to Austin for a special session on the most important issue facing our state: how to improve our schools and provide meaningful property tax relief for Texans.

For their consideration, I offered legislators a roadmap to those goals. The "Educational Excellence and Property Tax Relief Plan" I am proposing will enable Texas to provide an excellent education for our children, while giving millions of Texans relief from a property tax burden that threatens to price many Texans out of their homes. And it eliminates the divisive Robin Hood school financing scheme.

My plan will provide \$2.5 billion in new money for Texas schools, increasing education spending by an average of \$375 per student statewide.

To make sure that the emphasis is on student achievement, my plan also provides \$1 billion of that new funding in incentives for schools based on improvements in their students' academic performance. We shouldn't just offer more money for education — we should also ensure we get more education for our money. Many of those incentives double when an "at risk" student succeeds, ensuring that schools in property poor districts will, on average, attract more dollars per student than schools in the wealthiest areas.

Texans have also seen their property taxes go through the roof because of skyrocketing appraisals. As appraisals rise, your tax bill goes up

even if no public official votes to increase your tax rate. Current law allows appraisals to rise 10 percent a year, meaning the appraised value of a home can double in just over seven years. How much longer can Texans continue to pay taxes that increase far more than their paychecks do? My plan would slow appraisal creep by limiting appraisal increases on residential property to three percent per year.

Slowing the long-term growth of property taxes is important, but Texans also need rate relief. The average sales price of a Texas home is roughly \$167,000, according to the Texas Real Estate Center. The owner of that home pays, on average, \$2,422 in school property taxes. Under my plan, the tax burden on that home would drop by 17 percent to \$2,004 next year, a savings of \$418 a year that can go right back where it belongs — into the family budget.

On top of that, the revenue cap I have proposed would prevent the city and county from wiping out those tax savings by raising city and county property tax rates. By 2010, the revenue cap would save that family a total of \$2,663 over that six-year period of time. The revenue cap would limit the increase in total local property tax revenues that cities, counties and other local tax entities can raise to the amount of inflation and population growth. If local governments want to increase the size of government above that level, they just have to get the voters to approve it.

Further, my plan not only maintains funding equity across the state, but is actually more equitable than the current system. Under my proposal, approximately 98 percent of students would be in equalized districts, a major improvement from the current system.

My plan replaces the Robin Hood school financing scheme with a system that is more equitable, less divisive and better funded. Texans can see exactly what their local school district will receive under my plan by visiting [www.governor.state.tx.us](http://www.governor.state.tx.us).

The two issues of property tax relief and school funding transcend party politics. In order to solve this challenge, I am asking Democrats and Republicans alike to check their party labels and past differences at the doors of the Capitol, and find common ground. My plan may not be perfect, but it is the best plan I know of to achieve four principle goals: it improves funding for education, lowers the school property tax burden, replaces Robin Hood with a more equitable system, and sustains and enhances the job climate in Texas. Those who criticize my plan have an obligation to do more than criticize. They need to offer Texans their constructive solutions too.

Let's have a positive debate about ensuring long-term prosperity and opportunity for the people of Texas. If lawmakers and other leaders stay focused on tax relief and better schools, we will succeed. And Texas will be better off for it.

## Medical technology: Midas touch or Dr. Frankenstein?

By Albert M. Balesh, M.D.

In what seems like ages ago — but was only 1993 — feats of magic, otherwise known as mini-invasive surgery, were being performed on a somewhat regular basis. At that time, such surgery was considered a medical marvel, with one-day hospital stays, relative lack of postoperative pain, and absence of unsightly scarring all welcomed by the general public.

Laparoscopic cholecystectomies, appendectomies, nephrectomies, and bowel resections became the talk of cocktail parties, and the bravura of the men and women in white appeared limitless. What would come next, a cure for cancer, bionic limbs, robotic surgery?

Fast forward to the present, and surgery through a couple of half-inch slits, PET scanner imaging of people's brains, oscilloscope-guided placement of electrodes in the brains of patients with Parkinson's disease, and tiny cuffs on the fingertips of newborns to monitor dozens of different parameters have become a reality, not science fiction.

In fact, it now appears that both doctors and patients have been caught up in the power of technology, to the point that perhaps we have lost sight of its proper role. Have we gotten to the point that anything less than the frontiers of technology connotes bad practice?

Perhaps a return to the basics is called for. After all, 85 percent of the information required to make a typi-

cal diagnosis comes from a good old-fashioned patient history. Furthermore, technology is deepening the physician-patient communication abyss, with doctors growing more and more reluctant to speak openly to their patients, let alone touch them, for fear of litigation and "ambulance chasers."

Prevention, self-monitoring, and plain old common sense have ceded places of honor to so-called miracle cures, gold standards, and magic bullets. Our fathers of medicine once instructed us to find some excuse, any excuse, to touch our patients in every clinical setting. However, technological diagnosis has all but replaced physical examination.

We must remember that medicine is an art, as well as a science, and that physicians are shamans, as well as objective observers. "Medicine is 90 percent showbizness and 10 percent science. When you can't cure them, making your patients feel happy and good about themselves is the next best thing," stated medical seers of the past.

Faith is a wonderful thing, but when bets are hedged on technology, it can become delusional. Unless a balance can be found between traditional medicine and the brave new world of technology, we risk sacrificing the physician's Midas touch for a runaway monster. Our loss will then be Dr. Frankenstein's gain.

(2004, Albert M. Balesh, M.D. All rights reserved.)



**BIG SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED AT TISD** — Four students from Tornillo High School have been awarded scholarships by the Western Technical Institute High School Senior Scholarship Program for 2004. Winners were, from left, Raul Garcia, \$4,537.50; Jose Garcia, \$3,630; Delia Esquivel, \$2,223; and Joel Sanchez, \$2,722.50. "I'm very proud of these students," stated Felipe Torres, THS High School Counselor. "Each is very deserving of the award." Jaime Torres, Jose Garcia's Agricultural Science Teacher, was confident that Jose would win a scholarship. "Jose is an outstanding student. He's been an active FFA member for the past four years. I just knew he would win."

## House

From Page 2

only passing quietly through the room from time to time to whisper encouraging compliments. I don't know if they had food, took showers, or wore clean underwear. So focused was I that for about a week, I simply paid no attention.

Suddenly, it was done. Like an athlete finishing an obstacle course I stood panting at the end, looking around for the next hurdle and finding none, experiencing an unexpected sense of loss.

The finished project still sits in the dining room. I look at it ever so often, still amazed that it's done. I stop by now and again to slide a tiny window shut or adjust an artificial vine on the shingled roof.

It will never be finished, of course. Like any home, it will need continual changes and touch-ups. And I'll happily volunteer to be the handy man around the doll house — for my kids, of course.



## Horizon student has role in Viva!

EL PASO COUNTY — The El Paso Association for the Performing Arts will soon open the 27th season of *Viva El Paso!* with a Horizon City student among the colorful performers who annually illustrate the El Paso area's history in music and dance. Amanda Heredia, an 8th grader at John Ensor Middle School, was chosen from some 160 performers who auditioned in March and she will perform as an apprentice this season. With a strong background in cheerleading, gymnastics, and flamenco, Amanda will join seasoned performers professionally trained in ballet, folk, flamenco, jazz, hip hop and vocal theatre. She is the daughter of Sam and Dorothy Heredia. The *Viva!* performances, held annually in the majestic McKelligon Canyon Amphitheater, will run Thursdays through Saturdays, June 3 through Aug. 21. For ticket information and reservation call 565-6900.

## Friday Seafood Buffet

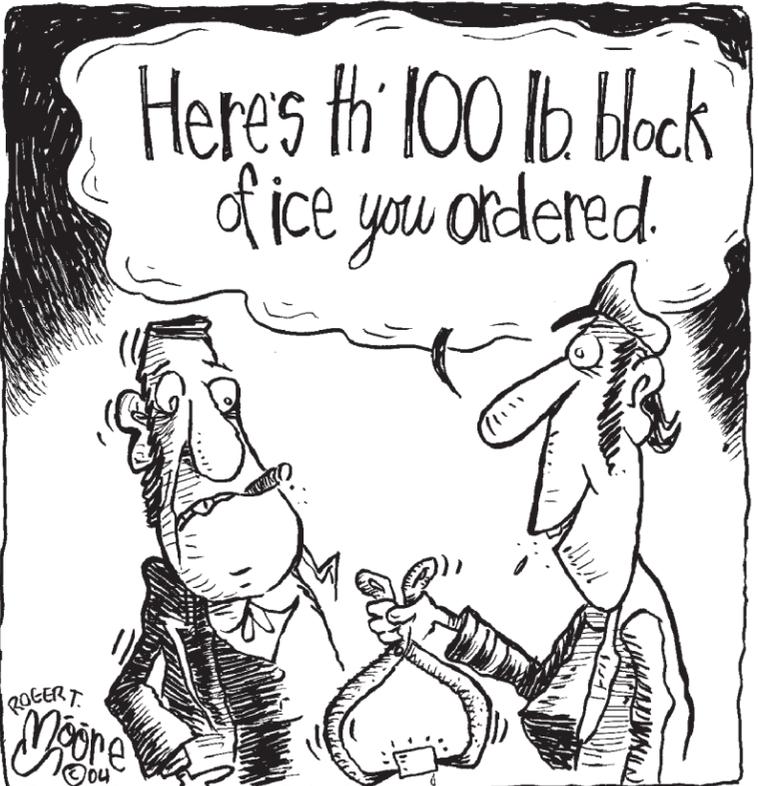


- Crab Legs
- Peel 'N' Eat Shrimp
- Crawfish
- Fried Shrimp
- Fried Catfish
- Soup & Salad Bar
- Baked Fish
- Fried Clam Strips
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# San Eli food master measures success by number of smiles

**By Don Woodyard**  
*Courier Staff Writer*

SAN ELIZARIO — Students in the San Elizario Independent School District won't be getting Happy Meals at breakfast or lunch.

That's not one of the goals of the district's new food services coordinator, Raul Jacques, but it is close.

Jacques, who joined the staff in the SEISD on March 1, "wants to make the (seven) cafeterias more fun and visually attractive.

"I want to see a difference in presentation of the plate — that it is prepared and served in an attractive manner."

Realizing that kids are more likely to eat what looks good, Jacques pulls it together by saying he looks for meals

that "are nutritious, yet appealing."

This reflects one of top three goals: To "enhance the dining experience of our children by preparing and presenting food in a manner that encourages them to eat it."

Jacques comes to San Elizario with a solid background in nutrition. He worked for 30 years with the Texas Department of Human Services in feeding and nutrition programs. For about half of the time, he says, he worked more in the administrative end of the program. The remainder of that time he had more direct contact in helping school districts throughout the state in administering nutrition programs.

His background in nutrition goes further back than just his own experience and training. Jacques' mother worked in a school cafeteria for 25 years.

"I can appreciate the work that goes on in a cafeteria," he says. "I remember the good times and the bad times — the times she came home exhausted from work. He also remembers her "satisfaction at having positively impacting the lives of children."

He says he retired from the department to come to work in San Elizario because "it was large enough to pose a challenge, yet small enough to be intimately involved in a hands-on manner."

Jacques, 52, sees the cafeteria as more than just a place in which kids will dash in, eat their food and dash out again.

"Cafeterias are important to students' socialization," he observes. "It is a time for building relationships, a time for bonding and a time for

sharing."

He is working with the teachers on ways in which the students will stay longer in the cafeteria.

He indicates he won't be spending a lot of time in his office in the old district administration building. "I need to be out there," he says simply.

"Out there," among other things, means being in the cafeterias where he will sit down and talk with the kids during mealtime. As he talks with them, he asks them to rate the kitchen. "Most seem surprised that I ask their opinion."

Two-thirds of those he asked gave the kitchens an A. The lowest grade, he adds proudly, was a B.

A graduate of Jefferson High School and UT El Paso with a bachelor's degree in business administration, Jacques expresses his management philosophy in financial as well as nutritional terms:

"We are each individually responsible for being a good steward of the tax dollars allocated to the child nutritional program." This he emphasizes in his first goal: "To develop a child nutrition department that exceeds federal and state requirements."

However, he expresses his bottom line in more human terms: "Every smile you see lets you know you are doing a good job."

## NJROTC

From Page 1

brother into the program."

Other award-winning cadets included: Daedalian Association (Military Pilots fraternity) Miara Molina; USMC Physical Training Award - Luis Valencia and Jaime Morales; Rifle Medal - Kris Hemme; American Legion Post 598 Jose Cardenas; VFW Post 10354 - Kimberly Pereyra and Kris Hemme; Military Officers' Association of America - Juan Manuel Diaz; Sojourners - Jeanette Ponce; Scottish Rite - Francisco Martinez; Military Order of World Wars - Roy Saldaña, Luis Silva, Perla Garcia, Nelson Gallegos and Emily Ramirez; Navy League - Edna Meza; Marine Corps - League Jesus Gallegos; Daughters of the American Revolution - Roxanna Reyes; Sons of the American Revolution - Andy Salas.

Leaders of the high school's NJROTC program include senior military science instructor Mangrum, Marine Sgt. Major Robert Way and Navy Chief Petty Officer Oscar Reyes.



## Mother's Day Special Buffet

Join Us on Sunday, May 9, 2004

Pork Chops • Roast Turkey • Glazed Ham • Pot Roast • Meat Loaf • Gravy  
 Cornbread Dressing • Candied Yams • Corn • Green Beans • Hot Bread  
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## San Elizario Independent School District Public Notice

The San Elizario ISD announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided at the sites listed. People who are eligible to participate in the program must not be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or political belief. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against should write immediately to: Director, Civil Rights Division, MC W-106, Texas Dept. of Human Services, P.O. Box 149030, Austin, Texas 78714-9030 or the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. NOTE: Discrimination complaints based on religion or political beliefs must be referred *only* to the Director, Civil Rights Division, Texas Dept. of Human Services.

Free lunch and breakfast is available to all kids age 18 and younger. No fee. No registration.

**SITE:** Alarcon Elementary School Cafeteria  
 12501 Socorro Road  
 San Elizario, TX

**DATE:** June 7 - July 2, 2004  
 Monday - Friday

**TIMES:** Breakfast - 7:15 A.M. - 8:15 A.M.  
 Lunch - 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

**SITE:** Loya Elementary School Cafeteria  
 13705 Socorro Road  
 San Elizario, TX

**DATE:** June 7 - July 30, 2004  
 Monday - Friday

**TIMES:** Breakfast - 7:15 A.M. - 8:15 A.M.  
 Lunch - 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

WTCC: 05/06/04

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**GAMES PLAYED AT**  
**EPCC-**  
**VALLE VERDE CAMPUS**

FREE

## Briefs

From Page 1

gathered in a four-hour effort for pickup by the County Road and Bridge Dept. Judge Lujan thanked the Horizon merchants who donated bottled water and trash bags for the cleanup.

## Hot jalapeños

You can't even trust your jalapeños these days — Border Patrol agents near Ft. Hancock in Hudspeth County found an abandoned bundle of 10, one-gallon, cans of what was marked as pickled jalapeños but turned out to be marijuana. The combined weight from the cans was about 52 pounds, worth some \$41,616 on the street.

## In other news

Mayor Charles Gonzalez proclaimed May 4 as "Kaitlin Fisher Day" during volunteer and citizenship awards ceremonies hosted by the Town of Clint that day. Kaitlin Fisher is an eighth grader from Clint Junior High School who participated as a volunteer for several events within the town, and has been a leader in the community as well as on campus. Awards were presented to volunteers and outstanding citizens — about 175 individuals, seven local businesses and two citizenship awards.

■ Amelia Earhart, Jackie Kennedy, Michaelangelo, Adolf Hitler, Henry Ford, Sandra Day O'Connor and other historical characters will come alive during Childress Elementary School's Second Annual Famous Persons Museum, which is scheduled for 1-2:30 p.m., Friday, May 7, in the school cafeteria (7700 Cap Carter Road, off of Doniphan Drive in the Village of Vinton). Fifth and sixth grade students researched the lives of various famous individuals throughout the school year as part of Childress ES's Gifted and Talented program. The museum is the culmination of their research, said Connie Parker, Childress ES Gifted and Talented program teacher. Students will be dressed as their selected famous person, including costumes and background settings, and will be prepared to share their knowledge about their famous persons, Parker explained. Parents and community residents are invited to attend the free event. Information, 877-7701.

■ The Texas Association of Secondary School Principals says Socorro ISD's Kim Baxter is the Outstanding Middle School Assistant Principal in Region 19 for 2004. Baxter serves as an assistant principal at Col. John O. Ensor Middle School in Horizon City. "I'm really tickled," Baxter says, "but this is really a testament to the staff we have here at Ensor, our principal Rosa Hood, and Bruce

Mooy, the other assistant principal I work with. I don't even know who submitted my name for this!" Baxter is in her eighth year with the Socorro schools, and has worked at Ensor for two and half years as an assistant principal.

■ Two events have been scheduled to ensure that area residents who use firearms know the laws and exercise due caution in handling their guns. On May 15-16, the Texas Dept. of Public Safety will host a class for new and renewal Texas Concealed Handgun License applicants at the UTEP Dept. of Military Science. New students must attend 10 hours of the instructional segment and renewal students four hours. Call 764-2030 or 747-6651 for registration fees and information. Then on June 5 a Texas Hunter Education Program home study course will be offered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife and the El Paso County Desert Valley 4-H Club, at the county line between Ft. Hancock and Tornillo. If you wish to hunt in Texas and are age 17 and over, born on or after Sept. 2, 1972, you must successfully complete a hunter education course. Hunters ages 12-16 must either successfully complete a hunter education course or be accompanied by a person 17 years of age or older licensed to hunt in Texas. Minimum age to obtain certification is 12. Call Area Chief George Brenzovich, 764-2030 for more information and registration details for this program.

■ Lorenzo G. Loya Primary in San Elizario held its annual Spring Festival April 24. The theme for this year's festival was "Celebrating the Day of the Child" — the festival was called a huge success due to the community who got first hand health screenings provided by Quantum Home Health Care and other health care information. Organizers thanked the many community members and businesses who contributed to the event.

■ The Native American Arts and Crafts Festival and Gathering Camp Out will take place again this year at Cougar Park in Socorro, June 12-13, with numerous special events. Native American dancers, arts and crafts, food and music are on the agenda, and admission is free. The Festival will bring together several Native American Nations, for a sharing of cultures and history during the overnight camp out event. Events begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday and the park has been reserved for camping that night. Events begin again on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. and conclude at 5 p.m. For information call Suky Ramos, Eagle Feather at 422-1700

■ The San Elizario High School Class of 1990 is making preparations for their 15th year reunion. Call 857-7252 or 851-0298 for information.

■ Two Americas High School seniors will find college expenses

easier to bear thanks to the El Paso Employees Federal Credit Union. The financial organization's Board of Directors recently awarded two scholarships to students Anthony Torres and Crystal M. Robles. Eva Ortega, a spokeswoman for the credit union, says Torres plans to use his \$4,000 award to attend the University of Texas at El Paso to study business and education. Robles received \$1,000 and will attend Baylor University with the aim of becoming a pediatrician. "The students applied for these scholarships, and the requirements were very simple this year, based on grade-point average and need," Ortega says, adding that the students will receive the funds once they register for college.

■ As Texas third graders prepare for their next round of testing, one group of students from Frank Macias Elementary School, from the Clint ISD are still feeling proud to have conquered the Reading TAKS test in early March. Ruben Barraza's class of third graders had a 100 percent passing rate thanks to their strong interdisciplinary curriculum of the district's Balanced Literacy Initiative. Out of seven sections in bilingual, these hard working students achieved what comes out as a perfect score. Over all school results were 92 percent/84 percent bilingual. Seven of these students were even commended by the state of Texas for their outstanding results — to be commended these students answered correctly 33 or more out of 36 questions.

■ Socorro ISD's second annual Gifted and Talented Student Showcase has been scheduled for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. May 13 at El Dorado High School. "The students put together these presentations based on what they've been working on in their G&T classes," says Lynn de Leon, the District's G&T coordinator. "That includes games, I-movies, and model race car demonstrations. We'll have a variety of colorful and active products and presentations from all grade levels." Eight El Dorado classrooms have been reserved for the demonstrations, de Leon says, and there is no admission charge. For more information, call de Leon, 937-0527.

■ The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will present at the Chase Bank and Central Business Association "Financing Your Small Business Seminar" on Thursday, May 13, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Chase Bank downtown 4th floor conference room. Individuals interested in starting a business or expanding their business is encouraged to attend. There is no charge to attend the seminar. For more information call Rosa Alonzo, 546-6517.

■ Canutillo ISD Pregnancy Prevention Committee is joining the National Campaign in May to Prevent Teen Pregnancy by implementing strategies to stop adolescent risk-taking behaviors such as drugs, alcohol, and premature

sexual activity. The activities are abstinence-focused and integrate interpersonal relationships, goal-setting, self-esteem, sexually transmitted diseases, abstinence, and family communication. Also discussed are STDs, HIV, postponing sexual activity, abstinence and self-control, difficulties of single parenting. Local agencies that will participate are Aim for Success, Thomason Hospital, EPIC Association, CHS School Resource Officer, CASA Action for Youth, and Desert Rainbow. Parent educational sessions will also be held, at 6 p.m. Monday, May 10, at Canutillo High School and Monday, May 24, at Canutillo Middle School. As the primary sex educators, parents will receive information about children's dreams and goals, the legal definition of sex, teens and the law, the effects of pornography, and sexual harassment. For more information, call 877-7583.

■ Karina Rodriguez, a student at Col. John Ensor, has been named a U.S. National Award Winner in History and Government by the U.S. Achievement Academy. She was nominated by her teacher, Bryan Shaw, and will appear in the U.S. Achievement Academy Official Yearbook, which notes fewer than 10 percent of all American high school students. She is the daughter of Veronica Rodriguez and the granddaughter of Luz Gamboa.

■ April 19-23, 2004 was National Volunteer Week and the administration at Frank Macias Elementary recognized the parent volunteers with a luncheon and an awards assembly. Principal Pan Howard thanked each volunteer and said, "If it weren't for these volunteers, I would be unable to do my job. They are priceless and cannot be replaced." Judge Frank Macias, for whom the school was named, was also present at the assembly. The volunteers contribute hours that would otherwise require school funds to pay staff, freeing up valuable dollars for other uses.

■ Coin by coin, the Special Education students at Montwood Middle School have raised \$376.06 for the Children's Miracle Network Hotline. The students operate the "Moose" snack bar at the school and placed two large jars on their sales counter early in this semester. The containers urged student customers to donate their spare change to the Hotline. "The hotline is a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week service where parents can call to receive medical information for their sick child," said Larry Maese, director of special projects for Texas Tech University's Health Science Center, a partner in the Network. The telephone number is 532-KIDS, or 532-5437, and the service is provided at no charge.

■ Kids love to eat and need to read so Socorro's Campestre Elementary School is planning another of its "Incredible Edible Books" reading sessions for 8:30

2 p.m. May 7 in the school's foyer and rooms. Refreshments will be provided. Volunteers read books to the Campestre students, and then enjoy a food such as M&M or jelly bean candies, or other foods mentioned in the book. "We're doing this exactly the same way this school has always done it. We have different reading stations for the students to visit and listen to the books being read," says Principal Leticia Salas. All students are scheduled to attend a number of different sessions in the morning and afternoon. For more information, call Salas, 937-7300.

■ First-place winners and their teachers who contributed to the 2004 edition of the SISD Literary Anthology will be honored with a luncheon May 15 at Americas High School. The anthology features written work divided into categories of humor, personal narrative, historical biography, essay, one-act plays and poetry. It also represents a longtime partnership between the District and the Socorro Education Association. The featured speaker for this year's luncheon will be El Paso actor, playwright and children's book author Fred Keyser. Students will also receive certificates lauding their work and a copy of the District book.

■ Vocal and instrumental musicians of the Socorro schools are preparing for the annual pressure of contest performances during the next few weeks. They will compete with musicians from other area middle and high schools for high rankings from judges. Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda Avenue will welcome the University Interscholastic High School Band contest for two days, May 4-5. Competition for the 2A, 4A and 5A schools begins at 9:30 a.m. May 4, breaks for lunch, and continues at 12:40 p.m. through 5:35 p.m. After a dinner break, the high school bands start again at 6:45 p.m. and continue through 9 p.m. Starting at 9:30 a.m. May 5, bands will play until a lunch break, and then begin again at 12:30 p.m. The last band is scheduled to play at 3:30 p.m. The choirs of the Socorro schools will compete in the District's choral contest scheduled for May 8 at Americas High School, 12101 Pellicano Drive. Singers from 21 campuses will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue, after a lunch break through the last choir, starting at 4:05 p.m. The UIL Region 22 Middle School Band competition is scheduled for May 11 and 12 at Ysleta High School, 8600 Alameda Avenue. Twenty 2C, 3B and 3C bands are to begin playing at 10 a.m. May 11 and continue through 7:30 p.m. The remaining seven bands begin at 9:30 a.m. May 12 and continue through the last band's start time at noon. All competitions are open to the public, and there is no admission charge. For more information, contact SISD's Director of Fine Arts, Nellie Ponikvar, 937-0537.



Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



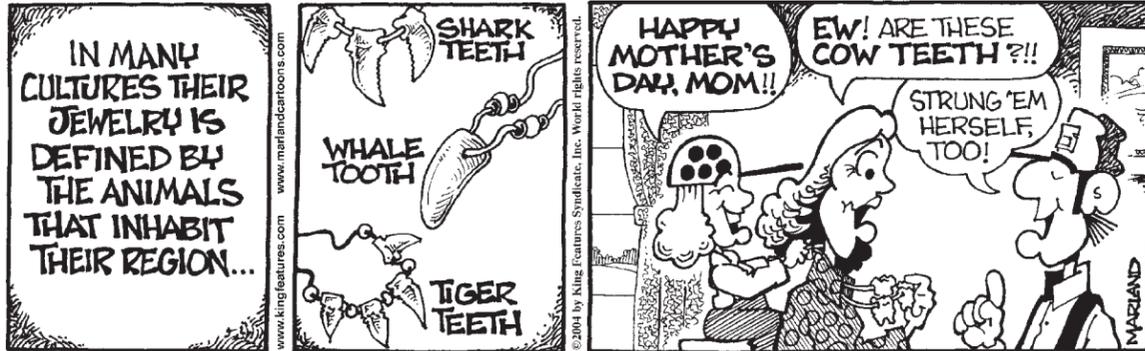
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Securing your financial future

By Don Flood

In response to literally zillions of requests — literally being used here in its modern sense of “not really” — this week we (the financial-services group of Me, Myself & I) offer commonsense answers to questions about securing your financial future.

Our first absolutely true case history:

Ashley Revell, a 32-year-old Englishman, recently sold all his possessions — according to one report, even his clothes and underwear — and put the entire amount (\$135,000) on red, which he won. Questions?

Q: Is it true that men can really sell their old underwear?

A: I will let you know after I hear the results of my eBay auction. (Bids start at \$100. If you snooze, you lose.)

Q: If you are putting your life savings on the line, which color should you choose?

A: Red, of course. Don't be an idiot.

Q: My son, who is going to college in the fall, says he wants to major in poker. Is this a good idea?

A: According to recent news reports, poker fever — brought on by the popularity of Celebrity Poker shows — has swept many college campuses.

In reaction to student demand, many classes, especially philosophy and sociology, have become non-stop poker sessions. College presidents are now chosen on the basis of how fast they can deal out hands.

So in answer to your question, yes, poker is a perfectly sensible major, provided, of course, that your son is able to pick roommates who are suckers.

Q: If you are putting your life savings on the line, which color

should you choose?

A: Black, of course. Don't be an idiot.

Q: Following the death of a favorite uncle, I inherited a large sum of Monopoly money. My wife says I should just keep it in the box with the gameboard, but I'd rather invest it or splurge on something wild and crazy. What do you think?

A: One of the pitfalls of coming into a large inheritance of Monopoly money is the responsibility of managing your newly found wealth.

While I understand your desire to do something more exciting that merely let your fortune sit in a box, consider another absolutely true financial case history:

A woman in Covington, Ga., recently attempted to buy \$1,675 worth of goods at a Wal-Mart using a \$1 million bill — which, unfortunately for the woman, is not a denomination printed by the U.S. Treasury.

So instead of getting back \$998,325 in change — which oddly enough the cashier didn't have in the register — she got a visit from the police, who later found two more \$1 million bills in her purse. (She apparently had a lot of shopping to do that day.)

Q: Are you saying I should listen to my wife?

A: No, of course not! I suggest you buy yourself a fabulous new vacation property, such as Park Place or Boardwalk.

Q: What's the first thing I should do to become ensure my financial security?

A: Stop reading this column.

Q: Any final advice?

A: When deciding between red and black, don't forget about the green “Double 00.”

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Classified Ads

LEGAL

NOTICE

Fabens Independent School District

Surplus Salvage Sale May 8, 2004 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Fabens Independent School District will be conducting a surplus salvage sale. Items are of a school related nature such as elementary and secondary student desks, bookshelves, file cabinets, tables, chairs, etc. ranging in price from .50 to \$5.00. Items such as IBM and Tangent Computers at a cost of \$15.00 each are also available. All vehicle purchases will be based on sealed bids that are the closest to the minimum bid set for each vehicle. Any and all ties will go to

the individual bidder whose bid was submitted first. The district does reserve the right (for any reason) to reject any and all bids for any vehicle listed. Vehicles available for purchase are; 2 school buses, 1 motor coach, 1 van and 1 car. Vehicles can be viewed on Friday, May 7, 2004, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. by contacting the district Transportation Supervisor at 764-4353. With the exception of the vehicles all inventory will be located in the parking lot west of the FISD Technology Shipping and Receiving Building located at 610 NE Camp Street. All sales are cash only and all items must be removed at the end of the sale. Individuals purchasing vehicles will be allowed 48 hours in which to remove their item. The dis-

trict does not provide any warranties or guarantees with any item sold.

WTCC: 05/06/04

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

FREEDOM FLAG MEMORIAL CSP NO. 199-0512-0478 WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2004, UNTIL 2 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified

times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. WTCC-05/06/04

Town of Clint Invitation to Bid

Sealed bids/proposals to furnish the following items/services for STEP Project #722056 will be accepted at the following times:

- Material for new water lines and sewer connections.
- Contractor for the installation of sewer tap, hydrants and water service connections.

Detailed specifications are available beginning Monday, May 10th, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Town Hall, 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint,

Texas 79836. Proposals will be received at the above address until THURSDAY, May 20, 2004, UNTIL 4:00 PM.

Late proposals will not be accepted.

WTCC: 05/06/04 & 05/13/04

PUBLIC NOTICE

As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at Southwest Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - 2MECM75W5NX720330, 1992 Mercury Grand Marquis, grey/silver, no license plates.

WTCC-04/29/04

BARGAINS

Drum set, great quality, condition. Call 852-2610 for details.

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE on Friday-Saturday, May 7-8, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 437 Penroy Lane, Horizon City. Tools: 12-speed floor drill press, 142 HP router, ratchet sets, wrenches and much more. X-mas dishes, decorations and lights, clothes, shoes, computer parts, George Foreman grill, baskets, lawn canopy, 33-1/3 albums, crafts, wood working magazines and patterns, other wood-working tools, cabinet hardware. No early birds!

HELP WANTED

Attention Students! SUMMER WORK \$11 base-appt. Flexible Schedules Cust. sales/srve, conditions exist, all ages 18+ 915-779-2129 www.workforstudents.com

SELF-HELP

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

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

SERVICES

- ALTERATIONS
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- LAUNDRY

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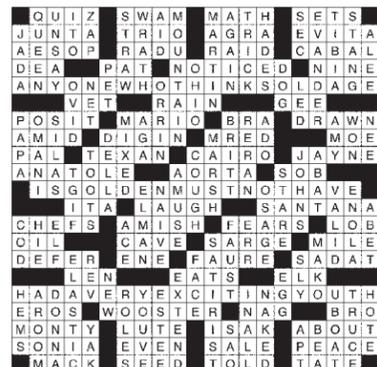
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# Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

**Q:** I just turned 60 years old. My husband died 10 years ago. At that time, I collected the \$255 death benefit and was told that I could get regular widow's benefits beginning at age 60. But when I called Social Security to apply, I was told I am not due benefits because I am still working. Does an earnings penalty apply to widows?

**A:** The so-called "earnings test" provisions apply to all Social Security beneficiaries under "full re-

irement age," including widows and widowers. Those provisions state that we must withhold \$1 from your benefits for every \$2 you earn over \$11,640 (in 2004). Different rules apply in the year you reach "full retirement age" and there are no earnings limits once you reach "full retirement age."

**Q:** I am 64 years old and I started getting my own Social Security retirement benefits at age 62. It is not much money because for many years I did

not work outside the home. But my ex-husband just started getting his Social Security, and his check is almost four times as much as mine! He said I am not due any benefits on his record because I already get my own Social Security. Is this true? (We were married for over 30 years and I never remarried.)

**A:** No, your ex-husband is wrong. You are not locked into your own benefits for life. Divorced individuals can be entitled to spousal benefits if the marriage lasted more than 10 years. If you are due more money as a divorced wife on your ex-husband's

Social Security record, we can supplement your retirement check with the higher benefits based on his earnings record. Call 1-800-772-1213 to make an appointment to file for divorced wife's benefits. Doing so will not affect the benefit your ex-husband receives from Social Security.

**Q:** I began receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit payments in January and was told to expect my monthly payment to show up on the first day of the month. Yet my February check came on January 30, and a neighbor who also is

on SSI told me that my May check will arrive on April 30. What gives?

**A:** The SSI payment date is normally the first day of the month. But if that day falls on a weekend or holiday, we send out the payments on the first preceding banking day.

For more information visit your local Social Security office, see [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

# WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Hot with sunshine.	Partly cloudy.	Sunny and hot, becoming breezy in the afternoon.	Hot with sunshine and patchy clouds.	Partly sunny and very warm.	Mostly sunny and hot.	Sunny and warm.	Sunshine.
▲ 96°	▼ 63°	▲ 94° ▼ 63°	▲ 94° ▼ 64°	▲ 92° ▼ 64°	▲ 91° ▼ 60°	▲ 88° ▼ 57°	▲ 86° ▼ 54°

### UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Thursday	10	Very High
Friday	10	Very High
Saturday	10	Very High
Sunday	10	Very High
Monday	10	Very High
Tuesday	10	Very High
Wednesday	10	Very High

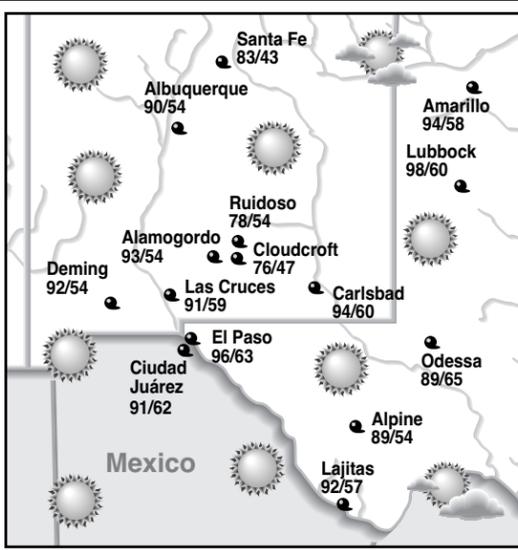
### REAL FEEL TEMP™

The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

Thursday	93°
Friday	85°
Saturday	84°
Sunday	82°
Monday	85°
Tuesday	84°
Wednesday	83°

### TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	92	62
Canutillo	92	63
Clint	91	63
E. Montana	94	63
Fabens	91	63
Horizon	92	64
San Elizario	88	61
Socorro	93	62
Tornillo	92	63
Vinton	92	62



Shown is Thursday's weather. Temperatures are Thursday's highs and Thursday night's lows.

### TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur. Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	90/54/s	85/54/s	85/55/s	85/54/pc	84/52/s
Atlanta	82/62/s	84/62/s	84/64/pc	84/64/pc	80/62/t
Atlantic City	68/55/s	74/53/pc	71/57/pc	73/54/pc	69/50/sh
Austin/San Antonio	84/64/pc	86/65/pc	87/65/pc	89/64/c	86/64/pc
Baltimore	74/56/s	76/56/pc	78/58/pc	80/58/pc	74/52/t
Boston	65/48/pc	62/46/pc	65/50/t	70/50/pc	63/46/pc
Chicago	78/58/t	78/58/t	80/54/t	78/56/r	67/44/r
Dallas/Ft. Worth	86/64/s	87/65/pc	87/66/pc	88/66/c	84/65/c
Denver	91/53/s	82/49/s	77/45/s	72/45/pc	73/42/c
Flagstaff	73/36/s	73/36/s	71/36/pc	74/36/c	72/32/s
Houston	86/64/pc	86/66/pc	88/68/pc	88/68/pc	86/68/pc
Kansas City	89/63/s	88/64/s	85/62/s	78/58/r	76/55/r
Las Vegas	97/65/s	94/63/s	92/61/pc	92/61/pc	87/61/s
Miami	84/72/pc	86/72/pc	85/74/s	85/74/t	85/70/t
Minneapolis	78/54/pc	77/58/t	78/55/pc	71/50/c	64/43/c
New Orleans	83/66/s	84/66/pc	84/66/s	85/67/pc	85/66/s
New York City	69/56/s	71/56/pc	71/56/pc	72/53/pc	66/52/sh
Philadelphia	72/56/s	74/54/pc	76/56/pc	78/56/pc	72/53/sh
Phoenix	102/72/s	100/73/s	100/70/s	96/69/s	96/61/s
Portland	65/47/sh	69/50/sh	66/49/sh	64/46/r	64/42/sh
San Francisco	68/54/pc	68/54/sh	66/52/sh	66/51/c	64/44/pc
Seattle	60/45/sh	62/47/sh	62/47/pc	59/46/c	59/43/c
Tucson	95/64/s	94/64/s	94/66/pc	91/62/pc	90/60/s
Washington, DC	76/60/s	78/60/pc	80/62/pc	82/62/pc	74/57/t

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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To learn more about Cub Cadet equipment and to find the dealer nearest you, visit [www.cubcadet.com](http://www.cubcadet.com) or call 1-877-282-8684 (1-877-CUB-TOUGH).

Cub Cadet

\*Deferred Interest until April 2005—Deferred Interest with Payments—Must request promotion at purchase. Offer is subject to credit approval by GE Capital Consumer Card Co. and applies to purchases of \$799 or more made between December 3, 2003, and May 31, 2004, on your Power Credit Card. No finance charge will be assessed on your promotional purchase balance if you pay the promotional purchase balance in full by the end of the promotional period. If you do not, periodic finance charges will be assessed on the promotional purchase balance from the date of purchase. Minimum monthly payments will be required on your promotional purchase balance during and after the promotional period. If minimum monthly payments are not paid when due, all special promotional terms may be terminated. Standard account terms apply to non-promotional purchases and, after the promotion ends, to your promotional purchases. Annual Percentage Rate for purchases is 18.99% (18.99% minimum) as of December 1, 2003, and may vary after that date. Minimum Finance Charge \$1. Variable APR of 22.99% as of 12/1/03 will apply if you fail to pay your minimum payment by your due date for two consecutive months. Financing promotion for residential customers only. \*\*Product price—Actual retail prices are set by dealer and may vary. Taxes, freight, setup and handling charges may be additional and may vary. Models subject to limited availability. \*\*\*Cub Cadet will provide an extended limited warranty for a period of 5 years or 500 hours, whichever occurs first, for the frame and pivoting cast-iron front axle on all new Cub Cadet Series 1000 tractors retailed after December 1, 2003. Cub Cadet will provide an extended limited warranty for a period of 5 years or 500 hours, whichever occurs first, for the frame, pivoting cast-iron front axle and drive shaft on all new Cub Cadet Series 2000, 2500, and 3000 tractors purchased after July 31, 1998. This additional limited warranty is available only to residential users and not commercial users. For complete details on 2-year and 5-year limited warranties see your Cub Cadet retailer. C11135-04-55080-1