



NEWSBRIEFS

Correction

Last week the *Courier* printed a recipe of one cup sugar to two cups of water for feeding hummingbirds. Apparently, most hummingbird researchers feel this is a little to strong (see *One Perspective*, page 2), and recommend a one cup sugar to four cup water ratio. They also recommend that plain white cane sugar be mixed into regular tap water, without food coloring, honey, Jell-O, fruit or brown sugar. For just about everything you ever wanted to know about hummers but were afraid to ask, we found tons of information at hummingbirds.net.

Candidate forum

Canutillo Independent School District voters will have an opportunity to meet the candidates who are running for two at-large positions on the Canutillo ISD Board of Trustees during a Candidates Open Forum, scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, April 26, at the CISD Administrative Facility, 7965 Arcraft. The open forum is hosted by the Canutillo High School Social Studies Class supervised by Teacher Teresita Ballard and the CHS Student Leadership Committee directed by Teacher Gary De Leon. The Canutillo ISD Board of Trustees Candidates are: Margarito (Mago) Arellano, Juan (Johnny) Beltran Jr., Melissa English, Elizabeth (Liz) Galan, Robert (Charley) Hecker (incumbent), Shonda Jordan, Armando (Mando) Rodriguez, and Powell Searls.

In other news

■ El Paso Congressman Silvestre Reyes insists that the recently announced proposal by the U.S. Departments of State and Homeland Security requiring passports for travel across the Mexican and Canadian borders must be revised because of the unfair burdens it would place on the economies of border communities and the daily lives of border residents. Reyes said he and his colleagues in opposition to the new requirement are fully committed to improving America's border security, yet emphasize that any new security measures must respect the needs of both our Southern and Northern border communities. A letter stating these concerns is being circulated for support among Members of the House of Representatives and is expected to be sent to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff.

■ The public is invited to attend the 23rd Annual Lower Valley Health Fair, Saturday, April 16, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda. It is sponsored by the Lower Valley School Nurses Association, El Paso City-County Health and Environmental District and Del Sol Medical Center. The health fair features free vision, hearing and glaucoma

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Television commercials are educational. They teach us how much we can take before we become nauseated.

— Quips & Quotes

Canutillo High School's Lisa Skaf: A school nurse with lessons for life

By Christina Palmer
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Registered nurse Lisa Skaf gives more than medical care to the youth of the Canutillo community. Currently the school nurse at Canutillo High School, Lisa has in the past cared for many people — from pre-schoolers in Head Start to seniors in home health care. But her special love is working with children — “I learn from them,” she says. “They keep me young.”

But Lisa's “day job” as a school nurse is just part of the picture. She balances her role as a nurse with her personal roles as wife and mother, and somehow still finds time to pursue her passion for the art of ballet.

From an early age, Lisa knew that she would someday be a choreographer — something for which, she would discover, she had a natural talent. That dream never faded. By age 16, having received her ballet training from Ingeborg Heuser, Lisa was already using her creative abilities to teach ballet to others.

During the ensuing years, Lisa's commitment to helping others led her into the nursing profession, but her devotion to ballet was always close at hand. She taught ballet at various studios in El Paso and San Antonio. As school nurse and health teacher at Loretto Academy, she was also the dance instructor. There, her talent for choreography was expressed in a production of *The Little Princess*, performed by her Loretto students.

Motivated by her commitment to her art and her love of working with children, nurse Lisa now owns and operates her own ballet studio, The Dance Connection, on Mesa Street. On school days, during normal work hours, she can be found administering first aid and medications, performing routine medical and dental screenings, and participating in educational planning for special education students at Canutillo High School. But in the after-hours, you will find her at her studio teaching ballet



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

DAY JOB AS CAREGIVER — CHS School Nurse, Lisa Skaf takes temperature of Jose Favela, student at Canutillo High School.

classes, choreographing, conducting rehearsals, and making all the necessary arrangements for her students' performances.

Lisa's focus in teaching ballet is on instilling discipline and teaching proper technique and alignment — lessons she learned well from Heuser. On the other hand, she draws from her medical training to teach her students how the body works and how to avoid injury. She explains, for example, that the transition from ballet slippers to pointe shoes should be based upon strength and bone structure, not just age or years of training.

Skaf's own experiences on stage have taught her the importance of providing performance opportunities for her students. Aspiring dancers

See SKAF, Page 7

Socorro approves city manager contract

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — The City of Socorro has operated with an interim city manager for about two years — ever since provisions by the City Charter went into effect requiring that the city have one. However, on Thursday, April 7, at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting, Council approved a one year contract for with Lilia Ruiz to remove the provision of “interim” from her title.

There was considerable discussion regarding the terms of her contract and the salary. City Representative Trini Lopez was opposed to offering Ruiz benefits other than salary. Those benefits include insurance, vacation, etc. He said anyone under a contract should not be considered a regular employee. City Clerk Mark Threadgill explained to Lopez that Ruiz would not be under an independent contract, therefore, she must be considered as an employee with a contract.

Council also decided to maintain her current salary of \$50,000 for the term of her one-contract.

City Council also discussed the contract for City Attorney Richard Contreras. It was the recommendation of Mayor Willie Gandara, Jr. to table the item due his request to have a private attorney review the contract before approval. In order to allow Contreras to receive compensation for the past few months, however, Council decided to approve the contract for a three-month period. This would allow Mayor Gandara to have the contract reviewed and at the same time, compensate Contreras for his previous months of service.

In other business items, Council opened responses to requests for qualifications for engineering/architectural services and internal audit services for the city. The agenda items were then tabled to allow Ruiz to review the RFQs with staff before making recommendations.

Anthony mayor asks Anthony ISD to consider give and take with new business

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

ANTHONY — New industry and renovation of the middle school gymnasium were major items for discussion at the April 5 meeting of the board of trustees of the Anthony ISD.

Anthony Mayor Art Franco had good news for trustees and a request for their support regarding Brokers Logistics, Ltd, an El Paso company that has branched out and is now operating in the old Mountain Pass building. It offers a broad range of maquila industry-related services to include public warehousing and distribution and document storage.

Franco asked the board to approve a freeport tax exemption at

the company's request. The freeport tax is levied against a company's inventory before it is shipped out. Since the mayor's request came in open forum, the board could take no formal action. However, Superintendent Vern Butler said he supports the mayor, and it is his belief that the board does also. It is expected to be an action item at the May AISD board meeting.

John Martin with Basic Industries Inc. detailed plans for the approximately quarter-million-dollar facelift of the gym. Funding comes from bond issue money and a \$29,000 energy grant.

Concerned about saving money, board president Rick Villarreal suggested having Jacob Morales,

See AISD, Page 6

Sparks Housing Development Corporation is role model for improving colonia life

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Over the years, colonias have been the focus of research studies by numerous entities, named as one of the border regions most chronic social problems. However, one colonia advocate organization says the conclusions reached by these studies may be flawed.

“We must no longer look at the colonia as the problem but as communities where people live, thus a symptom of larger socio-economic complications — high unemployment, lack of affordable housing and basic infrastructure, and the denial to accessing capital... only then will we be able to develop and implement programs needed to bring solutions, change, and progress,” said Frank Desales, Executive Director of the Sparks Housing Development Corporation.

On March 28, 2005, the Sparks Housing Development Corporation (SHDC) celebrated its 15th Anniversary by holding a press conference and luncheon at the Centro Socorro Ramirez. The event was attended by over 50 social service providers, community residents, Nina Serna from State Rep. Chente Quintanilla's office, County Attorney Jose Rodriguez, and Eric Hutson from the Paso del Norte Health Foundation.

“I remember back when there was no water, sewer, natural gas, and roads. I remember there were only a few families living in Sparks and we used to share water from one of our neighbors water well. I remember when school buses would not pick up our

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One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Little mistake

I made a big mistake. Well, actually, it was a big mistake about little creatures: hummingbirds. So I guess that makes it a little mistake.

It is all about what to feed them.

Now, there are people in this country — indeed, around the world — who just go nuts over these micro-sized winged creatures. They breathlessly await their arrival every year and spend enormous amounts of time, energy and money to prepare an environment that will attract and maintain these miniatures in a style ordinarily reserved for heads of state or maybe royalty.

At the risk of getting shot at, or at least ostracized by the Audubon Society, I have to admit I don't see the attraction. Notwithstanding that they are cute as can be, my experience with the little buggers is that they are mean, aggressive, selfish and greedy. But that's just me.

My big mistake was that last week we printed a notice about how the hummingbirds were back in the country, having been spotted up in La Union, N.M., and what kind of food you should put out for the buzzers, I mean, hummers on your back porch.

We wrote that you should mix one cup sugar to every two cups of water. Our alert readers were concerned — they didn't think this was a good idea. Too much sugar is bad for these little birds, they said. So we did some research and had to admit that most leading authorities on the matter say to make the mixture only half that sweet.

One cup sugar to *four* cups of water. Don't use distilled water, better from the tap or well, to ensure necessary mineral content. Don't use Jell-O, brown sugar, honey or natu-

ral sugar. Hold the food coloring.

A major hummingbird website, fostered by Lanny Chambers of Fenton, Missouri is concerned about the "completeness" of his information, so he said he contacted noted hummingbird researchers Reed Hainsworth and Larry Wolf, proponents of the lower sugar diet. Chambers says it's not clear whether health was considered in their research or merely the hummers' preferences,

"Like children, hummers may tend to eat more candy than is good for them," Chambers said. "There is still a suspicion that high sugar concentrations can cause liver damage in hummingbirds. When I wrote Dr. Hainsworth asking for a reference to a more rigorously-scientific treatment of his data (i.e., a published paper), his reply dodged the question. Without reflection upon anyone's reputation, I stand by the opinion of the majority of hummingbird researchers, that a 1:4 mixture has been shown to do no harm, and any other formula must remain suspect."

For good measure, he adds: "The effects of red dye have not been scientifically tested, (but) there are unverified reports that red dye can cause tumors in hummingbirds; this may or may not be true, but why take the chance?"

As you can see, the subject of these little birds is really big. There are thousands, and I'm talking *hundreds* of thousands, of places where you can read about hummingbirds on the internet. One search engine offered 295,000 references.

Get this — there is actually a profession called "licensed hummingbird rehabilitator."

The depth of information is extreme — layer upon layer of instructions on how to care for a minute ornithological

See LITTLE, Page 9

BROOKINGS RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH



Interrogating a terror suspect:



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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

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Member Texas Community Newspaper Association

Homesteader News, Inc.
Est. 1973

Reyes Reports

By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Budget cuts will hurt El Paso students

Over 150 high school students in El Paso are currently participating in the Upward Bound program at UTEP. Upward Bound is a federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Education that for over 30 years has provided college preparation assistance to disadvantaged youth. However, final passage of the fiscal year 2006 budget would eliminate Upward Bound and several other important federal programs.

To emphasize the importance of the government initiatives that are slated for termination or reduction in the 2006 budget, El Pasoan Rudy Trejo, a Del Valle High School and Upward Bound Class of 2004 graduate, and I — along with many others from across the state — spoke out in Austin this past Monday at a rare joint federal-state forum on the federal budget. We covered a variety of topics and all individuals present offered compelling testimony as to why our citizens can't afford further cuts

in education, veterans, homeland security or economic development funding.

Trejo testified about Upward Bound and the opportunities he might not have realized without it. "Growing up in a low-income, single-parent family of 13 children in my hometown of El Paso was one of the most challenging but educational experiences of my life," said Trejo. "While most people see my circumstances as a disadvantage in today's world, I saw it as a learning tool, and with Upward Bound on my side, I was able to learn, participate, and educate others. Upward Bound prepared me for college in more ways than I can recall: FAFSA, college tours, resumes, personal statements, tutoring, college visits — all these things would not have been possible without Upward Bound.

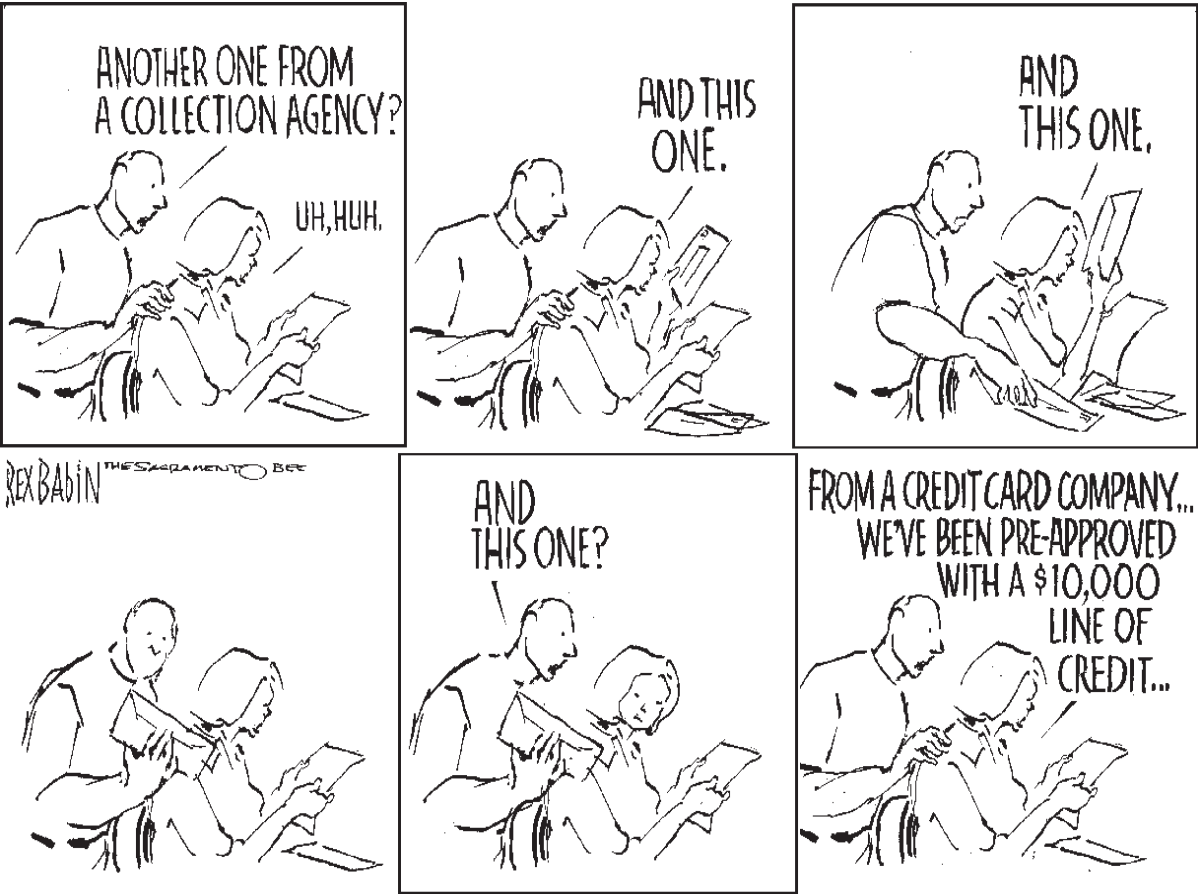
"UTEP will serve 154 Upward Bound students this year through its annual funding of \$816,885... the elimination of Upward Bound will jeopardize the college attendance of every single one of these students. It would be a major blow to those who

are less advantaged, to those who need the help the most...The elimination of this program — and other federal education programs — would truly affect the future of so many deserving young people," said Trejo.

I spoke of the harmful cuts to first responders and homeland security programs. "As a 26 and a half year veteran of the U.S. Border Patrol, including 13 years as Chief of the El Paso and McAllen sectors, I understand the challenges facing these men and women. Stretching our dedicated border security personnel undermines our nation's homeland security mission and could place America in great danger."

Debate surrounding the budget is usually dry, with long-winded debate on complicated formulas or rates. By giving individuals such as Rudy Trejo an opportunity to tell their stories and put a human face on it, the importance of the annual process is shown for what it really is — not meaningless numbers, but an outlaying of funds that hold serious

See REYES, Page 9



Eye on D.C. By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

Spring is taxing every year

The week is finally upon us. By the time you read this column, you will no doubt have finished filing your taxes or filing for an extension. As we dove into the pamphlets, filled out the forms and contacted our accountants, many of us were wondering, "how much worse can it get?" The answer: Much, much worse.

Would you believe that some members of Congress would like to do away with the tax relief that is putting money back in the hands of the American people and growing the economy. It's hard to believe, but it's true.

Under the previous administration, taxes reached an unprecedented high. The average family in America paid more in taxes than on food, clothing and shelter combined. But the tide has turned under President Bush. With his leadership, conservative members of Congress enacted the largest tax relief package in 20 years.

Spring should be the time of year

when we take stock and focus our attention on the year ahead. But for most of us, Spring is the season of headaches and frustration as we crunch and re-crunch numbers while filling out those dreaded IRS forms before the April 15 deadline. Instead of spending time with our families, we are stuck trying to figure out the federal tax code.

Here are some facts to help put in perspective the amount of time and money that is taken from us each year to pay our taxes.

- Americans pay more in taxes than for food, clothing and shelter combined.
- The IRS sends out 8 billion pages of forms and instructions every year. Laid end to end, they would circle the globe 28 times.
- Taxes eat up over 38 percent of the average family's income.
- The average American worked until May 7 last year just to pay his or her share of federal, state and local taxes. That's the first 128

days of your year.

- This year nearly 60 percent of Americans will be forced to pay a tax professional to help them with their taxes.
- Almost the entire second income of a two-income family goes to pay taxes.
- Instructions for the 1040EZ, the easiest personal income tax form, are 33 pages long.

These are just a few reasons why this Congress is working hard to reduce your tax burden. We made great strides last year, but we still have a long way to go.

Families in Texas should not have to pay so much of their hard earned money in taxes or be hassled by a burdensome tax code. You deserve to keep more of what you earn so you can do more for your families, churches and communities. After all, it is your money.





KEEP JIM PENDEDLL

Punch #4

for School Board Trustee

Clint Independent School District


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Election Day: May 7, 2005

Early Voting: April 20 - May 3, 2005 (8:00 am - 4:30 pm)

Pol. adv. paid for by Jim Pendell, 14501 North Loop Rd., Clint, TX 79836



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TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, April 14, 1934: A horrendous blinding dust storm rampages across the Texas Panhandle. It is the culmination of years of drought, overworking of the land and just plain bad luck.





DRIVING AWAY BUSINESS

Higher taxes could drive Texans over the line – to shop in New Mexico or across the border in Mexico.

There's a huge new tax increase working its way through the Texas legislature.

The state comptroller calls it the largest tax bill in Texas history – and if it passes, Texans will be paying the highest state sales tax in the country.

That's a big problem for local businesses large and small – and could seriously harm the El Paso economy.

To make matters worse, they want to raise taxes on snack food, soft drinks and tobacco – an enormous 244% increase in the state excise tax on cigarettes. Under this proposal, the overall cost per carton in Texas will be \$7-8.00 higher than in New Mexico.

To avoid sky-high taxes, more and more Texans – especially smokers – may start shopping in New Mexico or across the border in Mexico.

And if retail sales decline, local jobs could be threatened as well.

Please call State Senator Eliot Shapleigh: Ask him to oppose these excessive taxes, which have already passed the Texas House of Representatives. They go too far, and they're bad for business – and that's bad for the Texas economy.

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College prep program tells students there is life after high school

By Phillip Cortez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — At a time when students are getting ready for summer vacation, making plans for free time in the sun, juniors at San Elizario High School got a dose of what being a senior is going to be like next school year, thanks to Making College Count, a national program designed to meet students at important crossroads in their lives. Dynamic and student-interactive, these in-school presentations provide a road map for students in the pursuit of success.

According to Dicky Garza, lead counselor at the campus, this is the fourth year that students in San Elizario have been able to participate in the Making College Count program.



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

A LITTLE WISE COUNSEL — San Elizario junior Adapito Reyes gets career advice from Estela Ortiz, Director of Human Resources for NCED Sahara. Ortiz was one of many professionals who spoke with San Elizario juniors and seniors during the Making College Count session last week.

“For sure this program makes a difference,” Garza said. “It jumpstarts them and makes them realize there is life after high school.”

This year’s round of presentations provided an added twist for students, however, as representatives from UTEP, New Mexico State, El Paso Community College and even LULAC were in attendance after the Making College Count presentation in order to provide students with opportunities they can take advantage of and, according to Garza, “give them a peek into their senior years” and show them the opportunities available in college.

“This was an added wrinkle to the mix,” Garza said. “In the past we just had the speaker to get them motivated.”

Seniors at the campus were also able to take advantage of the Making College Count program, as a separate motivational talk was given just for them. Their talk focused on the important factors to consider when choosing a major in college, the fastest growing career fields in the country, and even ways of paying for college. Included in the discussion was a handy booklet students were able to keep that included a chart that listed average salaries for various careers, and ways to improve time management skills.

“Those booklets were very easy for the students to read, very informative,” Garza said.

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

Celia Cruz and family would like to express our deep appreciation to relatives, friends and community members for their thoughtful gestures and prayers which gave us comfort and support during the recent loss of Francisco Cruz, our beloved husband and father. He passed away on March 7, 2005.

**Margarita Stallings
Fabens**

Dear Editor:

It’s time again for the citizens of Horizon City to consider electing a mayor and council. Back in 1988, when the good folks of Horizon City voted to incorporate and become a legitimate town, the theme was “Let’s Start Right.” The elected council and a great percent of the local citizens worked with great enthusiasm in accomplishing the “Let’s Start Right” slogan. It appears the slogan has been forgotten and things have begun to run astray. Since we now have an experienced, qualified group volunteering to get our town heading in the right direction, it is suggested voters consider the following candidates and cast their votes for getting the train back on track.

For mayor, Raymond Morales, a proven, successful businessman appears highly qualified to head up the council. As for city council, three candidates are volunteering to make proper, honest and quality government the accepted norm in conducting the town’s business. Keith McClellan and Bethany Sellers have served as council members in the past. They demonstrated excellent character along with quality know-how. A newcomer to the council is Luis Najera, a qualified law enforcement officer with 17 years experience with the Texas State Troopers. His experience will be greatly welcomed by the town’s police department.

Remember, May 7 is election day, vote for the above mentioned candidates and let’s get the town back on track.

Desmond P. “Corky” Corcoran
Mayor Emeritus
Horizon City



Tornillo students excel at UIL meet

TORNILLO — Tornillo High School students excelled at the UIL District meet, held in Alpine on April 2. A total of six students took first, second or third place in their respective events. These students will go on to compete at the Regional meet on April 23 in Abilene. Tornillo High School’s regional qualifiers are, in photo from left, Zach Brooks, third in spelling; Rudy Valenzuela, first in computer science team; Carina Pena, first in chemistry; Theresa Escarciga, first in computer science team; Josue Moreno, first in computer science and in team; and Elyana Villalobos, second in current events.

— Contributed by Rudy Barreda

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TORNILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF ELECTION

On February 22, 2005, at their regular meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Tornillo ISD ordered an election to be held on Saturday May 7, 2005, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M., at the Tornillo ISD Central Office, 19200 Cobb Street, Tornillo, Texas, for the purpose of electing two (2) trustees. One for Place 3 and one for Place 4. All places are for full (3) three-year terms.

Absentee voting by personal appearance will be conducted at the Tornillo ISD Central Office, 19200 Cobb Avenue, Tornillo, Texas, beginning April 20, 2005 through May 3, 2005, each weekday from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to the Presiding Judge, Cecy Lettunich, C/O P.O. Box 170, Tornillo, Texas, 79853. Applications for ballots by mail may be received beginning April 25, 2005 and must be received no later than 4:00 P.M. on April 29, 2005. Ballots by mail will be mailed by the presiding judge beginning March 23, 2005 and must be received by the presiding judge, by 9:00 A.M. on May 7, 2005.

Only duly qualified, registered voters of the Tornillo Independent School District shall be permitted to vote at such election.

DISTRITO DE LA ESCUELA DE TORNILLO AVISO DE ELECCION

El dia 22 de Febrero, 2005, en la junta de la mesa directiva del distrito escolar de Tornillo dio aviso que se llevara a cabo una eleccion de regentes para la mesa directiva el sabado , 7 de Mayo, 2005, de 7:00 A.M. a 7:00 P.M. en la oficina centrales de Tornillo ISD, 19200 Cobb St., Tornillo, Texas, con el proposito de elegir dos (2) directores. Las posiciones abiertos por un termino de (3) tres años son puesto 3 y puesto 4.

Votacion de ausencia en persona empieza el 20 de Abril, 2005 hasta el 3 de Mayo, 2005 de las 10:00 A.M. a las 6:00 P.M., de lunes a viernes, en la oficina centrales de Tornillo ISD, 19200 Cobb Street, Tornillo, Texas . Boletos para votar en ausencia por correo se pueden conseguir con el juez que preside, ser enviadas a Cecy Lettunich, C/O P.O. Box 170, Tornillo, Texas 79853. Aplicaciones para boletos por correo se deberan recibirse comenzando 25, de Abril 2005, y recibirse para el fin de 29 de Abril, 2005 antes de las 4:00 P.M. Boletos por correo se comenzaran enviar por el juez que preside, comenzando el 23 de Marzo, 2005 y recibirse antes de las 9:00 A.M. el dia 7 de Mayo, 2005.

Unicamente votantes registrados del distrito de la escuela de Tornillo.

WTCC: 04/14/05

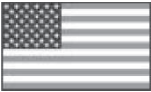
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Sparks

From Page 1

children to go to school because there were no roads. I remember going to commissioners court and the Horizon water district to fight for our right for potable water. I remember how life was so difficult back then,” says Martha Palacios, a resident of Sparks for over 25 years and a founding member of SHDC.

Incorporated on March 28, 1990 with the goal of advancing human rights and social justice in the Sparks colonia, SHDC leaders sought to involve residents in bringing solutions to the lack of basic utilities and infrastructure services. Through this organization, residents also chal-

lenged a legal case in the late 1980’s that would have displaced hundreds of families and property owners in Sparks because of taxes never paid by a private developer.

SHDC is a non-profit, community-based organization with a mission to better the health and well being of its residents. It promotes programs to improve infrastructure and housing rehabilitation, and provide new affordable housing construction, educational opportunities, and medical and health education services. The vision of the organization is to advance the community until it is self-sufficient and self-sustaining.

SHDC was a strong advocate in the provision of water/wastewater systems; natural gas services; the construction and rehabilitation of 16 homes; the development of a com-

munity center; a ballroom and commercial kitchen; an eight-unit multi-family rental; and establishing the first technology center and mini-library in Sparks. It has worked to obtain funding from public and private sources including the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

With its headquarters in El Centro Socorro Ramirez — a 7, 500 sq. ft. facility that is open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. — SHDC has worked to help the Center offer programs in early childhood development, arts and crafts, computer literacy, after-school tutoring through Region 19 and Americas High School, commodities distribution, financial literacy assistance, counseling through the Center Against Family Violence, and

ESL and GED training. Through these programs, the organization serves about 400 residents a month.

SHDC is the only community and asset development organization in the Sparks area, and is currently engaged in many programs.

SHDC currently partners with EPCC’s Construction Manager Program, in which construction trades students construct new affordable homes — in 2004, two high quality, 1,300 square foot homes for Sparks residents were sold for \$39,250 each. EPCC has committed to construct four homes for the organization over the next two years. Also in 2004, SHDC was awarded a \$352,342 contract by TDHCA to provide grants of \$10,000 to 34 families wanting to purchase a new home.

The Sparks’ Earned Income Tax

Credit (EITC) and Asset Development Program was launched in 2004 by SHDC to help El Paso County families avoid predatory tax preparation fees by providing the same service at no cost, and informing them of tax benefits they might otherwise not collect.

Established in October of 2003, The Sparks Healthy Community Council is the organizing arm of the SHDC, a volunteer group of community residents that meet weekly to address area needs. “The mission of Sparks Healthy Community Council is to serve as an advocate that creates a unifying voice for the community,” said Nora Ortega, community organizer and Programs Manager of the SHDC. Current priorities are public safety, parks and recreation, roads and infrastructure, and medical/health education services.

In one of its newest projects, the Sparks Housing Development Corporation signed the contract to administer the Sparks Community Center in March of this year. The Center was constructed in the mid 1990’s by the Texas A&M University — Center for Housing and Urban Development and is owned by the County of El Paso. Under the new administration, the goal is to balance services at their two locations. The Centro Socorro Ramirez will continue providing social services and community asset development programs, while the Sparks Community Center will act as a Medical and Health Education Center with general services provided by La Clinica Guadalupeana, Dr. Rodin Mendoza-Castillo provides pediatrics, and Dr. Julio Novoa is an OBGYN.

The “Friends of the Colonias Fund” is the SHDC’s annual giving campaign that was developed in order to support its mission to better the quality of life of children and families residing in the colonias. “We hope that our friends will continue to appreciate the value in our accomplishments and help us to remain a strong voice for the children and families of the colonias in East El Paso County,” Desales said.

For more information, contact Desales at (915) 852-2245.

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Oscar Arrieta
Allstate Agent

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BELIEVE

THE SPRING GAME IS HERE

FRIDAY APRIL 22ND @ 7:00 P.M.

BE AT THE SUN BOWL TO GET YOUR FIRST LOOK AT THE 2005 MINERS

AI SD

From Page 1

the district’s maintenance director, shoulder some of the project’s duties. “We need to go back and look at this. There are things he can do to bring the cost down,” Villarreal noted.

Butler countered, saying he didn’t feel the district should be in the contracting business and that this would “too much” for Morales to take on. “This would take a lot of time and would take away from his other duties.”

Speaking for the administration, Butler said “we are comfortable with this (arrangement).”

The project will include:

- New evaporative coolers and water heaters;
- A new suspended ceiling in the foyer and repairs to existing ceiling in the gym;
- New lighting fixtures with a 25-40 percent energy savings;
- Refinishing the gym floor; and
- Refurbishing the locker rooms and administrative offices.

After discussion, the board approved the renovation plans.

The board also approved dropping the dual language program because of low enrollment and focusing on bilingual education. Butler said “he didn’t feel we can move ahead effectively with the dual language program.”

Briefs

From Page 1

screenings, free blood sugar and cholesterol screenings, body fat analysis, lots of healthcare information, entertainment and food. All childhood immunizations will be available at a cost of \$10 per child. No one will be denied services if unable to pay. The fair also features a one-mile family fun walk with registration beginning at 9:15 a.m. For more information, call Sylvia Johnson, 937-3211.

■ The Horizon City Youth Association will host a free Pepsi Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit and Run Competition for area youth on April 17 at 2 p.m. at the Horizon City Municipal Park. This grassroots campaign is designed to provide youngsters with an opportunity to participate in a free competition that recognizes individual excellence in core baseball skills. There are four age divisions between 7 and 14 and advancement can be made through four levels, all the way to the National Finals at the 2005 Major League Baseball All-Star Game. For information and registration, contact John Dixon, 852-9349 or e-mail jdixon@elp.rr.com.

■ Due to unforeseen circumstances, El Paso Public Library officials have postponed a partial re-opening of the Main Library downtown. It had been scheduled to open in April, offering limited services, until construction was complete. During inspection, however, it became evident that there were safety issues that had to be addressed before that library could open. Progress on those issues will be re-evaluated in June to determine if the Main Library will be able to open on a limited basis sometime in late July. All other libraries are open at least five-days a week and two libraries are open Sunday and Monday to serve you. To access online services or for a library nearest you, visit <http://www.elpasolibrary.org> or call 772-0501. The Main Library is currently undergoing a major expansion and renovation, which will effectively double its current space. It will also add a 50-station state-of-the-art computer lab, a special area for teens called Teen Town and an expanded children's area. Construction is set to be fully complete in November.

■ Clint Independent School District invites the public to its 2nd Annual Career Expo, April 13, at the Central Administration Building, 14521 Horizon Blvd. from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Administration from all campuses and departments from the district will be set-up in order to meet and talk with anyone who is interested in a position with Clint ISD. Call 926-4070 for more information.

■ Calling all street poets, bards, rhymers and performance artists. Celebrate National Poetry Month the Armijo Library's 2nd Annual Poetry Slam, 620 E. 7th Street in El Paso (Campbell and

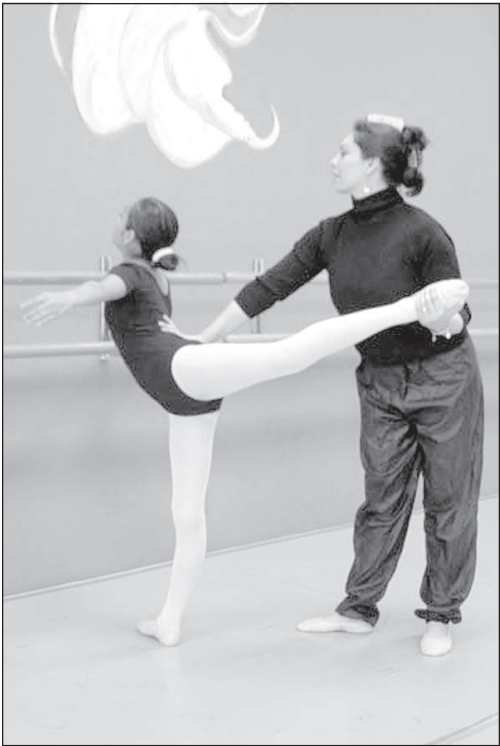
7th) on Thursday, April 14 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Entry is free and open to everyone. For more information call 533-1333 or visit www.elpasolibrary.org.

■ Something for everyone — join the El Paso County Library in Fabens and McGruff in celebrating National Library Week Thursday, April 14 at 1331 N. Fabens St. Entertainment and refreshment will be provided. Call 764-3635 for further information. Libraries provide access to knowledge for all people, no matter their age, ethnicity, physical ability, income, or language. National Library Week is celebrated April 10-16, 2005.

■ The Third Annual Lee and Beulah Moor Children's Home Walk/Run for Families in Crisis will be held on Saturday, April 16 at the Sunland Park Racetrack with registration at 8 a.m. Included will be a one-mile fun walk and a 5K

competition. After-race activities include refreshments, face painting, mariachis, music, dancers and much more. Trophies and medals will be awarded in various divisions. Applications are available at the Children's Home at 1100 E. Cliff Drive, at YWCA or YMCA, or various businesses in El Paso, or register online at www.runelpaso.com. For more information about the Children's Home long at www.leemoor.org.

■ Nobel prize winner Isaac Bashevis Singer will be the subject of a program on immigrant writers at the Dorris Van Doren Library on Wednesday, April 20 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. UTEP professor Dr. Ezra Cappell will discuss Singer's work and show a movie based on his writings. The program is free and open to the public. For more information call 875-0700 or visit www.elpasolibrary.org.



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

DANCE LESSON IN LIFE — Ballet student, Music Adame learns ballet technique from ballet instructor, Lisa Skaf.

Skaf

From Page 1

“value the chance to be on stage,” and she believes they grow not only in skill but also in character from that experience. To parents who wish to support their young dance student's dream, her message is clear: ensure that the child attends class and rehearsals. To others, she says, “Dance is for everybody — it brings people together.”

In her various roles, Lisa views herself as a “guide” for children in helping them “see the beauty in life and create beautiful things.” Under her guidance, they learn to value themselves and to be sensitive to the world around them.

SAN ELIZARIO I.S.D.
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE ELECTION

The San Elizario Independent School District, Board of Trustees, hereby gives notice of an election to be held on Saturday, May 7, 2005 for the purpose of electing trustees for three (3) positions, for a three-year term each.

Early voting by personal appearance will be from April 20, 2005 through May 3, 2005 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or official State holiday.

Early voting will be conducted at all locations within El Paso County, at which Early Voting is conducted by the County Elections Department, including Alfonso Borrego Elementary School located at 13300 Chicken Ranch Road.

Applications for early voting by mail should be mailed to: El Paso County Elections Office, 500 E. San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901. Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 29, 2005.

The designated polling place is Alfonso Borrego Elementary School (Pct. 159) located at 13300 Chicken Ranch Road, which will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. the day of the election.

AVISO DE ELECCION DE REGENTES

El distrito escolar de San Elizario da aviso que se llevará a cabo una elección de regentes para la mesa directiva el sábado 7 de mayo, 2005 con el proposito de elegir regentes para tres (3) posiciones de terminos de tres años cada uno. Votación anticipada se efectuará desde el 20 de abril hasta el 3 de mayo, 2005 de las 8:00 a.m. a las 5:00 p.m. todos los días que no sean sábado, domingo, o día festivo del estado.

Votación anticipada se llevara a cabo en todos locaciones en todos locales designados por el condado de El Paso, incluyendo la escuela primaria Alfonso Borrego Elementary School, localizada en 13300 Chicken Ranch Road.

Aplicaciones para votar por correo deben ser enviadas al condado de El Paso, Elections Office, 500 E. San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901. Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio del 29 de abril 2005.

El sitio de votación será en la escuela primaria Alfonso Borrego Elementary School (Pct. 159), 13300 Chicken Ranch Road y se abrirá desde las 7:00 a.m. a las 7:00 p.m. el día de la elección.

WTCC: 04/14/05

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Town of Anthony

PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a **Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.** at Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding proposed rezoning of the following property:

1) A portion of Tract Clara A. Mundy Survey No. 247, El Paso County, Texas, from COMMERCIAL to RESIDENTIAL to accommodate two-hundred forty-five (245) lots (minimum of 6,000 square feet each).

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Town Clerk of the Town of Anthony at P.O. Box 1269, Anthony, Texas 79821.

Myriam P. Uribe
Town Clerk

WTCC: 04/14/05

Town of Anthony

PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a **Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.** at Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding proposed rezoning of the following property:

1) A portion of Tract 72A, W.D. Marsh Survey No. 183, El Paso County, Texas, from PRE-DEVELOPMENT to RESIDENTIAL to accommodate forty-five (45) lots (minimum of 6,000 square feet each) and six (6) lots to COMMERCIAL.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Town Clerk of the Town of Anthony at P.O. Box 1269, Anthony, Texas 79821.

Myriam P. Uribe
Town Clerk

WTCC: 04/14/05

CANUTILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice of Election

Aviso de Eleccion General

To the Registered Voters of Canutillo, Texas:
Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on May 7, 2005, for voting in a General Election, to elect 2 (two) School Board Members at Large (each position is a 3 year term).

Positions held by Charley Hecker and Jose M. Villarreal.

A los votantes registrados de Canutillo, Texas:
Notifiquese por la presente, que las casillas electorales citadas abajo se abiran desde las 7 a.m. hasta 7 p.m. el 7 de mayo de 2005 para votar en la Eleccion para 2 (dos) Miembros de la Mesa Directiva de las Escuelas en representacion de todo el distrito (cada puesto con plazo de tres (3) años).

Puestos ocupados por Charley Hecker y Jose M. Villarreal.

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACES FOR ELECTION DAY VOTING:

Vinton Village Hall, 436 Vinton — For voters residing in the portion of County Voting Precinct No. 2 located within the Canutillo Independent School District.

Canutillo High School, Canutillo, Texas (7311 Bosque Rd.) — For voters residing in those portions of County Voting Precinct No. 3 located within the Canutillo School District.

Canutillo Elementary School, Canutillo, Texas (651 Canutillo Ave.) — For voters residing in those portions of County Voting Precinct No. 4 located within the Canutillo School District.

Fire Station #2, 111 E. Borderland Rd. — For voters residing in those portions of County Voting Precinct No. 5 and County Voting Precinct No. 11 located within the Canutillo Independent School District.

Olga Kohlberg Elementary School, 1445 Nardo Goodman Dr. — For voters residing in those portions of County Voting Precinct No. 11, 2-3, and 13 located within the Canutillo Independent School District.

SECCION DE LOCACIONES PARA EL DÍA DE ELECCIONES:

Vinton Village Hall, 436 Vinton — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 2, localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Escuela Secundaria de Canutillo, Canutillo, Texas (7311 Bosque Rd.) — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 3, localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Escuela Primaria de Canutillo, Canutillo, Texas (651 Canutillo Ave.) — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 4, localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Estacion de Bomberos #2, 111 E. Borderland Rd. — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 5, y precinto de votacion del condado 11 localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Olga Kohlberg Elementary School, 1445 Nardo Goodman Dr. — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 11, 2-3, y 13 localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

1. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Canutillo Elementary School, Principal’s Office, Canutillo, Texas (651 Canutillo Ave.) between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m beginning on April 20, 2005 and ending on May 3, 2005.
 2. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Vinton Town Hall, Vinton, Texas, 436 Vinton between the hours of 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. beginning on April 20, 2005 and ending on May 3, 2005.
 3. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted at all locations within El Paso County, at which Early Voting is conducted by the County Elections Department beginning on April 20, 2005 and ending on May 3, 2005.
- 1. La votacion anticipo en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en la Escuela Primaria, Ofcinia del Director, Canutillo, Texas, 651 Canutillo Ave., entre las 8:30 de la mañana y las 4:30 de la tarde empezando el 20 de abril de 2005 y terminando el 3 de mayo de 2005.*
- 2. La votacion anticipo en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en Vinton Town Hall, 436 Vinton, entre las 3:00 de la tarde y las 6 de la tarde empezando el 20 de abril de 2005 y terminando el 3 de mayo de 2005.*
- 3. La votacion anticipo en persona se llevara a cabo en todos locaciones en el Condado de El Paso, en donde se lleva a cabo votaciones tempranas manejadas por el Departamento de Elecciones del condado empezando el 20 de abril de 2005 y terminando el 3 de mayo de 2005.*

Applications for ballot by mail should be mailed to:
Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a:

Helen Jamison, 500 E. San Antonio-Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 29, 2005.
Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio del 29 de abril 2005.

Issued this 11th day of February, 2005.
Emitada este 11 dia de febrero, 2005.

Jose M. Villarreal
Presiding Officer, Oficial que Preside

WTCC: 04/14/05

I was there...

¡Viva Mexico! boxing lands some surprises

By Jan Engels
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — I was there... at the Don Haskins Center for Oscar De La Hoya’s “Golden Boy Production” staging of *Viva Mexico!* night of boxing and what a show it was! Local fighters David Rodriguez and Rene Armijo brought the crowd of 10,000-plus to their feet — both won their fights with speed and dexterity. Rodriguez’ version of Rocky Galarza’s training and techniques resulted in a unanimous decision over Missouri’s John Turlington. Armijo defeated a formidable foe, Abdias Castillo, with a majority decision.

When it came to the Jr. Lightweight undercard, I thought I was seeing



double — both fighters were almost identical in dress, stature, styles and even names. Aaron Garcia and Bryan Garcia were hard to tell apart. It was a good match with Garcia winning. OK — Aaron Garcia.

In the main undercard for the WBO World Title between Ivan Hernandez and Fernando Montiel, Hernandez fought a good battle to keep his World Title but it wasn’t to be. Two knockdowns in the 6th and 7th rounds by Montiel put the cap on a TKO.

In the Main Event — Marco Antonio Barrera and Mzonke Fana — the show was over in less than two rounds. Barrera, three-time world champion from Mexico City, defended his WBC super featherweight title for the first time since winning it

QUICK WORK — Marco Antonio Barrera comes out of the ring wearing the WBC belt he retained by taking out Mzonke Fana in less than two rounds.

See BOXING, Page 9

Public Notice

Fabens Independent School District

2005 — 2006 School Year Calendar

The Fabens Independent School District held a public meeting to discuss the first date of instruction for the 2005-2006 school year. The community members present voted in favor of the calendar with August 15, 2005 as the first date of instruction. Fabens Independent School District has applied to the Texas Education Agency State Waiver Unit requesting approval for the earlier start date for 2005-2006. The state mandated start date is August 22,2005.

For further information, please call the Central Office at 764-2025.

Aviso Publico

Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens

Calendario Escolar de 2005 — 2006

El Distrito Escolar Independiente Fabens invitó al público a una junta para discutir la fecha para el primer día de instrucción del año escolar 2005-2006. Los miembros de la comunidad presentes votaron a favor de un calendario con el 15 de agosto de 2005 como el primer día de instrucción. El Distrito Escolar Independiente Fabens ha presentado una solicitud a la Unidad para Exenciones de la Agencia de Educación de Texas pidiendo se apruebe esa fecha para empezar el año escolar 2005-2006. La fecha del mandato estatal es el 22 de agosto de 2005.

Para mas información pueden llamar al Oficina Central al numero 764-2025.

WTCC: 04-14-05

Boxing

From Page 8

in November of last year — and he did so with a vengeance. Less than two minutes into the second round Barrera threw the proverbial one, two, three that left Fana out in the ring.

And then we come to some side notes...



GOLDEN MOMENT — Oscar De La Hoya with fight fan Jan Engels.

Little

From Page 2

subject you cannot own, can’t even snuggle with, doesn’t alert you when there is a strange man in the backyard, and is so tiny that, by the time you get to be my age, you probably can’t even make out any detail on it.

Especially if it’s moving. Which it is. All the time.

Actually, this isn’t true. Humming-birds spend about 80 percent of their time perched. I discovered this reading a treatise on whether to or whether not to choose a feeder with a perch — or the hanging type, or the basin type, or...

I had a little problem with the snob-bish tone of some of the material. For instance, there is a lot of lengthy information on how to keep bees, ants, wasps and bats from sharing the bounty.

Now, I want to know, just who is going to look after the interests of these little fellas?

One expert recommends taking feeders in overnight to keep the bats away, but cautions that “hummers start feeding as early as 30 minutes before sunrise, and they really need the energy after a cool night.” Apparently, the bat’s energy level in the morning is his own problem — yours may suffer a little as well if you get up that early every day just to go re-hang your bird feeders.

He also recommends that if you are getting too many wasps, just move your feeder a couple of feet and they can’t find it. He writes: “Insects are not very smart, and will assume the food source is gone forever. They may never find it in its new location, while the hummers will barely notice that it was moved.”

I hope no self-respecting wasp ever reads that. That could be a big mistake.

Reyes

From Page 2

implications in the lives of many. My colleagues and I need to take a long, hard look at what our country needs right now. The individuals who testified in Austin earlier this week hold many of the answers and if frank, bipartisan discussion prevails, I am confident this Congress will produce the responsible budget El Paso and the nation deserve.

De La Hoya was introduced to the crowd amidst lots of booing and the crowd chanting “Lazcano. Lazcano.” El Pasoans were unhappy that Juan Lazcano wasn’t fighting on the evening’s card.

Johnny Tapia drew almost as much attention in the stands as the events in the boxing ring. His charismatic attitude had large groups of fans following him around the stands at the “Don.” El Pasoans love their home town — and surrounding town — heroes!

A final note... in the post-fight media room, it was observed and commented on that there is a lack of female reporters in the room, even though it is a known fact that boxing has major interest for both sexes.

TOWN OF ANTHONY, TEXAS PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING

U.S.D.A. RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT - STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Anthony announces that it is preparing an application for financial assistance from the Rural Development Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), for funding for housing rehabilitation from the Housing Preservation Grants Program of that agency. The purpose of the project is to provide adequate housing for residents of Low Income and Very Low Income. A statement of activities will be available for public examination at the Anthony Town Hall after April 18, 2005. The public is invited to submit comments regarding this proposed project until May 6, 2005.

INVITATION TO A PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Anthony will conduct a public hearing to solicit the input and participation of all of its residents in the town’s Housing Preservation Grant application process. Please attend this meeting and voice your opinion concerning the proposed housing rehabilitation project. At this meeting, there will be opportunities to discuss rehabilitation work eligible under the USDA Housing Preservation Grant Program, general requirements, guidelines, schedules, and a Statement of Activities for the proposed project.

Location of Hearing: Anthony Town Hall
Date & Time of Hearing: April 25, 2005, at 6:00 P.M.

AVISO PUBLICO Y AUDIENCIA PUBLICA

AVISO PUBLICO

La ciudad de Anthony esta preparando una solicitud para fondos del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, Desarrollo Rural, para reparacion de viviendas bajo el programa de Asistencia para Preservacion de Vivienda. El proyecto que se propone es para dar ayuda para reparar o rehabilitar viviendas de familias de Bajo Ingresos o Muy Bajo Ingresos. Copias de este material estara disponible al publico despues del 18 de Abril en el Town Hall de Anthony.

AUDIENCIA PUBLICA

Una audiencia publica tocante a la informacion y guias del programa y la solicitud que se propone se va a llevar a cabo para que todos los residents puedan expresar sus opiniones y comentarios a este programa y a la solicitud. El publico en general esta invitado a asistir a esta audiencia. La presentacion y la discusion del Programa de Asistencia de Preservacion de Vivienda del USDA seran en espanol para aquellas personas que asi lo deseen.

Lugar: El Town Hall de Anthony, Texas
Dia y Hora: 25 de April, 2005, a las 6:00 P.M.

Art Franco Date published:
Mayor April 14, 2005

www.wtccourier.com

Anthony Independent School District NOTICE OF ELECTION AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL

To the Registered Voters of Anthony, Texas
Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 7, 2005, for voting in a General Election, to elect 2 (two) School Board Members at Large, three positions for a full 3 (three) year term.

Positions presently held by Salley Flores and Raul Rueda.

A los votantes registrados de Anthony, Texas
Notifiquese por la presente, que la casilla electoral citada abajo se abrirá desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 7 de mayo de 2005, para votar en la Elección para 2 (dos) Miembros de la Mesa Directiva de las Escuelas en representación de todo el distrito con posiciones por un termino completo de 3 (tres) años.

Puestos ocupados por Salley Flores y Raul Rueda.

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE:
The polling place for Election Day will be the Anthony Town Hall, 401 Oak Street, Anthony, Texas

DIRECCION DE LA CASILLA ELECTORAL:
El Lugar de votación el día de Elecciones será la Presidencia Municipal de Anthony, 401 Calle Oak, Anthony, Texas

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Anthony Town Hall, 401 Oak Street, Anthony, Texas, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. beginning on April 20, 2005, and ending on May 3, 2005.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted at all locations within El Paso County, at which Early Voting is conducted by the County Elections Department beginning on April 20, 2005, and ending on May 3, 2005.

La votacion temprana en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en la Presidencia Municipal de Anthony, 401 Calle Oak, Anthony, Texas, entre las 8:30 de la mañana y las 4:30 de la tarde, empezando el 20 de abril de 2005 y terminando el 3 de mayo de 2005.

La votacion anticipo en persona se llevara a cabo en todos locaciones en el Condado de El Paso, en donde se lleva a cabo votaciones tempranas manejadas por el Departamento de Elecciones del condado empezando el 20 de abril de 2005 y terminando el 3 de mayo de 2005.

Applications for ballot by mail should be mailed to:

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo, deberán enviarse a:

Helen Jamison
500 E. San Antonio, Room 402
El Paso, TX 79901

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 29, 2005.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio del 29 de abril 2005.

Issued this the 1st day of March, 2005
Emitida este día 1 de marzo, 2005

Rick Villarreal
Signature of Presiding Officer
Firma del Oficial que Preside
WTCC: 04/14/05

Coach’s training technique has activists seeing pink

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Unfortunately, one of the things you can always count on in this country is that someone is going to be offended about something.

Some people must lay awake at night hoping and praying they can find something to get all riled up about the next day.

The latest “offense de jour” took place at the University of Arkansas.

Every coach in America thinks of different ways to get their team’s attention when they’re slacking off or not giving it their all.

Seems coach Houston McNutt likes to embarrass his players when they don’t pay atten-

tion in practice by having them exchange their normal red jersey for a pink one.

His method is unusual to say the least, but not necessarily harmful — that is unless it conflicts with some colored-ribbon-wearing organization.

There’s no doubt that breast cancer is a serious disease that claims way too many women every year, but even well-intended organizations can drift a little off the deep end sometimes.

The university apparently got some heat last week from some breast cancer groups who were offended about the pink jerseys.

See, the pink jerseys are meant to humiliate a player into doing better. Pink is also the color of the ribbon worn by breast cancer organizations.



Now I don’t mind anyone wearing a colored ribbon to drum up support for a cause, but c’mon, may we have a little maturity please?

To worry about what color a football team wears boggles all senses of reality and intellect.

At this rate is there any group of people that will not be offended no matter what color is worn by these grossly insensitive Arkansas football players.

Let’s help them out and suggest an alternative color they can wear.

How about green? No, green would insult all Irish people. Brown would irritate all Hispanics. Red would get the Native Americans in a tizzy. Yellow would anger all oriental people. A tan colored jersey would offend George Hamilton and Wayne Newton. Blue would upset all the sea creatures in the ocean.

I’ll bet if they wore a black and white jersey it would only be a matter of time before they received an angry letter from a disgruntled panda, penguin or referee.

The referees, by the way, had to wage a long legal battle against the Brotherhood of Zebras for the right to wear black and white stripes and keep their nickname. But back to the issue at hand.

So what’s a coach to do to discipline his players? I know, have them wear no jerseys at all. Oh no, here comes Jerry Falwell.

The Master is back

Did you happen to catch the return of Tiger Woods at the Masters last week?

Boy, that was some of the best golf I’ve seen in quite a while.

After Tiger shot an opening round 74, it seemed he would be no where near the leaders at tournament’s end. But a 66 and a 65 over the next two rounds had Tiger up by three strokes going into the final round with only Chris DiMarco within reach.

In the past, a golfer playing with Tiger Woods on the final day of a major tournament would wilt under the pressure and turn a 3-shot deficit into a 7-shot defeat or worse.

But not on this day. When DiMarco saw Tiger race past him on the leaderboard, he, too, stepped it up and challenged Woods all the way to the final hole — and then some.

If it wasn’t for Tiger’s unbelievable chip shot on 16 in which the ball made a right 45-degree turn on the green, rolled all the way to the lip of the cup — stopped — and then pushed itself one more quarter turn to fall in, he would have lost to DiMarco.

But Tiger made the incredible shot and then followed it up with an 18-foot birdie putt on the first extra hole for his fourth green jacket.

It was great golf, and congrats to Chris DiMarco.

He wasn’t threatened by Tiger’s presence. In fact, he looked inspired by it.

Heeee’s baaaaack!

Hide the women and children. No, this isn’t a warning about an ensuing tornado or earthquake. But it’s something just as dangerous.

Mike Tyson is going to fight again.

The man with the violent temper and unusual snacking habits will be making a return to the ring on June 11 against Kevin McBride.

Who’s Kevin McBride? Who really cares? It’s Mike Tyson!

When Tyson fights you can always count on a three-ring circus of stupidity and vulgarity.

And that’s why this pay-per-view fiasco will make money. People love to watch a train wreck.

And mark my words, Tyson will do or say something stupendously stupid that will help promote this fight.

My only advice for McBride is to stay low, keep that jab going, and wear some ear muffs.

Classified Ads

LEGAL

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:

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2005

FINE ARTS FORMALWEAR CSP NO. 199-0422-0598 ACCEPTED 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 and on the Socorro Independent School District’s website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-04/14/05

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 - IJCMR784IJT09153, 1988 Jeep Cherokee, 4-door, 4X4, silver, New Mexico license DCK 961 VIN - IFMDV15FXCLA5260I, 1982 Ford Bronco,

blue and white, Texas license XFO 043 WTCC-04/14/04

HOMESTEAD M.U.D

REQUEST FOR BIDS

FOR DISPOSAL

1999 DODGE 1500 PICKUP 109,442 MILES, HAS BAD TRANSMISSION “AS IS CONDITION”. CAN BE SEEN AT HOMESTEAD M.U.D, 3668 DESERT MEADOWS. SEALED BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MAY 16, 2005 AT 4:00 P.M. AWARD TO BE PROVIDED BY CASHIER’S CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR TOTAL AMOUNT.

PARA DESPOSEIMIENTO

1999 TROCA DODGE 1500, 109,442 MILLAS, TRANSMISION MALA, “EN LA CONDICION EN QUE SE ENCUENTRA”. LA PUEDE OBSERVAR EN LA OFICINA DE HOMESTEAD M.U.D., EN EL 3668 DESERT

MEADOWS. PROPUESTAS SELLADAS SERAN ACEPTADAS HASTA EL DIA 16 DE MAYO 2005 A LAS 4:00 P.M., EL COMPRADOR DEBERA TRAER UN CASHIER’S CHECK OR UN MONEY ORDER POR LA CANTIDAD TOTAL. WTCC-05/05/05

BARGAINS

SHOW-BRED bunny, velvety black, about one year old. He’s yours along with roomy rabbit house, water feeder and 30 pounds of food for \$40. Call 637-1982.

HOUSES FOR SALE

It’s mad... at banks who don’t give house loans because of bad credit, problems or new employment. I do, call L.D. Kirk, Homeland Mortgages, (254) 947-4475 www.homeland46.com 4/14

RENTALS

THREE BED-ROOM house for rent, two baths, large den, living

room and kitchen. Close to Clint, on farm. Call Bob Wilson, 852-0732. References required. 4/14

MOBILE HOME, remodeled, 2-bdrm, one bath, \$450/month, \$500 deposit. Ideal for couple. Truck parking. 852-4282. 4/14

REAL ESTATE

LOTES

Se vende lotes con todo los servicios sin enganche en la tranquila ciudad de Tornillo Para Informacion Habla **764-6557** 4/28

VALLEY FARM LAND FREEWAY LAND

- LOTES in Socorro
- 1 Acre (C-1) Commercial on Socorro Rd.
- I-10 Frontage 7-plus acres
- Fabens Farm Land
- 6.5 Acres on Horizon Blvd.
- 16 acres on Harnose
- Valley Home For Sale 11423 Alameda

APODACA LAND CO. 859-5472

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

5-Star Driving School Driver’s Ed **(915)598-1898** Classes Begin April 25 and May 23 4/14, 4/21

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 - Two-Story Additions
- FREE ESTIMATES 433-4102** Ask for Al 3/10-3/31

“Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring” **JEFFY GLASS REPAIR** Windshield Repair Specialists By appt. at your home or office: R.V. Dick

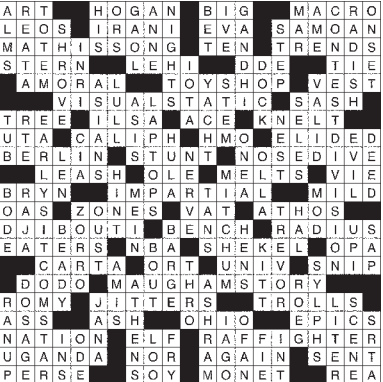
Harshberger **915-852-9082**

BERT’S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR Domestic and Foreign **852-3523**

1558 Oxbow, Horizon City

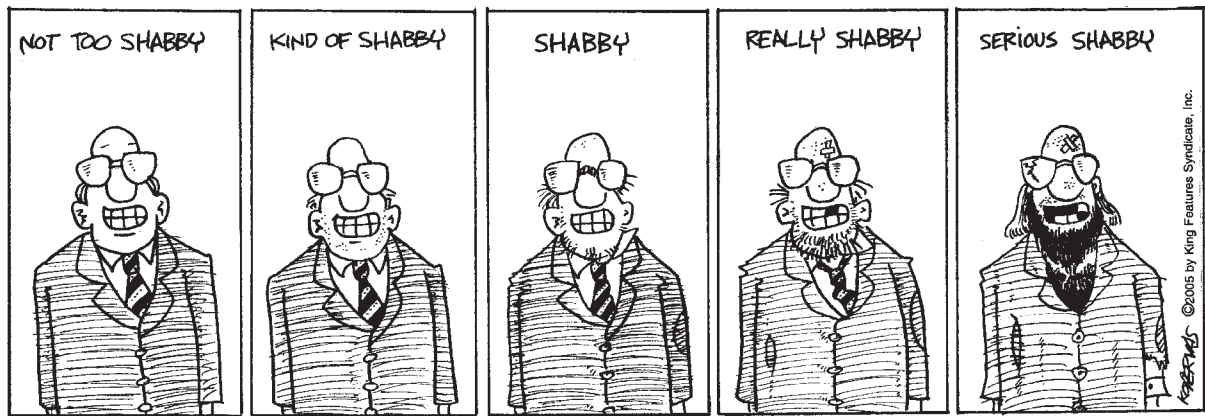
HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079 •Electric rooter service for sewers and drains

•Appliance installation
•Many other plumbing services Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.



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



Woo-hoo: The big guy is back

By Don Flood

At first glance, the headline seemed to promise an enlightening story:

“Study: Your brain works like the Internet.”

So that's why my brain's clogged with so much spam!

It all made sense. It was the spam — all those useless, idle and idiotic thoughts — that had slowed my brain to a crawl.

And there was some good news. IBM was unveiling new software that automatically sent spam back to the spammers' computers, shutting them down.

Great, I thought, I could get this installed in my own brain — until, that is, I realized that my spam-slowed brain itself was the guilty party here, spamming itself.

So spam was here to stay, perhaps eventually causing my hard drive to crash and making it more difficult to achieve a goal I set for myself.

I've learned not to set my goals too high. I've finally realized, for example, that I am unlikely to play starting quarterback in the National Football League. I may have to settle for a back-up role — that is, until the big game when... well, that's for another day.

Before I announce my goal I'm going to say something I've never admitted before in public: I had no idea what the last two "Star Wars" movies were about.

I sat there in the dark, munching popcorn, as meaningless images flickered across the screen.

(Oh sure, you can get meaningless images on Fox News every night, but you *expect* that.)

I remember thinking, whoever trained these robot armies to shoot

really needs to consider a new career path. They couldn't hit the broad side of a barn at five paces with a sawed-off shotgun.

But I remained clueless about what was actually happening, besides the fact that my popcorn kept disappearing.

So here's my goal, and I hope I haven't set myself up for a fall: I want to be able to understand the last "Star Wars" movie.

(And don't start with the, "This-is-the-Episode-III argument." This is the last movie, at least I sincerely hope so.)

And then I read something that made me realize I had a chance: The Big Guy is back — Darth Vader.

A USA Today story said producer George Lucas liked stories of redemption. "On May 19, he gets the chance to live one," it said.

Hey, big deal, all he has to do is come out with a movie without Jar-Jar Binks, and most fans would consider him redeemed.

But now he's done something making him truly worthy of redemption.

That was the problem with Episodes I and II. No Darth Vader. I don't care about the back story with the kid growing up. I want a bad guy, Darth Vader, the 7-foot dude with the voice, the black mask and that weird heavy breathing.

You knew Darth Vader was bad,
and so anybody against him was
good.

It made the movie easy to follow — even for someone whose brain was clogged with spam.

(c) 2005 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Super Crossword

WEATHER OR NOT ACROSS

1 Collectibles,
 collectively
 4 "Crocodile
 Dundee" star
 9 "The _ Hurt" ('59
 hit)
 12 Word form for
 "large"
 17 Composer
 Janacek
 19 Persian, presently
 20 Zsa Zsa's sister
 21 Mead subject
 22 MISTY
 24 Perfect score
 25 Statistical foci
 26 Vessel part
 27 Utah city
 29 SHAEF
 commander
 31 Fasten a brogue
 32 Lacking principles
 35 Kid heaven
 38 Unisex garment
 39 SNOW
 42 Pageant prop
 43 Word with farm or
 frog
 46 "Casablanca"
 character
 47 "Stroker _" ('83
 film)
 48 Prepared to
 propose
 50 Actress Hagen
 51 Muslim title

53 Medical grp.
55 Left out
58 "Cabaret" setting
60 Feat
62 Sudden decline
64 Rover's restraint
66 Barcelona bravo
67 Turns soft
68 Compete
69 _ Mawr
71 FAIR
74 Like May
75 W. Hemisphere
grp.
76 Torrid and Frigid
78 Napa Valley
vessel
79 Porthos' pal
82 Neighbor of
Ethiopia
84 Park feature
86 Half the diameter
89 Diner patrons
90 Shaq's pack
92 Israeli coin
94 _ -Locka, FL
95 Magna -
97 Terrier's tidbit
99 Part of UCLA
100 Cut a cuticle
101 Extinct bird
102 RAIN
106 Actress Schneide
107 Heebie-jeebies
108 Folklore figures
111 Burro
112 Grap matter?
113 Annie Oakley's

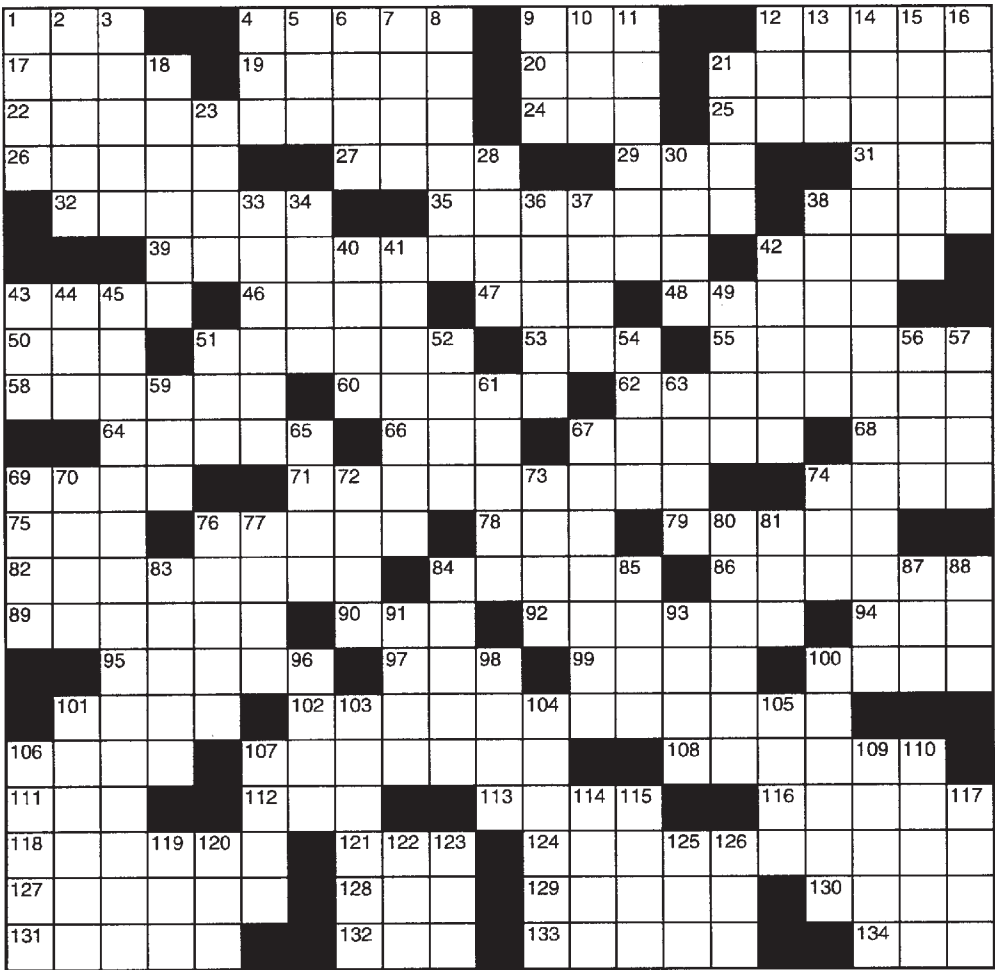
birthplace
116 Impressive tales
118 Big name in
temperance
121 Sprite
124 HURRICANE
127 Kampala's country
128 Scand. country
129 Once more
130 Faxed
131 Intrinsically
132 _ milk
133 "The Haystacks"
artist
134 Stephen of "The
Crying Game"

DOWN

1 Charity
2 Range rope
3 Symbol
4 _ nibs
5 Hosp. areas
6 Sheffield slammer
7 Frank or Francis
8 "One of These _"
(75 hit)
9 Wager
10 " _ had it!"
11 '82 Attenborough
film
12 Damage
13 Soul, to Sartre
14 HEAT
15 Salad veggie
16 Attack
18 _ Tuesday
21 Footfall

23 Calvary inscription
28 Bit
30 Hook up with Mir
33 Indians and
ndonesians
34 Soothe
36 Marina sight
37 Watch part
38 Sound
40 Sale stipulation
41 Some computers
42 '92 US Open
champ
43 Bathroom fixture
44 Hwy.
45 STORM
49 TV's "Empty _"
51 Security grp.
52 A shake in the
grass?
54 Draft status
56 Malicious
57 Legal document
59 Actor Cariou
61 Novocaine target
63 _ podrida
65 Suggestion
67 Robert of "Ryan's
Daughter"
69 Augur
70 Punjabi prince
72 Chow _
73 Gets what one
asks for
74 '60s chic
76 Bernardo's boss
77 Force out
80 Claire of "Key

Large”
81 “2001” computer
83 Like some eyes
84 Freightier
85 Coop crowd
87 News org.
88 Weaken
91 Match
93 Singer Eartha
96 “Lucky Jim” author
98 “Comin’ _ the Rye”
100 Successful dieters
101 Medical measure
103 Pericles’ home
104 Guru’s grounds
105 Director Nicolas
106 “... the mouse _
the clock”
107 Novotna of tennis
109 Metric measure
110 Tantrum
114 Othello’s ensign
115 In the twinkling _
eye
117 Mlle., farther south
119 Officeholders
120 Lyric poem
122 London lavatory
123 Fish babies
125 “Pshaw!”
126 Bankbook abbr.



Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: I am almost 50 years old, and did not work for more than 20 years while taking care of my children, and then going back to school to earn a degree. I was wondering if I can get more Social Security credits by working more than one job?

A: The maximum number of Social Security credits that a person can get in a year is four. In 2005, you receive one credit for every \$920 of covered earnings, up to the four-credit maximum. An additional job would prob-

ably not increase your credits, but may give you a higher benefit amount when you retire.

Q: I'm 23 years old, unemployed and disabled. I'd like to apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). What documents or other things do I need to bring with me to the Social Security office?

A: You should bring any information that you have about your disability, your Social Security card or number,

birth certificate or other proof of age, housing information — such as a rent receipt or lease and landlord's name, names, addresses and phone numbers of doctors, hospitals and clinics that treated you; and proof of U.S. citizenship or noncitizen status. These items will help us process your case faster and more efficiently. You can apply for SSI benefits by calling 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). Or, of course, you can apply at your local Social Security office.

Q: Why do some people get both Social Security disability and Supple-

mental Security Income (SSI)? I'm severely disabled and only get SSI.

A: In order to get both you must qualify for both. To get Social Security disability benefits, you need to have worked long enough and recently enough and you need to have paid enough Social Security taxes. If you are not receiving Social Security benefits, that means you did not meet these qualifications. SSI, on the other hand, makes payments to people with low income and few resources who are disabled or blind, or who are age 65 or older. Since Social Se-



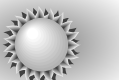



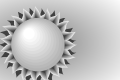

curity is considered income, many people who get Social Security have too much "income" to be eligible for SSI. But for some, when the Social Security payment is a small amount, both Social Security and SSI can be paid.

For more information visit your local Security office, see 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
							
Sunny to partly cloudy.	Mainly clear.	Breezy with brilliant sunshine.	Partly sunny.	Some sun with a shower possible.	A good deal of sunshine.	Abundant sunshine.	Sunshine.
▲ 82°	▼ 56°	▲ 84° ▼ 53°	▲ 86° ▼ 54°	▲ 84° ▼ 54°	▲ 82° ▼ 51°	▲ 81° ▼ 49°	▲ 80° ▼ 47°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

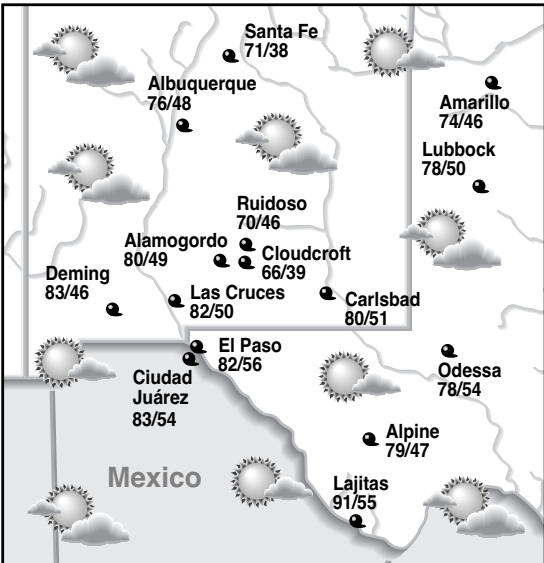
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Thursday	10	Very High
Friday	10	Very High
Saturday	9	Very High
Sunday	9	Very High
Monday	9	Very High
Tuesday	10	Very High
Wednesday	10	Very High

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	84	54
Canutillo	83	55
Clint	82	55
E. Montana	82	56
Fabens	82	55
Horizon	84	57
San Elizario	85	56
Socorro	84	56
Tornillo	82	55
Vinton	84	55

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



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur. Hi/Low/W	Fri. Hi/Low/W	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W	Mon. Hi/Low/W
Albuquerque	76/48/pc	74/44/s	72/45/pc	74/46/s	74/43/pc
Atlanta	62/46/pc	68/48/pc	70/48/pc	72/50/s	74/54/s
Atlantic City	50/36/pc	50/33/pc	54/35/pc	58/38/pc	65/44/s
Austin/San Antonio	78/53/s	80/55/pc	78/57/pc	80/58/pc	78/49/c
Baltimore	57/40/pc	57/40/pc	60/40/pc	66/44/s	68/47/s
Boston	52/36/pc	54/36/pc	54/38/s	58/44/s	61/47/s
Chicago	58/38/s	62/40/s	66/44/sh	64/46/sh	65/46/r
Dallas/Ft. Worth	74/52/s	74/57/pc	75/58/pc	76/59/pc	76/52/c
Denver	66/40/pc	64/36/pc	62/36/pc	66/38/c	67/40/pc
Flagstaff	70/28/s	63/26/s	65/28/s	64/31/c	61/27/c
Houston	78/56/s	78/58/pc	80/58/pc	80/60/pc	82/58/pc
Kansas City	70/44/s	74/48/pc	74/50/t	72/49/pc	71/50/r
Las Vegas	78/52/s	74/50/s	78/54/s	82/58/s	80/55/s
Miami	84/64/pc	82/64/s	82/64/pc	82/64/pc	82/64/s
Minneapolis	64/43/s	67/48/pc	63/41/r	67/42/s	65/46/c
New Orleans	75/54/s	74/58/s	77/61/s	78/61/s	80/58/s
New York City	53/41/pc	56/41/pc	57/43/pc	60/46/s	63/51/s
Philadelphia	58/40/pc	56/40/pc	58/40/pc	65/45/s	67/50/s
Phoenix	93/62/s	89/60/s	91/61/s	87/62/s	88/57/s
Portland	54/38/pc	58/44/r	60/44/r	58/42/sh	60/42/sh
San Francisco	62/48/s	66/50/s	65/50/s	63/49/pc	62/51/s
Seattle	54/40/pc	56/44/r	56/44/r	54/40/sh	56/41/r
Tucson	88/55/s	84/53/s	82/53/s	87/55/s	85/49/s
Washington, DC	58/42/pc	58/40/pc	62/44/pc	65/47/s	69/52/s

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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