



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Tech grant

The Beaumont Foundation of America (BFA) recently announced Canutillo Elementary School will receive state-of-the-art wireless technology equipment valued at approximately \$65,000. This award is one of more than 170 education grants made by BFA this year, a donation of 3,700-plus Internet-enabled laptop computers valued at more than \$8 million. The 2005 education grantees are located throughout the country and include schools serving underprivileged populations. All awards were made with the goal of helping under-served areas achieve digital equity. "Our 2005 education grantees are exemplary," said Frank Newton, BFA President and Chief Executive Officer. "They reflect the Foundation's mission of awarding schools dedicated to instructional technology and to extending access to parents and community members."

### Library 'laffs'

Keeping El Paso literate is no laughing matter. Or is it? On Aug. 20, 8 p.m. six comedians will come on stage at the El Paso County Coliseum at 8 p.m. for "Laffs for Literacy," a special event sponsored by the El Paso Sports Commission, People Skills, and the El Paso Area Libraries Consortium. The benefit concert, featuring comics Alex Reymundo, Joey Medina, Darren Carter, Chris Fonseca, Ernie G. and Patrick Candelaria, will channel funds to El Paso's public libraries. Tickets are available from Ticketmaster.

### In other news

■ The El Paso Police Department in conjunction with the U.S. Marshall's Service, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, the U.S. Border Patrol, ATF, and ICE conducted a warrant roundup from Aug. 8 through Aug. 12. The warrant roundup focused on family violence warrants, gang-related warrants and high dollar traffic warrants. As a result of the five-day round up a total of 200 arrests were made — 15 gang members were arrested and 22 people were arrested for family violence warrants. Traffic warrant arrests totaled \$57,418.28 in unpaid fines.

■ Sarah Ioannides and the El Paso Symphony Orchestra will perform at the grand finale of the Music Under the Stars series on Sunday, Aug. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Chamizal National Memorial. The Latin themed concert will feature music from numerous classical sources. The performance is free, presented by the City of El Paso Arts and Culture Department. For more information on the 2005-2006 El Paso Symphony Season call (915) 532-3776 or visit [www.epso.org](http://www.epso.org).

■ Navy Fireman Adam R. Hernandez, a  
See BRIEFS, Page 5

Some people demand the benefit of the doubt when there isn't any.

— Quips & Quotes

## San Eli ISD names school for Ann Enriquez

By Phillip Cortez  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Whether serving as San Elizario ISD Board President, an appointee on the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, a board member for the YMCA, the Kellogg Community Health Partnership, Las Palmas Medical Center, and myriad of other organizations in El Paso, the late Ann Enriquez was a woman who left her mark in the community. Thanks to the San Elizario ISD Board of Trustees, Enriquez' name will also adorn the walls of San Elizario Middle School. On Aug. 10, they unanimously voted to change



TRUE VOLUNTEER — The late Ann Enriquez gave generously of her time.

the school's name to Ann M. Garcia-Enriquez Middle School.

"If she was around she'd be very honored," said Gaspar Enriquez, Ann's husband. "It's very emotional having that school named after her."

Even after Enriquez was diagnosed with cancer, she still did her best to be an active member in the community, especially in San Elizario. When it comes to his late wife's volunteerism, the one that sticks out most in Gaspar's mind is that she helped fight the battle for school funding.

"When they started going after funds for poorer school districts, she spent many hours at meetings and testifying," he said. "Through her efforts, a lot

See ANN, Page 4

## Successful second annual tri-district educators' conference includes Fort Hancock, Fabens and Tornillo

By Rudy Barreda  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — As requested by the teachers of Fabens and Tornillo school districts, a joint staff development day was held on Aug. 9 at Fabens Middle School. This year, Ft. Hancock ISD joined in the event, entitled 2005 Educators' Western Roundup.

Together, the three districts brought over 350 teachers with a large array of staff development opportunities. Almost 40 presentations were given by in-house educators and program directors from all three districts, Region 19



Ron Caloss

Education Service Center, and other experts from various local and state entities.

Fabens ISD Superintendent Poncho Garcia began the event with a brief welcome. Ft. Hancock Superintendent Jose Franco and Tornillo ISD Superintendent Paul Vranish also addressed the group, followed by the keynote speaker,

See CONFERENCE, Page 5

## Serrano named Region 19's Assistant Principal of the Year

By Carlos A. Briano  
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — Miguel Serrano, assistant principal at Socorro High School, decided to get into education to make a positive difference in student's lives. He now has worked 13 years for the Socorro Independent School District, four of them at the home of the Bulldogs.

"I started working with bilingual students, especially those with a background in ESL," he says. "It's the same reason I went into administration, to make a positive difference with teachers and students."

And apparently his colleagues have noticed his hard work. That is why they have named him Texas Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP) Region 19 High School Assistant Principal of the Year.

"I wasn't looking for this award, but getting it motivates me even more to keep trying to do my best at Socorro High School," he says.

Serrano will be honored at the fall TASSP meeting, the TASSP state convention in Austin, and of course, by the entire Socorro campus family.



Miguel Serrano

"Mr. Serrano has been a mentor for me in many respects," says fellow Assistant Principal Ignacio Reyes. "He's proficient, efficient and innovative."

Celina Romero, an attendance clerk at Socorro High, wished she had known Serrano was nominated for the prestigious award because she would have definitely campaigned for him.

"I think it is awesome Mr. Serrano got this award," she says. "He's got impeccable people skills and a heart of gold. He's a unique person, he really is. He's so down to earth that he came and thanked all of us for the award."

Serrano not only thanked the entire attendance team, he also praised the Social Studies department, the Counseling department, ESL, the Academy for Careers in Education and the Human Services Academy for working well as a team.

"This is not my award," he says. "This is a campus award."

Serrano says in order to be successful in education you need to live by three specific values.

"You need to be a team player, be hard-working and be an instructional leader," he says. "Those three things equal student success."



CARTS READY — Golf carts stand by just off Emerald Spring's number one tee box.

## Horizon Council attempts to address fate of Emerald Springs Golf Course

By Arleen Beard  
Special to the Courier

HORIZON CITY — The uncertain future of Emerald Springs Golf Course in Horizon City, long a staple of the community's image and economy, has become a dilemma for citizens who reside in the golf course area, many of whom do not wish to see the course subdivided for development or used for other purposes.

One issue in the mix is the fact that the golf course was never zoned by the city as an "Open Space/Parks" area. During the regularly scheduled Horizon City Council meeting on Aug. 9, 2005, Council took one step closer to rectifying that oversight.

A public hearing was held in reference to amending the zoning ordinance which defines the purpose, permitted uses, and development standards for property zoned as "Open Space/Parks."

Several community members voiced their concern on the matter. Most expressed a concern over the timeline as to when the golf course would be zoned as such. Several Council members commented that they are doing their best to expedite this matter and to resolve it as quickly as possible. The city attorney, Robert Duran, told the audience that Council would be calling several special meetings for the budget and this issue could be addressed at that time. Former Horizon City Mayor Walt Lee replied that this issue could be resolved in as little as 17 days.

After considerable discussion on this matter the public hearing was closed and Council proceeded to unanimously approve the proposed amendment.

Aldersperson Bethany Sellers later submitted a statement to the *Courier* addressing this issue. Sellers said she feels the failure of the Emerald Springs Gold Course is due to poor management and poor food as two of the primary reasons.

She also suggested that area citizens do two things: First, select a small group to meet with the management of Emerald Springs Golf Course in order to improve the quality of their services; and secondly, "put their money where their mouths are," including herself, and become dues-paying members of the club.

"The golf course needs money to operate and people can talk all they want about how much they want the golf course to stay, but it will continue to fail if there is no economic system to support it," Sellers said.



Bethany Sellers



## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# Talking to strangers

It's usually the kids that get me.

There'll be this youngster, hardly big enough to sit up, sort of slumping over in the kid-carrying section of the shopping cart, bright-eyed and hair all ruffled. And I'll start grinning and making faces until, like a miner digging for gold, I will manage to coax a smile, gurgle or frown.

I know we're not supposed to talk to strangers, but I have a confession to make.

I do. The other day this little boy, who looked to be about five, was really raising a rumpus in the checkout line — not the fit-throwing kind, but the busy-body-I-can't-keep-myself-still kind of disturbance. He was all over his mom's shopping cart, between the people standing nearby, body-slam-

ming the coke machine and in general being pesky. But he was cute as all get-out and he kept cutting these big brown eyes at me to see if I was watching his antics — which I was.

His mom looked pretty exasperated. She had another little one just flirting size in the cart, and was trying to keep the situation under control. So I asked her the names of her children, their ages and so on like you'll do.

She had big brown eyes to match her son's, and a friendly smile and we started talking. Come to find out, she was acquainted with a friend of my family, another young woman. They had gone to college and worked in a restaurant together, she said, but had lost touch after graduation. She asked, with a sort of wistful smile, that if I saw her friend again to tell her she was doing fine and had two kids now. It's a small world, she said.

The little boy watched all this with wide eyes, until I moved away and I heard him whisper loudly, "Mom, what did she say?"

Explaining to kids that strangers are people to be avoided can be tricky sometimes, because not all strangers should be. The ability to judge the difference between a dangerous stranger and a friendly stranger is one of those attributes acquired over a lifetime, like gray hair and the ability to save your money.

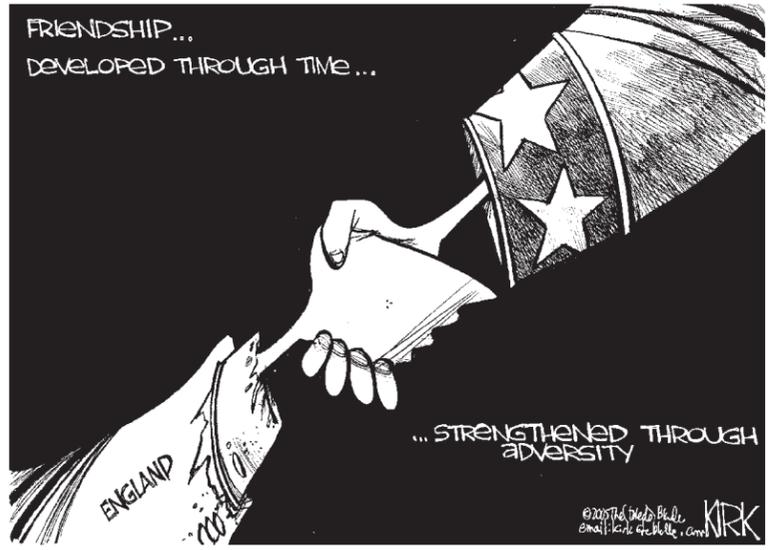
So the best thing to do with our kids is to watch them real close. And if they want to talk to a stranger, they ought to clear it with some frugal person who has gray hair.

I was soundly reprimanded the other day by my four-year-old grandboy, who stood with hands on hips, scowling, while a store employee scanned the items in my cart with a hand-held scanner.

During this process, I exchanged pleasantries with the man and thanked him when he was done. In his best I-caught-you-misbehaving tone, my grandson said, "Granny, you shouldn't talk to him. He's a stranger."

So I explained that it was not a bad

See STRANGERS, Page 3



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

The **Clint Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 31, 2005 in the Central Administration Board Room, 14521 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

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

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.210000*	\$ 1.710000	\$ 914	\$5,885
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.595000	\$ 0.210000*	\$ 1.805000	\$ 1,011	\$5,824
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.210000*	\$ 1.710000	\$ 931	\$5,973

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

### Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 55,198	\$60,390
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 39,907	\$45,171
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.710000	\$ 1.710000
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 682.41	\$ 772.43
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 90.02

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

**Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.861712. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.861712.**

### Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$11,029,318
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,000

## WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FARMER, SAN ELIZABO AND TORNILLO

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

**COPYRIGHT:**  
Entire contents © 2005 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the West Texas County Courier may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:**  
Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The Courier reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.

**AD DEADLINE:**  
Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

**CLASSIFIED RATES**  
\$5 for 15 words, \$10 for 35 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

**DISPLAY RATES:**  
Open rate — \$20 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

**MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**  
52 issues for \$35. Delivery via 1st class mail.

**ADDRESS:**  
14200 Ashford  
Horizon City, TX 79928

Phone: 852-3235  
Fax: 852-0123

E-mail: [wtxcc@wtccourier.com](mailto:wtxcc@wtccourier.com)  
Website: [wtccourier.com](http://wtccourier.com)

**Publisher**  
Rick Shrum

**Business Manager**  
Francis D. Shrum

**Contributors**  
Don Woodyard  
Steve Escajeda  
Arleen Beard • Jan Engels



Member Texas Community Newspaper Association



**Homesteader**  
Est. 1973  
**News, Inc.**

# To the troops: America supports you

As Michael Martinez prepared to deploy to Iraq with the Army a friend asked him, "What can I do for you?" He replied, "If you want to support me, then support my family." There are dozens of groups that assist and encourage the families left behind. One of my personal favorites is the America Supports You program. The program was created by the Department of Defense to recognize the nation's support for our troops and to communicate that appreciation to members of the Armed Forces at home and abroad.

America Supports You is a one-stop shop to learn just how you can help — with your time, energy, and resources. You'll find over 100 groups catalogued by mission, such as scholarships for military children, buying phone cards, letter-writing groups, authorized care package organizations, video-conferencing services, and donating airline miles to troops when they return home. Since the November 2004 launch of the program, over 1.4 million Americans, ranging from individu-

als to businesses to organizations, have visited AmericaSupportsYou.mil to share their activities and projects in their communities that showcase their support for America's Armed Forces, especially those serving in harm's way.

Everyone who registers will receive an America Supports You dog tag to wear as a sign of support; the military-style dog tags feature the program logo. On average, 700 people a day are enrolling to receive the special America Supports You dog tag. With the advent of America Supports You — and with your participation — our servicemen and women will receive the support they deserve. Won't you thank these heroes for your freedom today?

You'll be glad to know that Michael Martinez returned home safe and sound from his year-long deployment last December — just in time for Christmas.

To all of the troops out there — and their families — thank you for your service and sacrifice. God bless you and God bless America.



**Eye on D.C.**

By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

## Strangers

From Page 2

thing for Granny to talk to a store employee, but that he should always stay near me while we were out in public so that if danger approached, I could defend him, sort of like we do when big spiders or bossy aunts appear threateningly on the horizon. He seemed okay with that.

Recently, I held the door open for an old guy coming out of a restaurant. His hands were full of carry-out boxes and drinks and he gave me a big smile as he came out.

"Thanks, you're a doll," he said. "Yeah," I replied with a grin. "Everybody tells me that."

He stopped right in the door as if I'd said something startling. Then he said he wanted to tell me a joke.

So right there, in the door of a

thankfully not very busy restaurant, he launched into this pretty good tale about a woman who was mistakenly run over by a truck. When she got to heaven, St. Peter told her that a mistake had been made and he had to send her back to live another 20 years. So she decides to make the most of her remaining time. She loses weight, gets a face lift, and dies her hair red. A few days after her makeover is complete, she is run over by another truck. At the Pearly Gates she protests that she didn't get the 20 years St. Peter had promised. The gate-keeper peers at her closely, then exclaims, "I'm so sorry. I didn't recognize you!"

Then the old guy gave me a big smile and walked away, boxes and all, like he'd given a present, or something. And, in truth, he had.

Now see what I would have missed if I'd followed that old rule about never talking to strangers?



**True Texas** by Roger T. Moore The film industry's biggest Award is named after Oscar Pierce, a Texas farmer.

# National Night Out in Horizon draws 200 as event grows

HORIZON CITY — National Night Out was a great success in Horizon City this year if you ask any of the 200 people who showed up, ate and drank and enjoyed the park facilities at the Horizon Municipal Park behind the Oz Glaze Center.

The annual event is held the first Tuesday of August every year. It is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime programs and strengthen neighborhood watch spirit.

The park was full of youngsters playing in the park playground with parents enjoyed watching them and conversing with Police and Fire personnel, who discussed starting a Neighborhood Watch Group, Crime Prevention techniques, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training, the newly formed Explorer Post and the upcoming Citizens Police Academy.

Several Horizon City police cars and fire trucks were opened up for viewing. The HCPD bicycle patrol unit and the fire departments new All Terrain Rescue Vehicle were also exhibited.

Horizon's Police Chief Anthony Aguilar said special thanks are in order to Socorro Independent School District Police Officers David Ornelas and Gerry Cenicerros, who came out and provided information

on the SISD Police Department and the many services they provide.

"Their help was integral in this event and has been for several years since the event used to be held at the John Ensor Middle School. They also helped with most of the cooking and did an excellent job," said Sgt. Ron Swenson. He also said that thanks are in order to the Horizon Vista Grocery Store which donated most of the food and drinks and raffled off two bicycles.

"Events like this are not possible without the help from people like the Pena's, who own the Horizon Vista Store, the Lago Neighborhood Watch Group who came out and donated food and time, and other volunteers who gave up their time to help out and make it a success," Sgt. Swenson said.

Further information about any of the listed is available at (915)852-1047 from Sgt. Swenson or Officer Luis Ruiz.



— Photo courtesy HCPD

**BIKE WINNERS** — Ben Ross with his father, HCPD Chief Anthony Aguilar, Horizon City Mayor Ray Morales, and Trenton Hoeller with his father.

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

The **San Elizario Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 5:00 p.m., Monday, August 29, 2005 in the SEISD Administration Office, 1050 Chicken Ranch Road, San Elizario, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates					
	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.071699*	\$ 1.571699	\$ 411	\$ 6,268
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.47970	\$ 0.072600*	\$ 1.552300	\$ 433	\$ 6,245
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.072600*	\$ 1.572600	\$ 435	\$ 6,257

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

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence		
	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 40,459	\$42,477
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 25,394	\$27,415
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.571699	\$ 1.572600
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 399.12	\$ 431.13
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 32.01

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

**Notice of Rollback Rate:** The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.641902. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.641902.

Fund Balances	
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:	
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 3,696,955
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 30,693

# I was there... Newly formed committee to facilitate border relations

By Jan Engels  
Special to the Courier

JUAREZ — I was there... at the beautiful Centro de Convenciones Cibeles in Juarez on Saturday evening, Aug. 13, when a welcome support structure to the good relations between El Paso and Ciudad Juarez was unveiled by Mayor John Cook of El Paso and Mayor Hector Marqula of Ciudad Juarez.

Organized by Rep. Eddie Holguin and several business interests on both

sides of the border, the International 'Gateway to America' Committee has been formed to help quickly resolved border issues.

Named to spearhead the El Paso Committee was Rep. Jose Alexandro Lozano along with Representatives Eddie Holguin, Melina Castro and Steve Ortega, and Commissioner Betti Flores from El Paso County Commissioners Court. Mayor Marqula will name a representative from each of the five party branches that make up the city government of Juarez.

The purpose of the Committee is to give people an alternative method of mediation should issues arise that are relevant to the El Paso/Mexico border. Representatives from New Mexico and Chihuahua City will also be invited to participate.

Mayor Marqula, along with several representatives and business people, were to attend El Paso's Economic Summit this week, Aug. 17-18 at the El Paso Judson Williams Convention Center. The public is invited to attend and give their input on issues they feel are important to El Paso and Juarez.



**AMIGOS COMMITTEE** — From left are shown Representative Jose Alexandro Lozano, County Commissioner Betti Flores, Juarez Mayor Hector Marqula, El Paso Mayor John Cook, and Jan Engels.



- Master Licensed Plumber #M18624
- Sewer and Drain Cleaning
- Bonded and Insured
- Faucet and Sprinkler Repair
- Senior Citizens Discount
- Appliance Installation
- Evaporative Cooler Service

**Horizon Plumbing**  
**852-1079**

## Ann

From Page 1

of people's efforts, they were able to get things done."

According to current board member Ramon Holguin, San Elizario ISD was the first school district in West Texas to join the Edgewood vs. Kirby lawsuit that paved the way for the Robin Hood system of funding poor school districts.

"She was the president of the school board at that time," Holguin said.

Enriquez's efforts as an ad hoc committee member and later as SEISD school board president in the mid 80's helped pave the way for the construction of San Elizario Middle School, according to Holguin.

"It was built to handle the overflow from the elementary school at that time," he said. "We used to call it 'The Barn' because of its metal rooftop. It was the first time tilt wall construction was used for education in the state of Texas."

Now, the building Ann helped build will carry her name. A dedication ceremony is planned in the coming weeks.

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

The **Fabens Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 31, 2005 in the Boardroom of the Central Office, 821 N.E. "G" Street, Fabens, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

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

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.078496*	\$ 1.578496	\$ 635	\$5,787
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.426740	\$ 0.076781*	\$ 1.503521	\$ 642	\$5,807
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.076781*	\$ 1.576781	\$ 644	\$6,093

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

### Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 40,842	\$42,136
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 25,776	\$27,080
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.578496	\$ 1.576781
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 406.87	\$ 426.99
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 20.12

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

**Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.616529. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.616529.**

### Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 6,209,791
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 223,564

## Notice of Public Hearing to Discuss Tornillo Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

Tornillo ISD will hold a public hearing at 6:00 P.M., Wednesday, August 31, 2005, in the Board Meeting Room (Red Brick Building), at 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, Texas 79853.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Tornillo ISD's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 08/18/05 & 08/25/05

## Town of Anthony PUBLIC NOTICE

**A PUBLIC HEARING** will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 23, 2005 during the Regular Town Council Meeting at Anthony Town Hall, 401 Wildcat Dr., Anthony, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following proposed ordinance(s) (second reading):

- 1) Ordinance No. 430. An Ordinance Designating Traffic Speed Reduction On Interstate Highway 10 For The Rehabilitation Of Interstate Highway 10 Within The Municipal Limits of Anthony, Texas.

Ordinances are too extensive to print. Ordinances are always available for viewing or copying upon request from the Town Clerk at the above address. Those that are unable to attend may submit their written comments to the Town of Anthony, P.O. Box 1269, Anthony, Texas 79821. Persons in need of assistance to attend are encouraged to contact the Town Clerk at 886-3944.

*Myriam P. Uribe*  
Town Clerk

WTCC: 08/18/05

# Terrell Owens sets the standard for sour grapes

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

Through the years I've spent way too much time writing about the seedier side of sports, though ignoring it would only help to condone it.

Unfortunately, we have to deal with the side of sports we wish we didn't have to explain to our impressionable sons and daughters.

There have been many culprits who have done their best to help in the social regression in recent years. Lousy human beings that force you to choose your words carefully when answering the obligatory 'who is that daddy?'

Such notables as Pete Rose and Latrell Sprewell and Marge Schott and Barry Bonds and Jose Canseco and John Rocker and Randy Moss and Tonya Harding and Mike Tyson and Dennis Rodman and Kenny Rogers and Ron Artest and Don King and Dave Bliss and Bill Romanowski and Ricky Williams and many, many more, have altered the sports' landscape from an occupation of childhood dreams to one of selfish schemes.

And now it appears that we have a new king

of slime in the sports community. A player so selfish and arrogant he makes Don King look — well, almost — decent.

The new sultan of sleaze is none other than, now say it with me everybody... Terrell Owens.

It seems like I can't swing a dead remote control without seeing something on TV concerning the disgruntled wide receiver and his manipulating agent Drew Rosenhaus.

Owens has spent the last few months whining about how everyone he's ever been associated with has done him wrong.

Owens good, everybody else bad.

Hmmm, let's review. Wasn't it Owens who wore out his welcome with the 49ers, going so far as questioning the sexual preference of his quarterback Jeff Garcia? And even then, the stupid media focused its attention of whether Garcia was or wasn't gay, instead of chastising T.O. for making it an issue.

Didn't Owens disrespect the Dallas Cowboys and embarrass his organization by standing on the Cowboys' star and flexing his muscles until George Teague helped him off the logo with a vicious hit?

Wasn't it Owens who, after crying about

wanting to be traded out of San Francisco, blew off the Baltimore Ravens last year after being traded to them? Owens declared that he wouldn't play a single down for the Ravens and signed a seven-year \$49-million contract with the Eagles.

He signed of his own free will, I might add.

The Eagles got to the NFC championship game three years in a row without Owens.

During his first year with the team, Philadelphia wins the NFC title game and gets into the Super Bowl without Owens, who missed the final two regular season, and first two play-off, games with an injury.

It's true, Owens did have a great Super Bowl game, which the Eagles lost. And based on that, T.O. has stated that he is now worth much more than his current contract will pay him and he wants a new one.

The thick-brained Rosenhaus went as far as to say that Owens deserves the money because by coming back from his injury like he did last season, he risked his life for the team.

Risked his life for the team? I wonder how well that went over with the Philadelphia policemen and firemen who *really* risk their lives

everyday for the citizens there? How about the military personnel who risk their lives (for about \$1,200-\$1,500 a month) everyday for our country?

Kind of puts things in perspective doesn't it? Not to T.O. and Drew.

They insist, on every talk show they can make a fool of themselves on, that the 49ers were wrong, that Garcia was wrong, that the Ravens were wrong, that the Eagles are wrong, that Andy Reid was wrong, that Donovan McNabb was wrong.

I try very hard, as do Americans all over the country, to teach my kids about what is really important in life. How to treat other people, how to respect others and, more importantly, to respect themselves.

I try to instruct them on how to live their lives by stressing values like integrity, humility, decency, excellence, confidence and understanding.

I doubt whether Owens or Rosenhaus even aspire to climb up to "fair."

A famous American once described "integrity" as doing the right thing when nobody is looking. If Terrell Owens acts this way with the cameras running, imagine what kind of a person he is when there are no witnesses around.

## Conference

From Page 1

Dr. Ron Caloss. Caloss has served over 36 years in Texas public education as a teacher, coach, principal, and superintendent. He is currently special assistance to the dean of educational administration, University of Texas at Arlington, and is director of the superintendent certification program. Dr. Caloss gave a humorous, thought-provoking speech, which was extremely well received.

"Four and a half million children are not going to be left out on the streets," said Caloss, referring to the current uncertain future of Texas school funding. "They'll need you to be ready to receive them, no matter what."

After the keynote address, teach-

ers had the opportunity to attend training sessions throughout the remainder of the day. A wide variety of session topics were offered, from computer web design to sexual harassment prevention in schools. Also offered were a number of sessions that focused on special programs and instructional techniques that teachers may use to better meet the diverse needs of their students.

Teachers in attendance informed district organizers that they were extremely pleased with the event. So much so, in fact, that not only do they want this to become an annual event, but a longer, two-day conference. District officials hope that, due to the success of the forum, teachers will maintain their enthusiasm and sense of fun when their students arrive. Classes at Fabens and Fort Hancock began Aug. 15; Tornillo's classes start on Aug. 22.

funds for their STEP UP initiative, providing scholarships to 165 new recruits.

■ El Paso Mayor John Cook rolled the first ball at the 2005 El Paso Paralegal Association's charity fund-raiser benefiting Pets Alive El Paso. Almost \$20,000 was raised by 27 teams comprised of 135 players who joined to help fight pet overpopulation at the Fiesta Lanes Bowl-a-thon July 30. The non-profit Pets Alive El Paso works to help El Paso become a "No Kill" of adoptable pets community. Its voucher program pays pre-determined fees to participating veterinarians to cover spay/neuter costs. Studies show that low-income households contribute disproportionately to pet overpopulation and that providing free and low-cost spay/neuter services to these households is the quickest, most cost-effective way to reduce pet overpopulation. More than 25,000 dogs and cats were killed in El Paso animal shelters last year, most of these at El Paso Animal Regulation and Disease Control. For more information about Pets Alive El Paso, call (915) 873-PETS.

## Briefs

From Page 1

2002 graduate of Socorro High School recently graduated from the Naval Nuclear Power Training Program while assigned as a student to Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit, Ballston Spa, NY. During the program, Hernandez received basic and hands-on training in the operation of a nuclear reactor. The two-year program has numerous academic milestones that must be met. Upon graduating, Hernandez earned the qualification of nuclear operator. Hernandez joined the Navy in February 2004.

■ The U.S. Department of Education has awarded UTEP a \$998,977 federal grant under the Teacher Quality Enhancement Recruitment Grants program, according to Congressman Silvestre Reyes. "UTEP is already working hard preparing UTEP students to be high-quality, well-trained teachers, and this federal grant will allow them to expand upon their efforts." UTEP will use the

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

The Socorro Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, August 30, 2005 in the Education Center Board Room, 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates					
	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.368400	\$ 0.269300*	\$ 1.637700	\$1,801	\$4,720
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.358282	\$ 0.270319*	\$ 1.628601	\$ 1,888	\$4,922
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.418282	\$ 0.270319*	\$ 1.688601	\$ 1,966	\$4,922

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

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence		
	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 81,892	\$88,278
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 66,717	\$73,188
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.637700	\$ 1.688601
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,092.62	\$ 1,235.85
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 143.23

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

**Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.688601. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.688601.**

Fund Balances	
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:	
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ -0-
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ -0-

## 2005 Property Tax Rates in Town of Clint

This notice concerns 2005 property tax rates for the **Town of Clint**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

**Last year's tax rate:**

Last year's operating taxes \_\_\_\_\_ \$125,677  
 Last year's debt taxes \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 Last year's total taxes \_\_\_\_\_ 125,677  
 Last year's tax base \_\_\_\_\_ 31,574,756  
 Last year's total tax rate \_\_\_\_\_ .398030/\$100

**This year's effective tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property) \_\_\_\_\_ \$125,677  
 +This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property) \_\_\_\_\_ 31,588,272  
 =This year's effective tax rate \_\_\_\_\_ .397859/\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings)

**This year's rollback tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures) \_\_\_\_\_ \$125,677  
 +This year's adjusted tax base \_\_\_\_\_ 31,588,272  
 =This year's effective operating rate \_\_\_\_\_ .397859/\$100  
 x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate \_\_\_\_\_ .429687/\$100  
 +This year's debt rate \_\_\_\_\_ .069650/\$100  
 =This year's rollback rate \_\_\_\_\_ .499337/\$100

**Statement of Increase/Decrease**

If the **Town of Clint** adopts a 2005 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **\$0.397859** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2004 taxes by **\$1,391**.

**SCHEDULE A — Unencumbered Fund Balances**

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

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$149,320
Debt Service (I&S)	18,500

**SCHEDULE B — 2005 Debt Service**

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

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Line of Credit	\$35,000	\$2,100	\$929	\$38,029
Property Lease	2,541	175	-0-	2,716

Total required for 2005 debt service \_\_\_\_\_ \$40,745  
 -Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A \_\_\_\_\_ 18,500  
 -Amount (if any) paid from other resources \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 -Excess collections last year \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 =Total to be paid from taxes in 2005 \_\_\_\_\_ 22,245  
 +Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2005 \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 =Total Debt Levy \_\_\_\_\_ 22,245

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

Name of person preparing this notice: Victor A. Flores

Title: County Tax Assessor-Collector

Date prepared: August 11, 2005

## 2005 Property Tax Rates in El Paso County Emergency Services District #1

This notice concerns 2005 property tax rates for the **El Paso County Emergency Services District #1**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

**Last year's tax rate:**

Last year's operating taxes \_\_\_\_\_ \$461,755  
 Last year's debt taxes \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 Last year's total taxes \_\_\_\_\_ 461,755  
 Last year's tax base \_\_\_\_\_ 471,606,867  
 Last year's total tax rate \_\_\_\_\_ .097911/\$100

**This year's effective tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property) \_\_\_\_\_ \$461,240  
 +This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property) \_\_\_\_\_ 495,283,319  
 =This year's effective tax rate \_\_\_\_\_ .0093126/\$100

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings)

**This year's rollback tax rate:**

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures) \_\_\_\_\_ \$461,240  
 +This year's adjusted tax base \_\_\_\_\_ 495,283,319  
 =This year's effective operating rate \_\_\_\_\_ .093126/\$100  
 x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate \_\_\_\_\_ .100576/\$100  
 +This year's debt rate \_\_\_\_\_ -0-/\$100  
 =This year's rollback rate \_\_\_\_\_ .100576/\$100

**Statement of Increase/Decrease**

If the **El Paso County Emergency Services District #1** adopts a 2005 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **\$0.093126** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2004 taxes by **\$56,159**.

**SCHEDULE A — Unencumbered Fund Balances**

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

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$495,545
Debt Service (I&S)	-0-

**SCHEDULE B — 2005 Debt Service**

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

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Capital Lease-Fire Truck	\$41,892	\$6,895	\$-0-	\$48,787

Total required for 2005 debt service \_\_\_\_\_ \$48,787  
 -Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A \_\_\_\_\_ 48,787  
 -Amount (if any) paid from other resources \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 -Excess collections last year \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 =Total to be paid from taxes in 2005 \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 +Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2005 \_\_\_\_\_ -0-  
 =Total Debt Levy \_\_\_\_\_ -0-

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

Name of person preparing this notice: Victor A. Flores

Title: County Tax Assessor-Collector

Date prepared: August 11, 2005



# CLASSIFIED AD FORM

**15 words - \$5 per week; 35 words - \$10 per week**

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	(STOP HERE FOR \$5 AD.)
16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31
32	33	34	35

Please print. Send form and payment (no cash) to:

West Texas County Courier  
 14200 Ashford, Ste. C  
 Horizon City, TX 79928

Deadline: Mondays

Contact Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**LEGALS**

**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 South West Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - IFTEFI4N7LPA91957, 1990 Ford F-150, dark blue VIN - IYVGE22C155378394, 1995 Mazda 626, green, Florida license WS6 SKW WTCC-08/18/05

**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:

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2005**

**PIANOS CSP NO. 199-0825-0650 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:30 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-08/18/05

**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:

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2005**

**FINANCING FOR SCHOOL BUSES CSP NO. 199-0825-0651 ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:00 P.M.**

Proposals will be received at Busi-

ness 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-08/18/05

**COUNSELING SERVICES**

**D A M I A N MAUREIRA, LCSW** - Professional Counseling/Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family. Health insurance and fee scale accepted. 657 Winn Rd. in Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment. 8/18

**REAL ESTATE**

- VALLEY FARM LAND
  - FREEWAY LAND
  - COMMERCIAL LAND
  - RESIDENTIAL LOTS
  - Valley Home With Pecan Trees 11423 Alameda
  - Five-Acre Tornillo Farm w/ City Water
- APODACA LAND CO. 915-859-5472**

**SELF-HELP**

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

**SERVICES**

**"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring" JIFFY GLASS REPAIR**

Windshield Repair Specialists By appt. at your home or office: R.V. Dick Harshberger **915-852-9082**

**BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR**

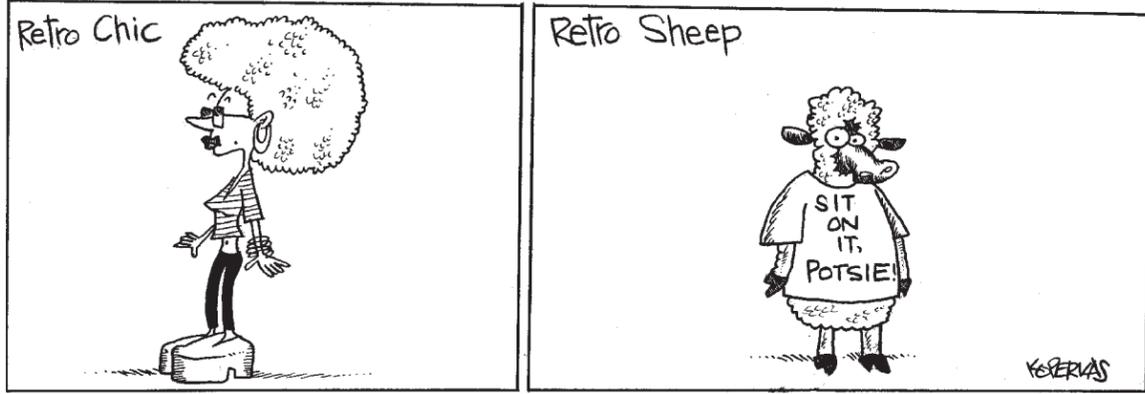
Domestic and Foreign **852-3523** 1558 Oxbow, Horizon City

**HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079**

•Electric roofer 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



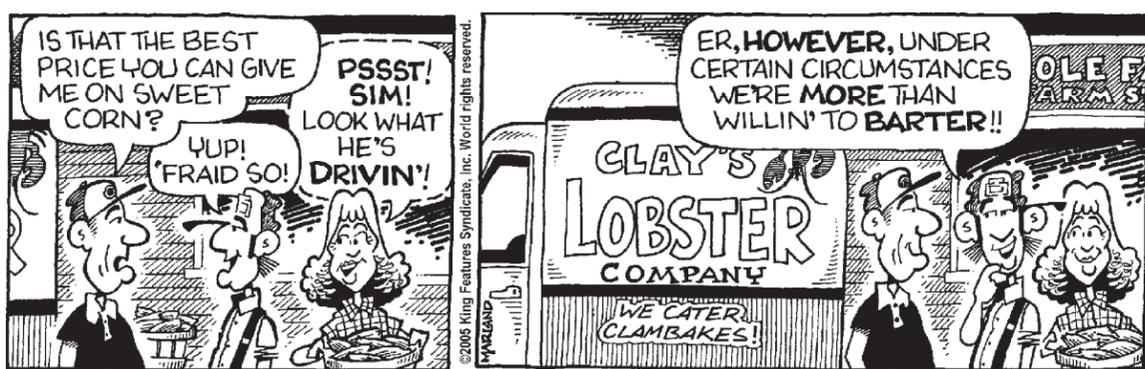
## AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



## THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



## R.F.D. By Mike Marland



# Who's smarter? Probably the animals

By Don Flood

In a thought-provoking and groundbreaking article that basically said nothing, Parade Magazine's Marilyn vos Savant recently tackled the question, "Are Men Smarter Than Women?"

Vos Savant, credited with having the highest IQ ever recorded — a perfect 1600 (or was that her SAT score?) — weighed in with the astounding assertion that intelligence is spread equally among men and women.

But vos Savant's reasoning is likely flawed, since, for one thing, she's a woman.

And just wondering, how did she wind up with the name "savant," defined as a "wise or scholarly person?" Just a little suspicious, kind of like those "stars" with names like Honey Hotbod (not that I'm really aware of their names, of course). I mean, why doesn't she just call herself Marilyn Smartypants?

Vos Savant, who uses her super IQ to answer inane puzzles and questions sent in by readers, is married to another smart person, Dr. Robert Jarvik, inventor of the Jarvik-7 and Jarvik-2000 artificial hearts.

Which sounds impressive but — not to brag — as an 8-year-old I designed rocket ships that traveled way faster than the speed of light. (Unfortunately, they never got built since I didn't know the "right people.")

But now to my real point, which I have delayed until now so as not to hurt vos Savant's feelings. (She tends to start reading articles but stops when she realizes she's out of her depth.)

Some of vos Savant's evidence to prove that men and women are of equal intelligence — which I will quote verbatim from the article — is bogus.

Harsh? Decide for yourself.

• "Female rats and mice run mazes just as efficiently as males."

Well, yes, but what vos Savant conveniently leaves out is that the females had to stop and ask for directions, whereas the males found the way on their own (after perhaps a few wrong turns).

• "We don't find more female moths in our light fixtures."

You probably think I *must* be making this one up, but I'm not.

But again, what vos Savant leaves out is that it's the females that go there *first*. After a typical moth work day, a few females will often stop by the local light bulb and then some males will cruise by thinking, "Wow, it must be Ladies Night! Check it out!"

And then they stop by and one thing leads to another and pretty soon you've got all these moths who are totally fried: "Wow, it's bright in here! Maybe they should turn down the lights!"

• "Female dolphins perform practical jokes as often as males."

I'm sorry, but Marilyn's really gone off the deep end with this one. The sad truth is, neither male or female dolphins are particularly good at practical jokes. Their idea of a knee-slapper — assuming they had knees, of course — is to call a food store and say, "Do you have Charlie Tuna in a can? Well, let him out!" Pathetic.

• "Female parrots are able to mime and talk as well as males."

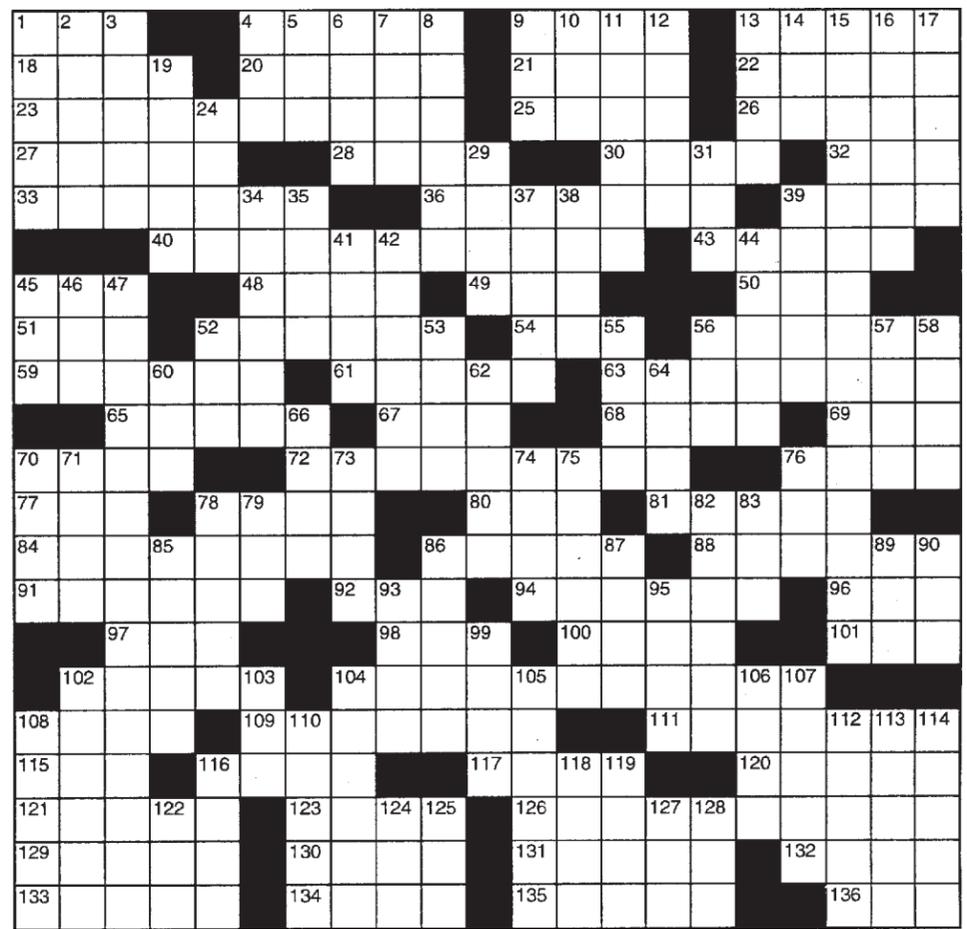
OK, this has nothing to do with my argument, but, really, don't we suffer enough from human mimes without having to teach other species? Please.

I would hope that even Marilyn vos Savant would agree with me on that one.

(c) 2005 King Features Synd., Inc.

# King Super Crossword

- |                                   |                          |                                    |                              |                           |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>HOOFERS</b>                    | 63 Short story           | cartoonist?                        | 31 Pantyhose part            | 85 Dickens title start    |
| <b>ACROSS</b>                     | 65 Cognizant             | 129 Neighbor of Somalia            | 34 Rembrandt or Whistler     | 86 Peel off               |
| 1 Martin Sheen, to Emilio Estevez | 67 In the manner of      | 130 Singer Phoebe                  | 35 Ward of "Sisters"         | 87 Move like mad          |
| 4 Photo tint                      | 69 Start to snooze       | 131 Entertain                      | 37 Wreckage                  | 89 Self-esteem            |
| 9 Pipe part                       | 70 Viva _                | 132 Sour fruit                     | 38 Reject                    | 90 Make a muumuu          |
| 13 TV's "The _ of Life"           | 72 Dancing comic?        | 133 Novelist Danielle              | 39 Touch up the text         | 93 Psychologist Pavlov    |
| 18 Baal or Elvis                  | 76 "_ of Gold" ('70 hit) | 134 Bronte heroine                 | 41 Journalist Jacob          | 95 Obligation             |
| 20 Bonus                          | 77 Gray matter?          | 135 Aden's locale                  | 42 Jeanne of "Jules and Jim" | 99 TV host John           |
| 21 Soccer superstar               | 78 Northwestern st.      | 136 Minnesota twins?               | 44 Mrs. Kramden              | 102 Village               |
| 22 Cold sound                     | 80 Philips of "UHF"      |                                    | 45 Bandleader                | 103 Sgt. or cpl.          |
| 23 Dancing president?             | 81 Tonto's horse         | <b>DOWN</b>                        | 46 "... man _ mouse?"        | 104 Disney cricket        |
| 25 Landed                         | 84 More disreputable     | 1 Mustard type                     | 47 Dancing                   | 105 Margin                |
| 26 Range rope                     | 86 Director Lang         | 2 Hersey setting                   | 48 _                         | 106 Mallard or teal       |
| 27 _ a customer                   | 88 Flusters              | 3 Like the Taj Mahal               | 49 _                         | 107 Suffers               |
| 28 Whip                           | 91 Percussion instrument | 4 Use a straw                      | 50 _                         | 108 Acts like a chicken   |
| 30 Tranquil                       | 92 Feel awful            | 5 Word form for "environment"      | 51 _                         | 110 Neighsayer?           |
| 32 _4 (Toyota model)              | 94 Bean                  | 6 It may be bitter                 | 52 _                         | 112 Actress Berry         |
| 33 Little lumps                   | 96 Make cheddar better   | 7 "_ Dinka Doo" ('33 song)         | 53 Push a product            | 113 Synthetic textile     |
| 36 Fawning                        | 97 Prohibit              | 8 '92 Wimbledon winner             | 55 Trick stick               | 114 "The Highwayman" poet |
| 39 Parisian pronoun               | 98 Wine vessel           | 9 Health resort                    | 56 Tie the knot              | 116 Genuine               |
| 40 Dancing colonist?              | 100 Yuletide             | 10 _ Aviv                          | 57 Thames town               | 118 Fancy fabric          |
| 43 Go Fish and golf               | 101 Piglet's parent      | 11 Draw forth                      | 58 Funnyman Foxx             | 119 Horner's fruit        |
| 45 Comic DeLuise                  | 102 Hunt or Hayes        | 12 Copper or cobalt                | 60 Veneration                | 122 Carrie or Louis       |
| 48 Muse with a scroll             | 104 Dancing boxer?       | 13 "Green Acres" setting           | 62 Less vivid                | 124 On behalf of          |
| 49 Command to a corgi             | 108 Kid at court         | 14 "Stroker _" ('83 film)          | 64 Van _ CA                  | 125 Ovine female          |
| 50 Meyerbeer's _ Huguenots"       | 109 Hailing from Hunan   | 15 Dancing bodybuilder?            | 66 Piece of fencing?         | 127 Poetic monogram       |
| 51 Prospector's prize             | 111 Mention briefly      | 16 Wrecks the Rolls                | 70 Enormous                  | 128 _ Buddhism            |
| 52 "The Twelve _" ('70 film)      | 115 Aussie walker        | 17 Italian wine                    | 71 European capital          |                           |
| 54 At once                        | 116 Space                | 18 _ the Mood for Love" ('35 song) | 73 Akbar's city              |                           |
| 56 Freezin' season                | 117 Assistance           | 75 "_ bet!"                        | 74 "_                        |                           |
| 59 Finger food                    | 120 Spanish guitarist    | 76 Sprout                          | 75 _                         |                           |
| 61 Trickers                       | 121 "Crazy" singer       | 78 It's up in the air              | 76 _                         |                           |
|                                   | 123 Widespread           | 79 Volcano part                    | 77 _                         |                           |
|                                   | 126 Dancing              | 82 Peruvian port                   | 78 _                         |                           |
|                                   |                          | 83 Keats composition               | 79 _                         |                           |



Answer Page 4

# Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

**Q:** My ex-boyfriend was in a terrible accident at the lumber mill where he works and is now receiving Social Security disability benefits for himself, his wife and his daughter. But he also has a daughter by me, although we've never been married. Can my daughter get benefits on his record, too?

tative would need to look at your specific situation to give you a definite answer. If your daughter does qualify, an application for benefits should be filed on her behalf as soon as possible.

**Q:** Three years ago I was in a car accident that left me partially paralyzed. I get Social Security disability benefits and Medicare. Will I also qualify for benefits under the new Medicare prescription drug program?

A: You should be eligible for the new

A: If your daughter meets all of the entitlement requirements, she may qualify for child's benefits based on her father's Social Security earnings record. A Social Security represen-

Medicare prescription drug benefits. In addition, you might be eligible for extra financial help with those costs. The new Medicare prescription drug plan goes into effect in January 2006, and open enrollment for the plan runs from November 15, 2005, to May 15, 2006. But right now, Social Security is taking applications from Medicare beneficiaries who may be eligible for extra help to pay for monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments under the new prescription drug program. The extra help can save qualified beneficiaries an average of \$2,100 per year. To qualify for the extra help, a person or married couple living

together must have limited income and resources.  
**Q:** My older sister told me that she received an application from Social Security in the mail a few weeks ago about getting some extra help with Medicare prescription drug costs. I did not get this letter and application, but would also like to apply for any extra help that might be available. My sister tells me that it might be more convenient and quicker if I just applied online. Is that true?

A: Yes, you can apply online for the extra help to meet the costs of the new Medicare prescription drug program.

To qualify for the extra help, a person or married couple living together must have limited income and resources. To apply online, or to get more information about the extra help available under the Medicare prescription drug program, just visit the Social Security website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

For more information visit your local 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.

## 7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
A p.m. t-storm possible	Thunderstorms possible	Chance for a p.m. t-storm	Partly sunny	A p.m. t-storm possible			
94°	72°	92° 70°	93° 72°	94° 71°	94° 67°	94° 67°	94° 67°
RealFeel 99°	RealFeel 69°	RealFeel 88° 69°	RealFeel 90° 69°	RealFeel 90° 69°	RealFeel 94° 66°	RealFeel 93° 66°	RealFeel 91° 70°

The patented RealFeel Temperature® is AccuWeather's exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

### WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK

### IN THE SKY

#### Temperatures

#### Precipitation



Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	Full	Last
Thu.	6:32 a.m.	7:46 p.m.	Thu.	7:29 p.m.	4:58 a.m.		
Fri.	6:33 a.m.	7:45 p.m.	Fri.	8:08 p.m.	6:14 a.m.	8/19	8/26
Sat.	6:34 a.m.	7:44 p.m.	Sat.	8:43 p.m.	7:28 a.m.	New	First
Sun.	6:34 a.m.	7:43 p.m.	Sun.	9:15 p.m.	8:39 a.m.		
Mon.	6:35 a.m.	7:42 p.m.	Mon.	9:45 p.m.	9:47 a.m.	9/3	9/11
Tues.	6:35 a.m.	7:40 p.m.	Tues.	10:16 p.m.	10:53 a.m.		
Wed.	6:36 a.m.	7:39 p.m.	Wed.	10:50 p.m.	11:58 a.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2005

### REGIONAL CITIES

### U.S. CITIES

CITY	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday			CITY	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W		HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	97	73	pc	97	74	s	98	74	pc	96	71	pc	Atlanta	86	74	t	91	74	t	90	73	t	92	70	t
Albuquerque, NM	90	64	t	86	64	t	88	66	t	88	65	t	Boston	77	62	s	75	62	pc	80	66	pc	80	66	t
Amarillo, TX	93	66	pc	93	67	pc	94	65	t	92	65	s	Chicago	86	66	t	90	70	t	86	66	sh	80	60	pc
Austin, TX	97	75	t	97	75	pc	100	73	pc	98	71	pc	Denver	86	56	pc	84	56	t	80	56	t	86	57	pc
Brownsville, TX	96	78	t	96	78	t	96	77	pc	95	76	pc	Detroit	84	64	pc	86	68	t	86	66	t	80	60	pc
Dodge City, KS	95	66	pc	96	68	s	93	65	t	92	63	s	Houston	96	75	t	96	77	t	96	77	pc	96	75	pc
Jackson, MS	92	74	t	92	74	t	95	73	t	95	74	t	Indianapolis	87	68	t	88	71	t	88	67	sh	83	65	c
Laredo, TX	100	78	t	100	78	t	100	78	pc	100	77	pc	Kansas City	92	70	t	90	70	pc	89	67	t	86	63	c
Little Rock, AR	92	75	t	96	74	pc	97	74	pc	94	73	pc	Los Angeles	80	64	pc	82	64	pc	82	64	pc	83	64	pc
Lubbock, TX	94	70	pc	94	68	pc	94	68	pc	94	68	t	Miami	92	80	sh	91	80	sh	90	79	sh	90	79	t
Memphis, TN	92	77	t	93	77	t	95	76	pc	94	75	pc	Minneapolis	84	64	t	84	62	t	77	58	pc	74	57	c
Midland, TX	97	72	pc	96	73	pc	96	71	pc	96	73	s	New Orleans	94	78	t	95	78	t	94	77	t	93	78	t
Pueblo, CO	93	58	s	91	58	t	91	56	t	91	59	s	New York City	79	68	pc	81	72	pc	89	72	t	86	69	t
Roswell, NM	97	67	pc	95	67	t	96	66	pc	95	67	s	Omaha	90	70	t	90	68	t	84	60	t	77	59	s
St. Louis, MO	90	74	pc	93	74	pc	91	72	pc	85	68	pc	Phoenix	104	83	t	106	84	s	106	84	s	106	84	s
San Antonio, TX	96	75	pc	96	77	pc	98	76	pc	96	74	pc	San Francisco	68	57	pc	73	57	pc	74	57	pc	76	58	s
Texarkana, AR	96	75	t	99	76	pc	98	74	pc	99	73	pc	Seattle	74	56	pc	82	58	s	84	58	s	80	56	pc
Waco, TX	97	77	pc	99	77	pc	100	76	pc	98	75	pc	Washington	84	68	pc	84	70	pc	90	70	t	91	71	t
Wichita, KS	96	72	pc	95	72	pc	94	70	pc	94	68	s													

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

# STIHL®

This is the brand the mass merchants don't want you to know about.



FS 55 R Trimmer  
**\$199<sup>99</sup>**

Versatile straight shaft trimmer.



#### EXCEPTIONAL VALUE

FS 45 Trimmer  
**\$149<sup>99</sup>**

Lightweight and fast cutting. Comes standard with STIHL EasySpool™ head.



#### LIMITED TIME OFFER!

MS 170 Chain Saw  
**\$159<sup>99</sup>**



At participating dealers for a limited time.

**Sold Only at Servicing Dealers!**

Fabens, TX  
**Ryan Supply, Inc.**  
117 North Fabens  
(915)764-2239

El Paso, TX  
**Dyer Cycle**  
4501 Dyer  
(915) 566-6022

El Paso, TX  
**Bicycle World**  
4026 D.N. Mesa  
915-533-7760

Canutillo, TX  
**Riverside Hardware**  
7310 Doniphan  
915-877-1967