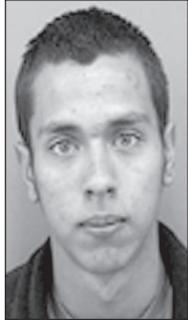




## NEWSBRIEFS

### Stabbing arrest

Johnny Lucero Barrosa, 18, turned himself into authorities on Monday, March 13, and was arrested without incident in connection with the Feb. 7 stabbing of two Socorro High School students — David Perez, 17, and an unidentified 16-year-old — on the campus during their lunch break, according to a statement from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.



Barrosa

Barrosa was immediately charged with two counts of aggravated assault and was booked in the El Paso County Downtown Detention Facility. Bond was set at \$20,000 for each assault.

### Montana fatalities

A 33-year-old man, Christopher Rodriguez, has been charged with two counts of criminal negligent homicide in an incident in which he drove the wrong way in the 13300 block of Montana in the early morning hours of Friday, March 10. At about 1:45 a.m. an SUV in which four men were riding attempted to avoid his oncoming car and as a result lost control, rolling their Ford Explorer several times. Rodriguez was also charged with two additional counts of probation violation and possession of a controlled substance. He is from the 4000 block of Turf Rd. in east El Paso County. Killed in the accident were the driver of the SUV, 28-year-old Juan Rodriguez of El Paso and front seat passenger Gerardo Ramirez, 49, of Juarez. Injured were Ismael Sosa, 49, and Alfredo Correa, 18, addresses for both unknown.

### Upper Valley deaths

The Anthony Police Department responded to a 911 call last Friday at about 11:30 a.m. reference two adults — identified as 28-year-old Elisa De La Torre and Victor M. Guerrero, 32 — found unconscious at 941 3rd Street in Anthony, according to a preliminary report from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office CID. The two individuals, one male and one female were discovered lying in bed, apparently by a four-year-old child living in the home. An adult relative reportedly had been at the house at 7:45 a.m. to give a 15-year-old girl living there a ride to school but did not make contact with either of the victims. The adult relative returned to the home after talking on the phone with the four year-old child and subsequently placed a call to 911. The relationship between the two deceased adults is listed as common law husband and wife. The four children, ages 15, 4, 3 and 18 months, are

See BRIEFS, Page 4

*Child psychology is what children manage their parents with.*

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**HELPING HANDS** — A volunteer rolls some the 200,000 plus pennies collected by students at Garcia-Enriquez Middle School for 'Pennies for Patients.'

## Students top \$2,000 for 'Pennies for Patients'

By Phillip Cortez  
*Special to the Courier*

SAN ELIZARIO — Ever wonder how much \$75 in pennies weighs? Santa Garcia, Parent Liaison at Garcia-Enriquez Middle School wanted to know, too. So she took a container filled with 7,500 pennies to the campus nurse's office and plopped the bin on the scale. The answer? Roughly 45 pounds. Multiply that by the closet filled with bins she and the students and staff were able to collect, and that's how much money the middle school campus raised for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's annual "Pennies For Patients" campaign — \$2,061.50. That supports the old adage, "A penny saved is a penny earned."

"The first year was \$1,300, which was the most we ever raised before," Garcia said. "Everyone must have been really motivated this year."

According to Garcia, this group of junior high students really seems to care more this year than in years past. "It's amazing how when these kids set their minds to accomplishing something, they really go all out, no matter what the activity is."

Garcia explained that the class with the most amount of pennies donated was to receive a pizza party — however, the two top classes were so close that they had to award two pizza parties for the top two classes and two ice cream parties for the second place classes. A special group that got to partake in the spoils

See PENNIES, Page 4

## Socorro High school takes prize in 'Gift to the Mountain' cleanup campaign

By Carlos A. Briano  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY — If you happened to be out and about on Saturday, Feb. 25, you probably saw hundreds and hundreds of high school students picking up trash in various El Paso public areas. The event was the annual "Gift to the Mountain" cleanup campaign, sponsored by "Keep El Paso Beautiful." High school students use the opportunity to give back to the community and beautify their community.

For the second year in a row, Socorro High School placed third in the number of students that showed up to volunteer. "Keep El Paso Beautiful" rewarded the school with a check for \$250.



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

**GIVING A LITTLE BACK** — Socorro High School won third place and \$250 for the number of students that volunteered in the annual "Gift to the Mountain" community cleanup Feb. 25.

"Gift to the Mountain is a day when we can get together and make a difference in our community and city by cleaning up an area that needs some clean up," says Robert Romero, Socorro High School Student Body President. "It has always been a great experience helping out and gathering as many students to participate."

But for freshmen Isaac Gomez, winning the \$250 was not the ultimate reward.

"We cleaned up the area of Joe Battle and Vista Del Sol and I was completely shocked by the amount of litter," he says. "I didn't really care if we won or not, as long as we did a good deed for our community."

The students of Socorro High, and of all the other schools that helped clean up, now challenge the community to "Keep El Paso Beautiful."

## Clint ISD asking for \$90 million in bond election

By Laura Cade  
*Special to the Courier*

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Following recommendations from a District Facility Needs Committee, the Clint Independent School District Board of trustees called for a \$90 million dollar bond election for May 13, 2006. The bond election is intended to address the continued growth of the district by building new campuses and improving existing campuses.

"Clint ISD currently has 9,350 students in twelve campuses. Our student population is projected to increase by 12,000 students in the next five years. If the community passes the bond election, it would enable the district to address the facility needs of our rapidly growing student population," says Ricardo Estrada, Clint ISD Superintendent.

In order to keep up with the rapid growth and to continue to provide students with quality facilities, bond election projects were determined by a facility needs analysis conducted by a committee which included an architect, district employees, and community members. The needs were then prioritized by the Board of Trustees during a special board meeting. Projects will include the construction of new campuses, additional classrooms, gymnasiums, fine arts facilities, and site improvements at existing campuses as

See BONDS, Page 6



— Photo courtesy Fabens ISD

## FHS awarded Governor's Education Excellence Award

FABENS — Fabens High School was awarded the Governor's Education Excellence Award last month. Only 100 out of 8000 schools in Texas qualified for grants and FHS was awarded \$135,000 for meeting high levels of student achievement and student performance. On Feb. 7 the letter of notification was received from the Texas Education Agency. Pictured are Principal Robert Sepulveda and student Griselda Belmonte.

— Contributed by Dyana Garcia



## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# A piece of land

What's the value of a piece of land? Who gets to decide? And why?

There's a saying in real estate: Location, location, location. That pretty much sums it up. Where a piece of ground is situated on this good earth seems to be the deciding factor as to its worth, even if it isn't big enough to house more than one or two human beings, won't grow a decent garden or graze a single head of livestock.

Production has nothing to do with it. It's all about the artificial values we humans seem to attach to things, without much logic.

There's been a lot of controversy lately about eminent domain and the looming danger it presents to the rights of private property owners. Government entities have always had the right to take over private property for construction of public works projects like roads and streets or water and sewer projects. But eminent domain can now be used to confiscate private property for a housing complex, a recreation or entertainment center, even a shopping mall, if the city fathers feel that particular piece of property would be better used to serve the interests of the entire community in this way.

I don't know why Americans find this is so shocking. It's been a common factor in the way mankind has managed his own affairs since the beginning of time, and our own his-

tory is a prime example.

Our earliest immigrating ancestors started exercising eminent domain over the darker-skinned folks they found living on the rich soil of the North American continent from the start, probably within hours of landing on the shore. After all, wouldn't a God-fearing, civilized people like us know better how to utilize the land by stripping out its resources than these heathens who'd simply been dwelling comfortably with it for centuries before we got here?

The way things look in hindsight, the answer would probably have to be no.

But we thought so, so we did it, and we continued doing it right on across this nation till we hit that other shining sea, exercising our imminence all along the way. When we lost a head of hair or two, that only proved how justified we were in our self-righteous march, never mind the destruction we ourselves wrought along the way.

If anybody believes that Americans fought the Civil War over slavery, they haven't studied their history. They've just been watching too much politically correct television. There were a few folks with a conscience

for whom that was a very real issue and, of course, the black folks were real interested in that aspect of the war, but for the majority of those who took up arms — both North and South — it was about power and greed, money, land, livestock, crops and taxes, and who was going to have the say-so.

One side said they were fighting to preserve the nation. The other side said they were defending home and hearth. It was, in reality, an imminent

blood runs green. There are folks who wound up with real estate in the family but not a whole lot of folding money. So people who used to live on and work the land are being priced off of it because other folks figure it would better be suited as a location for their big vacation home. Range gets chopped up into useless little squares. Rich brown farmland disappears under concrete and urban sprawl. The artificial value and price of the land goes up and the taxes go

the first place The original owner has to sell it just to pay the tax bill and move — where to is anybody's guess. Probably a cramped apartment in a urban housing project.

It's not just America, though. Humans everywhere across this shining orb called earth have utilized land and its value in ways that are weird at best, tyrannical at worst.

According to a story out of Ireland in January by the Reuters news agency, there's a two-room

hut about 25 miles outside Dublin on the market for the euro-equivalent of \$145,000 in American dollars. It's about 200 square feet, has no electricity, has only a felt roof, uses bottled gas for heating and cooking, and an outside chemical toilet.

Ireland has one of the fastest growing economies in the euro area, the agency said, and the cost of homes has tripled between 1997 and 2004. An auctioneer handling the property said it is so valuable because it is so rare.

So where does an Irishman go when he's priced out of his hovel? I guess things are tough all over.

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domain dispute.

We're doing it all over again, now, only our weapons are dollars and the

up and pretty soon, the taxes on the old home place are way higher than what it cost our forbears to buy in

## Panhandler at Horizon intersection injured by truck

HORIZON — A 44-year-old man soliciting for money at the intersection of Horizon Blvd. and Gateway East was injured on Sunday, March 12 when he was struck by a tractor trailer, according to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

The 67-year-old driver of a 2000 Freightliner tractor trailer was stopped on the inside lane at the intersection, waiting for the traffic signal light to turn green so he could

proceed onto Horizon Blvd.

The driver of the rig handed some money through the driver's side window to the man. After taking the money, the pedestrian continued walking along the inside shoulder area. The traffic signal light turned green, the driver of the rig turned left and apparently the box trailer he was towing struck the pedestrian, pinning him between the guard rail and the rear tires of the trailer.

The pedestrian suffered injuries to both legs and his hands, and he was transported to R.E. Thomason Hospital, a spokesman for the Sheriff's office said.

No information on the extent of the injuries, nor the names of those involved in the incident, was available at presstime. An investigation continues by the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Special Traffic Investigators.

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# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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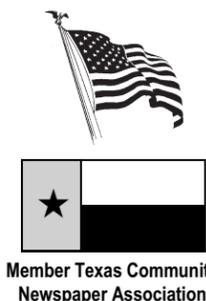
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## Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

# Read for skill, for life, for fun



The success of El Paso's "Read El Paso Read" campaign, which is a literacy initiative I coordinated with the El Paso Empowerment Zone, underscores both the need for public programs to provide children and adults with books and other reading materials, as well as the interest and desire to discover the joy of reading.

At literacy events across El Paso, as well as at the Empowerment Zone's Rasquache Festival downtown, over 60,000 books were distributed last year. In Washington, D.C. as well as El Paso, I am working improve the outreach of literacy organizations and initiatives as we shape the fiscal year 2007 budget.

### Reading Is Fundamental

The federal government, through the U.S. Department of Education, provides funding for Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), which is the nation's oldest and largest children's and fam-

ily nonprofit literacy organization. I am working with my colleagues to provide \$25 million in funding for RIF's Inexpensive Book Distribution Program. The program has about 100 sites at schools and community organizations in El Paso, and provides books for children to select and bring home.

### Reach Out and Read

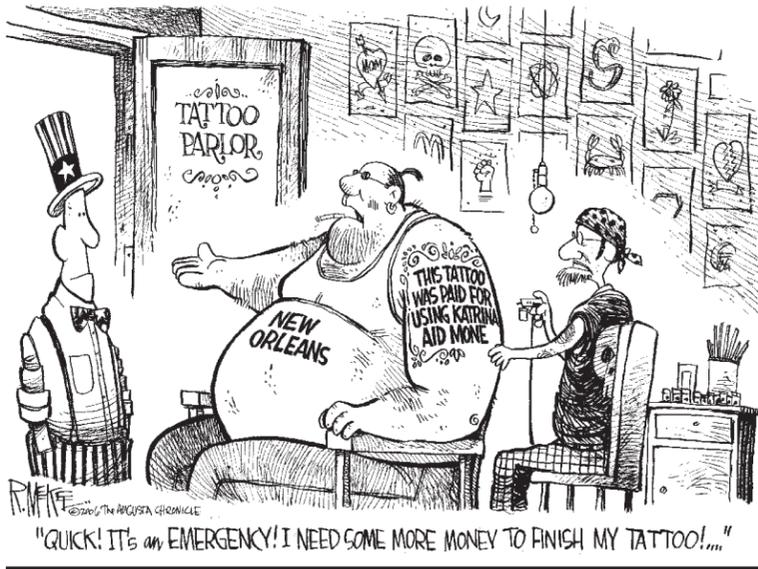
Reach Out and Read (ROR) encourages literacy in a place where families always have time on their hands — in their pediatrician's waiting room — by providing age- and language-appropriate books to take home, and advising parents on reading aloud to their young children. This enterprising program is administered by Texas Tech Medical Center in El Paso, and families can take advantage of it at many of their clinics.

I am working with my colleagues in Washington, D.C. to provide \$10 million for ROR in the 2007 budget. Federal funding is especially important because it has been an effective

catalyst for ROR to raise non-federal dollars. For example, ROR received \$4 million in federal funding in 2004, which was matched by more than \$17 million in funding raised at the national, state and local level.

Dana Gioia, the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, recently visited El Paso, and told our community that he wanted El Paso to get involved in a national literacy initiative named "The Big Read," a national initiative to encourage reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss one book. With all the energy surrounding literacy in El Paso, this will be another great initiative to inspire El Pasoans to read, and I look forward to working with Chairman Gioia as we implement this program in the border region.

Not only should children learn to read to improve their comprehension and literacy skills, they should read because it is one of the true pleasures of life. I am proud to help by providing federal funding to help finance them.



## Excellence in Technology: Students and teachers meet high expectations

By Carlos A. Briano  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Escontrias kindergarten student Orlando De Leon was stunned as he stood on stage receiving his first place trophy for his *Snow Man in the Wind*. In the Socorro Independent School District, students as young as Orlando are designing web sites, building computerized graphics, creating newsletters, making animation come to life and even filming and producing their own student broadcasts. And on Feb. 28 at the Socorro High School Auditorium, the Excellence in Technology Awards recognized their achievements.

"Our TV show is really cool," says Andrea Olmos, fifth grader at O-Shea-Keleher Elementary. "I like to be involved in sharing our school news. It makes coming to school really fun."

The Excellence in Technology Awards grew out of SISD's Student Broadcast Awards Program, conducted by the SISD's Media Technologist George Cordova, for the past two years. The broadcasts are produced by students and a special teacher at each campus called a "Tech Pilot." But these "Pilots" do more than daily broadcasts. Their mission is to incorporate technology into students' everyday learning. These special teachers work with regular classroom teachers to encourage computer use by students of all ages, as early as kindergarten. Jenifer Bittner, SISD's Instructional Technology Coordinator, expanded the program this year to include five categories. The entire technology services department worked together to put on a Hollywood style event in the Socorro High School Theatre.

The Excellence in Technology Awards recognized 60 students and two 21st century teachers: Monica Orozco from Lujan Chavez Elementary School and Jose Andazola, from Socorro Middle School. These teachers were selected for their outstanding utilization

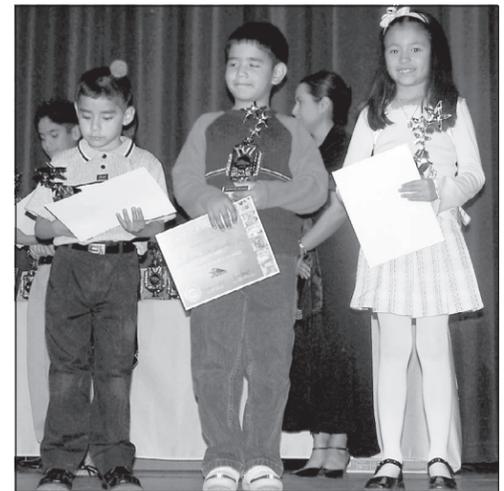
of technology in the classroom.

"I'm very proud of the tech pilots and the teachers that are leading the charge with technology at their campuses," Bittner says. "But the bottom line is that this is all about the students. These events are bringing learning to life for them."

Maria Iniguez, whose son Mario participates in the Socorro High broadcast team that won first place for high school digital video, was definitely impressed by the work the students are putting forth.

"All the work was great," she says. "I'm very proud of all the students, especially my son Mario. I think all the technology they are using will motivate the students to stay interested in school."

The awards ceremony showcased student talent in the areas of animation, digital video, desktop publishing, digital graphics, multimedia and web design. First, second and third place awards were given based on judging by members of El Paso's chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. Each category had



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

**DOTS AND SQUIGGLS — Kindergarten through second grade students received awards for excellence in Digital Graphics. From left to right: First place went to Orlando De Leon from Escontrias Early Childhood Center, second place went to Julien Felix Gonzalez from Horizon Heights Elementary School and third went to Viviana Flores from Lujan Chavez Elementary School.**

four levels: kinder through second, third through fifth, sixth through eighth and ninth through twelfth.

"Part of our technology plan says we have to educate the community and the parents about what is happening at the campuses in regards to technology," says Bittner. "What better way than showcasing what students are doing than this awards night?"

## Write stuff

Dear Editor:

On the evening of Feb. 21, 2006 at about 9 p.m., I experienced a situation which prompted me to ask my husband to call 911 for medical assistance. The operator promptly put out a call for an ambulance to our home in Horizon City. The Horizon City Volunteer Fire Department and Life Ambulance crews arrived within 10 minutes.

I knew I was experiencing some type of allergic reaction to a kiwi fruit I had taken two bites of, but was unaware of the severity. The paramedic for Life ambulance, Cristina, explained to me in a calm but insistent tone that I needed to go to the hospital immediately. After some hesitation I agreed. It was not until I was in the ambulance that I realized the seriousness of my condition — my body was in anaphylactic shock. I felt that I was dying — difficulty breathing, weakness, my heart pounding out of my chest, face hot, hands cold and my skin looked gray. Cristina reached for a syringe and calmly explained she was injecting me to

stop the swelling.

My blood pressure had dropped to 78. She kept talking to me in a soothing and comforting manner. I have never prayed so hard in my life. We arrived at Providence Memorial and Cristina stayed with me until I was stabilized. It was not until I checked out at 2:30 a.m. that I realized what a close call I had. As the emergency room nurse put it, "You were riding into the sunset." The paramedic, Cristina, with her quick action and albeit divine intervention saved my life; I was minutes away from checking out permanently. I now must carry a syringe of epinephrine in case I have another allergic reaction. I hope others may learn from my brush with this rare but deadly allergic reaction.

I am indebted to Cristina for saving my life. I would like to thank the Life Ambulance crew and the Horizon City Volunteer Fire Department for their fast response, courtesy and professionalism.

Angie Jacobo  
Horizon City

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



# Protecting our ports, preserving our past

Spanning 370 miles of the Gulf Coast, Texas' 29 ports play an important role in the economic viability and add to our state's rich history. Seaports along the Gulf Coast were built to provide transportation and trade for early settlers. In the early days, settlers traded Texas' products such as cotton, animal hides, pecans, and sugar, for a variety of manufactured items such as clothing, guns, gunpowder, and books. The Port of Galveston, the oldest port in Texas, served as the main port for the Texas navy during the Texas Revolution. In 1922, President Warren G. Harding authorized construction of the ship channel in Corpus Christi leading to the urbanization of South Texas. Today, Texas' ports ship more than 335,000,000 tons of goods per year and the Lone Star State boasts five of the nation's top 25 busiest ports.

Up until recently, the most ominous threat to our ports has been hurricanes. The Galveston Hurricane of

1900 killed more than 6,000 residents and decimated the port. Since this tragedy, the Port of Galveston has built a fortifying sea wall, raised the grade of the shore lands, and constructed all-weather bridges to the mainland. Just north of Galveston, the Port of Houston benefits from the natural protection being an inland port. While not foolproof, the Houston Ship Channel provides both protection and access for 150-plus private industrial companies. In 2003, approximately 190 million tons of cargo moved through the Port of Houston. All of Texas' ports play a significant role in our state and national economy.

Today, another threat looms. Terrorism and political unrest in the world have made our ports susceptible to dangers not conceived by Mother Nature. Our ports must be protected. Businesses and employees depend on the safe dependable delivery of products to and from over-

seas industries. Recently in Congress my committee prevented a company owned by a foreign government to manage American ports.

I strongly believe that it is far too enormous a risk for the security of our nation's ports to be placed in the hands of a foreign government owned corporation. As national leaders, we must consider the enormity of this responsibility. We cannot risk compromising our economic reliance on sea trade as well as jeopardizing the safety and well being of the American people. It is the responsibility of the leaders of this great nation to protect our citizens and our economic viability. I take this responsibility very seriously. I strive to increase security at all our nation's borders, whether they be on land or sea. I will continue to monitor this situation and make decisions that will keep our ports safe.



**Moore Texas** by Robert T. Moore March 1836, Santa Anna sends a flyer to colonists saying "not even a bird will cross the Sabine unchallenged"



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## Pennies

From Page 1

was the parent volunteers, who were responsible for counting and wrapping such a vast mass of coins.

"Our backs were hurting by the end of the day," Garcia joked.

The students at Garcia-Enriquez Middle School were not alone in their efforts; when it comes to donating to worthy causes, the students of San Elizario always seem to come through, whether it is helping the American Red Cross raising almost \$6,000 for hurricane relief or helping an organization that raises funds to find cures for blood cancers. With the help of the students at Loya Primary and Borrego Elementary, nearly \$3500 has been raised so far. When classes resume March 20, 2006, Sambrano and Alarcon Elementary will also be collecting their pennies — putting in their "two cents worth."

## Briefs

From Page 1

staying with family members. Police said there were no signs of forced entry." The El Paso County Sheriff's Office treats all unattended deaths as a possible homicide until ruled otherwise. There was no trauma to either subject, police said, but that a toxicology test is being done.

### In other news

■ Presentation of a Purple Heart to Army Specialist Isaac Serna for wounds he sustained as a result of his heroic effort in Baghdad, Iraq, as lead gunner will be held on Saturday, March 18, at 6 p.m. in the Mission Valley Ballroom, 10600 North Loop, in Socorro. Congressman Silvestre Reyes will present the medal. The community is invited, admission is free.

■ Fabens High School students in Dr. Jimenez's Anatomy Class were involved in the dissection of a cow's eye, according to a report by Adilene Rodriguez. Students cut inside the cow's eye, allowing them to see things as they really are. "It was very awesome because some of the students in the class had never done it before," said student Johnny Dominguez. "At first it was strange, but afterward it was very cool because we were able to see inside the eye," said Christine Pacheco and Amanda Garcia. Dr. Jimenez said this experiment was very useful especially to the students who are interested in going into the medical field. Some other projects planned for the rest of the year include dissecting a pig and cat's brain.

■ The Eastside Youth Connection will host its first Young Entrepreneurs Fair, designed to showcase the creative and entrepreneurial spirit of youth ages 5-18 on Saturday, April 2 at Desert View Middle School, 1641 Billie Marie from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Vendor booth fee is \$20 with registration forms at Wayside Teen Center, 10964 Montwood Suite A, or by email or fax. For more information, call Catrina Cornell at 494-4380.

■ The Winter 2006 Academic All-District honors in Socorro ISD have been announced with 81 student athletes being recognized for GPAs ranging from 85.5 to 104.19. Of those, 26 were in basketball, 27 in soccer, 12 in swimming and 16 in wrestling. "Montwood's elite Eight front line in boys basketball have an average GPA of 102!" said SISD athletic director Ron Leiman. "Two state champions in wrestling also excel in the classroom; and the America's senior girls basketball players who led that team to the Sweet Sixteen are top flight scholars, too."

■ The Annual Spring Carnival at Socorro High School will be April

8, noon to 5 p.m., with live music, food, games and a extensive car show. Booths are available to vendors for \$15. Information: Gloria Zermeno at 937-2121.

■ Marine Corps Pfc. Jeanette M. Ponce, a 2005 graduate of Socorro High School, recently completed the Administrative Clerk Course at Personnel Administration School, Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools, Camp Lejeune, N.C. Ponce joined the Marine Corps in August 2005.

■ The El Paso Quilter's Association monthly meeting will meet at 7 p.m., March 16 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 21155 Wedgewood. Visitors with an interest in the art of quilting are invited to attend. 851-3145 or 770-6785 for more information.

■ Officers with the Socorro Police Department were dispatched to what appeared to be a hit and run motor vehicle accident involving a pedestrian at 11650 Gateway East on Feb. 28 when a passerby discovered the body of a female on the roadway. It appeared that the woman had been hit by a vehicle. However, following an autopsy on March 2, preliminary findings by the Medical Examiner indicated this case was, in fact, a homicide. The report indicated that injuries sustained by the victim, 44-year-old Teresa McCowan, were not related to a motor vehicle accident. The case by then had been handed over to the El Paso County Sheriff's office, and deputies subsequently arrested McCowan's common law husband, Da-na Thomas Allen, 43, of El Paso, on March 9. He was booked into the El Paso County Downtown Detention Facility on a charge of murder with bond set at \$200,000. "Considering this case went from an auto accident to a homicide over a 48 hour period... detectives were able to canvass a large area and work some important leads to make the arrest," said Assistant Chief Ralph Mitchell, Law Enforcement Bureau, El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

■ According to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Border Patrol, about 12,500 individuals with criminal histories were arrested in 2005 attempting to enter the U.S. illegally, representing roughly 10 percent of the nation's total criminal arrests. Subjects detained for illegally entering the U.S. are screened through the agency's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS), which will identify those with criminal histories, as happened last week when a 21-year-old man was arrested attempting to circumvent the Columbus Port of Entry. It was found that he had an extensive criminal record in Illinois which includes convictions on predatory criminal sexual assault of a child, driving while intoxicated and unlawful use of a weapon.

■ To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the FDA's

Office of Women's Health and the Federal Citizen Information Center have a free kit of 10 health publications, filled with helpful information that every woman can use for herself, her family, and friends including information about heart disease, strokes, lung cancer, over-the-counter vitamins, potential allergies to some types of make-up and skin treatments including Botox, and more. Send name and address to Women's Health Kit, Pueblo, Colorado 81009, visit <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/rc/n37womenshealthkit.htm> to read or print out these and hundreds of other federal publications for free, or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, weekdays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time and ask for the Women's Health Kit.

■ Texas has filed suit in the U.S. Supreme Court to protect taxpayers from an unconstitutional federal Medicare policy that would commandeered billions in state general revenue dollars. At the center of the suit is the federal policy — known as "Medicare clawback" — which became effective in January. The clawback policy requires states to make payments to the federal government for the bulk of drug coverage for individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid, known as "dual-eligibles." Texas has an estimated 323,000 dual eligibles. States are currently required to cover 90 percent of the costs of prescription drugs for dual-eligibles, but the federal formula is not set in stone. The Texas suit asserts that by mandating the payments, the federal government has levied a direct tax upon the states which usurps their sovereign power and interferes with essential state business. In January, Perry directed the state cover drug costs for dual-eligibles who were inappropriately denied coverage due to "transition glitches" when Medicare rolled out its new drug plan. The federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services assured Perry that Texas would be fully reimbursed for that effort. Texas was joined in its suit by Kentucky, Maine, Missouri and New Jersey. Nine other states have joined a friend-of-the-court brief filed by Arizona in support of the states that have filed suit.

■ If a natural disaster hit your town, do you know what your homeowners insurance would cover? Learn what's covered in a standard policy with "Am I Covered?" from the Insurance Information Institute and USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. This informative booklet costs \$1 — send name, address, and a check or money order for \$1 to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 336N, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256 and ask for Item 336N or visit <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov> to place your order online or to read or print out this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

### SALE OF FARM REAL ESTATE

**67.55 Acres, More or Less**

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) will sell 67.55 acres of farm real estate in El Paso County at a Trustee's Foreclosure Sale to the highest bidder or bidders, for cash, at the foot of the steps inside the San Antonio entrance to the City/County Building located at 500 East San Antonio Avenue in El Paso, Texas on Tuesday, April 4, 2006. The minimum FSA bid will be \$234,422.00. For specific information, contact the Farm Service Agency, 2306 W. Dickinson, Suite 1, Fort Stockton, Texas. Phone number: (432) 336-5206, Extension 2. Visit the website: <http://www.resales.usda.gov/>

The USDA Farm Service Agency is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington DC 20250-9410.

## El Paso County Housing Authority Public Hearing

Date: March 16, 2006  
Time: 6 p.m.  
Place: El Paso County Housing Authority  
650 East G Ave.  
Fabens, Texas 79838

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain input from the city residents in reference to the Five-Year Agency Plan and Annual Plan to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for fiscal year 2006. Total funds being allocated for the first six months of fiscal year 2006 are estimated at \$113,409.00 for Operating Funds and final \$157,197.00 for Capital Funds. All residents are encouraged to attend this hearing. A copy of the Five-Year Agency Plan and Annual Plan will be available for review from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. prior to public hearing at the address below. Persons can also submit written comments prior to public hearing to:

El Paso County Housing Authority  
650 East G Ave.  
Fabens, TX 79838

For further information please call Tomas Rodriguez, Executive Director, at (915) 764-3559.

Published in the West Texas County Courier on 03/16/06.

**To ADVERTISE CALL 852-3235**



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

**SCIENCE WHIZ — Ashley Pacheco and her award-winning projects will take her to San Antonio March 30-April 1.**

## Science prowess surfaced in CJHS student

By **Laura Cade**  
*Special to the Courier*

CLINT — Ashley Pacheco, an eighth grade student at Clint Junior High School, has won the sweepstakes award for her science fair projects every year since second grade. By gathering ideas from visits to science museums her projects began with experiments in environmental science including global warming, landfill energy and biogas.

Ashley is now exploring the science of the brain — she analyzed surveys of 173 individuals over the age of 18 to learn if handedness also determined a person's brain dominance. Her study of the surveys concluded that people who are left handed use the right brain more and tend to be more creative. Those that are right handed are left brain dominant and are logical thinkers. She plans to continue this project next year using visual and academic tests in junior and high school students.

"Competing in science fairs has

been a good experience for me and has shown me that you can go far if you put your mind to it," says Ashley. She credits her past teachers Charlie Borrego and Gilbert Molina for motivating and inspiring her. She also credits her mom for encouraging her and always helping with projects. Ashley, the daughter of Cheryl and Ramon Pacheco, would like to become a dentist and open a practice with her sister who is currently studying dentistry.

Ashley and nine of her fellow classmates from the Clint ISD placed at the Sun Country Regional Science Fair in February and qualified for the ExxonMobil Texas Science and Engineering Fair. The following students will compete in San Antonio March 30-April 1: Clint Junior High - Annette Escobedo, Kelsey Reed, Ashley Pacheco; East Montana Middle - Hannah Robertson; Clint High School - James Pendell, Matthew Black, Suzanne Esparza; Mountain View High School - Jessica Ramirez, Oscar Gardea, Joshua Sones.

## Clint tennis courts ready for play

By **Laura Cade**  
*Special to the Courier*

CLINT — The Clint Independent School District celebrated the completion of the Clint High School Tennis Facility during a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Feb. 10.

During the ceremony, Alfredo Solis, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, Jim Pendell, School Board President, and CHS Principal Morris Aldridge addressed guests who included district officials, school staff, Town of Clint officials, the Clint High School tennis team and members of the community.

Because of the size and condition of the old courts, the athletes on the Clint High School tennis team would travel to San Elizario High School to practice. The tennis team now has a new facility at home designed by Villaverde Engineering, which includes two competition size courts, four regulation size courts, bleachers, covered benches, and fountains. The district plans to install lights in the future.

The courts will be open to the public after school hours when not in use by the students and the tennis team. The new facility was funded with local district funds and built by F.T. James Construction.



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

**HOW'S YOUR BACKHAND? — CHS Principal Morris Aldridge; CISD Superintendent Ricardo Estrada; Board member Janice Armstrong; Town of Clint Mayor Dale Reinhardt; Board President Jim Pendell; Board member Mary Macias and CHS tennis players in the background.**

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offer may not be available at all dealer locations. T-Mobile reserves the right to substitute different phone models of equal or greater value. Customer must remain on a qualifying T-Mobile rate plan at the time mail-in rebate is actually processed. Allow up to 8 weeks for mail-in rebate check. See mail-in rebate form for full details. See T-Mobile's Terms and Conditions (including mandatory arbitration), available at [www.t-mobile.com](http://www.t-mobile.com), for cancellation policy, international long-distance, roaming and messaging rates, and additional details that may affect this offer and additional rate plans, and other information and/or contact T-Mobile Customer Care, at 1-800-937-8997, with questions concerning any T-Mobile offer or rate plan. T-Mobile is a federally registered trademark of Deutsche Telekom AG. Whenever Minutes, FamilyTime and Get More are federally registered trademarks of T-Mobile USA, Inc. © 2006 T-Mobile USA, Inc.

# Em-Barry-ssing: Book about Bonds should end steroid use debate

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

OK, I want everybody who was genuinely surprised about the new allegations surrounding Barry Bonds' steroid abuse to raise their hands.

Raise them high so I can see 'em. Come on, I'm waiting!

Anyone? Anyone? Bueller? Bueller? OK, it's apparent that nobody, except for maybe Bonds himself, was surprised at the overwhelming evidence brought forward by the authors of a new book coming out later this month.

In the book, *Game of Shadows: Barry Bonds, BALCO and the Steroids Scandal That Rocked Professional Sports*, authors Mark Fainaru-Wada and Lance Williams, who have followed this story for the *San Francisco Chronicle* from the beginning, spell out what Bonds took, when he took it, why he took it and other damaging allegations facing him.

According to the book, Bonds decided to go all-chemical because he was jealous at all the attention two other steroid junkies, Mark

McGwire and Sammy Sosa, were getting during their now-fraudulent home run race of 1998.

The book accuses Bonds of heavy use from the 1999 season to 2004.

I've always said there's nothing like the facts. Well, let's do the math. For the first 13 years of his career (from 1986 to 1998), Bonds averaged 31 home runs a year and had three 40-home run seasons.

From 1999 to 2004, when the size of his body and head can best be described as a giant pumpkin atop the shoulders of an NFL middle linebacker, Bonds averaged 48 home runs a year with five 40-home run seasons including the record of 73 in 2001.

How potent were the alleged drugs Bonds was taking? Holy cow, one of the drugs is intended to put muscle on cows.

I don't know if Bonds is going to be suspended, or if his records will now be accompanied by that infamous asterisk. But the issue concerning his cheating can no longer be ignored.

Just like the size of his head, this story is about to explode. And Bonds won't be able to hide the truth from the media, or the fans,

any more.

## Drugging Dad

From the "I thought I'd heard everything" department, comes the news of a father's obsession with the success of his kids.

Did you happen to catch this? I'm still having trouble believing it.

Seems one of those overbearing tennis dad's went a little farther than most. He wanted to see his kids win at tennis so bad that he went way over the line.

No, he didn't go onto the court and threaten his kids into winning. No, he didn't make his kids practice for 14 hours a day to ensure their winning, he didn't even go all Barry Bonds on his kids by filling them up with growth hormones. He took the even more insane approach.

He drugged his kids' opponents.

Hey, would I lie to you?

Christophe Fauvau, confessed to the crime during his trial in Mont-de-Marsan in southwestern France.

Good old dad was sentenced to eight years for his stunt. I'll bet some of you are surprised he got eight years for drugging some teenage tennis prodigies.

Well, dad's big problem was that after spiking one opponent's water bottle with a type of depressant, the 25-year old male drove his car after the match. Only the toxin in his body made him drowsy enough to fall asleep at the wheel.

He crashed his vehicle and died.

As far as the authorities know, dad spiked the water bottles of his kids' opponents 27 times from 2000 to 2003.

Among this monster's victims was an 11-year-old girl who collapsed against a fence during one match.

Suspicion began when several of his kids' opponents complained to investigators of suffering weakness, dizziness, nausea or fainting. In fact, several of the players were hospitalized.

Now I must admit that when I go see my two kids, a boy and a girl, compete or perform in anything, I hope they outshine everyone else. But I also have the sensitivity to realize there are hundreds of other parents there feeling the same way about their kids.

How a person can go out of his way to damage youngsters is beyond my comprehension.

I'd say about 98-percent of the parents around the world are perfectly sane — ah, but you've got to watch out for that other 2-percent.

## Canutillo student makes money being excellent

**CANUTILLO — Miguel A. Arroyo Jr., Canutillo High School senior, has been selected to receive a \$1,000 band scholarship by the Senior All Star Bowl, Inc. association. The award is in recognition of his participation in the 14th Annual All Star Football Classic that was held in the Sun Bowl in December. Arroyo played first trumpet in the All Star High School Band along with other senior band stu-**

**dents from the El Paso area. Arroyo plays first trumpet in the Canutillo High School Eagle Pride Marching and Concert bands. He has been a member of the CHS band program for the past four years. This year, he was the section leader for the trumpet section.**



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD  
Miguel A. Arroyo Jr.

## Bonds

From Page 1

funding is made available.

Currently, the tax rate in Clint ISD is \$1.71 for every \$100 in property valuation. If the bond election is approved by the voters, the maximum impact on the tax rate is expected to

be 12 cents per \$100 assessed valuation once all bonds are sold. The average taxable value of a home in the Clint ISD is currently \$65,925 with an annual tax of \$870.82. The tax impact of a bond issue is expected to be an increase of \$58.97 annually. District projections include state assistance (Instructional Facilities Allotment and Eligible Debt Allotment) that may reduce the tax burden by 85 percent.

## Classified Ads

### LEGAL

#### TORNILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Invitation to Bid/Proposal:

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

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2006

#### NETWORK CABLING AND EQUIPMENT UPGRADE CSP NO. E2005-001 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

#### SERVER AND PBX EQUIPMENT CSP NO. E2005-002 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

#### FIBRE

As per Article V,  
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#### BACKBONE FOR NEW CAMPUS CSP NO. E2005-003 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

#### WINDOWS 2003 CLIENT ACCESS LICENSES CSP NO. E2005-004 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

Proposals will be received at TORNILLO ISD ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 19200 Cobb Ave., or mailed to attention Armando Gonzalez, at P.O. Box 170, Tornillo, Texas 79853 until the specified time. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., (915) 764-2366, ext. 599.. WTCC-03/16/06

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

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 - 2P4FP2531WR590918, 1998 Plymouth Voyager, green, license 842-HKD WTCC-03/16/06

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Sparks Housing Development Corporation will begin taking applications for a government-funded housing program for low-income households on March 20, 2006. Application forms & list of required documents will be available at 106 Peyton between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Completed applications that contain all supportive documents requested will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Assistance is available for: first-time homebuyer assistance (properties inside El Paso city limits are not eligible for assistance) — call 852-2245.

Development Corporation empezará a distribuir las aplicaciones para un programa de vivienda patrocinados por el gobierno. Este programa ayudara a familias de bajos ingresos a familias de bajos ingresos requeridos estarán disponibles en el 106 Peyton entre horas de oficina 8:30 a.m. y 4:30 p.m. de Lunes a Viernes. Las aplicaciones completas con todos los requisitos necesarios serán procesadas en el orden que sean recibidas. La ayuda sera disponible para: compradores de vivienda por primera vez. Las propiedades deben de estar dentro del condado del Paso — (propiedades dentro de los limites de la ciudad del Paso no son elegibles para la ayuda) — para mas informes llamar al (915) 852-2245. WTCC: 03/16/06

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc. is soliciting bids for the manual application of pink bollworm pheromone ropes. Ropes will be tied to

cotton plants at an approximate rate of 200 ropes per acre at certain stages of growth. A minimum of 20-30 people over a two to four-week period will be needed for this activity. Applications of ropes in the El Paso and Trans Pecos areas will begin in late May or early June. Bidders must furnish the Foundation, Workers Compensation coverage prior to contract approval. Bids will be accepted through March 31, 2006. For more information and detailed instructions, please contact the local Foundation office at (877) 765-2139, or the Foundation Headquarters office at (800) 687-1212 Ext. 3124. WTCC: 03/16/06, 03/23/06

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Socorro will begin taking applications for two government-funded housing programs for low-income households beginning Monday, March 20, 2006. Application forms & list of required documents will be available at 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, TX 79927 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Completed applications that contain all supportive documents requested will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Assistance is available for:  
 • Contract for Deed conversion  
 • Owner Occupied Rehabilitation

La Ciudad De Socorro empezará a distribuir las aplicaciones para dos programas de vivienda patrocinados por el gobierno. Estos programas ayudaran a familias de bajos ingresos empezando lunes, 20 de marzo, 2006. Las aplicaciones y la lista de documentos requeridos estarán disponible en 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, TX 79927 entre horas de oficina 8:30 a.m. y 4:30 p.m. de lunes a viernes. Las aplicaciones completadas con todos los requisitos requeridos serán procesadas en el orden que sean recibidas. La ayuda sera disponible para:  
 • Programa de Rehabilitación Para Casa  
 • La conversión de contrato a escrituras

WTCC: 03-16-06

### SELF-HELP

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

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

### SERVICES

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

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 Horizon City, TX 79928

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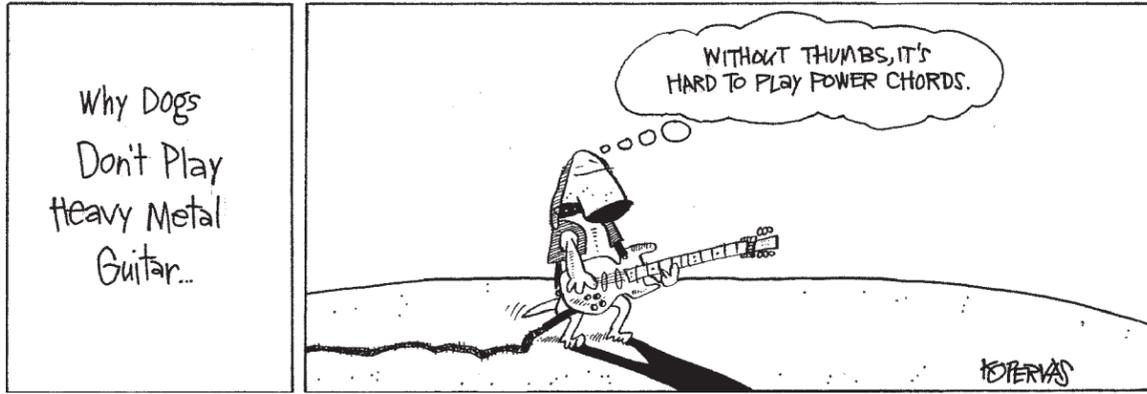
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OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



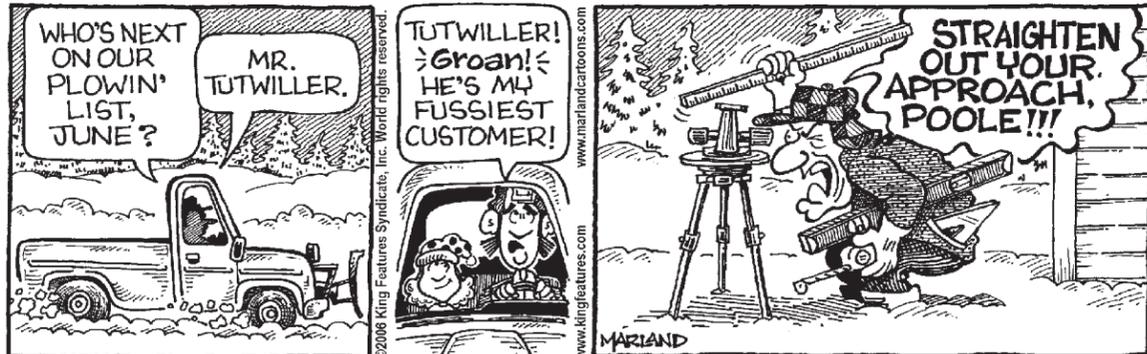
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Rocky Mountain High

By Don Flood

I recently came back from a nice little town in Colorado. It had quaint shops, good restaurants and gorgeous picture-postcard scenery. In fact, the town lacked only a single ingredient that I find important in a travel destination — air. Oh, I suppose it had some thin stuff the locals called air, but coming from Delaware, where I am a big air consumer, I was a little disappointed.

In fact, I'm surprised the folks who founded the town didn't notice: FOUNDER: This (gasp) seems (gasp) like a nice (gasp) place for a town (gasp, gasp). FOLLOWER: Well... (Gasps and keels over dead.) FOUNDER: (Gasp) Good. That (gasp) settles it (gasp). The problem is the town is about 9,000 feet about sea level. Delaware, by comparison, is about 7 inches above sea level — at low tide.

Yes, it's true that at high tide, gills would come in handy, but as long as you can keep your head above water in Delaware, you can breathe.

Not so in Colorado. We were walking around town when we first noticed labored breathing and a certain light-headedness that turned into a mild headache — altitude sickness!

It was my fault. When we arranged the trip I didn't think to ask, "By the way, do you have air there?"

For me, the problem goes back to my early years. I started breathing air, found I enjoyed it and before I knew it, I was hooked.

Now I breathe air all the time.

In fact, I'm breathing air right now — have a hard time getting work done without it.

So let that be a lesson to you, young readers. You've probably tried breathing air too. It's cool, right?, and everybody's doing it. And you probably think you can quit anytime you'd like.

Sorry, my friends, but you're probably hooked too, and someday you might go to Colorado and find out the hard way.

The locals, to their credit, put the best spin on their air-challenged atmosphere.

The shuttle driver said it was great for golf. "In the thin air, the ball really travels," he said.

Yeah, I bet it really travels on the moon too, but I'm not going there to play golf either.

I mean, if it's distance you're looking for, let's set up a country club on Pluto.

Naturally, you're a marked man if you bring up the lack of air.

"Tourist!" they snort, in a mocking tone that lets you know, in no uncertain terms, that you are an air-breather and always will be.

But for tourists there's not much you can do except wait for your body to acclimate. Seven or eight years usually does the trick.

(Locals recommended also staying away from caffeine and alcohol, but I'm not dumb enough to fall for every bit of wacko medical advice that comes along.)

Hey, here's a sure-fire business plan. Low-lying states with big surpluses of air can bottle and ship their air to places like Colorado.

Don't laugh. A generation ago, almost nobody drank bottled water.

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King Super Crossword

- ALONG CAME JOANS ACROSS
- 1 Spar
- 5 Stomach remedy
- 11 Tijuana two
- 14 Bob Marley was one
- 19 Literary pseudonym
- 20 Deny
- 21 Turner or Pappas
- 22 Remove a corsage
- 23 Joan Cusack film
- 25 Joan Rivers line
- 27 Hero's horse
- 28 Brasilia architect
- Oscar
- 30 Neighbor of Mont.
- 31 Little spot in the sea
- 35 Psychic Geller
- 36 Triangle type
- 39 Cut
- 42 Coach Parseghian
- 43 Blabby bird
- 45 Zenith
- 46 Rhine whine
- 47 Dana and Seixas
- 49 Precambrian
- 51 Ho Chi Minh City, once
- 55 Joan Jett's group
- 60 Ms. Montez
- 61 \_ firma
- 62 Jedi instructor
- 63 " \_ vous plait"
- 65 Cherbourg
- chapeau
- 66 Acted like a stallion
- 69 "Yuck!"
- 70 Bargain
- 72 Raven maven?
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- 75 Joan Osborne hit
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- 7 Souffle ingredient
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- 12 Endorses
- 13 Nero's tutor
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- 26 Shawls and such
- 29 He gets down to work
- 32 Etna ooze
- 33 Hockey's Lindros
- 34 Vulgar
- 37 Meadow
- 38 Ovid's fate
- 39 "The Simpsons" creator Groening
- 40 Paint pigment
- 41 " \_ ignorance is bliss ..."
- 44 Part of M.A. hit)
- 50 Out of the way
- 52 Trail mix
- 53 Butter sub
- 54 Hoopster Archibald
- 56 Nail type
- 57 It's down in the mouth
- 58 Nervous
- 59 Contented sigh
- 64 Composer Janacek
- 65 Most morose
- 67 Rock producer Brian
- 68 Salt serving
- 71 Workers' grp.
- 74 Has a ball at the mall
- 75 Bus starter?
- 76 Peachy\_ keen
- 77 Push a product
- 78 Locality
- 79 Lucre
- 80 Norwegian name
- 82 Merry month
- 84 Make one's hair stand on end?
- 85 "Heidi" author
- 87 "He's making \_ ..."
- 89 Scheme
- 91 Chores
- 93 Godunov, e.g.
- 96 Cognizant
- 97 Cabbage concoction
- 98 Bit
- 100 Furrow
- 101 Diva Nellie
- 106 Radical
- 108 Socked a shuttlecock
- 109 Pilot
- 111 Little house on the prairie?
- 112 It makes women blush
- 113 Passageway
- 114 Bookstore section
- 117 Ginnie \_
- 118 It grows on you
- 120 "Later!"
- 121 Grad
- 123 Singer Vannelli
- 124 "So \_ You" ('77 song)
- 125 "Heavens to Betsy!"
- 127 "Mazel -!"
- 128 "Sheila" singer
- 130 Ancient Tokyo
- 131 Ensnares
- 132 Nationality suffix

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
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133								134												136
137								138												140

Answer Page 6

# Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

**Q:** I am thinking of appealing the denial that Social Security made on my claim for disability benefits and want to hire an attorney to represent me. My question is this: do legal representatives in Social Security-related hearings have to use contingency fee arrangements?

Act does not require this arrangement. Neither the law nor regulations prevent a representative from requesting a fee if the outcome of the case is unfavorable. However, to charge you any fee for services, your representative first must file either a fee agreement or a fee petition with Social Security. Your representative cannot charge you more than the fee amount approved by Social Security.

**A:** No. Although many individuals represent claimants on a contingency basis, with the fee usually based on 25 percent of past-due benefits if successful and nothing if unsuccessful, the Social Security

**Q:** My husband gets Social Security disability benefits because of severe

diabetes. Last month, his leg was amputated due to his diabetes. Can we apply for an increase in his benefits since his condition has worsened?

**A:** No. The benefit amount individuals receive is based on their work and earnings prior to their disability, not on the severity of their disabling condition.

**Q:** I did not apply for Medicare when I turned 65. Can I apply now?

**A:** Yes. An open enrollment period from January 1 through March 31 of each year permits people age 65

or over who did not enroll or dropped their Part B Medicare coverage to sign up. Your coverage would begin July 1. Generally, a 10 percent premium penalty will be added to the monthly premium for each year you could have enrolled but did not. However, if you are covered by an employer or union group health plan through your or your spouse's current or active employment, you may qualify for a special enrollment period. The special enrollment period allows you to delay enrollment in Part B without paying a premium penalty or waiting for a general enrollment period. You have an eight-month

special enrollment period if you have group health plan coverage from current employment at the time you first became eligible for Medicare. This special enrollment period begins with the month employment ends or the month your group health plan coverage ends, whichever comes first.

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

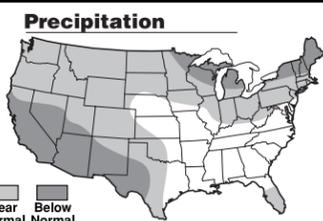
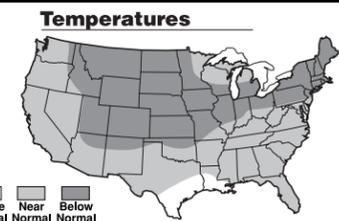
## 7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Mostly sunny	Partly cloudy	Times of clouds and sun	Windy with periods of sun	Thunderstorms possible	Mostly sunny and warmer	Sunshine	Sunny
75°	47°	75° / 49°	72° / 46°	62° / 41°	69° / 44°	73° / 48°	76° / 49°
RealFeel 77°	RealFeel 42°	RealFeel 74° / 42°	RealFeel 69° / 36°	RealFeel 56° / 32°	RealFeel 71° / 37°	RealFeel 77° / 43°	RealFeel 78° / 39°

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

Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	Full	Last
Thu.	6:15 a.m.	6:14 p.m.	Thu.	8:02 p.m.	7:02 a.m.		
Fri.	6:14 a.m.	6:15 p.m.	Fri.	9:00 p.m.	7:28 a.m.	3/14	3/22
Sat.	6:12 a.m.	6:16 p.m.	Sat.	9:59 p.m.	7:57 a.m.	New	First
Sun.	6:11 a.m.	6:16 p.m.	Sun.	11:01 p.m.	8:30 a.m.		
Mon.	6:10 a.m.	6:17 p.m.	Mon.	none	9:09 a.m.	3/29	4/5
Tues.	6:08 a.m.	6:18 p.m.	Tues.	12:05 a.m.	9:55 a.m.		
Wed.	6:07 a.m.	6:18 p.m.	Wed.	1:08 a.m.	10:51 a.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006

## REGIONAL CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	73	40	pc	63	45	t	61	46	t	71	47	t
Albuquerque, NM	66	34	s	67	39	pc	69	42	pc	50	33	t
Amarillo, TX	58	31	s	56	35	pc	52	31	t	59	32	t
Austin, TX	78	51	pc	64	51	pc	68	59	t	73	58	c
Brownsville, TX	85	67	pc	80	69	pc	84	68	pc	85	68	pc
Dodge City, KS	53	26	pc	51	29	pc	44	23	c	44	27	c
Jackson, MS	62	45	t	64	40	pc	62	46	t	62	51	r
Laredo, TX	84	65	pc	80	63	pc	84	67	pc	83	62	pc
Little Rock, AR	64	39	pc	56	37	pc	50	37	t	50	36	r
Lubbock, TX	64	36	s	58	40	t	62	42	t	65	37	t
Memphis, TN	61	40	c	59	36	s	56	39	c	51	42	r
Midland, TX	72	42	s	64	48	t	70	48	t	70	43	t
Pueblo, CO	56	26	pc	55	33	pc	55	34	c	55	24	c
Roswell, NM	73	36	s	66	40	pc	68	38	pc	64	36	t
St. Louis, MO	58	25	c	47	25	s	45	30	pc	47	33	pc
San Antonio, TX	78	55	pc	65	57	pc	74	58	c	75	58	c
Texarkana, AR	68	43	pc	63	43	pc	50	45	r	57	46	r
Waco, TX	74	45	pc	61	48	t	61	56	t	68	52	t
Wichita, KS	56	28	pc	50	30	pc	45	30	c	48	29	c

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

## U.S. CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Atlanta	63	42	t	62	38	pc	61	39	pc	58	42	r
Boston	42	30	s	38	28	c	36	26	s	34	29	s
Chicago	38	20	sn	36	17	pc	38	22	pc	40	26	pc
Denver	49	24	pc	54	27	pc	54	26	c	42	20	c
Detroit	36	21	sn	36	20	pc	38	23	pc	46	27	pc
Houston	78	62	t	70	55	pc	70	58	t	76	60	t
Indianapolis	44	23	r	39	21	pc	42	23	pc	49	32	pc
Kansas City	50	25	pc	46	25	pc	46	27	sh	45	27	c
Los Angeles	68	52	pc	62	48	r	60	44	sh	62	46	pc
Miami	80	70	pc	83	66	pc	80	66	pc	80	66	pc
Minneapolis	27	11	sf	28	15	pc	30	20	pc	32	21	c
New Orleans	74	58	t	70	54	t	68	57	t	71	61	t
New York City	45	32	pc	37	26	sn	39	30	s	39	34	s
Omaha	36	20	sf	38	22	pc	40	24	sn	41	25	c
Phoenix	79	52	pc	77	53	pc	70	48	c	65	48	s
San Francisco	59	47	r	57	42	sh	57	44	pc	59	46	pc
Seattle	50	38	r	48	34	sh	48	34	pc	50	36	pc
Washington	54	36	pc	48	30	r	45	30	s	45	36	s

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BME-SRP

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